

Testament Testamentar of John Knox  
CC8/8/2 pp. 527-533

[p. 527]

1. John knox xijth Jan[ua]rii 1573

2. The testament testamentare & Inventare of the guid[is] geir sowms
  3. of money & dettis [per]teining to vmq[uhi]le Johnne knox mi[n]ister of the evangel
  4. of christ Jesus the tyme of his deceis quha deceissit vpoun the xxijij
  5. day of november The yeir of god jaivc lxxij yeiris Faithfullie
  6. maid & gevin vp be him self vpoun the xij day of maij the yeir
  7. of god foirsaid and [par]tlie be m[ar]garet stewart his relict Quhome
  8. w[i]t[h] martha m[ar]garet & elizabeth knoxis his dochteris he vpoun
  9. the xij day of Maij in his Latterwill vnderwrittin no[min]at his executor[is]
  10. testame[n]taris as the sami[n] of the dait foirsaid beiris.
11. In the first the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne grantit him to haif had the tyme foirsaid Tua
12. syluer drinking cowpis m[ar]kit w[i]t[h] J.K.M. on the ane syde and on the vther syde
  13. w[i]t[h] E.B.N. [con]tein[in]g xxv vnces or th[air]by Tua saltfattis of syluer of xijij vnce
  14. vecht and ane half auchteine syluer spvnes [con]tein[in]g xx vnce weiht & a marte pric of the vnce
  15. xxvi s~ viij d~ Su[m]ma Foureskoir pundis off the quhilk syluer work abouewrittin
  16. the airschip is to be deducit & takin of Item the said m[ar]garet ane of the saidis
  17. executoris grantit th[a]t the said vmquhile Johnne had the tyme of his deceis foirsaid in
  18. pois ane hundret[h] pundis Item his buikis alsweill vpoun the scriptures as vthir
  19. [pro]phane autho[ris] wort[h] vjxx and x li~ ITem in vtensile & domicile the [airschip]
  20. being deducit to the availl of xxx li~
  21. Su[m]ma Inventarij – ijclxxxxvj li~ vj s~ viij d~
  22. Followis the dettis awing to the deid
  23. ITem thair wes awing to the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne the tyme of his deceis foirsaid be
  24. andro lord stewart of [vcholtrie] his guid fader the sowme of Lxxx li~ of Lent
  25. money. ITem be w[illia]m fiddes baxter x li~ restand awand to the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne
  26. of quheit q[uhi]lk he ressauit to gif breid for ITem be agnes weymis relict of
  27. vmq[uhi]le andro mernis cietenir of St androis xix li~ vj s~j d~ scots for the rest
  28. of beir q[uhi]lk scho ressauit for the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne to mak aill of ITem be
  29. m[ar]garet spens spous to m[iste]r Robert glen[n] [xvij scored out] xvij li~ xv s~ij d~ for beir
  30. q[uhi]lk scho ressauit fra the said vmq[uhi]le to delyuer aill of ITem restand
  31. awand to the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne the tyme foirsaid for ane pairt of his

