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SN 6275 - Bristol 'particular' accounts / port books of the sixteenth century

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Table overview:

Note: This section dealing with the code of the data files was added by the HDS. Not every variable will be found in each of the tables

Table name	Coverage
e1221991database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1503/4
e122212database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1516/17
e122215database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1525/6
e1222110database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1541/2
e1221994database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1542/3
e1222115database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1545/6
e122224database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, 1550/1
e1221999database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, Exports, 1563/4
e1222412database.tab	Bristol 'Particular' Customs Account, Imports, 1563/4
e190113110database.tab	Bristol Port Book, Overseas, 1594/5
e190113211database.tab	Bristol Port Book, Overseas, 1600/1
e190112911database.tab	Bristol Port Book, Overseas Inwards, 1575/6
e190112912database.tab	Bristol Port Book, Overseas Outwards, 1575/6

Code:

Note: This section dealing with the code of the data files was added by the HDS. Not every variable will be found in each of the tables.

Variable	Data definition
commodity	Character of commodities
commodity_details	Further details of commodities
country_of_origin	Country of origin of ship
custom/licence	Notes on customs and licence issues
d	Pence
date	Date
destination	Destination/port from which the ship came in original spelling
destination_country	Country from which the ship came
destination_mod	Destination/port from which the ship came in modern spelling
doc_ref	Reference number of source
entry	Number of Entry
f	Farthing
master_1st	First name of ship's master
master_surname	Surname of ship's master
merchant_1st	First name of merchant
merchant_occup	Occupation of merchant
merchant_dom	Domicile of merchant in original spelling
merchant_dom_mod	Domicile of merchant in modern spelling
merchant_surname	Surname of merchant
mod_£	Value of commodity in modern Pound Sterling
origin	National origin of merchant as found in record
packaging	Packaging of commodities, method and number
port_mod	Name of port of origin in modern spelling
port_of_origin	Port of origin of ship in original spelling
quantity	Quantity of commodity
s	Shilling
ship_name	Name of ship
Signature	Signature/initials of merchant
surveyor_totals	Value of commodities estimated by surveyor
tonnage	Tonnage of ship

unit	Unit of commodity
£	Pound Sterling

Methodology Notes:

The Use of the Bristol ‘Particular’ Accounts and Port Books as a Record of Trade.

The customs accounts and later Port Books are a uniquely valuable source for the history of trade and have been used as such by numerous scholars to date, to explore not only the broad trends in British trade and shipping, but also the performance of specific ports such as Bristol, Chester and London and the development of specific industries, including the woollen and cloth industries.¹ The purpose of this piece is to consider the methodological issues arising from the transcription and analysis of the E122 and E190 accounts as a source for the statistical analysis of Bristol’s trade. It is intended that this document will be a companion to the completed database of sixteenth century Bristol accounts and that it will be considered by any further researchers attempting to extract data from the datasets for the purpose of the statistical analysis of Bristol’s overseas trade during the period.

The piece will examine both the general and specific technical challenges posed by the accounts as a source, as well as illustrating how these have been handled in the creation of the database. The fundamental point to remember from the outset is that while there is a strong precedent for using customs accounts as a tool for studying trade and shipping, and while they remain the best set of records we have for this purpose, they were not created with this purpose in mind, but rather as a means of preventing customs evasion. They are therefore fiscal rather than trade records and this has many implications regarding how they can be used and interpreted and their scope and reliability as a source.² While the following is by necessity a very detailed record of the technical issues encountered in the preparation of the datasets, particularly relating to valuations, it is important to keep in mind that overall the types of inconsistencies examined here, such as the difficulties relating to the valuation of certain types of cloth, have very little impact on the gross values of trade and need to be viewed in context of the larger limitations of the source, such the un-recorded illicit trade and the discrepancies caused by the difference between the market value of goods and the rates valuations.³

¹ For example see: T. S. Willan, *The English Coasting Trade: 1600-1750* (Manchester, 1938), J. H. Andrews ‘Trade and ships of Brighton in the second half of the seventeenth century’, *Sussex notes and Queries*, XIV (1954), W. R. Childs ‘Ireland’s trade with England in the Later Middle Ages’, *Irish Economic & Social history*, IX (1982), A. K. Longfield, *Anglo-Irish Trade in the Sixteenth Century* (London, 1929), D. Woodward, *Trade of Elizabethan Chester* (Hull, 1970), E. M. Carus-Wilson, ‘The overseas trade of Bristol’ in E. Power & M.M. Postan, *Studies in English Trade in the Century* (London, 1933), E. E. Power, ‘The wool trade in the century’, in E. Power & M.M. Postan, *Studies in English Trade in the Century* (London, 1933) E. T. Jones, ‘The Bristol Shipping Industry in the Sixteenth Century’ (Unpublished University of Edinburgh PhD thesis, 1998) S. M. Flavin, ‘The development of Anglo-Irish trade in the sixteenth century’ (Unpublished University of Bristol M.A thesis, 2004).

² See for example: N. J. Williams, ‘Francis Shaxton and the Elizabethan Port Books’, *English Historical Review*, LXVI (1950), J. H. Andrews, ‘Two problems in the interpretation of the Port Books’, *Economic History Review* (2nd series) IX (1956), R. Hinton, *The Port Books of Boston* (Lincoln Record Society, 1956), G. D. Ramsay, ‘The Smugglers’ Trade: A Neglected Aspect of English Commercial Development’, *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, II (1952), G. D. Ramsay, *English Overseas Trade During the Centuries of Emergence* (London, 1957).

³ For a recent account of the illicit trade see: E. T. Jones *Inside the Illicit Economy: Reconstructing the Smugglers’ Trade of Sixteenth Century Bristol* (Unpublished, draft MS.)

The Customs Duties

As the datasets were created as a tool for examining the development of trade in the sixteenth century, rather than for the analysis of the complicated area of government finance, the amounts of custom and subsidy paid by merchants have been omitted, in favour of the nominal values for trade. The technical issues encountered in applying these valuations will be considered in detail separately for goods paying ad valorem duties, particularly 'poundage' and those paying specific duties. As it is impossible to use the accounts without a knowledge of the various types customs duties, particularly as these need to be translated into values for statistical analysis, and therefore these will be examined briefly below.

Summary of Duties

A very detailed examination of the development and consolidation of the customs system can be found in N. S. B. Gras, *The Early English Customs System* (Harvard, 1918).⁴ In summary and in terms of how the sixteenth century accounts record values, the duties can be broadly divided into a system of specific and ad valorem duties, the evolution of which will be examined briefly below.

The trade which first appears in the customs accounts is the export of raw materials, and from 1275 to the end of the middle ages, all merchants, alien and native were paying the Ancient Custom on wool, woolfells and hides. From 1303 (suspended in 1309-10 and 1311-22), aliens, in addition, paid the New Custom on all goods imported and exported. Then, in 1347, as England had been producing more and more cloth and exporting less wool, both native and alien merchants began to pay a Cloth Custom. Aliens were already paying a custom on cloth under the New Custom, which they continued to pay in addition to this additional cloth duty and now for the first time natives were paying custom on exported cloth. Over time these duties came to be grouped into A) the Customs on Wool, Woolfells and Hides and B) the Petty Custom. The first of these duties joined the Ancient Custom with the part of the New Custom concerned with these commodities and the second joined all the remaining parts of the New Custom (except wine) with the Cloth Custom.

In addition to the customs, the accounts also record a distinct tax called the subsidy, which in general was a tax of parliamentary origin, but not exclusively so.⁵ The main difference between custom and subsidy was that subsidies were by nature temporary. There were two kinds of subsidy, the subsidy on wool, woolfells and hides and the subsidy of poundage and tunnage. The first of these came to be accepted and regularly granted from 1465 to 1641.⁶ The subsidy of poundage (a percentage tax) and tunnage (specific duty on each tun of wine imported from abroad), which was made up of two subsidies, was normally granted as one and came to be grouped together. Both of these subsidies were granted only intermittently in the fourteenth

⁴ See also T. S. Willan, *A Tudor Book of Rates* (Manchester, 1962).

⁵ N. S. B. Gras, *The Early English Customs System* (Harvard, 1918) p. 77.

⁶ *Ibid.* p. 80.

century but from 1415, they were granted for the life of the king and were then consolidated with the Petty Custom as the Petty Custom and Subsidy.

The Poundage Subsidy in Detail

By the sixteenth century most goods found in the customs accounts paid the subsidy of 'poundage', so called because it was a percentage tax in the pound (one shilling /5 percent) on the merchandise. The subsidy was by this period granted for the life of the monarch. To determine the tax paid, the customer would first write down the value of the goods. His valuations were based on his 'Book of Rates', which provided the nominal value of most of the goods he might encounter. In terms of the nominal values, these had been set earlier in the century and so by the later 1550s, inflation meant that the real value of trade was at least twice that indicated by the customs accounts. What we do not have then is any record of the 'value' of trade in any given year. This on one hand is somewhat advantageous, as the values in the accounts present a constant value to data which would otherwise vary with market conditions and so make meaningless comparisons between different geographical areas and times. On the other hand, in terms of the most important commodities of the trade, such as wine, the fact that we are not working with market values can of course produce misleading results, even in terms of examining the basics such as the volumes imported. The importation of a thousand tuns of wine in year A, dropping to eight hundred in year B, does not necessarily mean a decline in the wine trade. It may, for example, mean that a poor harvest increased the market value of wine and that the eight hundred tuns is worth more or that perhaps the wine was of Spanish origin and therefore worth a higher market price.

Technical Limitations -Measuring Trade from Nominal Values

The purpose of the databases is to compare the value of trade across the period and therefore the ideal outcome would be to compare data using monetary values as the base. This approach does not present any methodological difficulties as long as the base remains constant. The difficulty here however is that a new rates book was issued in 1558, both to bring rates in line with inflation and to include the many new items that had entered into foreign trade. There are, according to Willan, around 300 more items in the 1558 rates book than in the Book of 1545. In terms of statistical analysis this means that a direct, accurate comparison of trade by value across the entire century is not possible. This is because, as well as the inclusion of new goods, whose values cannot be compared to earlier accounts, the re-valuation of other goods was not by any uniform rate of increase. Willan points out, for example, that in 33 cases the valuations remained unchanged, in twelve cases the valuations were reduced and in various other cases, the items were increased by differing percentages.⁷ In practice, an examination of values across the two series of Bristol accounts shows a fairly similar picture. Irish Frieze Cloth, for example, is found at 40s. both before and after the rates increase and ginger is found at 18d per lb across the century. Mantles rise from 3s. 4d. to 5s. and barrels of salmon from

⁷ Willan, 'Tudor Book of Rates' (Manchester, 1962) p. xxviii.

13s. 4d. to 30s. On the other hand, where simple comparative examination of the values of commodities is possible, it shows that many of the commodities doubled in value, for example, white and red herring, exported iron, pitch, salt, wheat, Irish wool, aniseed and cloves. On the whole, it seems that Gras' estimation of a 75% overall increase is indeed an underestimation and that an increase of 100% and probably slightly more, as Willan suggests, is more accurate. Therefore to provide an approximate comparative gross value for trade in the accounts after 1558, the gross value needs to be roughly halved to bring it in line with the earlier accounts.

The only theoretical way to arrive at a more accurate percentage increase than this would be to produce a table that compared the value of every commodity found in the accounts across the century and a corresponding average rate of increase, but this has proven to be unrealistic. Work, undertaken as part of this project, to produce an extended glossary of the commodities found in the accounts, including their values over the course of the century, highlighted that, as already mentioned, the early accounts lack the range of goods which appear later and cannot therefore form the basis for a standard valuation and also the method of recording in the earlier accounts means that diversification of product types is occasionally masked to some extent, so, for example, thread is listed at various values but it is not clear if it is 'packet thread' or 'coloured thread', as they appear later, and therefore comparison of values is not possible. Neither is the 1558 Book of Rates comprehensive enough to form the basis of this exercise as it does not always match up well with all the commodities found in the accounts. It is not possible for example to correlate the different types of skins and hides in the accounts with those in the book of rates. Likewise, many commodities do not share the same volume designators as the Book of Rates and it is not immediately apparent how some of these can be resolved – canvas in 'verges' compared to canvas in bolts for example.

Although there is no absolutely precise way to define a satisfactory comparative monetary figure for overall trade across the period, in general meaningful comparison can nevertheless be made between individual commodities in different years using a comparison by volume. There is no real impediment to comparing yards of check cloth, dozens of thimbles, lbs of thread etc. Likewise it is also possible and very useful to compare the percentage share of trade between the commodities across the period as well as the percentage of trade carried by ships of a particular origin.

It is important to note here that despite the general challenges faced in using the accounts data for the statistical analysis of the value of trade, the Bristol accounts throw up far less technical difficulties than comparative sets of data for this period. Woodward's study of Chester's late sixteenth century accounts, particularly in relation to exports to Ireland, showed that as the century progressed, an increasing number of commodities were gathered together in the port books under heading such as "and other goods valued at..." This most likely applied to miscellaneous items paying 'poundage' and by the 1580s it applied to nearly eighty per cent of the total exports to Ireland from Chester, making it impossible to gauge the relative importance of different export items. A similar difficulty has been encountered by Duncan Taylor, working

on certain accounts for the smaller ports of the Bristol channel, where at times clerks fail to give individual values to items and apply only a total value per merchant for all their goods. The individual recording anomalies of the accounts will be considered in greater detail below, but on the whole, the accounts selected for this project almost always fully itemise commodities, and likewise, almost always give either a nominal value or the individual customs valuation, which can then be used to determine the nominal value, and in turn facilitate the analysis of broad trends in trade over the period.

Items Paying Poundage- Specific Issues

E122 Series:

Overall, in terms of commodities paying the poundage subsidy, the accounts from the E122 series are fairly straightforward. Most items throughout the series have a separate and clearly recorded nominal value. Occasionally, items paying poundage will be found to be exempt from duties and may therefore not have a value ascribed. In this case such items are given a value in the database, which is italicised by the transcriber to show that it does not exist in the original account. A good example is found in T.N.A. E122/21/15 f01r where two separate consignments, each containing 97 fothers of lead are exported to the Continent from Bristol, custom exempt by Royal mandate. As these clearly exist as part of the trade they are included in the statistical analysis of gross values.

