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EXTRACTS

FROM THE

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DIAREY of ROBERT BIRREL, Burges of Edin-
burgh, containing Divers Passages of Staite and
uthers Memorable Accidents.

*(From the 1532 zeir of our Redemptioun till ye beginning of the
zeir 1605.)*

THERE has beine in this kingdome of Scotland, ane hunder-
eth and fyve kinges, of quhilk ther wes slaine fyftie sex.

Robert ye 2d ye first of the Steuarts, wes crowned in the zeir
of God 1371.

The 5 of May, the toune of Edinburghe brunt by Englisch-
men, in anno 1544.

The 29 of June, the inch betwixt Leith and Kingorne, wes
vouned frome the Englischmen by the Frenchemen; and, one
this same day, Bruchty Castell wes vouned also, in anno 1549.

The 6 of Apryll, the toune of Leith wes beseidgett, quhilk
wes keipett by Frenchemen, bot wes forced to rander ye same,
and so gatt lieve to goe with bage and baggage, after yat the
Englichmen had foughten them sundrey tymes, in anno 1560.

The 19 of Auguste, Queine Marey landit at Leith, quho wes
stollen out of France by certaine Lordis, in anno 1561.

The 4 day of Auguste, Matthew Earll of Lennox came to
Edinburghe; also his sonne Henrey, quho mariet ye Queine
upon ye 29 day of Julay, in the palaice of Holyroudhous, and
wes called Henrey the 2d, in anno 1565.

The 9 day of March, Seingeour David, surnamed Risius, ane
Italiane, quha wes the Queine's secretary, a man verey skilfull
in music and poetry, wes slaine in her Majestie's presence by
the Lord Ruthuen, and uthers his complices, quha were all ba-
nished therefor in anno 1566.*

* These Lords entered (or as others relate the storie) rushed
togethir and the Kyng wt. them) in to the Queene's dyning rowme at sup-
per



Upon the 19 day of Junii, at 8 houres in the morning, Prince James was borne in the Castell of Edinburghe, and, upon the 22d day of Auguste, he was conveyed to Striveling, in 1566.

The 10 day of Auguste, Henry Zaire hangit at the crosse of Edinburghe, and then quartred, for being at ye slaughter of Seingeour Davide ye Italiane.

The 25 of October 1566, word came to the toun of Edinburghe, frome the Queine, yat her Majestie wes deadly seike, and desyrit ye bells to be rung, and all ye peopell to resort to ye kirk to pray for her, for she wes so seike that none lipned her life.

The Prince was baptized upone the 17 day of December 1566, in the chappell royall of Striveling, and wes named Charles James, James Charles.

The 13 day of Januarii, 1567, the Queine and Prince came to Edinburghe out of Striveling; at which time K. Henrey was layand seike in Glasgow of the small poks, bot some sayed he had gottene poysons.

The 20 day of Januarii, 1567, the Queine departit out of Edinburghe to Glasgow to visit the King.

The last of Januarii, 1567, the K. and Queine came to Edinburghe out of Glasgow, the King being caried in ane chariott, and took his lodgeing in the Kirke of Feild.

One the 9 day of this moneth, (February 1567), being Sonnday befor Fasteryng's even, the K. wes murdered in his lodgeing in the Kirke of Feild, about midnight or thereby; the said lodgeing pertining to Sir James Balfour, Provost of ye said kirke. The hous wes raisett up from the ground vith pouder; and the King's chamberman, named John Tailzeour, wes found vith him lyand in ane zaird dead under ane tree; and the King, if he had not beine cruelly vyrriet, after he fell out of the aire, with his awen garters, he had leived.

The 10 day of this moneth, (February 1567), the ethnassadors of France & Savoy came to the house quher the K. wes lyand, and requyred a sight of him, bot wes refusit thereof by the shouldours.

The 15 day, (February 1567), K. Henrey was buried very secretly in the night at Holyruidhous.

The 23 of March 1567, ther wes ane solemne saule mass with a dergie sounge afternoone, and done in the chapell royal of

per tyme, shee sitting at table wt the Countesse of Argyle; assaulted the fellow wt. there naked awords, as he tasted meat coming frome ye Queene's table at ye cup boord (as ye servants of ye privie chamber uses to doe) befor hir face, being great wt. chylde, trembling wt. fear, and setting a pistoll to hir breast, so yt. shee was in danger of present abortion; and pulling the wretch out of hir hands (who gript fast unto hir) violentlie out unto ye utter chamber, he all ye tyme crying most pitifullie to ye Queene, Justitia, justitia, Madame! save ma vie, save ma vie! and there they most cruellie wtout pitie killed him, shooting ye Queen in an upper parlor.

Holyrudhous, for the said Henrey Steuarte and his saule, by the papists, at her Majestie's command.

Upon the 24 of Apryll 1567, her Majestie, upon comeing back from Striveling to Edinburghe, at the bridge of Craumont, the Earll of Bothuell, being well accompanied, raveshett ye Queine, and so took her yat same night to ye castell of Dumbar (not against her awen will).

The Earle of Bothuell had to his vyffe a good modest and vertuous voman, sister to ye Earll of Huntley, zet by moyen wes divorcit from her, alledging in his lybelled summones, yat they wer so neir of kin and blood, yat it could not be a lawfull mariage.

The 12 day of Maii 1567, James Hepburne Earl of Bothuel, by the Quein's grace, with advysse of her counsell then present, wes creatt and proclaimit Marquess of Fyfe and Duck of Orkney.

The 15 of Maii 1567 the Queine wes married to the Duck of Orkney, in the chappel royall of Holyrudhous, by Adam Bothuell, abbote of Holyrudhouss; and his text wes ye 2d of Genesis.