32. pensioun q[uhi]lk he had furt[h] of the kirk of hadingtoun be the [per]sones following  
 33. the [victuales] vnderwrittin of the yeiris & cropes p[r]ice vnderspecifeit  
 34. viz of the crope & yeir of god jaivclxxi yeiris be James fiddes for  
 35. ane p[ar]t of his teyndis of the Nu[n]land Liand in the parochin of hadingtoun  
 36. Ane boll of quheit ane firloate beir vij bollis aittis Be Adame  
 37. Ethingtoun in quhitrig ane boll of quheit sex bollis aittis price of the boll  
 38. of quheit the said yeir L s~ price of the boll of beir the said yeir twa  
 39. m[er]kis and price of the boll of aittis the sam[in] yeir xx s~ Sum[m]a xix li~  
 40. xij s~ iiiij d~ ITem be the said James fiddes for his teyndis of the saidis landis  
 41. of Nu[n]land of the crope & yeir of god JaivcLxxij yeiris ane boll of  
 42. quheit ane boll ane firloate beir sevin bollis aittis Be James oliphant  
 43. & robert hepburne for thair teyndis of the land[is] of Stenestoun Liand within  
 44. the said parochin the said yeir sex bollis quheit sex bollis beir and  
 45. xx bollis aittis Be the said adame ethingtoun in quhitrig for his teyndis  
 46. of the said[is] land[is] the said yeir ane boll of quhiet ane boll of beir & sex  
 47. bollis aittis Be Johnne gulanis wyfe in aulderstoun for hir teyndis th[air]of  
 48. of the yeir foirsaid twa bollis quheit twa bollis beir and viij bollis aittis  
 49. Price of the boll of quheit the said yeir L s~ price of the boll beir the  
 50. said yeir twa m[er]kis & price of the boll aittis the same yeir xx s~ Su[mm]a  
 51. Lxxix li~ xij s~ iiiij d~ ITem restand awand to the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne the  
 52. tyme of his deceis foirsaid be the p[er]sones following the sowmes of money &  
 53. victuale vnderwrittin as for ane p[ar]t of his stipend assignit to him for susten[in]g  
 54. in the ministrie of the said crop & yeir of god JajvcLxxj yeiris In  
 55. the first be Margaret haldane Lady Colingtoun for the Lambes terme  
 56. in the said yeir xxxij li~ vi s~ viij d~ Be M[iste]r Robert wynrahame Collector  
 57. of fyfe xxxij li~ xvij s~ for the said vmq[uhi]le John[ne]s victuale of the said  
 pensioun  
 58. sauld be him the said yeir Be robert bennet thre firlottis quheit price  
 59. of the boll Ls~ Su[mm]a xlviij s~ vj d~ ITem restand awand to the said vmq[uhi]le  
 60. Johnne the victuale vnderspecifeit as for ane [par]t of his said stipend the crop  
 61. & yeir of god jaivcLxxij yeiris In the first be williame m[ar]thingstoun in  
 62. Inueresk thre bollis tua firloate tua peckis quheit Be williame vernor  
 63. thair tua bollis tua firloate thre peckis quheit Be George forman th[air] thre  
 64. bollis tua firloate tua peckis quheit, Be robert dowglas thair thre bollis  
 65. tua firloate tua peckis quheit Be Johnne coamistoun in monktonhall  
 66. thre bollis thre firloate quheit Be Johnne Kerss [th[air]] thre bollis ane firlot  
 67. tua peckis quheit Be thomas thomsoun th[air] tua bollis tua firloate tua peckis  
 68. quheit Be adame wricht tua bollis ane firlot quheit Be williame  
 69. Johnestoun foure bollis ane firlot quheit Be dauid hill in Inuersk ane  
 70. boll thre firloate thre peckis quheit extende[in]g to tua chalder quheit

[page 529]

71. price of the boll of quheit the said yeir Ls~ Su[mm]a Lxxx li~ Be helene [townis]  
 72. relict of vmq[uhi]le richard prestoun of quhithill ane chalder beir Be jonet Betoun  
 73. in litill monkton ellevin bollis beir Be williame wanchop of nidry marschell  
 74. for the teyndis of the land[is] of Calcoittis thre bollis beir Be Johne hill of that ilk  
 75. twa bollis beir Be the tennentis of the parochin of kynglassie four chalderis  
 76. beir as followis Be Johnne boswall in gaitmylk ane chalder beir williame  
 77. swyne th[air] viij bollis beir george tod in ky[n]nethmonth ane chalder beir helene

