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## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN, TREASURER, OF THE BURGH OF HADDINGTON, 1574-75.

IN Volume VII of these *Transactions* the late Mr Henry M. Paton published excerpts from seven Haddington Burgh Accounts (1554-74) based for the most part on transcripts made by Dr Wallace James. Among Mr Paton's papers was found a typescript of a text for this present account, which he had obviously intended for publication. On examination, however, this was found to be a copy of another Wallace James transcript, which proved to be both defective and incomplete when compared with the original manuscript now in H.M. General Register House, Edinburgh<sup>1</sup>. It was decided therefore to make a fresh transcript of the whole account in order to present a complete picture of the disbursements made by James Cokburn as burgh treasurer in the year from November 1574 to November 1575.

James Cokburn, who had been provost of Haddington since 7th October 1572<sup>2</sup>, was supplanted in that office by John Douglas, deacon of the cordiners, at a head court held on 12th October 1574<sup>3</sup>. Cokburn received the keys of the "common kist" on the same day, and Archibald Kyle elder, his predecessor as treasurer, made his account and received his discharge on 19th November<sup>4</sup>. Cokburn remained burgh treasurer until 1577<sup>5</sup>; and this present record covers his first year of office. It ends on 24th November 1575 when he presented his account of charge and discharge during the year to thirteen

1. Haddington Burgh Records, 223/1.
2. Burgh Court Book, 1571-75, 29v.
3. The magistrates and town council meeting with the deacons of the crafts in the tolbooth were charged by the Regent Morton to elect John Douglas as provost. They proceeded to elect John Setoun and William Broun as bailies and to choose thirteen councillors, but they refused to elect any provost for the year. For "feir and dred," however, they permitted Douglas to "intrus him" in the office provided his "usurpation" did not prejudice the burgh's privileges anent electing magistrates (Protocol Book of Thomas Stevin, 1565-74, 213v.; Burgh Court Book, 1571-75, 75v.; Town Council Minutes, 1554-80, 78v.).
4. Town Council Minutes, 1554-80, (= TCM) 80r.
5. Two copies of his day book for 1576-77 are preserved in the Scottish Record Office (Haddington Burgh Records, 223/2; Exchequer Records, Common Good Accounts, 28/2).

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elected and sworn auditors who signed the account and exonerated the treasurer (40-41)<sup>1</sup>. Although the opening rubric runs "Compt of the commoun guid" (1), the amount of the revenue received by the treasurer is given only in the minute of audit. At least one page, however, seems to have been removed from the beginning of the book, and the sums collected by Cokburn from such sources as the two corn mills, the petty customs, the common measures, and burgess rents and entry fees, were probably listed there. What has survived is essentially a diet or day book recording in more or less chronological order the sums paid out by the treasurer on behalf of the town.

In physical appearance the book is similar to other contemporary accounts. Sheets of paper have been folded in half to make pages measuring about 6" x 8" and thereafter roughly stitched along the fold into a vellum cover formed from a liturgical fragment, possibly of local provenance<sup>2</sup>. The paper used is of French manufacture and bears a distinctive watermark consisting of a right hand, laced at the wrist, with fingers closed and thumb extended and with a cinquefoil rising on a stem from the middle finger<sup>3</sup>, a design similar to that found on an account of 1558<sup>4</sup>. The handwriting of two different scribes can be clearly discerned. Thomas Stevin, who had received a grant of the common clerkship for life on 29th November 1571<sup>5</sup>, wrote the minute of audit and executed notarially for those auditors (including the provost) who could not write (40). Stevin was probably also responsible for a number of rather

1. Originally the manuscript was neither paged nor foliated. Modern pencil pagination has been followed here.
2. The Rev. W. J. Anderson, M.A., custodian of the Blairs Archives, has kindly given me the benefit of his expert opinion on the nature and possible provenance of this fragment. It consists of a single leaf of a Cistercian Breviary containing part of the Feast of St. Laurence (August 10th). The place and date of writing are matters of conjecture only, but it is not the product of a great scriptorium and it may quite well have been written in Scotland in the late fifteenth or early sixteenth century. Since the Cistercian nuns had an important house in Haddington, it is reasonable to assume that the Breviary belonged to them.
3. I am indebted to T. I. Rae, Esq., M.A., Assistant Keeper, Department of Manuscripts, National Library of Scotland, for the following information regarding this watermark. It belongs to a class described by C. M. Briquet (*Les Filigranes*, iii, p. 573). Although a clearly defined style, it seems to have been used by a large number of manufacturers. The papers so marked were made in the north west of France (Normandy, Brittany), and are distributed along the north coast of France and east as far as Hamburg and Lubeck. One is described by Briquet as having been used in Scotland in 1568. The earliest use of this style of watermark was in 1526; nearly all the examples are prior in date to 1580.
4. Haddington Burgh Records, 220.
5. TCM, 62v.

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hastily-scrawled alterations and emendations. The bulk of the entries are written in a small but very legible hand which is almost certainly that of Alexander Symson, notary in Haddington, who was appointed in 1581 to assist Thomas Stevin because of the latter's "greitt eild"<sup>1</sup>. The standard of bookkeeping is no more than fair as a number of the dates entered are demonstrably wrong<sup>2</sup> and the summations at the foot of each page of the manuscript are occasionally suspect.

No analysis has been attempted of the subjects of expenditure; and the entries have generally been left to speak for themselves. Many of the topics have already been touched upon by historians of the Burgh<sup>3</sup>, and it is hoped that the detailed information provided here for the year 1574-75 will serve to supplement their narratives. Since entries in accounts must by their nature be short and often cryptic, additional information from other sources, particularly the town council minutes, has occasionally been supplied in foot-notes. In this connection, it may be emphasised that the council minutes constitute the primary record since these contain the authority for the treasurer's disbursements. There can be no doubt that a comprehensive publication of the earlier court and council records of Haddington would be of great value not only for the historian of the Burgh but also for burgh historians generally.

### p. I

Compt of the common guid of the Mertymes terme in the yeir of God lxxiiii yeris and Witsonday lxxv yeiris be James Cokburn thesaurar.  
Item on Wednesday the xvii, xviii, xix, and xx, xxi, xxii, xxiii, xxiiii, thay aucht dayis of November to the four wachmen that keipit the portis in tyme of the pest<sup>4</sup> William Young, Jhone Gray, Thomas Wylsone, Jhone Rykilltoun ilkane of thame xx d. in the day summa                      iiii merkis  
Item xxv, xxvi, xxvii, xxviii, xxix, xxx of November and the first and the second of December thay aucht dayis the samyn four men                      iiii merkis

1. TCM, 114r.
2. Minor mistakes of dating occur on the following pages: 6, 10, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26 (2), 27 (3), 28, 29 (2), 30, 32 (2), 33 and 34.
3. Notably, W. Forbes Gray and J. H. Jamieson, *A Short History of Haddington* (East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalists' Society, 1944).
4. On 31st October the Privy Council had ordered bailies of burghs to keep diligent watch to prevent the spread of infection by the movement of sick persons. By 16th November the pestilence had spread in Edinburgh, Leith and Fife, and the Privy Council was meeting at Dalkeith (*Register of the Privy Council*, ii, 415, 419-20).

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Item to my Lord Lyndsay chalmerlane for the Mertymes terme of the myllis  
xl s.

This samyn day to the bailye Jhone Setoun to ryd to Edinburgh to get ane  
yryn to prent the stoppis his expensis x s.

Item to the minister<sup>1</sup> for his Mertymes fe and hous maill xl merkis

Item to William Browne bailye for his fe x merkis

Item for caryng of x furlettis to be met with walter vi d.

Item to yowng Bowye that ryngis the bell and swyppis the kyrk for his fye  
xxvi s. viii d.

Item to the samyn four men that wowke the portis thre dayis viz. iii, iiii and  
v of December xv s.

Item to Harye Cokburnis wyfe for the lane of hir kuschyngis at the counsallis  
command<sup>2</sup> xl s.

Summa xlv lib. v s. vi d.

p.2

Item to the lokeman for his fe xl s.

Item to George Cokburne the lowramire at the prowest command in almes  
iii s.

Item the xv of December to William Young to beir twelf custome furlettis to  
be brynt and justifiit viii d.

This samyn day to schir William Wylson for his fe<sup>3</sup> xl s.

Item to James Cokburn the towne was auchtand him lxiiii lib.

Item to Paull Lyll for half stane of yryn v owns to ryng the trone wychtis  
with vii s. viii d.

Item to the smyth for the furlettis byrning and ane prenting yryn to the tre  
stoppis making and the making of the ryngis and bottis to the trone  
stanis<sup>4</sup> xxii s.

1. Mr James Carmichael, who also acted as schoolmaster 1572-76.

2. Twelve cushions had been borrowed "to the lordis the tyme of the ayre" (TCM, 80r.). Justice courts and meetings of the Privy Council were held at Haddington in December and January 1573-74.

3. On 26th March 1567 the town council granted the sum of 40s. yearly from the common good to sir William Wilsoun, a 'clerk' within the burgh and parlish from 1535 until the Reformation and "ane born barn of this burght". His duties were to include ministering at baptisms, cleaning the kirk, opening and closing the doors, and singing the psalms on Sundays (TCM, 47v.).

4. On 28th October the council ordained that the firiot and peck measures should be "justifiit be the irlis becaus of the murmour laitiye rysing". On 3rd November it was further decreed that pint and other measures should be made equal with those of Stir-ling, and that stones and other weights should be 'justified' with the "franche stane" and be ringed. On 15th December the treasurer was ordered to make new iron weights of metal, which were to be stamped with the town's stamp (TCM, 79r., 79v., 80v.).

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Item to his man in drynksylver	ii s.
Item to William Broun bailye twa dayis in Edinburgh to get letters on the young lard of Bas his expensis	xx s.
Item for ane-prenting yrin he bowcht to prent the tyne stoppis	x s.
Item on Wednesday the xxii day of December delyverit to William Young to gang to Edinburgh to remember Jhone Young to rais the letters on the lard of Bas	xxx d.
Item for mair yrin to the auld half stane	ix d.
Item to Jhone the podderar for kasting of the wychtis	vii s.
Item the xxii of December for karying of the furlettis to be justyfyit and brynt	viii d.

Summa lxxi lib. xvi s. iiii d.

p.3

Item to Bowye for the making of ane graif to ane puir bodye	viii d.
Item on Fryday the xxiiii day of December for the scholl hous Martymes maill	xl s.
Item to Archibald Kyll that was restand to him at the making of his compt	xlvi lib. vi s. ii d.
Item to Alexander Thomsone for xxxiii pownd of leid to cast the trone wychtis	xxxiii s.
Item on Furisday the penult day of December the prowest and James Cokburn and ane boy with thame ane day at the lard of Bas about the sylver he suld pay the towne in expensis <sup>1</sup>	xxii s. vi d.
Item to Thomas Stene for his fe	iii lib. iii s.
Item for carying of ma furlettis to be justefyit	vi d.
Item the vi of Januare to William Young to Edinburgh to beir ane byll to Henrye Sinclar for commoun effaris of the toun	xxx d.
Item for four pownd of leid to be markis to the puir folk <sup>2</sup>	iiii s.
Item to the puir folk at the tounis command	x lib.
Item to Henrye Maslat cuppar for the furlettis making and marschaling	liiii s.
Item to the smyth for the byrnyng xl furlettis	xvi d.

1. On 31st December the council resolved to receive from the laird of Bass younger the sum of £40 in part payment of a debt of £120. The remainder was to be paid in annual instalments of £40 (TCM, 80v.).
2. No one was allowed to beg except in the parish in which he was born, or without a token from the headsman of the parish (*Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland*, ii, 347, 486, 499).

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Item for twa pownd and half pownd of yrin to mak ane band to the myll clows  
and the making of it ii s. xi d.

Summa lxviii lib. x s. vii d.

p.4

Item on Saturday the xv of Januare to the lard of Basis twa men that  
browcht the sylver in drynk iii s. iiii d.

Item to Mathow Bowye for candill to brek the lytill dour in the counsall hous  
turnpyk to get up the passis was falling from the knok<sup>1</sup> ii d.

Item on Twysday and Wednesday the xviii, xix day of Januar tha twa dayis  
bering of stanis Robert Hude, Robert Gray, Robert Andersone, Jhone  
Tempill thay twa dayis ilkane of thame ii s. in the day summa xvi s.

Item to James Cokburnis cart for leiding stanis to the dameheid tha twa dayis  
xxvi s. viii d.

Item to Jhone Hathwye for the cart ane day to leid stanis to the dameheid  
xiii s. iiii d.

Item on Furisday the xx day of the samyn James Cokburn cart for leiding  
of stanis to the dameheid xiii s. iiii d.

This samyn day to Robert Dodis and Jhone Tempill to help to beir thame  
and cart thame iiii s.

Item to freir Jhone Flek for his Mertymes terme<sup>2</sup> xi lib.

Item delyverit to Jhone Wylsone and Eistonis wyf at the counsallis command  
x s.

Item the xxiii, xxiiii, xxv day of Januare tha thre dayis the prowest, James  
Cokburn, Jhone Thomsone with thame to Edinburgh to awys with the  
man of law upon the rest of the payment of the lard of Basis actioun and  
awysing with proces and paying of the men of law thair stybandis thair  
expensis iii lib. xv s.

Item to master Jhone Scharpe and Alexander Skyne for thair fe<sup>3</sup> xiiii lib.

1. A "knok and herclere" had been purchased from David Cay, burgess of Crail, in 1556 for £66 Scots (Haddington Burgh Records, 219).
2. Friar John Auchinleck (alias Afflek or Flek) was the last warden of the Friars Minor of Haddington. Until 1572 he had fought a long and successful struggle with the magistrates for possession of the friary and its revenues (W. Moir Bryce, *The Scottish Greyfriars*, i. 188-183). Auchinleck became reader at the church of Athelstaneford, and there are discharges by him for feu-duties until 1577 (Haddington Burgh Records, 185).
3. The burgh engaged advocates as standing counsel. During this period there are discharges for pensions paid to Mr David Bonthwick of Lochill, 1565-74; Mr Alexander King, 1573-77; and Mr (later Sir) John Shairp of Houston, 1566-1608 (Haddington Burgh Records, 221).



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Summa xxxiiii lib. xxii d.

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Item to Jhone Young for the letters getting and rysing of the sygnet on the  
lard of Bas xiiii s.

Item to Jhone Youngis man in drynksylver at the command of the prowest  
iiii s.

Item the xvi day of Januare to the lokeman to get ane schoping of aill affoir  
he justyfyit the man and the woman iiii d.

Item for v faldome of towis to thame xxx d.

Item to care the lader to the galows and bring it hame agane xii d.

Item on Fursday xxvii of Januar to Villyem Broun baillye to ryd to Edinburgh  
to replege Andraweson hame fra the comesaris to our awin geredetseon<sup>1</sup>  
x s.

Item to Jhon Setoun baille for his fe x markis

Item to Matha Bowe for the bowreing of ane Parvis at the provest command  
xii d.

Item fowrskoir plensar naillis to the kirk dur<sup>2</sup> iiii s.

Item to twa man for beiring of it to kirk viii d.

Item for ii stane and v pund Danckin [yrin] and half pund to be twa bandis to  
the kirk dur and nailis to set thame on price of it xxxvii s. vi d.

Item to the smithe for makin of thame iii s.

And to his man in drinksilver iiii d.

Item for ane candell to se to set on the bandis ii d.

Item to James Gray for wakin the kirk thre nychtis to the eist vall vas begit  
v s.

Item to Robart Andarson and James Hoge for lefting the geistis of the stanis  
of the kyrk xviii d.

Summa x lib. xviii s. vi d.

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Item to Robart Hammelltoun for ane lowk to the kirk dur xx s.

Item the ix, x, xi, xii day of Fabrevar thai four days to Arche Wallans and  
Robert Wallans byging the eist galff of the tofall of the kyrk ilkane of  
thame v s. in the day summa xl s.

1. = jurisdiction.

2. On 27th January 1575 the council ordered the treasurer to undertake repairs to the kirk, St. Laurence's house and the common gaits (TCM, 80v.).

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Tha samyn four dayis ane man to serfe thame and ane day twa men      x s.  
 Item for the onsetting of the loke of the kyrk dure and hynging of it      xvi d.  
 Item on Twysday the aucht of Fabruare the ix, x, xi, tha four dayis the  
     prowest and Jhone Thomsone with him in Edinburgh to wait upon the  
     action persewit be freir Allane aganis the toun thair expensis<sup>1</sup>      iii lib.  
 Item on Sonday the xiii of Fabruare to William Young to gang to Edinburgh  
     to Henrye Synclare to feche the cokkat to the toun      xxx d.  
 Item to the prowest for his fe      xx lib.  
 Item on Furisday, Fryday, the xviii, xix of Fabruar thay thre (*sic*) dayis the  
     prowest, James Cokburn, Jhone Thomsone with thame in Edinburgh in  
     defens of the ple betuix the toun and freir Allane thair expensis iii lib. xv s.  
 This samyn day to master Jhone Scharpis man in drynksylver      xiii s. iiii d.  
 Item to Alexander Skynis man to remember the tounis materis      vi s. viii d.  
 Item for seik out the confirmatione of the freris that the toun vantit      xx s.  
     Summa xxxii lib. viii s. x d.

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Item to Mathowe Bowye for his fe      iiii lib.  
 Item on Monenday the xxi of Fabruar delyverit to Adame Wylsone, Jhone  
     Mathesone, Robert Hude for taking doun of the modwall of the kyrk and  
     bering out the red and stanis of it out of the kyrk set to thame in task      l s.  
 Ane quart aill      xvi d.  
 Item to the officaris for thair feis      viii lib.  
 Item to the twa myllaris for thair feis      xx merkis  
 Item for ane aking garrane to be ane ladder and ane peis to mend the myll  
     hirst      iiii s. vi d.  
 Item for viii garrane naillis to the myll ark      xii d.  
 Item the xxiiii of Februar to George Hudson quhen he lay seik at the prowest  
     command in almes      v s.  
 Item to Robert Stoddart at the counsallis command in almes      iii lib. vi s. viii d.  
 Item on Furisday the thryd of Marche to Bowye to deycht the tolbuycht heid  
     xii d.

1. Patrick Allane, a native of Haddington, was the only remaining friar to share the revenues with Auchinlek, the warden. He instituted an action before the Lords of Council for payment of sums due to him by the burgh, and on 23rd March he was granted £12 Scots yearly in alms by the magistrates and town council on renunciation of his action and of all rights to the friary or its revenues (TCM, 81r.; W. Moir Bryce, *op. cit.*, 188-9). There are receipts for his allowance until 1578 (Haddington Burgh Records, 185).

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Item for thre faldome and half of towe to be ane bell stryng xxi d.  
 Item to ane boy to gar freir Flek cum and schaw his wryttingis about the pley  
 betuix freir Allane and the toun xii d.  
 Item on Sondaye the vi of Marche defalkit of x lib. x s. plakis and hardheidis  
 be the kingis proclamatioun cryit doun the defalkatioun thair<sup>1</sup>  
 iiiii lib. xx d.

Summa xxxvi lib. vii d.

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Item on Monenday the vii, viii, ix, x of Marche the prowest, James Cokburn,  
 Jhone Thomsone with thame tha iiiii dayis in Edinburgh about the pley  
 betuix the toun and freir Allane thair expensis with the extraordinallis  
 vi lib.  
 Item to ane boy to bring ane wrytting till Edinburgh to the prowest fra the  
 toun xxx d.  
 Item on Twysday the xv of Marche to feche Andro Thomsonis ledder out of  
 Colstone to wyne to the catting of the eist wall of the kyrk xii d.  
 Item to Patryk Burn and Jhone Mathesone for the catting of it xi s.  
 And ane stouk of stra xii d.  
 Item for half hundreth naillis to naill the lath of it xvi d.  
 Item to Patrik Burn and Jhone Mathesone to wynd the kyrk wyndokis with  
 brume and byging the west tolfall wyndoke with stanis xi s. vi d.  
 Item to James Tait for making of skaffattis to the eist galf wyndoke of the  
 kyrk and putting up the wyndok fra the kais viii s. iiiii d.  
 Item ane man to serfe him twa s.  
 Item for making of ane dure to the dure<sup>2</sup> of west end of the kyrk iii s.  
 Item for half hundreth planser naillis ii s.  
 Item for ane hundreth dyffattis to byge the eist galf wyndok up xv d.  
 Item the samyn tyme to beir up the red and swyp the kyrk xvi d.  
 Item to ane boye to Edinburgh to gang to Edinburgh to Alexander Kyng to get  
 anser quhat was done betuix the tounis mater and the freir xxx d.  
 Summa viii lib. viii s. ix d.

1. These coins had been devalued to 2d. and 1d. respectively, and had to be sent to the warden of the mint for examination. Those found to be counterfeit were retained; those found genuine were marked and returned to the owners (*Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland*, iii, 92-3). The treasurer was allowed the loss on coins received by him before the proclamation (TCM, 80v.).
2. Probably a postern door.

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Item to the lard of Garmeltone for broum was gottin to wound the kyrk wyndokis xviii s.

Item on Monenday xxi of Marche for production of ane replegatioun be William Browne bailye persewit be James Wylkye on certane our nyctbouris befor the schiref and outgetting of ane act gottin of the jugis of the Cannagait of the use of replegatioun befor xl d.

Item to Henrye Maslat for mending of the myll dys and putting ane ers of it viii d.

The samyn day of sax garrane naillis to naill on ane daill before the mourtar hous dure vi d.

Item the xxiii of Marche to ane pair man Galloway in almes at the command of the counsall x s.

Item the xxii of Marche to freir Allane at the counsallis command in almes iiij lib.

Item the xxvii, xxviii, xxix of Marche tha thre dayis the prowest, James Cokburn, Jhone Thomsone with thame to awys with the tounis man of law about the appoyntment betuix the freir and the toun and seiking out of the tounis ewidentis out of Robert Scottis<sup>1</sup> hand and getting x lib. x s. of plakis and hardheidis brullyet and prentit thair expensis iii lib. xv s.

Item for the new prenting of plakis and hardheidis that was cassing away of thame xxvi s. vi d.

Summa x lib. xiii s.

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Item on Wednesday the last of Marche, Furisday, Fryday, Saterdag, the first, secund and thryd of Apryll tha four dayis James Hoge, Jhone Tempill, Andro Makneill, Jhone Wynter, William Knycht, Robert Andersone, and Robert Gray, Jhone Wylsone, Jhone Ronsaman, James Gray ilkane of thame thay four dayis at the wyrking of the gait to Aberlady ilkane of thame twa s. in the day summa iiij lib.

Thay samyn four dayis to the maister of wark xx s.

Item to James Twydye to gang to Broxmouthe to speik for ane mylstane to the west myll v s.

Item the v of Apryll for ane dyschone ane pynt of wyne sett to Jhone Young,

1. Probably Robert Scott, clerk of the College of Justice (clerk of Session).

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the prowest and certane uther honest men with thame in James Cokburnis  
xviii s.  
Item for twa plowis to draw twa furris doun the commoun get to Aberlady  
awest the Byris to draw the watter fra the warkmen v s.  
Item to George Burnehill cordanar at the townis command in almes iiij lib.  
Item on the Twysday the fyft day Apryll, vi, vii, viii, ix, tha fyfe dayis  
James Hoge wyrking at the commone get to Aberlady x s.  
(The same 5 days at the same rate: John Tempill, Robert Gray, James Gray,  
Alexander Orneill, John Wylsone, Robert Andersone).  
Summa xiii lib. xviii s.

p. II  
(The same 5 days at the same rate: John Wynter, William Knycht, Thomas  
Wylsone, John Ronsayman).  
Thay samyn v dayis to the maister of wark xxv s.  
Item on Monenday the xi of Apryll, xii, xiii, xiiii, xv, xvi, thay sax dayis  
to James Hoge wyrking and mending the commoun get to Aberlady tha  
sax dayis to him xii s.  
(The same 6 days at the same rate: John Tempill, John Wynter, Robert Gray,  
James Gray, William Knycht, Robert Andersone, Alexander Orneill,  
John Wylsone, John Ronsayman).  
Thay samyn sax dayis to master of wark xxx s.  
Item that day the toun was with the prowest to wesye Abirlady get to the  
warkmen in drynksylver v s.  
Item to Jhone Thomsone to serfe the prowest and the honest men was with  
to meit the Regentis grace and convoy his grace to Leidington<sup>1</sup> and fra  
thair to Seton v s.  
Summa xi lib. v s.

p. I2  
Item on Saterdag the xvi of Apryll for x pownd and half pownd of yrin to mak  
ane mattok and to lay ane uther to wyrk at the common gettis viii s. v d.  
Item to the smyth for wyrking of thame xxviii d.  
Item on Monenday the xviii, xix, xx, xxi of Apryll tha four dayis James Hoge  
for wyrking of the common get to Abirlady viii s.

1. Lethington (Lennoxlove).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

*(The same 4 days at the same rate: Robert Andersone, Robert Gray, William Knycht, John Ronsayman, John Wynter, Alexander Orneill, James Gray, John Wylsone).*

Thay samyn iiii dayis the master of wark xx s.

Item the xxi, xxii of Apryll the prowest, James Cokburn and Jhone Thomsone with thame at Edinburgh at command of the counsall and dykinnis thair expensis with ane dyschone on the Regentis grace clarkis and certane uther serwandis iiii lib.

This samyn tyme resawit fra Alexander Kyng vii peisis of the townis ewidentis with the townis confirmatioun was lyand in Robert Scottis hand that the prowest delyverit for outgetting of it xl s.

This samyn tyme to Alexander Kyngis serwand in drynksylver vi s. viii d.

Item on Monenday xxv, xxvi, xxvii day of Apryll the samyn ix men virking at the gait of Abarlade thre dayis ilkane of thame in the day ii s. summa Summa xiiii lib. iii s. v d. liiii s.

P. 13

Item on Wednesday the xxvii of Apryll in Alexander Thomsone for ane dennar to Jhone Young, the prowest and bailyeis with him at thair command xx s.

Item for v quartarris and twa pownd of Danskyne yrin to be glassinbandis to the kyrk wyndis the pryce of the stane xv s. summa xx s. vi d.

Item to Thomas Stenstone the smyth for the making of xv bandis to the kyrk wyndokis iii s. iiii d.

Item to Stene Lowch glassingwrycht for xxxix fute of glas to the v wyndokis off the kyrk iii lib. xviii s.

Item to him for mending of the gryt west wyndok of the kyrk and the thre swyth wyndokis lii s.

And to his man in drynksylwer ii s.

Item twa warkmen to help the glassingwrycht with skaffattis and ledderis to mend the west kyrk wyndok and to serfe him ane day iiii s.

Item to the fallowe that karyit the glas out of Edinburgh to this town v s.

Item on Monenday the secund of May, Twysday, Wednesday, Furisday, thay four dayis the prowest, the thesaurar, Jhone Setoun bailye, Alexander Symsonsone and Jhone Thomsone with thame commysararis<sup>1</sup> lawborand at

1. = commissioners.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- the Regentis grace hand for the commyssaris suit to be in this toun thair expensis<sup>1</sup> ix lib.
- Item on Fryday the vi of May James Twydye to ryde to Rowchlaw to se ane myll stane iii s.
- Item on Monenday the ix, x of May James Hoge wyrking the commoun get bewest Sanct Lawrentis hous tha twa dayis iii s.
- (The same 2 days at the same rate: Robert Andersone, Robert Gray, William Knycht, John Ronsayman, John Wynter, John Tempill, Alexander Orneill).*
- Summa xix lib. xix s. x d.
- p. 14
- (The same 2 days at the same rate: James Gray, John Wylsone).*
- Thay samyn twa dayis to maister of wark x s.
- Item for aucht pownd and ane half pownd Danskyne yrin to mend the knok viii s. vi d.
- Item twa pownd vi owns and ane half of steill to mend the knok vi s. vii d.
- Item to Nycholl Dunlape for his warkmenschip in mending of the knok<sup>2</sup> xl s.
- Item twa quarttis aill and twa greitt laiffis at the wyrking of hir in the smyddie iii s.
- Item to his gudesone in drynksylver tua s.
- Item to the officiaris for the actis was maid on the beggaris and waikabudis at command of the prowest xxi d.
- Item on Wednesday the xi of May the prowest, thesaurar, Jhone Thomsone with thame to speik the Regentis grace about the commissaris suit thair expensis that day xxv s.
- Item to Mathowe Bowye to help him in the tyme of his seiknes at the command of the counsall xxii May xiii s. iii d.
- Item to capitane Moffat to get him of the toun x s.
- Item to the puir wyfe Maillis Mowe at the counsallis command iii s.
- Item to ane woman to mak hir ane drynk xl d.
- Item to Patryk Allane for his Wytsonday almes maill vi lib.

1. It has not proved possible to discover the issue between the burgh and the commissaries [of Edinburgh], but there was probably a conflict of jurisdiction arising out of an obligation fortified by oath. The concern of the magistrates in the matter is significant; and there seems to have been a good deal of dissatisfaction with the organisation of the commissary courts at this time.
2. In return for a promise of the first bungess fee worth 10 merks, Matthew Bowe had become obliged on 13th April to keep the clock in repair during his lifetime, the town finding iron and steel and paying the expenses of the smith (TCM, 81v.).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Item for the Wytsonday schollis maill xl s.  
 Summa xiiii lib. xv s. x d.

p.15

Item for tua fute spaddis with thair yringis in the tym of the wyrking of the  
 commoun gettis vi s. iiii d.

