



The Beldi Hill Trial Events from a Personal Perspective

1769 -1772

'A picture of this period of Swaledale mining history can be recovered by a perusal of the M.S.S books of Mr Parkes of Low Row, and in these an interesting sidelight is thrown on the influence of this trial on the miners and people of the dale' Edward Fawcett

Extracts from John Parke's journal at the time of the disputes.

Source: The Fawcett MS in the North Yorkshire County Record Office

June 5. 1769

Metcalfe, Scott and partners had lease of 10 meers of ground from Hartley and Parkes, near the Old Hush in Crackpott Out Pasture. About 4 o'clock this afternoon Chris Whytal (servant to John Whytal of Reeth) called at my home and informed me that Mr l'Anson (Lord Pomfret's agent) and men had begun to work at Beldi Hill near the hush. When they broke the ground they drank a bottle of brandy – and began huzzaing – and l'Anson said to the men: 'when you have finished or sunk this shaft, we will let you another to sink'

Tuesday the 6th June, 1769

Mr Stodart's brother Ralph and I went to Beldi Hill with a number of Whitaside miners, and there I found l'Anson, John Metcalfe and Co. with several miners in and about the shafts they had begun to sink the day before I discharged them as I remember in the following words 'Take notice that I discharge you all from working here. (In this account we have ale for Whitaside miners 4/-)

Thursday 8th June

James Chapman and Job Slack were carried by Luke Lawson before Mr Chaytor

Saturday 10th June, 1769

Several persons were, as I believe, carried before Mr Chaytor at Mr Forrest's in Richmond, when Anthony Metcalfe appealed against them, and Brother Ralph was there.

Monday 12th June 1769

Thomas Butson (agent for Parkes and Hartley) and others in the presence of Simon Alderson of Keld, began working at Beldi Hill by Lawyer Hartley's orders. About 4 o'clock in the morning (the same morning Mr Jason Stodart's brother, Ralph and I went to Beldi Hill very soon and found Thomas Butson with some workmen he had collected) had begun two new shafts – one in the hush, on the east and about 2 yards distance from that begun by John Metcalfe and Mr l'Anson on the 5th inst. Which was filled up on the 6th. The other west of the hush (and the same morning Anthony Metcalfe came with about 4 miners and began work in or near the shafts which had been filled up on the 6th as aforesaid). On his first attempting to work I asked him what he was going to do; he said he was come to work by the order of his brother John (agent to Lord Pomfret) and that he was Lord Pomfret's servant, and accordingly he began to work and Sam Metcalfe. I discharged him, the said Anthony Metcalfe and the miners with him, for myself and partners from working here or anywhere in the pasture.

June 14, 1769

Several men were this day carried before Mr Chaytor at Mr Forrest's in Richmond, and Mr Hartley appealed with the said men. I had there William Butson, Ed Alderson and James Metcalfe to swear the length of time we had been in possession of the mine at Crackpott Out Pasture, and then produced the several leases from Mr Smith to us.

20 June, 1769

The same men that appeared before Mr Chaytor on the 17th were this day carried before Mr Chaytor at Leyburn and several of them were released without giving bail for their appearance at the Sessions, particularly Titus Calvert and James Harker of Spring End.

1769, Jan 24.

Mr l'Anson gave me a discharge in writing, from working at Hall Moor of Crackpott Hall pasture.

June 26. 1769

About this time Spout Gill mine was entered and taken possession of by John Metcalfe and Co., as I was informed by Thomas Metcalfe.

Mr Chaytor and Stewards Hutchinson and l'Anson (Lord Pomfret's stewards) this day set out three new shafts at Beldi Hill.

June 28, 1769

Anthony Metcalfe with some miners began two new shafts.

I called on Mr Hutchinson at Reeth and asked him if he had started the miners, John Metcalfe and others at Beldi Hill; and if started by his orders or direction, if he would be accountable for the consequences. He declared they were not, that he had no concern therein and that if he had engaged in the affair it might have been his ruin.

June 30, 1769

Affidavits made for obtaining an injunction before Mr Raper at Robert Elliot's

July 8, 1769

On this day John Metcalfe took away some ore from Spout Gill Mill and carried it to Wensleydale Liberties.

July 11.

From Spout Gill Mill James Harker of Spring End told me that on Wednesday last the said James Raw's servant and John Metcalfe delivered thirteen fodder of lead in l'Anson's yard (Lord Pomfret's)

July 17, 1769

At Leyburn giving security before Mr Chaytor for miners appearance at York Assizes.

19th, R. Park, M. Stodart and others mostly miners at Allerton sessions.

July 23, 1769

One of Daykin's sons holed through into our works, when Joseph Brunskill and John Clarkson were working. And that James Metcalfe (son of Chris Metcalfe) came through the same hole into our works where Peter Butson and Thomas Pratt were working, and Thomas Butson ordered him out of the said works otherwise he should likely 'break his shins'

When John Metcalfe entered Spout Gill Mill it was computed there was in and about the said Mill 500 bing of ore and slags to the value of £2000.

July 29, 1769

Injunction served this day on John Metcalfe and Robert Shaw.

July 31, 1769

Some of Lord Pomfret's men began working at two shafts at East Forefields in the 10 meers at Beldi Hill, and Thomas Waller and Anthony Metcalfe guarded the shafts and would not suffer anybody to go down. James Gaith went down whether they would or not.

Aug. 1, 1769

Mr Chaytor got leave of Scott and Metcalfe to go down their works at Beldy Hill, and Thomas Clarkson (lackey) and George Storey overheard Metcalfe say to Chaytor they would refer themselves to his mercy.

James Metcalfe of Muker told R. Parke today that Richard Metcalfe of Calvert Houses went down the middlemost shaft now sunk in the 10 meer of ground, and Mr l'Anson and Anthony Metcalfe went down the west shaft and met underground and had a meeting and conversation; other persons present were not allowed to hear.

On coming out James Metcalfe enquired of them what they had been about, in answer to which Richard Metcalfe said he had agreed to permit the said Anthony Metcalfe and l'Anson (Lord Pomfret's agent) and their miners to drive out of the middlemost shaft within the 10 meers to the

shaft l'Anson and Metcalfe had sunk west of the hush in Parke's ground, at which James Metcalfe was displeased and used some oaths contradicting it.

Aug. 5, 1769

Thomas Stodart told me that John Metcalfe had sold to Mr Pickersgill about 3 marks of lead (a mark is 400 pigs) and had received £50 in part payment, and he had also sold 1000 pieces to Pickersgill all from Beldy Hill ore.

Aug. 6, 1769

Aygill Tom and four of five miners were working in the mine at Beldy Hill when Anthony Metcalfe and miners took possession of the shaft on Monday last to drive west out of the 10 meers of ground.

Mr Scott told me on Saturday J. Metcalfe weighed off 60 pieces of lead at Spout Gill Mill and that he carried 12 pieces to Askrigg moor, and likewise said Mr Chaytor and l'Anson entered upon Spout Gill Mill.