78. mertyne in kynglassie and w[illia]m boswall hir sone tuelf bollis beir w[illia]m  
 79. boswall in stintoun xij bollis beir extende[in]g in the haill to sex chalderis beir  
 80. price of the boll or heid tua m[er]kis Su[mm]a ane hundred[h] twentie aucht  
 pundis  
 81. Be the tennentis of the parochin of newbirnshyre in fyfe some chalderis  
 82. aittis as followis viz: williame disthingtoun in rameldry fourtene bollis aittis  
 83. Thome alcheno[u]r th[air] xiiij bollis beir Johnne young in the coitts sex bollis  
 aittis  
 84. Be dauid sympsoun th[air] sex bollis aittis and be andro [-] thair sex  
 85. bollis aittis Be dauid Johnesoun in montturpie aucht bollis aittis Be  
 86. [-] sympsoun foure bollis aittis Price of the boll or heid xx s~  
 87. Su[m]ma Lxiiij li~ ITem resting awand to the said vmq[uhi]le Johnne the sowmes  
 88. vnderspecifeit as for ane [par]t of the syluer of his said stipend of the said  
 89. yeir of god JajvcLxxij yeiris In the first be James rig of carberry  
 90. for the half teynd of cowsland xxxij li~ vj s~ viij d~ Be [-]  
 91. Lady edmestoun spous to andro ker of hirsell kny[gh]t for the vth[er] half of the  
 teyndis  
 92. of the land[is] foirsaid[is] xxxij li~ vj s~ viij d~ Be the said m[ar]garet haldane  
 93. lady colyngtoun for the teynd of haillis Lxvi li~ xij s~ iij d~ Be Robert  
 94. bennet xxxiiij li~ vj s~ viij d~ Be m[iste]r James macgill of rankelo[u]r nethir  
 95. for his males of the land[is] of pinkie for the t[er]mes of witsonday & m[ar]tymes  
 96. In the said yeir of god Jajvc Lxxij yeiris Lj lib~ vj s~ viij d~ And also  
 97. resting be hime of the makes of the land[is] foirsaid of the yeir of god Jajvc  
 98. Lxx yeiris xl v s~ viij d~ Be the executor[is] of vmq[uhi]le gilbert edmastoun  
 99. resting be him of the males of the land[is] foirsaid of the yeir of god Jajvc  
 100. Lxx yeiris xl v s~ viij d~ Be the executors of vmq[uhi]le gilbert edmastoun  
 101. for the males of the land[is] of wowmet of the t[er]me of m[ar]tymes the said  
 yeir of  
 102. god Jaj vc Lxij yeiris xxii Li~ vijs~ Be Jonet betoun for the males of litill  
 103. monktoun nyne pund[is] Be the said [-] lady edmestoun  
 104. & archibald prestoun of walfeield for the males of net[o]un xij li~ xi s~ vj d~  
 105. Be James rig of carberry for the maill th[air]of xx li~ ITem be [-]  
 106. [-] of nidry for the males of calcottes thre pund[is] Be Robert  
 107. Dowglas in Inueresk for his males iij lib~ xix s~ iiiij d~ Be W[illia]m  
 m[ar]chinso[u]n  
 108. th[air] for his few maill xxvij s~ x d~

[page 530]

109. Su[m]ma of the dettis abouewrittin awing to the deid viij C xxx li~ xix s~ vj s~  
 110. Na dettis awing be the deid  
 111. Su[m]ma of the Inventare w[i]t[h] the dettis awing to the deid Ljaj jC xxvj li~ xix  
 s~ vj d~  
 112. To be diuidit in thre [par]tis the deidis [par]t th[air]of extendis to iijC Lxxv li~ xij  
 s~ ij d~  
 113. Followis the lattirwill and legacie  
  
 114. Lord Jesus I [com]mend my trublit spreit in thy [pro]tection & defence and thy  
 115. trublit kirk to thy m[ajes]tie Becaus I haif had to do w[i]t[h] [dyuerss]  
 [per]sonages of the

116. ministrie q[uhair]unto god of his mercie erectit me w[i]t[h]in this realme my dewetie

117. cravis that I sall leve vnto thai[m] ane to now ane testimony of my mynd

118. And first vnto the papists and to the vnthankfull world I say that althoche

119. my lyfe hes bene vnto thai[m] odious and that oftintymes thai haif socht my

120. destruccioun & the destruccioun of the kirk q[uhi]lk god of his m[ajes]tie hes pa[r]tit

121. within this realme & hes alwayis preservit & kepit the samin fra thair

122. crewale Int[er]prysis yit to thai[m] I am [com]pellit to say that [onles] thai spedelie

123. repent my de[par]ting of this lyfe salbe to thai[m] the gretest calamitie th[a]t euir

124. yit hes apprehendit thai[m] sum small apperance thai may yit haif on

125. my lyfe gif thai haif grace to se ane deid man haif I bene almaist

126. thir tua yeiris lastbipast And yit I wald that thai suld [rypelie] [con]sidd[er]

127. in quhat better estait thai & thair ma[jes]ties standis in thaim it hes done befoir

128. and thai haif hard of lang tyme befoir threatint bot because thai will not

129. admit me for ane admonis[h]er I gif thai[m] ouir to the Jugement of him

130. quha knawis the hairtis of all and will disclose the secretis thairof

131. in dew tyme and this far to the papists To the faithfull god befoir

132. his sone Jesus christ and befoir his halie Angellis I [pro]test that god

133. be my mouth be I neuir sa abiect hes shawin to yow his trewth

134. In all simplicitie Nane I haif corrupted nane I haif defraudit merchandice

135. haif I not maid to gods glorie I write I of the glorious evangell

136. of Jesus christ bot according to the messenger of the grace grannted

137. vnto me I haif dividit the sermon of trewt[h] in Just [par]tis beatin doun

138. the prude of the prude In all that did declair th[air] rebelloun agains

139. god according as god in his law gevis to me yit testimonie & raising vp

140. th[con]sciences trublat with the knawlege of th[air] awin synnes be the declaring

