EXTRACTS
FROM THE
DIARY OF ROBERT BIRREL, Burges of Edinburgh, containing Divers Passages of Staite and others Memorable Accidents.

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

There has bee in this kingdome of Scotland, ane hundereth and fyve kinges, of quhilk ther wes slaine fyftie sex.
Robert ye 2d ye first of the Steuarts, wes crownd in the zeir of God 1371.
The 5 of May, the toune of Edinburgh brunt by Englishmen, in anno 1544.
The 29 of June, the inch betwixt Leith and Kingorne, wes voune frome the Englishmen by the Frenchmen; and, one this same day, Bruchty Castell was voune also, in anno 1549.
The 6 of Apryll, the toune of Leith was beseidgett, quhilk wes keppt by Frenchmen, bot wes forced to rande ye same, and so gatt lieve to goe with bage and baggage, after ye the Englishmen had foughten them sundrye 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 Earill of Lennox came to Edinburgh; also his somne Henrey, quho mariet ye Queine upon ye 29 day of Julay, in the palace 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 banished therefor in anno 1566.*

* ............. These Lords entered (or as others rela[170]ly storie) rushed togethir and the Kyng wt. them) in to the Queene's dyning rowme at sup[171]er
Upon the 19th day of June, at 8 hours in the morning, Prince James was born in the Castell of Edinburghe, and, upon the 22d day of August, he was conveyed to Striveling, in 1566.

The 10th day of August, Henry Zaire hangit at the cross of Edinburghe, and then quartered, for being at ye slaughter of Seingour Davide ye Italiene.

The 25th of October 1566, vord came to the toune of Edinburghe, frome the Queine, yat her Majestie was deadly seike, and deseitye ye bells to be runge, and all ye propell to resort to ye kirk to pray for her, for she was so seike that none lipned her life.

The Prince was baptized upon the 17th day of December 1566, in the chappell roya of Strivelinge, and was named Charles James, James Charles.

The 13th day of Jamuarii, 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, but some sayed he had gottene poysone.

The 20th day of Januairi, 1567, the Queine departit out of Edinburgh to Glasgow to visit the King.

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

One the 9th day of this moneth, (February 1567), being Sunday day befor Fasteryng's even, the K. was murthered in his lodging in the Kirke of Feild, about midnight or thereby; the said lodging pertaining to Sir James Balfour, Provost of ye said kirke. The hous was raisett up from the ground with poudre; and the King's chamberman, named Johne Tailseour, was found with him lyand in ane zaird dead under ane tree; and the King, if he had not beene cruelly vyrriet, after he fell out of the aire; with his awen garters, he had leived.

The 10th day of this moneth, (February 1567), the embassadors of France & Savoy cane to the house wher the K. wes lyand; and requyréd a sight of him, but wes refusit thereof by the shouldiours.

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

The 23 of March 1567, ther was ane solemnne saule mass with a dergie soung afternoone, and done in the chapell roya of
Holyroudhous, 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 Earl 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 vyff a good modest and vertuous woman, sister to ye Earl of Huntley, set by moyen wes devorcit 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, was creatt and proclamit Marquess of Fyfe and Duck of Orkney.

The 15 of Maii 1567 the Queine wes maried to the Duck of Orkney, in the chappel royall of Holyroudhous, by Adam Bothuel, abbote of Holyroudhous; and his text wes ye 2d of Genesis.

The 12 day of Junii 1567 ye Queine and Duck rode to Dumbar, and sent proclamations throughye 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 companies of shouldiours, and sundrey Earlls, Lords, and Barons. The Lords in Edinburghe haveand intelligence therof, 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 armyes came within view. The one stood upone Carberrey Hills, with 4 regiments of shouldiours, and sex field peices of brasse; the uther armey stoode 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 conveyed her to Edinburgh to the Provost's lodging 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 tasfitae, had painted one it ye cruell mutther of K. Henry, and layed doune befor her Matie at quhat time she presented herself as prisoner to ye Lordis; at the sight quher of ther wes such lamentatione amongst the haill gentlemen and shouldiours, to see her defend him quho was the cruell muttherer 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 William 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 mutther.
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 mobiliety, and ther producit ye Quein's commissione and consent, subscribed with her awen hand, yat ye Prince James, her sonne, should be crowned king of Scotland.

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

The 22 of August 1567, James Earl of Murray was made and proclaimed Regent with grates solemnity, by the heralds at the crosse, till ye King should atteaine to ye age of 17 yeirs compleite.

