New College Library
Archives and Manuscripts

Interim Handlist

Collection reference  MS KIR
Collection title  Papers of Rev James Kirkwood (c.1650-1709)
                   1676-1888
Shelfmark(s)  MS KIR 1 to MS KIR 4
About this handlist  Scan of an older typescript list
KIR

James Kirkwood Collection

(J.K. = James Kirkwood)

1. 'A register concerning the libraries for the Highlands & Islands of Scotland &c. Containing the catalogues of the books sent from England & an account of the places these libraries were sent to, and rules for ordering the same and the proceedings of the General Assembly, Commissions and Committees thereof concerning that matter'.

2.1 J.K.: 'The following discourses were preached when I was a probationer; especially during ye time of my being assistant to Mr Nairn [Nairn] at ye Weems [Wemyss, in Fife]'. 1676-79.

2.2 J.K.: 'A brief exposition of the Creed'. Discourses preached at Minto, 1680.

2.3 J.K.: 'Some sermons preach about the time of giving the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, w' some discourses relateing thereunto'. 1680.

2.4 J.K.: A New Family-Book; or, the True Interest of Families ... The Second Edition corrected ... 2 pts (in 1). (London, printed for J. Taylor, and J. Everingham, 1693.) Wing K647.

3.1 A book of letters and receipts relating to the printing and distribution of Irish Old Testaments and Bibles, catechisms and psalm-books, 1687-99.

3.1.1 Letter of J.K. to Colin Campbell of Carquhin, Astwick, December 27 1687.

3.1.2 Letter of J.K. to Colin Campbell, Astwick, February 14 1688.

3.1.3 Draft inscription by Robert Kirk for the Irish Bibles, recording the donation from Robert Boyle. Also a note about his translation of the Psalms.


3.1.5 Letter of Andrew Oswald to Colin Campbell, London, July 3 1688.

3.1.6 Colin Campbell's receipt for Bibles and catechisms received, September 25 1688, with notes on their destinations.

3.1.7 Letter of J.K. to Colin Campbell, Astwick, August 25 1688. With note by Robert Kirk recording receipt of Bibles, and one from Colin Campbell concerning the same.

3.1.8 Letter of James Ramsay, Bishop of Ross, to Colin Campbell, Chanery, September 4 1688.
3.1.9 Letter of J.K. to Colin Campbell, Astwick, October 23 [1688].

3.1.10 Letter of William Hay, Bishop of Moray, to Colin Campbell, Spynie Castle, October 29 1688.


3.1.13 Letter of J.K. to Colin Campbell, London, April 1 1690. On verso: receipt, dated April 19 1690, by Robert Kirk of Aberfoyle for £10 received for work connected with correcting the translation of the Bible into Gaelic which was printed in 1690.

3.1.14 Receipt for forty-six Bibles received by the Synod of Argyll, Inverary, October 10 1690.

3.1.15 Receipt for a Bible received by James Fraser, Minister at Wardlaw, September 1 1698. [See also 3.1.27–28 below.]

3.1.16 Letter of Robert Kirk to Colin Campbell, Inch-Alldodine, 28 September, 1691.

3.1.17 Letter of Robert Kirk to Alexander Comrie, Minister at Kenmore, Inch-Alldodine, 28 September 1691.

3.1.18 Letter of Alexander Comrie to Colin Campbell, October 16 1691.

3.1.19 Receipt for nine Irish Bibles received by Alexander Comrie. Edinburgh, December 24 1691, for the Presbytery of Dunkeld.

3.1.20 Receipt for one Old Testament in Irish received by John Mackenzie, Session Clerk of the parish of Contin. Edinburgh, June 13 1692.

3.1.21 Letter of J.K. to Colin Campbell, Astwick, June 18 1692.

3.1.22 Receipt for an Old Testament in Irish received by Aeneas Morison, Minister of Contin, September 23 1692.

3.1.23 Letter from Gilbert Rule, Principal of Edinburgh University, asking that George Fraser, sub-Principal of King's College Aberdeen, be given a Bible, Edinburgh, 29 June 1693. Also: a receipt from George Fraser for an Old Testament in Irish, Edinburgh, July 1 1693.

3.1.24 Receipt from Sir Gilbert Eliot, Clerk to the Privy Council, for a Bible in Irish, Edinburgh, 9 September 1696.

3.1.25 Receipt from John Mackenzie for an Irish Bible, Edinburgh, June 2 1698. Also: note by Colin Campbell of Bibles delivered to date, 28 March 1698.

3.1.27 Letter of James Fraser to Colin Campbell, 29 July 1698. [See also 3.1.15 above.]

3.1.28 Letter of James Fraser to Colin Campbell, 1 September 1698. [See also 3.1.15 above.]

3.1.29 Request and receipt for six Irish Bibles for the use of the Presbytery of Dumbarton. Receipt signed by Alexander King, Minister of Bonnill, Edinburgh, 16 June 1699.

3.1.30 Two receipts for Irish Old Testaments: a) from Donald Forbes, Minister at Kilmuir Easter, Edinburgh, 4 August 1699; b) from Robert Ross, Minister at Tain, Edinburgh, 4 August 1699.

3.1.31 Account of disbursements regarding Irish Bibles, July 1698, and a list of various parishes in Sutherland, Caithness and Strathnaver.

