JAMES MICHAEL FLEMING WRITER

National Records of Scotland

Summary

Source: NRS Catalogue
Assisted by: Claude AI
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Claude

James Fleming of Hesslhebank, parish of Avondale

Testament Dative – partial transcription and summary

Edinburgh Commissary Court, CC8/8/19, images 169–170. ©Crown copyright, National Records of Scotland.

Item	Detail
Deceased	James Flemyng, in [Hesilhank? / Hesslhebank] [place-name reading very doubtful], Clydesyde "within the parochin of [Avondaill?]" Hamilton [reading doubtful]. The place and parish are as you gave them; I could read only parts of the first lines of the heading.
Type of record	"The testament datiue and inventar of the guidis …" (testament dative: no will). Margin: "James Flemyng / [Junij?] 1588".
Date: a discrepancy to check	The image captions read "1588 Flemyng, James", and the marginal dates on both pages appear to me to read "1588", not 1592. You give 22 April 1592 for the catalogue date. I have not been able to reconcile these from the pages: the marginal date may be a date of confirmation or registration in a different year from the death, or the catalogue year may differ. The month of death looks like "[Octobr?]", and the year of death is not legible to me.
Executor	A [?] Flemyng, "lawfull bairne to the defunct", decerned executor (executrix?) dative by decreet of the Commissaries of Edinburgh [reading doubtful]. The first name is not legible to me.
Confirmation	A ratification clause by the Edinburgh Commissaries at the top of image 170 [doubtful], followed by a note "Quotta …" in the left margin. The exact day is not legible.
Other estates on these pages	The top four lines of image 169 are the end of a preceding estate's confirmation. The lower half of image 170 begins a different testament (margin "Annes Wischart / [?] 1588", "[Agnes?] Wischart" of [Gairnock? / Carnock?] Kirk [?]), which is not part of this record.
Conventions	Original spelling kept; abbreviations not expanded; [square brackets] = doubtful reading; [?] = word or figure I could not read; [illegible]. The hand is a very rapid, heavily abbreviated secretary hand with many flourishes and strokes through the lines: this is a partial and tentative transcription, and no sum could be read with confidence.

1. Summary (from the document only)

What this is. A testament dative and inventory of James Flemyng in [Hesilhank?], giving up his goods, money and debts, and confirmed by the Edinburgh Commissaries. A child of the deceased ("lawfull bairne") gives it up as executor dative.

Executors, legatees, debts

- **Executor:** a [?] Flemyng, lawful child of the deceased, appointed by the Commissaries (name not legible).
- **Legatees:** none; this is a testament dative.
- **Debts owing to the deceased:** as I read it, “Na debtis awand to the deid” (no debts owing to him), at the foot of image 169.
- **Debts owing by the deceased:** a list beginning “Followis the debtis awand be the deid” (image 169, foot). The first item appears to be money owed to a [?] of [?] for his “fie”/“fiew” [?], and a debt for the rent or “maill” of lands, apparently to “my Lord [Hamiltoun?]” [doubtful reading], in boll quantities of bear/meal. On image 170 the list continues with small sums, including wages or fees to women servants (“Jonet [?]”, “Jonet [?]”), then “Summa of the debtis awand be the deid” with a figure I could not read.
- **Division:** after the summa the text reads, as I make it, “Restis of frie geir the debtis deducit … to be dividit in thre pairtis”, with figures that are not legible to me; the “deid’s part” is mentioned.

Points that may help identify the deceased

- He is given as James Flemyng “in [Hesilhank?]”, in the parish [Avondaill?] (your identification; my reading of the words is doubtful).
- He seems to have farmed: the inventory has grain by the boll (bear, with prices “the boll”), and portions (“pairt”) of something I read as “[pece?]”, and the debts include rent of lands and fees to servants.
- The executor is a lawful child, name not read.
- The page itself gives “1588” as the year in the margin and in the image caption, which differs from your 1592.

2. Contents and values

Scots money (£). The figures are in Roman numerals in a very cursive hand and I could not read any reliably, so no values are given.

