

# RECORDS OF EARLY ENGLISH DRAMA

## Pre-publication Collections

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### THE ROYAL COURT OF SCOTLAND 1585-1586 Edited by Sarah Carpenter

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#### 1585-6

##### *Treasurer's Accounts* [E21/64](#)

1 May 1585 – 30 April 1586

##### May 1585

*fol 64<sup>r</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

...

Item be his hienes precept to (blank) puir banishit Irland men harperis as the  
said precept producit beiris

x li

...

*fol 64<sup>v</sup>*

...

Item be his maiesties speciale command to Williame mayne for twa speiris to  
his hienes iij li and for culling of thame iiij li Inde

vij li

...

Note: Spears for combat games were often painted and decorated (see Carl Andersen, *Rosenborg: Notes on the Chronological Collection of the Danish Kings*, trans. Charles Shaw (Copenhagen: Vorlagsbureauet, 1868), William Mayne is recorded as a 'speir maker', but the Flemish court painter, Adrian Vanson, responsible for royal portraits, was also employed in such decorative work (see entry December 1587).

**Receiver's Accounts, E22/13**

May 1585 – October 1587

**May 1585**

*fol 41<sup>r</sup>*

The first of Maij to thomas hudsoun violar xxvj li

...

*fol 46<sup>v</sup>*

...

The said day to williame mayne for tua speiris iij li

...

The said day to piggie laquay for culling of ye said tua speiris iiiij li

...

The xxj day To ane Irland harper at his Maiesties command x li

...

**Treasurer's Accounts**

**June 1585**

*fol 71<sup>r</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

...

Item be his hienes command to fyndlay laquay debursit be him for mending of  
Ane paintit speir of his maiesties xijij s iijij d

...

*fol 73<sup>r</sup>*

...

Item be his hienes precept To william hudsoun ane of his maiesties violeris as  
ye same product beris ij<sup>c</sup> l li

...

Note: in the accounts for this and the following years the Hudson violers continue to be named, but rarely in direct connection with musical performance. We know they were also active in James's circle of poets, and used on occasion for diplomatic and other duties.

Item To maister petir ȝoung maister elimosinare sevin scoir twa elnis half eln  
blew clayth to be gowns to xix aigit men according to the ȝeiris of his hienes  
aige price of the eln xx s Inde j<sup>c</sup> xlij li x s

Item nyne elnis half eln buckrum yairto price of the eln viij s iiij d  
Inde iij li xvij s iij d

Item Nynetein purssis in ilk purs nynetein schillingis Inde xvij li xij d

Item for the price of ilk purs of the said nyntein iiiij d Inde

vj s iiiij d

*fol 73<sup>v</sup>*

...

Item be his hienes precept To alexander thomesoun gairdiner for making and  
Repairing of ane pair of buttis within his maiesties north ȝaird of halirudhous  
As the sami[n] producit vpoun compt beris

xl li

...

***Receiver's Accounts, June***

*fol 41<sup>v</sup>*

...

The said day To drummondis wyfe that was king James ye ffyftis  
trumpetour

xx s

...

*fol 47<sup>r</sup>*

...

The tent day To phinlay laquay to gif for the mending of ane paintit speir  
to his maiestie

xijij s iiiij d

...

The xix day To ye xix auld men yat gat ye blew gownis llk ane xix s  
Inde

xvij li xij d

*fol 47<sup>v</sup>*

[19 June]

The said day To george strauchane keipar of ye tapestrie to by vjc Irne  
cleikis to hing ye hallis of ye abbay of dumfermling for presens to be gewin  
to ye dutche ambassidouris

ijj li vj s viij d

Note: for this event, see entries for July and August, below

...

*fol 103<sup>r</sup>*

...

[18 June]

The said day to ane man of brunteland for caryng of ye pure menis gownis to  
dunfermling

iiij s

...

The xx day to wat harper gif to peter durie at <.....>

x li

**Treasurer's Accounts**

**July 1585**

*fol 78<sup>v</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

...

Item be his maiesties speciale command to findlay tailȝeour laquay passand  
of falkland to Sanctandrois with ane buik tobe presentit to ye duche  
embassadour and for his hors hyir

xl s

...

Note: Ambassadors from Denmark had come to negotiate on territory and a marriage for the King. Partly because of some tensions over these issues, ceremonial played an important part in their visit, as seen below. (See Sir James Melville, *Memoirs* (Edinburgh: Bannatyne Club, 1827; repr. New York: AMS Press, 1973), 336-46)

**Receiver's Accounts, July**

*fol 42<sup>v</sup>*

...

The xx of Julij To (blank) Seyttoun for ye tua trvmpetouris callit  
sawoyis in part of payment of yair waigis

xl s

...

**Treasurer's Accounts**

**August 1585**

*fol 85<sup>r</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

Item be his hienes precept to the dutche embassadouris trumpetouris that  
soundit to his maiestie at Sanctandrois [As] threttie crownis of the sone  
price of the pece L s Inde

Lxxv li

...

