

**Inventory of the jewels of Mary, Queen of Scots, in Edinburgh Castle, 28 August 1571,
National Records of Scotland, E35/9/4. Michael Pearce**

This inventory of the jewel chest in Edinburgh Castle during the ‘lang siege’ of the Marian civil war was made by George Gordon, Earl of Huntly, William Maitland of Lethington, Mary Fleming, and Mary Pieris, Lady Seton.

Marginal notes made by William Kirkcaldy of Grange appear in square brackets above the entries they reference. Potential jewels to be pledged for loans were first marked with a ‘+’. Many of jewels were loaned to the goldsmith James Mosman

The marginal notes mention jewels given by Kirkcaldy to William Drury, Marshall of Berwick, and his wife Margery Wentworth, Lady Thame. At the end of the siege, Regent Morton obtained the records of the loans and pledges made by Kirkcaldy, including this inventory. He wrote of his pleasure at this find to Margaret Douglas, Countess of Lennox.¹

Endorsed: ane Inventar of jowellis subscrivit be the Lrds in the castell xxviiij aut 1571

[p.1] xxviii^o Au^{ti} 1571

[Laid in wed to the secretar] Ane cheyn of Rubis with xii marks of diamantz & Rubiz & ane mark with tua rubiz.²

Ane payr off paternostres off thre Rances of perles with xi knops off gret perles set in gold & xiiii perles betwene every knop.

Ane pair of bracelets off diamants & Rubis set in gold in ilkane off four pieces six perles on the ane set sevin on the other.

¹ *Calendar State Papers Scotland*, 4 (Edinburgh, 1905), p. 604.

² Recovered from Mary Fleming; Thomas Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, p. 262 no.8, 284 as from Robert Erskine, 22 October 1579.

[+][Laid in wed to Robert Scot of ane thousand lis] Ane carcan off Rubiz diamantz & perles set in gold contenand tua diamants thre Rubiz & six perles.³

[quhairof Mosman hes iii Rubeis & iiii dyamants] Ane garnison off Rubiz diamants & perles contenand vii diamants vi Rubiz & xii perles.

[margin erased: + [thre] of [ther] dyamants Lent to erll of Huntie, & thre diamants & thre rubis Laid in wed of iic li to Mr Clement Litell]

Ane uthir garnison off Rubis diamants & perles contenand vi diamants four Rubis & xii perles all set in gold.⁴

[interline: James Mosman]

Ane chene off perles with tua Rancs off perles & xxv marcs off litill diamants & small Rubis set in gold & x perles betwene every tua markis.⁵

[to Allexr Clerk]

Ane belt off Rubis diamants & perles contenand xv Rubiz ix diamants & xvii perles.⁶

[+] Ane turet⁷ garnising off saphirs & perles contenand xiii sapheris set in gold & xiii knots off perles ilkane contenand four perles set in gold.⁸

[+][John Mosman, [erased: [resavit][agene &] Laid in wed to Mr Ard Douglas of xic lis]] Ane carcan of sapheris & perles contenand ix saphiris & x knots off perles in like manir.⁹

Ane collir of greit sapheris contenand vij greit saphiris & ix knots of perles in like manir.¹⁰

Ane hingand saphir set in gold & a greate perle at the end of it.

Ane other saphir a jour.

³ See NRS E35/11/15, 'Jewels recovered', item 'w'

⁴ Recovered.

⁵ Lost? Drury's inventory, *HMC Calendar of the Manuscripts of the Marquis Salisbury*, ii, no.14

⁶ Recovered from Alexander Clark of Balbirnie

⁷ A 'turet' was a kind of veil.