Item on Monenday xvi, xvii, xviii, xix, xx, xxi, thay sax dayis James Hoge  
 for wyrking of the get at Sanct Lawrentis hous and the Pythtallis and  
 west port xii s.

*(The same 6 days at the same rate: Robert Andersone, John Wynter, John  
 Wylsone, Alexander Orneill, John Tempill, James Gray, James Stenstone,  
 "lytill Edwart", John Ronsayman).*

Tha samyn sax dayis to the maister of wark xxx s.

Item on Monenday xxiii, xxiiii, xxv, xxvi, xxvii, xxviii day tha sax dayis  
 Robert Andersone for wyrking at the bet abone noris port at the barnye  
 lone xii s.

*(The same 6 days at the same rate: James Hoge, John Tempill, John Wynter,  
 John Wylsone).*

Item thre dayis in the samyn owlk James Stenstone vi s.

Item thre dayis in the samyn owlk James Gray vi s.

This samyn owlk to maister of wark xxx s.

Summa xii lib. xviii s. iiii d.

p.16

Item on Monenday the xxx of May to Luke Murday to gang with the thesaurar  
 and the prowest to Abirlady to the schip to waill gret tymmar to the kyrk  
 myll<sup>1</sup> iii s.

Item for nyne gret geistis to be schyllis to the myll the pryce of the peis of  
 thame xxvi s. summa xi lib. xiiii s.

Item for ane smallar geist xx s.

Item for xv corbellis pryce of the peis of thame x s. summa vii lib. x s.

Item the twa men in Abirlady hewyn to help and lyft the tymmar ane day  
iiii s.

Item to David Forrestis cart for hamebrynging of twa greit geistis at twyis  
xiii s. iiii d.

1. On 26th May John Wylsone in Sanct Monanis entered his ship containing a varied cargo  
 of timber (TCM, 81v.).



## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- Item to Culbert Symsonis cart with thre hors thre raikis fra Abirlady with the  
tounis tymmar xx s.
- Item to Thomas Thomsone for his cart thre raissis fra Abirlady xx s.
- Item James Rychartsone for his cart ane day half day with twa hors xv s.
- Item Janet Jaksonis cart twa raikis with twa hors x s.
- Item to James Hornis wyfe cart ane day and ane half day xx s.
- Item to James Cokburnis cart for ane drawcht thre hors vi s. viii d.
- Item in Abirlady the thesaurar and the men that cartit the tymmar in drynk  
vii s. vi d.
- Item to the schylder of the schip in drynksylwer iii s.
- Summa xxvi lib. vi s. vi d.
- p. 17
- Item for thre dyssone of daillis to the townis wark pryce of the peis iiiii s.  
summa vii lib. iiiii s.
- Item for twa lang treis to be ane ledder to the town xii s.
- Item for ane quartar hundreth rowngis to rowng that xxx d.
- Item to William Arnat and Jhone Harkers for the hamebrynging of the daillis  
and the twa threis to be the ledder xxv s.
- Item on Fryday the thrid of June ane pur laid callit Jhonsone at the counsallis  
command delyverit to ane woman to clange him xl d.
- Item in meit and drynk to him thre dayis xxx d.
- Item on Saterdag the fourt of June for half ane stane and twa ouns of Dan-  
skyne yrin to be ane new gyrd to the axtre of the west myll ix s. ii d.
- Item for four pownd Spanye yrin to lay the pykis of the west myll iii s. ix d.
- Item for ane pownd and half pownd of steill to thame iiiii s. iii d.
- Item to Baxster to beir xx daillis out of the gait to the tolbuyth ix d.
- Item mair to beir daillis and tymmar viii d.
- Item on Monenday the vi of June to William Young to beir ane wryting to  
the lard of Cokpane xxx d.
- Item to James Stenstone and James Gray for casting of fall to the buttis the  
casting of the thousand vii s. vi d. summa of the casting of x thousand v  
hundreth half hundreth iii lib. xix s. vi d.
- Item on Fursday ix of June provest and baillyeis with Villyem Robartson at  
dwelis in Dancekin ane desjune in James Aikmanis at the provest gart  
pay xvi s.

# DAY-BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Summa xv lib. ii s. xi d.

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Item to James Cokburnis cart the vi, vii, viii, ix, x, xi of June thay sax dayis  
for leiding of four thousand ii hundreth threscore of fail to the buttis

iiii lib. iiii s.

Item to James Hornis wyfis cart for leiding of ane thousand tua hundreth  
half hundreth

xxvi s.

Item to Jhone Massone and Henrye Thomsone for leiding of ix hundreth fail  
to the buttis

xviii s.

Item to Thomas Thomsone for leiding of ane thousand vi hundreth

xxxii s.

Item to Jhone Haithwye for leiding of ane thousand vii hundreth fail to the  
buttis

xxxiiii s.

Item to Jhone Massonis cart for leiding of ma fail ii hundreth

iiii s.

Item Jhone Gylyamis cart for leiding of iiii hundreth

viii s.

Item for the drynk at the buttis making for iiii quartis aill ii gret breid

vi s. viii d.

Item to Andro Thomsone for helping byge the buttis ii dayis

xiii s. iiii d.

Item to Jhone Haithwye ane day

vi s. viii d.

Item to James Gray, Jhone Wynter, James Stenstone thay twa dayis ilkane  
of thame in the day ii s. summa

xii s.

Item ane day Robert Andersone lauborand at the buttis

ii s.

Item the samyn ii dayis to the maister of wark

xiii s. iiii d.

Item to my Lord Lyndsay officiar for the Wytsonday maill of the commoun  
myllis

xl s.

Item on Fryday the x of June for vii faldome of towe to the trone wychtis

iii s. vi d.

Item the x, xi day of June Robert Andersone, Jhone Wylsone for casting of  
the fowsye about the play grene besyde the buttis

vi s. viii d.

Item on Monenday the xiii the prowest and thesawar Jhone Thomsone with  
thame ane day to wesye the kyrk of Leyth how it was ordourit<sup>1</sup> and to  
replege the thesaurare befor the commissaris thair expensis

xxv s.

Summa xvi lib. xv s. ii d.

1. On 3rd June the council instructed the treasurer to buy timber to make new seats in the kirk "honorabillie as utheris kirkis hes within the samyn" and a new pulpit (TCM, 81v.).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

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Item to William Martyne for taking of the loke of the eist port and mending  
of it thre s.

Item to Jhone Bukam officiar for the cople of the proclamation about the  
summondng of the commissaris affair the secret consall<sup>1</sup> ii s.

Item to William Young to gang to Edinburgh about ane kassyemaker that  
thai mycht gre with him xxx d.

Item to Jhone Autelyke<sup>2</sup> of the Wytsondayis dewtye xi lib.

Item to ane boy to gang to Humbye to caus the guidman of Humbye to send  
his anser in wryt gyf the bell wald be reddye agane the day appoyntit  
to the hors to ryn xviii d.

Item the xx, xxi, xxii, xxiii day of June tha four dayis Jhone Ryklyngtone  
and his man for sawin of tymmar to the kyrk wark xxvi s.

Item on Frysday the xxiii day of June to the thesaurare ane day in Leyth to  
bye tymmar to the kyrk wark his expensis x s.

And to his boy ii s.

Item this samyn day for twa waynescot xliiii s.

Item this samyn day xii knappal xx s. vi d.

Item this samyn day for xii raftarris to the kyrk wark xxi s.

Item for the hamebrynging of all xiii s. iiii d.

Item to the man browcht the wrytting fra Dundye to the barrowis to conwene  
the xv of June ii s.

Item on Saturday the xxv of June for ane stane barrow to the toun wark  
iiii s. vi d.

Item to the officiare brocht the precept to charge the toun to the schakar  
comptis ii s.

Item for ane pownd and half pownd of steill to lay the haking knyfe that  
cuttit the buttis and tua pownd of yrin the prys of all vi s.

Item to the smyth for the laying of it xviii d.

Item on Twysday the xxviii of June the lokeman to gang our to Cupper to  
get ane kassyemaker was thair v s.

Summa xix lib. vi s. xi d.

1. All the commissaries were charged to produce their commissions and instructions to the effect that better order might be taken anent the exercising of their jurisdiction (*Register of the Privy Council*, iii, 455).

2. Auchinlek.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

p.20

- Item on Fryday the fyrst of July at command of the consall to Nycholl  
Dunlape in almes iii lib.
- This samyn day to Jhone Mane in almes xl s.
- This samyn day to Patryk Dassone in almes xl s.
- This samyn day for twa pownd Danskyne yrin to mend the axtre of the knoke  
that wowndis up the wyndowsis the pryce of ii s. iii d.
- Item to the smyth for the mending of it xviii d.
- Item this samyn day to young Bowye to help to stryke on the studye xii d.
- Item to James Hoge, Robert Andersone for carying of daillis burdis to ordour  
the communion and setting of saittis iii s.
- Item this samyn tua men for dychting out the erd and broking sklattis of the  
west end of the kyrk iiiii s.
- Item to the officiar for the cople of the proclamatioun toward the wappin-  
schawing to be xx of July instant<sup>1</sup> ii s.
- Item on Fryday the xvii of Julye to the pudderare for correcting of ane of the  
trone stanis xii d.
- Item to Jhone Brysone for seiking of naprye and sylverwark in tyme of the  
communion ii s.
- Item to James Hoge, Robert Andersone for outhaiffin of the red and clenging  
of the wennall to gangis out be the freir dukcat set to thame on ane penny  
iii lib. iii s.
- Item to thame for redding out the red fornent Jhone Manis dure iiiii s.
- Item to ane boy to gang to Dumbar with ane wrytting to the quarryar about  
ane myllstane xviii d.
- Item for vii pownd and four owns of yrin to lay the pykis of the eist myll  
v s. vi d.
- Item for ane pownd and iii quartarris of ane pownd of steill to thame v s. ii d.
- Item to Jhone Smyth for laying of the four pykis iii s.
- Item to him in drynk ane quart of aill xx d.
- Summa xii lib. vi s. vii d.

p.21

- Item to the minister for his Wytsondayis terme of his fe and hous maill  
xl merkis

1. Musters of the lieges appropriately armed were to be held within the various jurisdictions on 20th July and 10th October each year (*Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland*, iii, 91).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- Item on Twysday the xii of July to Luke Murday to ryde to Rowchlaw quarrall  
to speik for ane myll stane iii s. iii d.
- Item on Wednesday the xx of Julye in Alexander Thomsonis hous to Jhone  
Young, the prowest with him and uther honest men the dyschone with  
ane pynt of wyne xv s.
- Item the samyn day to Paull Fasyde swyssar to stryk the drum, affoir the  
toun on the mustar day x s.
- Item to James Talbowrar this samyn day ii s.
- Item on Furisday the xxi of Julye to William Yowng with ane wrytting to  
Jhone Thyne quarryar ii s.
- Item on Fryday the xxii to ane boye to Edinburgh to speik ane trumpytar to  
the play and the haill furnessing of the play payntaris swyssaris and  
uther furnessing pertening the play cumis to ix lib. ix s. vi d.
- Item to the thesaurar ii dayis at the Barrowmure in bying ane myllstane his  
expensis<sup>1</sup> xx s.
- And to his boy to serfe him iii s.
- Item ane day to Luke Murday to the Barrowmure to waill the myllstane his  
expensis vi s. viii d.
- Item for the myllstane to the quarryar v lib. vi s. viii d.
- Item for ane pyghar of aill to the carting of hir vi s. viii d.
- Item to ane Jhone Waan in Dalwyssye<sup>2</sup> to bryng the myllstane hame fra the  
Barrowmure v lib.
- Item half gallone aill xl d.
- Item on Monenday the xxv Julye, xxvi, xxvii, xxviii, xxix, xxx, thay  
sax dayis James Hoge, Robert Andersone cassing the burne at the eist  
port and schir Hector Synclaris hous to thame twa thai sax dayis xxiii s.  
Summa li lib. vii s.

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- Item on Monenday the fyrst of August for ane towe to hang ane theiff justyfyit  
be the schiref x d.
- Item for v pownd half pownd iiiii owns of yrin to lay the gudyeoun of the west  
myll pryce v s. iii d.

1. The treasurer was ordered on 21st July to fee men to make a stool for the kirk mill by daily wage in view of the shortness of the work, and also to provide millstones from wherever they might be had (TCM, 82r).

2. Dalhousie.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- Item on Twysday the second of August the lard of Edmestone and the guid-  
man of Humbye with the prowest efter the rynk of the bell ane pynt of  
wyne thre pyntis aill pryce viii s.
- Item to Maryane Gradane this samyn day in almes at the counsallis command xl s.
- Item for twa pownd and half pownd of yrin to mend the gyrrh of the trynnall  
broddis ii s. ix d.
- Item to the lokeman that day he justyfyit George Wyllamesone ane schoping  
aill v d.
- Item on Monenday the ix August to James Twydye to ryde to Broxmouthe  
to speik for ane stane vi s. viii d.
- Item to Wilyame Brown bailye ane day in Edinburgh to adwys with the  
proces his expensis x s.
- Item to the prowest, thesaurare, Jhone Thomsone with thame commissioneris  
at the generall assemblie in Edinburgh the vii day of August thair ex-  
pensis thre dayis iii lib. xv s.
- Item on Fryday the xii August ane serwand of the lard of Cokpannis that  
browcht ane wrytting about the wyrking of our coll iii s.
- Item on Saturday the xiii day quhan the Regentis grace come throwth the  
towne ane quart of wyne ane quart aill and gret breid pryce of it xiii s. iiiii d.
- Item to James Cokburn for ryding to Broxmouthe quarrall to gre for ane  
myllstane his expensis x s.
- This samyn day ane quart aill to the quarryar xx d.
- Item on the morne to William Young to beir ane byll to the quarryar as my  
promes xviii d.
- Summa viii lib. xviii s. v d.

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- Item to Henrye Synclar for the schakàr comptis xv lib. xiiii s.
- Item on Monenday the xv, xvi, xvii, xviii day of August thay four dayis Jhone  
Ryklyngtone and his man sawin tymmar to the kyrk wark thai four  
dayis xxvi s. viii d.
- Item the samyn oulk half ane day iii s.
- Item the prowest and tway with him with the Regentis grace in tyme of

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

meitting at the Bordarris<sup>1</sup> sax dayis thair expensis vii lib. x s.  
Item to William Young to beir ane byll to Walter Hall of Prestone about the  
furnessing of the toun of salt to him xviii d.  
Item on Saterday the xxvii of August with the Regentis stewart and thre  
gentillmen with the prowest in James Cokburnis ane quart of wyne iii  
quartis of aill payit at the prowest command xiii s. vi d.  
Item on Sonday the xxviii of August William Young to Broxmouthe to get  
word quhen the myllstane wald be reddye ii s.  
Item to the prowest in Edinburgh thre dayis and Jhone Thomsone with him  
awysing with the man of law upon our ewidentis and letters of our gait  
to Abirlady thair expensis xlv s.  
Item on Monenday the xxii of August, xxiii, xxiiii, xxv, xxvi, xxvii, Jhone  
Stenstone wyrking at the kyrk wark tha sax dayis xl s.  
(*The same 6 days: William Cranstone, James Tait, John Stenstone younger,  
at 30 s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.*).  
Thay samyn sax dayis Jhone Ryklyngtone and his man in sawin tymmar to  
kyrk wark xl s.  
Summa xxxvi lib. xvii s. viii d.

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Item to Jhone Swyntone in almes at command of the counsall xxii of August	xx s.
Item ane gret tre to be ane new axtre to the kyrk myll	xxiiii s.
Item fywe corbellis to be stapillis and plankis to the kyrk myll the pryce of the pece of thame xvi s. summa	iiii lib.
Item at the onlaying of the stane of the west myll ane gallane of aill	v s. iiii d.
And the breid	twa s.
Item to twa men to wyne clay to bed the stane	ii s.
Item for ane tre to be ane plank to the myll to lay under the stane	iiii s. vi d.
Item twa rowngis to mend the trynnnyll brøddis	iiii d.
Item for x pownd and half pownd yrin to lay the myll spynnyll	xi s. vi d.
Item for ane pownd and iiii owns of steill	iiii s. ix d.
Item to the smyddie at the laying of the spynnyll in breid and aill	v s. iiii d.
Item to the smyth for his labour at the laying of the spynnyll and urther	

1. This presumably refers to the meeting on 16th August between the Regent Morion and Lord Huntingdon, the President of the North, to settle differences arising out of the affair of the "Redswire Raid" on 7th July.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

commone wark to this ix s. vi d.  
 Item on Monenday the vii of September, the viii, ix, x, xi, xii, thay sax  
 dayis Jhone Stenstone at the kyrk wark xl s.  
*(The same 6 days: William Cranstone, James Tait, John Stenstone younger,  
 at 30s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.).*  
 Item ane day of this samyn to Arche [and] Robert Wallans in pamenting  
 the kyrk floor to set the saittis in x s.  
 This samyn day Mathew Arth in wyrking in the kyrk ii s.  
 Summa xvi lib. ii s. iii d.

p.25

Item this samyn owlk Jhone Ryklyngtone and his man one day and ane half  
 sawin tymmar to the kyrk ix s. viii d.  
 Item on Fryday the xi of September at command of the counsall the prowest,  
 Thomas Poyntone, James Cokburn and ane serwand with thame at the  
 Regentis grace sewttand at his grace about the Sondays markattis crying  
 done that nane suld preiudge our marcat the expensis ane day xxxv s.  
 This samyn day to the portar of Thometallone that samyn day at the prowest  
 command ii s.  
 Item to Patryk Bowrne for leiding of twa doussone of sand to the kyrk myll  
 viii s.  
 Item to Henrye Cambell at command of the counsall in compleit payment of  
 his expensis of the coll wyning xx lib.  
 Item on Fryday the ix of September Jhone Sparrow in Saltone for ane chalder  
 and half chalder lyme to the kirk mill xx s.  
 Item on Monenday the xii of September to the thesaurar to Leyth to by daillis  
 and ane boy with him xii s.  
 Item for iii dowssone daillis ix lib. xvi s. vi d.  
 Item to twa fallowis to carye thame to ane clos xviii d.  
 Item for four waynescot to the kyrk wark iiiii lib. ii s.  
 Item for Dawydis Forrestis cart to Leyth twys ilk tyme xxii s. summa xliiii s.  
 Item James Cokburn cart ane day to Leyth to cary daillis and waynescot  
 to the toun xxii s.  
 Item to twa fallowis to help to cart the tymmar xviii d.  
 Item schir Thomas Stene at command of the counsall iiiii lib.  
 Summa xlv lib. xv s. ii d.



## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

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Item on Monenday the xiii, xiiii, xv, xvi, xvii, xviii, thay sax dayis Jhone Stenstone at the kyrk wark xl s.

*(The same 6 days: William Cranstone, James Tait, John Stenstone younger, at 30 s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.).*

Thay samyn sax dayis Jhone Ryklyngtone and his man in sawin tymmar xl s.

Item to Jhone Thyne for ane myllstane vii lib. iii s.

Item to the kyrk wark twa lang geistis that Jhone Stenstone gar saw pryce of the twa xl s.

Item thre quartar clyftis pryce xii s.

Item sax gret corbellis pryce iiii lib. xvi s.

Item to George Jake for rydlyng and mynging twa chalder lyme ii s.

Item George Cambell for ane payre quhelis to the towne to cary myllstanis on iiii lib. vi s. viii d.

Item to his men in drynksylver ii s.

Item for ane pownd of glew to the kyrk wark iiii s.

Item on Monenday xxvi, xxvii, xxviii, xxix, xxx and the last of September tha sax dayis Jhone Stenstone at the kyrk wark xl s.

*(The same 6 days: William Cranstone, James Tait, John Stenstone younger, at 30 s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.).*

Item thre dayis of this samyn owlk Jhone Ryklyngtone and his man in sawin tymmar to the kyrk xx s.

This samyn sax dayis ewin and morne in candill viii s.

Summa xxxvi lib. xviii s.

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Item on Saterday the last of September to William Young to beir byllis to the gentillmen of the paroching to meit the superantender in the kyrk for taking ordour in bying the Byble<sup>1</sup> xviii d.

Item this samyn day to Jhone Bygatt messinger for ane Byble to keip the kyrk conforme to our Soverane Lordis letters to be awansit befoirhand at command of the counsall to him v lib.

1. This was the Bible to be printed in English by Thomas Bassandyne and Alexander Arbuthnet, for which the Privy Council had ordered every parish to advance £5 to be collected by bishops, superintendents and commissioners. A new application for support had been made by Arbuthnet to the General Assembly which met in August 1575. Numerous delays occurred, and the Bible (the first edition printed in Scotland) was not published until 1579 (R. Dickson and J. P. Edmond, *Annals of Scottish Printing*, 275-89, 312, 320-3).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- Item for the copy of the letters xl d.
- Item on Monenday the secund of October ane cart for carying the maill stoll  
out of the kyrk yerd to the myll hawch iii s. vi d.
- Item for carying of tymmar syndrye tymes to the kyrk wark iii s. viii d.
- Item to Robert Mychell for x bollis mair lyme to the kyrk myll viii s. iii d.
- Item this samyn day four cartfull of sand and the leiding of it iii s.
- Item on Monenday the secund, iii, ii, v, vi, vii, thay sax dayis of October  
James Hoge for labouring at the kyrk myll and setting of the stoll xii s.  
*(The same 6 days at the same rate: John Tempill, James Gray, Robert  
Andersone, John Stenstone, John Wynter, William Knycht, John  
Eistone).*
- Item for twa stane and twa pownd of Danskyne yrin to be gyrdis to the new  
axtre and garrane naillis to the kyrk myll pryce of it xxxvi s.
- p.28
- Item for twa stane and half pownd of Swanis yrin to lay the spynnill of the  
kyrk myll and to be gudgonis to the new axtre pryce of it xxxii s. vi d.
- Item to the spynnill ane pownd of steill and ane owns pryce iii s. iii d.
- Item thre dayis to the smyddie in meit and drynk to the warkmen that struk  
on the studdie viii s. viii d.
- Item to the myll at the setting of the myll stoll ane pygar of aill v s. iii d.
- Item on Twysday the thrid of October to Henry Cambell wyrkand at the kyrk  
myll twa dayis xiii s. iii d.
- Item mair Danskyne yrin x pownd to mak out the yrin grayth of the myll  
x s. vi d.
- Item this samyn owlk v dayis to Arche and Robert Wallans ilkane of thame  
v s. in the day in wyrking at the kyrk myll stoll summa l s.
- Item this samyn v dayis Mathew Ayrth x s.
- Item to William Dawidsone for working at the kyrk myll sax nyctis to the  
stoll was byggit xii s.
- Item to Barne Twydye to keip the warklowmis in tyme of mailltaith ii s.
- Item to Peter Spens for ane chalder and twa laid of lyme to the kyrk myll  
xvi s. viii d.
- Item to lang Jame for leiding of sand half ane day xviii d.
- Item to the kyrk myll in planser naillis ii hundereth half hundereth pryce of  
the hundereth ii s. summa xviii s.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Item twa treis to be twa pannis and ane to be ane fryst to the myll hous pryce  
of thre xviii s.

Item v braid fyre sparris pryce xx s.

Item to Thomas Baird for bering stra and drawin thaik to the kyrk myll  
ii dayis iiii s.

This samyn twa dayis young Eistone iiii s.  
Summa xi lib. ix s. ix d.

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Item to Thomas Waik for stra to theik the myll xl s.

Item for ane thousand half thousand dyffat xxvii s.

Item for leiding of thame to the myll from Jhone Winan hous ix s.

Item to Jhone Thynnes man that brocht word from Dumbur to fecht our myl-  
stane out of Broxmouth sey to him ii s.

Item Jhone Smyth for wyrking the myll grayth to the kyrk myll xviii s.

Item to his boy in drinksylwer xviii d.

Item to the kyrk at this of planser naillis ane hundreth half hundreth and tua  
hundreth dure naillis pryce of all x s.

Item on Monenday secund, iii, iiii, v, vi, vii of October thay sax dayis Jhone  
Stenstone wyrking the kyrk wark xl s.

*(The same 6 days: William Cranstone, James Tait, John Stenstone younger,  
at 30 s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.).*

That samyn owlk Jhone Ryklyngtoun and his man tua dayis sawin tymmar  
xiii s. iiii d.

This samyn owlk in candill ewin and morne viii s.

Item on Monenday the ix of October, x, xi, thay thre dayis James Hoge,  
Thomas Baird, Jhone Tempill wynnand clay to lay the kyrk myll hyrst  
and bering of it and redding the taill of the dame and laiffing watter  
ilkane of thame thre twa s. in the day summa xviii s.

Item tha samyn thre dayis Jhone Twydye, Barnard Twydye to help to beir  
clay viii s.

Summa xiiii lib. xvi s. x d.

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Item to Jhone Gylyem cart ane day for leiding of clay to the kyrk myll xii s.

Item to George Cambell for beiging the kyrk myll stoll xxix merkis

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN.

Item to his men in drynksylwer	xx s.
Item on Monenday the ix of October to the Regentis gentillmen that tuik on the mowstouris of the toun at the prowest commend ane pynt of wyne	vii s.
Item for twa faldome towe to hang ane theiff	xii d.
Item to Jhone Wynter to beir ane ledder to the gallos and bryng it hame agane	xvi d.
Item gyffin to the prowest of Leychow <sup>1</sup> that samyn nycht in James Cokburnis hous be the prowest ane quart of wyne	xiii s.
Item fra Thomas Sydsarfe for thre stane iiij pownd Danskyne yrin to be wandis to beir the polpot pryce of the stane xvii s. summa	lv s. iii d.
Item four pownd half pownd leid to yet the bottis pryce	iiii s. vi d.
Item to ane massone for imputing of the bottis to hald the polpot	xviii d.
Item to James Hoge iii dayis for strykin in the smyddie in making the bandis to the pulpot and graring thairin grayth to the toun quheillis	vi s.
This samyn thre dayis to the smyddie in meit and drynk	ix s. vi d.
Item for four stane xii pownd Danskyne yrin to the quheillis to be buschis and gyrthis dulbandis the pryce of the stane xvi s. summa	iii lib. xvi s.
Item to the smyth for wyrking of the kyrk wark grayth and graringe the quheillis	xiii s. vi d.
Item to his boy in drynksylver	xii d.
Summa xxx lib. x s. iii d.	

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Item for thre pownd mair glew to the kyrk wark	iii s.
Item on Monenday the x, xi, xii, xiii, xiiii, xv day of October thay sax dayis Jhone Stenstone at the kyrk wark	xl s.
<i>(The same 6 days: William Cranstone, John Stenstone younger, James Tait, at 30 s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.).</i>	
This samyn owlk to Jhone Ryklyngtone and his man twa dayis half day for sawin tymmar	xvi s. iiii d.
This samyn owlk in candill ewin and morne to the kyrk	viii s.
This samyn owlk coft fra James Cokburn tua corbellis	xxxii s.
Item ane geist	xx s.
Item this samyn owlk for ane hundreth blynd naillis half hundreth blynd	

1. Lithgow (Linthgow).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

naillis to the pulpot making and schering of thame vi s. vi d.  
 Item on Twysday the xi October to the lokeman affoir he yed to justifyit the  
 man xii d. and for the erding of the man that he justifyit vi d.  
 Item for four faldome towe to the bell stryng xxxii d.  
 Item the prowest twa dayis in Edinburgh with the names of our lyttes to the  
 Regentis grace and Jhone Thomsone with him thair expensis<sup>1</sup> xxx s.  
 Item to William Young to beir ane wrytting to the prowest in Edinburgh  
 xxx d.  
 Item this samyn owlk for carying twa doussone daillis to the kyrk xviii d.  
 Item for carying the toun quheillis our to the smyth and the hamebrynging  
 of thame ii s.  
 Summa xiii lib. viii s.

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Item to the prowest, Paull Lyll, Jhone Thomsone with thame at the commis-  
 sionaris at the conventioun of borrowis halding at Edinburgh the xvi day  
 of October thair expensis sax dayis<sup>2</sup> vii lib. x s.  
 Item to William Broun lokman for gaddering togidder xxxi cartfull cassa  
 stanis v s. iiiii d.  
 Item on Monenday the xvi, xvii, xviii, xix, xx, xxi, tha sax dayis Jhone  
 Stenstone at the kyrk wark xl s.  
*(The same 6 days: William Cranstone, John Stenstone younger, James Tait,  
 at 30 s.; James Stenstone, at 12 s.).*  
 Thay samyn sax dayis in candill to the kyrk morne and ewin viii s.  
 That samyn owlk to Jhone Ryklyngtone for sawin ix daillis to the kyrk  
 ix s. iiiii d.  
 Thes samyn owlk to the kyrk wark of planser naillis twa hundreth pryce of  
 thame viii s.

