

Title:	James VI of Scotland Letter, 1579		
Creator:	James VI, King of Scotland		
Dates of Material:	1579	Record Group Number:	RG 392
Summary of Contents:	1 letter signed by, and under the privy seal of King James VI of Scotland, measures 29 ½ x 20 cm.		
Physical Description / Condition:	The edges of the letter are jagged and the paper was folded at one time. The paper is grey with age and there appears to be slight water damaged. The red wax seal is somewhat worn, but still partially intact. Some of the writing is faded and difficult to read. There is writing on both sides of the letter and the outer side has been taped.		
Other Notes:	<p>This letter authorizes William Hamilton of Portmollart to repair to Edinburgh notwithstanding the acts discharging the Hamiltons from being within six miles of the King's person.</p> <p>James VI and James I (June 19, 1566 – March 27, 1625) was King of Scots as James VI from July 24th, 1567 and King of England and Ireland as James I from the union of the English and Scottish crowns on March 24, 1603 after the passing of Elizabeth I.</p> <p>Transcription of the letter: Rex.</p> <p>We be the termes hereof with avise of the lordis of secrete counsale gevis and grantis licence to William Hamiltoun of Port Mollart to reparaire to our burgh of Edinburgh utherwyse in any uther part within this oure realme to do his lefull erandes and bissynes at his pleasure and will and grantis that he sall incur na skaith nor danger thairthrow in his persoun landis guidis nor gere. Nor salbe callit accusit or troublit thairsoever be ony maner of way in tyme coming notwithstanding the lait acts and our proclamationis maid thairanent inhibiting all personis of the surname of Hamiltoun to reparaire within sex myles to oure persoun or residence or any uther actes or proclamationes maid in the contrair</p>		

	<p>or ony paines contenit thairin anent the quhilkis we dispens with the said William be this presentis dischairgeing all and sundrie our judgeis and officiares or all calling accusing or unlawing or onywyse proceding againis the said William poiding troubling or onywyse intrometting with him his landis guidis or geir for the said causes and of thair offices in that pairt Gevin under our signet and ... subscrivit with oure hand at oure palace of Halyrudehouse the xxvi Day of November and of our regne in the threttent yere. 1579.</p>		
Location:	Brock University Archives		
Source Information:	<p>Donated by Dr. David H. Caldwell on November 6, 2009</p> <p>This was a personal gift given to Dr. Caldwell by his history teacher in Ardrossan, Ayrshire in the 1960s. His understanding is that it came from the Cunninghame of Auchendarvie papers. It was apparently in the possession of a lawyer in the neighbouring town of Saltcoats. The letter was saved from the dump at the last minute by one or more well intentioned individuals.</p>		
Described by:	Anne Adams	Date:	April, 2012