Item be his hienes precept to James meluill debursit be him at his depairting fra  
the dutche ymbassadouris / they being in schipburde to their trumpetouris  
soundand nyne crownis at L s ye pece Inde

xxij li x s

...

Item be his maiesties command for sex quair of paper to put vpoun stalffis  
for the hunting of the deir

xij s

Note: Though this may suggest an element of display, it is unclear what it is for. Possibly it was used by the 'stable', servants positioned to prevent the deer, driven towards the archers by the beaters, from turning aside or escaping. See Emma Griffin, *Blood Sport: Hunting in Britain Since 1066* (Yale University Press, 2007) 51-2.

*fol 86<sup>r</sup>*

...

Item be his hienes Precept [allowit] to *Schir* Robert meluill of murdocairnie  
knycht thesaurare depute deliuerit be him to the embassadouris of denmark  
ane chenze of gold weyand fourscoir of vnces at xxiiij li the vnce.

Inde As the same producit vpoun compt bereis

j<sup>m</sup> ix<sup>c</sup> xx li

***Receiver's Accounts, August***

*fol 43<sup>r</sup>*

...

[9 August]

The said day to seyttoun for ye trwmpetouris

xxvj s viij d

...

The xx of august To Drummond trumpetour

iij li vj s viij d

The said day to James sawoy trumpetour

iij li

...

*fol 48<sup>v</sup>*

...

[1 Aug]

The said day to ye duche ambassadouris trumpetouris yat soundit to his  
maiestie ye said day threttie crownis at L s [ye] 'ye' pece Inde

lxxv li

...

[15 Aug]

The said day be his hienes precept gewin to James meluill at his depairting  
fra ye duche Ambassadouris and putting of yame in ye schip to ye trumpetouris  
soundand Nyne crownis at L s ye pece Inde

xxij li x s

The said day at his hienes *command* for sex quair of paper to put vpoun  
stalffis for ye deir Hanting

xij s

...

*fol 106<sup>v</sup>*

...

The xxij day to ane fidler at 3our L *command*

vj s viij d

...

***September***

*fol 43<sup>v</sup>*

...

[2 Sept]

The said day to seytoun to compt for ye trumpetouris

iij li vj s viij d

...

The xxvij day To williame Ramsay trumpetour

iij li vj s viij d

...

***October***

*fol 44<sup>r</sup>*

...

The tent day to seytoun for ye trumpetouris

xl s

...

***Treasurer's Accounts***

**November 1585**

*fol 107<sup>v</sup> (Expenses on officers and boys travelling)*

...

Item to James mathesoun messinger passand with his hienes actis and ordinance to ye mercat croce of lynlitgw to command and charge all & sindrie personis of quatsumeuir estait degré or qualitie repairing to ye present parliament that nane of thame presume or tak vpoun hand to invaid persew truble or offer Inurie to quatsumeuir persoun for ald feid or new eftir the tennour of the saidis [lettrez] actis & ordinance

vj s viij d

**December 1585**

*fol 109<sup>v</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

...

Item To cuthbert mure his hienes furroure for ye eiking and warkmanship of his maiesties blew weluet cloik Rob Royle and blak weluet cloik As ye perticulare subscryuit be his hienes hand producit beiris

xxxvij li x [s]

Note: the Robe Royal is the monarch's traditional ceremonial dress for parliament (see Introduction, note 22). On the occasion of this December 1585 parliament at Linlithgow, 'The honouris wer borne, viz. the croune be the diuk of Lennox, the sceptour be George erle of Huntlie, and the suord be John erle of Atholl; and the secund day the sceptour be the erle of Angus, and the suord be the erle of Bothuell.' (David Moysie, *Memoirs of the Affairs of Scotland* (Edinburgh: Maitland Club, 1830), 55).

fol 110<sup>r</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)

Item be his hienes precept To lyoun king of Armes and his brether heraldis for their awaiting on at ye parliament haldin at lynlytgw As thes quha hes bein in vse to hame *yair* expenssis and charges borne of befoir be his maiesties maist noble predecessouris As the same producti vpoun compt proportis ijc li

• • •

Item be his hienes speciale command for ane Irne chenȝe to the lyones x li

Note: This last entry added in a rougher hand at the bottom of the page. On *fol 110<sup>v</sup>* this single entry was written and then deleted: [Item be his hienes speciale command for ane Irne chenze to to [sic] the lyones] x [il]

fol 111<sup>v</sup> (*Expenses on officers and boys travelling*)

Item To nicoll copland messinger passand with lettres and thre trumpetouris with him to the mercat croces of lynlytgw and edinburgh & vyeris places neidfull to mak publicationoun of James gibson minister at penkaitland his maist malitious and tressvnable deserving and of ye ordour appointit to be tane yairanent etc. eftir ye tennour of ye saidis lettrez

• • •

Note: David Calderwood records a highly dramatic hostile debate between the minister and the king that led to this proclamation (*The History of the Kirk of Scotland*, ed. Thomas Thomson (Edinburgh: Wodrow Society, 1843) 4: 484-8).