1. The irregular appointment of John Douglas as provost in October 1574 had represented not only a breach by the Regent of burghal privileges but also a victory for the craftsmen. On 3rd November 1575 a complaint was made to the Privy Council that Douglas was manipulating the deaconships to ensure his continuance in office (*Register of the Privy Council*, ii, 472-3). Douglas remained provost until 5th October 1576 when he was succeeded by Thomas Puntoun. On that occasion, however, the deacons were not allowed to vote in the election of magistrates (TCM, 86r.).
2. A Convention was held at Edinburgh on 15th July when Haddington was represented by James Cokburn and John Aytoun. This was continued to the 25th October at Stirling when John Douglas "allegit provost of Haddington being ane cordinar of his occupation" presented his commission but was ordered to remove himself as no craftsman had ever been a member (*Records of the Convention of Royal Burghs*, i, 31).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Item of dure naillis ane hundreth half hundreth pryce	iii s.
Item ane boy to swyp the kyrk twys	xii d.
Item on Wednesday the xxv October the thesaurar to Leyth ane day to by ane dowssone daillis twa wayneskot to the kyrk wark his expensis	x s.
And to his boy	ii s.
Item for ane dowssone daillis	iii lib. xii s.
Item for tua wayneskot	xlvi s.
Item for the carying of the daillis fra the brygend of Leyth to the kyngis wark	xviii d.
Item for the hamebrynging of the daillis and wayneskottis	xxiii s.
Item to James Cokburn cart for leiding of kassay stanis tua dayis viz. the xxviii and xxix of October	xxiii s.
Summa xxv lib. vi s. ii d.	

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Item on Monenday the xxvi, xxvii, xxviii, xxix, xxx and the last of October thay sax dayis Mathew Ayrth beiring sand and serwing the cassamaker	xii s.
Item to Arche the kassamaker that owlk in part of payment	xl s.
Item defalkit to the fermeraris for lying of the myllis in tyme of bygging the myll stoull x dayis and onlaying of the stane of the west myll ii dayis the defalcatione for the xii dayis	ix lib. xii s.
Item to the prowest and Jhone Thomsone with him in commission at the assamblie of the nobillitie and thre estatis the xxii of October halding xii dayis thair expensis <sup>1</sup>	ix lib.
Item to the thesaurer for his fie	x merkis
Item on Monenday, Twysday, xxiii, xxv day of Nowember William Broun bailye in Edinburgh to awyse with the proces betuix Faconer and Thomas Thomsone and gewin in ane bill affoir the lordis about the act maid of the taking of menis landis ower thair heidis his expensis	xx s.
Item on Monenday the secund of November, thrid, iiij, v, vi, vii, thai sax dayis Mathew Ayrth for bering sand and breking kassa to the kassameker	xii s.
Summa xxix lib. ix s. iiii d.	

1. This may refer to deliberations on the preparations for the Regent's expedition to the Borders (*Register of the Privy Council*, ii, 467).

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

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- Item on Wodnesday the xvi of Nowember to William Young to gang to Broxmouthe sie to Jhone Thyne to warne him to haif his warkmen reddy to help to cart the myllstane on the morne to him ii s.
- Item to the customeris for the yrinhoue dewtie x s.
- Item to walk George Cokburn that nycht he deit in candill vi d.
- Item to Jhone Brown in almes at the counsallis command xxx s.
- Item for the hamebringing of the myllstane out of Broxmouthe sie v lib. xii d.
- Item at the carting of hir ane peachour of aill price vii s. ii d.
- Item to James Twydye the first day thai fecht the stane for his labouris vi s. viii d.
- Item for ane wowndingscheit to wynd Agnes Robertson vi s. viii d.
- Item for candill to walk hir that nycht scho deit xii d.
- Item on Saturday the xxi of Nowember to Arche the kassamaker xxvi s. viii d.
- Item the xviii, xix, xx of Nowember thay thre dayis to Mathew Ayrth for bering of sand and serwing the kassamaker vi s.
- Item for twa pownd tawch to the cart brocht hame the myllstane iii s.
- Item for v pund irne to be ane gerthe to the cassaymell v s.
- Item for the makin of it to the smith xii d.
- Item to Jhon Gray for ane hows to keep the custoum furlatis at the counsall promest him at the saet<sup>1</sup> v markis
- Item to schir Tomas Stevin xl s.
- Summa xv lib. xiii s. iii d.

p.35-p.38 (*blank*).

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The restis of the commone guid of the Mertymes terme in the yeir of God  
imvclxxiiii yeris and the Wytsonday lxxv yeris

- Item Laird saidlaris hous xvi s.
- Schir Thomas Stene xxiii s. vi d.
- Item Thomas Myllar xxvii s. viii d.
- Johne Wylsone for the duckat vi s. viii d.
- Jhone Blair xxxv s.
- Jhone Monteith hous xl s.

1. = 'set' or lease.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Adame Quhyt	v merkis
The hous of Gladismure	xxvi s. viii d.
Jhone Setone for the rest of his entres for the hous he gat of toune	xl s.
Williame Wylsone	v lib.
Summa xix lib. ii s. ii d.	

Item George Cokburne for hous	viii s.
Patrik Hepburne for his hous	xiii s. iiii d.
Item for the pece besyde the ducket	vi s.
Item James Aikman for his burgischip	x merkis
Item the Maister of Haillis place	iiii merkis
Summa x lib. xiiii s.	

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Memorandum that on the xxiiii day of November anno lxxv James Cokburn thesaurar maid his compt of the commone gudis of the said burght of the Mertymes terme anni lxxiiii yeris and of the Witsonday terme anni lxxv yeris quhais charge extendit to the soum of ix<sup>c</sup>lix lib. xii s. xi d. and the discharge of his diet buk extendit to viii<sup>c</sup>xlvi lib. xv s. obolus. Alsua dischargit of viii s. for Georg Cokburn few maill and of Patrik Hepburn few maill of his rude xiii s. iiii d. and for his pece at the douket ii s. and for James Aikman burgeschip x merkis and of rest of the Maister Haillis place few maill iiii merkis and of xxxvi s. for wyne candill and aill to the auditouris of the compt and sa restis the thesaurar awand de claro to the toun i<sup>c</sup>iii lib. xi s. ii d. obolus. In witness of the quhilk thing the saidis auditouris hes subscrivit this present compt with thair handis as followis viz. Johne Douglas provest, Robert Neisbet, William Broun, Johne Carketeill, Johne Setoun, Johne Thomsoun, David Forrest, Henry Cambell, William Wilsoun, Cuthbert Symssoun, Archibald Kyle younger, Adam Wilsoun, James Aikman, day foirsaid within the consall hous of the said burght.

Johne Douglas provest, Robert Neisbet ballie, Henry Cambell, William Wilsoun, with our handis at the pen led be the notar underwrittin at our command becaus we can nocht writt. Ita est ut premittitur Thomas Stevin notarius publicus ac clericus communis dicti burgi teste manu mea propria.



## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

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WILLIAM BROWNE balle, ADAME QUHENTENE with my hand,  
JOHNE CARKETTILL with my hand, DAVID FORREST with my hand,  
JHONE SETOUN with my hand, JAMES AIKMAN with my hand, ADAME  
WILSONE with my hand, ARCHEBAULD KYILL yungar with my hand,  
COUDBART SOMSOUN.

### GLOSSARY

No claim to originality is made for the following definitions of the less familiar terms, which are based mainly on the *Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue*, Jamieson's *Scottish Dictionary*, and the *New English Dictionary*. References (to pages of the manuscript) are given only where the same words bear different meanings.

Adwys (awys): to advise.

Aking: made of oak.

Ark: *see* Myll ark.

Axtree: axle-tree.

Bandis, 3, 5, 30: strips of metal.

———, 13: *see* Glassinbandis.

Barnye: barony.

Begit (beiging): *see* Byge.

Bill (byll), 3, 22, 23: written document.

———, 27: charge.

———, 33: petition.

Blynd naillis: headless nails.

Borrowis (barrowis): burghs.

Bottis: bolts.

Bowreing: burying.

Boy: youth acting as servant.

Broum (brume): broom, used for thatching etc.

Brullyet: burned.

Brynt: marked by burning.

Burdis: boards.

Burne: water from stream.

Buschis: metal linings for axle-holes.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- Buttis: mounds or erections supporting targets for archery.  
Byge (begit, beiging, byggit): to build.  
Byll: *see* Bill.  
Cassamaker (kassamaker, kassyemaker): layer of paving stones.  
Cassa stanis (kassa, kassay stanis): paving stones.  
Cassaymell: hammer for breaking paving stones.  
Cassing, 21: casting shifting.  
—— away, 9: made null or void.  
Cast (kasting), 2, 3: to cast in a mould.  
Casting, 17, 18: digging (turf).  
Catting: making or repairing with cat and clay (straw combined with soft clay used in building and repairing walls).  
Clange (clenging): to cleanse.  
Clows: *see* Myll clows.  
Clyftis: long cleft or sawn pieces of wood.  
Cokkat: cocket, customs seal.  
Coll: coal.  
Commissaris (comesaris, commyssaris): civil officials appointed after the Reformation to exercise consistorial jurisdiction, particularly the confirmation of testaments.  
Compt: account. *See also* Schakar comptis.  
Confirmatione (confirmatioun): charter of confirmation.  
Corbellis: thick wooden beams.  
Cordanar: cordwainer, shoemaker.  
Crying done, 25: being suppressed by proclamation.  
Cryit doun, 7: (money) reduced in value by proclamation.  
Cuppar: cooper.  
Custume furlettis (custoum furlatis): standard measures containing a firloot.  
Customeris: collectors of customs.  
Daill: deal, plank.  
Dancekin: Dantzig.  
Danskyne (Danckin) yrin: iron from Dantzig.  
Defalcatione (defalkatioun): deduction.  
Defalkit: deducted.  
Desjune (dyschone): breakfast.  
Deycht; *see* Dychting.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Diet buk: day-book, journal.

Dour: *see* Dure.

Doussone (dyssone): dozen.

Drinksilver (drynksylver): gratuity to be spent on drink.

Dulbandis: iron bands used with dowels to secure the felloes of a wheel.

Dure (dour): door.

—— naillis: door nails.

Dychting (deycht): 'dichting', cleaning.

Dyffattis: divots, turf.

Dykinnis: deacons of the crafts.

Dys: *see* Myll dys.

Dyschone: *see* Desjune.

Dyssone: *see* Doussone.

Eild: age.

Entres: entrance payment.

Erd: earth.

Erding: burying.

Ers: bottom.

Ewidentis: evidents, documents.

Extraordinallis: extra-ordinary expenses.

Faill (fall): turf.

Faldome: fathom.

Fermeraris: tenants (of the mills).

Few maill: feu-duty.

Fowsye: ditch.

Fryst: ridge-pole of a roof.

Furlettis: measures containing a firloft. *See also* Custome furlettis.

Furris: furrowis.

Fute spaddis: digging spades.

Fyre: of fir timber.

Gait (get): road or way.

Galf: gable.

Gar (gart): to cause or to give instructions to be done.

Garrane: short wooden beam.

—— naillis: large nails or spikes.

Geist: joist.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Gerthe: *see* Gyrd.

Glassinbandis (bandis): strips of metal for securing panes of glass in window.

Glassingwrycht: glazier.

Graif: grave.

Graring: making.

Grayth: equipment, apparatus or tackle.

Gre: to come to agreement.

Gudesone: son-in-law.

Gudyeoun (gudgonis): gudgeon, pivot on which a wheel turns.

Guidman: owner of a property, ranking below a laird.

Gyrd (gyrth, gerthe): gird, band or clasp.

Half stane: metal weight of one half-stone used for weighing. *See also* Trone stanis.

Hardheidis: copper coins, originally valued at three half-pence.

Hewyn: haven, harbour.

Hirst (hyrst): *see* Myll hirst.

Justifyit (justefyit), 2, 3: made accurate.

———, 5, 22, 31: executed.

———, 22: condemned.

Kais: window frame.

Kassa: *see* Cassa stanis.

Kassamaker (kassyemaker): *see* Cassamaker.

Kassay stanis: *see* Cassa stanis.

Kasting: *see* Cast.

Keip: to guard.

Knappal: clapboard, split oak.

Knok, 4, 14: clock.

———, 20: winding mechanism for windows.

Kuschyngis: cushions.

Laiffis: loaves.

Lane: loan.

Lard: laird.

Lauborand, 13: soliciting.

———, 18: working.

Lay, 12, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 28: to repair by adding new metal.

———, 29: to set in position.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- Letters: writ or warrant under the King's signet.  
Loke (lowk): lock.  
Lokeman: gaoler, executioner.  
Lone: loaning, a narrow way or lane.  
Lowramire: saddler, bridlemaker.  
Lying of: ceasing to work temporarily.  
Lyttes: leets, lists of nominations for election to office.  
Ma: more.  
Maill: rent. *See also* Few maill.  
Mailltaith: meal-tide, meal-time.  
Markis to the puir folk: beggars' badges.  
Marschaling: arranging.  
Mattok: pickaxe, adze.  
Met: measured.  
Modwall: midwall.  
Mourtar hous: building where corn was taken in payment of multure or toll paid to proprietor or tenant of mill.  
Mowstouris: musters.  
Myll ark: large chest for holding grain or meal.  
Myll clows: mill sluice.  
Myll dys: mill dish.  
Myll hirst (hyrst): frame of a pair of millstones.  
Myll stoll (stoull): base for mill.  
Mynging: mixing.  
Of, 14: out of.  
Ordour: to arrange.  
Owlk: week.  
Owns: ounce.  
Pamenting: paving, laying with a covering of stones.  
Pannis: pieces of timber laid across the couples to support the roof.  
Passis: weights of a clock.  
Peachour (pygar, pyghar): pitcher, jug.  
Pest: pestilence (bubonic plague).  
Plakis: small copper coins, worth four pennies Scots.  
Planser (plensar) naillis: flooring nails, large nails.  
Ple (pley): plea.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Port: gateway, entrance to the burgh.

Portar: gate-keeper.

Prenting yrin: stamping-iron (for the stoups).

Pudderare (podderar): pewterer.

Pygar (pyghar): *see* Peachour.

Pykis: pointed or edged hammers for dressing millstones.

Quheillis (quhelis): wheels.

Raikis: loads.

Raissis: journeys.

Red: refuse, rubbish.

Redding: clearing up.

Replege (replegioun): to withdraw a person or cause from the jurisdiction of one court to that of another.

Rest (restis): arrears.

Rowngis: rungs.

Rude: rood, tenement of land within the burgh.

Ryng: to attach rings to.

Rynk: ringing.

Schakar comptis: Exchequer accounts.

Schoping: chopin, measure equal to a half-pint.

Schylder: 'childer', sailors.

Schyllis: beams, rafters.

Se: to inspect.

Sewttand: soliciting, petitioning.

Sey (sie): sea.

Skaffattis: scaffolding.

Sklattis: slates.

Spanye yrin: Spanish iron.

Speik for: to bespeak or order.

Spynnyll: spindle.

Stanis: *see* Trone stanis.

Stapillis: posts.

Stoll (stoull): *see* Myll stoll.

Stoppis: stoups. *See also* Tre stoppis, Tyne Stoppis.

Studye (studdie): anvil.

Superantender: Superintendent, an official chosen to preside over and visit

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

- the parochial ministers of a district, to direct its administration, and to admit ministers.
- Swanis yrin: Swedish iron.
- Swyp: to sweep.
- Swyssar: drummer.
- Swyth: south.
- Sygnnet: signet, the seal affixed to royal letters.
- Sylver: money.
- Taill of the [myll] dame: tail-race, part of a mill-race below the wheel.
- Task (work set in): work assigned by contract.
- Tawch: tallow.
- Thaik: thatching.
- Theik: to thatch.
- Thesaurar (thesawar): treasurer.
- Tofall (tolfall): lean-to.
- Towis: ropes.
- Treis (threis): pieces of wood.
- Tre stoppis: wooden stoups.
- Trone: weighing machine.
- Trone stanis: metal weights of one stone used for weighing.
- Trynnall broddis: trundle boards (for lantern wheel in mill).
- Twys (twyis): twice.
- Tyne stoppis: stoups of tinned iron.
- Vantit: lacked.
- Waikabudies: vagabonds.
- Waill: to select.
- Walk (wakin, wowke): to watch.
- Walter: water.
- Wandis: rods.
- Wappinschawing: periodical muster of men under arms within a particular district.
- Warklowmis: tools.
- Waynescot: oak boarding for panel-work.
- Wesye: to visit and inspect.
- Wound: *see* Wynd.
- Wowke: *see* Walk.

## DAY BOOK OF JAMES COKBURN

Wowndingscheit: winding-sheet.

Wychtis: weights.

Wynd (wound): to bind with twigs.

Wyndokis (wyndis, wyndowsis): windows.

Wyne (wynning, wynnand), 24, 25, 29: to dig.

—— to, 8: to reach.

Yed: went.

Yet: to set or fix with lead.

Yrin: iron. *See also* Danskyne yrin, Spanye yrin, Swanis yrin.

——, to prent the stoppis: stamping-iron for the stoups. *See also* Prenting yrin.

Yrinhouse: room in tolbooth containing the 'irons' or shackles.

JOHN IMRIE.



## EARLY EAST LOTHIAN CHARTERS

(Editorial note:— By permission of the Marquis of Tweeddale, we publish this article, the transcriptions and translations of which are based on 'The Yester Calendar of Writs' issued by the Scottish Record Society.

In our 'Transactions' Vol. 1, Part 2, the late Dr William Angus contributed an article 'Two East Lothian Charters', comprising:—

- (1) That of King Duncan II of date 1094.
- (2) Of the Countess Ada made between 1153 and 1178.

Both make mention of familiar lands in the county.

Our intention is to follow up with a series of articles dealing with later documents pertaining to East Lothian, working progressively forward into later centuries.)

The two royal charters of which photographs are given here form part of the muniments of the Marquess of Tweeddale, preserved until recently at Yester House, and now deposited in the Scottish Record Office<sup>1</sup>. They are easily the oldest East Lothian charters in favour of a family which still survives and is still resident on the property to which they constitute a title. They are in fact the earliest extant titles for the lands of Yester, and were granted by King William the Lion to Hugh Giffard. Hugh Giffard first appears in Scottish history as a vassal and tenant of Ada, Countess of Northumberland, mother of the kings Malcolm IV and William the Lion. This early record connects Hugh with the districts of Crail and Haddington, two burghs which seem to have been given to the Countess Ada by King David I on the occasion of her marriage to his son Earl Henry in 1139. The Giffards descended in the male line for over two hundred years, giving their name to the suburb of Haddington called Giffordgate. By the marriage of Joan or Janet Giffard to Thomas Hay of Locherworth (Loquhariot in Borthwick), in the second half of the fourteenth century, part of Yester and the other Giffard lands in East Lothian came into the possession of the Hays, ancestors of the present Marquess of Tweeddale.

King William did not himself grant Yester and the other lands to Hugh

1. The full texts were printed in the Scottish Record Society's *Calendar of Writs preserved at Yester House*, ed. C. H. M. Harvey and J. McLeod (1930), Nos. 1 and 3.

## EARLY EAST LOTHIAN CHARTERS

Giffard. The first of our two charters (Plate I) states clearly that the king has confirmed to Hugh all the lands and holdings which he has by the grant of King Malcolm (IV), the Countess Ada, and Herbert the (king's) chamberlain. Unfortunately their charters have not survived, and the confirmation does not specify which property was granted by which donor, except, as we shall see, in one instance.

### TRANSCRIPTION

I. (1166-71). W. Rex Scott'. Omnibus probis hominibus tocius terre sue . Clericis . et laicis . Francis . et Anglis . Scottis . et Galweiensibus . salutem. Sciant presentes . et futuri . me concessisse . et hac carta mea confirmasse Hugoni Giffard . et heredibus suis . in fewdo et hereditate . omnes terras et teneuras quas idem Hugo habet ex donacione Regis .M'. fratris mei . et .A. Comitisse matris mee . et Herberti Camerarii . scilicet Ihestrith per Rectas diuisas suas . et illam partem de Lafditune . quam Edolf filius Ginel tenuit . et terram more de Hadingtun per diuisas per quas ei perambulata fuit . et unum plenarium toftum in Linlidqu . scilicet toftum quod Toke tenuit. Et Berewaldestune per Rectas diuisas suas . quam Herbertus Camerarius cum filia sua ei dedit. Et quatuor libratas terre in Pottun sicut Walterus de Lindesi . et Engelramus clericus illas ei perambulauerunt . et Aldekathin per rectas diuisas suas. Volo itaque et precipio . ut idem Hugo . et heredes sui . terras . et teneuras prenominate hereditarie teneant et habeant . ita libere . et quiete . et honorifice . sicut Carte Regis .M'. fratris mei . et A Comitisse matris mee et .H'. Camerarii . testantur . et confirmant. T' Nicolao Cancellario . R(icardo) de Moreuill constabulario . Daud Olifard . Willelmo de Vesci . Philippo de Valoniis Camerario . W(illelmo) de Veteri ponte . Bernardo filio Brien . Gileberto filio Richerii . Roberto de Costentin. Apud Dunelm'. [S.R.O., Yester Writs, No. 11.]

Fragment of the Great Seal appended, in bad condition (not shown, too fragmentary).

### TRANSLATION

William, King of Scots, to all good men of his whole land, clerics and laymen, French and English, Scots and Gallovidians, Greeting. Be it known to those present and to come, that I have granted, and by this my charter confirmed to Hugh Giffard and his heirs in fee and heritage all the lands and holdings, which the said Hugh holds by grant from King Malcolm, my brother, and Ada the Countess, my mother, and Herbert the Chamberlain, namely, Ihestrith by its right marches, and that part of Lafditune, which Edolf, son of Ginel held, and the land of the moor of Hadingtun by the marches, which were perambulated for him, and a full toft in Linlidqu, namely, the toft which Toke held, and Berewaldestune by its right marches, which Herbert the Chamberlain gave to him with his daughter, And four pounds of land in Pottun, as perambulated by Walter de Lindesi and Engelram the clerk, and Aldekathin by its right marches. I will therefore and charge that the said Hugh and his heirs do hold and have in heritage the above-named lands and holdings, as freely, quit, and honourably as the Charters of King Malcolm, my brother, and Ada the Countess, my mother, and Herbert the Chamberlain do testify and confirm. Witnesses, Nicholas the Chancellor (and others, as above). At Durham.



[illegible]



## EARLY EAST LOTHIAN CHARTERS

Before turning to the lands dealt with, a few words should be said about the charter of confirmation itself. Like virtually all royal charters of the period, it bears no date, but it belongs to the opening years of William the Lion's reign. It was issued when the king was at Durham, and since William's brother and predecessor Malcolm IV died on 9 December, 1165, it is most unlikely to belong to the year 1165. In 1166, however, the new king went oversea to King Henry II in Normandy, and would probably have passed through Durham, both going and returning. William was again in England in 1170. The first witness to this charter, the king's chancellor Nicholas, died in 1171, so that its date may be taken to lie between 1166 and 1171; the strong probability being that it belongs either to 1166 or to 1170. The remaining witnesses were almost all prominent barons of the Scots king: Richard de Moreville the constable, lord of Lauderdale and Cunningham; David Olifard a royal justiciar and lord of Bothwell in Clydesdale; Philip de Valognes the chamberlain, lord of Panmure in Angus; William de Vieuxpont, member of a family prominent both in the northern counties of England and in southern Scotland, and, as lord of Bolton and Carriden, a neighbour twice over of Hugh Giffard; Bernard son of Brien, of Hadden near Roxburgh; Gilbert son of Richer, lord of Tarbolton in Ayrshire; and Robert 'de Costentin' (of the Côtentin), one of the principal vassals of the hereditary steward of Scotland, Walter son of Alan. The odd man out in the list appears to be William de Vesci, but this prominent baron of Northumberland was son of Eustace Fitz John, lord of Alnwick, a close friend and supporter of King William's grandfather King David I. King William was later (1193) to give one of his illegitimate daughters in marriage to William's son and heir Eustace de Vesci.

The properties confirmed to Hugh Giffard by this first charter were as follows: (1) 'Ihestrith', i.e. Yester, probably the gift of King Malcolm IV. (2) That part of 'Lafditune', i.e. Lethington, which Edolf, Ginel's son, held.

## EARLY EAST LOTHIAN CHARTERS

- (3) The land of the moor of Haddington as perambulated for Hugh. (These two properties were probably the Countess Ada's gift). (4) One full toft—that is, a burgess tenement of house and yard—in 'Linlidqu', i.e. Linlithgow, namely that which Toke held. (5) 'Berewaldestune', i.e. Borrowstoun, W. Lothian, which Herbert the chamberlain gave to Hugh with his daughter in marriage. (6) Land worth £4 in 'Pottun' (? Potton), as perambulated by Walter de Lindsay and Ingram the clerk, and, finally, (7) 'Aldekathin', i.e. Auldcathie (in Kirkliston), W. Lothian.

The first three of these properties went to make up the barony of Yester, which Hugh held 'in chief', or immediately, of the Crown. The charter does not say what service Hugh rendered for this barony, but we can be sure it was knight-service, and the charter by which King William confirmed the barony to Hugh's son and heir William stipulated for the service of one knight. Only a part of Lethington was given, the part held by Edulf, Ginel's son. 'Ginel' is the true reading of the original, but one is tempted to suppose that it is a mistake for 'Gamel'. As a man's name Ginel is not otherwise recorded, whereas Gamel (Old Norse, Gamall, 'old') was a well-known and popular personal name in Northumbria and Lothian down to the twelfth century. Besides, our second charter deals with 'Yester which *Gamel* held', and there is still in the policies of Yester a *Gamuelston Burn*. At least part of Yester therefore had at one time been held by a man called Gamel, and it is tempting to identify him with the father of Edulf, who at one time had held a part of Lethington.

Herbert, chamberlain to King David I and King Malcolm IV, was lord of the barony of Kinneil, doubtless by royal gift. He would rank as one of the most substantial magnates in the Scottish kingdom. Evidently Hugh Giffard married a daughter of Herbert, and her tocher was the lands of 'Berewaldestune', or Borrowstoun, in the barony of Kinneil. (This is, I

## EARLY EAST LOTHIAN CHARTERS

believe, the earliest recorded mention of the name of Borrowstoun). 'Aldcathin' was probably included in this marriage settlement, since Auldcathie—although in Kirkliston parish—was said to be in the barony of Kinneil in 1497<sup>1</sup>. From its context it might be inferred that 'Pottun' was also granted by Herbert the chamberlain. But I have not identified the place, and in view of the high value of the land—by twelfth-century Scottish standards—and the names of the perambulators, it is most probable that 'Pottun' represents Potton in Bedfordshire, a principal manor of the Honour of Huntingdon, held by the Scots kings for much of the twelfth century.

The second document shewn here (Plate II) was issued by King William at Lanark between 1166 and 1182, probably nearer the later than the earlier date. It was issued in duplicate, one version being written in the usual 'charter hand' of the time, the other—reproduced here—in the elegant stylized cursive handwriting of the royal chapel or 'chancery'. The king announces that Eggu (alias Hugh) son of Hugh has at his own request, and in the king's court in the presence of the king's good men, surrendered to the king 'Thestrid quam Gamel tenuerat'—Yester, or that part of it, which Gamel had held. The king has thereupon granted it to Hugh Giffard for the fifth part of one knight's service. In return, the king remits to Eggu and his heirs the annual rent previously paid for this land of 21s 4d. Now this sum is precisely one fifth of eight merks (£5 6s 8d), and it looks as if here, as in some other known instances in late twelfth-century Scotland, the service of one knight was valued at roughly five pounds a year.

Exactly what interest Eggu son of Hugh possessed in Yester, or how it was derived, we do not know. His rather uncommon Celtic name permits us to identify him with Eggu son of Hugh son of Earl Gillemichel of Fife, a man who is described as a knight, and who had property rights at Marķinch

1, *Calendar of Yester Writs*, No. 420.

# EARLY EAST LOTHIAN CHARTERS

## TRANSCRIPTION

II. (1166-82). .W. dei gracia Rex Scott' Omnibus probis Hominibus Tocius terre sue Clericis et Laicis Salutem. Sciant presentes et futuri Eggu filium Hugonis petitione sua coram probis hominibus meis in curia mea reddidisse mihi Ihestrid quam Gamel tenuerat et eiusdem Eggu petitione me terram illam dedisse et concessisse et hac Carta mea confirmasse Hugoni Giffard per easdem diuisas per quas Gamel illam tenuerat. Tenendum sibi et heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis in feudo et hereditate . in bosco et plano : in pratis et pascuis et aquis . et omnibus aliis justis pertinenciis suis . libere et quiete et honorifice . faciendo inde mihi et heredibus meis quintam partem seruicii unius militis. Et ego Eggu filium Hugonis et heredes suos de me et heredibus meis quietos clamaui de viginti . et .i. solidis et quatuor denariis quos ipsi de terra illa annuatim mihi et heredibus meis persoluere debebant. T. Comite Waldew' : Ricardo Capellano . Willelmo de Lindes' . Willelmo de Veteri ponte . Willelmo de Haia . Patricio filio Comitis . Gilleberto de Umframv (ille) . Willelmo de Mortuo mari . Walkelino de Mortuo mari. Apud Lanarc'.

[S.R.O., Yester Writs, No. 31.]

This charter is in duplicate, Seals missing.

## TRANSLATION

William, King of Scots, to All good men of his whole land, clerics and laymen. Greeting. Be it known to those present and to come that Eggu son of Hugh on his own petition before my good men in my court resigned to me Ghiestrith, which Gamel had held, and that I upon the petition of the said Eggu have given and granted and by this my charter confirmed that land to Hugh Giffard by the same bounds as Gamel had held it: To be held to himself and his heirs of me and my heirs in fee and heritage, in wood and plain, in meadows and pastures, and waters; and all its just appurtenances, freely, quit, and honourably: doing for it the fifth part of a knight's service to me and my heirs:

And I have quit claimed, for me and my heirs, Eggu son of Hugh and his heirs of 21 shillings and 4 pence which they are bound to pay yearly to me and my heirs for that land. Witnesses, Earl Waldeve (**and others, as above**). . At Lanark.