E190 Series:

Of the accounts examined from the E190 series, which are much more detailed in nature, the 1575 account presents the least methodological issues for consideration, as it records nominal values in the same way as the E122 series. In contrast the 1594-5 and 1600-01 accounts, which are both surveyor accounts, often omit nominal values. This, of course, is because the customs officers were only really interested in what was being collected and this is particularly the case with respect to long lists of exports to Ireland, where the surveyor usually includes the subsidy paid on each item, and then gives a total nominal value at the end, in addition to recording the total duty paid in the right hand margin. This is potentially confusing as without some knowledge of the customs duties, the value of the poundage subsidy could, and has been in the past, mistaken for the nominal value. Also, in some instances, the total value given by the surveyor includes a 'value' for goods not actually paying 'poundage', such as cloth of assize. In the datasets, where nominal values occur, they have been transcribed as in the manuscript. To avoid confusion, and maintain continuity throughout the series, in cases where an item is paying poundage, but the poundage subsidy is recorded instead of the nominal value, the nominal value has been inputted and italicised, in place of the subsidy value.⁸

⁸ Note the additional column in the 1594-5 and 1600-01 databases gives the total values added by the surveyor. Where this does not correspond with the total value of the actual goods listed, a comment has been inserted. The 'total values'

Worthy of note, and indeed of wider historiographical significance, are the number of errors in terms of the 'total values' arrived at by the surveyor's in their 1594-5 and 1600-01 accounts. The role of the surveyor evolved in the latter half of the sixteenth century when the Elizabethan government, increasingly frustrated with the hold of the exchequer over the accounting system of the existing customs administration, introduced an overarching system of customs supervision, involving, among other changes, the adaptation of the role of the surveyor whose job previously seems to have been general supervision of all books, rolls, etc. of the other customs officials along with a particular role in the supervision of the searcher.⁹ As part of the new system of 'integrated supervision'¹⁰ from 1564, which was designed supposed to lead to greater unification of the customs administration surveyor's along with customer's and controller's were to each receive standard blank books with numbered pages in which to make their independent customs entries.¹¹

Hinton, in his study of the Boston Port Books, pointed out that the weakness of the 1564 orders was that they put the customs officers at risk of having to answer to the crown for entries made in the bustle of daily business and that it was probably too much to expect a book which had lain open in the custom-house, exposed to dirty hands and ink-blots, to satisfy the scrutiny of the Exchequer.¹² He noted that by the beginning of the 17th century the port books are not original, but are neat fair copies written up at the end of a period and that the Exchequer did not object. Further, he deduced from a comparative study of the accounts of the various officers, that the surveyor's books were written by the same person that wrote the collector's books and that collation of more than one book from a year shows remarkable similarity, with the greatest degree of similarity being found between the surveyor's and collector's books: it being clear from the text that one was copied from the other.¹³ Overall he suggested that all the accounts were copied from two parallel books, rather than from loose warrants etc.

Such a detailed comparison is not possible for the surviving Bristol Port Books for 1594-5 and 1600-01, and, therefore, neither are such specific conclusions. For 1594-5, it is possible to compare the accounts of the customer and surveyor outwards for the entire year and for 1600-01, accounts exist for the controller and surveyor both inwards and outwards.¹⁴ Comparing these accounts is certainly instructive.

exclude items that are custom exempt but such items have been given values in the database. In terms of analysis, the total figures given by the surveyor are not utilised and analysis should always based on the goods actually recorded.

⁹ Gras, *Early English Customs System*, p. 98.

¹⁰ F.C. Dietz, 'Elizabethan Customs Administration', *English Historical Review*, 45 (1930) p. 35.

¹¹ See: Printed, B.Y., *A Sure Guide to Merchants, Custom-House officers, &c. or the Modern Practice of the Court of Exchequer; in Prosecutions relating to His Majesty's Revenue of the Customs. ... By an officer of the customs.* (London, 1730), pp. 406-446. This is the 'Rules, Orders and Directions made by Queen Elizabeth, and passed under her Great Seal, to be observed and performed by all her officers, Ministers and other Persons concerned in and about Levying and Collecting her Customs and Subsidies, with all the Ports, Havens and Creeks in England and Wales, and by all the Merchants and Traders in the said Ports'

¹² A. P. Hinton, *The Port Books of Boston 1601-1640* (Lincoln Record Society, 1956) p. xvi.

¹³ Hinton, *Port Books of Boston*, p. xxxi.

¹⁴ TNA E190/1131/11: customer's outward Michaelmas 1594 – Easter 1595 and TNA E190/1131/13 customers outward, Easter 1595 – Michaelmas 1595, TNA E190/1132/12 controller overseas Michaelmas 1600-Michaelmas 1601.

Unlike Hinton's findings in the Boston Port books, the 1594 Bristol customer and surveyor accounts are written in different hands. While overall, they are very similar, there are nevertheless a significant number of instances where they disagree in content. For example, on the 30th of September 1594, the surveyor gives the domicile of a merchant named Giovanni Francisto Soprani as London, while the customer enters the same merchants domicile as Genoa.¹⁵ While these sorts of inconsistencies are rare, there are a number of entries where the total values and/or the lists of commodities disagree in the two accounts.

An example of this is for a shipment by a merchant named Andrew Linch to Waterford on the 31st of July 1595 where both officers give a total value of £42 10s. A closer comparison reveals however that the customer has omitted entries for 5 dozen wool cards and 3 gross of trenchers which come to the modern equivalent of £2.63, yet he manages to arrive at the same total as the surveyor.¹⁶ Similarly, in the 1600-1 accounts, on the 27th of August, for the shipment of Philip Linch, both officials list goods, that when totalled using EXCEL, come to the modern equivalent of £28.92, while both accounts give a total value of £29.92, and duty based on the same, suggesting that the two accounts are missing an item, or items, of the same value, and indicates again copying at some point in the recording procedure.¹⁷

The miscalculations or more likely, the erroneous copying of total values in the accounts can be for very large amounts of money. For example, on the 20th January 1595, the surveyor records the total value for the shipment of Mathew Haviland and William Ellis at £817.33 (modern £), when the goods in fact come to a value of only £417.33. As the amount of duty paid in fact agrees with the goods recorded, and as nobody benefits in any way from an error such as this one, the only conclusion is that the surveyor also is simply careless or is copying his total nominal values from another source.¹⁸ In one further example the customer records an entry for frieze and rice for a merchant named Edward Lewis on the 12th of December 1595 and then erroneously writes in the total value of the shipment as the value for the rice alone. The surveyor, in his record, makes the very same mistake which could indicate that they are in fact copying from the same source.¹⁹

These sorts of error reinforce the fact that the role of the officers was the collection of duties and not the recording of trade and anyone basing their analysis on the total 'values' alone without cross referencing these to the duties payments would arrive at some very inaccurate conclusions. Because the full range of accounts is not available it is impossible to establish exactly which accounts the officers were copying from. It seems likely from the evidence we have, however, that as Hinton suggests, the accounts are neat, fair copies and were probably compiled from one or more day books, which no longer survive. The broader significance of

¹⁵ TNA E190/1131/11 f02r. and TNA. E190/1131/10 f28r.

¹⁶ TNA E190/1131/10 f46v. and also TNA. E190/1131/13 f12r.

¹⁷ TNA E190/1132/11 f31r., the Mary Busher of Waterford, merchant Philip Linch and see also the corresponding entry in TNA E190/1132/12 f15v.

¹⁸ TNA E190/1131/10 f09v.

¹⁹ TNA E190/1131/10 f33r., TNA E190/1131/11 f05v.

this of course is the extent of control of the Elizabethan government over the customs administration, given that the 1564 orders insisted that the books kept by these officials should be independent records of fiscal activity.

Poundage Duties-Recording Anomalies

1575-6:

Of specific note in the 1575 account, as it is again of wider historiographical note touching the roles and competence of the customs officials, are the values sometimes given in this account for arable produce including barley, beans and malt etc. Malt is valued at 16s. 8d. per wey in the accounts prior to the 1558 rates revision. The 1582 rates book values it at 6s. 8d. per quart (£2 per wey). It is found in the 1575-6 account paying 4s. per wey custom (along with beans, barley and rye) which based on poundage at 1s. per pound works out at £4 per wey and sometimes the customs officer has inputted this value. In the case of grains however, after 1571, this is a meaningless figure. An act 'for the increase of tyllage' in that year decreed that it was lawful to transport any grain or wheat only from a port with a resident customs officer and that the new rate of custom would be 12d. per quarter for wheat and 8d. per quarter for all other grains (peas, malt, beans, barley). The figures seen in the account reflect this new custom and in some cases the officer has back projected to provide a 'value'.²⁰ This explains why sometimes the value in the accounts seems to be twice that of the rates book.²¹ This is not the only instance of a customs officer seemingly confusing another custom or subsidy with the poundage subsidy, whether through carelessness, laziness, for convenience, or simply through perhaps not understanding the nature of the subsidies himself. In the 1503 and 1516 accounts, the customs officers give a customs 'value' for tanned hides, which do not pay the poundage subsidy. What has happened in this case is that the officials back project a value from the 40d. parliamentary subsidy on tanned hides, which of course, while a subsidy, is entirely different from poundage and is not an ad valorem tax.

Of further note in the 1575-6 import account is the method of recording quantities of liquids. Entries for aquavita and oil for example state the total quantity laded and then give a value or the amount of duty paid for the net amount, allowing for leakage etc.²² Likewise in the same account, calico cloth is recorded with regards to the amount of cloth paying custom; cloth deemed to be 'wet and of no value' is not given a value.

²³

1594-5

Again, as in the 1575 account, small quantities of items such as bay, serge and wadmals cloth (almost always exports to the Continent) are occasionally custom exempt and therefore have no value recorded in the

²⁰ For example see TNA E190/1129/12 f20r., the Katherine of Wexford.

²¹ Statutes of the Realm, (1571) Vol. 4, chapter XIII, p. 547. In the datasets, the values given in the rates book have been imputed and italicised, to avoid confusion and maintain continuity throughout the accounts.

²² For example see The Tobie of Bristol, arriving from Cadiz on the 7th June 1576, TNA E190/1129/11 f09v.

²³ For example see the Dominic of Bristol, arriving from Lisbon on the 17th December 1575, TNA E190/1129/11 f04r.

account, but have been allocated a value in the database.²⁴ Custom exempt items are clearly identified as such. Similarly, there are a number of items in this account that are custom exempt because they have already cleared customs at another port or on another vessel. These items have also been given a value, for example the 260 lbs of indigo being shipped to Ireland, which would have a nominal value of £86 13s. 4d. but has paid custom in London.²⁵ Again these values are included because analysis is not based on the amount of custom paid but rather on volumes and quantities of goods traded. Items such as cereals which are described as 'corrupt et male' are not valued.²⁶

1600-01

As in the 1594-5 account, custom exempt items are clearly identified in the database but have been allocated a nominal value. With the occasional exception, these items are almost always part of the continental trade and not of trade to or from Ireland. Items allowed for provision are also given a value in the database. This is something that might need to be reconsidered, and is again part of the fact that these are a fiscal source. The 1564 orders set out that separate books should be kept for store and provision.²⁷ Therefore, it is arguable that if these were going to be included in the values for trade, it would have to be across the board.

Specific Duties

As mentioned in the summary of duties, wine was subject to a very complicated tariff system of which the basic duty was 'tunnage', a 3s. duty on each tun imported. Tanned hides paid the Ancient Custom of 8d. per dicker, the Parliamentary subsidy of 40d. per dicker and the 'Calais Penny' of 1d. per dicker (payable on all leather exported to places other than the Calais Staple). Each consignment also had to pay a sum, usually 2d. for the exit cocket (certificate) issued by the customer. Cloth of assize paid 14d in custom for indigenous merchants (rising to 6s. 8d. from 1558).

Clearly it is very difficult to translate a specific duty into ad valorem terms in order to ascertain the relative importance of these commodities over the course of the century. To overcome this obstacle, wine has been given a nominal value of £4 per tun and cloth of assize a value of £2 per standard cloth. This is in line with the values ascribed by Wendy Child's in her study of the Bristol-Ireland trade in the late fifteenth Century and also those ascribed by the principal investigator, Evan Jones in his unpublished PhD thesis, 'The Bristol Shipping Industry in the Sixteenth Century' and the project researcher Susan Flavin in her unpublished MA thesis 'The Development of Anglo-Irish trade in the Sixteenth Century'.²⁸ This is based on the fact that

²⁴ For example see the Adventure of Ilfracombe, departing for Brest on the 7th September 1595, TNA E190/1131/10 f52v.

²⁵ TNA E190/1131/10 f43v.

²⁶ TNA E190/1131/10 f16v.

²⁷ B.Y., *A Sure Guide to Merchants, Custom-House officers, &c. or the Modern Practice of the Court of Exchequer; in Prosecutions relating to His Majesty's Revenue of the Customs. ... By an officer of the customs.* (London, 1730), p. 409.

²⁸ W.R. Child's, 'Ireland's trade with Bristol in the later Middle-Ages', *Irish Economic and Social History* IX (1982) pp. 18 n. 17, 21., E.T. Jones 'The Bristol Shipping Industry in the Sixteenth Century'. (PhD, Edinburgh 1998) p. 34., S. M. Flavin, 'The Development of Anglo-Irish trade in the Sixteenth Century' (MA, Bristol 2003) p. 18.

these values are in line with customs valuations which rated goods at about half their market value, for example the surviving ledger of John Smyth, a Bristol merchant trading during the years 1538-50, shows that calf skins cost him around 6s. per dozen, whereas they are valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen in the accounts.²⁹

Similarly, tanned hides are valued at £1 per dicker in the datasets, based on evidence in the ledger that they had a market value of between 40s & 50 s.³⁰ In terms of providing values for items paying specific duties after 1558, the values given above have simply been doubled in the databases to keep the rate of increase roughly in line with the new nominal values of the 1558 rates book.

Transcription and Analysis of Commodities paying Specific Duties

While this method of valuation works well in the E122 series, where there is, for example, a very limited variety of types of cloth of assize, it becomes more difficult to apply precisely in the later accounts.

Specific methodological issues found in individual accounts for each of these commodity groups and how they are treated in the databases will be dealt with in detail below.

Cloth of Assize:

For taxation purposes, the standard woollen broadcloth was 24 yards x 2 yards in size. While a cloth of this size rarely existed in reality, the standard 'broadcloth' type of cloth was assessed for customs purposes in terms of how many cloths it would make up. For example a 'Dozen Strait' was half the width and half the length of a standard cloth and was therefore taxed as a quarter of a cloth.³¹ Without grain meant the cloth was not dyed using the expensive scarlet dyestuff 'grayne' (kermes). Cloth dyed with kermes was valued at twice as much as standard cloth. Cloth of assize paid 14d. in custom for indigenous merchants, rising to 6s. 8d. from 1558. The new duty was not based on the value of the cloth but on the amount of wool in a cloth and the duty that the wool would have paid had it been exported as wool and not as cloth.³² From the 1575 account the standard cloth is called 'pann curt somerset sine grano' and later, in the 1600 account, it is called pann latte (broad).

It is interesting that by the end of the century, the standard broadcloth becomes less common in the accounts. It seems also, judging by the sometimes inconsistent methods of estimating cloth duties by the customs officers, which will be examined individually below, that they could not always keep up with trends in the cloth making industry and it is clear that a certain amount of rough estimation was used to value cloth that

²⁹ Jones 'The Bristol Shipping Industry', p. 34.

³⁰ Jones 'The Bristol Shipping Industry', p. 34.

³¹ The 1582 rates book gives a breakdown of the rates for cloth and how many of each type make up a standard cloth. See Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, pp. 73-4.

³² Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. xiv.

did not perfectly match or add up to a standard cloth.

1503-4

On a number of occasions in this account, cloth of assize is found paying the poundage subsidy and therefore has a nominal value.³³ This does not create any inconsistencies however in terms of values as the nominal value is the same as that applied for cloth of assize paying specific duties, ie. £2 per standard cloth. Where a value is given for cloth it is entered in the database as it occurs in the manuscript and a note is added to indicate that it paid poundage.

1516-17

With the exception of one shipment of nine 'northern course', all other cloth of assize pays specific duties and has been valued at £2 per cloth. The course northern cloth is valued at £2 per piece also. This suggests that it is a 'northern dozen double' as found in the 1582 rates book, which is the equivalent of one standard broad cloth. A note in the database indicates that this is paying poundage although it remains unclear why certain types of cloth sometimes pay poundage and at other times are treated as cloth of assize. This is probably because it simply made little difference in terms of the amount of custom payable.