Aug. 9, 1769

This day going to Muker overtook Mr Fewler, servant to James Raw of Marrick Abbey, who informed me that Jason Metcalfe had been with his master the night before, and prevailed on him to carry a batch of lead from Spout Gill Mill to Leyburn, and he with about 10 horses were going to carry the said 1200 pieces of lead.

This day Mr Wilson (Mr Smith's steward) gave Mr Metcalfe discharge from Spout Gill Mill. Metcalfe said they intended to have 16 horses to take away the lead, and if they loaded them all with papers he would be damned if they got anything from him, or used words to that effect.

Aug. 11, 1769

This day went to Beldy Hill and found a man, one John Walker of Booze, Arkengarthdale, at work and asked him if Mr Chaytor said he would protect him.

This day George Robinson brought a discharge which l'Anson he said had given him the night before, signed by Lord Pomfret. He wanted to know if he was to continue working. I said yes.

Aug. 31, 1769

Went to Beldy Hill and this night Scott and Metcalfe by some extraordinary stratagem regained the possession of Spout Gill Mill. No blood was shed upon the occasion and this night had been fixed for the re-entering of the said mill.

Friday Sep. 1, 1769

Curley Dick, who was Metcalfe's smelter at Spout Gill said he had smelted for Mr Metcalfe one Mark and 83 pieces of lead.

Ralph Parke was at Beldy Hill and got discharge from Anthony Metcalfe from Lord Pomfret.

Sep. 26, 1769

This morning Mr Stodart, George Raw and I went to Beldy Hill but not together, and had Mr March of Fremington, James Pratt and Chris Simpson to come to us and be witnesses in case of any attack upon our ore. Lord Pomfret came there and went and viewed the fences; and afterwards came to the Low Gate and gave me a discharge by word of mouth from working the mines, etc and said I had invaded his property.

Metcalfe and Scott allowed some of Pomfret's jaggars to take away 6 bings of ore.

Monday Oct. 12, 1796

For Thirsk sessions John Coates and William Bell being indicted for an assault on Edmund Murton and Thomas Dayking. Dayking swore that Coates struck Murton three times and had to pay 6d damage.

Oct. 5, 1769

Went to Beldy Hill and ordered Butson to remove the ore dressed at Crossgreens. While we were upon the field a number of men who were said to be workers of the opposite party assembled together near the hush; and Thomas Walker and another person (one of Metcalfe's servants) attempted to turn the water, used for ore dressing, down one of the shafts to water our men out and Walker was very officious in doing it.

Monday Oct. 9, 1769

Some persons assembled together and destroyed the watercourse to Mr Smith's mill.

Oct. 9, 1769

About 3 o'clock in the morning James Close's son came to my house and informed me that Lord Pomfret's men had turned the water into the shafts.

Went next day to Beldy Hill and informed by David Brunskill that when he tried to prevent them from doing the act, Thomas Waller threw him into the hush gutter. This day Joseph Close of Crackpott Hall (tenant) informed me that John Metcalfe of Dyke Heads had received a letter from Lord Pomfret telling them to do all the mischief possible and his Lordship would protect them.

Friday Oct. 12, 1769

Went to Mr Smith's smelt mill with Francis Coates to open the water course which had been damaged the Saturday before by John Metcalfe's men; the damage would have been greater only they were hindered by a little Scotchman who was employed at the High Mill.

One of Lord Pomfret's shafts filled up by Thomas Butson's orders for the preservation of our shafts which inevitably would have run, if such precaution had not been used to prevent it. His Lordships men having tried to run the shaft to destroy ours.

John Clarkson, Thomas Butson, John Hancock, William Alderson, Simon Harker and Vincent Coates went to make an affidavit at Darlington on account of the injunction.

Nov. 8, 1769

Scott and partners begun this day to remove their ore from Beldy Hill to Ralph Milner's land in Hartlakes, and likewise Anthony Metcalfe had removed ore from Beldy Hill to Swinnergill Smythy, that both began to remove their ore on this day.

Nov. 12, 1769

John Galloway told me this day that Scott said he and his partners had raised £20000 value of ore from Beldy Hill.

Wednesday Nov, 1769

Charles Johnson, Ralph Rycroft, John Liddle and James Bell were working at a certain place in the mines at Beldy Hill, where they had driven a crosscut in order to cut off the workings of the adverse party (Lord Pomfret) and had cut ore 2 ½ yards wide and were in peaceful possession of the same. The adverse party, continuing their drift holed in the crosscut made by our men, entered the same and drove our men by violence from their foreholds they were working, and then abused Liddle to such a degree that he was obliged to call out several other partners to aid him.

Johnson and Co. went down to the said mine, particularly John Coate and John Croft, who desired that they might have the ore they had raised, on which Thomas Dayking told them they should have nothing there, that neither they nor their masters had any right there.

John Hilary of Fremington, another partner of Johnsons, likewise went down and stayed with John Croft after the rest of the partners had left them, and sat in the workings when some of the workmen which Thomas Butson mentions (particularly Chris Metcalfe) came and took them by the legs and pulled them out, and Croft he dragged into some water. Thomas and James Daykin abused Liddle much and Thomas Daykin struck several times at Hilary.

Dec. 1, 1769

Went to Robert Whites and asked him if he was going to Beldy Hill with his horses, and discharged him at his peril from removing any ore. The horses he said that went before were Chris Naylor's.

Monday Dec. 4, 1769

Brother Ralph and Mr Stoddart went to Beldy Hill and got two men to sink a shaft and drive in the roadway where Anthony Metcalfe carried the ore to Swinnergill.

Dec. 6, 1769

Ralph Parke served with injunction. John Metcalfe and Anthony Metcalfe also served with injunction, John Parke, Mr Wilson and James Bell served with injunction.

21 July 1769 (Repeated entry relating to earlier 23/7/1769)

At 9 o'clock four of Daykin's sons holed into our works at Beldy Hill where Joseph Brunskill and John Clarkson were working, and that James Metcalfe (son to Chris Metcalfe) came through the said hole into our works where Peter Butson and Thomas Pratt were working, and Thomas Pratt ordered him to go out of the said works, otherwise he would very likely break his shins as he had some 'deads' (dirt and rubble without ore) to remove.

Many witnesses collected together for the trial from Westmoreland and Swaledale: Sarah Wharton of Nateby, Mallerstang, Edward Harrison Edwd, Cleasby, Mallerstang, Elizabeth Harrison, Ravenseat, John Clarkson and James Clarke of Stonesdale.

On Saturday William Hawking of Fremington told me that Scott had smelted at Grove Beck Mill and Thomas Metcalfe told me they had smelted at Spout Gill Mill letters A B C D and were smelting E.

Thursday 4, Jan. 1770

James Alton came to our house and informed brother Ralph and I that Old Sarah Metcalfe wanted to see us and was uneasy in her mind and could not sleep, having something to say much in our favour concerning Beldy Hill. That Chris Metcalfe had told her daughter, who is now somewhere in the neighbourhood of Ivelet, that Mr Chaytor would send for Old Sarah before the number of days in old Christmas and that Old Sarah could tell of something that would do for us in the dispute, but was afraid of trusting her son Chris, who had made an affidavit sometime before for the opposite party.