3.1.32 List of Highland parishes.

3.2 Material by J.K. about Highland schools, libraries, etc.: p. 2 - account of books delivered an. 1698 [-1706]; pp. 3-6 - a memorial about the Irish Bibles &c; pp. 6-13 - an answer to ye objection against printing the Bible in Irish ... [See also 3.16 below]; pp. 14-22 - some hints of particulars proposed to the Assembly, 1699; p. 22 - the success of this memorial; pp. 23-31 - an account of the parishes in the Highlands, anno 1698.

3.3 Letters from J.K. about charity schools &c., including dissemination of Bibles in the Highlands, and libraries, 1707-08 [see also 3.6 below]. Correspondents are Sir Francis Grant (Lord Cullen), Mr Chamberlain, Kirkwood's nephew, Mr Edwards, Mr Woodcock, Mr Smith (Minister of Paxton), Mr Lightmaker, Mr Gower (Minister in Battersea), Mr Miller (Rector of Compton Falenso), Mr Martine, Mr Heath, Mr Brown, Mr Cranstone (Minister at Raigate), Mr Heddron, Thomas Bray, William Hume, Mr Thompson, Mr Innes (Maidstone), Robert Baillie (Minister in Inverness), Humphrey Wanley.

3.4 Letter of the Rev. Thomas Salmon to J.K. containing proposals for instituting a Society for the Reformation of Manners in England, August 7 1691.

3.5 Material by J.K. relating to Highland libraries, early eighteenth century.

3.5.1 'Answers to the objections of those who say the books will be sold, or burnt ... [According to J.K.'s note, this was read at an SPCK meeting in London in 1704, and objections satisfied.]
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3.5.2 'An answer to an objection against the Highland libraries ...'
[1701?]

3.5.3 'An answer to an objection against our gift of books.' [1703 or 1704.]

3.5.4 'The state of the Highland Library's [sic], giving a list of books
still wanting.' [1703?]

3.5.5 'List of presbyteries in Scotland, showing those to be provided
with libraries.'

3.6 Letters about Irish Bibles, Highland libraries, and charity schools.
[See also 3.3 above.]

3.6.1 Letter of J.K. to Gilbert Burnet, Bishop of Salisbury, July 28
[1701?].

3.6.2 Letter of J.K. to Gilbert Burnet, August 22 1701.

3.6.3 Letter to J.K. from George Meldrum, Edinburgh, May 2 1706.

3.6.4 Letter to J.K. from George Meldrum, Edinburgh, March 13 1707.

3.6.5 Letter to J.K. from George Meldrum, Edinburgh, May 22 1708.

3.6.6 Letter to J.K. from Robert Baillie, Penston, 7 June 1708.


3.6.11 Four pages of notes on the letters contained in 3.6 above, in an
unknown late nineteenth-century hand.

3.7 Letters on charity schools and SPCK matters.

3.7.1 Letter of J.K. to Mr Bromfield, 1703.

3.7.2 Some hints of a letter from the Commission of the Assembly,
September 19 1707, to the Presbytery of Haddington. Signed G.
Meldrum, Moderator. More hints ... 27 May 1708, Mr Carstairs,
Moderator.

3.7.3 J.K.: 'Some hints of a letter I wrote to Mr Meldrum, 20 September
1707 upon my receiving the printed proposals about charity
schools'.
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3.7.4 Letter to J.K. from Sir Francis Grant (Lord Cullen), Edinburgh, 20 October 1707.

3.7.5 Letter to J.K. from Sir Francis Grant (Lord Cullen), Edinburgh, 5 November 1707.

3.7.6 Letter to J.K. from George Meldrum, Edinburgh, July 23 1708.

3.7.7 Letter to J.K. from George Meldrum, Edinburgh, October 8 1708.

3.8 A list of papists in the Highlands. With transcript.

3.9 An account of a design to erect libraries in the Highlands of Scotland: as also, in Orkney and Shetland ... [Printed: folio sheet, with small section at the bottom left missing, affecting the text. 1701?]


3.11 Copy of The Library, no. 1, January 1889. Contains an article (pp. 9-12) by William Blades, 'An Account of Proposals made nearly Two Centuries Ago to Found Public Libraries'.


3.15 An Account of the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge, from its Commencement in 1709 ... (Edinburgh, printed by A. Murray and J. Cochrane, 1774.)
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3.16 Notices of a Collection of MSS. Relating to the Circulation of Irish Bibles of 1685 and 1690 in the Highlands and the Association of the Rev. James Kirkwood Therewith. By George P. Johnston. (Privately printed, Edinburgh, 1904.) No. 2 of 18 copies. Includes facsimiles of the broadside, An Answer to the Objection against Printing the Bible in Irish ..., one of which has added to it addenda and corrigenda from the original manuscript, for which see 3.2, pp. 6-13 above.

3.17 The final part of a talk to the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society by G.P. Johnston, dated 12 January 1899. Pages are numbered 48 and 49.

3.18 Mounted newspaper cuttings from the Ross-shire Journal, Friday 27 July 1907, of an article by E.A. Rankin, Minister of Kilmorack, on the Ross-shire libraries set up by J.K.


3.20 J.K.: An Overture for Founding & Maintaining of Biblioteches ..., (Printed [in Edinburgh?] in the year 1699.) Wing K648. A1d2s 3877. Photocopy of the negative photostat in Edinburgh University Library made from the copy of the original in Wigan Public Library. [See also 3.12 above and 3.22 below.]

3.21 J.K.: A Copy of a Letter Agent a Project for Erecting a Library in Every Presbytery ... in the Highlands (Edinburgh, printed by George Moeman, 1702). Photocopy of the negative photostat in Edinburgh University Library made from the copy of the original in Wigan Public Library. [See also 3.22 below.]
