

[Thursday 19th of December 1706.]
*To His Grace Her Majesty's High Commissioner, and
 the Right Honourable the Estates of Parliament.*



The Humble Address of the Magistrates, Town-Council, Merchants, Deacons of
 Crafts, and others Trades men and Inhabitants of the Burgh of *Dunfermling*.

WE the Magistrates, Town-Council, Merchants, Deacons of Crafts, and other Trades men and Inhabitants within the Burgh of *Dunfermling* Underscribing; Having Seen and Considered the Articles of the Union agreed upon by the Commissioners for the Kingdom of *Scotland* and *England*; In which they have agreed, That *Scotland* and *England* be united into one Kingdom; and that the united Kingdom shall be Represented by one and the same Parliament: *And seeing* it does evidently appear, that such an Incorporating Union, as is contained in the said Articles, is contrary to the Honour, Fundamental Laws, and Constitution of this Kingdom, Claim of Right, and Rights and Privileges of the Burrows and Church-Government, as by Law Established; and that the same is destructive to the true Interest of this Nation. *Therefore*, We humbly beseech Your Grace and the Honourable Estates, and do confidently expect, That you will not allow of any such Incorporating Union; but that you will Support and Preserve entire the Sovereignty and Independency of this Crown and Kingdom, and the Rights and Privileges of Parliament; which have been so valiantly maintained by our Heroick Ancestors, for near 2000 Years: That the same may be transmitted to succeeding Generations, as they have been conveyed to us; and we will heartily concur with you for Supporting and Maintaining our Sovereignty and Independency, with our Lives and Fortunes, conform to the Laws of the Nation.

TAYLORS.

James Richardson
 Robert Donald
 Andrew Hepburn
 Alexander Coventry
 Thomas Hanna
 James Henderson
 John Jamison
 William Hodge
 Alexander Couper
 John Horn

BAXTERS.

William Ker
 John Anderson
 Robert Adamson
 Robert Donald
 James Buist
 Robert Ferguson
 George Crawford
 James Leggat
 John Buntine

James Kellock
 James Wardlaw
 Robert Bauld
 James Hall
 James Richardson
 James French
 John Wilkie

SMITHS.

James Law
 David Black
 Thomas Wilson
 John Cunninghame
 Adam Stevinson
 William Anderson
 James Smith

WEAVERS.

John Williamson
 William Wilson
 David Dalglish
 John Ker
 Andrew Wilson
 James Shortlands
 John Wilson
 John Wilson *alter*
 Robert Gotterson
 Robert Wilson
 Robert Strachan
 Robert Buist
 John Durham
 Robert Dalgliesh
 Adam Robertson
 Andrew Young
 Robert Black
 Robert Stark
 Thomas Bean
 Magnus Malcolm
 Robert Inch
 George Pullans
 William Beanny
 Robert Mackcraigh
 John Inglis
 John Mackcraigh

WRIGHTS.

John Main *Deacon*
 Andrew Wilson
 John Simpson
 John Potter
 George Walker
 George Walls
 Thomas French
 Thomas Bonnar
 John Henderson

WEAVERS.

John Wilson *Deacon*
 James Wilson
 John Stark
 Patrick Hutton
 James Turnbull
 David Marres
 James Wilson

MASONS.

James Simel
 Charles Young
 David Hunter
 James Sumervel
 David Purvas
 William Murgain

SHOE-MAKERS.

Andrew Duncan *Deacon*
 George Stewart
 John Young
 Andrew Main

FLESHERS.

John Hodge *Deacon*
 James Cusin
 Robert Kirk
 John Belfrage
 Thomas Beveridge
 Thomas Beveridge
 George Philip
 William Taylor
 William Welwood
 John Burly
 Andrew Belfrage

TOWN-COUNCIL.

David Adie *Baillie*
 David Adie *Younger Baillie*
 Jerome Cowie *Dean of Guild*
 William Wilson *Treasurer*
 David Wilson *Councillor*
 John Cowie *Counsellor*
 James Meldrum *Councillor*
 John Adie *Deacon Conveener*
 Laurance Henderson *Counsellor*
 William Inglis *Counsellor*
 William Findlay *Councillor*
 William Young *Councillor*
 James Walls *Councillor*

MERCHANTS.

William Black
 Hendry Elder
 Robert Anderson

John Henderson
 John Main
 James Kirk
 Patrick Thomson
 William Hutton
 James French
 Thomas Richardson

John Hart
 John Belfour
 William Wilson
 Thomas Mitchel
 Andrew Rolland
 Robert Adie
 Charles Chambers

MERCANTS.

George Christie
 John Watson
 Patrick Currie
 John Brown
 John Allan
 James Pringle
 John Bethon
 Robert Wilson
 David Meldrum
 Robert Walker

Ego Andreas Symson Notarius Publicus ac Scriba dicti Burgi de Dumferling speciali mandato Davidis Sands, Gulielmi Pierson, Jacobi Baud, & Gulielmi Robertson Fabrorum Ferrariorum in dicto Burgo, ac Roberti Wellwood, Andreae Smeitton, Jacobi Wilson Calceariorum in dicto Burgo, & Joannis Rea, Jacobi Beannie, Thomae Wilson, Joannis Hepburn & Jacobi Massertoun Sartorum in dicto Burgo, & Eduardi Ovenwhyte, Andreae Beanny & Joannis Beanny Fabrorum Murariorum ibidem, ac Petri Nigrav, Alexandri Grieve, Roberti Crawford, Joannis Broun, Andreae Morrice, Roberti Durham, Gulielmi Kirk, Andreae Kirk, Joannis Hoggan, Roberti Hoggan, Patricii Stevinson, Alexandri Gilespie & Petri Cairns, Textorum ibidem, & Andreae Chrystie, Jacobi Walker, Gulielmi Walker, Davidis Chrystie, Gulielmi Easan, Jacobi Broun, & Joannis Thomson Fabrorum Lignariorum, & Gulielmi Cusin Lanionis in dicto Burgo pro illis omnibus scribere nescien. ut asseruerunt specialiter requisitus subscribo, Sic Subscribitur,

AND. SYMSON, N.P.

NLS: Ry.III.c.35 (49). [Entire]

NLS: 1.22 (121). [Cropped]

Also see: *Dunfermline Saturday Press*, 22.3.1873, 2g. Transcript by Ebenezer Henderson, but with numerous differences. W.T. Johnston.

Note: - In 1705 Sir Peter Halkett, seems to have gotten in trouble. The magistrates and the town of Dunfermline were bitterly opposed to the Union of Parliament between England and Scotland. They commissioned Sir Peter, who was their Parliamentary representative to `vote and protest the Union. ` They received assurance from Sir Peter that he would do as requested but when the time came he presented the address from the town council, and then voted for the Union! This inconsistency roused a great deal of criticism and ill will against him and it is said, he had to avoid Dunfermline for some later time thereafter. But he must have had a winning way for he was elected Provost of the town for the next twenty seven years (1705-1731).

The Union question had long been a vexed one in the county and the general opinion was that a great deal of corruption and bribery went on behind the scenes. In Scotland thirty-three burghs voted for the Union and twenty-nine against it. No doubt it is a coincidences that the Queen and the Union Parliament in London renewed the privilege held by the Halkett family to export coal abroad, just before the Union became an established fact.