⁸ Joseph Robertson, *Inventaires* (Edinburgh: Ballantyne Club, 1863), 10

⁹ Lost? Drury's inventory: Grange denied giving this piece to Lady Thame, *Inventaires*, cliii

¹⁰ NRS E35/4, compare marginal note, made by Mathurin Lussault in 1556, and with 36 pearls from another piece: *Inventaires*, 94

Ane chain off Lapid & x perles contenand xxxiiii lapid & xxxv perles betwene set in gold.¹¹

[James Mosman] [erased: Sent to the Lady Taym gevin to the Marshall of Berwick wyff]

Ane pair off bracelets off quhyt saphirs & knots off gold betwene contenand bayth x saphirs & xi knots off gold.¹²

[underline: James Mosman]

[p.2] Ane garnissing of Rosis of Rubis & perles contenand x Rosis off Rubis & xi knots of perles ilk knot contenand four perles.¹³

[James Mosman]

Ane other garnesing contenand ix Rosis of Rubis and ix knots off perles with ane perll at ilk rubie.¹⁴

Ane carcan off the same contenand vii Rosis of Rubis & viii knots off perles with small perles hingand at it.

Ane garnisshing of Esmerauldes & perles set in gold contenand vii esmerauldes & vii greit perles.¹⁵

Six esmerauldes lowss set in gold,¹⁶ tua litill Rubis set in gold, ane litill rope of diamants & ane perl set in gold.

Ane carcan off Rubiz esmerauldes & perles contenand ix boutons of double Rubis & esmerauldes between & x Rancs off perles ilkane double contenand viii perles & ix perles hingand.

¹¹ Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, 263, 289

¹² Lost? Drury's inventory.

¹³ Recovered. *Collection of Inventories*, 284 'foir garnessing' from Robert Erskine, 22 October 1579.

¹⁴ Lost? Laid to Mosman, with a pendant emerald: Drury's inventory

¹⁵ Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, 267 no.64

¹⁶ Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, 267 no.67, 'enamelled red'

[+] Ane garnesing of cordelieres off perles contenand xiii greit perles set in gold & xii cordeliers set with small pearls.¹⁷

[+] Ane other les contenand xiii perles & xii cordeliers.¹⁸

[+] Ane carcan contenand viii gret perles & ix cordeliers.¹⁹

Ane garnising off perles with cordeliers set with small perles contenand xvii greit perles & xvi cordeliers of small perles.²⁰

Ane les contenand xxii gret perles & xxi cordeliers.²¹

Ane carcan off perles set in gold contenand xii perles.²²

Ane other litill carcan off littil perles.²³

[Send to the Marshall of Berwik wyff the Lady Tayme]

Ane garnesing of turquoys & Rubiz set in gold & environed with perles contenand xii Rubis & xiii turquoys.

Ane les garnesing contenand xij Rubis & xiiij turquoysis.

Ane carcan contenand ix Rubiz & ix turquoysis.²⁴

Ane belt of blew beids perlles & coralle & contenand xlvii boutons off perles ilk bouton contenand four Rancs the chene off the same contenand lii boutons.²⁵

[tane out the xx of november 1571 and laid in wed to the laird of Dersye & Monquhany]

¹⁷ Lost? Drury's inventory: *Inventaires*, 82, 'ung [bordure de] toure de treize grosse perles en chattons et douze cordeliers qui servent d'entredeux garnies de perles esmaille de noir'

¹⁸ Robertson, *Inventaires*, 82, 'une [bordure d'] aureillette garnie de treize chattons ...'

¹⁹ *Inventaires*, 82, 'ung carcan gany de huit perles en chattons ...'

²⁰ *Inventaires*, 83 'une bordure de toure garnie de xvii bassinetz, et a chacun y a une grosse perle et de petites perles alentour, et seize entredeux garniz de petites perles esmaillez de noir.'

²¹ *Inventaires*, 83, 'une [bordure d'] aureillette garnie de xxii bassinetz et chacun y a une moyenne perle et xxi entredeux garniz de petites perles'

²² *Inventaires*, 83

²³ *Inventaires*, 83

²⁴ This parure was not recovered and may have been sent to Margaret Wentworth, Lady Thame.

