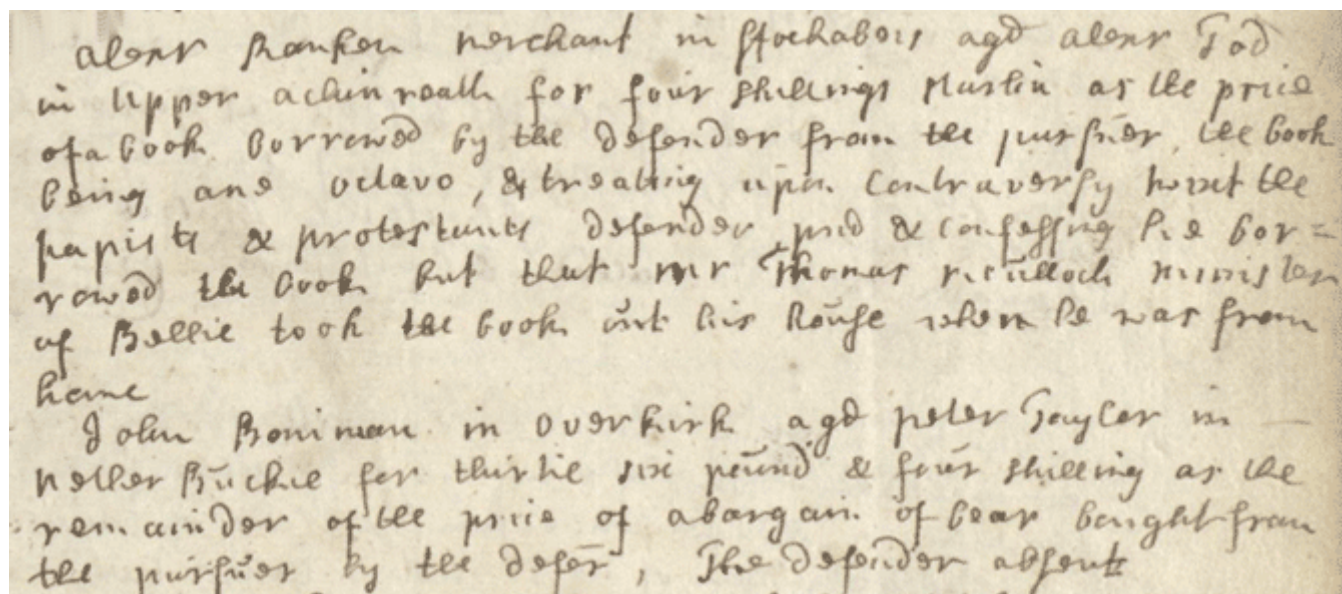


## Poser 358 - Minutes of Huntly Regality Court, 1724

This poser is from a slightly later source than usual. It is an excerpt from minutes of Huntly Regality Court dated 30 July 1724 (National Records of Scotland reference RH11/40/2 page 33).



At first glance the hand is easy to read - you can instantly recognise words - however to make an accurate transcription you need to look closely. The clerk has a habit of not joining components of letters together such as the minims in the letters *m* and *n* and the chambers in *o*, *b* and *B* are quite open. On the positive side, he uses the tittle mark for letter *u* so that's easily identifiable.

### This week's questions:

What we'd like to know from this week's poser is:

In the first case:

What was the pursuer's occupation?

Where did he live?

What item was worth four shillings?

Who was ultimately blamed for the absence of this item?

In the second case:

Where did John and Peter live?

How much did John pay Peter?

What was the payment for?

Was Peter Taylor in court?

**Poser 358 - Minutes of Huntly Regality Court, 1724**

In this poser taken from the minutes of Huntly Regality Court dated 30 July 1724 (National Records of Scotland reference RH11/40/2 p33), we asked you 8 questions about two cases which were heard that day. All the answers are given below.

**Answers:**

In the first case:

What was the pursuer's occupation?

He was a merchant.

Where did he live?

Fochabers.

What item was worth four shillings?

A book – an octavo dealing with the controversy between the papists and protestants.

Who was ultimately blamed for the absence of this item?

Mr Thomas Mculloch, the minister of Bellie.

In the second case:

Where did John and Peter live? - John lived in Overkirk and Peter in Nether Buckie

How much did John pay Peter? - John paid Peter £36. 4s.

What was the payment for? - The payment was for the remainder of the price of a bargain of *bear* [barley].

Was Peter Taylor in court? - No, he was the defender and the record states: *The defender absent.*

**Transcription:**

*Alex[ande]r Ranken merchant in Fochabers ag[ains]t Alex[ande]r Tod in Upper Achinreath for four shillings starlin as the price of a book borrowed by the defender from the pursuer, the book being ane octavo, & treating upon contraversy tuixt the papists & protestants defender p[rese]nt & confessing he borrowed the book but that Mr Thomas Mculloch minister of Bellie took the book out his house when he was from home*

*John Boniman in Overkirk ag[ains]t peter Taylor in Nether Buckie for thirtie six pound & four shilling as the remainder of the price of a bargain of bear bought from the pursuer by the defe[nde]r, The defender absent.*

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