The 4 of September 1567, James Adamsone beedit, and Johne Blaketer hangit, at ye crosse of Edinburghe, for piracies.

The 10 of October 1567, ther was ane proclamatione to meit ye Regent in Peibleis, upone ye 8 of November nixt, for ye repressing of the theives in Annandill and Eastail; but my Lord Regent, thinking they wald gett advertisement, he preventit the day, and came over the water secretly, and lodgit in Dalkeith; this upone ye 19 day; and upone ye morrow he depairted towards Hauick, quher he came both secretly and suddenly, and ther tooke 34 theives, quhom he partly caused hang, and partly droune, 5 he lette frie upone caustone; and, upone the 2d of November, he brought uther ten of them with him to Edinburghe, and ther putte them in irons.

Upon the 26 day of October 1567, ane rair and wounderful accident fell out by Sathan's instegations. Ane gentleman, called George Hamilton, being maried upone ane Jean Vitherspoune, he had a brother called Peiter Hamilton, quholay in incest with hes brother's wyffe; and sua he and she conspyred the gentleman's death, named George Hamilton of Bathgate; and sua Peiter; with hes complices, murthered hes brother, and lefte hes servant Johne Cochran sore woundit, and in tyme of ye murther the dead father fell over the credell quher hes awen chyld was lying sleiping, and smothered the poore in fant. Peiter being apprehendit with hes complices, ane Hamilton a trumpetour, and a yong man callit Steuarts, ven all 3 brought to Edinburgh ye 4 day of November, and ye ladey with them. They wer arraigned for the said murder, and on the 5 of November ye said Peiter Hamilton was heedit at ye crosse of Edinburgh and ye 2 yong men hangit ther; and upone ye 6 day of ye same month, the said Jean Vitherspoune haweing confess 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 Weims met upone ye heigh gaitt of Edin-
burghe; and they and their followers fought a very bloody skirmish, quher ther wes maney burte one both sydes with shote of pistol.

The same nyght, ane vyffe in Crammont cruelly vyriet her even husband; bot God releived him that he dyed not.

Upone the 27 of November 1567, ther wes a strait proclamation, discharging ye wearen of guns or pistolis, or aney sicklyke fywerwork ingyne, under ye paine of death, the King's guard and shoulders only excepted.

The 3 of Januarie 1569, Johne Auld, miller at the Vater of Leith, douned in the North Loche, passing over at 4 houres at even; and ane uther with him in grate danger of hes lyffe.

The 28 of Januarie 1570, James Steuarte Earle of Murray, the good Regent of Scotland, wes alaine in Linlithgow, by James Hamilton of Boduel Haughe, quho shote the said Regent with a gun out at the window, and presently therafter fled out at ye backsyde, and leaped one a very good hors, which the Hamiltons had ready waiting for him; and, being followed speedily, after yt spure and vand had failed him, he drew forth hes dager, and strooke hes hors behind, quhilk caused the hors to leape a very brode stanke; by quhilk meines he escaipit, and gat away frome all ye rest of the horses.

The 27 day of Januarie 1570, Mathew Steuarte Earle of Lennox, ves proclamit Regent, and ye Earle of Mortone hes Lieuentant. This Mathew Earle of Lennox, halding ane Parliament at Striveling, quher the zoun King wes present, he made ane oratione to the hall nobility, being sitting in ye Parliament. Ye chyld King looking upward to ye roof of the hous, he saw an hole through the slating; he said, I think ye halle in this Parliament; sua that shortly thereafter hes Majestie's wordes came true.

The 14 of Mai 1571, ane Parliament, haldin in the Cannon-gaitt, in William Cocker's hous neir St. John's crosse, by the King's Kelkes: Also at ye same tympe, ane Parliament hald in the tolbuith of Edinburgh. Ther wes maney forfaught at both ye Parliaments.

