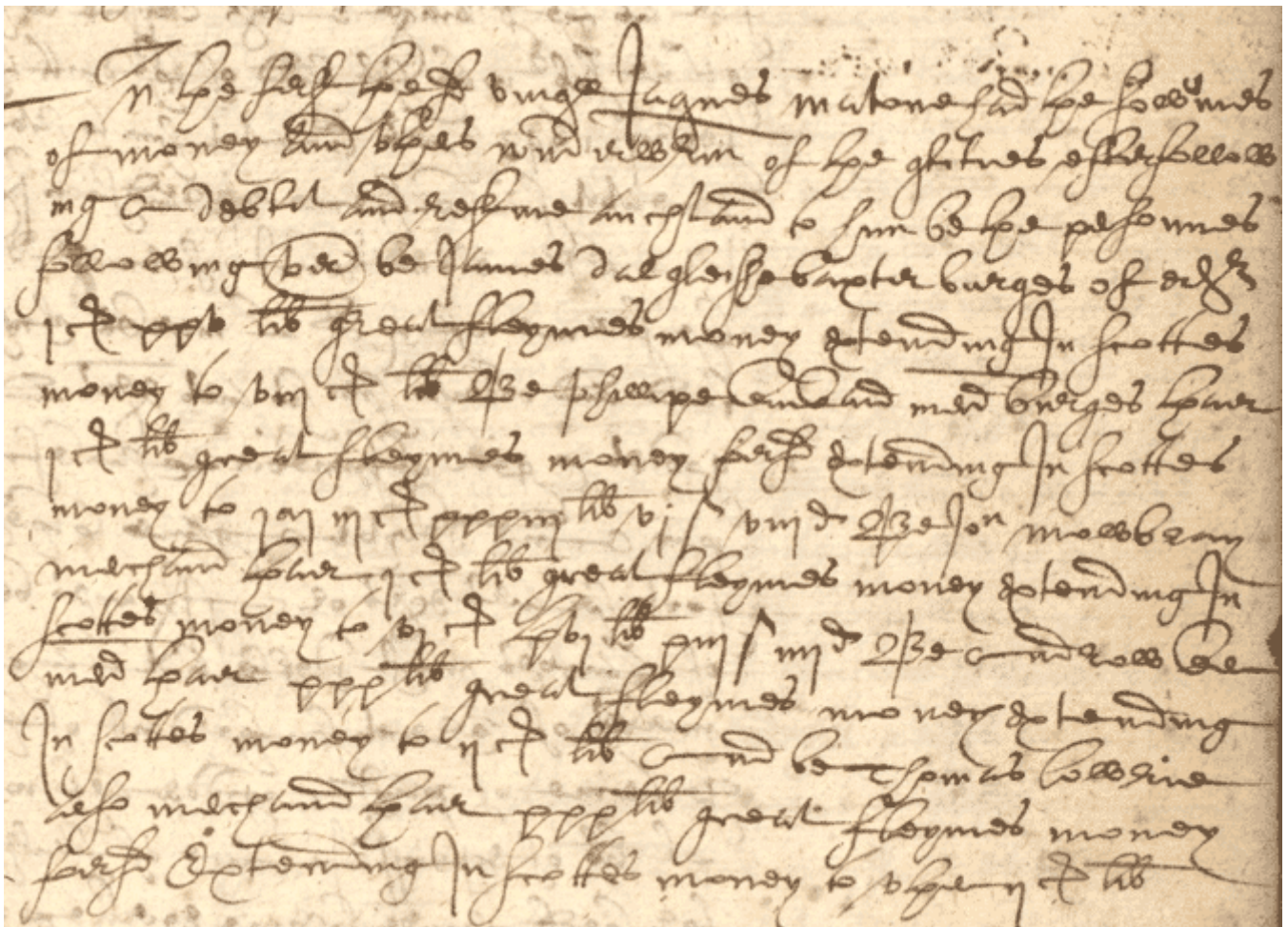


**Weekly Poser 351 - Inventory of Jaques Matone, merchant in
Amsterdam, 1652**

It is quite common to find mentions of currencies and coins from various parts of Europe in records produced in Scottish burghs up to the early 18th century. This is evidence of trade between Scottish ports and the rest of Europe. The inventory below is from the testament of Jaques Matone, merchant in Amsterdam, recorded in the registers of Edinburgh Commissary Court, 5 Oct 1652 (National Records of Scotland, CC8/8/66, page 253). It is a record of debts owed to him by Scottish burgesses, where the amounts of money are given in the pound Scots and in Great Flemish pounds.

The handwriting itself is fairly clear, but slightly curly or loopy in places, and the page suffers from bleed through from the writing overleaf. Sums of money are expressed in the corrupt Latin form (where jaj = 1,000).

**This week's question:**

Who among the debtors owed the most money in terms of Scots pounds and who owed the most in terms of Great Flemish pounds?

<http://www.scottishhandwriting.com>

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Answer:

The largest debtor in terms of Great Flemish pounds was James Dalgleishe, baker, who owed 125 Great Flemish pounds: *James dalgleishe baxter burges of ed[inbu]r[gh] j c~ xxv lib~ great fleymes money*. However, the largest debtor in terms of pound Scots was Phillipe Kincaid, merchant, who owed 1333 pounds, 6 shillings and 8 pence Scots: *Phillipe Kincaid me[rchan]d burges thar... extending In Scottes money to jaj iij c~ xxxiij lib~ vj sh~ viij d~*.

Transcription:

*In the first the s[ai]d vmq[ui]ll Jaques matone had the sowmes of money and vthers wnderwri[tte]n of the q[uan]tities eftirfollow-
-ing adebtit and restine auchtand to him be the personnes following viz be James dalgleishe baxter burges of ed[inbu]r[gh] j c~ xxv lib~ great fleymes money extending In Scottes money to viij c~ lib~ Be Phillipe Kincaid me[rchan]d burges thair j c~ lib~ great fleymes money foirs[ai]d extending In Scottes money to jaj iij c~ xxxiij lib~ vj sh~ viij d~ Be Jo[h]n Mowbray merchand thair j c~ lib~ great fleymes money extending In Scottes money to vj c~ xvj lib~ xiij sh~ iij d~ Be androw Ker me[rchan]d thair xxx lib~ great fleymes money extending In Scottes money to ij c~ lib~ And be Thomas Lowrie also merchand thair xxx lib great fleymes money foirs[ai]d Extending In Scottes money to vther ij c~ lib~*

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