141. of Jesus christ the strenth of his death and the michtie operatioun of his

142. resurrectioun In the hartis of the faithfull off this I say I haif ane

143. testimony this day in my [con]science befoir god how that evir the world

144. rage Be co[n]stant th[air]foir in doctrine that anis publiclie ye haif

145. professit Lat not sclandrous dayis draw yow away fra Jesus christ

146. Nathir Lat ye prosperitie of the wicket move yow to follow it nor thaime

[page 531]

147. For howsaeuir it be that god appeiris to neglect his awin for ane seasoun

148. yit he remains ane Just Juge quha nathir faith nor will Justifie the

149. wicket I am not Ignorant that mony wald that I suld entir in [paar]ticulare

150. determinatioun of thir p[rese]nt trubles To quhome I planelie and simplie

151. a[nswe]r that as I neuir excedit the boundis of godis scriptures Sua will I

152. not do in this [par]t by godis grace Bot heirof I am assurit be him quha

153. nathir can dissave nor be dissavit that the castell of edinbur[ch]t in the q[uhi]lk

154. all the murther all the truble & the haill destruccioun pf this puir [com]mon

155. weill wes Inventit & as our awin dismay witnes by thaim & by thair

156. ma[n]tenariswes put in executioun soll cum to destruccioun mantene it

157. quha salist The destruccioun I say of body & saule except thai repent

158. I Luik not to the momen[tary] [pro]speritie of the wicked ye not altho[ch]t thai

159. suld remane [con]queroris to the cu[m]ing of o[u]r lord Jesus bot I luik to this sentence

160. that quhasaeuir scheddis Innocent bluid defyles the land & [pro]vokis godis

161. wraith agains him self and the land vntill his bluid be sched agane

162. be ordor of law to satisfie godis anger This is not the first tyme that

163. Ye haif said this sentence altho that mony at all tymes stirrit at sik

164. severitie I yit afferme the same being reddy to entir to gif compt

165. befoir his maiestie of the stewartschip he [com]mittit vnto me I knew in

166. my death the Rumo[u]ris salbe strainge bot be ye not trublit abone me for

167. belouit in the lord Jesus Bot yit agane I say remane [con]sta[n]t in the

168. trewt[h] and he quhairof his m[ajest]ie send me [con]ductit me & [pro]sperit the

169. work in my hand agains sathan will [pro]vide for yow abundantlie

170. quhen that ethir my bluid soll watter the doctrine taucht be me

171. Or he of his m[ajes]tie vth[er]wayis [pro]vide to put ane end to this my battell

My

172. executors I mak [con]stitute & ordane m[ar]garet stewart my spous martha

173. m[ar]garet & elizabeth knoxis my dochteris and the faithfull to be or samen.

174. To my tua sons nathanaell and eleazane knoxis I vnsened the leis

175. that same benedictioun that th[air] dairest moder m[ar]jorie bowss left vnto

176. thai[m] To wit th[a]t god for his sone christ Jesus saik wald of his mercie

177. mak thai[m] his trew feueris and als vpricht worschipperis of him as

178. ony that euir sprang out of abrahmes loyns quhairo now as than

179. I fra my trublit hart say amen Farther I haif delyu[r]it be maister

180. Randulphe to m[iste]r Robert bowss [sch]eriff of the bischoprik & bruder to the

181. said mariorie my vmq[uhi]le dairest spous the sowme of fyve hundreth

182. pundis of scottis money to the vtiltie & [pro]ffett of my s[ai]ds tua sons The

183. q[uhi]lk money is that [par]t of substa[n]ce that fell or [per]teinit to thai[m] be the dettis

184. of m[ar]jorie bowss thair moder of blissit memory And augme[n]tit be me

185. as I myt or may spair to mak out the said sowme for I ressauit of th[air]in

186. but ane hundret[h] m[er]kis sterling q[uhi]lk I of my povirtie extendit to fyve hundret[h]

187. pundis scottis and that in [con]tentatioun[n] of the bairnis pairt of geir q[uhi]lkis

[page 532]