1525-6

The 1525-6 account records 'Northern Dozens' paying both poundage and specific duties. This creates a slight problem as it does not make sense to have the same item in the accounts with two different values. The example paying specific duties pays 7d. per cloth custom, which makes it equal to half a standard cloth. The 1582 rates book agrees with this and states that there are two northern dozens (presumably single as opposed to double) in a standard cloth. This has therefore been valued on a pro rata basis at £1 per cloth.

Northern Dozens paying poundage are valued at 13s. 4d. per piece in this account. This value has been inputted in a comment in each case but the pro rata value has been used for analysis. In terms of gross values, given the small amounts of cloth being considered, these sorts of inconsistencies are in any case of minor concern.

1541-2 & 1542-3

All cloth of assize found in these two accounts is paying custom of 14d. per cloth and is valued on a pro rata basis at £2 per cloth.

1545-6

Two entries for Northern Dozens are found, both paying custom but with no customs value included. These have been valued as half a standard cloth as found in the 1525 account and confirmed by the 1582 rates book.

³³ Gras, *Early English Customs System*, pp. 82-83 for the arguments relating to the poundage subsidy and cloth of assize.

Also found in this account are 'Northern Straits' These are more difficult to value as the one example that occurs paying custom has no customs value included as so it is impossible to work out the size of the cloth. Three other lots of the same cloth are found paying poundage and are valued at around 4s. 2d. per piece. Its possible that a 'Northern Strait' is equal in size to a 'Northern Dozen' but the example paying specific duties has been valued in line with those paying poundage as it does not make sense to have multiple values for the same item in the dataset.

1550-1

Northern Dozens, all exports to the Continent, are found paying poundage. The values transcribed are the pro-rata values for Northern Dozens and the value as they appear in the manuscript are noted in comments. This is to keep the value in line across the entire dataset.

1563-4

This is the first account examined after the 1558 rate increase. Therefore as already mentioned, the value for cloth of assize has been doubled to £4 per standard cloth and all other varieties have been valued based on the custom paid relative to this amount.

1575-6

Interestingly, it is this, not the 1564 account, that shows a significant change in the variety of cloth of assize exported and here, standard cloth of assize is the exception rather than the rule. Also, in this account, the standard cloth is recorded as a 'Short Somerset'(pan curt Somerset).

In general, the varieties of cloth found here agree quite well with the 1582 rates, in terms of how many make up a standard cloth for taxation purposes, ie. 2 Bridgwater's, 4 Devonshire Dozens etc. Again, the nominal value has been worked out by factoring up from their duty in relation to the standard cloth of assize.

There are however some occasions where the customs valuation disagrees with the rates book. For example, Devonshire kersies in this account always seem to pay custom equal to a quarter of a standard cloth while the rates book states that kersies are one third of a cloth (this is the case with all other kersies in the account) Devonshire kersies have therefore been valued as a quarter of a cloth based on the custom paid as it seems unlikely that this is an error, given that they occur on 14 different occasions in the account.

1594-5

In this account, the standard cloth is called 'pan latte' or in other words 'broad cloth'. One cloth in every ten shipped by a merchant is allowed custom free. Values have been added in the database for custom free cloths. There are also frequent entries for 'overlengths' of cloth, which are any yards superfluous to the standard cloth allowance. These have been valued on a pro-rata basis like all other cloth of assize.

This account lists Devonshire Dozens, which pay custom equal to a quarter of a cloth and they have been valued at £1 each based on this. In one instance a Devonshire Dozen is found paying poundage and has been given a nominal value of £30 (19 cloths) by the Surveyor. The pro-rata value has been inputted in the database for analysis with the surveyors 'value' noted in the comments.

Also of note in this account is the fact that 'streits', which are a narrower type of broadcloth, are equal to one sixth of a cloth, this is confirmed by the 1582 rates book.³⁴ In the earlier accounts, streit refers to a cloth that is half the width of a standard cloth.

1600-1

The recording of cloth exports in the 1600 account is more complicated than any of the other accounts. This is primarily because in many instances, particularly when recording long lists of exports to Ireland, the surveyor gives custom payments and then total values for the entire shipment and he includes items not paying poundage in the 'total value'. For example he may have one piece of cloth paying the specific duty of 6s. 8d. and will include it in the total value at £6 13s. 4d. as if the duty was poundage. This is difficult to get around in terms of transcribing the accounts in a useful way as clearly the values given by the surveyor are merely back projections of the custom and are meaningless in terms of analysis. When of course these 'values' are ignored and the nominal value of £4.00 per cloth added instead, none of the shipments add up to the surveyors 'total value'.

This method of recording is more exasperating as at times, it is not possible to work out the exact size of a piece of cloth as one customs payment or 'value' is given for a few different cloths, usually recorded in yards and a full breakdown is not possible.

Overall however, the value for cloth in the database is always recorded, as accurately as possible as the pro-rata value based on £4 for a standard cloth. These values are italicised to indicate that they may differ from the 'value' found in the manuscript and a note in the 'customs and licenses' column indicates where the surveyor has included the 'value' of cloth with the poundage values. Again, of course, it has to be remembered that the purpose of these accounts was never to record the 'value' but the customs duty, and so any values given by the surveyor in any case are very misleading in terms of statistical analysis.

Leather:

Like grains and cloth, tanned hides occasionally have 'values' in the accounts, based on 1s. in the £, although they do not pay the poundage subsidy. This occurs in the 1503-4 and 1516-17 accounts and these are added in the databases as they appear in the accounts. As mentioned already, this is a back projected 'value' from the 40d. subsidy on tanned hides which of course, while a subsidy, is entirely different from poundage and is

³⁴ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 73.

not an ad valorem tax. For analysis, all tanned hides are valued at £1 per dicker, which is roughly half their market value as explained above.

Wine:

E122 Series

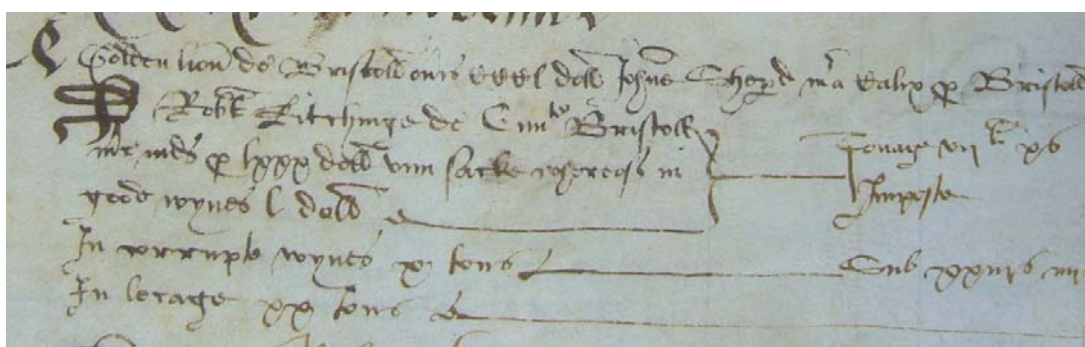
As mentioned already, wine is given the nominal value of £4 per tun in all the accounts prior to the 1558 rates increase. After 1558, the nominal value for wine has been doubled in line with the treatment of cloth of assize and tanned hides, which keeps it roughly in line with the overall rate of inflation. The fact that the rate of duty at 3s. per tun remains constant during this period is irrelevant to the nominal value.

The E122 accounts very rarely specify types of wine and neither do they specify how much of the gross amount laded was lost due to leakage etc. which is presumably deducted from the total amount of duty paid. Where possible wine is transcribed in the databases as it appears in the manuscripts, ie. 1 hogshead, 1 pipe etc. Where it occurs in a combination of units, it is recorded in tuns, ie 1 tun, 1 pipe and a hogshead is recorded as 1.75 tuns as this is more user friendly for statistical analysis.

E190 Series

In terms of value, wine was the most important commodity imported into sixteenth century England. While the earlier accounts do not specify types of wine, the later include entries for Bordeaux, Canaries, Charente, French, Gascon, Madeira, Malaga, Muscadell, Rob Davy and Sack wines. These were subject to a very complicated tariff system, one that cannot be fully examined here, but as already mentioned, the basic duty was the tonnage of the tonnage and poundage act.

Wine entries in the E190 Port Books series are more detailed than in the earlier E122 series. An example of a typical entry from the 1575-6 account is given below.



T.N.A. E190/1129/11 f16r.

“Le Golden Lion de Bristoll, cccl doll, John Shephard master a Calix pro Bristoll, Robert Kitching de Civit Bristoll, merchant indiginous pro lxxx doll vini sacke wheroft in good wyne l doll-Tonnage/Impost v11 li xs.

In corrupte wyne x tons-sub xxiiis. iiiid.

In leakage xx tons”

The Golden Lion of Bristoll, burden 350 tuns, john Shephard Master, to Bristol from Cadiz, Robert Kitchinge merchant indiginous of the city of Bristol for 8- tuns of sack wine, of which in good wine 50 tuns-Tunnage/Impost £7 10s.

In corrupt wine 10 tuns-subsidy 23s. 4d.

In leakage 20 tuns.

It will be noted from this example that the records show not only the amount of wine liable for customs duties but also the original amount laded, before spillage etc. This gross volume has been included in the datasets in the ‘commodity comments’ column. Wine that is custom exempt, for example quantities allowed for the merchant’s provision have been allocated a value, but again, as with other commodities allowed for provision, this may need to be reconsidered, particularly as the customer account for 1594-5 contains two additional folios of items allowed for store and provision which are not found in the surveyor’s account.³⁵

Interesting in these later accounts is the fact that a far more significant amount of wine is declared ‘corrupt’ than in the earlier accounts, probably a method of evading the payment of the full, and generally heavy, customs duties. This corrupt wine is deducted from the gross volume laded as with leaked wine etc. and as it pays poundage and is valued at £2 6s. 8d. per tun in the 1582 rates book, it has been given this value in the databases.

In addition to spillage, wine allowed for provision and corrupt wine, the other wine notable for not paying duties is wine being ‘allowed for prisage’.³⁶ Prisage was an ancient duty levied upon imported wine, whereby the monarch was entitled to take wine from ships entering the country at an established price. This was generally one tun of wine from every ship importing from ten to twenty tuns, and two tuns from every ship importing more than twenty tuns for at a price of 15s. per tun.³⁷ By the early 1540s, French wine cost around £5 per tun in Bristol and Spanish wine £7, so prisage amounted to a tax of between £8 10s. and £12 10s. on any ship entering the port with more than 20 tuns of wine.³⁸ Based however on Jones’ study of John Smyth’s ledger as a source for understanding the economics of sixteenth century shipping, it seems that merchants were

³⁵ TNA E190/1131/13.

³⁶ For example, see TNA E190/1132/11 f15r.

³⁷ Gras, *Early English Customs System*, p. 41.

³⁸ Jones ‘Bristol Shipping Industry’, p.22.

compensated for wine taken as prisage by the ship owners. He gives the example of Smyth lading wine on the Mary Conception in 1546 and recording the wine lost to prise as a sale because the ship owner Thomas Harris paid for the wine. Similarly, when he freighted wine on the Hart in 1549, he credited the ship owner for the freight of 33.5 tuns but debited him for one butt of wine lost to prise.³⁹ It is arguable then, that as the duty of prise involved no real loss of income to the merchants, prise wine should be considered in terms of the gross value of trade and as such, it has been allocated a nominal value in the databases.

The primary purpose of this piece has been to explain the methods of valuing commodities in the accounts and the technical challenges sometimes encountered due to the fiscal nature of the source material. It must be emphasised that although difficulties arise in terms of applying nominal values to various types of cloth of assize etc., this is overall a minor limitation, particularly given that overall we are always working with very rough values for trade. It must always be borne in mind that the accounts were written as a means of preventing customs evasion and not as a record of trade, but once this is understood, the accounts, which record genuine ships, merchants and goods are still the best source we have for understanding broad trends in sixteenth century trade and shipping.

³⁹ Jones 'Bristol Shipping Industry', p.22.

Glossary of commodities, weights and measures

The following is glossary of the commodities, weights and measures found in the Bristol customs accounts (TNA E122/E190) for the following years: 1503/4, 1516/17, 1525/6, 1541/2, 1542/3, 1545/6, 1550/1, 1563/4, 1575/6, 1594/5 and 1600/1. Included in this version is additional information regarding the customs valuations of commodities over the course of the century along with details of the various units of measurement found and any relevant notes regarding the process of identifying various commodities. Commodities are listed in English with the variations of the name occurring in the accounts noted in brackets, along with the nominative Latin where applicable.

Note regarding values: customs valuations are not given in the last two accounts examined, 1594/5 and 1600/1. Instead these accounts contain customs payments. As most commodities paid poundage at a rate of 1s. in the pound, values have been imputed based on this figure. For example a commodity paying 4d. custom is valued at 6s. 8d. and a commodity paying 1s. custom is valued at 20s. For the most part the figures obtained have proven to be the same as the figures listed in the rates book. There will of course be slight discrepancies with very small quantities of goods paying between an ob. and 1d. custom as it isn't possible to work out the exact amount of pence in terms of value but the same method has been applied throughout the accounts for consistency in terms of analysis even when there is a slight difference between the values in the rates book and those arrived at by this method.

In the glossary, when 'earlier accounts' are specified this refers those studied between 1507 and 1558, and later accounts are those between 1558 and 1601. This is because a revised book of rates was issued on 28th May 1558, so customs valuations in the later accounts are at a higher level.

A

Almonds (Lat.: *amigdalum*; Text: *allmondes*, *amigdala*, *amygdala*) : The kernel of a drupe or stone-fruit, the produce of the almond tree, of which there are two kinds, sweet and the bitter. (OED)

C lb/Bale

The 1507 rates book values 'allmondes the c wayte' at 13s. 4d. Almonds are found in the 1526 and 1540s accounts at this value.

The revised rates book of 1582 lists 'Almonds the *bale*' containing 112 lb at 40s. Almonds are found at this value as an export to Ireland in the 1575/6 account (4s. to 4d. per dozen lbs.) The 1594/5 account has almonds at 40s. per C (ie. pays 2s. per C custom). A bale of almonds is therefore equal to 1 C.

Alum (Text: *alam*): A whitish transparent mineral salt, used primarily in cloth dyeing and also for tawing skins, medicine and sizing paper. (OED)

Dozen or C lb.

This is found valued at 5s. per C in 1503, rising to 13s. 4d. per C in all the accounts examined prior to the rates revision of 1558, thereafter it rises to 33s. 4d. per C. This is the same value as listed in the 1582 rates book, which has 'alome the C' of 112 lb 33s. 4d.

Anchor (Lat.: ancora; Text: anker)

Piece

Found in the 1542/3 account as an import from both Ireland and the Continent. They are valued in the account at 5s. per piece

Aniseed (Text: annes, annes sede) : The seed of the anise, used in medicine, confectionary and perfumes.

Dozen (lbs)

The 1507 book of rates lists 'annes sede' but gives no value. It is found valued at both 18d. and 20d. per dozen in the 1516 account and at 16d. per dozen (13s. 4d. per C) in the 1540s. After the rates increase, the values in the accounts rise to 26s. 8d. per C or 3s. per dozen lbs. The 1582 rates book records them at 16s. 8d. per C, which is an error for 26s. 8d. (it is found at the latter value in the 1558, 1562 and 1590 books).⁴⁰ Aniseed is sometimes listed with cumin in the accounts, presumably because they have a similar value per weight.

