

Elizabeth: May 1581

Pages 10-12

[Calendar of State Papers, Scotland: Volume 6, 1581-83](#). Originally published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1910.

Citation:

'Elizabeth: May 1581', in *Calendar of State Papers, Scotland: Volume 6, 1581-83*, ed. William K Boyd (London, 1910), pp. 10-12. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/scotland/vol6/pp10-12> [accessed 15 April 2020].

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19. [Robert Bowes to Walsingham.] [May 6.]

Has received from Scotland this 6th of May advertisement that the King of Scots, who yet remained at Dalkeith, has, by the advice of such as were there with him, conceived and formed some articles concerning the Earl of Morton and Mr. Archibald Douglas, which are to be sent to the Earl of Mar for the Earl of Angus, to the effect that he should move his uncle and Mr. Archibald to assent thereto, and in like manner interpone his own consent, which he believes he will never do, in respect that the conditions are very hard. Yet they are proponed in such manner that if they be not received rigour shall be used. The substance follows.

That the Earl of Angus shall move his uncle and therewithal interpone his consent that he shall be confined in a certain place of his, as yet not named, in ward, during term of his life.

Item:—That the Earl of Angus shall cause his uncle and Mr. Archibald Douglas, his cousin, to be content to renounce all action or suit in law that they may pretend against any person for any goods or gear uptaken from them or either of them from the 29th day of December last.

Item:—That the Earl of Morton shall renounce and "owergyf" the house, place, and demesne of Dalkeith into the King's hands, to remain at his grace's disposition for ever, with all the particulars thereof.

Item:—That the Earl of Morton shall renounce his right and title to the house and castle of Blackness, with the heritable title to the sheriffship of Linlithgow and the lands thereto appertaining, to remain in like manner at the King's disposition.

Item:—That he shall give over to the King the office of Admiralty and the heritable title to the sheriffship of Lothian, to remain at the King's disposition in like manner.

Item:—That he shall cause his base son, James, Prior of Pluscarden, to renounce his title and right in the said priory to Lord Seton's son. ([fn. 1](#))

Item:—That he shall cause another of his base sons, called Archibald [Douglas], to renounce all title and right that he has to a pension of 1000*l.* from the abbacy of Balmerino in favour of Sir John Seton, Cavillier del Bona.

Item:—That he shall cause other two pensions which his sons have out of the bishoprics of St. Andrews and Aberdeen to be renounced into the King's hands, to remain at his disposition.

Item:—That he shall pay the whole charges of the soldiers levied, and the extraordinary charge that the King has been at since the last of December, and that at the sight and judgment of four lords to be named.

Item:—That he shall pay to the King within certain short space 100 stone weight of bullion which he caused to be coined without warrant, as they allege, the time of his regiment and since; for which he has, notwithstanding, sufficient discharge.

Item:—That Mr. Archibald Douglas shall renounce all the right of the parsonage of Glasgow, and allow and ratify the disposition thereof made, and of his living, to the Prior of Blantyre.

Item:—The said Mr. Archibald shall renounce the right to his ordinary place of the Session, and ratify the disposition thereof made to John Maitland so long as the Laird of Lethington shall live. Thereafter the said John shall receive his father's place, and the said Mr. Archibald his own.

1½ pp. *Indorsed:* "Articles conceived by the K[ing] to be delivered to the E[arl] Morton. 1511."

20. [Thomas Randolph] to the Commendator of Dunfermline. [May 12.]

Desires to be advertised whether William Nichols, who was spoiled of his ship by Maclean and others, has yet been brought before the King of Scots and his Council, to the end that some friend or servant of his may repair into Scotland to assist him in his just defence and procuring such testimony as is to be had of his honesty, truth, and good behaviour in all places. He is well known to be a well willer to Scotland, where he has been.

1 p. *Copy in Randolph's hand. Indorsed:* "To the Commendator of Donfermlin for Wm. Nicholles."

21. Robert Bowes to Walsingham. [May 16.]

Recommends Mr. Ralph Rokeby for the office of Chancellor of Ireland, which is vacant by the decease of Mr. Gerard.

By his absence from Berwick he has had little intelligence of the affairs of Scotland, which, nevertheless, he understands to run in a hard course towards England, in such manner that if the same be not speedily remedied the amity is not like to continue long.

The Earl of Angus seeing the end of the time of his toleration to approach, and distrusting to find the King's favour without his submission to unreasonable conditions, disposes himself, upon view of further pursuit and extremity against him, to come into England and seek refuge of her majesty.

Sundry articles have been offered by the King to him for his peace, but the same be so hard against the Earl of Morton, his uncle, and other friends, and so dishonourable to himself, that he cannot agree to the same. Incloses a copy of the articles. *Aske. Signed:* Robert Bowes.

Cott. Calig. C. VI., fol. 165.

Extract from the same.

22. Summons to the Master of Gray by James VI. [May 18.] Add. MSS. 35,125, fol. 21.

Requires him to be with him at Edinburgh on the 28th instant to give his advice concerning the answer received from the Queen of England to his letter sent to her by Nicholas Errington. Dalkeith. *Signed:* James R.

23. Robert Bowes to Walsingham. [May 20.]

Incloses a letter he has received from Mr. Archibald Douglas, to the intent he may both understand the intelligence given, with his own opinion thereon, and his particular request for his access to the Court. Understands that Lord Hunsdon, on Mr. Arington's return, wrote to him at such length that it is needless for him to trouble him further therewith. Asks him to consider and tender Mr. Archibald Douglas's request to repair to the Court in the causes of the Earls of Angus and Morton. *Aske. Signed:* Robert Bowes.

24. Hunsdon to Walsingham. [May 30.] Harl. MSS. 6999, fol. 185.

According to his direction in his letter of the 24th, which came to his hands early yesterday morning, wrote to the Earl of Lennox in all points to the same effect, with some persuasions of his own to make him the earnest in it.

Would gladly have wished that the Queen of England had written some few lines to the King, only for an indifferent trial to have been given to the Earl of Morton, whereby he [Hunsdon] might have had some colour to have sent in Nicholas Errington, who should have solicited Lennox and others of the Council therein, who surely might have done great good in the same. For want whereof was forced to send his letter by a secret messenger. For if it should be known that Lennox only should be sought herein, it would rather hinder the cause than further it; for the news of Arran would disdain it greatly, who is Morton's special enemy, and takes upon him in all matters a great deal more than Lennox does. But doubts not but the matter will be so handled that it will take some good effect, whereof he hopes he will hear shortly; for Morton was brought to Edinburgh on Friday night, and if he have any trial—whereof he is in some doubt—it will be this week. But thinks it will fall to some composition with the Earl of Arran, who has the only dealing of that cause. Requests leave to return. Berwick. *Signed:* H. Hunsdon.

Postscript.—Understands that Mr. Wilson is dead. Requests him to move her majesty for Mr. Bellamy to be dean of Durham, who is the vice-dean there, and is accounted a very honest and learned man and a good housekeeper, and one whom he understands both the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Durham like very well.