Et si qd hoc sacro omibz pbe hnt' taa' ere sue obae z lras: Salu. Sacer. p'curae z lras l'g'z  
filiu hugois p'curae sul' aut pbe hnt' mais in ayud mel' reddidisse in p'sentia qm' bamel' r'curat  
z ordem l'g'z p'curae me qdam illam dadiſſe z paſſiſſe z bac caped mel' p'curatſſe hugoi b'ſſiſſe  
p'curatſſe d'curatſſe p' qd bamel' illam r'curatſſe. Tenent' s' z b'edib' suis de me z b'edib' mais in f'onds z  
b'educte. In b'asco z plano. In p'ore z p'assans z age. z omibz alus iustis p'curatſſe suis. Libe z g'ore  
z bonatſſe. faciendo inde qd z b'edib' mais g'ardam p'curatſſe s'curatſſe uni' p'curatſſe. Et ego l'g'z filiu  
hugois z b'edac suis de me z b'edib' mais g'ore cl'antus, de vignas. z. y. lot. z g'raue d'curatſſe qd  
ip'i de ord' illa annuat' qd z b'edib' mais p'curatſſe d'curatſſe. T. Com' d'curatſſe. d'curatſſe d'curatſſe. Willo de  
Lindas. Willo de ver' p'curatſſe. Willo de d'curatſſe. d'curatſſe filio d'curatſſe. Willo de d'curatſſe. Willo de d'curatſſe  
m'curatſſe. Willo de d'curatſſe. d'curatſſe d'curatſſe. d'curatſſe d'curatſſe.



## EARLY EAST LoTHIAN CHARTERS

in Fife in the 1170's. It is probable that Eggu's father Hugh, though a layman, was lord of the old Celtic abbey of Abernethy, and that Eggu himself was brother of Orm, the ancestor of the baronial family of Abernethy. How these descendants of an earl of Fife who died c.1136 came to have estates in East Lothian is not known, but it may be noted that one of Orm's descendants acquired Saltoun in the thirteenth century and brought the Abernethy family into a close and lasting connexion with the county.

G. W. S. BARROW.

## ELECTIONEERING IN EAST LoTHIAN 1836-37

The following extracts are taken from the Private Journal of my great grandfather, Lord Ramsay, afterwards the Marquess of Dalhousie. They give a more or less detailed picture of electioneering in Scotland in 1836-37.

Lord Ramsay had been asked to stand as candidate for East Lothian in the Conservative interest in October 1836. He had previously fought an election in Edinburgh in company with Mr Learmonth who later became Sir James Learmonth and Lord Provost.

It was conducted with a good deal of bitterness and meetings were held in the most extraordinary places. One, mentioned in these extracts, took place in the Kirk of the Canongate. It was a hopeless contest but extremely useful in gaining experience. Lord Ramsay was 23 at the time of the Edinburgh election. He took his defeat (which he had expected from the beginning) lightly and merely told the electors when the poll was declared "that they were daft to refuse the Laird of Cockpen." Cockpen was part of the Dalhousie estate.

His opponent in the East Lothian election was Robert Ferguson of Raith, who had married Mary, daughter and heiress of William Hamilton Nisbet of Dirleton (formerly Countess of Elgin). Ferguson was the first member for the County to be elected after the passing of the Reform Bill of which he was a strong supporter. He won the seat from John Thomas Hope, younger of Luffness in 1835.

By 1836, however, the country was showing unmistakeable signs of having had enough of Lord Melbourne's Government, which none the less clung to office with the utmost tenacity until in May 1841 it was defeated on the Sugar Duties and Parliament was dissolved in June. The death of William IV on 20th June, 1837, put an end to electioneering until after his funeral, so that Lord Ramsay's campaign was fought in two parts, the first in the winter and spring of 1836-37, and the second after the death of the king. He defeated Ferguson at the end of July 1837, but went to the House of Lords on the death of his father in March 1838. His place was taken by Sir Thomas

## ELECTIONEERING IN EAST LoTHIAN 1836-37

Buchan Hepburn of Smeaton who was returned unopposed.

E.C.B.L.

*Extracts from Lord Ramsay's Journal.*

*December 31st 1836.*

On arriving at Yester I found that political matters had almost come to a crisis. Mr Ferguson's friends, it was known, by reports which arrived from all quarters, were engaged entirely, tho' secretly canvassing, and that we were running a risk, in remaining quiet, of having a march stolen upon us by our opponents for the *second* time. There was, therefore, no room for further delay.

The requisition was put about in the market next day, and rapidly received signatures. It was distributed for that purpose in different parts of the county, and Mr Richardsone came up in the evening to report progress. It was settled that I should lose no more time, and without waiting for the formal ceremony of this presentation of the requisition should commence operations immediately.

Much as this went against my inclinations, there was nothing for it but to "grin and bear it" and next week, Saturday the 18th December I awoke and found myself Candidate for the County of East Lothian, actively engaged in a canvass.

From that day forward for several months my time was completely engrossed with the one subject of the canvass. My journal which had been forgotten in more vacant hours was now never thought of—my own business was neglected—my accounts unpaid, my expenses unchecked, my interests left unregarded. I had no employment but canvassing—no thought but how to gain a vote. And truly it was a laborious occupation.

It was the depth of winter; and as in whatever part of the County I was engaged I always returned to Yester or Coalstoun at night, I had always to start before daylight in the morning to enable me to reach the scene of my labors early in the day; so, with so little of daylight left as there was at that time of the year there was little time at best to work.

On Fridays at Haddington and on Tuesdays at Dunbar at the market, I thus lost two days in the week, and as I started with the determination of visiting every voter of whatever persuasion at his own house I was three months or so in getting through the constituency.

Inserted later.

## ELECTIONEERING IN EAST LOTHIAN 1836-37

My first day's work was towards Prestonpans, where I went to reconnoitre rather than attack. On riding thro' the village at Gifford I saw old Porteous, the saddler, standing at his door. I stopped to speak to him, and telling him I was on my way to commence my canvass of the County, I shook my head and said something on the heavy labor, and serious task I had entered upon.

He rubbed his hands, laughed, looked as if he would have patted me on the back if I had not been on my horse, then said "Never heed that, Lord Ramsay, set a stout heart to a stey brae!"

I have never forgot old Porteous' exhortation; and in all such circumstances shall recollect it with encouragement.

The opposite party were much astonished at our making so energetic a start; they abused us heartily for what they were pleased to call "disturbing the County without necessity", and were from the first very bitter — an acerbity which was not diminished when the requisition to me appeared signed by 260 voters; I was aware of their attempt to throw blame upon us in commencing a canvass, and alluded to it pretty sharply in my address.

It came out on a Tuesday morning when Mr Ferguson was in Dunbar. I had breakfasted at Dunbar House, and on going down into the market at 12 attended by "troops of friends", I was met by Sir David Kinloch, who said to me that Mr Ferguson wished very much to see me at the Inn. I thought this rather cavalier; considering that if Mr Ferguson wished to see me he might have come to me, instead of sending a request to me to come to him. However, remembering that I was a much younger man than he, I attended to his wishes and went.

On entering the room I found there Mr Ferguson, Mr S. Sawers and Mr Younger the agent.

After a few friendly greetings and phrases had been interchanged, Mr Ferguson addressed me and said that he felt much hurt by a statement put forth in my address of that morning, that *he* had been secretly carrying on a canvass; whereas he assured me upon his honor that he had not canvassed a single individual.

To this I rejoined upon my honor I did not believe he ever had, nor did I ever say he had; but that his friends *had* canvassed; his friends *had* been forwarding his interests in different parts of the County; that information of this *had* been brought to my agent and friends, and *upon this information and*

## ELECTIONEERING IN EAST LoTHIAN 1836-37

*actuated solely by this* I had agreed to commence a canvass immediately.

He then waxed warm and repeated his former declaration, adding that his agents had been equally quiescent, and denied that *any* canvassing had been carried on for him at all.

All of which was backed up and repeated in different shapes, alternately by Kinloch and Sawers and Younger.

Here was I in the midst of these four rampant radicals, alone and unsupported, like Daniel in the lion's den or Corporal Shaw at the Battle of Waterloo. However I battled away, stuck to my text, firmly asserted it was not I who commenced the electioneering, and that had it not been for information that could not be doubted, of their making secret movements, I never would have commenced it at this time; assured Mr Ferguson that I had never thought, nor had I ever said in my address, that the secret canvassing was done by him but that it was on the part of his friends.

Their object I imagine was to lead me to confess that I had begun a canvass without good cause, or that the information on which I had proceeded was incorrect, neither of which acknowledgements I could or would make; and so, as Thucydides hath it, we went our ways.

He was very impatient and hot occasionally which only made me the more cool; and I think I did myself in this interview no harm; albeit only a few days afterwards, and in the face of my assurance that I neither suspected nor accused him of secret canvassing, he went to a dinner of Gibson Craig's at Dalkeith, and there repeated his complaint of "how hurt he was at my so accusing him" and spoke as if I had never said one word to do away this impression from his mind. Such is Whiggery!

Inserted later.

On the same Tuesday after I had been introduced to many of the voters, when Ferguson had left the town and while numbers of his supporters were fast at their dinners and settling in Dunbar, I thought it not a bad plan to steal a march on them, and making a descent on Linton, get it canvassed before they could openly break ground there—perhaps do some good—perhaps at least prevent some harm—and at all events get a disagreeable job over.

Accordingly I met Slate of Sunnyside in Linton just at twilight, set off and canvassed up one side of the street and down the other till just as we were approaching the door of the last uncanvassed voter in rushed Adamson, Ferguson's agent from Dunbar, and some others, who had I suppose heard

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of our foray and came "just in time to be too late"!

The laugh was all on our side and we did some good into the bargain.

All these things made the party of my opponent more virulent. The start annoyed them first, the requisition vexed them sorely; the energy with which the whole of the gentry to a man, took up my cause, was sore to them, and when, Elcho's name having headed the requisition, he himself walked into the market with me, and instantly began a vigorous canvass for me, they saw at once the game was up; their faces fell to their feet, Kinloch murmured a melancholy "you will be too strong for us, I fear", while Ex-Provost Sawers was reduced to the mock heroic of "Well if we are to go we'll die game".

Inserted later.

Elcho's name was a tower of strength to us, for, as the son of so large a proprietor as Lord Wemyss, his influence of course was great, and he was at the same time from his character and manners and from his intercourse with the tenantry in the hunting field, certainly the most personally popular man in the County. But besides all this, he had been in the days of Reform, a Reformer. He had gradually cooled on that; but he had never declared his change of sentiments, he had never come forward in public and consequently to this very day in which his name appeared at the head of my requisition (or rather Committee) and when he appeared to canvass the market for me, having ridden over the hills from Dunse to do it, he was always represented as a Reformer by my opponents and claimed as a supporter of Ferguson. His appearance therefore was a thunderbolt and was of essential service to me.

In every parish my friends were hard and unceasingly at work; I myself endeavoured to imitate as closely as possible Sir Boyle Roche's bird, and to be in almost two places at once. I was out every morning before daylight, and home never till late in the evening; I ordered a pair of double milled trousers on purpose, and rode and bowed, smiled and scraped, made good speeches and bad jokes, took snuff and drank whiskey, each in their turn, and all to a great amount.

By the voters themselves even in radical Prestonpans, and ultra-extra-super radical Tranent I was received with perfect civility. The tenantry were unwearied in their assistance and the gentlemen kind and eager in their attendance on me and my wishes. I never spoke to a voter that I was not answered with civility and cheerfulness, whatever his opinions might be;

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I never requested help from a farmer that he did not give up his time and trouble and most cheerfully follow me wherever I wished; and as for the gentry, I need only to give an idea of the support which they afforded me, mention on the shew day of the Agricultural Society when Mr Ferguson was also present.

There were with me Lord Elcho, one of the Maitlands, Sir Thos. Hepburn, Burn Callander, Sir John Hope, Robert Dundas, Charles Hope, James Hope, Col. Houstoun, James Hamilton, Hay of Belton, Hay of Hope, Hay of Linplum, William Hay of Spott, Hunter of Thurstoun, Sprott of Spott, Anderson, St. Germaines, Fletcher of Salton, Balfour of Whittingehame, Aitchison yr. of Drummorie, Mr Hepburn, Mr St Clair, and with this well-jointed tail, we streamed into the shew ground, where I found my opponent Ferguson of Raith, attended by Sir David Kinloch and Simon Sawers only, so sorely had his tail been docked of its fair proportions!

An appearance such as this gave us all life and spirits—men saw that the matter was taken up in the proper way, and they saw and felt that the election was already decided.

Inserted later.

On some occasions it was hateful drudgery. By way of example I will mention one scene which occurred on the same day which I have mentioned as that on which Elcho had come to the market with me. After market I went round with him and canvassed all the County voters who lived in the town of Haddington. It was dark and late before this was over. I had got some dinner from Richardson the agent, and was sitting drinking a glass of wine with him and some of the farmers with him and resting myself a little before I went home, when Tait, the bookseller, came in to say that they had got Robert Goodall, a young man who was a shoemaker in Edinburgh (and whom Dr Fyffe had by hook or by crook got out to Haddington in order to secure his vote) in a room at the corner of the street, and they thought I should go and see him. So away I went, to Badgers, I think it was, and there I found, among several friends, Mister Goodall. It seemed he had not pledged himself, and they wished me to pay my court to him personally, as they thought that would secure him. It did not look as if it would be a very pleasant task, for Mr Goodall had been excited by his pleasure at meeting so many acquaintances and was by this time very particularly drunk. We paid our compliments to each other, shook hands, and then sate down on a sofa

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together, where we entered into general and agreeable conversation, during which I seemed to be making some favorable impression.

At last looking at me heavily and fixedly for a little while he said "That's not Lord Ramsay; I say that's not Lord Ramsay". He got up from the sofa in apparent indignation at the imposition practised upon him. It was in vain I assured him that I *was* Lord Ramsay; it was in vain that I offered innumerable proofs of my identity—no, with true drunken obstinacy he maintained that I was *not* Lord Ramsay.

"Did we think that he didn't know Lord Ramsay? but he could tell us he did, for he had seen him when he was canvassing Edinburgh—he had seen him in the Canongate Church, and he'd be d——d if *that* (pointing to me) was Lord Ramsay".

When he mentioned the Canongate Church, I recollected a circumstance which I thought might prove me to be the real Simon Pure to his whiskey steeped intellect; so I said "Come now, sit down I'll tell you what happened in the Church then, which will shew you I *am* Lord Ramsay." He sate down, distrustingly however. I went on "Don't you remember I went up one side of the pulpit stairs, and Mr Learmonth up the other? and some one on my side asked him a question which he couldn't hear and went in to the pulpit to try and hear it better; when all the people roared at him, and one child cried out "Come out o' that, Jock. Come out o' that, Jock" and wouldn't let him say another word till he came out of the pulpit.

When I told him this story he turned round, looked at me with a hazy recollection in his eye, and a drunken smile on his face, and pronouncing "ye *are* Lord Ramsay", threw his arms about my neck and kissed and hugged me with affection unbounded. I got his vote but what dirty work for any gentleman to do!

With reference to the complaints of the disagreeables of canvassing which I have made on the other side of the page I must add that it on the other hand had both advantages and agreeables. Through it I acquired a very accurate knowledge of the County, its roads, its scenery, its productions and interests; and by it I gained an intimate acquaintance with the whole body of the Tenantry, a most intelligent, well educated, enterprising, estimable and hospitable body of men.

I saw too a great deal of many of the humbler classes and of their mode of life and habit of thinking.



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There was one old couple I was particularly fond of visiting. Mr and Mrs Dalgliesh, feuars in the village of Wester Pencaitland beyond the Cross on the road to Lempock Wells. She was a good looking old woman, with the dress and with all the manners and prejudices of an old Scotch wife. I remember particularly her philippics against all Ministers who "used the paper" instead of preaching (apparently at least) extempore. On one occasion she had thundered away; and at last she jumped up, set her arms a-kimbo and said, "I canna bide to see them glowring at the book—as if they couldna look you in the face. *They should be bold as a lion in their Maker's cause;*" and the old woman drew herself up and fixed her arms in her sides more rigidly a-kimbo, while she shook her head till the edgings of her mutch fluttered again, and her eyes shone—like a very Pythoness. It was really eloquent.

Inserted later.

May 18th 1837.

My journal fell into disuse from excess of employment . . . . .  
On the 9th January my dear wife gave me a sweet little daughter . . . . .  
Susan was much to be pitied at the time for she ought to have had me much with her, while at the same time it was impossible that it should be so; for I was compelled to labor incessantly to get as quick as possible through the voters, from finding that those whom I had not yet called upon were jealous of those whom I had first visited.

The distances were great, the days very short, and, besides, the ground was covered with deep snow.

Only a few days before, I had been canvassing with Henderson, the tenant of Longniddry in that neighbourhood. We tried many cross roads in vain, for all were impassable from drifts of snow. At last in trying to get from Coates to Laverlocklaw and Wheatrigg we were fairly planté, he and I could not get on and John Lockhart who was behind us, rolled, he and his old chestnut, heads over heels in a blind ditch.

Henderson and I got off, determined not to be beat, canvassed all that Parish on foot, wading across the fields, through the snow by Trabroun, and in the neighbourhood of Gladsmuir.

A precious job it was; and sweetly did the whiskey go down after it and during it. Even in good weather it was expected, and was rather inconvenient and perilous. They used to fill a wineglass, I protesting all the time

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and assuring them I had had numerous such compliments before. "Oh but ye *maun* taste". "Very well," I said, "I'll certainly just drink your health," and so I took the first sip and then prepared to set it down; when I was invariably met with "Ou, tak it up, tak it up; it'll dae ye nae ill". There was no help for it and down it went. In such a night as I have described it required no pressing to induce us to "tak it up", and produced no inconvenience: but in ordinary weather I have often wondered that even all the exercise and change of air and excitement should have carried it off so harmlessly.

Some days after her birth I went over to Glasgow to attend the great banquet given by the citizens to Sir Robert Peel. I rode over from Coalstoun between breakfast and dinner intending to return the same way. However Susan was so well that I thought it unnecessary and I accordingly remained all night and rode home the next day. The banquet was a grand—a most magnificent spectacle—but I cannot plunge into a description of it now.

Meantime the canvass still went on, and it was not till February or March that I brought it to a close. I had then paid my respects to every individual of the constituency resident in the County and who could be got at.

I caused a meeting of the Committee to be called and announced to them the result which stood as follows:—

Actual Constituency on the Roll	711
Dead	16
Denuded	4
Abroad	19
Neutral	54
Doubtful	52
For Ramsay	351
For Ferguson	215

giving me a majority of pledges amounting to 136.

Now I don't mean to say I shall have at the Poll a majority of 136 or even of 100, but I do mean to say that with so large an apparent majority *now* it is absolutely impossible but that I must beat Ferguson by a large majority in the end; and I published an address to that effect.

Inserted later.

The festival has been fully described, the speeches fully reported and every circumstance fully stated down to the very number of knives and forks in a book styled the "Peel Banquet"; so that I need say nothing about it.

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Nothing could exceed the success of the whole thing. Every arrangement was so perfect that the Croupier said to me at the beginning of the dinner, "How in all this multitude of 3,500 people there is not one man who is not seated in the place allotted to him and everyone has been led to it at once without a moment's doubt or confusion."

The enthusiasm of Peel's reception was of course in the extreme; and his speech was most effective. The only deficiency was a toastmaster to direct the cheers of such a crowd, but it was unavoidable for the man who was coming from London on purpose got upset in the Coach and broke his leg so he had a good excuse for his absence.

In the body of the Pavilion it was comfortable enough, but on the two Platforms where a door opened somewhere very near, the draught was tremendous, and made it very cold.

The influenza was very prevalent then, and many people getting additional cold died soon after.

Lord Leven had a greatcoat round his back and gave me one of the tails which did me some service; but I had a touch of influenza too when I got home.

On the Saturday before the Sunday night on which my wife was taken ill I was up very early and rode 18 miles to Thurston to breakfast. Immediately after I borrowed one of Hunter's horses and servants and canvassed all round by Innerwick, down even to that little beast Tommy Dods of Stottencleugh, round Oldhamstocks, Cockburnspath, the Cove, Dunglas, and all the tenants between Dunglas and Thurston where I arrived again between 3 and 4. I ought by rights to have gone home, but I did not want to have the trouble of coming all the way back, so I set forth to canvass deeper in the hills, tho' it was just getting dark; John and I passed Thurston Mains having called there and plowtered on down a road quite blown up seeking for Elmscleugh.

At last the road utterly disappeared and I found myself on my worthy old chestnut skating on the ice of a frozen burn. After long wandering we found a cottage, and from that I rode up a most troublesome path to Elmscleugh, got no vote, and most fortunately finding the road cut through the hills over to Woodhall. Here I found old Hood, the tenant, a fine old man greatly above 80 and who had thrice renewed his lease of Woodhall, resolved on a tumbler of toddy.

I begged a cup of tea which Mrs Hood gave me to my heart's content but which was no sooner finished, than the old gentleman resolved not to be

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done out of his toddy, ordered in the tumblers and we had one together.

When this was finished I prepared to move, and found to my consternation that one of his sons who had arrived that evening from Spott had found the road quite blown up and had got home with some difficulty.

It was impossible for me, however, to wait, as Lady Susan would have been frightened out of her wits at my absence. Accordingly having got the same lad's services as a guide I set forth. The road was dreadful and it was only by riding across the fields, which I could never have managed without my guide, that I got to Spott. The lad wanted to go on till we came to the high road, but I was anxious to give him as little trouble as I could, and after getting directions from him, I insisted on his going home.

I thought I was perfect in my instructions, but I had not got literally 50 yards from where I parted with young Hood before I missed the road in the dark, and following a track which led me first up the hill and then down it for a long way, I pulled up just in time to prevent my plumping into a mill-lead on the brink of which I was standing.

We knocked up the miller and found we were above Little Spott, in the hills between it and Pathhead.

We were obliged to retrace our steps and after a deal of scrambling got to the high road at Biel, and with a tired horse and in desperate roads I got to Coalsoun only just before midnight, after a tremendous day's work.

Such is County canvassing in a Scotch winter!

I must have ridden that day nearer 70 than 60 miles, and a great deal of it in the dark. This was nothing remarkable at 24, but it will be something to speak of, if like old Hood I can do almost as great a day's work when past 80. He is a wonderfully active old fellow, and rides even now immense distances, journeying like a Patriarch round all his sons' and grandsons' houses whom he has settled in different parts of the County.

A meeting of the Subscribers to the fund of meeting the expenses of the Election was held, at which Lord Maitland, General Houstoun and Sir Thomas Hepburn were named as managers of the fund. They met, examined the accounts up to the close of the canvass and paid them. On the whole this is by no means, as times go, a great expenditure; and I expect and hope that the whole election will be concluded for less than £1,000, which will leave enough to defray the amount incurred for the last two registrations of 1835 and 1836, which is still unpaid. I have had many letters to write procuring

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the consent of all the subscribers to the appropriation of £350 for this purpose out of the fund.

*November 26th 1837.*

An awful gap this! more, a gulph. A gulph so large that I despair of filling it up unless indeed the magnitude of the events, (so far as concerns myself and my own interests) which I have to record as occurring during the period which it occupies may serve in some manner to fill it up.

The good old King died and was buried. I was resolved so far to testify *my* respect as not to commence my canvass, which of course everywhere was set on foot in expectation of the dissolution of Parliament which must of necessity ensue, until he was laid in the grave. Accordingly I did not break ground till the 10th of July and from that time onwards my time was entirely occupied in prosecuting my visits to the electors, the last of whom I knocked off on Thursday the 27th.

On Saturday the 29th was the nomination of candidates and tho' it was a most unfavourable day, pouring of rain and producing every sort of discomfort I had a gallant following to take me up to the hustings. The other party was very strong also in numbers, and we had a regular war, as usual (tho' all in the greatest good humour) of words and speeches in which I flatter myself that *our* side did not get the worst of it. Afterwards we marched with our trumpets and shawms all round the town, twice thro' the very entrails of Ferguson's mob, and not a soul dared say Bo to us.

On Monday the 31st the polling began. Everything had been well arranged and our men were full of spirit, crowding to the poll at the first hour, and eager for the fray.

We took the lead both at Haddington and Dunbar from the very first moment and never lost it.

I remained at Haddington till 12, and then finding myself a long way ahead I galloped over to Dunbar where I also found myself in a considerable majority.

Inserted later.

During that period I was riding always 12 and generally 13 or 14 hours a day. This time I left out those who were hopelessly hostile to me and took friends, doubtfuls and neutrals.

It was very hot severe work. The same round of jokes and cakes and whiskey recurred as I had before. The whiskey now told a little more

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severely than it did in the cold of winter; but still I never suffered any bad effects of it.

Only once my head gave way, but not under whiskey. I went to visit old Stobie of the Brunt who had fancied from some visits paid to him by the Duke of Roxburghe's Whig factor I would suspect him of intending to desert me. Some one in addition had said to him that there *was* this impression on my mind as well as others; and the old man was in great distress accordingly.

I was not aware of this, and from my conversation when we met he soon saw that I knew nothing about it and never had entertained any such suspicion. Stobie was delighted and insisted on my coming into his house and taking a glass of wine. This glass rapidly grew into a bottle and the bottle involved the consequence of a second of which he and I and young Stobie had got the greater part before I could prevail on him to let me go.

It was the Port which these sort of people have, much more than half brandy. My head and my stomach were so much disordered that by the time I had ridden half a mile I found I was as drunk as an owl. I was obliged to rein up to a walk and at that pace go home to Ninewar where I was staying, and managed to get upstairs where I threw myself down on my bed and slept for 3 or 4 hours like a stone, and so got rid of the effects.

I got old Stobie's vote of course, and often told him how *very* drunk he had made me, much to the old gentleman's amusement. The next day I was very unwell; but set off at 12, rode to Barneyhill, thence to the Muirs to Bowshielhill, Harehead, Crichness, Millknowe, Mayshiel, Yester to Coalstoun, in an incessant pour of rain and one horse, or rather a slight bay mare! good day's work.

I remained here for a considerable time, and then set off on my return. I found Mary Hamilton sitting for me at the Lodge at Ninewar with a glass of wine and a biscuit, refreshed by which I set forth again for Haddington, and as I got below Amisfield Mains I met my boy Willie riding Bald's poney as tho' he would break his very neck. I stopped and enquired the cause of such fiery haste, when he fumbled in his breast and producing a blue paper actually *grinned* out the words "You've got it, my Lord," which I found was the case for Mr Ferguson resigned at 3 o'clock, leaving me at the head of the poll of a majority of 93; and so was proclaimed the issue of the East Lothian election among shouts as hearty and conveying as sincere congratulations as, I believe verily, was ever offered to a County candidate.

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Inserted later.

Just before I met Willy Black and as I was riding pretty fast near Beanston Gate I saw a man on foot walking along the road. At a distance I thought I knew his figure, and on coming near to the road which turns up to Athelstaneford I saw by the ribbons of blue and yellow, Fergusons's colours, in his hat and by his dress that I was right, and that it was Sir David Kinloch and in queer guess.

He was in his usual dress, but with an enormous bow of ribbon in his hat, his feet in white cotton stockings and his boots hung by the loops on his stick over his shoulder, standing in the middle of the road.

I laughed at the curious figure and begged an explanation. He said he was tired of the election and set off to walk home; but he had on a pair of new boots, which before he had walked far chafed his feet, so he quietly sate down by the road side, pulled them off, and was walking home in his stocking soles when I met him.

I was exceedingly diverted by his explanation, and thinking that the pebbles of the cross road before he got to Gilmerton would touch up his feet I made my servant give him up his horse; but it was not till I insisted upon it that he could be prevailed upon to accept its services, not liking I suppose, to be beheld after voting against me.

I had great reason to speak highly of the conduct of the electors towards me. Of all those who pledged to vote for me, only one, Gordon of Prestonpans was blackguard enough to vote against me; one other, an old man, Gray of Knowsmill was worked upon by the Dissenting Minister to stay away, and all the rest amply fulfilled their words.

Many were better than their word by voting for me when they had only promised to be neutral.

Never man was more nobly supported — or received more or greater proofs not only of the desire which existed to make his cause triumphant, but for the sympathy which they felt for his own individual success, and of the interest and regard in himself personally. Were I to outlive the world, I should never lose the grateful recollections which I have of the great and constant and valuable kindness which I have met with . . . . Today the poll was declared. I was escorted as before; but not a soul of the other party appeared. Consequently the mob would not hear a word I had to say; and as I did not care twopence, whether they heard me or not, I very soon desisted

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from the attempt, and returned to the George where I got out my say.

On issuing forth again I found the old Barouche, covered with laurels, and decked and bedizened in a way which hovered between the sublime and ridiculous and drawn by 4 horses, in which I was to be *chaired*, as I was told—so up I got “so light and debonair” and was proceeding to *sit down*, which I thought was always an essential element of any chairing. I was told, however, that this would never do and that I must stand up.

It appeared to me that here was none of the sublime; the ridiculous reigned supreme, but I was obliged to submit to it; and then balancing myself as well as I could, on my feet, on the rickety old vehicle, not daring once to bow, for then inevitably I should have lost the centre of gravity and slipped over on my nose, I was paraded thro’ all the streets of Haddington, in the midst of a very free expression of the sentiments of the lieges.