²⁵ Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, 264, no.23, 'counterfeit turquoises'

Ane carcan of greit rubis set in gold with perles contenand vij greit Rubis & xxxij greit perles.²⁶

Ane small garnesing of greit Rubis & perles contenand xj greit Rubis & xl greit perles.²⁷

[p.3][Ja[m]es] Mosman]

Thre greit Rubiz a jour & a perle at ilkane of thaym.

Ane belt of Rubiz & perles contenand xliii knots off perles greit & small & xi pillars set with Rubiz ilk pillar contenand ix small Rubiz & the knop set with perles.

Ane chain of Rubiz & perles contenand xvj knops of perles ilkane contenand ij perles & xvj knops of Rubiz double.

[+][2 October 1571 laid in wed to [erased: Sir James Balfour] Mr Archibald Douglas] Ane garnesing off diamants esmailed with blak contenand xvj diamants & xvj Rosis of gold betwene.²⁸

[+] Ane les garnesing contenand xviii diamants & xix Rosis of gold betuene.²⁹

[+]Ane carcan contenand xiii diamantis & xiii Rosis of gold.³⁰

[[erased: laid in wed to the said Sir James, Mr Archibald, resavit agane, Me Lady Home] in Allex Clerk hands]

Ane garnesing off diamants esmailed with quhit contenand xv diamants.

Ane les garnesing contenand xvii diamants.³¹

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²⁶ Recovered from Patrick Learmont of Dairsie: wadset with the piece below jointly with Montquhany for £1000.

²⁷ Lost? Michael Balfour feuar of Montquhany: This piece was wadset and Drury paid the interest, E35/11/30, Grange's examination, 11 June 1573

²⁸ Recovered. NRS E35/11/15 'Jewels recovered', item 'b', from Drury: *TA*, xii, 364

²⁹ Recovered. E35/11/15 'Jewels recovered', item 'c', from Drury: *TA*, xii, 364

³⁰ Recovered. *Treasurer's Accounts*, xii, 364 from Drury: E35/11/29 Grange's inventory of pledges.

³¹ Recovered. E35/11/15 'Jewels recovered', item 'g'

[Lady Newbottell]³²

Ane small garnesing off greit diamants & perles contenand xv diamants & xx perles.³³

[Ja Mosman] xviiij knops of gold lowss ilkane contenand tua greit perles.³⁴

Ane belt of Rosis of diamants & perles contenand x Rosis of diamants & x Rosis off perles & cordeliers off gold between.³⁵

Ane chene off diamants & perles contenand xviii knops ilk knop contenand tua diamantis quhairoff ane wants a diamant and xviiij knops of perles ilkane contenand vi.³⁶

Ane pair off paternosters off christall & perles contenand xv knops of christall & xiiij knops off perles.

Ane dizaine off vases off christall contenand xiii and ane knop.

[1571, 2 Octobris laid in wed to Sir James Balfour [erased: of viiic lis] for [erased: lx] xliij wechts of gold.]

Ane garnesing off Rubiz and perles esmailled with quhyt contenand xv rubiz & xxviiij perles.³⁷

Ane small garnesing contenand xvii Rubiz & xxxij perles.³⁸

[p.4] Ane carcan contenand xi Rubiz & xx perles with x hingaris off Rubiz a jour.

Ane chene off corall & perle contenand xliiij vasis of coralle & xliii Rancs off small perles.³⁹

Ane dizaine off christall & gold contenand ten vasis off christall & a pillar.⁴⁰

Ane pair of beids of agathis contenand xxiiij agathis & tua beids of gold.⁴¹

³² Helen Leslie, Lady Newbattle.

³³ Lost? Drury's inventory

³⁴ Lost? Drury's inventory, a group of pearl *entredeux*.

³⁵ Lost? Drury's inventory

³⁶ Recovered. E35/11/15, 'Jewels recovered', item '1'

³⁷ Lost? Laid to Balfour, Archibald Douglas and Thomas Ker of Ferniehirst.

³⁸ Lost? Laid to Balfour, Archibald Douglas and Thomas Ker of Ferniehirst.