R. Metcalfe, Scott and partners were under agreement to pay as royalty to Hartley and Parkes £2 per fother (22cwt) over and above the royalty due to Mr Smith, who had the mine leased to Parkes and Hartley. After Lord Pomfret's claim to the Beldy Hill mine, Metcalfe and Scott withheld the money owing in regard to the £2 per fother amount, and Parkes & Hartley had great difficulty in persuading them to liquidate their debts owing to them.

Friday Feb. 15, 1771

Mr James Stoddart and I called at Mr Scott's in Reeth and asked him if they were prepared to pay the money in arrears at Beldy Hill, to which Scott said they would pay as soon as possible and that he expected we should have called upon them sooner and was obliged to us for the indulgence.

March 12, 1771

James Rogers told R. Parke that he had some conversation with Spencley sometime since, relating to the trial at York about Beldy Hill, in which he acknowledged the fence up Swinnergill and over the moors to East Gill, but said it would turn to nothing.

Adam Alderson, schoolmaster of Angram, sometime after the last trial at York about Beldy Hill, went to view the fences around the Crackpott pasture and when he came back, declared to some of his neighbours that if he had not seen it, he would not have believed that there had been so much fence about the said pasture that there was.

Saturday March 16, 1771

In going to Richmond Isaac Rutter told John Parke he heard his father, David Rutter of Winterings, tell about sending one of his sons for sheep to Crackpott Hall which had strayed from his Heugh, and when he took said sheep away the tenant asked the lad if his father had sent any money as satisfaction for trespass. David replied he had not, to which the said tenant replied that he would see his father afterward.

Thursday 21, March 1771

Went to Muker with Captain Moore and visited the slate quarries on Muker edge in order to set Wilson of Grinton to work. Captain Moore, hearing that John Metcalfe (Sapper) had been working in the said quarry and sold slate raised therein without authority from Mr Smith, called as he said at the said Metcalfe's house on his return to Muker, and told him that several years ago he and old Daniel Addison formerly took the said slate quarry from Mr Wilson for 3 years, worked it for 4 years and paid for 6 years each paid 30/- apiece. Captain Moore gave him a discharge in writing and threatened him with an action for working the said quarries.

Wednesday 27 March, 1771

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon water race or weir was destroyed belonging to Mr Smith's mill at Raygill by the undermentioned persons:

John Lee, James Metcalfe, Thomas Waller, Samuel Metcalfe, Edmund Murton, James Shaw, George Reynoldson Jnr, John Bell, Elias Pedley, George Raw, George Dinsdale, William Dint, Jonathan Bell, Thomas Langstaffe Jnr.

Twelve of the first mentioned persons were brought before Mr Fielding.

Thursday 28 March, 1771

About 5 o'clock in the afternoon Isaac Alderson, Francis Coate, George White, Chris Raw, William Alderson, Joseph Coate, Charles Johnson, Anthony Clarkson and John Robinson began to repair the weir water course destroyed by the above mentioned persons; and John Hird, William Hird, Chris Hird, Mark Raw, George Raw, Chris Bell and Chris Heel came and destroyed the repairs they had made.

This day Captain Moore and Mr Stoddart at Justice Bings and got warrants for persons that destroyed the water race yesterday. No warrant for Jonathan Bell.

Friday 29 March, 1771

Many of the persons that destroyed the weir belonging to the above mentioned smelt mill were served with warrants.

James Bell told me at his own house this night that they had taken 90 bing, 1 horse duty, from the ore removed to Crossgreens and that we removed to Crossgreens 637 bing, 3 horse and that we had carried to Raygill Hill 138 bing, 1 horse.

Saturday 30, 1771

The twelve persons mentioned before and served with warrants were committed to the House of Correction at Richmond by Justice Fielding.

Sunday March 31, 1771

The aforesaid twelve persons carried to the House of Correction at Richmond.

Monday April 1, 1771

The aforesaid twelve persons released and bailed, as I suppose given for their appearance at Sessions in York.

Captain Moore, Isaac Alderson, and Francis Coate gone to Mr Fielding for six more warrants.

Tuesday April 2nd, 1771

Isaac Alderson returned having got ten warrants for six persons more concerned in destroying the weir.

Wednesday April 3rd, 1771

l'Anson (Lord Pomfret's agent), John Metcalfe with several miners destroyed the water race at Mr Smith's mill.

Thursday April 4, 1771

Mr Stoddart (agent for Mr Smith), Isaac Alderson taken up by warrant from Mr Fielding and carried to Mr Wensley's in Reeth, where they were detained all night and guards set over them.

Friday 5 April, 1771

Several smelters and others that had attended Mr Smith's mill taken up and carried with Mr Stoddart and Isaac Alderson to Spencethorne. N.B. James Metcalfe Hing (Lord Pomfret's agent) and John Hird (weaver) obtained the said warrants from Mr Fielding.

Saturday April 6, 1771

This evening bale for Mr Stoddart and others given before Mr Chaytor, by George Raw and Mr Stoddart. The persons names for whom bale was given this night by George Raw and Mr Stoddart to appear at Thirsk Sessions. Mr Stoddart, Isaac Alderson, William Alderson Kearton, Francis Coate, Charles Johnson, George White, Chris Raw, Joseph Coate, Robert Ward and Watson.

Sunday April 7, 1771

Mr Stoddart and the rest came home this morning from Spenythron; yesterday Mr Barrow (Lord Pomfret's gentlemen) came in post chaise to Reeth, Feetham and Gunnerside, and returned to Reeth; and this day the said two gentlemen came with Obidiah Miller and Thomas Hawkings to Richard Lonsdale's where I suppose they examined some witnesses; particularly Simon Coate who this day told me that about 26 years since he and George Alderson cut a water race through a part of Crackpott Out Pasture to convey water to our mines in Swinnergill and that they brought said water course through the sod fence.

Monday April 8, 1771

Mr King's servant here with a letter from Mr Moore. Mr Stoddart and Co gone to the Sessions at Thirsk and were to meet Mr Summerson in Bedale.

Saw Jane Garth this day who informed me that Simon Broderick was expected to be witness for Lord Pomfret, and that he and Thomas Alderson of Arkengarthdale had often fetched sheep from the place in dispute and were never interrupted by anybody

James Bell here this evening and he told me that Simon Broderick was partner with him at a certain mine, with them was William Harker likewise a partner, and that he has often seen him steal wood and the said Simon had stolen it not twice or thrice, but many times.

Thursday April 9, 1771

George Sampson here all last night, gone to James Bell's to examine witnesses about mill race, Mr Elliot, George Raw and Chris Simpson at James Pratt's in the evening with John Parke. James Pratt told us that Simon Broderick pretends that he and his brother George hath often fetched sheep from

the place in dispute and were never disturbed, and likewise said that the said Broderick told him Lord Pomfret had a witness who remembered that about 33 years ago there was a great moor burn upon the moor, which fired the ling in and about the pasture and there was no appearance of a fence.

Sessions this day at Thirsk.

Wednesday April 10, 1771

Mr Elliot at Swinnergill with George Raw and J Parke, when Mr King determined that Mr Elliot and Mr Moore should let the road from Swinnergill mill to Beldy Hill, and that we may pay as reparation assist – but our proportion was not mentioned.