The 12 day of Junii 1567 ye Queine and Duck rode to Dumbar, and sent proclamations throughe ye countrey, to raise in feare of weir, to assist her against these quho ver to persew her, and her husband ye Duck of Orkney.

The 14 day, (June 1567), the Queine came to Settone with 4 companiis of shouldiours, and sundrey Earlls, Lords, and Barons. The Lords in Edinburghe haveand intelligence thereof, strake the alarum incontinent, and from thence marched to Rastalrigg Links, quher they rested till ye next morning.

The 15 day, (June 1567), being Sonneday, the armies came vithin view. The one stood upone Carberrey Hills, with 4 regiments of shouldiours, and sex feild peices of brasse; the uthar army stode over against it, messengers going betwixt them all day till neir night; dureing which parley, the Duck fled secretly to Dumbar, and the Queine came and randred herself prisoner to ye Lordis, quho convoyed her to Edinburghe to the Provost's lodgeing for yat night; Sr. Symeon Prestone of Craigmillar being Provost for ye time.

At yat same time, Capitane Andrew Lammie, lies ensigne being of quhyt taffitae, had painted one it ye creuell murther of K. Henry, and layed doune befor her Matie: at quhat time she presented herself as prisoner to ye Lordis; at the sight quherof ther wes such lamentatione amongst the haill gentlemen and shouldiours, to see her defend him quho was the cruell murtherer of her awen deir husband.

The 16 day, (June 1567), the Queine was convoyed to Lochlewin castell, quher she wes vardit.

The 24 day of Junii 1567, Capitane Villiam Blacketer wes drawin backward in ane cairte frome ye tolbuith to the crosse, and ther wes hangit and quartred, for being on the King's murther.

The 26 day of July 1567, the Lordis past to Striveling, and tooke with them ye crowne, sword, scepter, and robes royall, accompanied with ye most of ye nobility, and ther producit ye Quein's commissione and consent, subseigned with her awett hand, yat ye Prince James, her sonne, should be crowned king of Scotland.

And upon the 29 of Julay, the Prince wes crowned king of Scotland, at tua afternoone, in the kirke of Striveling.

The 22 of Aguste 1567, James Earl of Murray wes made and proclaimed Regent vith grate solemnity, by the heralds at the crosse, till ye King should attaine to ye age of 17 zeirs compleit.

The 4 of September 1567, James Adamsonne headlit, and Johne Blaketer hangit, at ye crosse of Edinburghe, for piracie.

The 5 of September 1567, the castell of Edinburghe randred be Sir James Balfour of Burlie, and thereafter ye Regent gave ye same to Sr. James Kircaldy of Grange.

The 10 of October 1567, ther wes ane proclamatione to meit ye Regent in Peibleis, upone ye 8 of Nouember next, for ye repressing of the thieves in Annandall and Easdaill; bot my Lord Regent, thinking they wald gett advertisement, he preventit the day, and came over the vater secretly, and lodgit in Dalkeith; this upone ye 19 day; and upone ye morrow he departed towards Hauick, quher he came both secretly and suddenly, and ther tooke 34 thieves, quhom he partly caused hang, and partly droune, 5 he lett frie upone cautione; and, upone the 2d of Nouember, he brought uther ten of them vith him to Edinburghe, and ther putte them in irons.

Upon the 26 day of October 1567, ane raif and vounderful accident fell out by Sathan's instigations. Ane gentleman, called George Hamiltone, being married upone ane Jeane Vitherspoune, he had a brother called Peiter Hamiltone, quho lay in incest vith hes brother's vyffe; and sua he and she conspyred the gentleman's death, named George Hamiltone of Bathgate; and sua Peitar, with hes complices, murthred hes brother, and lefte hes seruant Johne Cochran sore voundit, and in tyme of ye murther the dead father fell over the credell quher hes awen chyld was lying sleiping, end smothered the poore infant. Peiter being apprehendit with hes complices, ane Hamiltone a trumpetour, and a zoung man callit Steuarts, ver all 3 brought to Edinburgh ye 4 day of Nouember, and ye lady vith them. They wer arraigned for the said murder, and on the 5 of Nouember ye said Peiter Hamiltone was heidit at ye crosse of Edinburgh and ye 2 zoung men hangit ther; and upone ye 6 day of ye same month, the said Jeane Vitherspoune haveing confest heordome, incest, and murther of her awen husband, she wes brunt.

The 24 of November 1567, at 2 afternoon, ye laird of Airthe and ye laird of Weeims met upone ye heigh gaitt of Edin-

burghe; and they and ther followers faught a verrey bloudey skirmish, quher ther wes maney hurte one both sydes vith shote of pistol.

The same nyght, ane vyffe in Craunmount creuely vyrriet her awen husband; bot God releived him that he dyed not.

Upone the 27 of November 1567, ther was a strait proclamatioun, discharging ye wearing of guns or pistolls, or aney sicklyke fywerwork ingyne, under ye paine of death, the King's guard and shouldours only excepted.

The 8 of Januarii 1569, Johne Auld, miller at the Vater of Leith, drowned in the North Loche, passing over at 4 houres at even; and ane uther with him in grate danger of hes lyffe.

The 23 of Januarii 1570, James Steuarte Earle of Murray, the good Regent of Scotland, wes slaine in Linklithgow, by James Hamiltons of Boduel Haughe, quho shote the said Regent with a gun out at the vindow, and presently thereafter fled out at ye backsyde, and leaped one a verrey good hors, which the Hamiltons had ready waiting for him; and, being followed speedily, after yat spure and vand had failed him, he drew forth hes dages, and spooke hes hors behind, quhilk caused the hors to leape a verrey brode stanke; by quhilk meines he escaipit, and gat away frome all ye rest of the horses.