The 16th day of Junii 1571, ane skirmish betwixt ye Earl of Mortone upone ye Kinge's part, quho came out of Leith, and the Earl of Huntley, with the Hamiltons, qua keiped Edinburgh, one the uther syde. At ye same tympe, quhen the tuo armiies wer standing upon ye fieldes, the Earl of Mortone standing at ye Halkhill, the Hamiltones, Homes, &c. standing at ye Quarrell Holes, ther wes ane English embassadour quho traunelled betwixt them, to haue gotten them stayed from battell; bot they being of contrarey opinions, vold not be stayed from ye battell. In ye end, they joyned both togidder; sua that the Earl of Mortone pute the Queine's folk back suar far, yat they wer forced dishonourably to flie, and, in ther flight, maney of Huntley and Hamiltones men ver slaine and hurt.
Amongst ye chieffemen yatverslaine of ye Hamiltones wes Gaune 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 toune 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 toune, crying, God and ye Queine; sau that the King's peopell, vith ye Regent and nobilities and ye shouldiours, raise in such a steir, yat they could not vine tогider, because the streits ves full of enimies; and quher they could find anye 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 upe 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 Admiral wes slaine, at ye mariage of ye King of Nauar vith ye King of France hes sister. At this horrible murthering ofrew 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 bloody dangers and hellish inhumanity.

In the first of Januarii 1573 the castellof Edinburgh wes beseidged. 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 Edinburgh, being stelilit (steitt 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 shoteso hard continually yat ye 2d day they had beit doune quholly 3 touers. The laird of Grainge, called Kircaldy of surname, quhe wes capitaine therof, void 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 armestorne from ther bodies in the aire by the viholence of the grate shote. At last, the Regent continuing his seidge so close 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, quba continued Regent, and keipt ye cuntrey in grate justice and peace all ye time of hes governement.

The 3 day of Auguste 1573, the laird of Grange, surnamed Kircaldy, quhe wes capitane of the castell of Edinburgh, ves
hangit at ye crosse of the said toune, for keepin of the said castell against ye King and his Regent.

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

Upone ye first day of Januarii 1580, ye Earl of Mortone wes putte in varde in ye castell of Edinburghe for conceilling the King's murther, and zit neuir consentit to it, but 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 subscryye to ye same; notwithstanding yat he had faughten maney tymes in perseuing for the murther, these yat had consentit to it, and acted ye same, zit he wes heidit 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 ves brought out of Dumbartane castell to Edinburghe, and being accuseit for committing ye King's murther, ves convicte be ane assyyze; and one the second day of ye moneth of Junii thereafter wes heidit at ye crosse of Edinburghe.

Upon the 4 day of Maii 1585, ye pestilence begune in Edinburghe, and ves 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 toune; 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 togudder; and after they had shoken hands togudder, 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, euyery one in uthers hands, and hes Maiestie with them, to ye crosse of Edinburghe, quher ye city made them a verey sumptuous banquett; at quhilk tyme, ther wes much joy and solemnity, with mutualls salutations of good villon to uther; hes Maiestie drinking peace and hapiness to them all, yat ye lyke ves nevir befor sein in Edinburghe.

The 30 day of Julii 1588, Sr. Villiame Steuarte ves slaine in the Black friar wynde be the Earl of Bothuell. The cause he slew him for wes, yat upone a tyme 'fore 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 therafter rancountering the said Sir Villiam in ye Black friar wynde by chance, told him he vold now kiss his...., and
with yat drew hes sword. 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, with grate triumphe and joy, pageants being erected in every place, adorned with all things befitting: zoun boys, with artificiall winges, at her entry, did file towards her, and presented her tuo siluer keyes of ye city. The castell shott of all her ordinance 5 severaltymes, and at night the toune ves put full of bonefyres.

The 22 day of Junii 1591, the Earle of Bothuell brake ward out of ye castell of Edinburghe, quha had beine ther in prisoone some 20 dayes before, for alledgegit witchcraft, and consulting with witches, especially with ane Richard Grahame, to conspyre the King's death; and, upon the 25 of Junii, ye said Earle Bothuell was forfaughted, and intimatione made thereof by opin proclamatione at the crosse of Edinburghe.

The 27 of September 1591, the Earle of Bothuell made a steir in the Abbey of Holyruidhou:s, quho came in over ye hous in ye south syde of the palace, and the said Earle taking too grate presumpotive, he, with hes complices, strake vith ane hammer at his Maiesties chalmer dore, and, in the meine tyme, the hall noblemen and gentlemen of hes Maiesties hou:s raise, quho thought to have taken ye said Earl Bothuell and hes complices: the said Earle fled: set he returned at the south syde of the Abbey, 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 folks tooke 8 men of Bothuell's factione, and, on the morrow, hangit them all without ane assyze, betwix the girth cresso and ye Abbey gait.