Isaac Alderson and others returned this evening from Thirsk Sessions.

Thursday April 11, 1771

Isaac Alderson and several other persons returned from Thirsk Sessions taken up by Render Bailiff at Richmond and carried to Will Turner's in Gunnerside.

Friday April 12 1771

J Parke this day up dale to examine witnesses near Gunnerside. Mr Chaytor (lawyer) and Mr l'Anson (Lord Pomfret's agent) overtook me and went as it was said to Beldy Hill. Mr Benn, Lord Pomfret and another gentlemen it was said were gone before and went as far as Frith. J Parke called at Calvert Houses and met with James Metcalfe (Holliday Jammie) who said the pasture in dispute was always during his remembrance called Hall Pasture, knew the fence up Swinnergill but not over the moors, and that he had seen it often herded and that sheep were killed nearby.

Went to Muker, Keld and West Stonesdale to examine James Clarkson concerning said pasture. At James Clarkson's met with Adam Alderson of Angram who declared that since the trial at York he had been to the pasture in dispute, and never was there before James Alton Jnr was present and heard him and also James Clarkson and his family.

This forenoon about 10 o'clock Render of Richmond Bailiff served me with a Writ of Execution as it is titled.

The persons taken by warrant yesterday were carried to Reeth.

Examined register at Muker for Agnes Clarkson's age viz "1725 Oct 9 Agnes, daughter of John Metcalfe of Calvert Houses".

Saturday 13 April, 1771

James Bell, Adam Bird gone as I suppose with the aforesaid men to give bail for them before Mr Chaytor.

William Buxton came here and brought me the following list of persons examined by Mr Chaytor for Lord Pomfret and another gentlemen; Jason Bell of Barfside, Thomas Turner Gunnerside, George Bell

Gunnerside, Ruth Peacock Lodge Green, Ann White, George Reynoldson Lodge Green, Joseph Bell Lodge Green, John Alderson (Buck), James Metcalfe King. William Buxton said that Buck John was overheard to say that if they would only tell him what to say, he would say it.

'Solid Clay's' widow and Johnathan Metcalfe's widow both are said to have been examined. Widow Trajier of Ivelet is expected to be examined, she knows that Edmund Simpson used to pay Simon Harker (tenant of Crackpott) a consideration for his grazing in Crackpott out pasture, and her son likewise.

Saturday April 13, 1771

This day Captain Moore, Mr Stoddart, Isaac Alderson and the rest (Mr Smith's party) gave bond before Mr Chaytor for their good behaviour. John Lee having at last Sessions at Thirsk sworn the peace against them before Mr Chaytor, Mr Butterwick and Mr Preston.

April 6, 1771

Delivered to Mr Hartley a memorandum of what Scott said regarding the money they owed us (£2 a fother) to which the said Scott said they had resolved on the advice of Mr Plie not to come to any terms with us till they heard further.

Monday April 15, 1771

Mr Barrow, Lord Pomfret's gentleman, Mr Buck, James Hawkins and John Metcalfe gone to Westmoreland this morning according to Thomas Butson's letter of this date. They called at Thomas Whitfields and stayed there some time, then went to Mr Slacks at Kirkby Stephen and there treated their friends.

Tuesday April 16, 1771

Mr Barrow, Mr Buck and Co. returned as it is said from Kirkby Stephen to Gunnerside in order to examine witnesses from Wensleydale.

Query – who were they?

Wednesday April 17, 1771

Thomas Butson delivered to J Parke James Clarkson, Peter Butson and Thomas Blenkhorn's dispositions.

Thursday April 18, 1771

Isaac Alderson saith the slates, that Ralph Nelson pretends that he and another, Miller (Wood Cock), got for the said Miller's house at Rampsholme, were got in Swinnergill beck stead, at the Foss top

above the cavity in the rock called Swinnergill Kirk and on the east side of the fence belonging to Crackpott Out Pasture.

N.B. It is about 28 to 29 years since according to Isabella Miller, daughter of the said Anthony Miller, since the house at Rampsholme was built. Isaac Alderson likewise saith that his father, John Alderson, was once employed by Mr Forster to get flags for the said Mr Forster's house. That he heard his father say he would get them in the said pasture, but that he was obliged to speak to Mr Forster to apply to Mr Smith's steward for leave to get them, as he had no right to get them without leave or liberty. Likewise saith he had occasion for some flags for his own house at Shoregill, and knowing from what he had heard his father say before respecting Mr Forster's flags, that he had no right to get any from the said pasture without leave from Mr Smith or his steward. And he applied to Thomas Parke (deceased) to intercede for him to Mr Wilson (Steward) for liberty to get the said flags in said out pasture, and likewise told Mr Parke if Mr Wilson required anything for granting him such liberty, he would pay him. Which Thomas Parke told him the said Isaac, that he may venture to get the flags and that he would ensure that Mr Wilson should not hurt either him or his father for so doing.

He likewise saith there was a quarry near Parkes Low Level mouth, which was first opened by Jonathan Wynn for James Bell's kiln at Gunnerside, which said kiln James leased to Mr Smith, and that said quarry was since some little worked by Dan Addison and John Metcalfe (sapper).

April 8th 1771

Simon Broderick on this day, before he went to court to admit his sons of his land, offered James Chapman 6/6 as a recompense for wood he took from Whitaside partnerships.

April 18th 1771

Isaac Alderson sent two persons to open the water race to Mr Smith's mill (Raygill)

Mr Smith's smelter began to smelt this day, and this afternoon. Water course to smelt mill, was again filled and destroyed by the following persons: two of Weaver's sons, Mark Raw and Chris Heslop.

Saturday April 20, 1771

Captain Moore at Richmond told me he was going to get warrants of Mr Fielding for the destroyers of the water race, but would first consult Mr Emmerson.

Several parts of Crackpott out pasture are distinguished by different names to wit. Swinnergill Hind Hole etc.

Monday April 22, 1771

Water race again destroyed by John Murton and John Lee's servant, and another person who fled.

Wednesday April 24, 1771

George Sampson examined Isaac Alderson and James Bell about the value of Cantrell's estate at Gunnerside, which James Bell saith was surrendered to Anthony Kearton, Darlington about 2 years ago for £60 or £80.

Mr Thomas Elliot and Ralph Parke went to Knowles's at Butt House and J. Parke met them at Crackpott Out Pasture, and some women washers (scotchers) came to J. Parke near the gate at Beldy Hill and J. Parke gave them to drink 1 /-. Amongst women was Jason Dayking's wife who told Parke that she believed her husband was intended as a witness against us (Smith) and that he would say anything that his brother Dayking said.

That James Dayking pretended there were no fences about the out pasture till Thomas Parke or Mr Smith made it, that he had formerly worked with his brother, Dayking and got stoprods.

Joseph Dayking and Ralph Kearton of Ivelet both were examined by Mr Barrow.

Thursday April 25, 1771

The axletree brought this day to Thomas Chapman's door and left there by his son and Richard Hammond, it was taken from Mr Hartley's on Tuesday last. (This was for smelt mill at Swinnergill foot).