The 27 day of Januarii 1570, Mathew Steuarte Earle of Lennox, ves proclamit Regent, and ye Earle of Mortone hes Lieu-tenant. This Mathew Earle of Lennox, halding ane Parliament at Striveling, quher the young King wes present, he made ane oratioun to the haill nobility, being sitting in ye Parliament. Ye chyd King looking upward to ye roofe of the hous, he saw an hell throughe the sclaiting; he said, I think ther is ane hell in this Parliament; sua that shortly thereafter hes Majestie's vords came true.

The 14 of Maii 1571, ane Parliament, haldin in the Cannon-gait, in Villiam Cocker's hous neir St. Johne's crosse, by the King's folkes: Also at ye same tyme, ane Parliament hald in the tolbuith of Edinburgh. Ther wes maney forfaukt at both ye Parliaments.

The 16th day of Junii 1571, ane skirmish betwixt ye Earll of Mortone upone ye Kinge's pairt, quho came out of Leith, and the Earll of Huntley, vith the Hamiltons, qua keiped Edinburgh, one the uther syde. At ye same tyme, quhen the tuo armies wer standing upon ye fieldes, the Earle of Mortone standing at ye Halkhill, the Hamiltons, Homes, &c. standing at ye Quarrell Holes, ther wes ane English embassadour quho traivelled betwixt them, to haue gotten them stayed from battell; bot they being of contrarey opinions, vould not be stayed from ye battell. In ye end, they joyned both togidder; sua that the Earll of Mortone pute the Queine's folk back sua far, yat they wer forced dishonourably to flee, and, in ther flight, maney of Huntley and Hamiltones men ver slaine and hurt.

Amongst ye chieffe men yat ver slaine of ye Hamiltones wes Gauine Hamiltone and 3 or four uther captains, with numbers of common shouldiours ; and ye Lord Home wes taken prisoner.

In the moneth of August 1571, about the tyme of the riding of the Parliament, ther came to Striveling, or day light, befor euer the Regent, nobility, or toun of Striveling vist or trew, the Earle of Huntly the Quein's lieutenant, Claude Hamiltone, with the lairds of Buccleugh and Farniherst ; and by day brake wer going throughe the toun, crying, God and ye Queine ; sua that the King's peopell, with ye Regent and nobilities and ye shouldiours, raise in such a steir, yat they could not vine to-gider, because the streits ves full of enimies ; and quher they could find aney of the Regent's peopell, without mercey they killed them. In the end, ye Regent being taken by the laird of Buccleugh prisoner, ane unhappy fellow lifted up his jack taill, and shot him through ye body, he being sitting behind Buccleugh one hes hors back ; and immediately the Earll of Mar wes proclaimed Regent.

Upon the 24 day of Auguste 1572, ves yat inhumane, bloody, and cruell massacker at Pareis in France, quherin ye noble Admirall wes slaine, at ye mariage of ye King of Nauar with ye King of France hes sister. At this horrible murthering of trew Christians, it wes said yat ye streits of Pareis rane bloud a quhole day and night, which, if be true, it is a horror for all posterity of the bloudy dangers and hellish inhumanity.

In the first of Januarii 1573 the castell of Edinburghe wes beseidget. Upone the 2 day of Maii, the Englisch canone vich ves sent by Queine Elizabeth for ye aide and helpe of ye King and hes Regent, in number 20 grate peices, began to shoute at ye castell of Edinburghe, being stelilit (steittit or stated), at foure several places, viz. 5 at Egers hous in the Castell Hill, 5 at the Grayfriar church zaird, 5 at Scotts land neir ye West Porte, and uther 5 bezond the North Loche : they shote so hard continually yat ye 2d day they had beitt doune quholly 3 touers. The laird of Grange, called Kircaldy of surname, quho wes capitaine therof, vold not giue over, bote shote at them continually, both vith grate shote and small, so yat ther wes a verey grate slaughter amongst the English canoniers, sundries of them having ther legges and armes torne from ther bodies in the aire by the viholence of the grate shote. At last, the Regent continuing his seidge so closse and hard, the capitaine being forced by the defendants for laick of victualls, randret ye same, after a grate maney of them ver slaine. The castell wes thus randred to ye King and hes Regent the Earle of Mortone, the 29 of Maii in this zeir 1573, quha continued Regent, and kept ye cuntrey in grate justice and peace all ye time of hes government.

The 3 day of Auguste 1573, the laird of Grange, surnamed Kircaldy, quho wes capitane of the castell of Edinburghe, ves

hangit at ye crosse of the said toun, for keiping of the said castell against ye King and hes Regent.

Ane man named Black Ormistoune, wes hangit at ye crosse of Edinburghe for being present at ye murther of King Henry, anno 1574.

Upone ye first day of Januarii 1580, ye Earll of Mortone wes putte in varde in ye castell of Edinburghe for conceilling the King's murther, and zit neuir consentit to it, bot fled from place to place quhen he heard word it wes to be done, for feir yat they quho wes upone the conspiracey, viz. the Queine and the Earl of Bothuell, should urge him to subscriue to ye same; notwithstanding yat he had faughten maney tymes in persecuing for the murther, these yat had consentit to it, and acted ye same, zit he wes beheidit for conceilling of it. And in this same moneth, ye said of Mortone wes takin out of ye castell of Edinburghe, and convoyet to ye castell of Dumbartane.

