

In places of note assigned to them, because the members of them cast in money or
became bound for each other, to bring forth him who committed any crime or made false
faction to the party against, for which purpose they raised a sum of money among them
to buy and put it into a common stock, without a voluntary contribution was made
according to the quality of the offence committed. From hence came our
various guilds and guilds. Giles Jacobs Law Dict. voc Guild. The word Guild or Gild in the
Saxon language signifies money, and from hence certain Societies of Craftsmen which in
these Royal Burrows are not only several distinct corpo-
rations, but they are also one entire body, Governed by one the
countable to one General Council. This Council was formerly called
the Court of Burghs, and was yearly held to determine con-
cerning Matters relating to the Common Advantage of all the
Burghs. The four Burghs which composed this Court were
Edinburgh, Glasgow, Roxburgh & Berwick; but when the two
last were fallen into the hands of the English, in 1706
and Lanark were put into their places, but with a saving
for Roxburgh & Berwick whensoever they should be recovered
to their Ancient Allegiance. Curia Civitatis Burgorum cap. 1. 182.
This Court not being sufficient to support the Magistracy of
the Royal Burgh in General, In King James the Fourth time
Anno Domini 1487 all the Royal Burghs were empowered to send
Commissioners to a yearly Convention of their own then appoin-
ted to Meet at Juno or withing, whereon they were to Consult
Concerning Matters belonging to the Common Welfare of
all the Burghs Act III Parl. 14 J. 3. But there are no records
of those Conventions since that 1552 when a Convention of
Burghs sat at Edinburgh. These Meetings made Acts for
the good of their body which were as binding as Acts of Par-
liament, upon all and every of the Burghs which they did
Concern. The power and Privileges of this Convention
were Established by Act 62 Parl. 5 Act 119 Parl. 7 J. 6.
Their power is very Great, they Determine the
Elections of Magistrates and Councils; the Qualificati-
ons of Commissioners to the Parliament. Differences
between Burgh and Burgh are there Determined. They
can Unlaw Any Burgh or Burghs that shall Disobey.
They Regulate the Petty Customs within Burghs,
they and discharge Wardie Excations; and order Each
Burgh to Account for their Common good at the
Annual Convention; and Appoint yearly perambula-
tors of the Marches of the Burrough land and freedoms.
They admit the particular Burghs in the setting or
Raising their Common Good and fine the Contravention

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The Doan of Gilds Jurisdiction is Confirmed act 150 Parl
12 J. 6. and bol. i. page 89. By the old Saxon Law neighbours entered into an Association
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reasons. They have upon Many Occasions shewed Great favour
of Particular persons, for setting up or carrying on any branch
of Trade or Manufacture. At cases of Trade and Government
within any burgh and there Decretable. They have discharged
burghs to suspend the Magistrates Decretes; and ordained
that in case any burgh suspend his burgh wrongously; and
the suspension be directed against him, he shall be deprived
and Unlawed.
They have been very exact in Making laws with
regard to their shipping and have set down distinct Rules
by which the Masters and owners of ships may know their
Duty, the Mariners theirs, and the Merchant his. They
have Made Laws relating to Manufacture, to the Farming
and peaching of fish, to the Importing and Exporting several
Commodities, and the Neglecting
The Trade between Scotland and Holland is now fixed
The staple port which was formerly at Dord is now fixed
by them at Campvere. They claim the sole privilege of
Naming the Conservator, and when the foreign Names
do usually protest and Declare that their Approbation of
his Majesty's Nominee shonours Degrades wrong their
Worth and privilege of Choosing and Naming a Conserva-
tor in time coming: the 1st Parliament that the King's gift
for the most part takes place. But whether the King or
they Name the Conservator, the Convention regulates his
powers and obliges him to sign their Articles of Instruction
for the faithful observance of his Duty to whom he is
Accountable and Unprovable and May be suspended or de-
prived by them for Misbehavior. The Convention have the
power of a Conservatory House at Campvere which is the fund
or house of Entertainment for Scots Merchants, the Keeper
or Master whereof is Named by the Convention and gets
his particular Instructions from them which he is bound
to Obey. They also present a Minister to the Scots Church
at Campvere, and lay on a particular Duty on Scots goods
for payment of his Stipend. They have the sole Nomi-
nation of factors to Remain at the staple port who at
their Admission must take the oath of Allegiance to
the King and his laws as if they were living in Scotland
Act 96 Parl. 6 J. 6 and bound to find surety for their fidelity