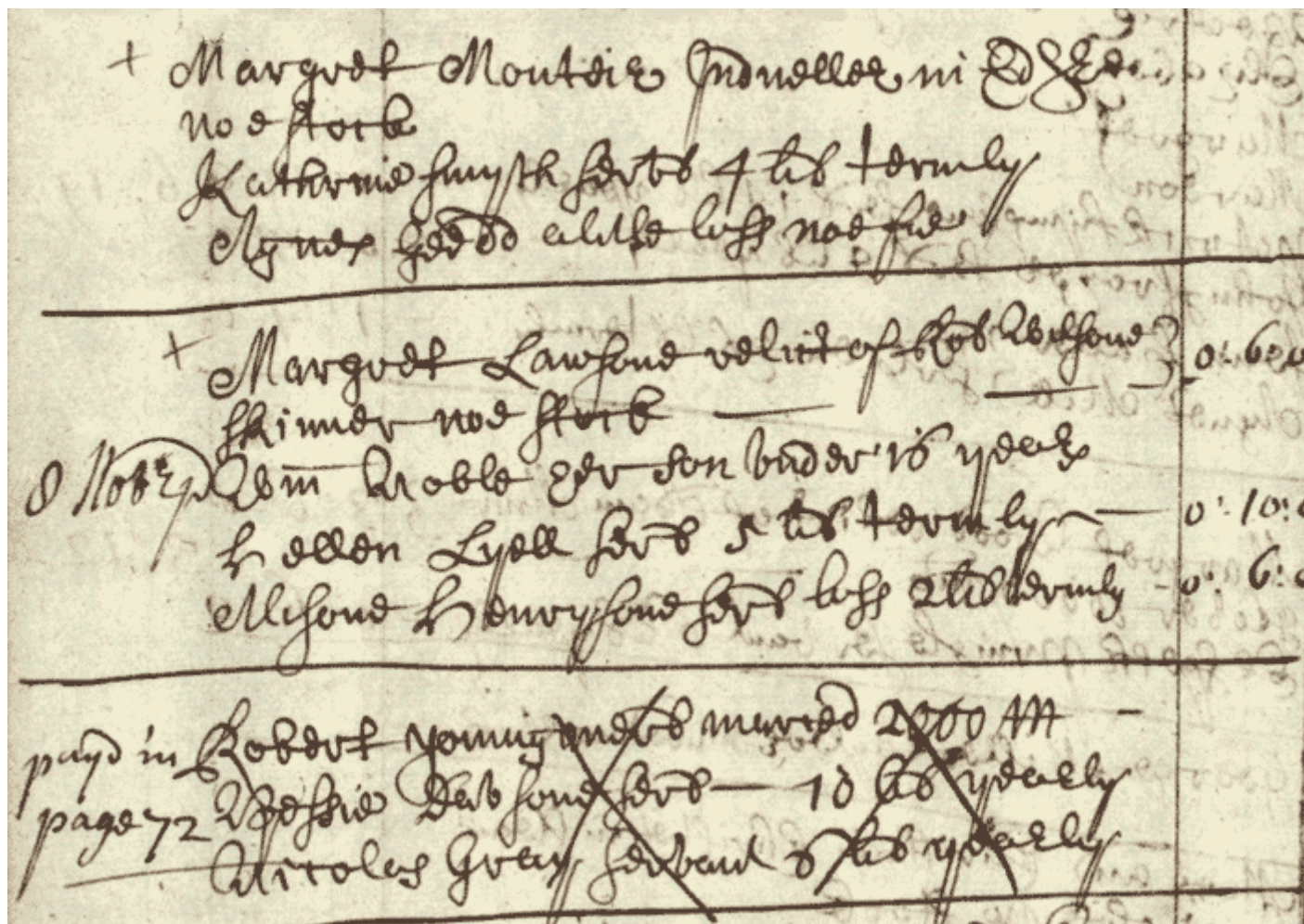


**Poser 376 - Poll Books and Lists, Old Kirk Parish, Edinburgh, 1694**

This week's poser is taken from the Poll Books and Lists and is the account for Old Kirk Parish, Edinburgh, dating from 1694 (National Records of Scotland, E70/4/5 page 54). Poll taxes were imposed four times during the 1690s to pay off the debts and arrears of the army and navy – payments were graded according to income.

The hand here suffers a few places from interference between letters from other words and other lines of text. It is also partly obscured in one section where the entries have been crossed out later. Some names and words have also been contracted in places. Secretary hand *e*, *h*, and *r* are particularly noticeable here.



**This week's question:** How many servants are listed and how much tax did they have to pay?

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**Answer:** Five individuals are identified as servants: Kathrine Smyth, Hellen Lyell, Alisone Henrysone, Bessie Davsone (or Dawsons), and Nicolas Grey. Only Hellen and Alisone had to pay tax at 10 shillings and 6 shillings respectively.

**Transcription:**

Margret Montier indweller in Ed[inbur]gh  
noe stock  
Kathrine Smyth serv[an]t 4 lib termly  
Agnes Geedd a litle less noe fee

[in margin] 8 Nov[embe]r p[ai]d  
Margret Lawsons relict of Rob[ert] Wilsons 0 : 6 : 0  
skinner noe stock  
W[ilia]m Noble her son under 16 years  
Hellen Lyell ser[van]t 5 lib termly 0 : 10 : 0  
Alisone Henrysone ser[van]t less 2 lib termly 0 : 6 : 0

[in margin] pay[e]d in page 72  
Robert Young mer[chan]t married 2000M  
Bessie Davsone ser[van]t 10 lib yearly  
Nicolas Grey servant 6 lib yearly

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