April 27, 1771

Isaac Alderson stack at Stoneygill thrown over and some of it carried into Lodge Green pasture and other parts of it thrown into the gill, where the water runs. And upon the remainder of the stack that was standing, some of the offenders had eased themselves.

William Buxton's stack of hay and likewise Thomas Turner's stack was thrown over this night. N.B. Isaac's was a whole stack.

Old George Alderson (Trooper) evidence upon Isaac Alderson's information, which he had from George Bell that the said Trooper hath several times fetched his Galloway from the place in dispute and was never disturbed. And that George Reynoldson hath known the said place a great many years, and that it was always called Hall Moor.

Dick Dack's wife and her son witnesses for Lord Pomfret (Thomas Butson's information)

Tuesday April 30, 1771

George Fryer of Winterings drived here and saith Ralph Rutter told him and Richard Metcalfe that he had then never been at, or seen, the place or pasture in dispute and told his son, Alton, that he was a witness in order to get his son preferred.

Simon Alderson of Keld died this evening as I've since been informed.

May 5, 1771

James Alton called on me this day and informed me the following are witnesses for Lord Pomfret viz: Joseph Clarkson - late of Satron, David Robinson – a scotch traveller, Jon Pratt of Wensleydale.

Wednesday May 8, 1771

Mr Smith's water race to Raygill mill attempted to be opened, and again destroyed by two or three persons who pretended they were working for Mr Lee. John Metcalfe and several others went as it is said yesterday to Mr Chaytor (lawyer)

Thursday May 9, 1771

George Fryer (our servant), George White, Chris Raw, Charles Johnson, William Alderson, Roger Alderson, Francis Coate and Joseph Coate came to claim each a shift for bringing home bellows this day from smelt mill at Raygill – the same being brought home to save expense of being watched all night – paid.

Saturday May 11, 1771

Reeth constable took by warrant from Mr Fielding's two of Weaver's sons: Mark Raw and Chris Heslop for destroying water race, and carried them before Mr Fielding and Mr Chaytor but they were not bound over.

Monday May 13 1771

William Buxton informed me this day that George Reynoldson of Gunnerside will swear that he used to go with Mr George Kearton and that fences were much the same as they are now.

John Robinson (Mr Smith's smelter) came here and informed me that John Lee destroyed the water race this day.

Thursday May 16, 1771

Jonathan Horne this day informed me he has lately with Mr Burton, who told him that Mr Chaytor or some friends of his had found an old map of Crackpott Hall farm wherein the cow pasture was divided into two pastures; the one called the low pasture, and the other the high pasture.

Sunday May 19, 1771

Edward Alderson here Thursday and saith that Chris Metcalfe of Ivelet informed on Preston Eli that he remembered the fences and Crackpott Out Pasture, and that he believed it had been a pasture.

Edward Alderson saith that Hunter William Harrison's hind never lived with my Uncle Parke after the said Edward was concerned with my Uncle and partners at Swinnergill.

Friday 24 May, 1771

Mr Thomas Elliot told Captain Moore and J. Parke going to Arkendale, that Chris Naylor expects to be a witness for Lord Pomfret and that when he was examined Mr Benn would have him say that the said Mr Elliot (Mr Smith's steward) seldom or never went to Swinnergill when the Trust mines were working there and the said Naylor told him that he thought Benn a bad man.

Thursday May 30, 1771

George Raw brought me to show Mr Emmerson and Mr Leo Hartley Thomas Pratt's description of How Mill and Mr Smith's lead marks; the said Pratt and James Brodrake having made affidavits that said marks were alike and according to his description of the marks.

Friday 31 May, 1771

J. Parke went to Middleton intending as it was thought necessary by Mr Hartley that I should make affidavits concerning our removing lead ore from Beldy Hill and that mark we set upon the lead smelter thereupon. But returning to Richmond, Mr George Hartley thought that my affidavit would not be supported, therefore George Sampson and I and J Parke came to Low Row.

Saturday June 1, 1771

Isaac Alderson, George Sampson and J. Parke went to Richmond this morning, where George Emmerson joined us and Butson. Alderson and Emmerson made affidavits contradictory respecting the marks of lead to the affidavit made by Pratt and James Broadrake.

Saturday June 29. 1771

Lawyer Hartley told Mr Harrison and J. Parke that Lord Pomfret had made a motion in Court of Chancery to have commission to examine witnesses and that a motion had been made to sequester Lord Pomfret's estate for payment of debts.

Saturday June 29, 1771

William Hawkin of Fremington told me that Scott had smelted at Grove Beck mill the letter 'Z', and had begun with letter 'G' and the next Thomas Metcalfe told me they had smelted at Spout Gill mill letters A B C D and were smelting 'E'.

Sunday June 30, 1771

John Metcalfe was seen to go down the dale with Daykings, Sam Moor, Francis Lonsdale, Joseph Smith and some others and Tom Birkbeck of Lodge Green.

Monday July 1, 1771

James Cherry of Healaugh told R. Parke and J. Parke at our own house that he brought his gang of horses off Anthony Metcalfe, who gave him to understand that half horses were Lord Pomfret's, that he would pay for them in two payments, and I think he likewise said that Lord Pomfret would be generous to him out of said payment, and that the forehorse collar was one side marked with the initial letters of Anthony Metcalfe's name.

Wednesday July 3, 1771

This evening fire was set to some peats in Spout Gill mill, which burnt said peats and the door of the mill. N.B. By accident.

Thursday July 11, 1771

John Parke and Thomas Butson called at Mr Richard Metcalfe's at Calvert Houses, and after J. Parke asked the said Metcalfe how he did, he told the said Metcalfe that he had come for himself and partners to desire that said Metcalfe would give him an amount for the quantity of lead that he, the said Metcalfe, and partners had smelted from Beldy Hill ore. And further desired to know when the said Metcalfe and partners intended to pay him (£2 per fother) the said Parke and partners the money that is due to them upon the account. To which Metcalfe gave Parke no satisfactory answer, only that Parke might see Mr Scott tomorrow at Reeth, and that he and the said Metcalfe would be at Richmond on Saturday first, and he believed that Mr Scott would be at the same place that day. The said Parke pressed the said Metcalfe to give him an answer on Saturday, still Metcalfe gave Parke no answer whether he would or not, only that he would be at the same place.

N.B. Metcalfe told Parke, meaning as John Parke apprehended himself and partners, had smelted about 29 marks of lead (mark 400 pigs) that some of it was marked 'S' before they made use of.

J. Parke asked the said Metcalfe if he heard what had passed lately in the Court of Chancery, concerning Lord Pomfret's application to the court to have lessee account for the court, of the profits arising from the said mine Beldy Hill, and told him he believed the Lord Chancellor had refused to grant Lord Pomfret an order for the purpose.

Having seen a letter which came by Tuesday's post signifying something to like effect, on which Metcalfe pretended not to have heard of such a thing; but he said Mr Sleigh had wrote about the former hearing and that Lord Pomfret wanted to have the dispute tried by commission, and that Mr Wetherburn asked his Lordship when he intended to bring on trial at the Bar, but his Lordship left the court and gave no answer.