Item	Particulars	Value (Scots)
Inventory: “Inprimis … the guidis geir sowmes of money and debtis”	Image 169: a series of items with fractions (“thre pairt”, “four pairt”, “tua pairt” [?]) of something I read as “[pece?]”, each followed by “estimat to …”	[illegible]
Grain	“ten bolls”, “the boll”; “bear” and “[aittis?]”, with a price “the boll”	[illegible]
Summa of the Inventar	Image 169, lower part	[illegible]
Debts owing to the deceased	“Na debtis awand to the deid” [?]	none (as read)
Debts owing by the deceased	Images 169 (foot) – 170	[illegible]
Summa of the debts awand be the deid	Image 170	[illegible]
Rest of free gear; deid’s part	Image 170	[illegible]

Please check all figures on images 169 and 170.

3. Images and transcription

Reading order: 169, 170. Line breaks are approximate; the text of other estates is summarised in square brackets.

Image 169 – Image 169: heading, inventory and debts

1588 Flemyng, James (Wills and testaments Reference CC8/8/19, Edinburgh Commissary Court) Image 169 Last image 170
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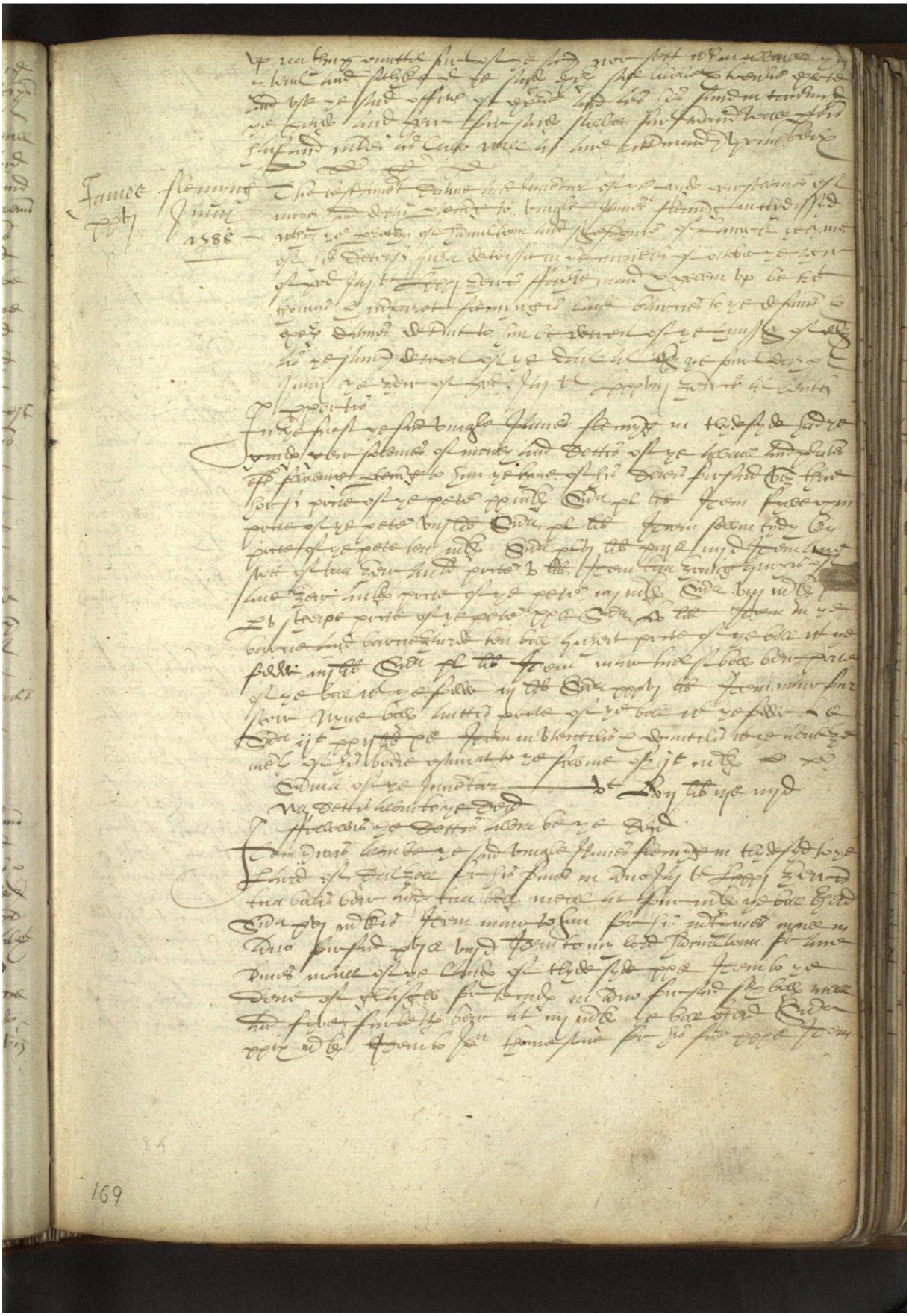


Image: ScotlandsPeople / National Records of Scotland (CC8/8/19) – reproduced for private research.

