

Historical Princess Study Guide

Mary Queen of Scots

French Princess



Name: Mary Stuart

Born: December 8, 1542

Died: February 8, 1587

Predecessor: James V of Scotland

Successor: James VI (Scotland) I (England)

Spouses: Francis II of France, Henry Stuart (Lord Darnley), James Hepburn (4th Earl of Bothwell)

Issue: James VI

Regents: James Hamilton, Mary of Guise

Queen of Scotland: December 14, 1542 – July 24, 1567

Queen of France: July 10, 1559 – December 5, 1560

Above information gathered from Wikipedia



Once Mary was born, Henry VIII of England proposed a marriage alliance between her and his son, Edward, hoping to unite England and Scotland. Being Catholic, however, Mary's regents wanted her aligned with another Catholic monarch. Henry II of France offered his son, the Dauphin of France, Francis (pictured). While regents led Scotland, it's Queen was sent to live in France at age five. Mary and Francis wed in April, 1558.

Website/ Non-Fiction Book List

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary%2C_Queen_of_Scots

<https://www.biography.com/royalty/mary-queen-of-scots>

- You Wouldn't Want to be Mary Queen of Scots by, Fiona Macdonald
- Mary Queen of Scots (Kids in History) by, Fiona Macdonald

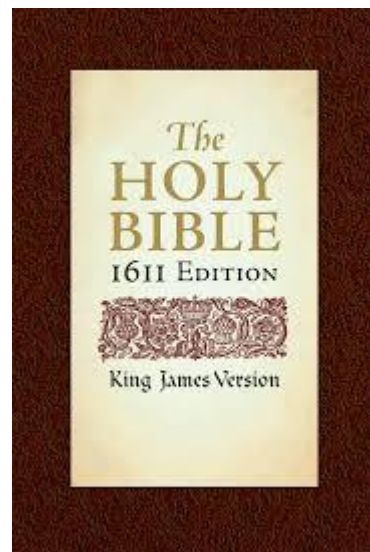
Era Literature/ Historical Fiction

- The Burning Queen (Tangled in Time) by, Kathryn Lasky
- Mary, Queen of Scots; a Queen Without a Country by, Kathryn Lasky
- Bannatyne Manuscript by, George Bannatyne

16th Century Scottish Literature

Much Middle Scots literature was produced by makars, poets with links to the royal court, which included James I, who wrote the extended poem *The Kingis Quair*. Many of the makars had university education and so were also connected with the Kirk; however William Dunbar's *Lament for the Makaris* (c. 1505) provides evidence of a wider tradition of secular writing outside of Court and Kirk, now largely lost. Writers such as Dunbar, Robert Henryson, Walter Kennedy and Gavin Douglas have been seen as creating a golden age in Scottish poetry. Major works include Richard Holland's satire the *Buke of the Howlat* (c. 1448). Much of their work survives in a single collection, the Bannatyne Manuscript collated by George Bannatyne (1545–1608) around 1560. It contains the work of many Scots poets who would otherwise be unknown.

Mary's son, James I, commissioned the Bible to be written in English (not the very first, but close). The King James Version of the Bible is still popular today.

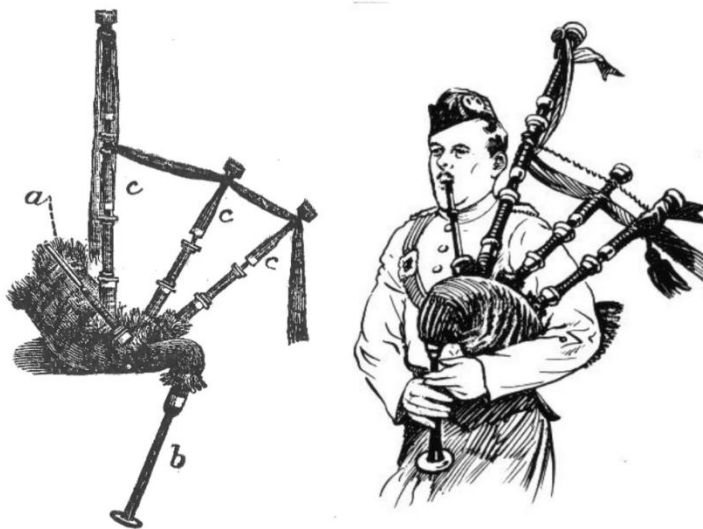


Music

The most important work in Scottish reformed music was probably *A forme of Prayers* published in Edinburgh in 1564. The return from France of James V's daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots in 1561, renewed the Scottish court as a centre of musical patronage and performance. The Queen played the lute, virginals and (unlike her father) was a fine singer. She brought many influences from the French court where she had been educated, employing lutenists and viol players in her household. Mary's position as a Catholic gave a new lease of life to the choir of the Scottish Chapel Royal in her reign, but the destruction of Scottish church organs meant that instrumentation to accompany the mass had to employ bands of musicians with trumpets, drums, fifes, bagpipes and tabors. The outstanding Scottish composer of the era was Robert Carver (c.1485–c.1570) whose works included the nineteen-part motet 'O Bone Jesu'. James VI, king of Scotland from 1567, was a major patron of the arts in general.