Sunday 14 July, 1771

At Richmond this day, dined at Lawyer Hartley's and told him that according to Robert Cleminson's account there was about 100 bings of lead at Old Gang mills.

Monday 14 July, 1771

J. Cowling at Old Gang mills computing the quantity of lead at each place.

This day Francis Coate and Abel Dunn set forth for York, being witnesses against Lonsdale and Co for destroying Raygill mill water race.

Saturday 20 July, 1771

The dispute about Richard Lonsdale and Co destroying Raygill mill water race compromised this day at York.

Sunday 21 July, 1771

James Clarkson told me this day that some of his friends pretended to confuse Old John Metcalfe of Stonedale's evidence by pretending he had said to them.

Tuesday 23 July, 1771

Agreed with John Wilson of Grinton that he and George Wharton should have for knocking, dressing and smelting all our slags and Raygill mill; at the ore hearth £2. 7. 6. Per fother and 2/6 more, to be referred to J. Parke, we to find mill, millage and fuel. N.B. They are to knock all the slags and smelt them. John Bell present and by his approbation.

Shareholders in Metcalfe and Partners Co. at Beldy Hill:

<i>William Metcalfe</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>James Metcalfe</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>Ralph Miller</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>Peter Miller</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>John Scott</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>Richard Metcalfe (Calvert House)</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>William Turner</i>	<i>1/8th share</i>
<i>Jonathan Turner</i>	<i>1/16th share</i>
<i>Richard Metcalfe (Muker)</i>	<i>1/12th share</i>
<i>James Garth</i>	<i>1/32nd share</i>

N.B. Peter Miller's wife has her father's (W. Metcalfe) 1/8th share, and that Ralph Miller and James Garth being both Turner's share one at £9. 0. 0., the other £7. 0. 0. So that when the two shares were bought he understood that same were intended to be divided among the partnership.

Tuesday October 22, 1771

This day Captain Moore came to Low Row and told me that two person's came from Catterick this morning and were gone to Beldy Hill. He and George Raw went after them. Captain came back to my house and staid all night, but could give no account who they were.

Wednesday 23 Oct, 1771

In going to Muker market I observed two persons going the highway to Swinnergill, I suspecting their designs sent William Clarkson of Muker to view their motions. He found one of the persons above mentioned accompanied by Benn. James Hawkins, Obidiah Miller, Simon Broderick and others measuring and taking a survey of the fences belonging to Crackpott Out Pasture. Anthony Clarkson was with William Clarkson.

An account of lead smelted by Metcalfe, Scott and partners from Beldy Hill ore. Sold to Mr Robinson, Stockton:

Date	Pigs	Fo.	Cwt	Q.	lb	Price	£.	S.	d.
April 1768	22 400	23				£15. 10. 0.	366	18	0
Aug.	20 400	23				£15. 5. 0.	361	12	8
July	12 400	24				£15. 5. 0.	366	14	0
Aug	20 400	24				£15. ? ?	724	17	6
Dec 1769	9 800	48				£14. 15 0.	704	2	0
March	16 800	47				£14. 15. 0.	702	13	5
June	12 800	47				£14. 15. 0.	353	11	0
Aug	22 400	23				£14 15. 0.	172	15	10
Nov 1770	17 200	11				£14. 10. 0.	507	6	0
March	1 600	34				£14. 10. 0.	345	15	9
April	26 400	23				£14. 10. 0.	340	19	2
June	20 400	23				£14. 10. 0.	345	6	9
	29 400	23							
July	10 800	47				£14. 10. 0.	686	3	11
Dec 1771	7 1200	72				£14. 10. 0.	1050	18	8
Feb	28 400	23				£14. 10. 0.	340	17	8
March	14 400	23				£14. 12. 6.	348	9	3
May	24 400	23				£14. 12. 6.	346	8	9
	29 400	23				£14. 12. 6.	348	12	11
	30 800	47				£14. 5. 0.	703	10	2
June	1st 400	23				£15. 5. 0.	364	3	11
June	5 400	23				£15. 5. 0.	364	2	9
July	22 400	23				£14. 15. 0.	356	18	0
Aug	13 800	48				£15. 5. 0.	737	16	7
Oct	10 800	48				£16. 0. 0.	773	3	10

On this day they had to pay 40/- per fother to Parkes and Hartley.

Friday Oct 29, 1771

I believe Lord Pomfret's surveyor has finished surveying and measuring the fences at Crackpott pasture.

Oct 30, 1771

Cooper Peacock told me this day that Scott and Captain Metcalfe say they have no right to work Beldy Hill longer than May Day.

Saturday Nov 2, 1771

James Galloway told me this night that Captain Metcalfe had discharged him from taking away any ore from Beldy Hill

Monday Nov 4, 1771

John Parke told Isaac Alderson to remove the gate near Beldy Hill to its old place. Thomas Butson lately having got it altered for the convenience of carrying ore up the new road in carts; who ordered him to do it I know not.

Wednesday Nov 5 1771

Ralph Parke just returned from Barnard Castle and informs me that Lord Pomfret's attorney, l'Anson, has been with Hutchinson.

Saturday Nov 9, 1771

On Wednesday last the smelters at Swinnergill mills, by Captain Moore's orders, made each an assay of the duty ore taken from the heap of ore at Crossgreens, which said ore was raised by Parkes & Co out of their works on the West side of the hush at Beldy Hill and removed to Crossgreens before the injunction was served on Parkes & Co.

Produce – 16 horse of lead ore each weighing 22 stone, 5lbs smelted by Ward and Watson smelters for J. Parkes and Co. Produced in lead 14 cwts. 3 qr. 18lbs.

Simon Harker of Calvert Houses, formerly tenant of Crackpott Hall, was buried at Muker February 15, 1750.

Nov 16, 1771

The greatest flood that ever was known in the memory of man – great damage done, several bridges carried away.

Hearing in Chancery about Beldy Hill expected to come on this day.

Wednesday Nov 20, 1771

J. Parke went down from Muker market to Swinnergill to view the damage done by the water, saw George Fryer there who will go round pasture tomorrow.

N.B. By Thomas Butson's affidavit; ore removed from Beldy Hill to Crossgreens 891 bing, 1 horse.

Feb 22, 1770

Fences belonging to Crackpott Out Pasture was measured this day by Ralph Scott, Simon Alderson and Thomas Butson

	Roods
From a point at Eastward end of Swinnergill beck side to a little below Parke's level scar or rock fence.	13
From that a wall to Swinnergill scar , supposed ravens or buzzard's nest so called	24
The said Swinnergill scar make a fence for	36
The said scar to Swinnergill Kirk scar – a wall or stone fence for	27
The Swinnergill Kirk scar makes a fence for	7
From Swinnergill Kirk scar to Hind holes Head – a wall of stone fence for	66
From Hind Hole Head – sod and earth fence to Water Gap Edge, from Water Gap Edge to East Gill beck a wall or stone fence for . . .	51
From that down side of East Gill beck to the end of Nan Intack scar or Goup scar wall or stone fence	8 ½
The Intack scar makes a fence for	48
From the scar a wall to Habery Bank End	33

Sunday Jan 5, 1772

Went with Mr Benn from Will Turner's, Gunnerside to view the ground in dispute, that the said Benn carried us to some old fences upon the outside of the pastures in Swinnergill head, and from these we went forward upon the outside of the sod fence (that at the head of Hind Hole). Mr Benn wondered why the fence had not been made of stone when plenty of stone was at hand, and Hawkins said these were old fences of East Gill both upon the outside and inside of the pasture.