³⁹ Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, p. 264 no.22

⁴⁰ Robertson, *Inventaires*, 119

⁴¹ *Inventaires*, 119. A pair of beads was a rosary.

xij greit butons off Rubiz balaiz & xij boutons off Rosis off diamants.

xxxiiij hornes off perles contenand ilkane four perles.⁴²

Five douzaines & nyne boutones off perles set in gold ilk bouton contenand thre perles.

xviii boutons contenand ilkane tua perles.

Thre boutons off saphirs set in gold esmailled.

xii les of saphirs set in gold esmailled.

Sax douzaines off boutons off perles ilkane contenand ane perl.

xxxii douzaines of boutons off Rubiz set in gold esmailled with quhyte.

Five douzaines of paires off hornis off gold set with perles.

Five score & ten boutons off gold set with christall.

xij douzaines & ane halff of boutons off gold.

Thre douzaines ane wantand off boutons off gold esmailled red & quhyte.

Thre douzaines off boutons [erased: ane wantand] off gold esmailled quhyt & bak.

[p.5] Fifty ane boutons off gold esmailled with blak.

Sevin douzaine small boutons off gold esmailled with croissans blak & quhyt.

Nyne douzaines & five payr of littill hornis off gold.

Five douzaines & four paires off hornis off gold poynted.

xxiii paires off hornis greit esmailled with quhyt.

Four score foure payres off small hornis esmailled with quhyt.

Ane chene & ane belt off gold set with cornalins & perles.⁴³

Ane belt & ane chene off gold set with chrisolites esmailled with quhyt & red.

Ane Belt off gold set with amathistes & maries of perles.

Ane pair off bracelets off amathistes.

Ane pair off bracelets of cornalins & grenails.

⁴² A horn is a clothing fixing or aglet.

⁴³ Robertson, *Inventaires*, 85

Ane Belt off beids of christall with beids off gold between esmailed with red & green.⁴⁴

Ane chene siclyke.

Ane carcan litill esmailed with red and green & perles.⁴⁵

Ane pair of bracelets of christall red grene & quhyt.

Ane belt of grein beids & beids of gold esmailed with quhyt betwene.⁴⁶

Ane chene off the same.

Ane coife off perles and Rubiz.

Ane collar siclyke.⁴⁷

Ane pair of slevis off perles & grenadis.

Ane pair off bracelets off musk covered with gold.

Ane coif off perles.

Ane pair off garnessings & carcan off gold esmailed quhyt & grene.

Ane pair of garnissings & ane belt off gold esmailed with quhyt & cordeliers off gold between.

Ane pair of garnesings & carcan all gold of the fasson of fethars.

[p.6] Ane pair of garnesings off gold esmailed with quhyte.

Ane pair of garnessings esmailed with blak and quhyt.

Ane pair of garnessings all gold of fassioun of cordeliers.

Four litill butones off perles & tua litill butons off Rubiz.

In the Bagier tua diamants the Q. mariages rings & tua Rubiz a sapphir a diamant with a Ruby seille & certan tritill tratellis.

⁴⁴ Thomson, *Collection of Inventories*, 264, nos. 22, 23

⁴⁵ *Collection of Inventories*, 263, nos. 16

⁴⁶ Compare *Collection of Inventories*, 263, 'a chain of counterfeit emeralds' or of 'jasp'

⁴⁷ A collar suchlike, matching the coif listed above embellished with pearls and rubies.

The day and yeir forsaid the coffer quhairin the Q jowellis war haveing tua lokkis on it & ane hingand lok was opinnit in pres off my L off Huntly, the president,⁴⁸ the Secretair, my Lady Seton & the Secretaires wyf & the inventair off the haill things found thairin wes made as is forsaid qlk thay have subscrivit with thayr hands.

Marye lady Seton⁴⁹

Huntlye

Sr JBalfour

W Maitland

Marie flemyng

⁴⁸ ‘president’ – Sir James Balfour, President of the Court of Session.

⁴⁹ Marie Pieris, Lady Seton.

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Maximilian Robey

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