Apothecary Wares: Sometimes found in the accounts listed as such and without any specification regarding type or content. These are found in the 1600/1 account as 'apothecary wares and other small trifles'

Apples (Text: appuls): Found by the barrel, which according to the 1582 rates book, contains three bushels.

Barrel

Found in the 1600/1 account, paying 2d. custom per barrel, so valued at 3s. 4d. for customs purposes. According to the 1582 rates book, a barrel contains 3 bushels. The book lists 'Appuls the barrel' at 12d. and also 'Appuls called pippins or reinets' at 3s per barrel. Reinets are dessert apples of French origin.⁴¹

Aquavitae (Text: aqua vyta): a generic name for various types of strong distilled alcohol.

Kilderkin/ Barrel/Tun

Found in the 1525/6 account at 20s. per barrel, 13s. 4d. per kilderkin and £10 13s. 4d. per tun. The 1582 rates

⁴⁰ T.S. Willan (ed), *A Tudor Book of Rates* (Manchester, 1962) p. 4.

⁴¹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 4.

book lists aquavitae at 40s. per barrel. It is found at this value in the 1594/5 account.

Arridence: Unidentified.

Dozen

Found in the 1594/5 account valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen.

Argol (Text: argall, archoll): Bitartrate of potassium, a plant acid formed as a by-product of wine-making, which when purified becomes cream of tartar. There is a difficulty with identifying this for certain as 'orchil' is often written in a similar fashion and is exactly the same value in the later accounts.

Lb

This is found in the 1594/5 account at the same value as in the rates book.

Arrow Heads: The head or pointed part of an arrow.

C

Found in the 1594/5 account, where a C (100?) pays an ob. custom, so valued at around 10d. per C.

Arsenic (Text: arsenyck): Name of one of the chemical elements, and of some of its compounds, which are violent poisons⁷. It was used as a poison for vermin and was also adapted for medicinal use, for example to treat skin diseases.⁴²

It is found being exported to Ireland at 5d. per lb in 1576. It is also listed in the 1582 rates book at this value. The book confirms that a C equals 100 lbs.

Artisons: Unidentified. Found by the pair as an export from Bristol to Ireland in 1563.

Ashes, Ore: Possibly ashes from lead ore.

Ton

These are found as an export to Ireland in 1564, valued at 3s. 4d. per ton.

⁴² 'Arango - Artillery', *Dictionary of Traded Goods and Commodities, 1550/1820* (2007). URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58689&strquery=arsenic>, accessed 16 October 2008.

Ashes, Soap: Ashes from burnt wood, which provided the alkaline base for soap.

Ton

The 1582 rates book lists 'Ashes called wood or sope Ashes the last containing xii barrels' at £3. Soap ashes are found in the 1563/4 account valued at 20s. per ton. These are also sometimes called 'lies' or lye ashes, such as in the 1503/4 account, which has lye ashes at 6s. 8d. per hogshead.

Awl Blades (Text: alblades): an awl is a small tool with a slender, cylindrical, tapering, sharp-pointed blade, with which holes may be pierced. (OED)

C (presumably pieces)

These are common in the account from the later century. They are found in the 1600/1 and 1594/5 accounts usually paying an ob. Custom per C, so valued at around 10d. or lower per C (probably 8d. as in rates book). The 1582 rates book has 'Aule blades called blades for aules the M' valued at 6s. 8d., which works out at 8d. per C. They are found at this value in 1563/4 also.

Awl Hafts: Handles for awles.

Dozen (pieces)

Found in the 1582 rates book at 8s. per M. They occur by the dozen (presumably pieces) in the accounts, paying a qr. or ob. custom per dozen, so approximately 5-10d. value per dozen.

B

Bacon: Found by the flitch (see below flitch).

Found in the 1503/4 account, valued at 1s. 8d. per 'flege'.

Balances: A device used for weighing goods. Both gold balances and 'unce' balances are found in the 1582 rates book.

Dozen (presumably pieces), sort (4 dozen), gross.

Balances are found in the 1540s, usually valued at 1s. 8d. per dozen, and small ones at 1s. 3d. per dozen. In the 1595-5 account a dozen pairs of balances pay 8d. custom and are therefore valued at 13s. 4d.

Balches: Possibly belts. These are found in the 1575/6 account and are valued at 1s. (12 s. per dozen). There is also an entry in this account for 'balches and lins', also unidentified. Medieval Latin balcheus/balteus could be a belt for a crossbow or a military belt.

Bale: A package of woad, alum, almonds etc., capacity varying with the commodity.

Balette: Measurement usually of woad; equalling approximately half a bale.

Bands, Coarse Cyprus: Neck-bands, or collars for shirts. These ones are presumably made from a coarse Cyprus cloth. Dozen

They are found in 1594/5 paying 3d. per dozen custom (5s. value)

Bands, Falling: Unstiffened collars, which were draped over the shoulders of the doublet, or, according to the OED: 'The development of a falling collar into a pair of strips hanging down in front, as part of a conventional dress, clerical, legal, or academical'.

Dozen

These are found in the 1594/5 account paying 2d. custom per dozen (valued at 3s. 4d.) and in the 1600/1 account paying 1d. custom per dozen (20d. value). They are not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Barley (Lat.: hordeum; Text: ordeum, orde): usually found by the wey.

1 wey = 6 quarters = 48 bushels (bushel = 64 pints)

Found in the 1545/6 account at 16s. 8d. per wey. Sometimes listed with malt or beans.

Found also in the 1575/6 account paying 4s. custom per wey. (See below notes re: malt)

Barrel: A cask; a measure of capacity which varies with the commodity. There are twelve barrels of herring to a last and eight barrels of wine and oil to a tun.

Barrels, Lear: Unidentified. They occur in the 1545/6 account, valued at 8s. 4d. per last.

Bastard: Sweet Spanish Wine.

Battery (Text: batry): Metal, or articles of metal, especially of brass or copper, wrought by hammering. (OED)

Lb

The 1507 list values 'bartry ware at 26s. 8d. per C'. It is found in the 1516/17 and 1525/6 accounts at 40s. per C.

The 1550/1 account has entries for battery at both 33s. 4d. and 40s. per lb, all of which is being exported to Ireland. The rates for battery don't seem to increase in the revised rates books. The 1582 book lists 'battery or kettles the C. containing v.xx x11 li' at 40s. It is found at this value in 1575/6 and in 1594/5.

Beads (Beds)

Dozen (presumably lbs)

The accounts contain beads of various types. This is indicated by the fact that the 1540s accounts lists beads at values varying from 1d. to 6.5d per dozen. The 1507 book values 'bedes' at 6d. the small grosse, a lower sum and the type is not specified. This duty may even refer to strings of rosary beads. The 1582 rates book has listings for bone, box, wood and crystal beads. The accounts also contain bugle and amber beads.

Beads, Amber (Text: beds): Amber is a yellowish translucent fossil resin, found chiefly along the southern shores of the Baltic.

Amber beads occur in the 1575/6 account, listed as one small barrel containing 50 lb and valued at £33 6s. 8d. (ie. 13s. 4d. per lb) This is clearly an expensive bead as the most expensive listed in the 1582 rates book are crystal beads at 40s. per M

Beads, Bugle (Text: bugle): Tube shaped, usually black bead, used in ornamental garments. (OED)

Gross

Found in the 1600/1 account, paying 2d. custom for 12 M, valued therefore at around 3d. per M.

Beans (Lat.: fabarum; Text: fabar')

1 wey = 6 quarters = 48 bushels (bushel = 64 pints)

Valued in the accounts, prior to the rates revision, at 16s. 8d. per wey. Beans are often listed with malt as they share the same value. (See below malt)

Bed Cord: A cord for stretching the sacking of a bed. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at around 5s. per dozen in 1600/1, based on customs payments.

Bed Tick (Text: tiecke): A large flat quadrangular bag or case, into which feathers, hair, straw, chaff, or other substances are put to form a bed.

Piece

Found in the 1600/1 account, valued at 10s. per piece (ie. 6d. custom)

Beef: Shipped by the barrel and probably salted.

Valued at 5s. per barrel prior to the rates revision. It is listed in the 1582 rates book (rates outwards) at 20s. per barrel.

Beerer: Possibly refers to Beer eger which is sour beer or vinegar, made from beer.

Found in the 1550/1 account valued at 40s., possibly per tun.

Bellows: An instrument or machine constructed to furnish a strong blast of air. (OED)

These occur in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts paying either an ob. or 1d. custom per pair. They are valued therefore at between 10d. and 20d. per pair. This perhaps relates to different sizes or types of bellows.

Bells (Lat. & Text: campanam):

The 1582 rates book lists hawk, morris, horse and sacring bells. Those listed below are found in the accounts.

Bells, Hawk

Dozen

Valued at 1s. per dozen in the 1575/6 account.

Bells, Sheep

Piece

Valued at 20d. per dozen in the 1575/6 account

Bells, Sparrow-Hawk

Pair

Valued at 2d. per pair in 1575/6.

Bells, Tassel: Probably hanging bells on a cord or fringe.

Pair

Found in the 1575/6 account, valued at 2s. per dozen pairs.

Benedict Laxative: Generic term for various types of mild laxatives. (OED)

Lb

It occurs in the 1600/1 account, valued at 2s. 6d. based on custom payments. This does not occur in the 1582 rates book.

Bibs (Text: bibbes): A cloth placed under a child's chin, to keep the front of the dress clean, esp. at meals. A similar article worn over the breast by adults, frequently as the upper part of an apron. (OED)

Dozen

These are found in the 1575/6 account, valued at 6d. per dozen and in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts, usually paying an ob. custom per dozen, so probably at the same value (5d.-10d.) also found in the accounts are sucking bibs and bibs described as being specifically for children.

Biscuit (Text: biskett): A kind of crisp dry bread more or less hard, prepared generally in thin flat cakes.

Lb

This occurs in the 1575/6 account and is valued at 20d. per lb. It is not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Bice (Text: bise): A term applied to the pigments, blue bice and green bice, and the shades of blue or green which they yield. Willan describes it as 'a pigment which yields a dull blue colour, prepared from smalt'.⁴³ According to the *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, the blue pigment was in the nineteenth century prepared from smalt, but in the seventeenth it was a product of azurite, then known as lapis Armenius and the term green bice

⁴³ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 8.

had been applied in the seventeenth century to malachite, but by the nineteenth it was also made from smalt by adding yellow Orpiment [Harley (1970)].⁴⁴

Lb

Bit: Metal mouthpiece attached to a horse's bridle.

Dozen

Found in the 1594/5 account as an export to Ireland. An act in 1563 'for avoiding of dyversforreyne wares made by handye craftsmen beyonde the seas' prohibited the import of a range of manufactured goods, including bits, in an effort to protect native industry.⁴⁵ Bits pay 2d. custom per dozen in 1594/5 so are valued therefore at 3s. 4d.

Blankets (Text: coveringe, coverlettes, cadowes) Found in the transcription as they appear in the accounts, ie. caddows, blankets etc.

Blankets are specified as grey or white and there are also un- specified types. They are valued at 10s.. per piece in the later accounts.

Blockwood (Text: logwood): The heartwood of an American tree used in dyeing; so called from being imported in the form of logs. It is used to some extent in medicine as an astringent. (OED)

C

It is found in the 1594/5 account valued at 10s. per C, based on custom payments.

Bole Armeniac (Text: bolearmeic): An astringent earth used as antidote and styptic⁴⁶

Lb

It is found in the 1575/6 account valued at both 2d. and 1d. ob. per lb. The rates book lists 'Bole Armoniack the C. containing v.xx xii li' at 20s. and also 'Boleus Armenus the pound' at 12d., which despite the difference in valuations, Willan states are the same thing. The Bole armeniac found in the 1575/6 account matches the value of the 'Bole Armoniack' of the rates book.

Bolt: A roll of woven fabric: generally of a definite length; depending on the fabric type.

⁴⁴ 'Bice - Bitter almond', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58699>, accessed 16 October 2008

⁴⁵ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 1.

⁴⁶ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 9.

Bombas: This may be related to bombasine, which is a twilled dress material composed of silk and worsted, cotton and worsted or worsted alone.⁴⁷ In the accounts however, it is found by the lb not by the yard. It may therefore be a thread made from the same material.

Lb

The 1582 book lists 'bumbazine' by the piece containing 20 yards. Bombas occurs in the 1594/5 account at 5s. per dozen lbs based on custom payments.

Books: In the Bristol accounts books, without exception, are found as exports to Ireland. In the first half of the century, the only books found in the accounts are 'primers'. The 1575/6 account contains two entries for books, one for primers and one for 'books for children' (pro pueris). It is not until 1594/5 and 1600/1 that a greater variety is seen, with the appearance of fable books, 'books of the School of Virtue', small books, small books for children, grammar books, horn books and also 'Catoes and Pueriles'.

Books, Catoes and Pueriles: Catoes refers to the classical works of Cato which were used in schools and Pueriles is Ewaldus Gallus's *Pueriles confabulatiunculae*, which Gillespie suggests was probably in translation by Leonhard Culmann and was used to teach Latin to those too young for longer *Colloquies*⁴⁸

Books, for Children: Type unspecified.

Piece

Valued at around 5d. each in 1575/6

Books, Grammar: There is a large variation in values for these, suggesting different types and qualities or sizes of the books.

Dozen

Found in 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts, where they occur valued at 3s. 4d. to 10s. per dozen, based on custom payments.

Books, Horn (Text: horne boks): A leaf of paper containing the alphabet (often with the addition of the ten digits, some elements of spelling, and the Lord's Prayer) protected by a thin plate of translucent horn, and

⁴⁷ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 11.

⁴⁸ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 6.

mounted on a tablet of wood with a projecting piece for a handle.

Dozen

These pay around an ob. custom per dozen in the later accounts, so valued at only around 10d.

Books, Primers (Text: primmers): A prayer book or devotional manual for the use of lay people but the books were also used in teaching reading; and there may have been from early times forms of them specially intended for this purpose. Printed books of this sort became common in the sixteenth century. The OED quotes a primer from c1537 that has a section containing the ABC, followed by the Pater Noster, Ave Maria, Creed, Decalogue, forms of Grace before and after meals, and certain prayers and states that smaller works containing the part for children only, (probably the ‘small books for children’ found in the later accounts), began to be officially published in 1545, under the title of *The A.B.C.*

Dozen

The 1507 rates book lists ‘prynted primers the dossen’ at 20d. The values listed in the accounts vary from 1 to 2 s. per dozen, again, like grammar books above, suggesting different types and qualities of primers.

Books, School of Virtue: Francis Seager’s *School of Virtue* was first published in England in the 1550s and was a didactic work for children on morals, religion and social behaviour. It was illustrated by woodcuts.⁴⁹

Dozen

Found at 20d. per dozen in 1594/5 and at 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1600/1.

Borax (Text: boras, borate): A white chemical powder - used as a solder by gold / silver smiths. It probably had other uses also. (OED)

Lb

Found in the accounts at 13s. 4d. per lb as in the 1582 rates book.

Bornby: Red behen or sea lavender, used in medicine.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ R. Gillespie, ‘The Book Trade in Southern Ireland, 1590-1640’ in Gerard Long (ed), *Books Beyond the Pale: Aspects of the Provincial Book Trade in Ireland Before 1850* (Dublin: Rare Books Group of the Library Association of Ireland, 1996), p. 5.