Upone the 9 Maii in this zeir, (1581), the Earle of Mortone wes brought out of Dumbartane castell to Edinburghe, and being accusit for committing ye King's murther, wes convicte be ane assyze; and one the second day of ye moneth of Junii thereafter wes beheidit at ye crosse of Edinburghe.

Upon the 4 day of Maii 1585, ye pestilence begune in Edinburghe, and wes first knawin to be in Symeon Marcerbank's house; quhilk pest continued till Januarii thereafter: the haill peipell quhilk wer abill to flee fled out of ye toun; nevertheless, ther dyed of peipell wich ver not abill to flee 14 hundreth and some odd.

Upone the 13 of Maii 1586, the King being in Holyruidhous, convenit ye haill lords and noblemen yat had feid; and ther, in the palace of Holyruidhous, he caused ye haill noblemen yat had deidly feid at uthers, to aggre togidder; and after they had shoken hands togidder, and drunken ane to ane uther, for confirming of ye said aggrement and freindschipe, and also, yat the haill cuntrey might the better understand yat it wes hes Maiestie's vorke, caused them to come from ye palace of Holyruidhous, euery one in uthers hands, and hes Maiestie vith them, to ye crosse of Edinburghe, quher ye city made them a veray sumptous banquet; at quhilk tyme, ther wes much ioy and solemnity, with mutuall salutations of good vill one to ane uther; hes Maiestie drinking peace and happines to them all, yat ye lyke wes nevir befor sein in Edinburghe.

The 30 day of Julii 1588, Sr. Villiame Steuarte wes slaine in the Black friar vynde be the Earl of Bothuell. The cause he slew him for wes, yat upone a tyme before ye Earle and he being at vords, Sr. William bad ye Earll kiss his . . . ; the Earle heiring yat base and despytful answer, ther made a vowe to God yat he should kiss hes . . . to hes no grate pleasour: sua thereafter rancountering the said Sir Villiam in ye Black friar vynde by chance, told him he vould now kiss his . . . , and

with yat drew hes suord, Sr. Villiam standing to hes defence, and hauing his back at ye vall, ye Earle made a thruste at him with his rapier, and strake him in at the back and out at the belly, and killed him.

The 7 of Maii 1590 Anna of Denmark was crowned Queine of Scotland at Holyrudhous. The 19 day of Maii the Queine made her entrey in Edinburghe, vith grate triumphe and ioy, pageants being erected in every place, adorned vith all things befitting: zoung boys, vith artificiall winges, at her entry, did flee towards her, and presented her tuo siluer keyes of ye city. The castell shott of all her ordinance 5 several tymes, and at night the toune ves putt full of bonefyres.

The 22 day of Junii 1591, the Earle of Bothuell brak ward out of ye castell of Edinburghe, quha had beine ther in prisone some 20 dayis befor, for alledgit vitchcraft, and consulting vith vitches, especially vith ane Richard Grahame, to conspyre the King's death; and, upone the 25 of Junii, ye said Earle Bothuell wes forfaitured, and intimatione made thereof by opin proclamatioun at the crosse of Edinburghe.

The 27 of September 1591, the Earle of Bothuell made a steir in the Abbay of Holyruidhous, quho came in over ye hous in ye south syde of the palace, and the said Earle taking too grate presumptione, he, with hes complices, strake vith ane hammer at his Maiesties chalmer dore, and, in the meine tyme, the haill noblemen and gentlemen of hes Maiesties hous raise, quho thought to have taken ye said Earll Bothuell and hes complices: the said Earle fled: zet he returned at the south syde of the Abbay, quher the said Earle and hes complices slew hes Maiesties maister stabler, named Villiam Shaw, and ane with him, named Mr. Peiter Shaw. Bot the King's folke tooke 8 men of Bothuell's factione, and, on the morrow, hangit them all without ane assayze, betwix the girth crasse and ye Abbay gait.

The 28 of December 1591, ye King's Maiestie came to St. Geill's kirk, and ther made ane oratione anent the fray made by Bothuell, and William Shaw's slauchter, hes maister stabler.

The 7 of Februarii 1592, the Earle of Huntlie cam to the hous of Dunibirsell in Fyffe, quher the Earll of Murray, vith a few number, wes for the tyme, being his awen hous. The chieffe man yat ves vith him ves Dumbar, shriffe of Murray. The Earll of Huntley sett ye said hous on fyre: the Earll of Murray being vithin, vist not quhither to come out and be slaine or be burned quicke: zet, after advysment, this Dumbar says to my Lord of Murray, I vill goe out at ye gait befor your Lordshipe, and I am sure the peopell will charge on me, thinking me to be zoure Lordshipe; sua it being mirke vnder night, ze sall come out after me, and look if yat ye can fend for zour self. In the mein tyme, this Dumbar, tutor to ye shriffe of Murray, cam furth, and rane desperately among the Earle of Huntley's folke, and they all rane upone him and pre-

sently slew him. During this broyle with Dumber, the Earle of Murray came running out at ye gaitt of Dunibirsell, quhilk stands besyde ye sea, and ther satt him doune among ye rocks, thinking to have beine saue; bott unfortunatly the said Lord's cnapskull tippet, quherone ves a silk stringe, had taken fyre, vich betrayed him to hes enemies in ye darknesse of ye night, himselue not knowing the same; they cam doune on him on a suddaine, and ther most creuely, without mercey, murdered him.

The last of Februarii 1592, Richard Grahame was brunt at ye cross of Edinburghe, for vitchcrafte and sorcery.

The 18 of Marche 1592, ane proclamatioun that ye zounge Earle of Murray should not perseu the Earll of Huntley, in respecte he being vardit in ye Blacknes for ye same murder, he wes villing to abyde ane trial, saying, yat he did nothing but by hes Maiesties commission, and sua ves nather airt nor pairt of ye murther.