188. may fall to thai[m] be my dettis ITem I leif to my saids tua sones Tua

189. syluer drinking cowpis The ane of thai[m] is m[ar]kit JKM on the ane

190. syde and on the other syde w[i]t[h] E.B.N. and in lyke maner the vth[er] w[i]t[h] the same

191. m[ar]k & le[tre]s The werht of the saids tua cuipis [con]tenand xxij vnce or th[air]by

192. Tua saltfattis of syluer and xvij syluer spunes weyand xxxvij oz and ane

193. q[uarte]r vnces price of the vnce or heid xxvj s~ viij d~ The q[uhi]lk[is] cuipis saltfattis &

194. spvnes I leif in keping to the said m[ar]garet my spous q[uhi]ll my saids sones

195. be of the aige of xxj yeiris AT the q[uhi]lk tyme I ordane & [com]mandis hir

196. to delyuer the same[n] to my saidis sones ane [par]t of my saidis

197. vther faillis ITem I leif also to my said sones the ane [par]t of my saidis

198. buikis of the availl of xxx li~ And failyeing of my saids sones & thair

199. airis I ordane the foirsais fyve hundert[h] pundis w[i]t[h] the syluer cuipis spunes
200. saltfattis & buikis to return agane as eftir followis That is to say
201. the ane equale half th[air]of to the said m[ar]garet my spous & my saidis thrie
202. dochteris and the vthir half of the sami[n] to my bruder williame knox
203. & his airis quhatsu[m]euir ITem I leif to my said spous m[ar]garet stewart
204. the aucht hundert[h] m[er]kis q[uhi]lkis ar laid vpoun the landis of pennymour
205. quhairin scho is infeft be andro lord stewart of vchiltrie my fader
206. of law and failyeing of the said m[ar]garet I leif the sami[n] to my saidis
207. thre dochteris and failzeing if thai[m] I leif the sam[en] to the said andro
208. lord stewart of vchiltrie & his airis quhatsu[m]evir Chairging and
209. requiring my said fader of law & his airis as thai will a[nswe]r befoir
210. that Incorruptible Juge the lord Jesus that thai suffer not my said spous
211. & children to be defraudit or evill payit of the males & a[n]nuelrent of
212. the saidis landis during the no[n] redemptioun of the sami[n] ITem I leif to paule
213. knox my bruider sone ane hundredth pundis q[uhi]lk lyis in wodset vpoun
214. Robert campbellis landis in kynzeaulent[h] & quhairin the said paule is ellis
215. Infeft and that to be ane help to hald him at the stintis And as [con]teining
216. the rest of my haill guids quhatsu[m]evir I leif to be dividit betuix my
217. said spous & my saidis thrie dochteris and because my said spous man tak
218. the cair of my saidis dochteris & faithfullie travell for thair guid nourishyment
219. & vpbringing Thairfoir I leif my said spous the vse of thair geir
220. q[uhi]ll thai be maireit or cum to [per]fite age AT q[uhi]lk tyme I ordane thai[m]
221. euery ane as the tyme approches to haif th[air] awin that to thai[m] appertenis
222. Sic subscribitur Johne knox John adamesoun witnes ro[bert] watsoun
223. witness Johne Johnsoun witnes
224. Quotta gratis
225. The quote of this testament is given gratis
226. At speale [com]mand of my lordis commissaris

[page 533]

227. We m[iste]r ro[ber]t moule [com]missar of ed[inbu]r[gh] speciallie [con]stitut for [con]firmatioun of testamentis
228. Be the tennour heirof ratefeis appreuis & [con]fermis thir p[rese]nt
229. testame[n]t or Inue[n]tar insafar as the sami[n] is deulie & Lauchfullie maid
230. of the gudis & geir abouespecifeit alai[nar]lie And gevis & [com]mittis the intromissioun
231. w[i]t[h] the sam[e]n the saidis margaret stewart relict of the said vmq[uhi]le Johne knox
232. martha m[ar]garet & elizabeth knoxis his dochteris his exe[cuto]ris testamentaris no[min]at
233. be him Conforme to the lattirwill abouewrittin Reseruand compt to be maid be
234. thame thairfor is accor[dand] of the law And the said m[ar]garet stewart ane of the
235. said[is] exe[cuto]ris being sworne hes maid faith trewlie to execute the said office
236. and hes fundin cautioun that the gudis and geir awin specifait salbe
237. [furt[h]cu[m]and] to all pairteis havand interes as law will As ane act maid
238. th[air]upon beirs.

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