⁵⁰ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 9.

Lb

Found as an export to Ireland in 1564, valued at 2s. 1d. per lb. The 1582 rates book lists it at 2s. per lb.

Bottles: Various types are found in the accounts, see below.

Bottles, Glass: The 1582 rates book lists glass bottles as being covered, covered with leather and with vices, and uncovered.

Dozen

Found at 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1594/5.

Bottles, Leather: A vessel with a narrow neck for holding liquids, now usually made of glass; originally of leather. (OED)

Dozen

Leather bottles are found in the accounts at values from 6s. 8d. to 10s.. per dozen.

Bottles, Pewter: A grey alloy of tin, originally with about 20 percent lead (and sometimes other elements) used chiefly for ornaments and utensils. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at 12s. per dozen in 1576

Bottles, Sucking: Probably refers to a babies bottle or perhaps for an animal.

Dozen

Valued at around 6d per dozen.

Boultel Bewpers (Text: beaup boultel): Boultel is a kind of cloth used for bolting or sifting flour and bewpers is probably Beaupreau in France.⁵¹

Piece

⁵¹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 9.

The rates book values these at 48s. per dozen pieces. In the 1600/1 account, one piece is valued at 4s. 2d. based on custom payments, which works out around the same value as the rates book.

Bows: Weapon for shooting arrows or similar missiles, consisting of a strip of elastic wood or other material, bent by means of a string stretched between its two ends. (OED)

Pair

Found in 1575/6 valued at 20s. per pair. These are often shipped in their various components, ie. bowstrings and bowstaves.

Bowstaves: Sticks to be made into bows. Found by the bundle, which contains 16 staves.

Found valued at 5s. per bundle in 1550/1 account. These are listed at same value in the 1582 rates book which says that a bundle contains xv1 staves. This confirms that bowstaves are one of the items whose value remained unchanged after the 1558 rates rise.⁵²

The 1582 book values 'bowstaves the bundle containing xvi staves' 5s.

Bowstrings: Found by the gross, presumably pieces.

Found in the 1525/6 account, valued at 2s. per gross and in the 1575/6 account at 3s. per gross.

Boxes

Dozen

Boxes of unspecified variety are found in the 1594/5 account valued at around 20d. per dozen, based on custom payments.

Boxes, Black

Dozen

Valued in the 1600/1 account at around 10d. per dozen.

Boxes, Nest

⁵² Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. xxviii.

The OED has two definitions; a box containing similar boxes of graduated sizes packed together and also a box provided for a bird, etc., to make its nest in. The nest of boxes in the accounts are likely to be the former as the latter is a more recent term and it is also common to find other items by the nest in the accounts, such as tables.

Found in 1600/1 paying a qr. custom per nest, so valued at or less than 5d. each. The 1582 book lists 'Nest boxes the gross' at 6s. 8d. These have been entered in the database as 2 nest of boxes or 2 nests of painted boxes as that is how they appear in the accounts as opposed to being called 'nest boxes' as in the rates book.

Boxes, Painted

Piece/Nest

Value varies, found in 1575/6 at 8d. and 10d. per piece. These are also found by the nest and pay an ob. custom per nest in 1600/1.

Box-Staves (Text: bokk staves): Lengths of wood used to make a box. Presumably the price varied according to size as those listed in the accounts are of varying values. Not listed in the 1582 rates book.

C

Presumably price varied according to size as those listed in the accounts are valued at both 12s. and 40s. per C. Not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Bracelet (Text: braslets): Could refer to an ornamental ring or band worn on the arm or wrist or also a hand-cuff for the wrist. It occurs being shipped by the dicker which probably refers to ten bracelets. There is an example of necklaces being shipped by the dicker in Zupko's dictionary of weights and measures.⁵³

Dicker

Brasers: This could be a type of brazier, a large flat pan or tray for holding burning charcoal, etc. but the value in 1563, at 15d. per dozen seems too low for this.

Brass, Broken: Valued by the lb.

Valued at 1d. per lb in the 1540s accounts.

⁵³ R.E. Zupko, *A Dictionary of English Weights and Measures from Anglo-Saxon Times to the Nineteenth Century* (Madison, 1968) p. 107.

Brushes, Heath (Text: brushes, bruches): Brushes made of something like heather . The term ‘heath’ according to the OED was applied quite vaguely.

Dozen

Listed in the 1582 rates book at 18d. per dozen and found in the later accounts paying 1d. custom per dozen, so probably at the same value. The rates book also lists fine heath brushes at 3s. 4d. per dozen.

Brushes, Rubbing: A hard brush used for rubbing. There are two sorts listed in the 1582 rates book, ‘heare’ and ‘heath’.⁵⁴ Found described simply as rubbing brushes in the 1594/5 account.

They pay an ob. custom per dozen.

Brushes, Small: Possibly of a finer quality than the coarse heath brushes as they are more expensive.

Dozen

These are found in the 1575/6 account valued at 4s. per dozen.

Buckles, Unspecified:

Gross

Valued at 3s. 4d. per gross in 1575/6 and found in 1600/1 paying 1d. custom per gross (value around 20d.). This suggests that different types were sometimes listed in the accounts simply as ‘buckles’

Buckles, Boot

Gross

Valued at 20d. per gross in 1575/6.

Buckles, Girth: A belt or band of leather or cloth, placed round the body of a horse or other beast of burden and drawn tight, so as to secure a saddle, pack, etc. upon its back.

⁵⁴ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 11.

Gross

These are valued at 20d. per gross in 1575/6. These are found paying varying amounts of custom in the 1600/1 account, suggesting different types, probably depending on the type and size of girth.

Burden: A load, a varying measure of quantity.

Buskin: Knee or calf length boot made of leather or cloth. The accounts also list Spanish Bushkins.

Pair

Found in the 1550/1 account at 2s. per pair for buskins described as Spanish. Buskins of an unspecified type are valued at 20d. per pair. These are presumably cloth and not leather.

Butt: Measure of wine, fish etc., equal to a pipe.

Butter (Text: buttir)

Barrel

Found at 10s. per barrel in 1525/6. It is listed at 30s. per barrel in the 1582 rates book. There is one example of butter in the later account, in 1600/1, but as it is allowed for provision no value is available.

Buttons, Unspecified

Gross

Valued at 2s. per gross in the 1540s.

Buttons, Brass

Gross

Valued at 20s. per gross in 1575/6.

Buttons, Glass

Gross

Valued at 4s. per gross in 1575/6.

Buttons, Hair

Gross

Six gross of these pay just 1d. custom in the 1600/1 account, so they have a very low value.

Buttons, Pewter

Gross

Found in the 1594/5 account, pays an ob. custom per gross.

Buttons, Scottish

Gross

Found in the 1594/5 account, pays 1d. custom per gross.

Buttons, Shell

Gross

Found in the 1594/5 account, pays an ob. custom per gross.

Buttons, Silk

Gross

Valued at 10s. per gross in 1575/6. This is presumably a great gross containing 24 small gross based on the value, which is the same as the 1582 rates book.

Buttons, Steel

Gross

Valued at 13s. 4d. per gross in 1575/6. The 1582 rates book values buttons of 'steel, copper, tin or latton for jerkins the groce' at 13s. 4d.

Buttons, Thread

Gross

Found at 1d. per dozen in 1563/4 and at 2s. 6d. per gross in 1575/6. In the 1600/1 account, thread buttons are found paying a qr., an ob. and 1d. custom, suggesting different types, probably depending on the quality of thread used. The 1582 rates book just lists 'buttons of thread the great gross containing xxiiii small gross' at 2s. 6d. Great grosses are found in this value in the 1600/1 account.

C

C (Lat.: centum, centenarium):

(a) a hundredweight; according to Carus-Wilson, when reckoning "great wares" ie. woad, alum etc., C equals 112 lbs and when reckoning "subtle wares", ie. saffron, it equals 100 lbs.

(b) C can also mean a 'long hundred' of 120 pieces, for example with fish and sheep skins or a hundred of 100 ells when looking at certain cloths.

In practice it is often possible to work out how many pieces or lbs to the C for various commodities, based on a comparative study of values over the course of the century.

Cable & Ropes: Presumably traded in varying thickness and lengths. The 1582 book lists both tarred and un-tarred varieties by the C, containing 112 lb.

Found on one occasion in the 1540s, valued at £2 18s.

Caddow (Text: cade, cadowe, coverlette, coveringe): Shipped in bundles and occurring only in the later century from Ireland, these are a type of rough covering or blanket. They are the same or similar to 'coveringes' and 'coverlettes' and are found at the same value.

Piece

Cake: Mass or concretion of any solidified or compressed substance in a flattened form, as a cake of soap, wax,

etc. (OED). Rosin is found by the cake in the accounts.

Calamine: Zinc ore used in making brass alloy.

Lb

Found in the 1525/6 account at 5d. per lb.

Calx (calce): Term of the alchemists and early chemists for a powder or friable substance produced by thoroughly burning or roasting ('calcining') a mineral or metal, so as to consume or drive off all its volatile parts, as lime is burned in a kiln. (OED)

Last/ton

It is found in 1503/4 at 2s. 6d. per ton and in 1575/6 at 3s. per last. The 1575/6 account also lists calx vive at 2s. per ton.

Calx Vive: Quick-lime (OED)

Ton

The 1575/6 account also lists calx vive at 2s. per ton.

Camphor (Text: camphere): A whitish translucent crystalline volatile substance, belonging chemically to the vegetable oils, and having a bitter aromatic taste and a strong characteristic smell: used in pharmacy, and formerly reputed as an aphrodisiac.

Lb

Found at 3s. 4d. in the 1516/17 account. The 1582 rates book lists 'campher the pound' at 8s.

Camphor Wood: 'Camphor is prepared by distillation and sublimation from *Camphora officinarum* (*Laurus Camphora*), a tree indigenous to Java, Sumatra, Japan, etc., and from other lauraceous trees'. (OED) This is most likely to be unprocessed camphor.

C

Camphor wood is not listed in the 1582 rates book but occurs in the 1600/1 account, valued at 33s. 4d. per C. It

is much less expensive than camphor, as listed in the book, most likely because it is unprocessed.

Candarn, Bomy: Unidentified.

C

Found in the 1540s valued at 8d. per C. (lbs?)

Candles, Searing: Unidentified.

Lb

Valued at around 6s. 8d. per dozen lbs in the 1600/1 account. These are not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Candles, Wax:

Dozen

These are valued at 10s. per dozen in 1594/5 based on custom payments.

Candle Wicks:

Dozen (lbs)/Pack/C

Found in the 1600/1 account, paying 1d. custom per dozen lbs, so valued at or around 20d. The 1582 book lists candle wicks by the pack containing 30 C and by the C containing 112 lbs at £13 6s. 8d. and 13s. 4d. respectively. This may be an error as it would mean packs weighing 3360 lb, or a ton and a half, which seems very heavy for a pack of candlewicks.

Candlesticks: Both pewter and brass types occur in the accounts.

Piece

The 1582 rates book lists candlesticks small and great by the dozen, at 3s. 4d. and 10s. respectively. Prices vary in the accounts for unspecified types of candlesticks, they are for example 12s. per dozen in 1575/6. This may be a pewter candlestick as these are found at that value in the same account.

Canes: There are a number of possibilities for the meaning of this. It could be actual cane stems. The term

'cane' however was also used for darts or lances made from cane (OED). The 1582 book, lists 'canes of wood' valued at 10s. for a 'shock' of sixty pieces, which Willan suggests are wooden drinking vessels. Interestingly, in the 1550 account, there is also a listing for 'Caens' so perhaps they could also be 'caen stones' which were building stones from Caen in Normandy.

Canes in the accounts are recorded at 5d. per C in the 1540s and at 18d. per C in 1550.

Cannells and Tapes: Most likely from *Canel*: 'A pipe or tube; a tap for a cask' (OED). See below 'Tapes and Cannells'.

Canikin (Text: canykine): Small drinking vessels.

Valued at 10s.. in 1594/5. Quantity unknown.

Capers: Shrub (*Capparis spinosa*) abundant on walls and rocky places in the South of Europe. The flower-buds are gathered for pickling. (OED)

C

Found in the 1545/6 account, valued at 10s. per C.

Caps (Lat.: pilium, pillius; Text: pils', piliors): 'Pils' occur frequently in the accounts. The fact that they occur described as 'pro-noctibus' and 'pro pueris', just as caps do, and at the same value, suggests that they are the same thing.

Cap-Cases: Travelling-case, bag, or wallet.

Piece

Found in the 1594/5 account, valued at around 20d. per piece.

Cap-Case Locks: Locks for the above.

Dozen

These are found at a value of around 20d. per dozen in 1595.

Cap-Hooks: Unidentified.

Caps, Monmouth: A kind of round knitted woollen cap, which was often worn by soldiers and sailors.

Dozen

Valued at 10s. per dozen in 1600/1.

Caps, Night:

Dozen

Found in the 1540s valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen for unspecified types, and at 4s. for cloth, 5s. for woollen, 16s. for velvet or satin. The 1582 book lists nightcaps by the dozen. Prices similarly vary according to the material: 4s. for linen, 10s. for woollen, 30s. for velvet.

Caps, Velvet:

Piece

Valued at 5s. each in 1575/6

Cards, Hand: These may be playing cards.

Dozen

Found in the 1594/5 account at around 10d. per dozen

Carpeting: Found by the yard. It is probably material for carpets or a carpet-like covering.

Yard

Found in the 1600/1 account, where 4 yards pays 2d. custom, and so is valued at around 3s. 4d.

Case: Measurement for glass.

Cashe: Same as a chest (of sugar).

Cassia Fistula: A laxative derived from ‘a wide variety of trees that produce senna leaves and cassia pods’.⁵⁵

Dozen (presumably lbs)

It is found in the 1525/6 account valued at £3 per C.

Cast M[]lions: Unidentified. An Irish export in 1563/4.

Unit unknown

Occurs in the 1563 account, valued at 6s. 8d.

Cathurhisin : Unidentified.

Dozen

Found in the 1575/6 account, valued at 12d. per dozen.

Cauls (Text: cales): A kind of close-fitting cap, worn by women: a net for the hair; a netted cap or head-dress, often richly ornamented. (OED)

Cauls, for Children (Text: cales): A childrens version of the caul.

Cauldrons of Brass (Text: cawdrone de bras): Large kettle or boiler.

Piece

Valued at 5s. per piece in the 1540s

Ceruse (Text: serry, seurfets): White lead used in medicine and ointment.⁵⁶

Lb

Listed as ‘seurfets’ in 1550, when it is valued at 1d. per lb . The 1582 rates book lists it at 2d. per lb. It occurs in the 1575/6 account at this value.

⁵⁵ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 15.

⁵⁶ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 52.

Chalk: A white soft earthy limestone, burned for lime, and prepared for writing or marking on blackboards or other dark surfaces.

C

This occurs in the 1594/5 account, valued at around 20d. per C. It not listed in 1582 book.

Chappines, for womens slippers of gilt and leather: Unidentified.

Pair

Found in 1595, valued at around 5d. ob. per pair based on custom payments.

Check: The meaning of this is uncertain, as the only other known ‘Check’ is Irish cloth. This commodity however is always seen as an export to Ireland. It could perhaps be a type of woollen thread or perhaps refers to ‘chack’ which is the wheat ear and is sometimes recorded as check. (OED)

Lb

It occurs in the 1563 account at 12d. per lb.

