

**INVENTORIES OF
RECORDS ILLUSTRATING
THE HISTORY OF THE
BURGH OF ABERDEEN**

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Inventories of Records Illustrating the History of the Burgh of Aberdeen by Peter John Anderson

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PETER JOHN ANDERSON

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 University of Aberdeen.

INVENTORIES OF RECORDS

ILLUSTRATING THE HISTORY OF

THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN

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I.—RECORDS UNDER THE CHARGE OF THE TOWN CLERK.

A¹* BURGH CHARTERS, ACTS OF PARLIAMENT, &c.

- *1. Charter by King William the Lion, printed on p. 3, No. I†
2. Charter by King William the Lion, " 4, " II.
3. Charter by King William the Lion, verbally, though not literally, identical with the preceding. Reproduced in facsimile in Kennedy's *Annals of Aberdeen*, Vol. I., p. 9.
4. Charter by King Alexander II., printed on p. 5, No. III.
5. Charter by King Alexander III., " 8, " IV.
6. Letters by King Alexander III., " 9, " V.
7. Letters patent by Guardians of Kingdom, " 289, " I.
8. Letters patent by Community of Banff, " 290, " II.
9. Charter by King Robert I., " 10, " VI.
10. Charter by King Robert I., " 11, " VII.
11. Charter by King Robert I., " 12, " VIII.
12. Charter by King Robert I., " 14, " IX.
13. Letters patent by King Robert I., " 15, " X.
14. Letters patent by King Robert I., " 16, " XI.
15. Charter by King David II., " 17, " XII.
16. Letters patent by King David II., " 18, " XIII.
17. Letters of reprisal by King David II., giving warrant to apprehend all Flemings, sailors excepted, found in Scotland, until a sentence of banishment against all his subjects found in Flanders be removed. 12th November, 1347. Printed in Gordon's *Description of Both Towns of Aberdeen* (Spalding Club), p. 41.
18. Letters patent by King David II., providing that Scotch Merchants shall have a staple of merchandise at Middleburgh in Zealand. 12th November, 1347. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 42.

* These letters and numbers are the pressmarks of the bundles in which the records are at present arranged in the Town House Charter Room. A¹ embraces the period down to 1500 A.D.

† The pages referred to, except where otherwise indicated, are those of *Charters, etc., of the Royal Burgh of Aberdeen*. Edited for the Town Council by P. J. Anderson, 1890.

19. Charter by Alexander Ysaac to John de Edynhame, burges of Aberdeen, of a feuduty of twenty shillings sterling from a piece of ground in the Castlegate. 18th April, 1350. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 42.
20. Attested copy, by John, Bishop of Moray, of a charter by King William the Lion granting to the Church of St. Mary of Kinloss five crofts in the burghs of Inverness, Eren, Forres, Elgin and Aberdeen. Copy dated 29th August, 1355. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 44.
- 20^a. Copy of Obligation by Procurators of Four Burghs, printed on p. 305, No. IX.
21. Copy, from Books of Council and Session, of a Charter by King David II. granting to his burgesses of Scotland exclusive right to buy and sell within the freedom of their respective burghs. 8th March, 1363. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 86.
22. Charter by King Robert II. to Andrew de Inchestur of the lands of Rubislaw, resigned by John de Inchestur. 20th May, 1378.
23. Charter by King Robert II., printed on p. 19, No. XIV.
24. Charter by King Robert III., " 21, " XV.
25. Bond by King James I., " 22, " XVI.
- 25^a. Copy of Obligation by Burgh, " 317, " XI.
26. Letters by King James II., " 24, " XVII.
27. Charter by King James II., " 25, " XVIII.
28. Letters by King James II., " 27, " XIX.
29. Letters by King James II., " 29, " XX.
30. Charter by John Bannerman of Elsick to his uncle John Bannerman, burges of Aberdeen, of the lands of Cruives. 13th November, 1440.
31. Charter by John Bannerman of Elsick to the provost, baillies, etc., of Aberdeen, of the lands of Cruives. 12th January, 1459. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 50; and in *Cartularium Ecclesie Sancti Nicolai* (New Spalding Club), i., p. 8.
32. Charter by King James III., confirming A¹ 30. 2nd April, 1465. Printed in *Cart. Ecd. S. Nich.*, i., p. 10.
33. Charter by King James III., printed on p. 30, No. XXI.
34. Instrument of sasine following thereon. 25th June, 1466. Printed in *Cart. Ecd. S. Nich.*, i., p. 6.
35. Charter by King James III., printed on p. 33, No. XXII.
- 35^a. Copy of Charter by King James III., almost verbally identical with last, but dated 6th September, 1483. Cf. *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, vol. ii., p. 329.