Upon ye 17 of July 1592, the Earl of Bothuell, with hes complices, made a fray at Falkland, hes Matie. being ther, and thereafter hes Matie. came over the vater; and upone ye 26 day of this same moneth, hes Matie. made an oratione concerning ye same in the grate kirke of Edinburghe. Immediatly after ye fray, Bothuell and hes men came over ye vater, and ther ver 18 of them taken in Cader mure and in other pairts neir Cader mure, laying sleiping for vant of rest and interteinment; and immediatly after ther taking, they wer all brought to Edinburghe and hangit. At ye same tyme, ye lairds of Nidrie and Samuelstone, ver takin by Johne Lord Hamiltone, and vardit in the castell of Draphane, and came to Edinburghe, thinking to haue gotten grace to them from hes Matie.: he came doune to hes Matie's. ludgings in the Netherbow, and going into Mr. Johne Laing's hous quher hes Maiestie ludgit, the guard standing above ye port vith ther hagbutts, guns, and uther veapons, the forsaid guard seeing my Lord Hamiltone, for the honour of his Lordshippe shott ane volley at my Lord: ther wes ane man speiking to hes Lordshipe shotte through the head, ane uther by him shotte through the legge, and ane bullet strooke the lintell of ye gait iust above my Lord's head quher he stode, zet no more harme done; so yat by meir accident ye said Lord Hamiltone had most haue beine slaine, and not through aney euil vill. The Lord Hamiltone seeing yat he could gett no grace to ye said tuo gentlemen, he sent vord to hes bastard sone Sr. Johne, quho convoyett ye said tuo gentlemen away, and vent vith them himselue for ther more saftey.

The 14 of Februar 1593, Sr. Alexr. Stewart and Mr. Johnie Grahame slaine be Sr. James Sandilands at ye fitt of Leith wynd.

The 18 of Maii 1593, ane suddaine shower of rain and haile, the said day being Monday, the chapmans standis and stuillis

came sweming doune the streit of Edr. lyke as they had beine selling doune the vater.

The 19 of May 1593, Katherine Muirhead brunt for vitch-crafte, quha confest sundrie poynts yrof.

The 24 of Julii 1593, at 8 hours in the morneing, the Earle of Bothuell, the laird of Spott, Mr. Villiam Leslie, and Mr. Jon. Colvill, came into the King's chalmer weill provydit with pistol; this Earle and hes complices came not yis way provydit with pistollis and drauin suordis to harme the King's Maiestie aney wayis, bot becaus he could not get presence of his Maies-tie, nor speich of him for the Homes, quha were courtiers with the King and enimies to the said Earle of Bothuell, sua they cam into hes Maiestie's chalmer, resolving yameselues not to be haldin back till they sould haue spoken vith him: and sua after yai came in, hes Maiestie wes coming frae ye backstair and his breiks in hes hand in ane feir; howbeit he needit not. Ye for-said Bothuell and his complices fell upon yair knies, and beggit mercie at hes Maiestie; and his Maiestie being wyse, merciful, a noble Prince of grate pitie, not desyrous of bluid, granted yame mercie, and receivit yame in hes fa-vour; and at 4 hours afternoone, causit proclame yame hes frie leidges; and upone ye 27 day, ye same proclamatioun of ye Earle of Bothuell's peace wes renewit at ye crosse vith heralds and trumpettis sounding for ioy.

The 13 of Marche 1594, his M. came to Mr. Robert Bruises preiching, being Sunday, qr. Mr. Rot. Bruis said to hes M. yat God wald steir up ma Bothuells nor ane, yat wes ma enimies to him nor Boduell, if he revengit not his and faught not Godis quarrell and batells one the papists, befor he faucht or revenge hes awen particular.

The 3 of Apryll 1594, the King being ludgit in Robert Gourlay's ludging, he came to the sermone, and ther, in pre-sence of the hail pepill, he promest to revenge God's cause, and to banische all the papists, and yr. requystit the hail pei-ple to gang with him against Boduell, quha wes in Leith for the tyme. The same day, the King's Maiestie rais and the toune of Edr. in armes. The Earle of Bothuell, quha wes in Leith, heiring that hes Maiestie wes coming doune with the toune of Edr. he rais with his fiue hunder hors, and rode up to the Halkhill besyde Lesteric, and ther stood till he saw the King and the toune of Edr. approaching neir him. He drew hes companie away throw Duddingston, My Lord Home fol-lowit till the Wownmet, at qlk place, the Earle Bothuell turnit, thinking to have a het at Home; bot Home fled, and he followit; zit be chance little bluid. The King's Maiestie flue himself, seeing the said chaice.

The 19 of Januar 1595, the zoung Earle of Montrois fought ane combate wt. Sr. James Sandilands at the Salt Trone of Edr. thinking to have revengit the slauchter of hes cusine Mr. John

Grahame, quha wes yr slaine with ane shot of ane pistol, and four of hes men slaine with suords, viz. Johne Craufurd, Johne Grahame, George Dundass, and Alexander Boner.

The 14 of Aguste 1595, Christian Johnnestoun, ane widow in Edr. revest be Patrick Aikenhead. The tounne wes put in ane grate fray be the ringing of the commone bell. The said Christian wes follouit and brocht back fra him, sua that the said Patrick got no advantage of her.

