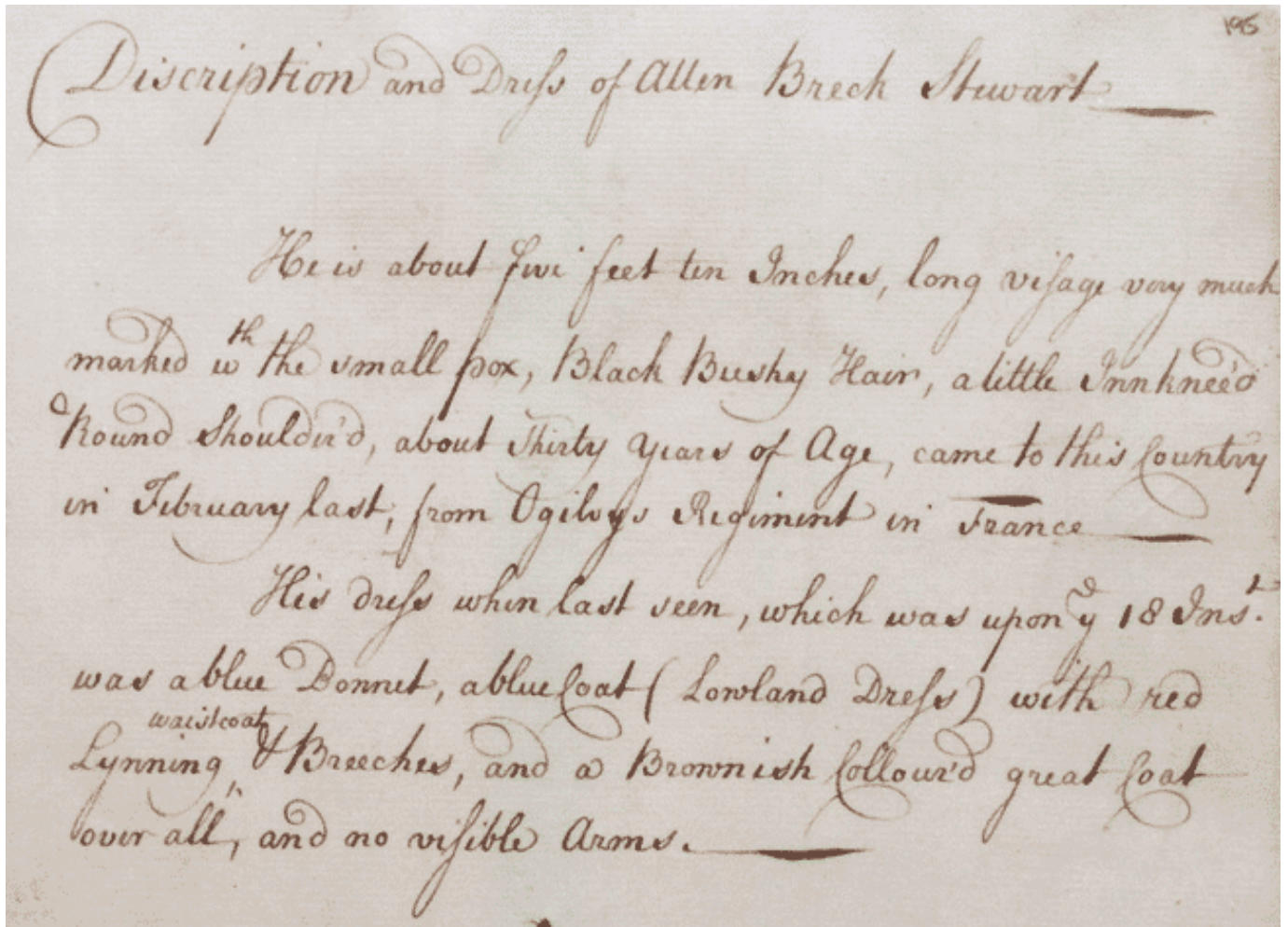


Weekly Poser (295) – Passage of a Customs and Excise Letter Book, 1752

This week's poser is a passage from letter books of the Dunbar Outport and District Records, 25 May 1752 (National Records of Scotland CE56/7/1 page 195).

The hand is a fairly typical example of a hand in the middle of the eighteenth century. The clerk has a tendency to flourish his capital letters. Watch out for the similarity in his letters *s* and *f* and the flourish on his letter *d* as well as for abbreviations.



This week's question: what was Alan Breck Stewart wearing when he was last seen?

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Answer: He was wearing blue bonnet, a blue coat with red lining waistcoat and breeches, and a brown overcoat.

Transcription:

*Discription and Dress of Allen Breck Stewart _
He is about five feet ten Inches, long visage every much
marked w[i]th the small pox, Black Bushy Hair, a little Innknee'd
Round Shoulder'd, about Thirty Years of Age, came to this Country
in February last, from Ogilvys Regiment in France _
His dress when last seen, which was upon the 18 Ins[an]t
was a blue Bonnet, a blue Coat (Lowland Dress) with red
Lynning waistcoat & Breeches, and a Brownish Collour'd great Coat
over all, and no visible Arms_*