

RECORDS OF EARLY ENGLISH DRAMA

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THE ROYAL COURT OF SCOTLAND 1585-1586

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1585-6

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

1 May 1585 – 30 April 1586

May 1585

fol 64^r (Expenses by King's precept)

...

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

...

fol 64^v

...

Item be his maiesties speciale command to Williame mayne for twa speiris to his hienes iij li and for cullering 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^r

The first of Maij to thomas hudsoun violar
... xxvj li

fol 46^v

...
The said day to williame mayne for tua speiris
... ij li

The said day to piggie laquay for culloring of ye said tua speiris
... iiij li

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

Treasurer's Accounts

June 1585

fol 71^r (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
... xij s iiij d

fol 73^r

...
Item be his hienes precept To william hudsoun ane of his maiesties violeris as
ye same *producit* beris
... ij^c 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 zoung maister elimosinare sevin scoir twa elnis half eln
blew clayth to be gownis to xix aigit men according to the zeiris of his hienes
aige price of the eln xx s Inde
... j^c xlij li x s

Item nyne elnis half eln buckrum *yairto* price of the eln viij s iiij d
Inde
... ij li xvij s iiij 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 iiij d Inde vj s iiij d

fol 73^v

...

Item be his hienes precept To alexander thomesoun gairdiner for making and Repairing of ane pair of buttis within his maiesties north 3aird of halirudhous As the sami[n] productit vpoun compt beris xl li

...

Receiver's Accounts, June

fol 41^v

...

The said day To drummond's wyfe that was king James ye ffyftis trumpetour xx s

...

fol 47^r

...

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

...

The xix day To ye xix auld men yat gat ye blew gownis Ilk ane xix s Inde xviiij li xij d

fol 47^v

[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 iij li vj s viij d

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

...

fol 103^r

...

[18 June]

The said day to ane man of brunteland for carying of ye pure menis gownis to dunfermling iij s

...

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

Treasurer's Accounts

July 1585

fol 78^v (Expenses by King's precept)

...

Item be his maiesties speciale command to findlay tailzeour 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^v

...

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^r (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^r

...

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^m ix^c xx li

Receiver's Accounts, August

fol 43^r

...

[9 August]

The said day to seyttoun for ye trwmpetouris

xxvj s viij d

...

The xx of august To Drummond trumpetour

iiij li vj s viij d

The said day to James sawoy trumpetour

iiij li

...

fol 48^v

...

[1 Aug]

The said day to ye duche ambassadouris trumpetouris yat soundit to his maiestie ye said day threttie crownis at L s [ye] ^r ye ^r 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^v

...

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

vj s viij d

...

September

fol 43^v

...

[2 Sept]

The said day to seyttoun to compt for ye trumpetouris

ij li vj s viij d

...

The xxvij day To williame Ramsay trumpetour

ij li vj s viij d

...

October

fol 44^r

...

The tent day to seyttoun for ye trumpetouris

xl s

...

Treasurer's Accounts

November 1585

fol 107^v (Expenses on officers and boys travelling)

...

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

vj s viij d

December 1585

fol 109^v (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 productit 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 crowne 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^r (Expenses by King's precept)

Item be his hienes precept To lyoun king of Armes and his brether herauldis 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 predicessouris As the same *producit vpoun compt proportis* ij^c li

...

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

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

fol 111^v (Expenses on officers and boys travelling)

Item To nicoll copland messenger passand with *lettres* and thre trumpetouris with him to the mercat croces of lynlytgw and *edinburgh* & vyeris places neidfull to mak publicatioun of James gibsoun *minister* at penkaitland his maist malitious and tressvnable deserving and of ye ordour appointit tobe tane *yairanent* etc. eftir ye tennour of ye saidis *lettrez* xl s

...

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^r

...

Item to Johnne mathesoun and *John* somerwell messengeris 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^v

...

The Nynt day To ye thrie trumpetouris viz Ramsay Drummond and sawoy xiiij li vj s viij d

...

fol 62^v

The viij day to tua officeris and tua trumpetouris to proclame 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 proclame 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^r (Expenses by King's precept)

Item be his maiesties precept to the four ordiner trumpetouris for their new 3eir gift As the same producit beris x li

...

fol 105^r

...

Item be his Maiesties precept to thomas foulis goldsmyth for certane Jouellis and goldsmyth wark furnessit be him to the new 3eir giftis gevin be his hienes for ye present 3eir compted fyve hundreth fyftie ane crounis of gold. at L s the pece Inde. As the same togidder with ye perticulare producit beris j^m iij^c Lxxvij li

Receiver's Accounts, January

fol 51^r

The first day to ye fyve trumpetouris for yair new 3eir gift x li

...

Treasurer's Accounts

February 1586

fol 121^v (Expenses by King's precept)

Item be his hienes speciale command to george strathauchane his maiesties tapesair for the expenssis 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 gairdrobe producit vpoun compt beris Lxxvij li

...

Receiver's Accounts, February

fol 113^v

...

[6 Feb]

The said day to ane fidler at *your* l command

vj s viij d

Treasurer's Accounts

April 1586

fol 131^r (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 iiij d Inde

lxxx li

fol 131^v

Item to his hienes violaris for *yair* allowance to by thame cleathing for ye zeir compted

ij^c li

...

fol 135^v

...

Item To Johnne kinloch and robert schaw catchepularis for their zeir lie allowance in furnessing of ballis and rackets to his maⁱestie omittit in ye last compt of lxxxiiij and lxxxiiij ij^c li and for ye lxxxv zeir compted j^c li Inde

ij^c Li

Receiver's Accounts, April

fol 117^v

...

The xxv day to tua fidleris at *your* l command

xiiij s iiij d

The said day to ane sangster in Lynmer

iiij 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' titled: 'Discharge of signatouris of ye Lxxxv [& sex] <....> debursit be me *Johnne* gray <.....> The kingis *Seruandis* compt begynnand in maij 1585 3eris. Payments divided into various sections, each one running chronologically through the entire period: Kings Servants, Officers and Boys, Treasurer's own costs.