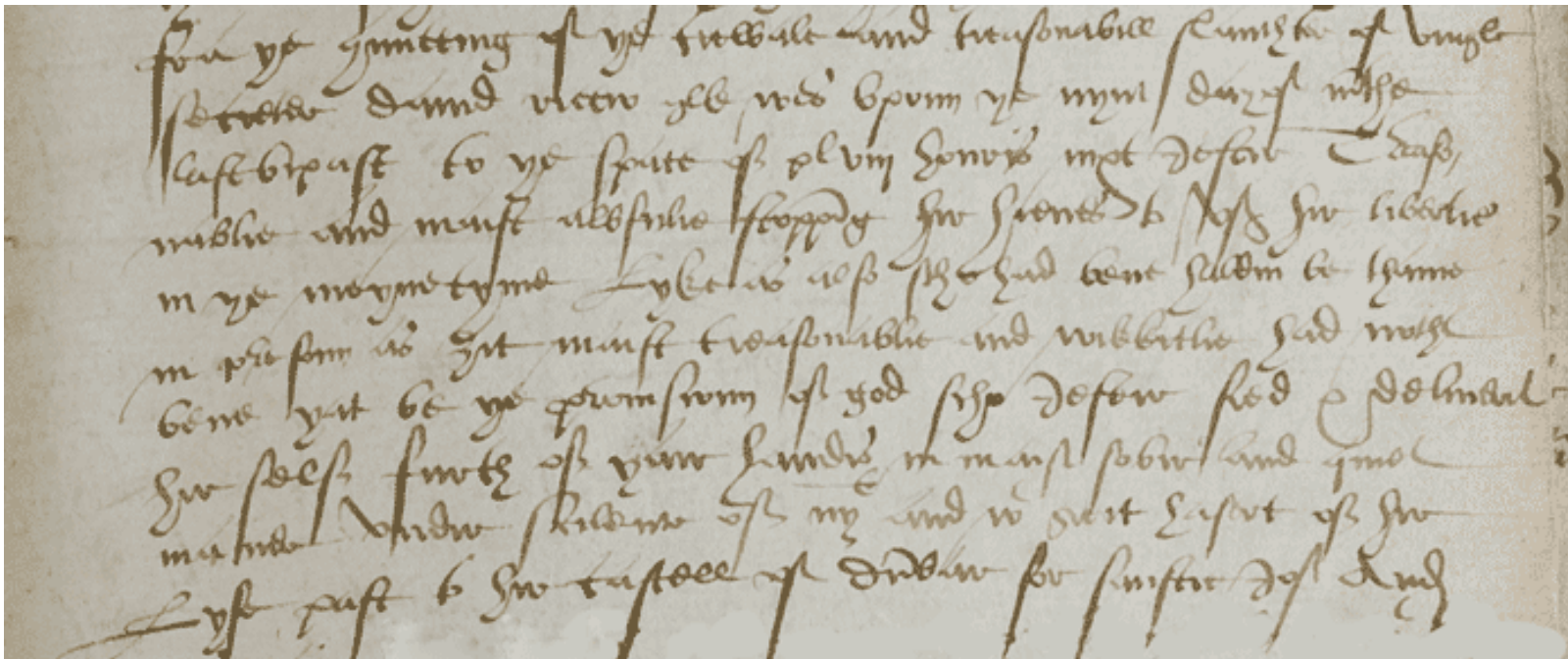


Weekly Poser 387 – court books of High Court of Justiciary, 1566 (part 2)

This week's poser is the second of three and is taken from the court books of the High Court of Justiciary (National Records of Scotland, JC1/13). It relates to a famous murder trial which took place in 1566. Last week we learned that Thomas Scot, William Harlaw and John Mowbray were heavily armed and held Mary Stewart captive at Holyrood Palace. This week we will find out about the main accusation.

As last week: watch out for abbreviations and phonetic spelling.



This week's questions: when did Queen Mary escape and where did she escape to?

<http://www.scottishhandwriting.com>

Weekly Poser 387 –court books of High Court of Justiciary, 1566 (part 2)

Answers: Queen Mary escaped 48 hours after the murder of her secretary, David Rizzio, and she went to Dunbar castle.

Transcription

fra the [com]mitting of the crewale and treasonabill slauchter of vmq[ui]le
secreter dauid riccio q[ui]lk wes vpon the nynt day of mo[n]th
last bipast to the space of xlvijj houris nixt th[air]eftir Treaso-
nablie and maist awfulie stoppi[n]g hir hienes to uss hir libertie
in the meynetyme Lyke as also sho had bene haldin be thame
in presoun as zit maist treasonablie and wikkitlie had nocht
bene that be the prouisioun of god scho th[air]eftir fred & deliuerit
hir selfe furth of thair handis in maist sobir and quiet
maner vnder scilence of ny[ch]t and w[i]t[h] grat hasert of hir
Lyfe past to hir castell of du[n]bar for saiftie thereof And

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