James Hawkins said he had seen Simon Harker hound off sheep on the ground in dispute, but that when George Metcalfe was tenant at Crackpott Hall that he had had sheep on which went peaceably on said ground, and that George Metcalfe clipped them and sent him the fleeces. He further said that Joseph Close, when tenant, told him if he did not fetch his father's horse away from the pasture he would told him that the said horse was found at Sleetholme.

Friday Jan 17, 1772

Some of John Metcalfe's men that destroyed Mr Smith's mill race at Raygill acknowledge themselves guilty thereof at the Sessions this day at Richmond, and were to pay each damages.

Saturday Jan 18, 1772

Commission at Richmond to examine witnesses between Lord Pomfret and Mr Smith ended this night.

Saturday 25 Jan, 1772

Chris Pattison delivered to me Mr Leo Hartley's bill for business down at the Assizes on account of indictment amount: £501. 2s 4d.

For do at sessions £127 17s 8d. £629

Saturday March 7, 1772

Mr Leo Hartley told me Mr Knighton and Mr Readshaw had leased Whitaside.

Sunday March 8, 1772

John Metcalfe, Henry Cantrill, Thomas Smithson, Chris Raw and a woman unknown were going down the dale this morning (William Wall's information)

Mr Heslop and Captain Moore at Mr Elliot's in Reeth examining witnesses about Mr Smith's smelt mill water race in Raygill; in order to support the indictments against l'Anson, John Metcalfe and others at the ensuing Assizes in York.

Friday March 13, 1772

George White, Chris Raw and Co. set forward for York Assizes.

Sunday March 15, 1772

Isaac Alderson and the witnesses for Captain Moore (Smith's steward) concerning indictment against l'Anson (Lord Pomfret's attorney), John Metcalfe and others set forward for York Assizes this morning.

Tuesday March 17, 1772

Lord Pomfret is expected to appeal to the House this day against the order made by the Lord Chancellor.

Last Tuesday, March 10 1772, George Raw, Isaac Alderson and Ralph Parke measured part of the following by request of Captain Moore. John Rasewarne was present at the measuring Mr Smith's water race at Raygill.

Lord Pomfret's water race to his smelt mill in Raygill from the beck to the wheel 441 yards in length, and from there to the tail of the race 40 yards. From said mill to Mr Smith's weir 100 yards on the N.E. side of the said weir.

Mr Smith obliged now since the destruction of the weir to fetch the water about 40 yards further than the weir, from the beck to his mill. Distance from Mr Smith's mill to Lord Pomfret's mill 1000 yards.

Thursday March 19, 1772

Mr William Stuart informed me this night that it is pretended by Lord Pomfret's party that they have got a map or survey of Crackpott Hall farm specifying the number of acres belonging to the said farm, and that the ground in dispute is not included therein.

Friday March 20, 1772

This day the following persons were at the Assizes at York found guilty of a riot by destroying Mr Smith's water race at Raygill on the 27 of March 1771:

Thomas Waller, William Dent, Samuel Metcalfe, George Reynoldson Jnr, George Dinsdale, George Raw, James Shaw, John Lee, Elias Pedley, John Bell, Edmund Murton, Jonathan Bell, Thomas Longstaffe, James Metcalfe. Witnesses examined against the above: Captain Moore, Mr Stoddart and Isaac Alderson.

Friday March 20, 1772

This afternoon the undermentioned persons were found guilty of a riot by destroying the water race belonging to Mr Smith's mill in Raygill on the 3rd April 1771:

John Metcalfe, James Metcalfe, James Shaw, Thomas Daykin, Chris Murton, Francis Lonsdale, William l'Anson (attorney). Witnesses examined against them: Robert Stoke – Richmond, Isaac Alderson, Charles Johnson, and Francis Coate.

Sunday March 22, 1772

Isaac Alderson and witnesses returned from York.

Tuesday April 28. 1772

J. Parke and Thomas Butson at Richmond consulting Lawyer Hartley about beginning to work in the 10 meers of ground at Beldy Hill. Scott it is said intending to give over working there on Thursday next. Lawyer Hartley ordered the 4 shafts to be covered with trap doors, so it was determined what we should do and accordingly I ordered George Raw to make the said doors and have them ready against Thursday night.

Thomas Butson came here this evening and bought a letter from Mr Emmerson to the lawyer.

Thursday 30 April 1772

Captain Moore called here this evening going to Muker. Scott and partners have their sale of utensils etc this day at Beldy Hill.

Tuesday May 1, 1772

J. Parke, George Raw went from Low Row about 7 o'clock this morning, called upon Mr Moore of Muker and from there proceeded with the said Captain Moore, Isaac Alderson, George Raw and Mr Grime to Beldy Hill mines where we had Thomas Butson along with us view the surface of the said mines and found 4 shafts covered with trap doors, each door a bolt and lock upon it.

In coming in from Richmond today James Bell told me that when John Scott put Mr Wilson in possession of Spout Gill mill, Mr Wilson told the said Scott that for his kindness in doing him the favour he and his partners should smelt their ore at the said mill without paying any consideration for it.

Wednesday May 13, 1772

Captain Moore told Brother Ralph at Muker that Lord Pomfret had made two motions in the Court of Chancery and failed in both.

N.B. He asked to have the verdict given at York for Mr Smith to be set aside, and to have the depositions of witnesses taken by commission to be read in court.

Sunday May 17, 1772

This day John Metcalfe set forward for London, and it is said l'Anson does the same on account of the riot, for which they were tried the last Assizes at York.

N.B. It is said that several of the rioters fled into Westmoreland, etc

This day Mr Fenwick of Bywell and Mr Cornforth told me in the Cockpit at Richmond that Mr l'Anson was taken ill at Scarramoor on his journey to London.

Friday May 22, 1772

This day at the request of Mr Browne of Heaning, I met him at Widow Metcalfe's at Muker and her goods were appraised; no particular discourse happened between us relative to Beldy Hill, only he asked me if we had received any money on account of the 40/- per fother from Butt and Partners. I told him we had received £40, he promised to give me a copy of the agreement between Lord Pomfret and Scott and Co.

Saturday May 23, 1772

This day Captain Moore appealed to the Commissioners of the Land Tax at Richmond on behalf of Mr Smith, against an assessment made by Richard Metcalfe of Calvert House, and another assessment

of the ore at Swinnergill mill. The Commissioners thought and adjudged the ore brought from Beldy Hill since the 5th of April last liable to assessment. The quantity about 334 bing, for which ore the said Richard Metcalfe agreed with Captain Moore to give him £3. 5. 0. per bing in the presence of the Commissioners and several others.