At the Waterloo Toll, a great portion left me, but a large portion also accompanied me home to Coalstoun, where we had another little speech, and then I gave all whom I could accommodate inside some luncheon, and sent a barrel of ale to those who were outside . . . . .

Altogether I did a tolerably hard day’s work today. I rode over to Dalkeith and back (vote for Sir George Clerk) by half past 11—had poll declared at 12, made a speech, adjourned to George Inn, made a real one there, for the first was only a sham—then was chaired—taken home in state—made another speech; dispensed luncheon and entertained my guests—dined at the Club dinner in Haddington—then rode up to Yester—met all the Gifford people there—made another speech—and then rode home again at night, and so ended the first day of my membership!

Two days after I rode over the hills one day to Galashiels and back to vote for Sandy Pringle. It rained almost incessantly the whole way, and in taking the short cut across Lammer Law from Carfrae Mill I thought I should have been washed away.

Contributed by EDITH C. BROUN LINDSAY.



## THE PRE-REFORMATION PARISH CHURCHES OF EAST LoTHIAN.

IN the period before the Reformation, East Lothian included twenty seven parishes, all but one of which—Aberlady in the Diocese of Dunkeld—lay within the Diocese of St. Andrews and Deanery of Haddington. Several of these parishes have since disappeared, while several others — Dirleton, Gladsmuir and Prestonpans—are of definite post-Reformation origin. In other instances several prebends in the Collegiate Church of Dunbar—Belton or Hedderwick, Pitcox or Stenton, and Spott—are often mistakenly recorded as pre-Reformation parishes, even in contemporary sources such as the Register of the Privy Seal wherein the prebend of Pinkerton appears as “the parsonage and vicarage of the parroche kirk of Pincartoun” (R.S.S. V. No. 2800).

One of the most prevalent abuses in the medieval Church was the diversion of parochial revenues to other religious institutions or persons. This process was technically known as appropriation and involved the greater part of the parochial revenues or teinds, which properly belonged to the incumbent (parson or rector) of the parish, being granted to a corporation or individual, who henceforth assumed the rectorial rights, while the residual teinds went to a substitute known as the vicar, who now ministered in the parish.

The original grant was usually made by the lord of the manor, who might be the king or an ecclesiastic, and by whom the church might have been erected. Before a grant became fully effective, however, confirmation by a bishop was required, the most common form of such a grant being “in proprios usus” by means of which the revenues properly belonging to the rector, were invested in their new owner.

In some instances the process went no further and unless otherwise stated this is the case. On occasions, however, the vicarage also was appropriated, sometimes as part of the original grant and in other instances as a separate transaction. In either case, the parish was served by either a parochial chaplain or pensionary vicar, often removable at will and with only a fixed stipend, instead of a portion of the teinds.

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All these processes are illustrated in the parishes of East Lothian of whose number no less than twenty four of the twenty seven were appropriated, thirteen to religious houses, ten to secular colleges and one to the bishopric of Dunkeld, although in two instances—Morham and Keith-Marischal, proof of continued annexation is wanting. Of the three unappropriated parishes—Aldhame, Bass and Oldhamstocks, the last had a large part of its revenues diverted, while the Bass can hardly be regarded as a legitimate parish since its erection as such was undoubtedly due to secular motives.

Of the twenty four appropriated parishes eleven, and possibly thirteen, had their vicarage teinds similarly annexed, all but two of these appropriations being to the foundation which held the rectorial rights. One exception was the vicarage of Aberlady which became a prebend of Dunkeld. In at least four other parishes however, the vicarages, although remaining independent, were frequently served by canons of the religious houses to which the rectorial rights belonged. This practice was common amongst canons regular and meant that all the revenues of the parish might be devoted to their own uses without a formal appropriation of the vicarage taking place. From time to time, however, even in those vicarages, secular priests served the cure and it would appear that in all four parishes, this was the case at the Reformation.

The diversion of parochial revenues in such ways could only lead to a weakening of the parochial structure, which then, as always, should have been the backbone of the ecclesiastical system. Underpaid vicars or chaplains became rapacious and grasping, while poor emoluments proved to be an attraction only to the man of little education, who had few other prospects. Both factors, greed and illiteracy, were to prove disastrous to the medieval Church and in any attempt to assess the causes of the Reformation, the appropriation of parish churches must be regarded as one of the most important.

### *Sources.*

References have been standardised to conform with those used by D. E. Easson in his *Medieval Religious Houses—Scotland*, 40-48, which in itself is referred to by its author's name. Sources not quoted therein are referred to as follows:—

Assumptions: Books of Assumption of the Benefices (Entries refer to main volume held at General Register House).

Diversorum: Papal Transcripts held at P.R.O. London.

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Reg: Pres: Register of Presentation to Benefices (MSS.; G.R.H.).

R.S.: Register of Supplications (Notes supplied by Dr Annie  
I. Dunlop).

Any other references are recorded in detail.

### 1. *Aberlady*

The lands of Aberlady belonged to the bishops of Dunkeld from at least the mid-twelfth century (*Dryburgh*, 70), and the parsonage would appear to have likewise pertained, for only a vicarage appears in Bagimond (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 48, 72). Still a mensal church at the Reformation (Assumptions, 317), while vicarage had become a prebend of Dunkeld, 1452x69 (*Mylne, Vitae*, 24; *R.M.S.* II. No. 1056; *R.S.S.* V. No. 2314).

### 2. *Aldhame*

A parsonage in Bagimond, the church remained unappropriated (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 33; *C.P.L.* II. 245; Assumptions, 184<sup>v</sup>).

### 3. *Athelstaneford*

The church with all its teinds was confirmed to nuns of Haddington in 1359, as donation of Richard, bishop of St. Andrews (1163-78), but original donor may have been Countess Ada, who founded nunnery (*R.M.S.*, II. No. 610; Assumptions, 166). Described as a 'chapel' in 1298 (*Priory of Coldingham*, CXII), possibly because the church was at that time served by removable chaplain. A vicarage appears to have been erected in the fifteenth century (*C.P.L.* XII. 114-116; *S.H.R.* XXXII. 93).

### 4. *Barra*

Alexander St. Martin, the patron of the church granted 5s. from its revenues to the priory of St. Andrews, 1178 x 1180 (*R.P.S.A.* 333-4). The patronage passed by marriage to family of De Morham, one of whom, Thomas, granted patronage to Holyrood before 1327 when church was granted thereto *in proprios usus* (*Lib. S. Crucis*, No. 90; Assumptions, 104). Vicarage served by canons in fifteenth century, retained its identity (*C.P.L.* XII. 217-8; Prot. Book of John Robesone, 1558-63, 32).

### 5. *Bass*

The chapel on the Bass, consecrated as a parish church in 1542, was newly erected as such in 1493, having been disjoined from North Berwick in

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order to secure the laird of Bass in certain valuable teinds (*Extracta e Variis Cronicis Scocie*, 255; G.R.H., Papal Bulls, No. 39). It continued as an independent parsonage (Reg. Pres., II. 65<sup>V</sup>).

### 6. *Bolton*

Probably William de Vipont or his wife Lady Emma of St. Hilary granted this church to Holyrood to which it was confirmed by Richard, bishop of St. Andrews (1163-1178), Pope Alexander III (1159-1181) and William de Vipont, son of original donor (c. 1200) (*Lib. S. Crucis*, Nos. 32-3, App. I, No. 2; Assumptions, 104).

### 7. *Bothans*

Dedicated as Yestrith, the church is known early as Bothans, and as such was made collegiate in 1421, when both parsonage and vicarage fruits were annexed to the provostry with certain reservations including a vicar's fee, the holder of which was to be a member of the college (*Yester Writs*, Nos. 53, 55; Assumptions, 177; Swynton Charters, No. 110).

### 8. *Dunbar*

Erected into a collegiate church in 1342, the teinds of the parish and its annexed chapels, with the exception of those of Whittingehame, fell mainly to the archpriest, who was to exercise the parochial duties through a curate (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 81-109; Assumptions, 177<sup>V</sup>). Five prebendaries of the college were however maintained from the revenues of the townships of Dunbar, Pinkerton, Spott, Belton and Pitcox, and certain teinds were annexed thereto, while the residual teinds of the parish and its chapels were held in common, as allowed for by the foundation charter (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 92-3; Assumptions, 173, 175, 176, 176<sup>V</sup>, 181; *R.S.S.* 55, 185<sup>V</sup>).

An attempt was made in 1501 to annex the archpriestship and the prebends within the parish, with the exception of Pitcox, to the Chapel Royal at Stirling, but this attempt, if not abortive, was certainly not lasting, and presentations to these prebends continue to speak of them as lying within the College of Dunbar (*Reg. C. R. Striv.*, 4, 14; *R.S.S.* II. No. 3755; III. No. 1649).

### 9. *Garvald*

The parish lands were largely held by nuns of Haddington, and church,

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which does not appear in Bagimond, was probably held from the nunnery's foundation. The church was certainly held by 1298 and so continued, while in the absence of a vicarage, it would appear that a parochial chaplain had been supported by the priory to serve the cure (*Priory of Coldingham*, CXII; Assumptions, 166<sup>V</sup>, 167<sup>V</sup>, 186<sup>V</sup>).

### 10. *Gullane*

The nunnery of South Berwick had certain rights in this church which were reserved when the patronage was granted to Dryburgh by William de Vaux c. 1170 (*Dryburgh*, Nos. 23, 25), but after some controversy South Berwick relinquished most of its claims in 1221, in which year the church was confirmed *in proprios usus* to Dryburgh (*Ib.*, Nos. 27, 35-37). The teinds remaining to South Berwick fell to Dryburgh with other possessions of that nunnery in the fourteenth century (*R.M.S.*, I. No. 832). A perpetual vicarage was created in 1268, being held from time to time by canons of the abbey (*Dryburgh*, No. 40; *C.P.L.* XII. 296; *R.S.S.* III. No. 3030).

### 11. *Haddington*

Granted with its chapels to the Priory of St. Andrews by David I, c. 1139, and confirmed by Richard, bishop of St. Andrews (1163-78) and *in proprios usus* by Bishop Roger (1189-1202), the parsonage remained annexed (*R.P.S.A.* 135, 153, 180; Assumptions, 19<sup>V</sup>).

A vicarage was erected 1202 x 38, but its connection, if any, with the collegiate form achieved by the parish church c. 1540 remains obscure, and in the absence of a proper constitution, the vicarage probably remained separate from the collegiate structure (*R.P.S.A.* 158; *R.S.S.* III. No. 2482; *Ib.* XLII, 90).

Certain revenues of the church were however granted to the nunnery by Bishop Richard (1163-78) and this grant, rather than one by the family of St. Martin, may be the origin of the chapel of St. Martin in the Nungate, which pertained to the nunnery by 1298 and so continued at the Reformation, when certain teinds granted by Bishop Richard are included in its valuation (*R.P.S.A.* 334; *Priory of Coldingham*, CXII; Assumptions, 166). The status of the church was probably quasi-parochial, although post Reformation presentations to the vicarage of Nungait do appear (*R.S.S.* XL. 19<sup>V</sup>).

*Hamcr*: — see Whitekirk.

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*Hauch*: — see Linton.

*Humbie*: — see Keith-Hundeby.

### 12. *Innerwick*

Apparently granted to Paisley Abbey by its founder, William FitzAlan (*Passelet*, 5); confirmed by Malcolm IV and (*in proprios usus*) by Richard, bishop of St. Andrews (1163-78) (*Ib.*, 117, 249; *R.M.S. V.* No. 2070).

The perpetual vicarage was united in 1468 to capitular mensa of Dunglass collegiate church (Theiner, *Vet. Mon.* 457; cf. *Scottish Benefices*, 166), but the vicarage was separately assessed at the Reformation (Assumptions, 179<sup>V</sup>).

### 13. *Keith-Hundeby*

Early history of parish is obscure due to subdivision of lands of Keith. Alexander I (1107-24) granted lands of Keith to Dunfermline and the tithes of these lands, but not the church, were confirmed by Robert, bishop of St. Andrews, 1150 x 53, as they were by his successors (*Dunfermelyn*, Nos. 2, 92-94). The church itself was granted to Kelso by Simon Fraser, c. 1160, and confirmed *in proprios usus* by Roger, bishop of St. Andrews, 1188 x 1200 (*Calchou*, Nos. 83, 85, 98).

In reign of David I, lands of Keith were sub-divided, the part belonging to Simon Fraser becoming known as Keith-Symon, latterly Keith-Hundeby, while another part belonging to one Harvey acquired title of Keith-Harvey or later Keith-Marischal. During twelfth century, the former was the parish church of Keith, and as such laid claim to the chapel of Keith-Marischal (q.v.). No mention occurs of tithes belonging to Dunfermline in disputes and such rights must have been small, probably in lands known as "addockis ket et Siwynis ket" which appear to have been adjacent to the parish of Crichton (*Dunfermelyn*, Nos. 113, 170).

The parsonage continued with Kelso, although revenues appear to have been devoted to use of cell of Lesmahagow (Assumptions, 245).

### 14. *Keith-Marischal*

Originally known as Keith Harvey, the church was claimed in 1176 as a chapel of Keith-Hundeby. A composition followed, shortly after which the church acquired parochial status (*Calchou*, Nos. 95-97; *S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 57). Thereafter, an independent parsonage until 1469, when both parsonage and vicarage erected into a prebend of St. Salvator's with provision for vicar-

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pensioner (Cant, *College of St. Salvator*, 28-9). Parsonage and vicarage fruits conjoined at Reformation, but no evidence as to continuance as prebend (Assumptions, 109).

### 15. *Linton*

The parsonage and vicarage were erected into a prebend of Dunbar Collegiate Church in 1342, with a vicarage pensionary (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 93; Assumptions, 174).

### 16. *Morham*

Assigned as a prebend to collegiate church of Bothans in 1421 (*Yester Writs*, No. 55), the church to be served by a parochial chaplain. It is uncertain whether annexation remained effective as only a parsonage appears at the Reformation (Assumptions, 174<sup>V</sup>).

### 17. *North Berwick*

Probably appropriated to nunnery of North Berwick c. 1150 by Duncan, Earl of Fife, the church was confirmed before 1199 (*S.H.S. Misc.*, IV. 308). A vicarage existed (Ib, VI. 58), but c. 1360 it also was annexed to the nunnery, with which all fruits continued, the parish being served by a vicar pensioner (G.R.H. Papal Bull, No. 23; Assumptions, 154-5; *Thirds of Benefices*, 89).

### 18. *Oldhamstocks*

Not appropriated, appearing as a parsonage in Bagimond and in the patronage of the Earls of Bothwell in the sixteenth century (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 34; *Dunglass Writs*, No. 1). Five pounds from parsonage teinds were however allotted to collegiate church of Dunglass in 1450/1, while Abbey St. Bothans held many teinds within the parish (*C.P.L.*, X. 219; Assumptions, 169<sup>V</sup>, 195; *Prot. Book of John Foular*, III. 447).

### 19. *Ormiston*

The church of Hormeston was confirmed to Kelso by Pope Innocent IV 1243 x 54 (*Calchou*, No. 460), but evidently an error as church had already been confirmed to uses of Hospital of Soutra 1211 x 26 (*C.C.M.*, 15-16). After several attempts to annex hospital and its revenues, this was achieved in 1460 with the annexation to Trinity College, Edinburgh, when the revenues of this church were re-allocated amongst four prebendaries (Easson, 157; *C.C.M.*, 58-61, 67, 151; *Thirds of Benefices*, 28; Reg, Pres. I. 115).

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Vicarage originally served by canons of Soutra, appears to have been annexed to prebends after 1460, although parsonage revenues alone specified in foundation (*C.P.L.* x. 164; *R.S.S.* IV. No. 83; *C.C.M.* 252).

The attribution of church of "Vrmistoun" to Lesmahagow (*Calchou*, 476) is a misreading of original MS. (cf. Assumptions, 247<sup>v</sup>).

### 20. *Pencaitland*

Granted to Kelso by Edward of Pencaitland, c. 1180, it was confirmed in *proprios usus*, 1188 x 1200 (*Calchou*, Nos. 13, 83, 369). Gift was ineffective however and a fresh grant made by John de Maxwell of Pencaitland and Sir John de Maxwell of Maxwell was confirmed to the uses of Dryburgh in 1343/4 (*G.R.H.* Supp. Charters; Assumptions, 193).

*Prestonkirk*: — see Linton.

### 21. *Saltoun*

Granted to Dryburgh by Hugh and Robert de Morville, and confirmed by Malcolm IV (1153-1165), the church was confirmed to the uses of the abbey, c. 1220, while a vicarage settlement took place in 1268 (*Dryburgh*, Nos. 6, 40, 237; Assumptions, 193).

### 22. *Seton*

Erected as a collegiate church after 22nd December, 1492 (Easson, 185), the entire fruits of the church were devoted to upkeep of provost and canons, who were responsible for cure of souls (*R.S.* 656, 131<sup>v</sup>; Assumptions, 112<sup>v</sup>).

### 23. *Soutra*

A parochial charge was combined with the hospital founded here, c. 1164, the cure being served by a perpetual vicar (*Priory of Coldingham*, CXVI; *R.S.* 503, 241). Several attempts were made to annex the hospital and its revenues in fifteenth century and this was finally achieved in 1460 by the successful annexation to Trinity College, when both parsonage and vicarage tithes were appropriated to the Provost of that college, who henceforth maintained a vicar pensioner (Easson, 157; *C.C.M.* 58-61, 65, 121-2).

### 24. *Tranent*

Granted to Holyrood by Thor, son of Swan, and subsequently confirmed by Seyr de Quincey, the parsonage remained with the abbey (*Liber S. Crucis*, Nos. 11, 36-38; Assumptions, 104). A vicarage settlement took place in 1251,



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but vicarage frequently served by canons (*Liber S. Crucis*, No. 75; *C.P.L.* XII. 735; *Diversorum*, Paul III, 1543-5, 122).

### 25. *Tynninghame*

While this church was reputedly granted to the Priory of St. Andrews by its first canon in 1144, the lands of Tynninghame belonged to the bishop of St. Andrews from an early date, and the patronage of the church appears to have likewise pertained (*Chronicles of Picts and Scots*, 193; *C.P.L.* I. 61; *S.H.S. Misc.*, VI. 58). The church was appropriated to the mensa of the archbishop of St. Andrews in 1473, but this proved ineffective and a fresh appropriation was required in 1487, while in the intervening years the church appears as a newly erected canonry and prebend of St. Salvators in 1485 (*Theiner, Vet. Mon.*, 469; *C.P.L.* XIII, 71; XIV. 180-1; *Scottish Benefices*, 214). These annexations proved transitory and in 1537 both parsonage and vicarage revenues were annexed to the College of St. Mary at St. Andrews, being confirmed in 1554 and so continuing (*Univ. Comm. Rep.*—St. Andrews, 357-358, 362-366; *Assumptions*, 75v).

### 26. *Whitekirk*

Originally known as Hamer, the lands were granted by David I to Holyrood, 1128 x 1136 while c. 1130 the church of the same was confirmed by Robert, bishop of St. Andrews (*Liber S. Crucis*, Nos. 1-2). No vicarage existed in 1251, while in 1356 the church was served by two canons (*Ib.* No. 75; *Scoinchronicon Lib.* XIV. cap. XIII, XIV). The parish church was confirmed *in proprios usus* in 1398, and a vicarage was erected thereafter, the parsonage continuing with the abbey (*Liber S. Crucis*, No. 110, App. II. No. 27; *Assumptions*, 104).

### 27. *Whittingehame*

The church was only quasi-parochial being largely dependent on Dunbar, although parsons do appear in thirteenth century (*S.H.S. Misc.*, VI 102). In 1342 it was erected with all its teinds as the prebend of the Dean in the Collegiate Church of Dunbar, with a vicar pensioner serving parish (*Ib.* 92; *Reg. Pres.* I. 50v; *Assumptions* 180).

*Yester*:— see Bothans.

IAN B. COWAN.

## CONFORMISTS AND NONCONFORMISTS

THE word "nonconformist" has never taken root in Scotland as in England. Paradoxically in a land of so many church divisions Scots presbyterians long had a strong aversion to what James Durham called "the sin of schism," and even the smallest and wildest fragment saw itself not as a sect but as "the suffering remnant of the true Church of Scotland." The settlement of 1690 destroyed this comprehensiveness since it left outside the national church two small but distinctive minorities, the Scottish Episcopal Church and, at the other extreme, the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Until then the words "Presbyterian" and "Episcopalian" described, not members of different churches, but men holding different principles within the one church.

It is probable that on the eve of the Reformation there was one priest for every 250 or 300 people in Scotland, not because of high devotion or comprehensive pastoral work, but because the priesthood was the entry to much professional work—particularly that of the law—now done by laymen. There was no employment for the majority of these in the Reformed Church, partly because they stood aloof from her, and partly because she could not use more than a fraction of them. The vast majority had done little or no pastoral work and preaching was beyond them in many cases. Yet many who had been priests became ministers of the Reformed Church, just how many it is hard to say. John Knox, the most notable of these men, never held a charge in his native county and the most outstanding East Lothian minister to have been a priest was Patrick Cockburn, minister of Haddington. Formerly a canon of Dunbar and rector of Pitcox, now known as Stenton, he was a scholar who had lectured at Paris. It was therefore quite natural that he should be made minister of the county's most prominent charge, but his interests in Haddington were already strong as he had long maintained an unsanctified liaison with the abbess. John Home of the Manderston family, another canon of Dunbar, became that town's first minister.

Various Hepburns, more or less closely related to the Earl of Bothwell, held benefices before 1560 in the eastern end of the county. One such, Thomas

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Hepburn, became minister of Oldhamstocks, while George Hepburn was minister of Prestonkirk until 1583 when he was succeeded by Robert Hepburn, the brother of Thomas. Of the three, Thomas had the most interesting career; a stout partisan of Queen Mary, he was unfortunate enough to be involved in the capture of the Casket Letters, sought to seize Dunbar Castle on Mary's behalf, and in 1568 and again in October 1576 was deposed from the ministry. Yet he held his parish till his death in 1585, leaving a visible memorial in the kirk to commemorate the fact. Others with such a background were Thomas Daill, minister of Stenton, "callit fra papistry to the true profession of the Gospel," and the notorious John Kello, minister of Spott, who was hung in 1570 for murdering his wife before the morning service. Austin canons frequently found their way into the Reformed ministry, partly because their traditions encouraged them to undertake pastoral work, and Andrew Blacklaw, minister of Ormiston and Pencaitland until 1570, Thomas Cranstoun, minister of Tranent from 1562 until his death in 1568, and his successor Alexander Forrester had all been black canons of Holyrood. Stephen Moffat, the pre-Reformation vicar of Tranent, continued after 1560 as reader and seems to have been on good terms with the ministers since one of them bequeathed him his gown. John Sharp, a graduate of St. Andrews, was the first minister of Tranent from 1560 until 1562, having previously served the Roman Church, but in June 1562 the Assembly observed with regret that he had left his charge, evidently because he had been starved out of it. Despite commands to return to the ministry he became an advocate, prospered at the law, received a knighthood in 1604, and founded the family of the Sharps of Houston in West Lothian.

In her first threequarters of a century the Reformed Church had troubles enough but lost few of her clergy. Surprising tolerance existed, in part because clergy were in short supply and in part because it was not easy to enforce the law completely in a disorderly country. John Morison, minister first of Yester and then of Garvald, left in 1577 and was admitted to the Anglican ministry by Edward Grindal, archbishop of Canterbury, having been "ordained to the holy ministry by the imposition of hands, according to the laudable form and rite of the Reformed Church of Scotland." John Gibson similarly came from the Church of England to be minister of Athelstaneford in 1601. His brother James who at different times was minister at Saltoun,

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Keith Marischall, Pencaitland, and Tranent, was in trouble both with the Assembly and the King, but escaped deposition. Richard Ogill of Innerwick appeared before the Privy Council in 1600, as did James Home of Dunbar and George Grier of St. Martin's in 1620, and John Ker of Prestonpans on various occasions, but all escaped deposition. This was soon to change.

Yet there were those who cared little for events outside their parishes. Some, like the vicar of Bray, were intent on keeping their benefices; some did not hide their prejudices or principles, but were too obscure to call down wrath; others, let us hope, were more interested in the service of Christ than in ecclesiastical warfare. James Reid of Garvald possibly belonged to the first class. Called to Garvald in 1578, he was deposed on 30 July 1589 for "non-residence, lang a cuming to his kirk on the Lord's Day, a player at table and cairts, and drinking quhill tene or elevine hours at nycht." A brother minister testified that his preaching was "sound, but very cauld." Nevertheless on 14 June, 1590 he was readmitted to his charge where he continued till his death in 1623. No changes in church government seem to have disturbed him. Later there were plenty of others who displayed total indifference to the revolutions of church affairs. At Athelstaneford James Carmichael became minister under the first episcopate in 1614, continued under the Covenanting regime, and raised no objection to the second episcopate, serving under it till his death in 1664. John Dalzell, minister of Prestonkirk from 1619 until 1669, and Robert Lauder, minister of Whitekirk from 1636 until 1674, displayed a similar indifference, but George Lauder, the son and successor of the second of these, did not inherit his father's outlook, for he declined to accept the revolution settlement and resigned his charge.

Despite popular opinion, the divisions of the Kirk have seldom taken place over theological issues; patronage, liturgical differences, and the relationship between church and state were the main bones of contention. While it was the second of these which let loose the wars of the Covenant, the third issue was the fundamental cause. Remote in London, ignorant of the intensity of Scots feelings, Charles I, devout but obtuse, in a few short years managed to make havoc of his canny father's work. For almost thirty years the Scots episcopate had existed successfully and had gone far to eliminate opposition when the high handed introduction of the Prayer Book of 1637 outraged Scots

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prejudices and principles. On Sunday 16 July, exactly a week before the celebrated riot at the first reading of the new liturgy in St. Giles, John Trotter was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Edinburgh—this being the first recorded instance of the diaconate in post-Reformation Scotland—and immediately afterwards presbyter. Evidently the new cleric was a convinced episcopalian, for he was the first victim of the Covenant in East Lothian. Instituted to the parish of Dirleton on the day of his ordination, he was accused on 18 April 1638 of intruding himself into the ministry by receiving deacon's orders and of a variety of other charges of which the most substantial was obviously that of "traducing the subscribers of the Covenant with the imputation of rebellion." Since the Presbytery refused to penalise him the appellants resorted to the Commission of Assembly which soon made short work of the youthful episcopalian. The Presbytery was now obliged to enforce the sentence and his institution was declared null and void. Though Trotter survived until 1664 he does not seem to have received any other Scottish charge after the restoration.

Probably John was the brother of Alexander Trotter who spent a troubled decade at Bara on the slopes of the Lammermuirs. Presented by Charles I on 29 September 1628 he became minister when David Ogill demitted the charge in 1629. Despite the fact that Trotter married Ogill's daughter the elder man seems to have resented the younger's presence and on this pretext the Synod on 28 April 1641 similarly declared his introduction to be null and void. More lies behind these two cases than meets the eye, but in Alexander's case the Synod showed some lenience, acknowledging that he had been "without anie blame of life these thirteen years" and arranging for his admission to the new and—at that time—singularly desolate charge of Tweedsmuir, where the new incumbent had a church but neither manse nor stipend. On 3 January 1639 the Commission of Assembly deposed William Maxwell of Dunbar. Probably his one offence was devout episcopalianism, but the Commission followed the unfortunate fashion now developing of facing him with such charges as "erroneous doctrine, meddling with the poor's box, tyrannical behaviour to his parishioners in urging their conformity to the Articles of Perth, declining both the Assembly and the Presbytery, and appealing to his Majesty." A strong covenanter replaced him. Richard Brown, minister of Saltoun, became a further victim when deposed by the Commission

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of Assembly in August 1644 for "speaking against the Covenant."

As the civil war lengthened bitterness deepened and the custom of inflicting foul abuse on all opponents of the regime, for which the example had been set by the prosecutors of the bishops at the Glasgow Assembly, became well established. Opposition to the covenanting theocracy slowly grew until the delivery of Charles into English hands and his obvious plight drew matters to a head. Charles, sorely humiliated, made terms with his Scots supporters in the "Engagement" which the Scots Estates accepted at the cost of an open breach with the Commission of Assembly. The Assembly, meeting in July 1648, launched a lengthy and immoderate attack upon the Engagement and all its supporters, calling on the people to withhold all support. Despite this a Scots army was mustered to make a belated effort for Charles, but at Preston all was lost before Cromwell's ironsides, excited covenanters from the west poured into Edinburgh, and the Estates fled before them. A virulent minority, backed by Cromwell, now controlled Scotland and the fanatics prepared for vengeance on the king's friends. In 1649 Andrew Bannatyne of Garvald, Robert Balcanquhal of Tranent, John Courtney of Bolton, and William Trent of the second charge of Haddington were summoned before the Commission for failing to oppose the Engagement. On 4 October Bannatyne was deposed for "profanation of the name of God, negligence in discipline, suspicion of fornication in 1641, and silence in the late Engagement." Thomas Turnbull, one of the Turnbells of Windygoul whose family tombstone in Tranent kirk-yard is a large flagstone marked with a bull's head *caboshed*, became minister of Morham under the episcopate and survived the Covenant until 1652 when he was accused of "frequenting the ale-house, and of having no sermon on Sabbath, though going about till the end of the week." He survived this and another charge in 1653, but was deposed on 28 February 1656 for celebrating a clandestine marriage.