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

The 7 of Februarii 1592, the Earle of Huntlie cam to the hous of Dumbirsell in Fyffe, quher the Earllof 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 Earl of Huntley sett ye said hous on fyre: the Earl of Murray being vithin, vist not quhither to come out and be slaine or be burned quicke: set, after advysment, this Dumbar says to my Lord of Murray, I vill goe out at ye gaitt befor for your Lordshipie, and I am sure the peopell will chairge on me, thinking me to be zoure Lordshipie: sua it being mirke vnder night, ze sall come out after me, and look if yat ye can fend for zour self. In the meine tyme, this Dumbar, tutor to ye shriffe of Murray, cam furth, and rane desperatly among the Earl of Huntley's folks, and they all rane upone him and pre-
sently slew him. During this broyle with Dumbar, the Earle of Murray came running out at ye gait of Dunibirsell, quhilk stands besyde ye sea, and ther satt him doune among ye rocks, thinking to have beine saue; bott unfortunattly the said Lord's snapscall tippet, quherson 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 creuelly, without mercey, murthered him.

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

The 18 of Marche 1592, one proclamatione that ye young Earle of Murray should not persue the Earl of Huntley, in respecte he being vardi in ye Blacknes for ye same murder, he was villing to abyre ane trial, saying, yat he did nothing but by hes Maiesties commission, and sua ves nather airt nor part of ye murther.

Upon ye 17 of Julay 1592, the Earl of Bothuell, with hes complices, made a fray at Falkland, hes Matie. being ther, and therafter 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 nei Cader mure, laying sleiping for vant of rest and interteiment; 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 Hamilton, and vardi 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 ludit, the guard standing above ye port with ther hagbutts, guns, and uthere wepons, the forsaid guard seeing my Lord Hamilton, for the honour of his Lordshippe shott ane volley at my Lord: ther wes ane man speiking to hes Lordshiphe shotte through the head, ane uther by him shotte through the legge, and ane bullet stroke the lintell of ye gait iust above my Lord's head quher he stoode, zet no more harme done; so yat by meir accident ye said Lord Hamilton had most haue beine slaine, and not through aney eiuil vill. The Lord Hamilton seeing yat he could gett no grace to ye said tuo gentlemen, he sent vord to hes bastard son Sr. Johne, quho convoyett ye said tuo gentlemen away, and vent with them himselfe for ther more saftey.

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

The 18 of Maii 1593, one suddaine shower of rain and haile, ye said day being Monday, the chapmans standis and stuillis
came swimming down the streit of Edr. lyke as they had been selling downe the vater.

The 19 of May 1593, Katherine Muirhead brunt for vitchcraft, quha confess sundrie poynys yrof.

The 24 of Juli 1593, at 8 hours in the morneing, the Earl of Bothuell, the laird of Spott, Mr. William Leslie, and Mr. Jon. Colvill, came into the King’s chalmer weil provydit with pistol; this Earle and hes complices came not yis way provydit with pistollis and drauia suordis to harme the King’s Maiestie any wayis, bot becaus he could not get presence of his Maiestie, nor speich of him for the Homes, quho were courtiers with the King and enemies 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 with 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 desyrousof bluid, granted yame mercie, and receivit yame in hes fav’or; and at 4 hours afternoone, causit proclaime yame hes frie leidges; and upone ye 27 day, ye same proclamatione of ye Earll of Bothuells peace wes renewit at ye crosse with herals and trumpettis sounding for ioy.

The 13 of Marche 1594, his M. came to Mr. Robert Bruises preaching, 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 no his and faught not Godis quarrell and batells on the papists, befor he fauchtor 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 presence of the haill pepill, he promest to revenge God’s cause, and to banische all the papists, and yr. requystit the haill peple 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 Lestic, and ther stood till he saw the King and the toune of Edr. approching neir him. He drew hes companie away throw Duddington, My Lord Home followit till the Wovmenet, 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 chaise.

The 19 of Januar 1595, the young Earle of Montrois fought ane combate wt. Sr. James Sandilands at the Salt Trone of Edr. thinking to have revengit the slauther of hes cuise Mr. Johne
Grahame, quha wes yr slaine with ane shot of ane pistol, and four of hes men slaine with suords, viz. John Craufurd, John Grahame, George Dundass, and Alexander Boner.