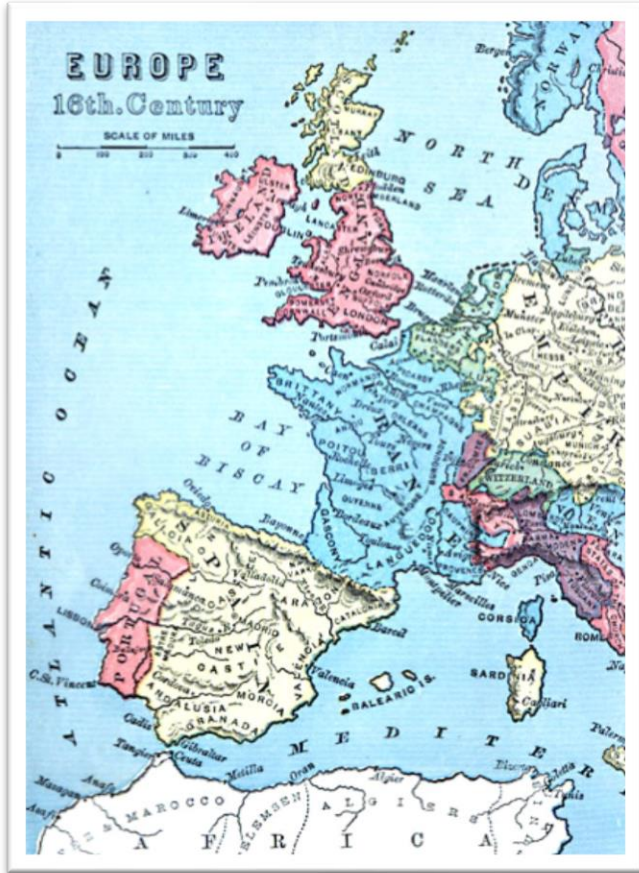


CHATELARD PLAYING THE LUTE TO MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS (HENRY JOSEPH FRADELLE)



Highland Bagpipe.

Maps



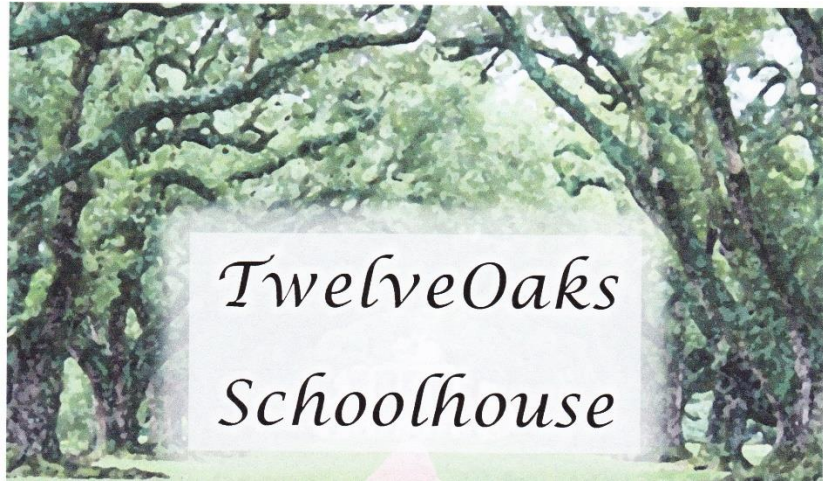
Discussion or Essay Questions

1. How long was Mary a princess of Scotland? How long was she a princess of France?
2. How did each of Mary's husbands die? What was the controversy surrounding her second husband's death?
3. Why did Mary have to leave Scotland?
4. She went to Elizabeth for help, but what happened?
5. What were some things James, Mary's son was known for?

Activities

1. Make a family tree. Start with the Tudors of England, finish with Mary's son.
2. Make a timeline of Mary's life
3. Mark important places on the maps above, where Mary lived, etc.
4. Listen to Scottish/ Gaelic music
5. Watch a documentary or movie about Mary Queen of Scots. (The 1971 version is PG-13, others are for more mature audiences.)





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