But the most successful case of resistance to the bigots was that of the Balcanquhals of Tranent, members of a scholarly family devoted to Charles and episcopacy and kinsmen to the famous Dean of Durham. Suspended for a time in 1649, Robert Balcanquhal was later deposed by the Commission on a number of charges. He had supported the Engagement in various ways, had commented that while the prophet Jeremiah foretold disaster for the

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enemies of God he did not rejoice when their troubles came as did the covenanting ministers, and had shown a general lack of enthusiasm. His parishioners sympathised with him, for as soon as the father vacated the charge his son, Walter Balcanquhal, was unanimously elected by the heritors and elders. But the Presbytery, which knew that father and son shared the same outlook in supporting both bishop and liturgy, waged a lengthy warfare to expel them from Tranent. In February 1657 one of their number was sent to Tranent to preach but had to do so "amid the railings of profane people around the windows, and with Mr Walter addressing a crowd in the kirkyard, and afterward creating such disturbance as to oblige him to stop." In March Walter Balcanquhal was prosecuted before the presbytery in the usual abusive terms for "frequent tippling and tavern hunting" and in April he appeared before the Privy Council. Though the hare had run long his course was now finished; the heritors and session consented that a covenanting minister be installed provided that the Balcanquhals obtained the stipend while abandoning the manse, and on 1 April 1658 Thomas Kirkcaldy, a dependable covenanter, was admitted to the charge. Not being gifted with prophecy, he probably did not know how short was to be his tenure, for the covenanters were soon to suffer what they had inflicted on others.

Thus of the twentysix parishes of East Lothian seven saw their ministers deprived under the troubled reign of King Covenant. Maxwell of Dunbar was a man of some standing, but in 1638 the Presbytery seems to have stood behind the Covenant almost unanimously since Trotter of Dirleton was such a newcomer as to be negligible; with time this changed, particularly when national opinion was bitterly divided over the Engagement, and in this the county pursued much the same course as the nation.

The bad example of intolerance set by the covenanters was now to be followed to some extent in East Lothian, though not on the scale seen in the west, by their opponents. The covenanting extremists, retained in power by English troops, had long outstayed their welcome so that Edinburgh celebrated the king's return by special sermons, barrels of wine in the High Street, and—to the indignation of Wodrow—a firework display on the Calton Hill in which Oliver Cromwell was seen pursued by the devil until both went up in flames. The purists looked back on the first days of the Covenant with acute nostalgia.

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"As the bands of the Scottish Church were strong," wrote Kirkton, "so her beauty was bright; no error was so much as named, the people were not only sound in the faith, but innocently ignorant of unsound doctrine; no scandalous person could live, no scandal could be concealed in all Scotland, so strict a correspondence was there betwixt ministers and congregations. The General Assembly seemed to be the priest with Urim and Thummin, and there were not ane hundred persons in all Scotland to oppose their conclusions; all submitted, all learned, all prayed, most part were really godly, or at least counterfeited themselves Jews. Then was Scotland a heap of wheat set about with lilies, uniform, or a palace of silver beautifully proportioned; and this seems to me to have been Scotland's high noon." Others took a less lyrical view, and a glance over any kirk session minutes surviving from those days will show a different picture. The majority were unashamedly glad to see the monarchy restored.

Yet there were opponents of the regime, though few in East Lothian as compared with Ayrshire, and there were some who had cause to fear. East Lothian did not contain any of the first handful singled out for condign vengeance, but there were some obvious victims among the ministers. John Courtney of Bolton, who had been in trouble in 1649 for his failure to oppose the Engagement, evidently had pleased neither party, for at Whitsunday 1661 he thought it best to desert his charge and retire to Ireland for some time. On 11 June 1662 the Scots parliament passed an act restoring the rights of patrons under which all ministers inducted since 1649 were obliged to obtain nomination from patrons and institution from their newly installed diocesans before 20 September or suffer deprivation. This was the beginning of troubles.

On Sunday 26 October 1662 John Baird, the minister of Innerwick, lectured on St. Matthew xi, 20 and Joshua xxiv, 15-22, the latter passage being particularly appropriate for his purpose, and preached on Acts xx, 32. He told his people of the new law and that "he could not, with safety and peace of conscience, comply with the episcopal government, either to acknowledge it in its acts and exercise, or to subscribe to it as to its power (as was required of him) . . . he was now to lay down his ministry at his Masters' feet, and to preach his last to them, and then never, for ought he knew, to appear in this place to preach the everlasting gospel to them any more." On 29 October the Presbytery noted that he had deserted his charge and that it was



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now vacant. More unkindly, on 26 November they minuted that his admission to the charge had been contrary to the will of all the heritors, that he had been a forceful partisan and outspoken against the government. Kirkcaldy in Tranent also had to take the road and was replaced by his outed predecessor. Though Wodrow described the acts of parliament as "sealed with blood and many tears of people who had their beloved pastors torn from them and scattered into strange lands," the results, so far as East Lothian was concerned, were mild as yet. Various clergy in the county had been outspoken opponents of episcopacy, had alienated many, and now refused to conform to the act of 1662. Nevertheless they were left undisturbed. Robert Ker was left in the first charge of Haddington despite refusal to conform through the good offices, it was said, of the much maligned Lauderdale. George Pringle of Athelstaneford and Makghie of Dirleton also refused, though the latter's brother in Aberlady conformed, but were left undisturbed. But the most remarkable instance of clemency was that of John Sinclair of Ormiston, who had been one of the virulent party of the Protesters, opponents of the royalists and, indeed, of all moderate opinion. Despite the fact that he belonged to the group through which Cromwell had latterly controlled church life in Scotland after the suppression of the Assembly Sinclair was left untroubled in Ormiston for another twenty years. Thus, at the restoration settlement, of twentyeight clergy in the county, one deserted his charge, two were removed, and four open opponents of the regime were permitted to continue unmolested.

This short list tells how far the Covenant had lost its initial support, how widespread was the acceptance in East Lothian of the restored monarchy and episcopate, and of how reasonably tolerant—for that century—the new regime was. Had there been widespread and active support for the lost cause, as in Ayrshire, things might have been very different, but the covenanting cause was dead in East Lothian. Most of the ministers accepted episcopacy and many were its warm supporters. Thus Patrick Scougall, minister of Salton from 1659 until 1664, became Bishop of Aberdeen, his successor Gilbert Burnett later became Bishop of Salisbury, while Andrew Wood, minister of Spott from 1643 until 1665 and then of Dunbar from 1665 until 1675, became Bishop, first of the Isles, and then of Caithness. Lawrence Charteris, minister of Yester from 1654 until 1675, was also offered, but declined, a bishopric. Four ministers from the county, Walter Patterson of Bolton, Gilbert Burnett

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of Salton, Patrick Cook of Prestonpans, and Lawrence Charteris of Yester, were among the "Bishop's evangelists" sent to preach among the westland whigs in 1670. It is only necessary to compare these facts with the wild doings in Ayrshire and Galloway to realise that, whatever the west country may have thought, East Lothian accepted the restored episcopate more or less willingly.

Not until the passing of the Test Act in August 1681 did serious trouble arise in the county. Under this act all persons in public life were obliged to swear to the Protestant faith as in the Scots Confession of 1560, but though the incompetently worded act was aimed against dissidents on the other wing, it was soon discovered that it raised questions of conscience for episcopalians since, read in the light of current events, one passage could be interpreted as declaring the royal supremacy over the church in the fullest possible sense. The Scottish episcopalians shared with the presbyterians a calvinist background far removed from the erastianism current in England and no less than seven of them in East Lothian found themselves bound in conscience to resign their charges under this perverse act. James Gray of the second charge of Haddington, William Carmichael of Athelstaneford, Walter Patterson of Bolton, Robert Meldrum of Garvald, James Buchan of Prestonpans, James Graeme of Salton, and George Stephen of Yester all resigned. At Prestonpans a riot ensued; the schoolmaster was appointed to conduct service in the parish church, some of the heritors absented themselves, others came to see the fun, while the boys from the school shouted abuse, removed tiles from the kirk roof above the pulpit, and dropped turf and rubbish on the unfortunate preacher below. Meldrum, expelled from Garvald, immediately became minister of Yester, avoiding signature by the manoeuvre. John Sinclair of Ormiston, one of the extremists for whom it was really intended, found this act the last straw. In December 1682 he fled to Holland, followed by government papers accusing him of treason. Thus this piece of incompetence removed one real rebel at the cost of depriving the church of seven of its most devoted servants, and so caused the worst example of intolerance in the county since the troubles began. Yet the hold of episcopacy on East Lothian was too strong lightly to be shaken, as was to be revealed after 1690.

William of Orange had no inclination to be a persecutor. "We expect," ran the letter which the Lord High Commissioner presented in the king's name to the Assembly of 1690, "that your management shall be such as we shall

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have no cause to repent of what we have done. A calm and peaceable procedure will be no less pleasing to us than it becometh you. We never could be of the mind that violence was suited to the advancing of true religion; nor do we intend that our authority shall ever be a tool to the irregular passions of any party. Moderation is what religion enjoins, neighbouring churches expect from, and we recommend to you." However strongly he held the opinions, the words are not likely to be those of Dutch William, but probably are those of his chaplain, William Carstares, and there is significance in this, for the new leader of the Scottish Church, though held suspect by some of the small rump of dyed-in-the-wool presbyterians who alone found their way to the Assembly, had them well under control and was respected by them both as one who had suffered torture for the cause and as the son of a minister ousted from his parish for presbyterian principles. The Assembly swallowed the king's advice, for it was the mood of the new age. "After the violence for conscience's sake that we have suffered and so much detested . . . . if we ourselves should lapse into the same errors we should certainly prove the most unjust towards God, foolish towards ourselves, and ungrateful towards your majesty, of all men on earth . . . . Great revolutions of this nature must be attended with occasions of complaint . . . . so we assure your majesty that we shall study this moderation".

How this was fulfilled in one county of Scotland must now be seen. What was refused by William under the name of religious toleration was performed by his Scottish supporters under the name of political action. Of twenty-six beneficed clergy in East Lothian eleven were immediately deprived, three were later deprived, and one of the eleven had already been rabbled out of his charge. Of the remainder at least four are known to have been tolerated, though episcopalians. In only eight of the parishes can there have been clergy with any bent towards presbyterianism or even indifference on the matter. The action against opponents was on the largest scale yet seen.

Only at Spott was hostility to the incumbent shown. There the minister, Archibald Buchan, was roused from his bed about 3 a.m. on 27 January 1689 by three armed fanatics, led to the church half naked in the chill night air and then, in imitation of the act of institution as practised under the episcopate, formally deposed from the charge by depriving him of the pulpit bible and the

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keys of the kirk. As such acts were widespread in the west the one East Lothian exception merely points to the absence, on the whole, of public feeling. Legal measures soon followed.

Robert Ramsay of Prestonpans was deprived by the Committee of the Estates on 10 May 1689 for not reading the proclamation declaring the accession of William and Mary. Alexander Hamilton of Stenton was deprived four days later on the same charge, for not praying for William and Mary, and for reflecting upon the honour of the King and the Estates. George Sheal of Prestonkirk and John Cockburn of Ormiston came next on 29 August. Cockburn had committed the further offence of praying for King James and for confusion to his enemies. Later he became Anglican chaplain at Amsterdam, and finally rector of Northaw in Middlesex. Sheal, despite his loyalty to King James, had no sympathy with his Roman Catholicism, for in 1686 he had been prosecuted for declaring in a sermon "that the Pope was as little infallible as the Bishop of the Isles (i.e. his old neighbour, Andrew Wood of Dunbar) and that he would as soon believe that the moon was made of green cheese as believe in transubstantiation." Andrew Guild of North Berwick was inclined to hedge, alleging that the proclamation failed to reach him in time, but when pressed he admitted that he would not have read it in any case, and so was deposed on the same day as Cockburn and Sheal. John Gray of Aberlady, who later bequeathed his library to Haddington, was deposed on 12 September and Andrew Foulis of Innerwick on 19 September. Thomas Wood of Dunbar and Robert Lauder of Whitekirk also judged it best to resign about the same time. Thus William's advice on toleration came rather late in the day.

John Gibson of Oldhamstocks was deposed in 1690 for drunkenness, an offence on which country presbyteries usually turned a blind eye unless other charges existed, so it is likely that he shared the Jacobitism of his ejected colleagues. So late as 5 November 1719 Archibald Muir of Garvald was deposed by the synod for drunkenness, cursing, swearing, and the more heinous offence of saying that "the king had no more right to the crown than the moorcock." The days of theological discrimination had gone by; these men were extruded, not because they were episcopalians, but because they were jacobites.

Some escaped the purge. In Haddington James Forman, minister of the first charge, despite an episcopalian past adhered to the new regime, but

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his colleague in the second charge, George Dunbar, continued as an episcopalian so that presbyterian and episcopalian services were held alternately in St. Mary's until Dunbar's death in 1711. At Dirleton Lawrence Charteris was left untroubled and at Salton, a former victim of the Test Act elsewhere, Archibald Douglas, also escaped. Evidently Salton shared his outlook for when he died in 1696 the Presbytery was refused access to the church and had to resort to legal action. At Yester Robert Meldrum's jacobitism at first seems to have been ignored, but in his latter days church and state combined to act against him; it was in vain, for he held the charge till his death on 14 December 1699. The most likely cause of such toleration is the support of a powerful laird and the sympathy of a congregation willing to pay their teinds to an expelled pastor rather than to some unwanted newcomer of calvinist principles. Such were John Herbert, minister of North Berwick after Guild's expulsion, who had been prosecuted in other days for being in arms with an Ayrshire mob, and John Moncrief, who had been conducting a meeting house in Prestonpans before he was installed as minister in the place of his former rival, Robert Ramsay.

In Tranent, where the minister, James Gartshore, D.D., and the main heritor, the Earl of Winton, were both strong jacobites and episcopalians, the minister demitted the charge in 1689 and it lay nominally vacant until 1701. Even then the new minister, John Mutter, at first demurred at signing the formula. Seton Church may have been used by Lord Winton and his chaplain for episcopalian service, but Tranent Kirk also seems to have continued in episcopalian hands for when a member of the Presbytery was sent to conduct worship there on 4 December 1694 "he found great disturbance and a rabble throwing stones at those assembled to hear him, that the pulpit was occupied by Mr Bernard McKenzie, and that he had to conduct both diets of worship in the kirkyard." Mr McKenzie was, in fact, the extruded episcopalian minister of Cromarty who, deprived under the act of 25 April 1690, had been installed as Dr Gartshore's successor by Lord Winton. Long a thorn in the side of the Presbytery, when evicted from the parish church he continued to hold services at the foot of New Row in a farmhouse known variously as Bogle's Haugh, Bogle's Hole or, from his activities, Meeting House, until expelled from the bounds of the Presbytery by a special act of the Scots Parliament on 9 June 1695. Even so, the Presbytery failed to set a presby-

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terian of any hue in his place until the rather uncertain Mutter was inducted, "jure devoluto," in 1701. Being no calvinist, Mutter at first demurred at signing the formula, but later consented. In this case the determination of the Presbytery to take action, whatever the difficulties, probably owes much to Lord Winton's avowed jacobitism and his markedly high churchmanship. While many of his fellows attended services which, though episcopalian, were little different from presbyterian ones of the time, Lord Winton sponsored for use in Seton and the New Row meeting-house the edition of the 1637 Prayer Book issued in 1712 by James Watson "at his shop opposite the Lucken-booths." All this came to a sudden end when he took part in the ill fated '15 and Seton Church was sacked by the military.

Cases of crown oppression of laymen in East Lothian for covenanting principles are notoriously few, and the list of fines imposed on its landed proprietors in 1662 is trivial compared with most counties, so that there is every reason to think that congregations shared the outlook of their pastors. One exception may be noted. The Hamiltons of Preston displayed intense loyalty to the crown under the Covenant, but forfeited the recompense they might have enjoyed after 1660 by reversing their principles. This brought them to ruin. Sir Robert Hamilton, the last of them for many a day to have any connection with Prestonpans, led the covenanters at Bothwell Bridge, spent much of his life in hiding or exile, and was an extremist out of touch with the majority of his county as with most of his countrymen. Despite this, the county in 1690 produced no support whatever for the rump of extremist presbyterians who formed the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Beside this must be set the lack of support for the Episcopal Church after 1690. Evidently the laity of the county, whatever their loyalty, were not so committed as to abandon the national church and become sectarians. This, rather than any persecution following on the '45, was the cause of the great weakness of the episcopalians after 1690, so that, for all the number of outed clergy there was little opposition to the parish clergy in the county during the eighteenth century.

Some examples of tolerated episcopalians have already been cited, but the most interesting is that of Archibald Lundie, who succeeded Douglas in Salton in 1696. When the young Alexander Carlyle toured the manses of

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Haddington Presbytery in 1744, he found Lundie, who had evaded signing the Westminster Confession and had protested to the Assembly of 1705 against it as "a tyrannical imposition," still in Salton manse . . . . "a pious and primitive old man, very respectful in his manners and very kind. He had been bred an old Scotch Episcopalian, and was averse to the Confession of Faith; the Presbytery showed lenity towards him, so he did not sign it till his dying day, for which reason he never could be a member of the Assembly." Accordingly this episcopalian minister died on 4 November 1759, in the 96th year of his age and 64th of his ministry, Father of a Presbyterian Kirk of Scotland. The new generation of clergy, presbyterian or episcopalian, shared much of his outlook so that, when at the end of the nineteenth century declaratory acts were passed by the three presbyterian churches modifying the terms of signature to the Westminster Confession, the United Presbyterian and Free Churches, formerly strict in their calvinism, made careful and detailed statements, but the Church of Scotland passed a vague and casual act; for almost two centuries she had ceased to bother much about the Confession.

The eighteenth century secessions found little root in East Lothian. Nine such congregations were founded in East Lothian between 1742 and 1795. None of them flourished much. They owed their existence to intense devotion among the laity, dissatisfaction with clergy like that minister of North Berwick whom Carlyle described as "a dry, withered stick, cold and repulsive in his manner," and discontent with Moderate nominees in vacancies. They owed their small numbers and frequent decline to continual quarrelsomeness and the determination of their members to get their own way in everything. Never did a minister from an East Lothian parish join the Seceders. The Moderates of the Presbytery shared the outlook of men like Robertson of Gladsmuir and Home of Athelstaneford by way of descent from their episcopalian predecessors.

This was to change in the early nineteenth century when evangelicals rapidly increased and the outcome is seen in the Disruption of 1843. Never before had a division in the church had such a response in East Lothian. No less than fifteen ministers from the county joined the Free Church. Three had been ministers of the *quoad sacra* charges of Cockenzie, Belhaven, and St John's, Haddington, but twelve of the twentyfive parish ministers also came

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out, leaving the parishes of the first charge of Haddington, Ormiston, Dirleton, Garvald, Humble, Innerwick, Pencaitland, Prestonkirk, Prestonpans, Bolton, Salton, and Yester. In all these parishes Free Churches were founded, and also in Dunbar, North Berwick, and Tranent, though Bolton and Salton were served jointly by one charge. The initial support was not maintained; only in Cockenzie, Prestonpans, and North Berwick did the congregations increase in number during the nineteenth century, and everywhere else their life was tenuous and declining. The three exceptions are due to social circumstances uncharacteristic of the county, at Cockenzie the fishermen, at Prestonpans the small industries, and at North Berwick the influx of moneyed and middleclass residents. In the rest of the county two main groups existed, the large farmers and their many workers, neither of whom, for different reasons, cared for the Free Church, while the country tradesmen, such as blacksmiths and wheelwrights, who supported the Free Church, were in steady decline. East Lothian then offered many material attractions to a parish minister; he was more or less free from dissenting competition, the church buildings were well cared for, the manse outstanding, and the teinds, on the average, the highest in Scotland. In towns ministers who joined the Free Church actually gained, after initial inconvenience, but it was very different in the country where the minister lost church, manse, income, friends, and standing all at once. Free Church stipends, while equalling or exceeding parish church stipends in populous areas, commonly dropped to a third or a quarter of the teind stipends in a county like East Lothian. It is therefore all the more notable that in 1843 the East Lothian clergy joined the Free Church to a degree far above the national average. In East Lothian fifteen ministers out of twentyeight joined the Free Church while over the country as a whole only 451 out of 1203 did so. In particular, twelve of the twentyfive parish ministers left the national church while over the whole country only 289 out of 924 did so. Nowhere else did those leaving make so great a sacrifice; nowhere else did they go in such numbers; and the fact must stand forever to their honour.

JAMES BULLOCH.



# THE BIRDS OF ABERLADY BAY

## NATURE RESERVE

### *INTRODUCTION.*

The marshes and flats of Aberlady Bay have long been known as the haunts of wildfowl and waders and, as such, have received a considerable amount of attention from those interested in birds.

In March, 1949, we decided to make at least weekly visits to the Bay in order to ascertain as accurately as possible the status of the various species frequenting the area throughout the year, and these visits are still being carried on at the time of writing. It was found after two or three years that there was a definite pattern to the migrations of several species; but, in order to prove this, more evidence had to be collected before conclusions could be drawn.

The area was declared a Local Nature Reserve on 12th December, 1952, and is administered by a management committee appointed by the East Lothian County Council.

Our records extend up to the end of 1959.

### *ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:*

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and George Waterston for practical assistance and advice on many aspects of the report.

### *GENERAL DESCRIPTION:*

Aberlady Bay lies 15 miles to the east of Edinburgh and is skirted to the south and east by the main road to North Berwick. The total area included in our weekly survey is approximately 500 acres, of which about three quarters is covered daily by the tides.

The tidal area consists of sand flats with a stretch of mud at the mussel-beds, while the rest is made up of low-lying rocks, marshy heathland, saltings, sand dunes and a small area of mixed woodlands. The Marl Loch, which was once an open sheet of water, is now very much silted up and overgrown, but still provides an interesting habitat. The saltings are normally covered with pools, especially after very high tides or prolonged rains. Artificial pools have also been made recently in the hope that they will attract waders and duck.

Other interesting features of the area which deserve special mention are the sea-buckthorn spinneys situated near the Marl Loch and the woods, the low sand-spit near the top of the saltings, and the Peffer Burn. This stream winds past the woods where it is lined with tall reeds, which give way to muddy banks as far as the bridge, and thereafter it meanders through the mussel-beds to the sea.

### *METHOD OF COUNTING:*

Our routine for counting the birds depended on the tide. If it was in, it was best to walk slowly along the edge of the water, estimating or counting as accurately as possible all waders and duck seen. If we were by ourselves the waders would just fly past us and counting would be comparatively simple; but often, if other people or bird-watchers were on the tide-line, the birds had nowhere to land and flew west out of the Bay into the neighbouring Gosford Bay, so that the count had to be made at long range. When the tide was out, we had to walk right out, usually from Gullane Point, along the edge of the water, turning up and following the Peffer Burn through the mussel-beds. On the occasions when we had to do this the numbers of waders recorded were naturally less than at a high tide count, because of the scattering of the birds when feeding.

From the counts made over the eight years we constructed graphs for the commoner duck and waders, which revealed at a glance the peaks of migration. These peaks were remarkably consistent but often, where in one

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year there was a large spring passage, the following year the corresponding passage was divided into two separate but smaller peaks.

Other areas were also counted regularly every week. Off Gullane Point the numbers of sea-duck proved interesting and worth investigating, and the Point was also ideal for watching visible migration. The dunes were very unproductive, but regular observations at the Marl Loch gave a good indication of the Snipe passage. The muddy sides of the Peffer Burn below the woods were an excellent habitat for migrant Common Sandpipers, and their spring and autumn passages were therefore always accurately charted. All the woodland birds were counted and, in the later years, checked for colour-rings.

### *NUMBER OF SPECIES:*

We have acceptable records for a total of 190 species and 7 sub-species seen in the Bay, while a further 5 species have been included in square brackets because of the uncertain nature of the records. It is most probable that there are further records lying in notebooks and we should be very grateful to receive them to complete the picture of the bird-life of this most interesting area.

### *CLASSIFIED NOTES ON SPECIES.*

*BLACK-THROATED DIVER:* We have several notes of this species which probably occurs more often than the records show. All have been seen off Gullane Point or the nearby rocks in various phases of plumage. The oldest record we have is of one observed on 27th December, 1909 (*A.S.N.H.* 1910, 210). We found that most of our records could be divided into two groups—those of birds seen in September or October presumably on their way south, and those of birds seen in March returning to their breeding grounds in the North. Most of the records are of single birds but on two occasions two have been seen.

*GREAT NORTHERN DIVER:* We have surprisingly few records. Up to four were seen at the end of October, 1902 (*A.S.N.H.* 1903, 209), and one was noted during the last few days of December, 1933 (*E.V.B. & L.J.R.*), while we ourselves have seen them on six occasions; on one of these occasions a slightly oiled bird was found stranded on the high water mark at low tide.

*WHITE-BILLED DIVER:* There is no record of this rare diver until 12th November, 1955, when one was watched off Kilspindie Point (*S.N.* 1956, 57-8). Subsequently, this bird was seen on several occasions, either in Aberlady Bay or in the neighbouring Gosford Bay, until 8th April, 1956. A

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bird which was probably a White-billed Diver was seen off Gullane Point in rough weather on 25th November, 1956, while one was picked up dead on 3rd January, 1957.

*RED-THROATED DIVER*: This is undoubtedly the commonest diver. Our first record—of 22 on 18th July, 1886—is somewhat unusual in both number and date (Rintoul & Baxter, 1935, 324). We have recorded divers on nearly every visit during the winter and they are most often of this species. As with the Black-throated Diver, there is a definite passage in spring and autumn, when flocks of up to 23 have been noted.

*GREAT CRESTED GREBE*: Surprisingly scarce, considering that they are seen in numbers further up the Firth during autumn and winter. Five were seen in December, 1933 (E.V.B. & L.J.R.) and two in December, 1934 (A.D.W.). We observed our first on 12th August, 1950, and each winter an odd bird or two turns up, usually off the Point, but occasionally diving in the Bay at high tide. During the early months of 1954, especially during March, there was an influx of grebes due, most probably, to bad sea conditions, and "several" of this species were seen (D.I.M.W.).

*RED-NECKED GREBE*: On 12th December, 1927, Dr O. H. Wild saw a single bird (S.N. 1929, 86) but it was not until the beginning of September, 1950, that it was recorded again (R.W.J.S.). Since then it has been recorded sporadically, up to six being watched on two separate occasions.

*SLAVONIAN GREBE*: Seen regularly throughout the winter, being commonest in March when up to eight have been observed.

*BLACK-NECKED GREBE*: Compared with the number of records from the neighbouring bays, there are surprisingly few notes from Aberlady. In fact, the first Black-necked Grebe was not recorded until 2nd January, 1951, and since then only two others have been seen.

*LITTLE GREBE*: One was picked up newly dead at the edge of one of the small pools in the dunes on 23rd May, 1954, and another was seen at high tide on 12th October, 1958. From 10th October, 1959, a single bird spent at least a fortnight on the Peffer Burn (A.M.) and one was seen in the Bay on 27th December, 1959.

*MANX SHEARWATER*: One noted flying down the Forth off Gullane Point on 9th May, 1954, constitutes the only record we have. This is rather surprising considering their frequent occurrence in the Firth of Forth.

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*FULMAR*: Has been seen during most months of the year but is commonest during April and May and from July to September. Up to nine have been observed together but usually just an odd bird flying past Gullane Point. On 19th June, 1951, two Fulmars were seen flying over the trees near the grounds of Luffness House. They came in from an east-south-east direction at a height of about 50 feet and flew directly above us, heading for Gullane Point.

*GANNET*: This species has been seen in every month of the year, though it is naturally much scarcer during the winter. Gannets usually start to come back in force during the latter half of February, but more than 15 are seldom noted on one visit. More than 200 were counted on 5th August, 1950, diving close in off the Point and, as several porpoises were in their midst, it must be presumed that there was a very large shoal of fish passing along the coast.

*CORMORANT*: This is another bird which is regularly noted on nearly every visit to the Point. It is usually seen flying past, but frequently a number will sit on the sand along the edge of the tide when it is low, and "dry" their wings. There are generally about 10 or 15, but occasionally up to 100 birds may be seen. A bird ringed as a nestling on the Farne Islands in June, 1955, was picked up dead on 15th January, 1956.

*SHAG*: As appears to be the general case along the shores of the Firth of Forth, this species is noted with less frequency, and in smaller numbers, than the Cormorant, except in the breeding season; but it has been noted in every month of the year.

*HERON*: Occurs regularly outside the breeding season. Up to 5 birds have been seen together, but single birds are the most usual. The Peffer Burn is naturally the most favoured place, both near the woods and around the mussel-beds, but on a few occasions we have seen birds flying past the Point as if on migration.

[*LITTLE BITTERN*: Rintoul and Baxter (1935) mention a male that was shot at Luffness on 23rd June, 1867, and we have included it in the list for the Bay as we think it may have been killed within the boundaries of our area].

*BITTERN*: One which had been dead for some months was found beside the marsh on 6th April, 1908 (*A.S.N.H.* 1908, 183) while Rintoul & Baxter (1935) state that one was seen near Gullane between 26th and 30th May in the same year.

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*MALLARD*: Each year two to four pairs breed in the Reserve.

During winter Mallard are present in comparatively large numbers, being most numerous from the beginning of November to the end of February.

December has generally given the highest counts, and in the most recent years numbers have been as high as 500 but usually between 425 and 475.