Cheese (Lat.: caseus; Text: cas’, casuor’):⁵⁷

Pipe/wey/hogshead

Valued at 33s. 4d. for 2 pipes and a hogshead in the 1516/17 account.

Chest (Text: cist): Found by the nest, which is three pieces and by the piece at varying prices, suggesting differing quality or sizes, although the rates book for 1582 gives just one value of 13s. 4d. per nest.

Chest: Variable measurement of sugar. In the pre-1558 accounts a chest equals 120 lbs and later the accounts specify that a chest contains 3C.

Chestone: A species of plum (OED). Found by the ‘modul’ which is an unknown unit of measurement.

Modul (?)

Valued at 5d. per *modul* in 1516.

⁵⁷ Probably an error for *caseorum*.

Chisels: Hand tool used to cut or shape wood, metal or stone.

Dozen

Found at 18d. per dozen in 1576.

Cider: (Text: sider) Beverage made from the juice of apples expressed and fermented.

Tun

Found in the 1594/5 account at a value of 20s. per tun, based on poundage.

Cinnamon (Lat.: cinnamum; Text: cannel or cynamon): The inner bark of an East Indian tree, dried in the sun, in rolls or 'quills', and used as a spice (OED)

Lb

This is a common entry throughout all the accounts. In the accounts prior to 1558, this is valued at 2s. 6d. per lb. It is found in 1563/4 at 4s. per lb. The 1582 rates book lists 'Sinamon the c. containing v.xx li at £20' and also at 4s. per lb. It is found in the accounts at these values.

Cloth: See below for full cloth glossary.

Clout: A piece of cloth containing a certain number of pins or needles.

Cloves: Dried flower-bud of *Caryophyllus aromaticus*, used as a pungent aromatic spice. Often listed with ginger and mace, as they are spices of the same value.

Lb

The 1507 book values cloves at £12 10s. the 'c wyte', which would work out at c. 2s. 3d. per lb.

Cloves are found in the accounts from 1516 to 1551 at 2s. 6d. per lb.

They are listed at 5 s. per lb and at £25 per C (120 lbs.) in 1582. They are found at £25 per C in 1575/6, but a cwt here seems to be less than 120 lbs. as 120lbs. is valued at 30s.

They are found at both 3s. 4d. and 5s. per lb in 1594/5 and at 5s per lb in 1600/1, based on customs payments.

Cloves are often listed with ginger and mace, because they are all spices of the same value.

Coal (Text: carbon', coales): Carbonum can refer to charcoal as well as mineral coal. Since Bristol was a producer of mineral coal in this period, it seems likely that imported carbon refers to charcoal. The 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts list coal (coales) being exported from Bristol. This is probably the same as the 'smith coal' which is listed in the 1563/4 and 1575/6 accounts at the same value.

Wey or Last (4 weys = 1 last)

Valued at 3s. 4d. per wey in the accounts from the first half of the century.

The 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts list coal (coales) being exported from Bristol. This coal is valued at 6s. 8d. per wey.

Coffers: (Text: cofers) A box or chest in which money or valuables are kept.

Nest

Found in the 1550/1 account at 6s. 8d. per nest. They are also listed in the 1582 book at this value. The rates book lists various types; cofers with iron bars, plain cofers, cofers covered with guilt leather, painted cofers and cofers covered in velvet

Coifs, Velvet: Close-fitting cap.

Piece

Found in the 1540s at 2s. 6d. per piece.

Combs (Lat.: pecten; Text: pect'):

Dozen

Combs are valued in the earlier accounts from 2d to 6d. per dozen. The 1582 book gives the values of various types of combs. The accounts have bone combs, halfpenny and penny combs, old combs, wooden combs (most common) and ivory combs (lb).

Comb-Cases: Case to keep a combs in.

Gross

Valued at 2s. 6d. per gross in 1516/17

Comfits (confets, comfickes): Sweetmeat made of fruit, root, etc., preserved with sugar.

Lb

Comfits of an unspecified type are found in the 1575/6 and 1594/5 accounts at 12d. per lb. They are listed in the 1582 rates book at this value.

Comfits, Spiced

Lb

Found in the 1575/6 account, valued at 2s. 6d. per lb.

Comfits, Sugar

C (lb)

Found in the 1550/1 account, valued at 10s. per C.

Conserves: Medicinal or confectionary preparation of some part of a plant (as the flowers, leaves, roots, fruit) preserved with sugar.

C (presumably 112 or 120lbs.)

Found in the 1540s at 20s. per C

Copperas: Most commonly applied to *green copperas*, the proto-sulphate of iron or ferrous sulphate, also called *green vitriol*, used in dyeing, tanning, and making ink. (OED)

Lb

The 1582 book lists Copperas white at 4d. per lb and Copperas green at 10s.. per C

It is found in the 1594/5 account paying a qr. custom per lb.

Coral (corall): Relates to *red coral*, an arborescent species, found in the Red Sea and Mediterranean, prized from times of antiquity for ornamental purposes, and often classed among precious stones. (OED) Found by the 'mast' in the rates book.

Mast

Red or white

Listed in the 1582 book at 20s. per mast

This is found in the 1591/2 account, listed with an unknown unit of measurement-value unavailable.

Cord: A widely applied name which could refer to the ropes of a ship, the string of a bow, etc. It was also applied to strands of wire twisted or woven together.

C

Found at 10s. per c in 1503/4.

Cord, Purse: Possibly a purse made from a ribbed fabric or perhaps cord used to tie a purse.

Dozen (yards or pieces?)

Found in the 1540s at 8d. per dozen.

Coriander (colliand): This presumably refers to coriander seeds.

Lb

Found in the 1575/6 accounts, valued at 1s. per lb

Cork (core): *Corc nigri* is presumably black cork. Also recorded in the accounts are red and white *core*. The OED defines cork as a purple or red dye-stuff obtained from certain lichens growing on rocks in Scotland and the north of England. It notes the 1483 statute of 1 Ric. III cap.8 which refers to the use of orchil or cork called 'Jarecork' for dyeing. Also found in the OED under litmus (a blue colouring matter, obtained from various lichens) is a reference to 'Lytmos otherwise called white Corke' from 1518.⁵⁸

Dozen

The 1507 book talks of cork by the bundle or C but does not give a value.

The 1503/4 account has entries for *core nigri*. This black cork is valued by the dozen at 1s. 8d. per dozen. The account also has entries for red cork and white cork at 1s. per stone and at 3s. 4d. per c, respectively. The 1516/17 account also lists these varieties of 'core' at the same values. The 1525/6 account has an entry of 'cers for botts' which has been translated as cork for bottles, although this may be a mistranslation. This is valued at

⁵⁸ Many thanks to Professor Wendy Childs (Leeds) for drawing our attention to this definition for cork.

the more expensive price of 4s. 2d. per dozen. There is one entry in the 1540s accounts (1541) for cork at 1s. 8d. per dozen and none again in the accounts until 1594/5 where it is found at 6s. 8d. per C, which makes sense as its double the figure found in the earlier accounts.

The 1582 book lists cork for dyers sold by the barrel at 5s. per barrel and also shoemakers cork at 4s. per dozen, which doesn't fit with any of the cork found in the accounts in terms of value or unit of measurement.

Cotton Wool: Cotton in its raw and woolly state, as gathered from the bolls of the plant; raw cotton.

C

Found in the 1563/4 and 1575/6 accounts, valued at £3 6s. 8d. per C. The 1582 rates book lists it at 8d. per sack as an export

Counters: A 'nest' of counters is presumably 3 counting tables.

Nest

They are found in the 1550/1 account valued at 20s. per nest. These are found in the 1582 rates book at 26s. 8d. per nest of three.

Counters, Latten, White and Yellow: Those listed by the lb, are the counters used on a counting table.

Lb

Three varieties are found in the 1575/6 account, latten, white and yellow. The latten and yellow counters are valued at 10d. per lb and the white are slightly less at 6.66d. per lb. The 1582 rates book has counters of latten the lb at 12d.

Coveringe/Coverlette: See *Caddow* above.

Crab-Locks: A crab can be a 'portable machine for raising weights, etc., consisting of a frame with a horizontal barrel on which a chain or rope is wound by means of handles and gearing. (OED) Therefore a crablock may be a device used to secure the machine etc.

Dozen

These are quite common in the accounts. They are found in the 1540s at 1s. 6d. per dozen and in 1563/4 at 3s.

4d. per dozen and they also turn up in 1594/5 and 1600/1 paying 1d. custom per dozen and so valued at or less than 20d. per dozen. Presumably value varied depending on size etc.

Crewel (Text: cruell): A worsted yarn.

Lb

Common in the accounts of the later century, as are objects made from it.

The 1582 book lists crewel at 16s. 8d. per dozen lb. It is found at a considerably higher value in 1575/6 at 5s. per lb, along with red crewel at 20d. per lb. Crewel occurs in the 1600/1 account paying 12d. custom per dozen lbs, so around 20s. value. Cadiz Crewel is found in this account also valued at around 5s. per dozen (?) pieces. The 1594/5 account has entries for French Crewel paying various amounts of custom which makes it difficult to establish the value.

Crewel Fringe (Text: frenge): Fringe is; 'an ornamental bordering, consisting of a narrow band to which are attached threads of silk, cotton, etc., either loose or formed into tassels, twists, etc.'(OED).

Lb

It is found at 4d. per lb in the 1575/6 account, and occurs paying 1d. custom per lb in 1600/1, so is probably valued slightly higher.

Cribb: 'A Load of Glass is two Kribbs; a Krib is 100 or 150 Foot of cut Glass'. (OED)

Crossbow Thread (Text: crossbowtird, crossbowthred): thread or twine used on a crossbow.

Lb

Valued at 3d. per lb in the 1540s and at 5d. per lb in 1563/4 and 1575/6

1582 book lists 'crowbowe thred' at 4d. per lb. The 1600/1 account has an entry for crossbow twine also, which is valued at around 4d. ob. per dozen, which means that it is probably the same thing as the thread.

Cruses, Stone (covered/uncovered): Small earthen vessel for liquids; a pot, jar, or bottle; also a drinking vessel.

Dozen

Valued at around 7d. ob. in 1594/5 for uncovered cruses. In 1575/6 covered stone cruses are valued at twice that

amount (14 d. per dozen).

Cumin (Text: comyn): See cumin seed below.

Bale/dozen

Dozen

Found in the 1600/1 account. These are not listed in the rates book. They are valued at only around 5d. or less per dozen, based on customs payments.

Cups, Earthen: Small open vessel for liquids, which is made of clay.

Dozen

Found in the 1600/1 account. These are not listed in the rates book. They are valued at only around 5d. or less per dozen, based on customs payments.

Cups Mead: Mead is an alcoholic liquor made by fermenting a mixture of honey and water. (OED)

Dozen

These occur in the 1594/5 account paying an ob. custom per dozen, so valued at or less than 10d.

Cups, Wooden (Text: cupes): A small open vessel for liquids, made of wood.

Dozen

Wooden cups are probably valued at twice as much as earthen cups based on customs payments, around 10d. per dozen in 1600/1 and 1594/5

Currants (Text: currands): Raisin or dried fruit prepared from a dwarf seedless variety of grape, grown in the Levant.

Lb

These are found in the 1575/6 account valued at 4d. per lb. Currants are listed in the 1582 book at 30s. per C.

They are found in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts at this value.

Cushions: Case of cloth, silk, etc. stuffed with soft material, used to give support to the body in sitting, reclining, or kneeling. (OED)

Piece

Found in the 1503/4 account, valued at 10s. per dozen pieces.

Cute: New wine boiled down to a certain thickness and sweetened (OED)

Ton

This is found as an import to Bristol (from Ireland) in 1563. It is valued at £6 per ton/tun.

Cutts: They are almost definitely small knives; *cutts* probably being a latin abbreviation for *cultellus*.

Gross

These are a very common entry in the accounts, particularly in the first half of the sixteenth century. Cutts are valued at 3s. 4d. per gross in the first half of the century. They are valued at 5s. per gross in 1563/4 and in 1575/6. The most telling evidence that shows them to be knives is in the 1594/5 account which shows cutts (ob.) or halfpenny cutts at 5s. per gross and cutts (1d.) or penny cutts at 10s. per gross. In the case of the half penny cutts, when the account was cross-examined against the customer account for the same entry, the same object was described as a knife and not a cutt. It is most likely then that cutt is specifically a 'half penny knife', a small penknife. The 1582 rates book values 'knives called pen knives' at 10s. the gross, which must be the penny variety. Further evidence to support this translation is found in the 1575/6 account, where there is an entry for 'cutler cutts' also at 5s per gross.⁵⁹

Cuttlebones: The internal shell of the cuttle-fish, used in medicine as an antacid and absorbent.

C

Found in the 1575/6 account at 1s. per C, found in the 1582 rates book at the higher value of 13s. 4d per M

D

⁵⁹ TNA E190/1129/12 f05v.

Daggers: Various types found in the rates book including; coarse daggers, fine and bone daggers for children and black daggers with velvet sheaths.

Dozen

Found in 1550/1 account, valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen.

Dates (Text: dats,dactyl): Fruit of the date-palm, presumably exported dried.

C (120 lbs)

Found in the 1540s valued at 13s. 4d. per C. The 1582 rates book lists them at 40s. per C and states that there are 120 lbs. in a C.

Dimidium: (Text: Di') Half.

Dials: Type unspecified in the accounts.

Dozen

Found in the 1594/5 account, type unspecified. These pay 1d. custom per dozen. The 1582 rates book lists 'dials of wood' at 12d. per dozen and also 'dials of bone' at 2s. 6d. per dozen.

Diaper Cloth: Textile of linen fabric woven with a small and simple pattern, formed by the different directions of the thread and consisting of lines crossing diamond-wise, with the spaces variously filled up by parallel lines, a central leaf or dot, etc. (OED)

Found in the 1594/5 account, where 11 pieces pay 2s. 1d. custom, valued at approximately 3s. 8d. each. It is not clear if this actually refers to yards rather than to full cloths as the 1582 rates book has diaper cloth by the yard at a rate of 2s. and also diaper table cloths as pieces, containing 20 yards at 40s.

Diaper Napkin: Napkin made with the above fabric.

Piece

The 1582 rates book lists these at 8s. per dozen, they are found at around this value in 1594/5.

Dice: Small cube of ivory, bone, or other material, having its faces marked with spots numbering from one to six, used in games of chance. Listed by the 'bale'.

Dice are found in the 1600/1 account, valued by the bale. Valued at approximately 3d. ob. per bale, based on custom payments (6 bales paid 1d. cutom)

Dice and small ropes for scales

Bale

Six bales of dice and six small ropes for scales are listed together in the 1594/5 account, paying a total custom of 1d. Probably listed together as they are small items of a similar value packaged together.

Dicker (Text: dacra): A measure, particularly of hides. There are ten hides to a dicker.

Dish, Blue Earthen (Text: blewe arthen)

Dozen

Found in the 1591 account, valued at 2s. per dozen.

Dish, Chafing: Vessel to hold burning charcoal or other fuel, for heating anything placed upon it; a portable grate. (OED)

Dish, Iron Chafing: As above.

Piece

Found in the 1600/1 account, paying an ob. custom per piece.

Dishes, Saucers and Basins (basens, dishes, sawcers)

Found together in the 1594/5 account, two large basins and six bundles containing thirty four dishes and saucers had a total value of £6 6s. 8d.