36. Letters by King James III., appointing Andrew Wod of Overblairtoun, for his lifetime, tronator of the burgh of Aberdeen. 20th April, 1484. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 55.
- 36^a. Copy of Charter by King James IV., printed on p. 323, No. XIII.
37. Letters by King James IV., printed on p. 35, No. XXIII.
38. Charter by King James IV., appointing Andrew Wod and his heirs male perpetual tronators of the burgh of Aberdeen. 7th June, 1495. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 55. Cf. *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, vol. ii., p. 478.
39. Letters by King James IV., printed on p. 36, No. XXIV.
40. Copy of Charter by King James IV., printed on p. 329, No. XIV.
41. Copy of Charter by King James IV., confirming A¹ 36^a. 21st August, 1498. Printed in *Registrum Episcopatus Aberdonensis* (Spalding Club), ii., p. 303. Cf. *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, vol. ii., p. 519.
- A².* BURGH CHARTERS, ETC.
1. Letters by King James IV., printed on p. 41, No. XXVI.
2. Letters by King James IV., " 38, " XXV.
3. Extract tack by the provost, baillies, etc., to William and Elizabeth Make-soun, of the Justice Mills, with the multures, etc. 13th December, 1518.
4. Discharge by John of Barbon to the burgh from going to the Host and Raid, for the sum of £650 Scots. 31st August, 1522. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 63.
5. Factory and Commission by the burgh appointing the provost and certain burgesses to compare before arbiters appointed to judge between the burgh and the family of Leslie. 15th January, 1522. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 63.
6. Letters patent by King James V., printed on p. 43, No. XXVII.
7. Letters by King James V., " 45, " XXVIII.
8. Factory and Commission by the burgh appointing the provost to compare before the King and Council to demand justice against Alexander Forbes of Burghis. 31st July, 1530. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 68.
- 8^a. Instrument of Sasine in favour of David Anderson, burgess, of an annual rent of forty shillings Scots from the Kilbanks croft. 7th May, 1532.
9. Instrument of Sasine in favour of Henry Irvine and Janet Collison on the said croft. 27th October, 1534.
10. Charter by John Collison to David Anderson of the said croft. 2nd June, 1536.

* A³, 1500 to 1635.

11. Factory and Commission by the burgh appointing Commissioners to compare before the Auditors of Exchequer relative to the freedom of burgesses from custom on salmon. 12th September, 1537. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 70.
12. Factory and Commission by the burgh appointing the provost to meet at Dundee commissioners from Dundee, Montrose, St. Johns, and St. Andrews, relative to the conventions and staple at Campvere in Holland. 5th August, 1541. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 71.
13. Letters by Queen Mary, printed on p. 46, No. XXIX.
14. Charter by John Wod of Balbegno to Alexander Rutherford, burgess, of the tronatorship. 13th August, 1543.
- 14¹. Instrument of Sasine in favour of William, son of David Anderson (A² 8²), of the said annual rent. 25th June, 1547.
15. Factory and Commission by the burgh, appointing Commissioners for setting in feu the town's fishings on Dee and Don, under licence from Queen Mary (engrossed therein, and printed on p. 48, No. XXX.). 4th March, 1552.
16. Feu Charter by the Provost, Baillies, etc., proceeding on the last and engrossed in the next. 12th September, 1553.
17. Charter by Queen Mary, printed on p. 52, No. XXXI.
18. Instrument of Resignation by the Gray Friars, printed on p. 332, No. XV.
19. Charter by King James VI., printed on p. 68, No. XXXII.
20. Precept of Sasine on last. 30th December, 1567.
21. Instrument of Sasine thereon. 22nd July, 1569.
22. Transumpt of A¹ 11, 15, 37; of licence engrossed in A² 15; of A² 16, 17; and of Town's Account rendered to Court of Exchequer in 1576: executed by James Makgill, Clerk Register, 17th June, 1577.
23. Petition by Burgh to King James VI. anent claim by George Auchinleck of Balmanno to the fishings of Don. Prior to 22nd June, 1580.
24. Notarial copy of the next.
- 24¹. Act of Privy Council, printed on p. 237, No. IX.
25. Printed copy of last.
26. Extract Acts of Council and Head Court interdicting neighbours from pursuing any actions, except in regard to Testaments, before the Commissary. 3rd April and 14th July, 1581.
27. Charter by King James VI., printed on p. 71, No. XXXIII.
28. Precept of Sasine on last. 26th October, 1583. Printed in *Descr. of Both Towns*, p. 76.