An interesting development is the increasing number of Mallard frequenting the Bay since counts began in 1950. Every year since the winter of 1951/52 the average number of birds present each month shows an increase over the previous winter, and by 1955/56 over four times the number of duck formerly seen were being counted regularly. It is significant that the increase first began when the Bay was made into a Local Nature Reserve with shooting restricted but, though no similar tendency can be detected for the Forth area, it must not be assumed automatically that the cessation of shore shooting was responsible. Other factors such as food, or an increase in shooting at Tynninghame, may have influenced numbers.

One further point is that until 1954/55 nearly all the Mallard kept beyond the bar during the day. In that winter it was noticed that some of the Mallard were beginning to remain in the mussel-beds at low tide, and since then many of the Mallard stay in this area. The reason for this cannot be stated definitely but it seems most likely that the stopping of day-light shooting has encouraged the birds to remain on the mussel-beds.

*TEAL*: This species is much scarcer than expected and it seems that most of those seen are passage birds, appearing more frequently during the autumn and spring months than at other times. Up to 17 have been recorded in one day but 5 or 6 are most usual.

*GARGANEY*: Has bred. In 1928 J. Ritchie reported a male; two females were seen on 5th May, and a week later a nest with 7 eggs was found; these were chipping by the 15th of the month. As two females were present, a second nest may have been in the neighbourhood but this was never proved with certainty. This was the first breeding record for Scotland (S.N. 1928, 77-80).

On 15th April, 1950, a pair was seen on the Marl Loch by ourselves and G.L.S. They were seen on every subsequent visit till 14th May, when only the male was present; it was then thought that the female must be sitting, but the following week the two birds were back together again on the marsh, where they were last seen on 28th May.

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A pair returned to this marsh on the rather late date of 27th May, 1954, and on 29th May and 3rd June the drake was seen flying about alone. Again it was assumed that the duck was sitting but neither bird was seen again.

In both these cases of probable attempted breeding, the birds may have bred but had their nests destroyed either by human beings or, more likely, by weasels, stoats or rats; we have several examples of such destruction in ground-nesting species each year. It may be mentioned that, to avoid disturbance, no search for the nest was made.

A single drake was seen on the pools on 25th May, 1959 (J.B.).

**GADWALL:** The only record we have is of five seen on the mussel-beds by R.F.G. on 26th September, 1953.

**WIGEON:** The first of these delightful duck appear in August or September, but it is not until the following month that numbers begin to rise. The highest counts of the winter—250 to 300 birds—are made in December, but sometimes there is a smaller secondary peak in February. The Wigeon begin to leave in March, and April normally sees the last of them.

Like the Mallard, the Wigeon have increased recently and, again, the rise began just after the Bay became a Reserve. The average number of Wigeon counted over the four weeks in December, for instance, increased from 77 in 1949 to 162 in 1952, and to a maximum of 310 in 1957. The cessation of unrestricted shore-shooting was probably the main reason for this rise in numbers, but a possible increase in their chief food, *Zostera marina*, may have been a contributory factor.

The Wigeon keep to the mussel-beds at low tide, feeding on the *Zostera*, while at high tide they often float up and guzzle the bright green *Enteromorpha intestinalis* just below the saltings.

**PINTAIL:** Recorded several times each year, normally single birds but up to four have occurred. From January to the middle of April, 1950, they were seen on five visits, while in the corresponding period of 1954 they were again noted on five occasions. Two birds were seen on 24th May, and there was a further pair on 17th October, 1954.

**SHOVELER:** The first occurrence of this species at Aberlady Bay, and the only breeding record, was reported by Jardine in 1843 when a female with a nest and eggs was found (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935). Recently the Shoveler has occurred annually at all seasons, usually singly or in pairs.

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*SCAUP*: The history of this species at the Bay is tantalisingly vague. Rintoul and Baxter (1935 and 1953) mention that a "good many frequent Aberlady Bay," while it was "plentiful" at Aberlady on 28th September, 1901 (S.N. 1902, 133). Other odd notes such as "fair numbers off-shore" on 22nd November, 1931, "small parties" on 29th September and "a flock" on 10th March, 1929, all convey the impression that Scaup could be expected in the Bay during the winter. We found a different situation when we started accurate counting of the birds of the area in 1949.

From 12th February to 2nd April, 1950, up to three were seen on nearly every visit, but subsequently only single birds were recorded on four occasions up to November, 1953. Two birds on 22nd November, 1953, must have been on passage as neither was seen again, but on 7th February, 1954, the influx of Scaup in many parts of Great Britain was reflected at Aberlady Bay in a small way, when five were seen. This total can be compared with a count which we made in the Leith Docks-Seafield area on the previous day when we estimated 10,000 Scaup, against the usual population of 1,500 to 2,000, with a maximum of 2,500. By 21st February, 1954, numbers at Aberlady Bay had increased to eleven and they reached a peak of thirty birds in mid-March. A gradual decrease followed and the last bird was noted on 25th April. It may be worth mentioning that we repeated our counts off Leith Docks and Seafield on 6th March, 1954, and arrived at a total of 7,000 birds.

Towards the end of 1954 we thought numbers were coming in again when eighteen suddenly appeared on 3rd October, but these were gone by the following week. However, on the 24th of the month there were three, and on 27th November one still remained.

Except for one or two isolated records, nearly all the Scaup were seen feeding on the Pepper Burn, or above it at high tide, mostly near the mussel-beds.

It can be seen that, apart from the early months of 1954, when the influx was widespread, Scaup can be classed as scarce winter visitors. This is a change from fifteen or twenty years ago. The last flock reported prior to 1954 was of fifteen birds on 31st March, 1942, and we think it can therefore be safely assumed that Scaup were common or fairly common winter visitors up to 1942. We are unable to discover the reason for this change.

*TUFTED DUCK*: The only old records we have are of one seen on 20th April, 1902, and several from 19th to 22nd October that year (A.S.N.H. 1903,



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152); a male was recorded off the Point on 18th May, 1933, an unusual date and place. More recently single birds were seen in 1951 and 1952 and two females remained for three weeks from mid-February to the beginning of March, 1956.

*POCHARD*: There is an old report of two drakes in the Bay on 14th October, 1902 (*A.S.N.H.* 1903, 152) but the only other note is of a male on 9th October, 1944.

*GOLDENEYE*: Recorded regularly each winter in small numbers usually three to six but up to nine seen. Most of them are well within the Bay.

*LONG-TAILED DUCK*: Regularly seen off Gullane Point each winter and spring, four or five being the average number.

*VELVET SCOTER*: Has been recorded in every month of the year but there are two marked peaks of passage. The first and greater occurs in October when numbers exceed 200 in some years, and there is a lesser spring passage in March and early April. Old records which we have dating back to 1901 bear this out.

*COMMON SCOTER*: The status of this bird is much the same as that of the Velvet Scoter except that it is much more common, with numbers on passage normally about 250 and occasionally up to 1,500 or even 2,000. Immature birds are present throughout the summer, and in 1955 an exceptionally large party of 1,500 remained.

*EIDER*: In a normal year five or six pairs nest amongst the dunes and on the saltings, but unfortunately breeding success is very poor owing to disturbance. If the bird is flushed from its eggs it will not return while people are in the vicinity and this allows predators to raid the nest and take the eggs.

A gathering of moulting birds takes place in August and September off the Point when 300 to 500 may be present. Numbers fall away during the winter months, and build up again in early spring before breeding begins.

*RED-BREASTED MERGANSER*: Of frequent occurrence at all seasons except in summer when it is uncommon. A noticeable passage takes place in August and September when up to 100 may be seen off the Point.

*GOOSANDER*: Much rarer than the preceding species, and has been recorded only twice, on 4th May, 1918 (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935) and on 7th May, 1952.

*SMEW*: The only record of this duck was on 7th February, 1954, when

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a female was seen off Gullane Point.

*SHELDUCK*: The breeding population stands at about five pairs although there are always approximately fifteen non-breeding birds in the Bay during May and June. Owing, no doubt, to their hole nesting habits, the number of young hatched is fairly high, but when small the chicks are very susceptible to attacks by crows and gulls.

By the beginning of August nearly all the adults have left to moult elsewhere and it is not till the beginning of December that numbers begin to build up again. This build-up continues until a peak is reached during February and March when 80 to 100 occur in the Bay; thereafter numbers fall again to the summer population. On 2nd August, 1953, three almost fully fledged chicks were caught and ringed and on 6th January, 1954, one of them was shot at Kings Lynn, Norfolk.

*GREY LAG GOOSE*: Has never been common at Aberlady but prior to 1939 small numbers wintered (Baxter and Rintoul, 1953). Since then, only small parties have visited the Bay annually, though on 29th December, 1956, about 150 were seen coming in to roost.

*WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE*: A rare visitor to the Bay. H. W. Robinson recorded that it had been seen several times—usually single birds but once a party of four (S.N. 1913, 44). The only recent record is of a party of five, early in 1956 (I.J.P.).

*BEAN GOOSE*: At one time this was *the* goose of the Lothians, but about 1870 (Baxter and Rintoul, 1953) a decrease began, and in this area Pink Feet gradually began to replace the Bean until, at the present day, it is extremely rare. The only record during the past ten years is of two on 16th September, 1956.

*PINK FOOTED GOOSE*: As mentioned under Bean Goose, this species began to frequent the Bay in the late 19th century, and has continued to do so until the present day, although in fluctuating numbers.

Nowadays, there is apparently a small wintering population of roughly 250 birds which is augmented, especially during hard weather, by much larger numbers from inland; for instance, 1,000 were seen on 18th December, 1949, and 3,000 to 4,000 were estimated on 20th November, 1955. Our largest total was on 30th November, 1958, when some 4,250 were counted. Usually the geese come to the Bay only to roost, but on occasions they spend some

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hours resting and bathing during daylight.

*BRENT GOOSE*: Turnbull (1867) mentions this bird as being abundant on the East Lothian coast in winter, and up to about 1930 it apparently remained a regular visitor though in smaller numbers (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935). From then on a definite decrease took place until the present day when it is a very irregular winter visitor.

The largest number seen recently was twenty-three birds of the Pale-breasted form which remained for about a week from 14th February, 1953. Two birds of this form were also present from 23rd to 30th November, 1958. Two Dark-breasted birds were seen on 31st October, 1954, and seven on 13th December, 1959, were still there a week later but down to three by the 27th. Other Brent Geese were single birds recorded from 12th November to 4th December, 1954, and on 16th and 17th October, 1955.

*BARNACLE GOOSE*: Always an uncommon goose in the Bay. All but one of the dated records we have refer to birds seen in October—indicating passage. The only recent records are of a flock of twenty-one on 15th October, 1950, a family party of four on 6th and 7th October, 1956, and a flock of ten flying past on 3rd October, 1958 (J.B.).

*CANADA GOOSE*: This goose was frequently seen in the Bay up to the 1930's when a small colony of semi-domesticated birds was kept at Gosford and Archerfield estates. Since these birds have gone, this species has been recorded once only, a party of three being seen on 1st January, 1952 (G.L.S. & G.W.).

*MUTE SWAN*: Has never nested in the Reserve but ones and twos have been recorded in most months of the year. During November and December, 1954, a pair and two immatures turned up accompanied by up to four other adults. The only other large party was fifteen on a very stormy day at the end of November, 1956.

*WHOOPEE SWAN*: Occurs annually in small parties, between October and March, and up to nine have been counted.

*BEWICK'S SWAN*: On 20th October, 1926, a dead Bewick's Swan was examined by Dr O. H. Wild (S.N. 1926, 178); the only other record is of three passing Gullane Point on 17th December, 1950.

*BUZZARD*: A single bird on 3rd September, 1950 (E.B.B. 1, 21) is, surprisingly, the only record we have for the Bay.

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*ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD*: A bird of this species was seen soaring over the Bay on 25th March, 1956 (*E.B.B.* VI, 41).

*SPARROW-HAWK*: Has occurred sporadically though there has been no record since 1953.

*MARSH HARRIER*: Turnbull (1867) mentions the Marsh Harrier as frequenting the links but it has never been recorded since.

*HEN HARRIER*: The only definite record which we have of the Hen Harrier is of one — probably the same bird — watched on two occasions in February, 1956 (*E.B.B.* VI, 29).

*PEREGRINE*: A regular visitor, especially in winter when it is undoubtedly attracted by the large numbers of small waders.

*MERLIN*: Occasional in winter but generally regular as a migrant. This was very noticeable in October, 1956, when one or two were seen on every visit.

*KESTREL*: Though it has never bred in the Reserve, the Kestrel is very frequently seen at all seasons hovering over the saltings and heathland.

[*RED GROUSE*: There is a very remarkable record of a bird of this species seen beside one of the tracks in the Reserve on 4th March, 1951. The nearest suitable ground for the species must be about ten miles away (*E.B.B.* I. 48).]

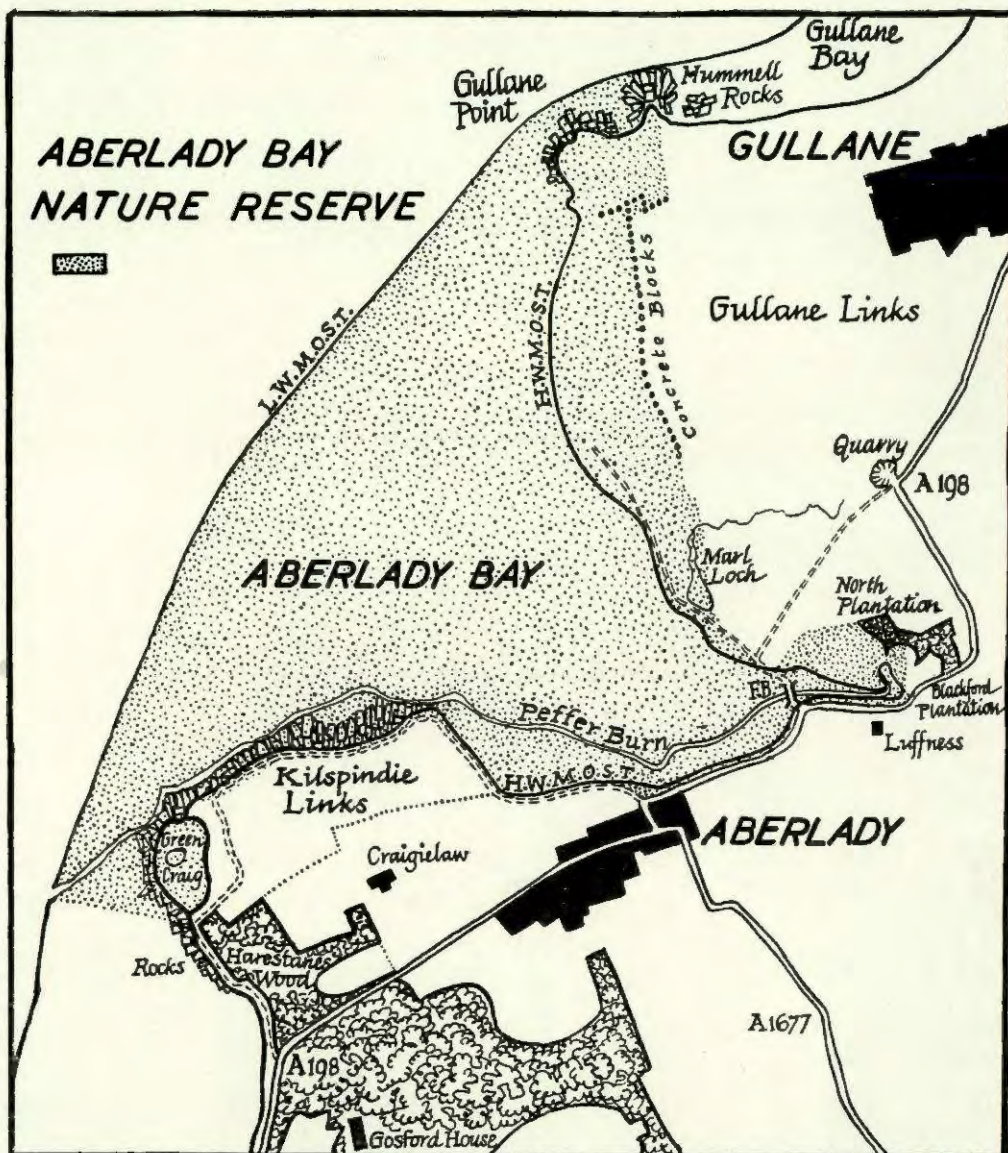
*PARTRIDGE*: Between two and four pairs normally breed in the Reserve and one can usually flush a covey of twelve to fifteen in the winter months.

*PHEASANT*: Seen fairly regularly in the woods bordering Luffness and has nested.

*WATER RAIL*: A few single birds have been seen in winter, mostly in the tall reeds by the woods though one or two have been heard and watched on the main marsh. They have been noted mainly between October and December but we have only two recent records—on 11th December, 1955, and on 27th September, 1959.

*CORNCRAKE*: Heard on 12th May, 1951, in a field adjoining the west side of the Bay (*D.I.M.W.*).

*MOORHEN*: About four pairs breed annually, both in the marsh and by the stream in the woods. It is possible that there is some dispersal in winter as numbers tend to decrease, though, with such secretive birds, accurate counts are difficult.



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The Timber Bridge over the Peffer Burn, as the tide falls to expose the mud.  
T. Weir.



The woods and reeds along the upper reaches of the Peffer Burn.  
T. Weir.





The Marl Loch, showing part of the marsh and one of the sea-buckthorn spinneys.  
A. T. Macmillan,



Gullane Point from the south showing dunes covered with marram grass. T. Weir.





The tidal mud-flats of the Bay in the evening.

T. Weir.



Looking east up the Kilspindie side of the Bay—note the beds of mussels on the mud and round the old boats.

A. T. Macmillan.



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*COOT*: Normally occurs only in severe winters when its usual haunts have been iced up for some time. In 1954, for instance, Coot were in the Bay between 31st January and 21st March, up to six being seen at one time. A single bird was seen on 18th May, 1934 (A.D.W.); and one was seen twice in July, 1958—both unusual dates.

*OYSTERCATCHER*: Occurs in varying numbers throughout the year, but has not been recorded nesting.

There is apparently an early spring passage during March, averaging about 250 birds; but from then until early August there appears to be no major fluctuation. In summer one can expect to see about 100 non-breeding birds. The general impression in autumn is that there is a major peak in mid-September of 1,000 or more birds with two lesser peaks in mid-August and at the end of October.

*LAPWING*: A common breeding bird and passage migrant. The nesting population averages twenty to thirty pairs but, since there is a considerable number of pairs on the adjacent golf-course, the numbers in each area fluctuate. In August there are usually several large flocks of adults and juveniles, and occasionally in winter, during hard weather, numbers reach 400 to 500.

*RINGED PLOVER*: This is also a common breeding bird and passage migrant. Between twelve and sixteen pairs breed, and many of these pairs are double brooded. In winter there are only ten or fifteen birds in the Bay, but from the beginning of February numbers build up to a small peak of about forty or fifty birds in mid-March, followed by a major passage of birds moving north, with up to 200 in the second half of May. After the breeding season numbers begin to mount from the end of July and, by the end of August, there are sometimes as many as 300 birds. Thereafter, the population gradually decreases again until winter numbers are reached in November. It should be mentioned that occasionally the autumn passage comes in two smaller waves. A Ringed Plover, colour-ringed in 1955 as a nestling, was recognised in 1956 and was probably breeding as it had taken up territory and had a mate. Unfortunately no definite proof of breeding in its first year was obtained.

[*LITTLE RINGED PLOVER*: On 1st July, 1950, F.D.H. saw a bird which he identified as a Little Ringed Plover (*E.B.B.* I, 7). Unfortunately, no other ornithologist could be contacted to confirm his identification and we feel that this record cannot be regarded as entirely satisfactory and should be

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placed in square brackets].

**GREY PLOVER:** Recorded throughout the year but very scarce in mid-summer. As one would expect, the largest numbers occur in spring and autumn. In spring the passage is confined to the period from the beginning of February to the beginning of April, while the autumn passage is from mid-September to November. In both seasons numbers reach forty to forty-five, and we once counted fifty exactly (11th March, 1956). In summer, birds are regularly seen in their lovely breeding plumage.

**GOLDEN PLOVER:** Occurs commonly in the post-breeding months when numbers are in the region of 100 to 200, but in winter hard weather drives them from the fields and very large numbers are recorded at Aberlady; for instance, 2,000 birds were estimated on 31st December, 1950.

The so-called Northern form is seen in spring most years on passage in its striking breeding plumage, usually in small numbers but occasionally fifty or more are recorded.

**DOTTEREL:** Apparently a regular spring migrant until the late 19th century, the last record being of two shot on 5th May, 1899 (S.N. 1900, 84). It is perhaps worth mentioning that one was seen just outside the Reserve boundary on 9th May, 1957 (E.B.B. VII, 81).

**TURNSTONE:** A normal winter population of thirty to forty birds is usually found on the rocks at Gullane Point. However, between May and August, birds frequent the saltings and sand area, sometimes up to 100 of which the majority are immature.

**DOWITCHER:** On 1st November, 1959, Kenneth Richmond and a party from Glasgow watched one feeding on the mud. In spite of much searching it could not be found again. Full details will be published in *Scottish Birds*.

**SNIPE:** Between five and seven breeding pairs of Snipe are normal and these are to be found mainly in the marshy heathland.

The passage movements of this species are remarkably consistent. In spring the highest numbers are recorded in late March, while in autumn there are two peaks, the first and largest in early August when up to twenty five occur, and a secondary lesser peak in late September and early October. Thereafter numbers fluctuate with the weather; in hard weather the population increases, but when it thaws inland numbers tend to fall again.

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*JACK SNIBE*: Occurs from the end of September to the beginning of May. Up to seven have been recorded but between one and four is the usual number.

*WOODCOCK*: Has nested in the woods and is seen regularly "roding" in spring. Otherwise it is a winter visitor in small numbers.

*CURLEW*: May be seen in the area throughout the year though very scarce in mid-summer. In July and early August the largest numbers are noted, with as many as 600 on occasions. In winter the numbers average about 200 but fluctuate considerably.

*WHIMBREL*: A regular passage migrant, being most common in autumn. Small numbers pass through in May, but from July to October ten or twelve are quite regular and occasionally there are up to twenty.

That it may occur later in the winter is evident from a record dating back to November, 1807, of a Whimbrel frozen to death on the shore (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935) and more recently one was seen on 22nd November, 1931 (E.V.W.).

*BLACK-TAILED GODWIT*: A fairly regular passage migrant in autumn, usually seen singly though once four were noted. It is rare in spring though recently single birds have been seen on 6th April, 1958, and on 8th March and 12th April, 1959. One, or possibly two, wintered in 1953/54.

*BAR-TAILED GODWIT*: May be seen at all times of the year and in all plumages. It seems, from our counts, that there is no set pattern of movement in either spring or autumn, but up to 500 have occurred in winter though generally about 250 is normal at that season. During the summer months there are usually about 100 or 150.

*GREEN SANDPIPER*: A surprisingly rare visitor considering its regularity at Tynninghame. We have a record of a single bird on the saltings on 26th August, 1954, and up to two birds frequented the saltings for ten days in August, 1958.

*WOOD SANDPIPER*: An uncommon spring visitor but fairly often recorded in August and September. The first record we have is an exceptional one of two birds in June, 1867 (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935). It has occurred three times in May and has seemingly become commoner in recent years.

*COMMON SANDPIPER*: A regular passage visitor to the banks of the Peffer Burn but rarely seen elsewhere in the Bay. In spring it appears about

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the last week in April, usually two or three birds, and is seen till mid-May. Autumn passage begins in early July and finishes normally in mid-September, numbers at this season being larger with up to nine noted at one time.

*REDSHANK*: The normal breeding population of this noisy wader is between seven and nine pairs. Our counts indicate no clear pattern for the spring migration when numbers are usually about sixty, with up to 120 at times. In autumn there is very definite passage in late July with counts of up to 200 birds although 125 is a more normal number. After a marked fall in numbers there is an equally large second peak in September. Thereafter there are violent fluctuations in numbers decreasing in intensity till the spring.

*SPOTTED REDSHANK*: An uncommon passage migrant. The only old record we have is of a bird which stayed in the Bay for at least three weeks during September and October, 1884 (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935). In early September, 1934, up to two occurred (*op. cit.*). More recently it was not seen till October, 1953, when one was observed. From 22nd August, 1955, however, one stayed till at least 18th December, 1955, and in 1956 one turned up on 18th August. In the following week two were seen and the next week-end at least four, and possibly eight, were noted. This passage of Spotted Redshanks was paralleled in other places and in other species (*E.B.B.* VII, 8-9). The only spring records we have are of single birds on 7th April, 1957, and 6th May, 1959.

*LESSER YELLOWLEGS*: The only record is of one bird seen on the banks of the Peffer Burn on 13th May, 1950 (*B.B.* 1950, 406).

*GREENSHANK*: A regular passage migrant in small numbers. Seen mainly in August and September in ones and twos, occasionally three, while odd birds also occur in July and October. In September, 1955, a big passage was experienced, up to nine being counted on one day, and four and seven at different week-ends. Spring records are scarce, and refer mainly to late April and early May, and always to single birds. In 1951 one was seen by various people between January and March, and in 1959 a late bird was seen on 28th November (*J.B.*).

*KNOT*: Present all the year round but only a small summering population of fifteen to thirty. There is no sudden surge of birds in early autumn but just a very gradual increase building up to the large wintering flocks. The highest counts are usually made between the beginning of December and mid-

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March, and sometimes 2,000 birds appear, though the normal number is from 1,000 to 1,500. In the last two or three winters a decrease in the number of Knot wintering in the Bay has been noted, and a flock of between 1,500 and 2,000 on 28th November, 1959, was the largest for several years.

*PURPLE SANDPIPER*: As one might expect, all records of this species are from the rocks at the Point in winter. The winter population from 1949 to 1955 was normally between five and fifteen birds but, since then, numbers have only been between two and five. It has been recorded from August to the first week in May.

*LITTLE STINT*: A regular autumn migrant in small numbers. It occurs mainly in August and September, and is occasionally seen in October. Numbers vary considerably; two to five is normal, but up to thirteen have been counted (6th September, 1953). The Little Stint is only rarely seen in spring, though in 1954 two birds stayed for at least ten days. A very early bird of this species was seen on 16th April, 1951 (*E.B.B.* I, 60).

*TEMMINCK'S STINT*: Twice recorded; once on 5th September, 1948, when a single bird was watched (*S.N.* 1949, 126); and again on 26th July, 1953, when one stayed for two days—a very early date (see Curlew Sandpiper).

*PECTORAL SANDPIPER*: As with the previous species the Pectoral Sandpiper has only been seen twice—one on 10th August, 1948 (*S.N.* 1949, 126) and one on the flooded rough-land above the saltings on 16th October, 1954 (*S.N.* 1955, 114).

*DUNLIN*: About five to seven pairs nest on the saltings and occasionally near the pools behind the dunes. Numbers occur on passage but, as with the Knot, tend to build up to a peak population in winter, from late November to the end of March. During this period 750 to 1,000 birds are often estimated, while the largest number recorded is 1,250. There is a definite influx of young birds of the year in late July and early August. Numbers then tend to drop and to increase again in September as the adults begin to come through. At this time counts of 150 to 250 birds are normal. In spring there is a precise passage in the last fortnight of May.

*CURLEW SANDPIPER*: A regular autumn migrant in small numbers. As with the Little Stint, the majority of the records are from August to October, but there are also records from two different years of single birds turning up

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in the first week of November. On 26th July, 1953, two Curlew Sandpipers, in full breeding plumage, were seen on the saltings on the same day that a Temminck's Stint was noted. Numbers vary; in some years none are seen, in others only two or three, but in August 1957, up to fifteen were counted. It seems to have occurred in greater numbers in the past. In 1892 W. Evans saw 100 on 3rd September, and next day there were 120. By the 5th numbers had fallen to fifty or sixty (*A.S.N.H.* 1893, 117). More recently Major Molteno counted 100 birds on 6th September, 1936 (Baxter and Rintoul, 1953).

*SANDERLING*: A species showing a fairly set pattern. The main movement is in July, August and September when fifty to seventy-five are regular, and up to 110 have been counted. After this period, we have a small winter population of anything between three and fifteen birds, and there is a small influx of up to thirty in May. These latter birds are nearly always in nuptial plumage.

*RUFF*: A regular migrant in autumn, and occasionally recorded in spring. The return passage is confined to August and September and up to seventeen have been seen at this time though numbers vary much from year to year. The few spring records are mostly of single birds in May, though four were watched on 27th May, 1953. A late migrant was seen at the pools on 5th June, 1954. Ruff are occasionally seen on the Peffer Burn above the wooden bridge.

Until recently the only winter record was of a single bird seen on 23rd January, 1937 (*S.N.* 1937, 48). In 1957 a party of fifteen was seen on the latish date of 6th October, after seven had been noted the previous day. A single bird was present during October, 1958, and during that winter up to three were seen regularly. During April, 1959, numbers increased to seven, and by the time these birds had left at the end of the month some of them were well into breeding plumage (*S.B.* I, 128). In 1959 there were six from the middle of October, but none was seen after 15th November when numbers were down to three (*J.B.*).

*AVOCET*: On 6th April, 1958, five birds of this species were seen feeding in the Bay. Three were still there on the 10th, but on the following day only two were observed, and they had apparently left by the 12th (*E.B.B.* VIII, 85).

