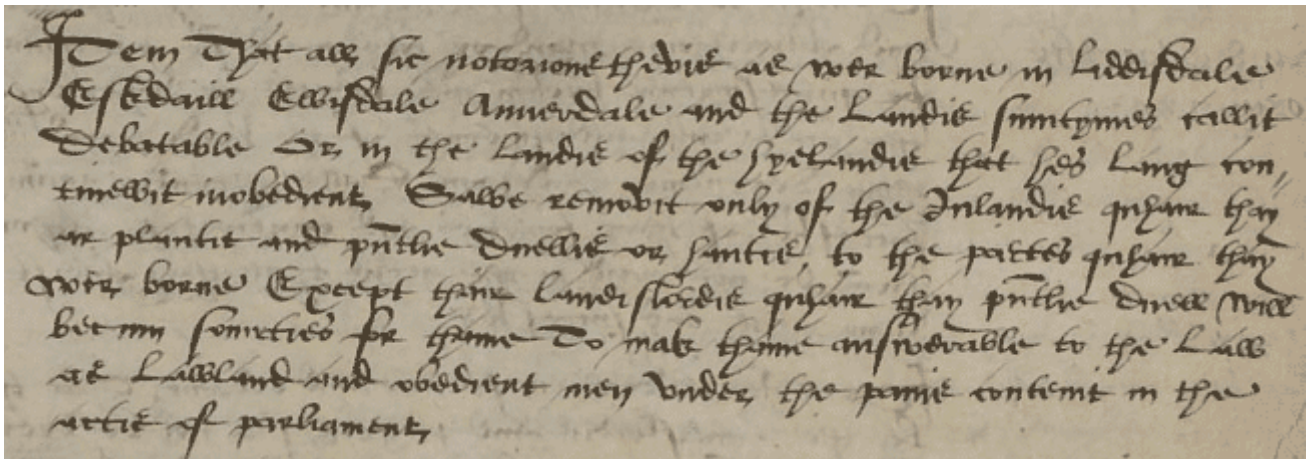


Weekly Poser (270) – Privy Council records, 1587

This week's poser is the third part taken from the miscellaneous volumes of the Privy Council records, which are mainly concerned with the enforcement of law and order, particularly in the Highlands, Islands and Borders, 1587 (National Records of Scotland, PC8/1 page 3).

The passage is taken from the Act of Parliament passed in July 1587 titled *For the quieting and keeping in obedience of the disorderit subjectis, inhabitantis of the bordouris, hielandis and ilis and concerns the fate of thieves in certain regions of Scotland*. The previous two posers were part of the appended roll of names to this act.

The handwriting is regular and typical for 16th century. Watch out for phonetic spellings, the way the clerk formed his letters *a* and *i* as well as ligatures. Also, note the different ways of forming the letter *r*.



This week's question: what was to happen to notorious thieves?

Weekly Poser (270) – Privy Council records, 1587

Answer: Thieves would have to be returned to the places where they were born unless the landlord stood surety for them.

Transcription:

*Item That all sic notorious thevis as wer borne in Liddisdale
Eskdail Ewisdale Annerdale and the Landis sumtymes callit
Debatable Or in the Landis of the hyelandis that hes lang con-
tinewit inobedient Salbe removit only of the Inlandis quhair thay
ar plantit and p[rese]ntlie duellis or hantis to the pairtis quhair thay
wer borne Except thair landislordis quhair thay p[rese]ntlie duell will
Becum souirties for thame To mak thame answerable to the Law
as Lawland and obedient men vnder the painis contenit in the
actis of parliament*