Dish, Painted

Piece

Valued at 5d. per piece in 1550/1.

Dish, White

Chest

Found in the 1591 account, where 1 chest of dishes is valued at 20s.

Doublets, Canvas: An item of clothing used by both sexes. They consisted of a close fitted jacket with an upright collar and short skirt.

Piece

Doublets are found in the 1594/5 account valued at 10s. per piece. These are presumably the ‘doublets of canvas quilted the peece’ of the rates book, valued at this amount. Canvas doublets also occur in the 1575/6 account at 2s. 6d. per piece, which is half the value of canvas doublets in the rates book.

Doublet, Sack Cloth: Sack cloth is similar to canvas.

Doublets made of sack -cloth are found at 3s. 4d. per piece in the 1575/6 account. Sack cloth is similar to canvas.

Drinking Can: Vessel for holding liquids; made of various materials, shapes, and sizes.

Dozen

These occur in the 1600/1 account, paying an ob. per dozen custom, so valued at less than 10d. per dozen. These are not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Drinking Horn: Vessel formed from the horn of a cow or other beast, or shaped after this, for holding liquid.

Dozen

Occurs in the 1594/5 accounts, valued at around 8s. per gross.

Electuary: (Text: electuars) ‘A medicinal conserve or paste, consisting of a powder or other ingredient mixed with honey, preserve, or syrup of some kind’. (OED)

Lb

Valued at 1s. 8d. per lb in 1575/6.

Elephants Tusks (Text: olipante tethe):

C (lb)

The 1582 rates book lists Elephant teeth at £3 6s. 8d. per C, which is equal to 112 lbs. According to Willan, these are Elephant tusks. They are found in 1563/4, 1594/5 and 1600/1 at this value.

Ell: Measurement of cloth, varying in different countries. The Flemish ell equaled 3 quarters of an English yard and five Flemish ells was equal to an English ell.⁶⁰

Falcon (Text: fawcon)

Bird

Valued at 13s. 4d. per bird in the 1540s. These are not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Feathers (fethers): Shipped by the bag. These are probably feathers for beds, as found in the 1507 rates book.

C (112 lbs.)

The 1507 book values 'feathers for beds' at 10s.. per C. Feathers occur at this value in the 1545/6 account as 'fethers'. The account also contains a much more expensive 'plumars' which is presumably down. This is valued at £2 per C

Feathers, Down (Text: plumar'): more expensive than feathers, these are presumably 'down'.

Fell Fomiells: Unidentified. A suggestion is that they may be poultices for wounds etc. as 'fellis' can be translated as poison and 'fomentum' is a poultice or bandage.

Dozen

These are not listed in the rates books. They are found in 1575/6 at 1s. per dozen.

Felts, Black: Felt is a textile made from wool or mixed fibres which are compressed, rolled or fullled to bind them together.⁶¹ Felt was used mainly to make felt hats, and by association the term indicated both hats made of

⁶⁰ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 82.

⁶¹ 'Feather band - Fernambuck', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58762&strquery=felts>, accessed 16 October 2008.

felt and, on occasion, hats in general.

Felts, Childrens:

Dozen

Found in the 1594/5 accounts at 20s. per dozen

Felts, Spanish: Felt hats made from Spanish felt wool.

Dozen

Found in the 1550/1 account, value varies from 6s. 8d. to 10s. per dozen. The 1591 account lists black Spanish felts but no value is available.

Ferars: Probably ferret skins, particularly as they are valued by the dicker.

Dicker

Found in 1503/4 at 2s. 6d. per dicker.

Figs (Lat.: ficus; Text: ficui, fygges): Fruit of the fig-tree or *Ficus*, esp. the fruit of the *Ficus carica* (OED). The accounts also list green figs or *ficni verdi*

Ton/Piece/Sorte (3 pieces = 1 sorte⁶²)

The 1507 book values 'fygges' at 40s. the ton.

Figs are found in the accounts up to the 1550s at 40s. per ton. There appears to be ten sorts in a ton, ie. a sorte is valued at 4s. Although the 1582 rates book lists figs by the sort and piece, they are usually found in the accounts by the ton. According to the rates book there are 100 pieces in a ton, but in the 1600/1 account, there appears to be only 80 pieces.

The value of figs rose dramatically after the rates revision. They are found at £5 per ton in 1575/6 and at the much higher value of £13 6s. 4d. per ton in 1594/5 and 1600/1, as in the 1582 rates book. They are also found at 10s. per barrel in 1600/1. This difference between the 1575/6 and later accounts is noteworthy as according to Willan, there was no real difference between the values of the 1558 rates book and that of 1582.⁶³

⁶² Willan. *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 25.

⁶³ For detailed discussion of the rates rise in 1558 see Willan, pp. xxvi-xliii.

Figs, Green (fici verdi)

Piece/C/Ton

Found at 3s. 4d. per piece in 1550/1.

Files, Small: A metal instrument, used for abrading, or smoothing surfaces. (OED)

Dozen

Found in 1600/1, valued at, or less than 5d. per dozen, based on custom payments.

Fish, Cod

Burden

This is found in the 1591-2 account, but no value is available.

The 1582 book lists codfish the barrel at 10s.. and the C at 30s. but not by the burden

Fish, Cole (coal)

C

Cole is also known as green cod or black pollock

The 1582 rates book lists Coal-Fish at 20s. per C. It is found in 1563/4 at this value.

Fish, Eels (Lat.: *anguilla*; Text: *anguil'/ eles/conger*)

Barrel/C

The 1507 and 1582 books list various kinds of 'elys'.

Eels are found in the accounts for the first half of the century at 13s. 4d. per barrel, and in the 1540s there is also an entry for a C of 'small' eels at 1s. 8d. There is also an entry in the 1516/17 account for 'conger', which, as it is shipped from Ireland by the barrel, is most likely to be conger eels. These are valued at 6s. 8d. per barrel.

Fish, Gurnard (Text: *gurierts*): Probably gurnard, a type of large marine fish.

Barrel

Found in 1542 as an import from Ireland.

Fish, Haddock

Barrel

Found in the 1545/6 account, where 1 barrel is valued at 6s. 8d.

Fish, Hake (Text: hak, haak, hackes): According to Longfield, Hake are only supposed to have been known by that name since the fourteenth or fifteenth century, hence there was no proper latin equivalent and they are found with various spelling of the same word.

C/Piece

These are found by the piece as well as by the cwt. There are 120 hake in a C. They are found at 10s.. per C in the accounts up to the 1550s and are found at 20s. per C in 1563/4. The 1594/5 has hake at 10s. per last or at £6 per last.

Fish, Herring Red (Text: rub' alec): Smoked herring. Found by the meise, according to Longfield contained 5 long hundreds, so 600 fish.⁶⁴

Meise or Mease

These are found in the accounts only up to 1563/4, they are valued at 5s. per meise in the accounts before the 1558 rates revision and also at this value in 1563/4.

Fish, Herring White (Text: alb' alec):

Barrel or last (1 last = 12 barrels)

Found by the last and also the *verk*, which appears to be quarter of a barrel. According to Carus-Wilson, a barrel of herring was equal to 30 gallons (0.119 ton).

The 1507 book lists 'herryng fulle' at £4 per last and 'herynge shotton' at £4 per last.

White herrings are valued at 5s per barrel before 1558 and at 10s. per barrel thereafter, including the 1563/4 account.

⁶⁴ Longfield, *Anglo-Irish Trade*, p. 48., Carus-Wilson, *Overseas Trade of Bristol*, p. 337.

Fish, Mackerel: Found by the barrel.

Barrel

Found in the 1540s at 6s. 8d per barrel

Fish, Newfoundland (Text: novatera): Salted fish classified in three 'sorts'; big second and third, or as the 1582 book has it, great, middle and small.

The 1525/6 account has salted Newfoundland fish at £6 13s. 4d. per M. In the 1540s various values are given for the m of fish. The reason for this is evident in the 1550/1 account which clarifies that these fish are classified in three sizes, big sorts, second sorts and third sorts, or as the 1582 book has it, great, middle and small. The big sort in 1550 is valued at 20s.. per C, the second sort at 10s. per C and the third sort at 4s. per C.

The 1582 rates book adds that C contains vi.xx. and a great sort is 30s. , middle is 20s.. and small is 10s. They are found in the later accounts at these values.

Fish, Newfoundland Dry: Valued by the M.

M

Newfoundland fish described as dry are found in the 1594/5 account, valued at £5 per M 1595-£5 per M (note 1595 account contains one error where 8 M pays £2 10s. tax (ie value of £50) instead of £2. This has been corrected on database.

Fish, Salmon:

Pipe/ Hogshead/But/Barrel/Virkin (firkin)

The accounts for the first half of the century show that a pipe is valued at 30s., and a hogshead is found at both 30s. (1516/17, 1525/6) and also at 26s. 8d. (1546, 1550). A but is equal to half a pipe, ie. valued at 15s., a virk (vyrk, firkin) is equal to a quarter of a pipe, ie. valued at 7s. 6d and a barrel is equal to a but.

Some variations in how the values appear in the accounts from the later century also. For example in the 1563/4 account, a pipe is valued at £6 (possibly an error) and a hogshead at £3. a barrel is valued at 30s. In 1600/1. salmon if found by the ton at £12 and in 1594/5, a hogshead, as in 1563/4 is found at £3, and a firkin at 15s.

Fish, Salmon Grilse (Text: girles): The name given to a young salmon on its first return to the river from the sea, and retained during the same year. (OED)

Barrel

Found in the 1594/5 account at 15s. per hogshead. These are listed in the 1582 rates book at 15s. per barrel, so presumably a barrel is equal to a hogshead.

Fish, Salted (Text: pisc' sals'): These unspecified fish probably included the coarser fish, as the value per burden is not very high, and also fish that were known to be exported from Ireland and are not found separately in the accounts, such as cod, whiting, pilchard and bream, as well as hake and pike.⁶⁵

Burden/C (120 fish)

Salted fish are found in the accounts by the burden and also by the piece. In the 1516/17 account, each fish is valued at 2d (20s. per C.) and a burden at 4s. 2d. It could be estimated then that in this case a burden consisted of 25 fish. Salted fish are found at 4s. 2d per burden until the 1550s and also in 1563/4. They are not found in the accounts examined after that.

Fish, Sardines:

Barrel/Hogshead

Found in the 1516/17 account, valued at 5s. per hogshead and at 2s. 2d. per barrel.

Fish, Sprat (Text: sprots): The term sprat can be applied to many small fish including young herring.

Barrel

These are found in the 1540s at 2s. 6d. per barrel.

Fish, Sturgeon (Text: sturse): Presumably an abbreviation of stureus, which according to Latham is sturgeon.⁶⁶ It is sometimes described as being 'broken'. As sturgeon are a very large fish, broken may refer to cut-up fish as opposed to the whole fish.

C

Sturse are found in the accounts at 10s. per C. It has been suggested that as sturgeon are a very large fish, broken

⁶⁵ Longfield, *Anglo-Irish Trade*, p. 49.

⁶⁶ Latham, *Revised Medieval Latin Word List* (OUP, 2004) p. 456.

may refer to cut-up fish as opposed to the whole fish.

Flasket: A small flask. The 1582 rates book lists flaskets for gun powder covered in leather and velvet and also flaskets made of horn.

Found in the 1550/1 account, valued at 13s. 4d. per dozen.

Flax (Text: flaxe): Flax is the English name of the annual *Linum usitatissimum*. The term flax or flaxen was used to describe the products of flax such as flax cloth, yarn and seed, or linseed, as well as the stalks from which the textile fibres are obtained.⁶⁷ As the term is applied to the plant and the fibres, it is found in the accounts, sometimes described as wrought or unwrought etc.

Dozen (presumably lbs)/Pack

In the accounts from the first half of the century, flax, although the type is unspecified, always seems to have numerous different values. For example in 1550/1, a C of flax is valued at 13s. 4d. and at 10s. and a dozen at 12d., 2s. 6d. and 5s. Flax is also found in this account by the pack at £4 each. These varying values suggest that various forms, probably wrought and unwrought were included in the accounts under the same name.

The 1582 book lists 'flax the dozen pound' at 2s. 6d. It also lists flax by the pack at £8 and states that a pack contains cl bales and weighs xx.c at v.xx xii li the C.

1582 book lists 'flax the dozen pound' at 2s. 6d, and unwrought flax at 13s. 4d. per c. It is found in the 1594/5 at these amounts.

Fletchers Fryshe: Unidentified. The fact that it is sold by the ell indicates it is something sold by length, perhaps a type of frieze cloth.

Flitch (Text: flege): A salted and cured 'side' of bacon.

Flock: Wool refuse or cloth shearings.

Fother: A weight, especially of lead. According to the *Noumbre of Weights*, it equals 19.5 C.⁶⁸ In practice, in the 1575 account for example, lead is listed by the 'piece' and fother and the amount of pieces to a fother is variable.

Frankincense (Lat.: tus; Text: thures, frankyncense)

⁶⁷ 'Flame head - Flaxen yarn', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58766>, accessed 16 October 2008.

⁶⁸ H. Hall and F.J. Nicholas (eds.) *Select Tracts and Table Books Relating to English Weights and Measures (1100-1742) Camden Miscellany* Vol. XV (London, 1929) p. 13.

Dozen/C

The 1507 book lists frankyncense at 20s per c wayte – i.e. c. 2s. per dozen lb.

It is found at varying values in the account. For example in 1516/17, it is 5s per c and in 1526, it is found at both 3s. 4d. and 6s. 8d. per C. It is found at 1s. 8d. per dozen in the 1540s.

It is listed as ‘thures’ in the 1503/4 account, which according to OED is incense.

Fringe (Text: frenge): Decorative edging for garments.

Lb

It is found in 1575/6 at various values from 1s. to 2s. per lb, presumably depending on material used.

Fruit (Lat.: fructus; Text: fruct’): Unspecified types, valued by the piece or the ton.

Fruit is found in the accounts up to 1540s and not thereafter. It is usually valued by the ton, at £2, but is also found by the piece at 1s. 8d. (ie. 24 pieces in a ton)

Fubligar: Unidentified.

Found in the 1540s, valued at 1s. 6d. per dozen.

Funnels: A cone-shaped vessel usually fitted at the apex with a short tube, by means of which a liquid or powder etc., may be conducted through a small opening. Both tin and unspecified types are found by the dozen.

Dozen

Found in the 1575/6 account, where both funnels and tin funnels are valued at 2s. per dozen. Not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Furnando Bucke: Unidentified. This is found by the C; listed with brazil in 1594/5.

Gall (Text: gale, galir, gawles): According to Willan, Galls are oak apples or gall-nuts used in making ink, tanning, medicine and dyeing. The OED describes gall as an ‘excrescence produced on trees, especially the oak, by the action of insects. Oak-galls are largely used in the manufacture of ink and tannin, as well as in dyeing and in medicine’.

C (112 lbs.)

Gall is found in the 1550/1 account, valued at 13s 4d per C. The 1582 rates book lists Galles the C. containing v.xx xii li at 26s. 8d, They occur in 1600/1 at this value. The 1594/5 account has gales at this value but also has two listings for galer/galir, which is much more expensive at 30s per dozen (unless this is a customs officer error for c.) It is unclear what this other commodity is. It could be the Gallingale of the rates book, but the values don't match. Galls are sometimes listed in the accounts with copperas, which further suggests that they are oak apples, as both these commodities are used in the dyeing industry.