*GREY PHALAROPE*: A phalarope was seen on 1st September, 1958, but was not specifically identified. The observer thought that it might have

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been a Red-necked Phalarope (*E.B.B.* VIII, 113). On 29th October, 1959, a Grey Phalarope was identified close inshore at Gullane Point. (*S.B.* I, 208). There were exceptional numbers of this species in the country during the month.

*ARCTIC SKUA*: From July to September, and occasionally in October, these birds harry the terns in the Bay. There are normally between five and seven but at times their numbers increase to twelve or thirteen. Our only spring record is of two seen on 2nd June, 1953. A single bird was watched near the Point on 10th November, 1957.

*GREAT SKUA*: Occasionally seen; all the records we have are for September or October. One was seen on 14th October, 1902 (*A.S.N.H.* 1903, 209) and up to four were seen several times in September, 1929 (*S.N.* 1930, 26). Other records are for 1932 and 1936, and recently a single bird was noted on 7th September, 1957, three on 5th and one on 8th October, 1958.

*POMARINE SKUA*: Not recorded till 22nd August, 1954, when we saw one over the saltings. Later, on 26th September, we saw one again at the Point. One "probable" was watched on 8th August, 1956, but insufficient details were noted to confirm the identification. The most recent note is of an immature bird on 4th October, 1959.

*GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL*: Occurs throughout the year in varying numbers. In summer there are usually only a few, mainly immature birds, but in August and September numbers increase and sometimes reach 250, including both adults and immatures.

*BRITISH LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL*: Usually arrives in mid-March but numbers never really amount to much until August and September when sometimes as many as 150 associate with the Greater Black-backed Gulls. Normally seen till the end of October.

*SCANDINAVIAN LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL*: This race probably passes through more frequently than the records show. Two birds were clearly identified on 1st May, 1955, while R.W.J.S. noted one on 25th October, 1952. An old record is of one at the Point on 17th January, 1937 (*A.D.W.*).

*HERRING GULL*: Always present in varying numbers although counts indicate that there is probably a tendency for a passage in May and in August and September.

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*COMMON GULL*: Normally about the Bay in small numbers. The spring passage seems to be more noticeable than the autumn passage, possibly because of the very large number of gulls of other species present in August and September. This species has been seen in small numbers flying overhead fairly high, calling and heading eastwards. These birds are probably on migration to Scandinavia; the same thing has been noted on the Isle of May in April and May.

*GLAUCOUS GULL*: A first winter bird was seen feeding on a dead rabbit by one of the spinneys on 14th February, 1954, while on 20th January, 1957, an adult was identified among a small flock of gulls near the river.

*ICELAND GULL*: From 15th to 21st October, 1902, two birds were seen in the Bay; the remains of a third were found on the 16th and a single bird was seen on the 30th and 31st (S.N. 1924, 184).

*LITTLE GULL*: Though it has appeared in reasonable numbers on the coast of Fife for some time, it was not until 19th August, 1956, that one adult of this species was recorded at Aberlady. Three weeks later six were seen, of which four were adults and two were juveniles (E.B.B. VI, 67).

*BLACK-HEADED GULL*: Not recorded breeding. Occurs in the Reserve all the year round in varying numbers, and in spring and autumn there are often several hundreds.

*SABINE'S GULL*: There is an old record of an adult seen by W. Evans on 24th August, 1896 (A.S.N.H. 1896, 257).

*KITTIWAKE*: Observed in all months of the year but generally only in very small numbers, except in August and September when sometimes as many as forty-five congregate with the terns in the Bay.

*BLACK TERN*: Regular autumn passage migrant in very small numbers, though up to five have been counted coming in to roost in the Bay in the evening along with the other terns (see below). A very late record is of a single bird on 26th November, 1904 (A.S.N.H. 1905, 119).

*COMMON TERN*: A small, widely-scattered colony of Common Terns breeds in the Reserve. In a normal year, there are approximately thirty to forty pairs concentrated on the sand-spit, but with a fair number distributed over the salting grass. In 1952, however, there was an influx, and up to 150 pairs attempted to nest. In that year colonies were started behind the dunes, but no more chicks were reared than in a normal year. This was because high tides and egg-collecting cleared a lot of the nests on the sand-spit and in



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the salting grass, while the dune-nesting birds had all their eggs eaten by rats just when they were due to hatch. In 1955, ninety pairs nested but again wet cold weather and tides took their toll. Even in a normal year only between five and ten young fledge because of the adverse factors mentioned. Occasionally one or two pairs breed by the river above the wooden bridge. In 1959, the Common and Arctic Terns laid no eggs in the Reserve.

From about mid-July numbers of terns begin to roost in the Bay and gradually they build up to a very large roost in August and September. The urge to count these terns was most easily satisfied by estimating the day population and then sitting at the Point and counting the terns flying past into the roost. By this method a count on the evening of 5th September, 1957, gave a total of 12,000 terns roosting in the Bay. This figure may well be on the conservative side, and it includes all species of terns. It is very interesting to note that of this tremendous roost only 1.5% were Sandwich Terns, the rest being Common and Arctic. Similar counts were made each year subsequently but the only comparable count was of 26,000 terns on 2nd September, 1958. Normally the flocks number between 3,000 and 7,000 birds. During these counts single Black Terns are sometimes seen flying in the midst of the roosting flock.

The origin of these birds is obscure and, since such large numbers are involved, it is apparent that a large proportion come from outside the Forth area. The birds arrive from two different directions—either flying westwards close to the shore, following each curve of the coast, or coming in at a tangent to the coast from the middle of the Forth. This second flight line comes direct from the vicinity of the Isle of May and it is therefore possible that these birds are feeding off the Angus coast and out in the North Sea, and fly to Aberlady via the Isle of May area. Birds using the other flight-line could quite easily have been feeding all along the coast as far as Northumberland.

In 1957, it was realised that quite a number of terns were coming in from the west past Green Craig and these birds were not being counted. A check at this point on 2nd September, 1958, revealed that about 14,000 came from the west, compared with 4,000 from the east and 8,000 already in the Bay when we started counting. At least 10% of these birds were Sandwich Terns (*E.B.B.* VIII, 106). Weather conditions may affect the number of terns feeding well within the Forth estuary.

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*ARCTIC TERN*: This species breeds alongside the Common Tern on the sand-spit and the normal population is between two and five pairs. In comparison with the Common Tern, this species seems to rear relatively more chicks to the flying stage—usually two to four. Details of roosting are given under Common Tern as it is impossible to differentiate between species when the birds are flying in to their roost.

*ROSEATE TERN*: Occasionally up to three visit the Reserve during the breeding season, while during August and September as many as ten have been counted.

*LITTLE TERN*: A small breeding colony manages to survive at Aberlady Bay. The sand-spit is the headquarters of the Little Tern and in an average year there are between four and six pairs. Egg-collectors and high tides, plus bad weather during hatching and fledging, keep the number of chicks that reach the flying stage quite small, but usually at least two chicks fly. This colony has been established for some years, certainly since 1926 (*S.N.* 1928, 24) and most probably previous to that. There are no large numbers of this species of tern in the autumn. One chick, ringed in July 1955, was recovered in June 1957 at Walney Island in Lancashire (135 miles south).

*SANDWICH TERN*: Not recorded nesting though odd birds appear on the sand-spit during the breeding season. As mentioned under Common Tern, this species flights in to roost with the other terns but in much smaller numbers. We are at a loss for any reason for this as we would have expected about 15% to 20% of Sandwich Terns in the roosts, whereas there are never more than 5% to 10%. *E.V.W.* records a few late birds on 22nd November, 1931. A clue to the origin of these birds is provided by a dead bird found in August, 1958, which had been ringed at Blakeney Point in Norfolk.

*RAZORBILL*: Normally seen from the Point either swimming or flying past. Usually one, two or three but from August to October our figures show a definite passage with numbers up to thirty. On 28th November, 1954, sixty-two "auks" were counted flying down the Forth, just out of range for identification.

*LITTLE AUK*: Our first record is of a dead one picked up in a fresh condition on 24th March, 1895 (*A.S.N.H.* 1895, 108). Since then Little Auks have been seen on some ten occasions between November and March; most reports are of single birds, but four were counted on 16th March, 1952 (*E.B.B.* II. 44) and on 15th November, 1959 (*J.B.*).

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*GUILLEMOT*: The status of this species is very similar to that of the Razorbill, with passage from August to October.

*BRUNNICH'S GUILLEMOT*: The only record is of a female found dead on 11th December, 1908 (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935).

*PUFFIN*: Very surprisingly this is a scarce bird, and there are only four records for the Reserve, all in winter.

*STOCK DOVE*: According to Baxter and Rintoul (1953) this species bred on the Links and, certainly, G.R.T. tells us that before 1914 it was common and appeared to be increasing. However, a decline took place which we are unable to account for and, by 1934, G.L.S. could find only one nest. Since 1949 it has not been known to nest and is noted only occasionally

[*ROCK DOVE*: Birds with the characteristics of this species are often seen in the Reserve but, as there are many pigeon fanciers in the county and as escaped domestic pigeons inter-breed freely with the pure wild birds, it is generally considered that genuine pure-bred Rock Doves no longer occur in the area, and this species has therefore been square-bracketed].

*WOOD PIGEON*: Normally two or three pairs nest in the woods and spinneys, but during the rest of the year numbers are variable. Usually there are between ten and fifteen birds but occasionally large flocks of 100 to 200 are seen.

*CUCKOO*: Not recorded as often as one would expect considering the abundance of its host-species. Heard and seen only once or twice each summer and occasionally on passage in spring and autumn.

*BARN OWL*: The only one seen in the Reserve was flushed from one of the spinneys on 29th November, 1955; it was still present next day.

*TAWNY OWL*: Not known to nest within the boundaries of the Reserve but occasionally heard in the woods in the winter months.

*LONG-EARED OWL*: The status of this species has probably been fairly constant over the years. It was certainly nesting as long ago as 1931 (E.V.W.). It has been recorded during the winter in ones and twos and recently it has nested in the spinneys each year since 1950. In 1951 a pair reared two young in a nest which we had constructed a few months earlier for this purpose, but they normally use the old nests of Carrion Crows. In 1957 two pairs laid eggs in adjoining spinneys but one lost theirs to egg-collectors and the other only reared a single youngster. In 1950 we discovered that, in mid-November, this owl had arrived in small numbers and that it kept to the

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spinneys near the wood; each year since then Long-eared Owls have been seen, usually from five to seven but up to sixteen have been counted. The largest numbers occur in December and thereafter they decrease slowly. In the winter of 1955/56 very few arrived and this may have been connected with the lack of rabbits caused by myxomatosis. However, on 5th January, 1958, eight were counted and it is probable that others were present.

*SHORT-EARED OWL*: Nested and reared young in 1958 — the only year in which breeding has been recorded. Occasionally one and sometimes two winter in the Reserve, hunting over the rough heathland and marsh. There is some slight indication from our figures of a passage in March and April and in August and September, with up to four birds noted at times. Single birds have been seen leaving the Point and flying across the Firth of Forth.

*SWIFT*: Recorded throughout the summer months. In June and July westerly movements are normally noted, with sometimes as many as 250 birds. A full day has never in fact been devoted to just counting Swifts on passage, but this must be a very conservative estimate of the number of Swifts actually passing Aberlady.

*KINGFISHER*: Recorded on the Peffer Burn fairly regularly before 1939, mostly in September (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935). One was seen on 20th September, 1946, flying past the Point heading for the Bay (I.H.).

*GREEN WOODPECKER*: In line with the recent increase of this species in Berwickshire and then in East Lothian, the first one at Aberlady was seen on 7th May, 1955. Since then it has been noted on several occasions at various times of the year.

*GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER*: Not known to breed but single birds occur occasionally throughout the year.

*WRYNECK*: The only record is of a single bird at Gullane Point on 3rd September, 1958. It had come in with many other migrants during a spell of south-east wind.

*SNOW BUNTING*: A winter visitor and passage migrant, usually appearing in October and November (sometimes in September) and generally keeping to the sand spit and surrounding area. Numbers vary considerably each winter, the average population being ten to fifteen, but in late autumn flocks of over a hundred birds are not uncommon either in the Bay or passing over.

*HOUSE SPARROW*: Commonly seen about the grass and salting edge near the village and also in the wooded area.

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*SKYLARK*: Nests commonly over most of the Reserve. In spring and, more especially, in autumn large numbers are sometimes seen on the saltings, and occasionally westerly diurnal migration is noted.

*SHORE LARK*: A single bird was noted on 6th November, 1932 (*S.N.* 1933, 26); while on 30th and 31st March, 1934, a small flock of six was counted (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935). We saw one on 20th November, 1949, three were seen on 24th October, 1954 (*E.B.B.* V, 21), and a male was noted with large numbers of Skylarks on 11th November, 1959 (*A.A.*).

*SWALLOW*: Recorded nesting three times; in 1929, in an old fishing boat where the nest was some two feet only above high water mark (Rintoul and Baxter, 1935); in 1949, near the woods in a hut which has now been demolished, and in 1954, in the block house in the sand-dunes.

There is a very decided westerly movement of this species both in spring and in autumn, and at times several hundred are seen in the course of a day. On 23rd March, 1952, two early birds were seen flying up the Forth low over the water, and we have three late records of Swallows observed in November (*A.S.N.H.* 1895, 214; *S.N.* 1939, 48-9; *E.B.B.* IV, 32). A very late bird at Gullane Point on 6th December, 1959, came in over the sea and continued flying south (*J.B.*).

*HOUSE MARTIN*: Often seen collecting mud from the Peffer Burn for its nests in Aberlady Village and elsewhere outside the Reserve. In late May it congregates in comparatively large numbers—60 to 100 birds—but there are no definite movements in autumn.

*SAND MARTIN*: Has nested in several places with indifferent success—no established colony. Its migratory movements are similar to those of the Swallow but generally in smaller numbers.

*CARRION CROW*: Usually about two pairs breed on the Reserve, building nests in the spinneys or sometimes in the pines in the woods. In August and September as many as fifty birds can often be counted, but during the winter numbers drop to twenty or thirty. No spring passage is evident.

*HOODED CROW*: Recorded in most winters but actual numbers vary; in some winters it is common with counts of five to fifteen birds, while in others only the occasional one is seen. On 16th October, 1897, twenty were counted (*A.S.N.H.* 1898, 211).

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*ROOK*: Though there is a small rookery of between eight and twelve nests at the Kilspindie Golf Course Club House this bird is not seen commonly in the Bay.

*JACKDAW*: Has not been recorded nesting within the boundaries of the Reserve but nests commonly in Luffness and nearby. This means that it is frequently noted on the Reserve searching for food. In autumn up to sixty or seventy have sometimes been seen with the Carrion Crows.

*MAGPIE*: Since the magpie is an uncommon bird in East Lothian it has only been recorded at Aberlady a few times. After the first occurrence on 7th October, 1951, it was not seen until the winter of 1954/55 when one stayed for several months. Two were seen in March, 1955, and again a year later; a single bird was seen in most of the intervening months. The latest record is of one in March, 1956.

*GREAT TIT*: Two to four pairs breed in the woods, and favour the nesting boxes. There is no indication of any influx in winter.

*BLUE TIT*: About two to five pairs nest in the woods and, like the Great Tit, use the nesting boxes. No large increase in numbers has been detected except just after the young leave the nest, though a party of five or six was seen feeding in the saltings at the edge of the mud on 19th February, 1953 (A.D.W.).

*COAL TIT*: At least one pair nests every year in the firs in the woods.

*LONG-TAILED TIT*: Has occasionally bred in the woods. Wandering flocks sometimes visit the Reserve in winter and up to twenty have been seen, even on the saltings in hard weather.

*TREE CREEPER*: Normally one or two pairs nest in the woods where there is ample feeding in the older timber.

*WREN*: It is difficult to gauge the population accurately, but about five pairs nest throughout the woods.

*MISTLE THRUSH*: Has bred but not regularly. In July and August, post-breeding parties come into the fields and woods in the Reserve, and in winter up to thirty can sometimes be seen.

*FIELDFARE*: Occasionally small flocks of twenty to twenty-five are seen in winter, but most of our records refer to autumn when Fieldfares are migrating into this country. For instance, on 4th November, 1951, 140 were counted

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coming in from the east, probably from Scandinavia. One flock of sixty-five was actually watched flying low over the Forth until it reached the land.

*SONG THRUSH*: Normally three to five pairs nest each year. There is an autumn influx, as with Fieldfare and Redwing, and in hard winter weather up to fifty have been noted in the area.

*REDWING*: Not continuously present throughout the winter but occasional parties come into the woods, especially in hard weather when as many as 250 have been seen.

On 28th October, 1951, 360 birds were counted flying high overhead from an east-north-east direction and many of these were visible only through binoculars. Judging from the calls, there must have been many hundred more on the move that day, and the woods were full of Redwings. A week later, at least 825 were seen in an hour flying in past Gullane Point.

*RING OUZEL*: An uncommon migrant. An unusually early record was of a bird seen on 1st February, 1913 (*S.N.* 1914, 57). Recently it has only been noted on three occasions, once in spring (10th May, 1952) and twice in October (17th October, 1954, and 19th October, 1956).

*BLACKBIRD*: The breeding population is about six pairs. Resident during the winter in varying numbers depending on the weather. On 28th October, 1951, over 140 were counted coming in with other thrushes, 80 birds being flushed from one spinney alone. On 3rd October, 1954, a similar immigration took place on a smaller scale.

*WHEATEAR*: Breeds in small numbers near the woods, throughout the dunes, and sometimes along the tide wrack. The first birds normally arrive between 20th and 25th March and up to twenty have been observed on passage. A late bird was seen on 6th November, 1954 (*G.L.S.*).

*GREENLAND WHEATEAR*: Probably a fairly regular passage migrant. Several birds on 1st and 7th May, 1955, showed all the characteristics of this race.

*STONECHAT*: Seems to have been more frequent before 1939 than in recent years. For instance, E.V.B. told us that in 1935 it was "common on the bents," while A.D.W. saw up to four on 6th November, 1932, and there are several other records. It is possible that Stonechats bred near Gullane Point in the mid-1930s. Until 1958 the only recent record was of one at the Point on 15th March, 1953. In 1958, a pair was seen on 3rd March, and a cock

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on 23rd. In 1959, there was one on 4th October, and a different bird on 11th.

*WHINCHAT*: Regular on passage each spring and occasionally in autumn. Eight were seen near the woods on 17th May, 1954, a day on which some movement was taking place as Tree Pipits and Redstarts were also in evidence. A pair were seen at the Point on 23rd June, 1947—an unusual date (D.G.A.). During a big passage of migrants on 4th September, 1958, there were at least fifteen or twenty in the area.

*REDSTART*: Has not been known to breed. Like the Whinchat it is regular each spring and occurs occasionally in autumn; approximately five were seen on 3rd and 4th September, 1958.

*BLUETHROAT*: Two were seen on the rocks at Gullane Point on 3rd September, 1958, and had come in with many other migrants (A.A.).

*ROBIN*: About two to four pairs nest in the woods. Occasionally single birds are seen at Gullane Point in autumn, and there is a small wintering population of between five and ten birds.

*GRASSHOPPER WARBLER*: In 1958, one was heard and seen on 16th June, and again noted on 12th July. No evidence of breeding was obtained (E.B.B. VIII, 105).

*SEDGE WARBLER*: Usually two or three pairs nest in the more marshy areas, especially round the spinneys. No evidence of passage.

*BLACKCAP*: A male was seen collecting food on 6th June, 1953, and was believed to be breeding in Luffness Estate nearby.

*GARDEN WARBLER*: A pair were seen on 25th June, 1949, and noted as breeding (D.G.A.). Our only other record is of a single bird on 25th May, 1952.

*WHITETHROAT*: Usually two to four pairs nest in the spinneys and woods. Some evidence of autumn passage in suitable weather conditions, and has been seen till mid-October.

*WILLOW WARBLER*: Approximate breeding population of five to seven pairs. As with both Whitethroat and Sedge Warbler there is no evidence of mass movement in spring or autumn, except on rare occasions such as in early September, 1958, when they were present in all the spinneys and even in the bracken round Gullane Point.



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*GOLDCREST*: There is no record of breeding but Goldcrests occur on passage in autumn and also fairly frequently in winter when up to four have been seen in the woods.

*SPOTTED FLYCATCHER*: No evidence of spring movement through the area, but in August it is not uncommon for numbers, even sometimes up to twenty-five, to congregate in the woods. Odd birds were noted with other migrants in the big passage of early September, 1958. The usual breeding population is in the region of two to four pairs.

*PIED FLYCATCHER*: Not recorded at all until 2nd and 3rd September, 1958, when they were present with other migrants; there were at least twelve in the spinney near Gullane Point. A single bird was seen on 22nd August 1959.

*DUNNOCK*: Summer population about five to eight pairs. In winter numbers vary and up to fifteen may sometimes be seen in hard weather at the rubbish dump in the woods.

*MEADOW PIPIT*: Estimating the breeding population is rather difficult but it is probably in the region of fifteen to twenty pairs each year. In winter, numbers and size of flocks vary a great deal, depending on the local and general weather conditions, and up to 100 are often present when there is snow about. During March, April and May and again in September and October quite definite diurnal movements take place, sometimes involving as many as 700 birds in a day and probably many more. The general direction at both seasons is south-westerly along the coast and across the Bay.

*TAWNY PIPIT*: A bird which we saw on the saltings on 10th May, 1952, was the first record for the Scottish mainland (S.N. 1952, 167-8).

*TREE PIPIT*: Not a breeding bird but a fairly regular migrant in the last week of April and first fortnight of May when several may be seen, especially near the woods.

*ROCK PIPIT*: We have found this species to be only a winter visitor to the area and have no record of nesting, though a pair was seen at the Point on 23rd June, 1947 (D.G.A.). Between September and the end of April numbers are usually between two and five but up to ten have been seen.

*PIED WAGTAIL*: Usually present in the Reserve throughout the year but we have no breeding records. From August to September flocks of *alba* wagtails may be seen on the saltings, up to 100 strong at times and probably

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including birds of both races. In winter a small number sometimes roost in the reeds by the woods.

*WHITE WAGTAIL*: As this race cannot be easily distinguished from the Pied Wagtail except in spring it has been noted only between mid-April and mid-May with occasional birds in June. Numbers are usually between five and seven but vary considerably, and up to twenty-five have been counted; they are most often seen on the sand or lower saltings.

*GREY WAGTAIL*: Recorded in most months, except between June and August, usually on the banks of the Peffer Burn; occasionally two birds have been seen but usually only one.

*YELLOW WAGTAIL*: Single birds recorded fairly regularly; all in spring except for one September record.

*BLUE-HEADED WAGTAIL*: There are two records of this race in the area, both in mid-May.

*BLACK-HEADED WAGTAIL*: On 2nd July, 1952, we came across an example of this rare bird on the saltings and were able to get a detailed description in the few minutes it was under observation (B.B. 1953, 219).

*WAXWING*: Our only record of large numbers is of sixty-five on 27th November, 1949; six were seen on 11th and 12th December of the same year (I.H.). In 1951, up to five were seen during the first week of November and in the third week of December by various people. A single bird was seen on 9th January, 1955. In 1959, up to 24 were seen about the Bay and in the village from 1st until at least 11th November.

*GREAT GREY SHRIKE*: The only record for the area is of an immature bird seen by many people who were attending the S.O.C. Conference at North Berwick on 26th and 27th October, 1957. It was frequenting the dunes and remained for several days.

*STARLING*: Always some about the Reserve but not recorded nesting so far. It breeds in numbers on neighbouring estates and these birds bring their young to the saltings and spinneys to feed, and sometimes several hundred gather. In autumn and early winter large flocks have been seen moving west up the coast, probably immigrants from Scandinavia.

*HAWFINCH*: Only a vagrant to the area though we have long thought that it must breed on the neighbouring estate of Luffness. This was confirmed in 1959 when a nest was found there (S.B. I, 132). There is a record of a

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single bird on 30th April, 1930, and we have seen one on 15th March, 1953, and a pair in a cherry tree on 7th April, 1957.

*GREENFINCH*: Nests in the Reserve occasionally, but present all the year round in small numbers in the woods. In hard weather up to 120 have been estimated and they have been seen foraging for food right out on the open sand.

*GOLDFINCH*: In 1957, one pair nested in a spinney but it is not known if any young were reared. It is, however, a frequent visitor to the Bay, and often in late summer eight to ten are to be seen both in the woods and along the tide wrack, while on one occasion twenty-six were counted.

[*SISKIN*: Several "probables" have been heard but so far no record has been fully authenticated, and therefore this species has been enclosed in square brackets].

*LINNET*: A regular breeding bird in small numbers; some nest in the marram grass in the dunes and one or two pairs occasionally in tufts of grass in marshy areas. In the autumn and early winter months quite a considerable flock is often met with on the saltings, sometimes up to 125 in number.

*TWITE*: Though a bird was noted in December, 1934, which was probably a Twite (A.D.W.), it was not until 20th December, 1953, that the species was finally put on the list. During that winter, up to two were frequently seen, and subsequently during the winter months of 1955/56, eight and, at times, up to ten, were regularly counted. Every winter since has brought five or six and on 2nd February, 1958, fourteen were counted in one flock. Quite unprecedented numbers were seen at the end of 1959. A count of 24 on 1st November was already a record, but numbers continued to build up to over 50 on 7th, and 70 or more by 22nd. The peak numbers were on 6th December when the flocks of about 200 Linnets and Twite included at least 150 of this species. On 20th there were a mere 70, and by the end of the year numbers were down further. An interesting fact about this winter visitor is that most of the time the flocks confine themselves to a small area around the cement blocks on the saltings, and only occasionally wander over the main salting area.

*LESSER REDPOLL*: There are a few records for the mid-1930s of birds in April and July, while on 5th August, 1939, between six and ten were seen in the woods (G.L.S.). A.D.W. thought that they might be nesting when he

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saw Redpolls in June, 1934, and in summer, 1958, a bird was often seen song-fighting over the woods, but breeding was not proved. Recently this species has been seen in winter, but never more than two birds.

*BULLFINCH*: The only nesting record we have is of a pair that laid infertile eggs in 1949. It is frequently seen in the autumn and winter months, usually in twos or threes but occasionally in flocks of eight or ten birds.

*CHAFFINCH*: Breeds in fair numbers in the woods and spinneys. In hard weather flocks of up to seventy-five collect, though normally the wintering population is about twenty or thirty.

*BRAMBLING*: Not a common visitor, and the only records we have are of two birds flushed from the saltings on 17th October, 1954, and of a single bird seen with other finches in the woods during the same winter.

*YELLOWHAMMER*: One or two pairs nest in the woods; in winter, these birds are more frequent, especially towards dusk when they come to roost in the reeds beside the Peffer Burn.

*CORN BUNTING*: Nearly all the records refer to birds seen in summer along the Kilspindie side of the Bay where one or two pairs nest.

*REED BUNTING*: Each year about five or seven pairs nest with little success, apparently owing to ground predation. As with the Yellow Bunting, numbers, up to twenty-five, come to roost in the winter.

*LAPLAND BUNTING*: A "probable" was seen on 15th April, 1950, by G.L.S. and ourselves. The first definite record was of two birds on the saltings on 27th September, 1953, and that winter we saw them on every visit till 21st February, with a peak of twenty-five birds on 22nd November (S.V. 1954, 127-8). The following winter a few turned up again but, though up to ten were seen at one time, they did not remain long in the area. As in other parts of the country, this species appeared at Aberlady in numbers during the winter of 1956/57. On 14th October, 1956, there were twenty-five in the area, and by 4th November a peak of about seventy was reached, the majority of these birds being in a stubble field on the south side of the Reserve. Numbers were down to forty on 18th November and all had apparently gone by the following week.

During November, 1958, the maximum number present on the saltings was thirty but these birds did not remain to winter. At least one was present on 1st November, 1959 (J.B.).

## THE BIRDS OF ABERLADY BAY NATURE RESERVE.

*TREE SPARROW*: Occurs regularly in the woods where two to four pairs breed and make use of the nest boxes when available. In winter up to forty have been recorded.

FRANK D. HAMILTON AND KEITH S. MACGREGOR.

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## OBITUARIES

We regret to have to record in this volume of the "Transactions" the deaths of so many valued members of Council. In only a little over a year, no less than eight have passed away:—

Barrie, William (d. May, 1959).

Crookshank, Colonel Chichester de W. (d. October, 1958).

Dott, George (d. May, 1959).

Fraser, Miss Katherine J. (d. January, 1960).

Montgomerie, Alexander, C.I.E. (d. December, 1958).

Paton Henry M. (d. August, 1958).

Turnbull, Mrs Dora (d. December, 1958).

Whitehead, Rev. Dr. William W. (d. March, 1958).

The Council wishes to pay sincere tribute to the work which these men and women undertook for the Society. All of them had been members for many years, though some had served on the Council for only a short time before their deaths.

While recording its appreciation of all, we would mention, in particular, the service of Colonel Crookshank as President during the year 1948-1949, and the helpful interest which he took in the Society's affairs until his death.

The death of Alexander Montgomerie deprived the Council of a valued scholar and a racy writer whose many contributions to the "Transactions", which he so ably helped to edit, were widely appreciated. Equally regretted was the death of Henry M. Paton to whom the "Transactions" were much indebted, especially for his "Haddington Records" in Volume VII.

Mrs Dora Turnbull played a very quiet but very useful part in the deliberations of the Council for many years and, in her will, bequeathed £100 to our funds. Though previous appreciation of this bequest had been made, it was felt to be appropriate that it should also be recorded in the "Transactions".

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