The 15 of September 1595, Johne Macmorrane slaine be the shott of ane pistole out of the schooll. This Johne Macmorrane being baillie for the tyme, the bairns of the said gramar schooll came to the tounes counsell conforme to yair zeirleie custome, to seek the priuiledge, quha wes refusit; upone the qlk, ther wes ane number of schollaris, being gentelmens bairns, made ane mutinie, and came in the night and tooke the schooll, and prouydit yameselfis wt. meit, drink, and hagbutis, pistolet, and suord: they ranforcit the dores of the said schooll, sua yat yai refusit to let in yr. mr. nor nae uther man, wtout they wer grantit ther privilege, conforme to yr. wontit use. The Prouost and Baillies and Counsell heiring tell of the same, they ordeinit John Macmorrane baillie, to goe to the gramar schooll and take some order yrw. The said Johne, with certein officers, went to the schooll, and requystit the schollaris to opin the doreis: yai refusit. The said baillie and officers tooke ane geast and rane at the back dore with the geast. Ane schollar bad him desist from dinging up the dore, utherways, he vouit to God, he wald shute ane pair of bulletis throw hes heid. The said baillie thinking he durst not shute, he, with his assisters, ran still wt. the geast at the said dore. Ther came ane schollar callit William Sinclair, sone to William Sinclair chansler of Catnes, and with ane pistolet shott out at ane window, and shott the said baillie throw the heid, sua yat he diet. Pntlie the haill tounsmen ran to the schooll, and tuik the said bairns and put yame in the tolbuith: bot the haill bairns wer letten frie wtout hurte done to yame fer the same, wtin. ane short tyme yairafter.

The 22 of Novr. 1595, 4 heralds sitting drinking, tua of yame fell in words, viz. Johne Purdie and Johne Gladstanis. The said Johne Gladstanis stikit Johne Purdie at the table; and the said Gladstanis being apprehendit, he wes beheidit upone the 25 day of the same moneth of Novr. for the same slaughter.

In this pnt. zeir of God, (1595), the dearthe of victuall increased, and yair wes sic famine in yis countrie, the lyk wes nevir heard tell of in aney aidge befor, nor neuir red of since the world wes maid, as ze sall heir: In yis moneth of October and Nouember, the quhyt and malt at ten libr. the boll; in Marche yrafter, the sat maill 16 lib. the boll, the humbell corne 7 lib. the boll.

In the moneth of Majj, the ait maill 20 lib. the boll in Galloyay. At this tyme, ther came victuall out of uthir partis, in

sic abundans, that betwixt the first of Julii and the 10 of August, thair came into Leith thre scoir and sex shippes laden wt. victual; nevirtheless, the ry gave 10 pund 10 sh. and xi the boll. The 2 of September the ry came down and wes sauld for 7 lib. the boll, and new ait mail for vii. sh. the peck, and 7 sh. and 6d. the peck. The 29 of Octr. the ait mail came up again at 10 sh. the peck. The 15 of Julii, the ait mail at 13 sh. and 4d. the peck; the pease mail at xi—the peck.

The 6 of Apryll 1596, the laird of Buccleugh past to the castell of Carleill wt. 70 men, and tuik out Will. Knymonth out of the said castell, the said Will. lyand in ironis wthin the iron zett. Yis he did with shouting and crying, and sound of trumpet, puttand the said toun and countrie in sic ane fray that the lyk of sic ane wassaledge was never done since the memorie of man, no in Wallace dayis.

The 8 of September 1596, thrie zoung men challengit for braking of Mr. Johne Laing's hous. Some men sayis they did it mor for inuy than povertie; for they wer craftsmen. Yr. names wer, Robert Horne, Daid Hialope, and Thomas Per-teous. They wer hangit at the crosse on the 15 of September wt. grate lament.

The 17 day of December 1596, being Fryday, hes Maiestie being in the tolbuith sitting in session, and ane convention of ministers being in the new kirke, and some noblemen being conveynet wt. yame, as in special Blantyre and Lyndesay, ther cam in some divilish officious persone, and said that the ministers wer coming to take hes lyfe; upon the qlk, the tolbuith dores wer shut and steiket; and yair araise sick ane crying, God and the King, uther some crying, God and the Kirk, that the haill commons of Edr. raise in armes, and knew not quher-for allways. Yair wes ane honest man, quha wes deiken of deikens, hes name wes Johne Watt, smythe. This Johne Watt raisit the haill craftis in armes, and came to the tolbuith, quher the entrie is to the checker hous, and yair cryed for a sight of his Maiestie, or ellis he sould ding up the zet wt. foir hammers; sua that nevir ane wtin the tolbuith sould come out wt. yair lyfe. At length, hes M. lookit our the window, and spake to the commonis, quha offerit to die and liue with him; quhilk commonis of Edr. offerit to die all in ane moment for hes M. weil fair: sua hes M. came doune after the tounesmen wer commandit of the gait, and wes convoyit be the craftis men to the Abbay of Holyruidhous, qr. he stayit yat night; and, apone the morne, he rode out of the toun, and sent back the chairges, as ze sall heir heirafter. This tumult bred grate troubill betwixt his M. and the toun of Edr. Upon the Sab-bath day yr. after, nae preiching in Edr., nather befor noon nor afternoon, the lyk hes not bein sene befor.