Sunday May 24, 1772

J. Parke this day at Richmond and received of Lawyer Hartley a copy of Mr Smith's letter relative to Lord Pomfret's late motions in the Court of Chancery; in which he failed particularly in a motion to get an injunction to prevent our working in the 10 meers of ground at Beldy Hill.

A subpoena or writ was left at our house, at the suit of Lord Pomfret for J. Parke this day.

Sunday May 31, 1772

My servant, William, brought the above subpoena to me at Lawyer Hartley's, who said I need not appear to it.

Monday June 1, 1772

Ralph Parke was served with a subpoena by Render Bailiff.

May 5, 1772

This morning James Bell told me that John Metcalfe of Dikeheads returned last night from London.

Saturday May 7, 1772

Yesterday John Metcalfe's men returned from Kirkby Stephen. Those who had fled on the 17th into Westmoreland.

Sunday May 7, 1772

This day Thomas Chapman told me that he was informed by Hannam, that John Metcalfe was gone from home to avoid being taken up and that his men were much discontented with his usage, and what he had caused them to bring upon themselves.

Thursday May 11, 1772

This day I believe Jack Lee was taken for destroying Raygill mill water race and sent to York Castle. John Parke was this day at the Court of Muker and returned Mr Browne the copy of the agreement between Lord Pomfret and Scott and Metcalfe.

Wednesday June 17, 1772

Thomas Butson served Widow Metcalfe, Richard Metcalfe and James Garth, all of Muker, and Richard Metcalfe of Calvert House with our demand for the money due on account of 40/- per fother duty.

Friday June 19, 1772

Thomas Butson served John Scott of Reeth with like demand of 40/- fother.

Saturday June 20, 1772

Sent Sister Elizabeth Parke to Sheffield the like demand of 40/- per fother, to serve on Peter Milner, served the 25th by William Hancock.

Thomas Butson served Ralph Milner at his house with like demand of 40/- per fother.

Monday June 29, 1772

This morning about half an hour after 6 o'clock Thomas Rutter (Lord Pomfret's agent) and Thomas Smithson applied to Brother Ralph at my house and told him they had a small favour to ask him. To wit, that he would give them leave to go down the shafts within the 10 meers of ground at Beldy Hill – which my brother granted. And afterwards asked them whether they applied of their own account or on behalf of Lord Pomfret – to which they gave no pertinent answer; only Rutter said they wanted to go down to see how it had been worked. Accordingly my brother Ralph immediately sent our servant, William Bainbridge, with a letter to Thomas Butson ordering him to attend them this afternoon, as it was by them fixed.

New road made from Beldy Hill to Swinnergill Mill 1772

Monday June 29, 1772

The cause of Lord Pomfret v Smith was partly heard today, and lasted until July 1st when date of trial was fixed.

Monday June 29, 1772

Thomas Rutter (one of Lord Pomfret's agents) came to Beldy Hill and said he was come to go down some of the shafts, pointing to the mine. I asked him on what account, he said John Metcalfe's, I said then it is on behalf of Lord Pomfret. He said 'I warn't you it is on behalf of somebody, are you willing I should go down' I said I had no objection, he asked me to lend him a candle which I did, and John Miller (one of our miners) lent him a suit of Gruve clothes, and Ralph Miller went down with him and me into one of our shafts made use of by Scott & Co. for working 10 meers.

N.B. The above is taken from Thomas Butson's memorandum.

Friday July 3, 1772

John Scott came to me near to John Whitell's house in Reeth and told me he intended to deliver to us on Friday next an account of the 40/- per fother and that he should have had it ready this day but had not time to draw it out. He said something about making matters easy for us – but I do not remember the exact expression; though I thought the expression implied that he and his partners intended to pay us the money due on said account.

N.B. Robert Buckle made new lead mark for lead to wit: **3 W** which was sent to Swinnergill Mill July 16 1771. **P**

Quantity of lead on the quays at Stockton: June 13, 1772

B.34 C.457 D.457 E.394 F.199 Total: 1483 pieces

July 17 1772,

Went to Reeth with James Parke and Isaac Alderson purposely to receive from John Scott & Co the account which he promised me on Friday. We sent for him to John Whitell's and after waiting some time there he came into the room and promised to deliver the account on Friday.

Friday July 24, 1772

John Parke, Thomas Butson and Isaac Alderson went purposely to Reeth expecting to receive account of 40/- per fother, but enquiring of Scott's servant he told me Mr Scott was not at home, nor did he know when he would return.

Sunday 26 July 1772

George Raw and John Parke staid all night at Mr Stodart's in Reeth, got up between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning, got Benson and Mr Stodart to enquire if John Scott was at home. He was and John Parke desired Scott's servant maid to inform him he desired to speak with him. Scott's answer by his servant was that he did not choose to get up. J. Parke then desired his maid to ask him if the account of 40/- per fother, which he promised J. Parke, was ready. His answer by his maid was that it was not ready.

J. Parke and George Raw proceeded to Richmond to inform Lawyer Hartley with Scott's answer, and on our return home met Scott near the pinfold, Richmond and he promised to deliver J. Parke the aforesaid account on Friday next, and would pay the money due to us as soon as he could or words to that effect.

J. Parke told him if the account was deficient it might be made complete.

Friday July 31

John Parke, Mr Stodart and James Chapman called on John Scott at his shop in Reeth. John Parke expected to receive the account of the 40/- per fother. Scott said the account was not ready but he would send it to J. Parke by his servant next Monday.

Scott pretended he did not promise last Sunday that the account should be ready this day.

N.B. 5 marks (mark = 400 pieces) and 191 pieces of lead have now been smelted and forwarded to Stockton from Swinnergill mill.

Monday Aug 3, 1772

John Scott's servant or apprentice brought the account of 40/- per fother and delivered it to Ralph Parke in the presence of Robert Buckle (Blacksmith).

Friday Aug 7, 1772

Thomas Butson and J. Parke see J. Scott at Reeth, with whom John Parke had some conversation concerning payment of the money due on the account of 40/- per fother. Scott said they were ready to answer all demands on the account.

Saturday Aug 22, 1772

Mr Smith and Lawyer Hartley both thought it proper that we should begin to work the mines at Beldy Hill.

Sunday Aug 23, 1772

John Parkes went to Muker, sent for Thomas Butson who came to J. Parke and returned with him to his house. When J. Parke and R. Parke and the said Thomas Butson considered to set Beldy Hill mine to work and accordingly it will be set to work tomorrow or on Tuesday next.

5 marks and 191 pieces at Swinnergill Mill.

Mr Smith won all the trials and the ground in dispute was retained by him, along with the mining royalties, it being declared by the court that what some people call Hall Moor is in reality Crackpott Hall pasture and enclosed.

Metcalfe and l'Anson (agent and attorney) were indicted and convicted of a riot at the Assizes at York and were condemned by the Court of Kings bench to pay Mr Smith £400 for his damages and loss.

The Crackpott Hall out pasture was enclosed in 1635 and an agreement made that the Lord shall build a wall on the upper side of the ground from Stonesdale beck to Swinnergill beck.

Mr Smith died about 6 months after the last trial, in 1773.