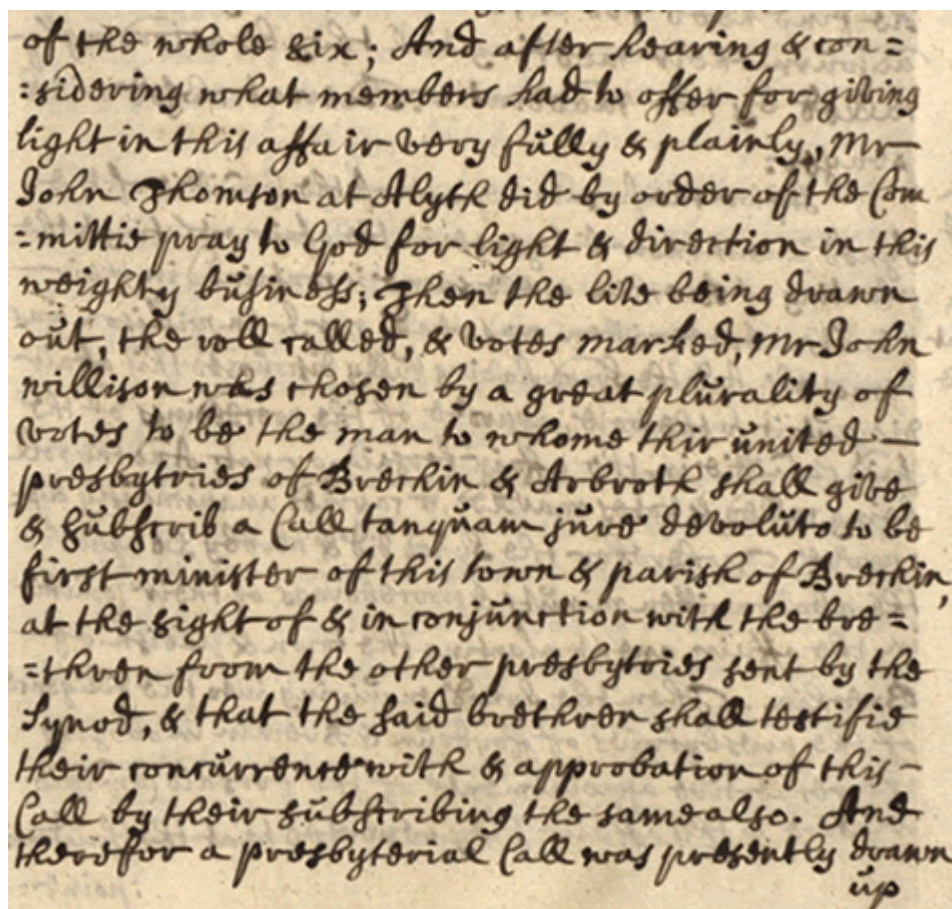


## Weekly Poser 341 - Minutes of the Synod of Angus and Mearns, 1703

This week's poser is taken from the minutes of the Synod of Angus and Mearns, 1703 (National Records of Scotland, CH2/12/1 page 159). The minute relates to the appointment of the first minister to Brechin.

While the hand is a little later in the secretary hand period, it contains many of the classic secretary hand styles such as the *c*, *e*, *r* and *v* whereas other letters such as *h* and *t* are more like our contemporary forms. Use is made of punctuation, as well as tittle marks for *u* and ampersands for *and*.



of the whole six; And after leaving & con-  
:sidering what members had to offer for giving  
light in this affair very fully & plainly, Mr  
John Thomson at Alyth did by order of the Com-  
:mittie pray to God for light & direction in this  
weighty business; then the list being drawn  
out, the roll called, & votes marked, Mr John  
Willison was chosen by a great plurality of  
votes to be the man to whoms this united  
presbytrie of Brechin & Arbuthot shall give  
& subscribe a full tanyam juvo de volute to be  
first minister of this town & parish of Brechin  
at the sight of & in conjunction with the bro-  
:theron from the other presbyteries sent by the  
Synod, & that the said brotheron shall testify  
their concurrance with & approbation of this  
call by their subscribing the same also. And  
therefor a presbyterial call was presently drawn  
up

**This week's question:** we simply want you to transcribe the minute.

**Weekly Poser 341 - Minutes of the Synod of Angus and Mearns, 1703**

**Answer:** This week we asked you to transcribe a minute about the appointment of the first minister to Brechin taken from the minutes of the Synod of Angus and Mearns, 1703 (National Records of Scotland, CH2/12/1 page 159).

**Transcription:**

...of the whole six; And after hearing & considering what members had to offer for giving light in this affair very fully & plainly, Mr John Thomson at Alyth did by order of the Com-mittie pray to God for light & direction in this weighty business; Then the lite being drawn out, the roll called, & votes marked, Mr John Willison was chosen by a great plurality of votes to be the man to whome thir united presbyteries of Brechin & Arbroth shall give & subscrib a Call *tanquam jure devoluto* to be first minister of this town & parish of Brechin at the sight of & in conjunction with the brethren from the other presbyteries sent by the Synod, & that the said brethren shall testifie their concurrence with & approbation of this Call by their subscribing the same also. And therefor a presbyterial Call was presently drawn up.

**Glossary:**

*approbation* = official approval or sanction

*tanquam jure devoluto* = where no minister has been nominated to a parish and the presbytery or synod makes the appointment

If you would like to contribute palaeography posers to the website contact us ([onlineresources@nas.gov.uk](mailto:onlineresources@nas.gov.uk)).