Transcription (partial)

[Top of page: the last four lines of the confirmation of a preceding estate, ending "… hes maid faith & fund cautioun ... [?] ... [?]". Not transcribed in full.]

[margin: James / Flemyng / 26th [Junij?] / 1588]
The testament datiue & inventar of the guidis & pertinentis of
money & debtis pertening to vmqle James flemyng in [Hesilhank?]Clydesyde
within the parochin of [~~Avondaill~~?]Hamiltoun and the [towne] of [Hamiltoun] & [?] of [?] [?]
of his deceis Quha deceist in the moneth of [Octobr?] the yeir
of God Jm vc [?] ... faithfullie maid & gevin vp be [?]
Thomas & Margaret flemyng [?] lawfull bairnes to the defunct & [?]
... [?] ... executour datiue [?] to him be decreit of the Commissaris of
[Edinburgh] the [six] day of [July] the year of God Jaj xv lxxxviij (1588)... [?] ... [?] ...

Inventar
Inprimis the said vmqle James flemyng in [Hesilhank?]Clydesyde had the tyme of
his deceis foirsaid [?] ... sowmes of money & debtis of the [?] and [?]
... [?] ... [?] ... thre pairt(s) of the [pece?] [?] ... estimat to ... [?]
... four(?) pairt of the [pece?] ... [?] ... estimat to ... [?]
... [?] pairt of the [pece?] ... [?] ... [?] ...
... [?] ... ten bollis ... heichest pairt of the boll ... [?]
... [?] ... estimat ... [?] ... the boll ... [?]
... [?] ... bear(?) ... [?] ... estimat ... the boll ... [?]
... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?]

Summa of the Inventar ——— [illegible]

Na debtis awand to the deid [?]
Followis the debtis awand be the deid
Item [?] awand be the said vmqle James flemyng in [Hesilhank?] to
[?] of [?] for his [fie?] in [?] ... [?] ... [?] ...
... boll(s) beir & ... boll(s) meill [?] ... [?] ... the boll ... [?]
[?] ... [?] ... awand to my Lord [Hamiltoun?] for [?] maill [?]
of the landis of Clydesyde[Hesilhank?] ... [?] ... [?] ... the boll ... [?]
... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ...

Image 170 – Image 170: debts continued, division, confirmation; start of next estate