The 14 of Aguste 1595, Christian Johnestoun, ane widow in Edr. revest be Patrick Aikenhead. The toune 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 Macmorran slaine be the shott of ane pistole out of the schooll. This Johne Macmorran being baillie for the tyme, the bairns of the said gramar schooll came to the tounes counsell conforme to yair zeirlie 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 proydyit yameselfis wt. meit, drink, and hagbutis, pistoleto, and suورد: they ranforcit the dores of the said schooll, sua yat yai refusit to let in yr. mr. nor nae uther man, wtout they wer granit ther privilege, conforme to yr. wontit use. The Prouost and Baillies and Counsell heiring tell of the same, they ordainit John Macmorran baillie, to goe to the gramar schooll and take some order yrwt.

The said Johne, with certein officers, went to the schooll, and requysit the schollaris to opin the dores: yai refusit. The said baillie and officers toke 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, 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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 and officers toke 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.
sic aboundans, that betwixt the first of Julii and the 10 of Au-
gust, their 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 doun and wes sauld for 7 lib.
the boll, and new ait maill for vii. sh. the peck, and 7 sh. and
6d. the peck. The 29 of Octr. the ait maill came up again
at 10 sh. the peck. The 15 of Julii, the ait maill at 13 sh. and
4d. the peck; the pease maill 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 irons within the iron
zett. Yis he did with shouthing and crying, and sound of trum-
pet, puttand the said toune and countrie in sic aie fray that
the lyk of sic aie wassaledge was never done since the memorie
of man, no in Wallace dayis.

The 8 of September 1596, thrie young 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, Dauid Hislope, 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 tulbuth sitting in session, and ane convention of
ministers being in the new kirke, and some noblemen being
conveinet wt. yame, as in special Blantyre and Lyndessay, ther
com in some divilish officious persone, and said that the minis-
ters wer coming to take hes lyfe; upon the qlk, the tolbuth
dores wer shut and steiket; and yair arise sick aie crying,
God and the King, uther some crying, God and the Kirk, that
the hail commons of Edr. raise in armes, and krew 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 hail craftis in armes, and came to the tolbuth, 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. far hammers;
sua that nevir ane wtin the tolbuth sould come out wt.
lyfe. At length, hes M. loookit 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. weill fair: sua hes M., came doun after the turnesmen
wer commandit of the gait, and wes oonvoyit be the craftis
men to the Abbay of Holyruidhous, qr. he stayit yat night;
and, upsone the morne, he rode out of the toune, and sent bakk
the chairges, as ze sall heir heirafter. This tumult bred grate
troubill betwixt his M. and the toune of Edr. Upon the Sab-
bath day yr. after, ma preiching in Edr., nather befoir noon nor
afternoon, the lyk hes not bein sene befoir.

The last day of December 1596, the King came to the Ab-
bay, and pntlie. command wes givin, by opin proclamatione,
that on the morn the Earle of Mar sould keip the West Port, my Lord Seytoun the Nether Bow, my Lord Livingstoun, Buccleugh, Cessford, and sundry uthirs, to keip the Higatge. Upon the morn at yis time, and befor yis day, yair wes aye grate rumour and word among the tounesmen, yat the King's M. sould send in Wll Kinmond the comone theifff, 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 ali spulzeit. Sicklyke the hail craftmen and commons convenit themselfis, yr. best guides, as it wer 10 or 12 householdis in ane, qhilk wes the strongest hous, and might be best kei pet from spulzeing or burneing, wt. hagbut; pistole, and uther sic armour, as might best defend yaneselfis: Judge, gentill reider, giff this wes playing. Thir noblemen and gentilmen, kepers of the portis and Hie Gaitt, being setat the places foirsaid, with pike and speir and uyr armour, stude kepining the foirsaid places appointit, till hes Maiestie came to St. Geilles kirk, Mr. David Lindesay making the sermone. Hes M. made an orison 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 steippell for joy 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 spoust to Johne Baillie, doonit herself in the North Loche.

The 27 of Juli 1597, George Heriot maid the Quein's goldsmith, and intimatat the crosse be opin proclamatione and sound of trumpet; and ane Cleithe Frencheman dischairgit, quha wes the Quein's goldsmith 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, goldsmith at Nidrie's wynd heid. The said Andro wes apprehendit and put in prisone. The zoong 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 zoong 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 should be contentit to grant his lyfe. James Williamsone being capitaine to the young men, came to my Lord of Angus, offerit him yair man Reid to be readie to serve him gif he had to do: upon the qilk, he grantit yame his lyfe, and sua the said Andro wes releisit out of prisone upon the reid-day at evin.