29. Instrument of Sasine thereon. 13th January, 158².
30. Duplicate of last.
31. Another duplicate of same.
32. Decree by Lords of Council and Session: Provosts, baillies, etc., against tenants of Black and of White Friars. 26th May, 1584.
33. Precept of Sasine by provost, baillies, etc., for infesting Patrick Jack in a third part of the Gray Friars Place. 5th December, 1584.
34. Extract Act of Council appointing a Committee to consider proposals from Alexander Rutherford anent the Tron, purchased from the laird of Balbegno by his grandfather. 8th October, 1585.
35. Extract of Indenture, printed on p. 345, No. XVIII.
36. Charter by King James VI. to George, Earl of Huntly, of the property of the Gray Friars of Aberdeen. 29th July, 1587. Cf. *Reg. Mag.* Sig., vol. v., p. 445.
37. Signature by King James VI., printed on p. 88, No. XXXV.
38. Letters by King James VI., " 90, " XXXVI.
39. Letters by King James VI., " 92, " XXXVII.
40. Charter by James Settoun, burgess, to William Thomson, burgess, and Isobel Rolland, his spouse, of the Lochfield Croft. 18th May, 1593.
41. Letters of publication on A² 39. 31st December, 1593.
42. Discharge by Thomas Achesoun, Master Cunzeour to the King, for a payment from the Dean of Guild of 3585 merks Scots. 28th January, 159⁴.
43. Letters by King James VI., printed on p. 95, No. XXXIX.
44. Copy Summons, burgh against burgh of Old Aberdeen, anent dispute as to Marches. 27th April, 1594.
45. Lawburrows obtained against burgh by burgh of Old Aberdeen in same dispute. 4th June, 1594.
46. Discharge by King James VI. for sum of £7000 Scots paid by burgh towards expenses of baptism of Prince Henry. 5th June, 1594.
47. Extract discharge by King's Comptroller for sum of £1000 Scots paid by burgh towards his Majesty's tocher. 31st July, 1594.
48. Disposition by Sir John Carmichael to Robert Towse, burgess, of his right to the last payment. 31st July, 1594.
49. Licence by King James VI., printed on p. 94, No. XXXVIII.
50. Licence by Ludovick, Duke of Lennox, granting exemptions, in terms of the last. 13th December, 1594.
51. Act of Privy Council annulling exemptions from passing on assize. 5th March, 159⁵.

52. Letters by King James VI., printed on p. 97, No. XL.
53. Discharge by King James VI. for payment of 700 merks towards expenses of army. September, 1596.
54. Licence by King James VI., printed on p. 99, No. XLL.
55. Instrument of resignation, by Gilbert Menzies of Pitfoddels, to the burgh of the Upper and Nether and Justice Mills, with the multures, etc. 7th April, 1597.
56. Contract between Andrew Fraser of Stoneywood and the burgh, anent the marches betwixt Stoneywood and the freedom lands. 3rd August, 1597.
57. Commission by King James VI. appointing George Troup, burghess, his Commissioner for the shires of Aberdeen and Banff, for carrying out the Acts of Parliament anent metts, measures and weights. 10th August, 1599.
58. Copy, made about 1600, of A³ 4.
59. Signature by King James VI. for next.
60. Charter by King James VI., printed on p. 100, No. XLII.
61. Precept of Sasine on last. 14th August, 1601.
62. Discharge by James Balfour for payment of £810, the price of 45 stand of burghess armour. 9th June, 1603.
63. Extract Act of Parliament, printed on p. 249, No. XIX.
64. Instrument of Sasine following on A³ 61. 18th December, 1606.
65. Duplicate of last.
66. Extract Decreet by Lords of Council and Session anent Litsters of Aberdeen. 17th July, 1611.
67. Catalogue of Register and Court Books of Aberdeen. January, 1613.
68. Extract Submission and Decreet Arbitral anent King's customs and imposts on wines. 14th December, 1613.
69. Contract, burgh with Thomas Watson, mason, Old Rayne, for building a prison. 20th and 24th February, 1616.
70. Extract Act of Parliament, printed on p. 250, No. XXI.
71. Duplicate of last.
72. Charter by King James VI., printed on p. 110, No. XLIII.
73. Precept of Sasine on last. 17th July, 1617.
74. Instrument of Sasine thereon. 8th August, 1617.
75. Duplicate of last.
76. Contract, printed on p. 360, No. XX.
77. Mass of Writs (8) relating to the Tron, of dates from 1st June, 1601 to 16th September, 1617: the last printed on p. 363, No. XXI.