The last day of December 1596, the King came to the Ab-bay, and pntlie. command wes givin, by opin proclamatione,

that on the mornæ the Earle of Mar sould keip the West Port, my Lord Seytoun the Nether Bow, my Lord Livingstoun, Buccleugh, Cesaferd, and sundry uthirs, to keip the Hiegate. Upon the mornæ at yis time, and befor yis day, yair wes ane grate rumour and word among the tounesmen, yat the King's M. sould send in Will Kinmond the comone theif, and maney Southland men, as sould spulzie the toune of Edr. Upon the qlk. the haill merchants tuik yair haill geir out of yair buiths or chops, and transportit the same to the strongest hous that wes in ye toune, and remained in ye said hous yair wt. yame selfis, yr. servants, and looking for nothing bot yat yai sould haue bein all spulzeit. Sicklyke the haill craftsmen and comons conveinit themselves, yr. best guides, as it wer 10 or 12 householdis in ane, quhilk wes the strongest hous, and might be best keipet from spulzeing or burneing, wt. hagbut; pistolet, and uther sic armour, as might best defend yaneselfis: Judge, gentill reider, giff this wes playing. Thir noblemen and gentilmen, keipers of the portis and Hie Gaitt, being sett at the places foirsaid, with pike and speir and uyr armour, stude keiping the foirsaid places appointit, till hes Maiestie came to St. Geilles kirk, Mr. David Lindesay making the sermone. Hes M. made an orisone or harang, concerning the sedition of the seditious ministers, or as it pleased him to terme yame.

The 23 of Marche 1597, the King drank in the counsell hous wt. ye baillies, counsell and deikins. The said baillies and counsell convoyit hes M. to the West Port thereafter. In the mein tyme of yis drinking in the counsell hous, the bells rang in the steipell for ioy of yair agrement: the trumpetis soundit, and drums and quhistles playit wt. maney uther instruments of musicke, as might be playit one; and the toune of Edr. for the tumult raising the 17 of December befor, were ordainit to pay to hes Maiestie threttie thousand merks Scottis.

The 18 of June 1597, Archibald Wauchope of Nidrie slaine be the laird of Edmonstoun in Scletter's close.

The 19 day of June 1597, Sybella Dewar spous to Johnne Baillie, drounit herself in the Northe Loche.

The 27 of Jullii 1597, George Heriot maid the Quein's goldsmythe, and intimat at the crosse be opin proclamatioun and sound of trumpet; and ane Clei the Frenchman dischairgit, quha wes the Quein's goldsmythe befor.

The 7 day of December 1597, being the first day of the Parliament, Archd. Jarden, servitor and mr. stabler to the Earle of Angus, wes slaine negligently be Andro Stalker, goldsmythe at Nidrie's wynd heid. The said Andro wes apprehendit and put in prisone. The zoung men of the toune being all in armes, as yai use to be in the tyme of the Parliament, yai came to his M. and desyrit grace for the zoung man quha had done ane reckless deid. The King's M. desyrit them to goe to my Lord of Angus the man's mr. and satisfie and pacifie hes wrath, and

he sould be contentit to grant hes lyfe. James Williamsone being capitaine to the zounge men, came to my Lord of Angus, offerit him yair manreid to be readie to serue him gif he had to do: upone the qlk, he grantit yame hes lyfe, and sua the said Andro wes releisit out of prisone upon the reid-day at evin.

The 8 of Februar 1598, Johne Windiezetts, Johne Moscrap, Alexander Lowrie, Johne Halliday, and capt. James Lowrie, all hangit at the crosse for counterfeiting fals wreittis, quhillk wes grate pitie to sie.

The 17 of Februar 1598, betwix 9 and 10 in the morning, ane grate darknes be reasone of eclipses, sic ane darknes hes not beine sene, for the haill pipell wtin Edr. yat knew not quhat it wes, thought yat it had bene Duimsday. Merchantis and utheris yat wer ignorant, steikit ther buith doris and ran to the kirke to pray, as gif it had bene the last day.

The 20 day of Februar 1598, Thomas Dobie drounit himself in the Quarrel holes besyde the Abbay, and upon the morne, he wes harlit throw the toun backward, and thereafter hangit on the gallows.

The 3 of Junii 1598, Robert Cathcart slaine pisching at the wall in Peibleis wynd heid be Wm. Stewart, sone to Sr. Wm. Stewart. The same Robert Cathcart wes at the slaughter of the said Sr. Wm. Stewart befor, sua yai yat slayis will be slaine. The said Sr. William Stewart, qn. he wes slaine, wes in the Earle Bothuell's companie.

The 10 of Julii 1598, ane man, sume callit him a juglar, playit sic sowple tricks upone ane tow, qlk wes festinit betwix the tope of St. Geills kirk steiple and ane stair beneathe the crosse, callit Josias close heid, the lyk wes nevir sene in yis countrie, as he raid doune the tow and playit sa many pavier on it.

The 2 of Apryll 1600, being the Sabbath day, Robert Achmutie, barber, slew James Wauchope at the combat in St. Leonard's Hill, and, upone the 23, the said Rt. put in ward in the tolbuith of Edr. and in the meine tyme of hes being in ward, he hang ane cloke wtout the window of the ironehouse, and anuther wtin the window yr., and saying yat he wes seik, and might not sie the light: he had aquafortis continualle seithing at the irone window, quhill at the last the irone window wes eiten throw; sua, upone a morneing, he caused hes prentes boy attend quhen the toun gaird should have dissolvit, at qlk tyme the boy waitit one and gaif hes Mr. ane token yat ye said gaird wer gone, be the schaw or waiff of hes hand-curche. The said Rot. hung out an tow, qron he thought to have comeit doune; the said gaird spyit the waiff of the hand-curche, and sua the said Rot. wes disappoyntit of hes intentione and devys; and sua, on the 10 day, he wes beheidit at the crosse upon ane scaffold.

The 2 of Julii 1600, Johne Kinland of Waristone murderit

be hes awin wyff and servant man, and her nurische being also upone the conspiracy. The said gentilwoman being apprehendit, scho wes tane to the girth crosse upon the 5 day of Julii. and her heid struck fra her bodie at the Cannagiat fit, quha diet verie patiently. Her nurische wes brunt at the same tyme, at 4 houres in the morneing, the 5 of Julii.

