

AN OLD TACK.

THE following is a copy of a deed dated 20th March 1465, quoting and confirming an earlier deed of 10th July 1455, both being prior to the impignoration of Orkney with Scotland :—

Be it kend till all men be thir present letteris, we, Williame, be the mercy off God, byschope of Orknay and Shetlande, till haiff seyn, reyde, and diligentlie to haiff studyit ane letter of assidation and tak of the thre penyland of Stanbuster with pertinents, maid to our servant and man, Thome of Cowpland, be our predecessour, of gude mynd, lord byschope Thomas, nocht raisit nathar zeit schorin, nathar any part off it faulty, the form of the quilk fowluss in this manner : Be it kend till all men be their present letteris we, Thomas, be the mercy of God, bischope of Orknay and Shetlande, till haiff set, and be thir present letteris with consent of our chaptair, fully settis till our luffit servande and man Thome Cowpland, for all the dais off his liff, three penyland in Stanbuster, within the parochin of Saint Androis, witht all freedomys, pertinents and lauchfull commoditeyis, the said Thomas payard zherlie till us and our successoris bishoppis of Orkney for the said place, ane burale of butter and four malt baithe for maile and for teynde, and to bring it fre till our palace off Kirkwaw ; and we mak kend at the said Thome has payit us to gerssome for the said place and tak aucht mark of silver to the uphald of Sant Magnus wark, and to be disponit be the will of us the saide byschope Thomas. In the witness of the quilke thing, we have sett our sele to thir present letteris, togidder witht the sele of our chaptair, at Kirkwaw, the 10 day of Julij, the zher of Gode, A., MCCCC fifty and fyiff zheris. And we the foresaid byschope Williame approvis, ratifies, and fullie confermys the tak, and settyn, and writt that our predecessor set till our man Thome off Cowplande in all and sundrie pointtis, articulius, and circumstansis in forme and effyct forsaid, we conforme be thir present letteris. Gyffin under our seel authentic at Kirkwaw the 20 day of the moneth of Marcht, the zher of God, one thousand, four hundredtht sixty and fyiff zheris.

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