The 8 of Februar 1598, Johne Windiezetz, Johne Moscráip, Alexander Lowrie, Johne Halliday, and capt. James Lowrie, all hangit at the crosse for counterfeiting fals wrettis, qub ilk 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 wthin Edr. yat knew not, quhat it wes, thought yat it had bene Duimsdiday. Merchants 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 drounith himself in the Quarrel holes besyde the Abbey, and upon the morne, he wes harlit throw the toune backward, and therafter 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, qu. he wes slaine, wes in the Earle Bothuell's companie.

The 10 of Julii 1598, ane man, sunſec callit him a juglar, playit sic sowple tricks upone ane tow, qilk wes festinit betwix the tope of St. Geills kirk steiple and ane stair beneathe the crosse, callit Josias close heid, the lyk wes nevirsene in yis countrie, as he raiddounethetow and playitsa many pavies on it.

The 2 of Apryll 1600, being the Sabbath day, Robert Achnutie, barber, slew James Wanchope at the combat in St. Leonard's Hill, and, upon 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 ironehous, and anuther wthin the window yr., and saying yat he wes seik, and might not seie the light: he had aquafortis continuall seithing at the irone window, quhill at the last the irone window wes eiten throw; sua, upone a morninge, he caused hes prentes boy attend quhen the toune gaird shoule have dissolvit, at qilk tyme the boy waitit one and gaif hes Mr. ane token yat ye said gaird wer gone, be the schw or waff of hes hand-curche. The said Rot. hung out an tow, qron he thought to have comeit doun; the said gaird spyt the waff of the handcurche, and sua the said Rot. wes disappoyntit of hes intentine and devys; and sua, on the 10 day, he wes behedit at the crosse upon ane scaffolt.

The 2 of Julii 1600, Johne Kinland of Waristone murdricrit
be hes awin wyff and servant man, and her nurische being also upone the conspiracy. The said gentilwoman being apprehendit, scho was 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 was brunt at the same tyme, at 4 hours in the mornin, the 5 of Julii.

The 21 of Julii, at 9 hours at evin, a combat or tuilzie betwix twa brether of the Dempsters, and ane of yame slaine be Johne Wilsone, and being tane wi hait bluid, he was execut at the flesche-stocks, qr. he had slaine the man the nicht befoir.

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 wesh nevir sene in Scotland, ther wesh sic dancing and mirrines all the nicht.

The 11 day of Auguste 1600, being Monday, the King came over 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 convenit 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 sermon upone the 124 psalm; he declarit the haill circumstances of the treasone proposit by the Earle of Gowrie and hes brother, qk the King testifiet be hes awen mouth sitting upone the crosse all the tyme of the sermon.

The 29 of Auguste 1600, Adam Boswell slaine be George Porteous, be the schott of ane pistoll; ye said George wes beheidit at the crosse the next 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 qr for he wes hangit—He being an unmerciful, greiddie creatur, he poyndit ane honest manis hous, and, amongst the rest, he poyndit the King and Queine's picturis; and quhen he came to the crosse to compryse the same, he hung yame up unpon twa naillis on the same gallows to be comprysit; and yai being sene, word zead to the King and Queine; qupon he wes apprehendit and hangit.

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

The 2 of Januar 1603, being the Sabbath day, ane young man, callit Johne Johnstone, hangit himself in his awen gartin,
The 3 of January 1603, John 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 January 1603, Francis Moubray brake ward out of the castell, and he fell owr the wall, and brake hes craige; yrater he was traillit to the gallows, and hangit; and yrater wes quarterit, and his heid and 4 quarteris put one the 4 portis.

The 21 of July 1603, James Iteidbrunt, for consulting and useing with Satan 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 Arkylnes, bot escapit again; bot after taken be the Earl of Argyll the 4 of January, 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 convoy him out of Scottis grund; bot yai wet hot directit to pairt wt him, bot to fetche him bak againe. The 18 of Januar, he came at evin againe to Edinburgh; and upon the 20 day, he was hangit at the crosse, and ij of hes freindes and name, upon ane gallows; himself being chief, he was 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 July 1604, the plaige incresit in prime in the heat of Julii, and zet continuit. The same 19 of Julii ane hous over the Bowfit tooke Tyir. The comone bell rang and drum strak, qik pat the town in grate feir, because it wes in the nict.

The 22 day of December 1604, William Ker hangit for openiing honest menis lockis and doris, they being out of the town 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 zoun ger 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 Pittarow's man, ane verie prettie zounger man. The 18 day, they wer accusit befoir the counsell, and wardit.

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