

Art. X.—Precepts issued on the death of Henry Darnley, King of Scotland, for perfuming his body, and for providing a mourning-dress to Mary, Queen of Scots, on the occasion.—FEB. M.D. lxi.*

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HENRY DARNLEY.

On the 10th of February 1566, Henry Darnley was murdered in the house which belonged to Robert Balfour, provost of the Collegiate Church of St Mary, in the Kirk of Field. Two days after the murder, this precept (in the handwriting of the Earl of Huntly) was issued by order of the Queen, to Mr Robert Richardson, treasurer of Scotland, to pay £40 for perfuming the King's body.

Jesus.
My Lord thesaurar, Forsamekle as the Quenis Majestie and Counsell has direckitt ane pottinger and schirurgens to caus perfume the Kingis body, and in respect that ther

* The originals are preserved in the General Register-House, Edinburgh.

is syndri thingis requirit to the samyn quhilkis thay hadde nocht, Heirfore, the Quenis Majestie hes ordanit me to advertis yow that ye caus delyver fourte pundis for performance of sik necessars as appertenis thairtill, quhilkis salbe allowit to yow, and delyver the same to the pottinger, and tak his vritting thairon; and for my awin part, I vald pray yow effectusly that the said soume war perfurnist with diligence and delyverit in all haist, in respect the same Rynis to the Quenis Majesteis honour, and the hale cuntrey, at the palyce of halirudhous, the xij of februar 1566.

Your L. guid freind,

HUNTLYE.

To My Lord Thesaurar.

[*In dorso.*]

Je, Martin Picauet, appore. de la Roynie de Scosse, Douairiere de France, confesse auoir Receu de Mr Robert Richarson, tresorier des finances de la diste dame, la soume de quatre vintz liures Tourn. pour la fourniture des drogues pour lambaument de Roy, de la quelle soume prometz en tenir compt au dist tresorier, et a tous autres Tesmointz mon seing manuel cy mis le xije. jour de februar mil cinq cent soixante et six, auant pasques.

E. PICAUET.

In the Accounts of the Treasurer for this period, the two following entries (in which he discharges himself with the payment of various sums for the above purpose) are to be found.

Item, the xij day of februar, be the Quenis grace speciall command to Martine Pitcauet, ypothegar, to mak furnesing of droggis, spicis, and utheris necessaris for oppinyng and perfuming of the Kingis grace Majesteis umquhile bodie, as his acquittance schawin upoun compt beris,

xl. li.

Item, for colis, tubbis, hardis, barrellis, and utheris necessaris preparit for bowaling of the Kingis grace,

xlvj. s.

QUEEN MARY'S MOURNING-DRESS.

The Precept, bearing the signature of Queen Mary, seems to have been issued to the Treasurer on the 15th day of February 1566, the day on which the King was interred at Holyrood-house.

VOL. III.—PART I.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE QUENIS G. TO BE ANE DUILLE.

It' of sarge of florense to be ane gounne and ane cloik mulis and schunne, x elle and half.
 It' of chamlothe of sylk to be ane velicotte and ane vasquine, xvij elle and half.
 It' of ormasi taffatis to lyne the bodeis and sleuis of the gounne and velicotte, iiij elle.
 It' of blak pladine, v doubile elle.
 It' of treilie bucchareme, v elle.
 It' of cammarage to be four curgess, xvij elle.
 It' of smalle holen claith to be curges, x elle.

Maister Robert Richartsoune, thesaurer, ye salle nocht faeille to ansour alle this abounewretine, quhilk salle be allouitt to yow in yowr comptis, keipand this our precepe for your varrand, subscriuit with our hand at Edinburgh the xv of februar 1566.

MAISTER

[*In dorso.*]

I, Mr Jhone Balfour, grantis me to haue reseuit alle this vythinuretine, subscriuit vyth my hand at Edinburg the xvij of februar 1566. M. JHONE BALFOUR.

A corresponding entry appears in the account of Mr Robert Richardson, who discharges himself of the various sums paid to Mr John Balfour for each article of dress. It is as follows:—

Item, the said day (xv februar) be the Quenis grace precept to Maister Johne Balfour to be hir grace dule, x elnis ij quarteris of serge of florence to be ane gounne cloik mulis and schone the elne vj li	- - - - -	lxiiij li.
Item, xvij elnis ij quarteris of chamlott of silk to be ane willicote and ane wasqwine, the elne xxij s.	- - - - -	xix li. v s.
Item, four elnis of armosing to the bodeis & slevis, the elne xl s. summa,	- - - - -	viiij li.
Item, v dowble elnis of blak plading,	- - - - -	xl s.
Item, v elnis of trailze bukrame,	- - - - -	xl s.
Item, xvij elnis of cammerage to be curschais, the elne xl s.	- - - - -	xxxvj li.
Item x elnis of small holane claith to be curschais, the elne xxv s.	- - - - -	xij li. x s.