1588 Flemyng, James (Wills and testaments Reference CC8/8/19, Edinburgh Commissary Court) Image 170 Last image 170
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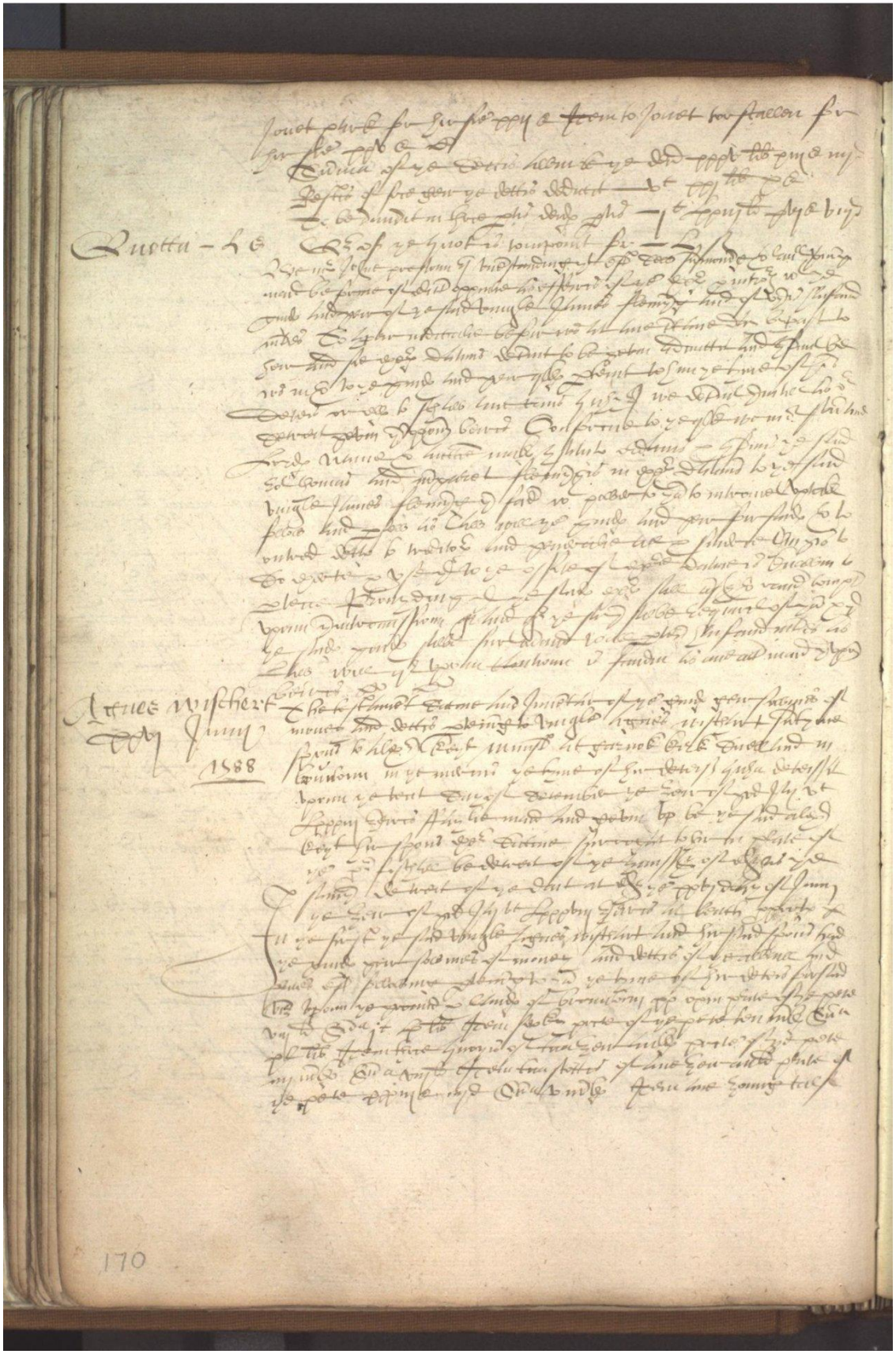


Image: ScotlandsPeople / National Records of Scotland (CC8/8/19) – reproduced for private research.

Transcription (partial)

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... [?] ... Jonet [?] for hir [~~fie~~? xxij] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?]
... for the [?] ... [?]
Summa of the debtis awand be the deid ——— [illegible]
Restis of frie geir the debtis deducit ——— [illegible]
[?] to be dividit in thre pairtis quhairof ... [?] ... deid's pairt ... [?]
[margin: Quotta ...]
... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ...

[Ratification clause of the Commissaris of Edinburgh:]
... [?] ... we [Mr?] [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... the said
vmqle James flemyng xx of Clydesyde [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?]
... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... [?]
[?] ... [?] ... confirme ... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... committ the intromissioun
... [?] ... [?] ... [?]
Xxx Thomas xxx Margaret flemyng in [oxegland]to the sum
Umquile James Fleming the said xx xxx xxx xxx xxx
The rest is very scrawled

... [?] ... [?] ... [?] ... quha hes maid faith
& fundin cautioun ... [?] ... [?] ... [?]

[Lower half of the page: the start of a different testament, margin "Annes Wischart / [?] /
1588": "The testament datiue and inventar of the guidis geir sowmes of money and debtis
pertening to vmqle [Agnes?] Wischart [spous?] of [?] ... in [Gairnock? Carnock?] Kirk ... quha
deceist in the moneth of [?] ...". Not transcribed.]
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4. Readings to check

- The date: the pages say 1588 (margin and caption); you give 22 April 1592.
- The deceased's place-name and parish in the first lines of image 169.
- The executor's forename and the day of the decreet.
- The creditors in the debt list and whether "my Lord …" is Hamilton.
- All figures and the division into three parts.
- The Commissaries' names and the ratification clause (image 170).