The 21 of Julii, at 9 houres at evin, a combat or tuilzie betwix twa brether of the Dempsters, and ane of yame slaine be Johnne Wilson, and being tane wi hait bluid, he wes execut at the flesche-stocks, qr. he had slaine the man the night befor.

The newis came to Edr. the 6 day of August 1600, that hes M. had escapit sic ane danger, (the Gowrie conspiracy), qr. at yair wes sic ioy yat the canons shott, the bellis rang, the trumpettis soundit, the drums strak. The toune rais in armes with schutting of muskettis, casting of fyir workes, and banefyirs set furth, in sic maner the lyk wes nevyr sene in Scotland, ther wes sic dancing and mirrines all the nicht.

The 11 day of Auguste 1600, being Monday, the King came ouer the water. The toune, with the haill suburbis, met him upone the sandis of Leithe in armes, wt. grate ioy, and schutting of muskettis, and shaking of pikes. He went to the kirk of Leith to Mr. David Lindesayis orisone. Yrafter, the toune of Edr. haveing conveyit up to Edr., and standing at the hie gaitt, hes M. past to the crosse, the crosse being hung wt. tapestrie, and went up yron wt. his nobillis. Mr. Patrick Gallaway being yair, made ane sermone upone the 124 psalm; he declarit the haill circumstances of the treasone proposit by the Earle of Gowrie and hes brother, qlk the King testifiet be hes awen mouth sitting upone the crosse all the tyme of the sermone.

The 29 of Auguste 1600, Adam Boswell slaine be George Porteous, be the schott of ane pistoll; ye said George wes beheidet at the crosse the nixt day yrafter, qr. baith heid and hand wes straken aff him at ane stroke.

The 27 day of Apryll 1601, Archibald Cornell, toune officer, hangit at the crosse, and hung on the gallows 24 houres; and the caus qfore he wes hangit—He being an unmerciful, greidie creatur, he poyndit ane honest manis hous, and, amongst the rest, he poyndit the King and Quein's picturis; and quhen he came to the crosse to compryse the same, he hung yame up upone twa naillis on the same gallows to be comprysit; and yai being sene, word zead to the King and Queine; qrupone he wes apprehendit and hangit.

The 2 of Julii 1602, ane cruel man hangit for setting on ane woman's bare . . . on anc girdell quhen it wes red hot. His name wes Alexr. Rowan. The 3 day, Johnne Stewart beheidet at the crosse for cutting off ane man's privat members.

The 2 of Januar 1603, being the Sabbath day, ane zounge man, callit Johnne Johnstone, hangit himself in his awen gartin.

The 3 of Januar 1603, Johne Hailie of Millstanes slaine at the Salt Tron, be William Home hes guidfather. This William of Balla wes of the hous of Cowdenknowis

The 30 of Januar 1603, Frantis Moubray brake ward out of the castell, and he fell owir the wall, and brake hes craige: yrafter he was traillit to the gallows, and hangit; and yrafter wes quarterit, and his heid and 4 quarteris put one the 4 portis.

The 21 of Julii 1603, James Reid brunt, for consulting and useing with Sathan and witches, and quha wes notably knawin to be ane counsellor wt. witches.

The 2 of Octr. 1603, Allaster MacGregor of Glanstrae tane be the laird of Arkynles, bot escapit again; bot after taken be the Earl of Argyll the 4 of Januarii, and brocht to Edr. the 9 of Januar. 1604 wt. 18 mae of his friendes MacGregors. He was convoyit to Berwick be the gaird, conform to the Earle's promes, for he promesit to put him out of Scottis grund. Sua he keipit ane Hielandman's promes, in respect he sent the gaird to convey him out of Scottis grund; bot yai wer not directit to pairt wt him, bot to fetche him bak againe. The 18 of Januar, he came at evin againe to Edinburghe; and upone the 20 day, he wes hangit at the crosse, and ij of hes freindes and name, upone ane gallows; himself being chieff, he wes hangit his awin hight above the rest of hes freindis.

The 18 of Februar. 1604 9 of the name of MacGregor hangit, quho had lain lang in the tolbuith.

The 19 and 20 Julii 1604, the plaige increseit in prime in the heat of Julii, and zet continuit. The same 19 of Julii ane hous over the Bowfit tooke fyir. The comone bell rang and drum strak, qik pat the town in grate feir, becaus it wes in the nicht.

The 22 day of December 1604, William Ker hangit for opening honest menis lockis and doris, they being out of the toun fled for the pest. This Wm. wes ane smyth for hes occupation.

The 19 of Januar. 1605, James Zoung, player at cards and dyis, slaine in the kirke be ane boy of 16 zeirs of aige, callit Laurence Man. Yis Laurence wes beheidit on the castell hill on the last day of the said Januar.

The 17 of Junii 1605. ane combat or tulzie foughten at the Salt Tron of Edr. betwix the laird of Ogle, zounger, and hes complices, and the zoung laird of Pittarow, Wischart. The faucht lastit frae 9 hours at night till ij. at night, twa hours. Yair wer sundrie hurt one both sydes, and ane Guthrie slaine, which wes Pittarrow's man, ane verie prettie zoung man. The 18 day, they wer accusit befor the counsell, and wardit.

The 18 of same moneth of Junii, William Thomsone, dagger maker at the West Bow, slaine be Johne Waterstone, indweller yr. and cutlar. The said Johne wes beheidit on the 19, on the castell hill.