fol 112<sup>r</sup>

• • •

Item to Johnne mathesoun and John somerwell messingeris and twa trumpetouris  
with thame passand with the actis of parliament to ye mercat croce of lynlytgw  
tobe proclamit *yairat* eftir ye tennour *yairof* xxx S

•

### ***Receiver's Accounts, December***

fol 44<sup>v</sup>

3

The Nynt day To ye thrie trumpetouris viz Ramsay Drummond and sawoy

x<sub>ij</sub> l<sub>i</sub> v<sub>j</sub> s v<sub>ij</sub> d

•

*fol 62<sup>v</sup>*

The viij day to tua officeris and tua trumpetouris to proclaime ye actis  
of parliament maid at Linlythgow ye first of ye said moneth at ye mercat  
croce yairof

xxx s

...

The xxv day to Johnne caluer but pursevant *with lettres* to proclaime and thrie  
trumpetouris at ye mercat croces of linlythgow & edinburgh anent ye discharging  
of all personis to iniure or detract his maiestie for putting of dew ordour vpoun  
James gibson for oppin sclander aganis his hienes in pulpit

xl s

...

### ***Treasurer's Accounts***

**January 1586**

*fol 114<sup>r</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

Item be his maiesties precept to the four ordiner trumpetouris for their new  
ȝeir gift As the same producit beris

x li

...

*fol 105<sup>r</sup>*

...

Item be his Maiesties precept to thomas foulis goldsmith for certane Jouellis and  
goldsmith wark furnessit be him to the new ȝeiris giftis gevin be his hienes for ye  
present ȝeir compted fyve hundred fyftie ane crounis of gold. at L s the pece Inde.  
As the same togidder with ye perticulare producit beris

j<sup>m</sup> iiij<sup>c</sup> Lxxvij li

### ***Receiver's Accounts, January***

*fol 51<sup>r</sup>*

The first day to ye fyve trumpetouris for yair new ȝeiris gift

x li

...

### ***Treasurer's Accounts***

**February 1586**

*fol 121<sup>v</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

Item be his hienes speciale command to george strathauchane his maiesties  
tapesair for the expensis maid be him vpoun sindrie necessaris concerning  
the hinging and vpsetting of his maiesties tapestrie during the tyme of ye  
dutche embassadouris being heir etc As the perticulare compt mair specialie  
subscryuit be his hienes and ye Maister of ye gairdrome producit vpoun compt  
beris

Lxvij li

...

***Receiver's Accounts, February***

*fol 113<sup>v</sup>*

...

[6 Feb]

The said day to ane fidler at ȝour l command

vj s viij d

***Treasurer's Accounts***

**April 1586**

*fol 131<sup>r</sup> (Expenses by King's precept)*

...

Item To his hienes four ordiner trumpetouris for their monethlie wages sen  
the first of maij 1585 to the first of maij 1586 extending to tuelf monethis  
takand monethlie vj li xiiij s iiiij d Inde

lxxx li

*fol 131<sup>v</sup>*

Item to his hienes violaris for yair allouance to by thame cleathing for ye ȝeir  
compted

ij<sup>c</sup> li

...

*fol 135<sup>v</sup>*

...

Item To Johnne kinloch and robert schaw catchepularis for their ȝeirlie  
allowance in furnessing of ballis and rackettis to his maiestie omittit in ye last  
compt of lxxxij and lxxxiiij ij<sup>c</sup> li and for ye lxxxv ȝeir compted j<sup>c</sup> li Inde

ij<sup>c</sup> Li

***Receiver's Accounts, April***

*fol 117<sup>v</sup>*

...

The xxv day to tua fidleris at ȝour l command

xiiij s iiij d

The said day to ane sangster in Lynmer

ijj s iiij d

...

## DOCUMENT DESCRIPTIONS

### *Treasurer's Accounts*

#### **E21/64 1 May 1585–1 May 1586**

[Description incomplete] Edinburgh, National Archives of Scotland, E21/64. 1585–1586. Latin and Scots. Paper. iv + 146 + ii. Modern pencil foliation. Regular layout, some display capitals. Generally good condition, conserved and rebound, pages repaired with paper where slightly worn at the corners, the whole rebound in brown leather with lightly tooled border. Treasurer-depute: Sir Robert Melville of Murdocairnie.

### *Receiver's Accounts*

#### **E22/13 May 1585–October 1587**

[Description incomplete] Edinburgh, National Archives of Scotland, E22/13. 1585-1587. Scots. Paper. Relatively informal daily accounts kept by John Gray for the Treasurer-depute Sir Robert Melville. ff. 120. Payments begin f. 47<sup>r</sup> titled: 'Discharge of signatouris of ye Lxxxv [& sex] <....> debursit be me Johnne gray <.....> The kingis Seruandis compt begynnand in maij 1585 ȝeris. Payments divided into various sections, each one running chronologically through the entire period: Kings Servants, Officers and Boys, Treasurer's own costs.