Game-birds (Text: forest gylls):

Found in the 1540s, valued at 6d. ob. per bird. It is not clear what type of birds these are.

Garron: A small and inferior kind of horse bred and used chiefly in Ireland and Scotland.

These are found in the 1600/1 account, valued at 13s. 4d. each.

Gartering: Garters are strips of material used to tie around or to stockings just below the knee to hold them in place. They were often made of rich material and could be embellished with goldsmith work or with rich embroidery. Gartering occurs frequently in the later accounts and is found by the roll or dozen, of types including crewel, Norwich and worsted. Possibly 'gartering' relates to rolls of material used to make garters and not the finished product, which turn up in pairs of types including broad, check, coarse and ribbon. Dozens of gartering may be yards etc.

In the 1594/5 account, gartering is valued at around 1s. 8d. per roll and at 6s. 8d. per dozen. It may of course be that gartering and garters are the same thing, and are just written differently in the accounts, because in the 1575/6 account, garters are found by the roll.

Gartering, Crewel

Gross, roll

Valued at 6s. 8d. per gross in 1594/5 and at 5s. per gross and 1s. per small roll in 1575/6.

Gartering, Norwich

Gross

Valued at 3s. 4d. per gross in 1594/5.

Gartering, Worsted

Role

Found in 1575/6 at 3s. 2d. per role

Garters, Broad

Dozen

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1594/5.

Garters, Check

Dozen

Found at 9d. per dozen in 1575/6.

Garters, Coarse

Dozen pair

Presumably these relate to pairs of fully manufactured garters. They are found in the 1594/5 account at 20s. per dozen pair, which is much more expensive than any of the other gartering. There is one entry in the 1540s for 'gart' which is valued at 3d. per ?piece. This too may be garters.

Garters, Ribbon

Gross

Found in 1575/6 at 8s. per gross.

Ginger (Lat.: zingiberi; Text: zinziper, gynis):

Lb, C

Note the 1582 rates book states that there are 100 lb to a cwt but the 1600/1 account states 112 lb to C.⁶⁹

The accounts (particularly 1525/6) give different values for the same quantities of ginger, which is sometimes listed as zinziper, gynis or ginger in the same account. This probably distinguishes green from white ginger, the former of which is more highly valued in the 1582 rates book.

Girdles (Lat.: zona; Text: sona', zonar'): A belt, fastened at the front and hung about the waist. Described simply as zonar in the earlier accounts, there are a large variety of different types in the later accounts.

Dozen/Lb (1551)

In the 1525/6 and 1540s accounts, girdles written as such vary in value from 5d. to 20d. per dozen. These earlier accounts also list silk girdles at 3s. 4d. per dozen and coarse girdles at 4d. per dozen.

Girdle and Penners Girdle and Penners (Text: sonar' & penners): Leather girdle with a pen-case attached.

Dozen

A leather girdle with a pen-case attached.

Valued at 1s. per dozen in the first half of the century.

Girdles, Caddis

Dozen

Found in 1550/1 at 1s. 8d. per dozen

Girdles, Crewel

Gross

Valued in the later accounts at 13s. 4d. per gross

Girdle Hangers: These were attached to the mans girdle which consisted of two straps and a plate to which was buckled the scabbard of the sword. These were often gifts from ladies to men and were also given by grooms to their male attendants.⁷⁰

⁶⁹ TNA E190/1132/11 f04v.

⁷⁰ URL: www.vertetsable.com/research_vocabulary.

Dozen

These are found in the 1591 account, no value available.

Girdles, Leather

Dozen

In the 1563/4 account Girdles, leather '1d' or 'peny leather girdles' are valued at 10d. per dozen. The '2d.' variety cost twice as much. Girdles, like combs, in the later account are often listed as being ob. 1d. or 2d. which presumably related to quality etc, as it doesn't follow that they are valued at this much.

Girdles, Nobs Silk

Lb

Occurs in 1594/5 and pays ob. per lb custom so valued at under 10 d. per lb

Girdles, Ribbon

Dozen

Found in the 1563/4 account at 20d. per dozen

Girdles, Round Silk

Lb

Occurs in 1594/5 and pays ob. per lb custom so valued at under 10d. per lb

Girdles, Seal.: A belt with an attachment for holding a seal.

Dozen

Found in 1550/1, valued at 9s. 9d. per dozen. Presumably this was made of an expensive material, as it is valued at three times as much, for example, as the sword girdle.

Girdles, Silver

Dozen

Found in 1563/4 valued at 7s. per dozen.

Girdles, Sword

Dozen

Found in 1550/1, valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen.

Girdles, Waist (Text: waste)

Dozen

Occurs in the 1594/5 account and pays 1d. per dozen custom so value is under 20d. per dozen.

Girth: A belt or band of leather or cloth, placed round the body of a horse or other beast of burden and drawn tight, so as to secure a saddle, pack, etc. upon its back. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen in the 1594/5 account.

Girth Buckles: The buckle used to secure a girth.

Dozen

These are not listed in the 1582 rates book, but occur in 1594/5 valued at around 7d. ob. per dozen based on custom payments.

Girth Web: Woven material of which girths are made; a strong broad tape used by upholsterers and others; a band made of this material. (OED)

The 1582 book values this at 6s. 8d. per gross. It occurs at this value in the later accounts. Interestingly the OED cites the following: ‘**1571** *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) 361 In Ye Great Shoppe ij groce of gyirthwebe and xv peces at vij^s. ij^d. ye groce’, which presumably resembles the market value in 1571.

Glass: (Lat.: vitrum; Text: vitri')

Valued by the cribb and case. See above.

In 1591, 3 cases are listed as paying 3s. custom, therefore valued at 20s. per case. This agrees with the 1582 rates book listing for 'glasse called normandy glasse the case' at 20s.

In the 1594/5 account, glass by the case is listed at both 20s. a case and also at approximately half that value. This presumably relates to different grades of glass.

Glasses, Drinking: These include 'French' drinking glasses, which are the most expensive, along with 'green' glasses and cheaper varieties like 'penny' and 'halfpenny' glasses.

Dozen

Glasses of unspecified types occur in the 1540s, at prices varying from 3d. to 8d. per dozen. The more expensive types are probably French glasses.

Drinking glasses occur in the 1594/5 account at 13s. 4d. per gross (13d. per dozen) and are also listed at 8s. 4d. per gross (probably French drinking glasses, as below) The accounts also have Green glasses at 1s. 6d. per dozen and brace glasses (unidentified) at around 17d. per dozen. Glasses are also, like combs, knives and other small objects sometime listed as being penny glasses or half penny glasses.

Glasses, Drinking Coarse: Drinking vessel made of glass.

Dozen

Valued at 10s. per gross (10d. per dozen) in the 1594/5 account, based on custom payment. These are the same value as French drinking glasses listed in the account also and are probably the same thing as the rates book lists only French and Venice glasses and the Venice glasses are much more expensive at 4s. per dozen.

Glasses, Drinking French

These are found at 8s. 4d. per gross in the later accounts.

Glasses, Hour: An object for measuring time, consisting of a glass vessel with obconical ends connected by a constricted neck, through which a quantity of sand runs in exactly an hour. (OED)

Dozen

Found at 3s. per dozen in 1575/6 and at 20d in 1594/5. The rates book has three types of hour glasses, the lowest, simply listed as hour glasses, are valued at 20d. per dozen, with Flanders hour glasses 'of the finest sort' at 6s. 8d. and Venice hour glasses at 20s. per dozen.

Glasses, Looking:

Dozen

The first entry found in the accounts examined is in 1525/6, where a looking glass is valued at 2d. Looking glasses occur in the 1550 account, varying in value from 4d. to 5d. per dozen

The 1582 book lists 'glasses to look in' at 8s. per gross, i.e. 8d. per dozen. It also specifies that looking glasses are made of steel or crystal, although such specifics are not found in the later accounts, where they are found simply described as being small or being penny or half penny glasses.

Gloves: A covering for the whole of the hand, usually one with a separate sheath for each finger. (OED)

Dozen (pairs)

1507 book lists gloves at 13s. 4d. the gross, i.e. about 13d. per dozen.

Gloves are found at 2s. 6d. per dozen in the 1540s

The 1582 book lists various types of gloves, the price of which varies greatly according to materials and place of making. Gloves are found in 1594/5 at 3s. 4d. per dozen pairs. In 1600/1 a dozen 'coarse' gloves are found at the same value.

Gloves, Venice: Presumably gloves having some connection with Venice.

Dozen

Found at 8s. per dozen in 1563/4

Glue (Text: glew): 'A hard, brittle, brownish gelatin, obtained by boiling the hides and hoofs of animals to a jelly; when gently heated with water, it is used as a cement for uniting substances'. (OED).

Lb

Valued 1s. 8d. per dozen in the 1540s. It is found in 1576 at 10s. per C in one entry but when listed in lbs, the value varies each time. It is also found at 10s. per C in 1595. The 1582 book lists glue at this value and confirms the C is equal to 112 lbs.

Goad: Cloth measure of 1.5 yards.

Goshawks: A large short-winged hawk.

Piece

Found in 1503/4 at 40s. and 60s. per bird.

Gouge and Formes (Text: gowge and formes): A gouge is a chisel with a concave blade for cutting rounded grooves or holes in wood. Formes is possibly a related object.

Dozen

Found in the 1594/5 account, where 1 dozen is valued at 3s. 4d.

Grain: See kermes.

Graters: An instrument with a rough indented surface used for grating or rasping.

Dozen

Found in 1600/1 of uncertain value. They come in large and small varieties.

Grid-Irons: A cooking utensil formed of parallel bars of iron or other metal in a frame, usually supported on short legs, and used for broiling flesh or fish over a fire. (OED)

Piece

Valued at 10d. per piece in the 1540s.

These are not listed in the 1507 or 1582 books, so value was probably based on the merchant's estimate.

Grind-Stones: A disc of stone revolving on an axle, used for grinding, sharpening, or polishing. (OED)

Piece

These are presumably smaller than millstones or 'dogstones' based on their lower value in the accounts.

Valued at 2s. 6d. per piece in 1600/1, The 1594/5 account has a pair of grind stones valued at around 10d. and also a small grind stone at the same value. Price is variable depending on size.

Gross: Twelve dozen. A 'great' gross is twelve gross.

Gunpowder (Text: gounpodor, cornpowder): An explosive mixture of saltpetre, sulphur, and charcoal, chiefly used in discharging projectiles from guns and for blasting. (OED) The 1582 rates book lists 'gunpoulder called corn poulder' and cornpowder is found at the same value as gunpowder in the accounts.

Lb

Gunpowder is found as an export to Ireland in 1551, at 4d. per lb. It occurs in the 1594/5 account at 33s. 4d. per C, which is the same as the rates book. Corn Powder is also listed in the 1563/4 account at this value.

H

Halbertes, Gilt or Ungilt: A pike fitted with an axe; a battle axe.

Piece

A pike fitted with an axe; a battle axe. The ungilted variety occurs in the 1594/5 account, valued at 20d. per piece. The 1582 rates book lists ungilted at this value and gilted halberds at 6s. 8d. per piece.

Hats: A covering for the head; generally distinguished from other head-gear, such as cap's by having a more or less horizontal brim all round.

Dozen

1576 account does not specify types of hats and values vary significantly from 6s. 8d. per dozen to 16s. 4d. per dozen. There are also hats valued per piece at 1s. each.

In the 1594/5 account, hats are usually valued at 30s. per dozen, including coarse and women's hats

Hats, Black

Dozen

Found at 30s. per dozen in 1594/5

Hats, for Children

Piece

Found at 1s. per hat in 1575/6 and at 20s. per dozen hats in 1594/5

Hatchets, Dansk: A smaller or lighter axe with a short handle, adapted for use with one hand. These are presumably from Gdansk, or are made in a similar style.

Piece

Valued at 1s. per piece in 1575/6.

Hawk Hoods: A covering for a hawk's head and eyes.

Dozen

Found at 2s. per dozen in 1575/6

Hawser: A large rope or small cable, in size midway between a cable and a tow-line, between five and ten inches in circumference; used in warping and mooring; in large ships now made of steel. (OED)

Headstalls (Text: headstales): The part of a bridle or halter that fits round the head of an animal. Presumably these were not just for horses, since the 1600/1 account has headstalls also headstalls for horses at differing values.

Dozen

Presumably these were not just for horses, since the 1600/1 account has headstall at 10s. per dozen and also headstalls for horses at 5s. per dozen, based on custom payments. Headstalls are found in the 1594/5 account at 5s., but not in the 1582 rates book.

Hedlack: A linen cloth.⁷¹ This is found by the lb in the accounts and so may be a linen thread, rather than cloth.

Lb

This is listed in the 1582 rates book by the ell. It occurs in the 1550/1 account, valued at 12d. per lb. Uncertain if

⁷¹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 22.

it's the same thing as lbs seems an unusual measurement for cloth.

Hemp (Text: hemepe): An annual herbaceous plant, *Cannabis sativa*, cultivated for its valuable fibre or the fibre of this plant, used for making cordage, and woven into stout fabrics. (OED)

Weight/Dozen/Ton/C

1503- 2s. 6d. per stone.

1516, 1526- none found.

1545- 4s. per weight and 23s. 4d per C.

1543- 1s. 4d. or 1s. 8d. per weight.

1550- 3s. per weight.

Note: 1576-listed by the doz: 2s. 6d. and by the weight: 5s. Therefore a *weight* = 2 doz.

The 1582 book lists hemp by the cwt (112lbs.), the dozen (2s. 6d.) and the sack (3 cwt.).

1601- pays either 1d ob. or 4d. cust so valued at both 2s. 6d. and 3s. 4d. per doz. ?-C is 20s.)

Hides, Bull Dry

Piece

These are found on only one occasion in the accounts examined, in 1594/5, when four hides paid 1s. custom and so were valued at 20s.

Hides, Ginney⁷²: Hides from Guinea, West Africa. The OED has Ginney as a spelling for Guinea. The specific type of hide is unknown.

C

Found in the 1600/1 account by the C and the dozen, described as 'ginney kips in the hair' and ginney calves as well as simply ginney skins. The adult skins are given a value of £33 6s. 8d. per C, while the kips are valued at half this amount. There is an entry for ginney calves in the hair at 10s. per dozen.

Hides, India: Type of hide is unknown.

Piece

⁷² TNA E190/1132/11 f07r.

1595- 10s. per piece.

Hides Kip (kip tannat): The hide of a young animal used as leather (OED). It is taxed in the same way as normal tanned hides (see below) but pays half the custom.

Dicker

Hides Tanned (Lat.: Corium; Text: corrior tannat): Leather. Tanned hides pay the Ancient Custom of 8d. per dicker, the Parliamentary subsidy of 40d. per dicker, the 'Calais Penny' of 1d. per dicker (payable on all leather exported to places other than the Calais Staple). Each consignment also has to pay a sum, usually 2d. for the exit cocket (certificate) issued by the customer.

Hilts and Pommells: The hilt is the handle of a sword; the pommel is the counterweight at the top of the handle to provide the desired balance.

Dozen

Found in the 1575/6 account, where the value varies from 13s. 4d. per dozen to 20s. per dozen. Also listed in the account are pairs of 'single hilts' at 13s. a pair.

Hinges, Portal: Hinges for a door or gate.

Pair

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen pairs in 1575/6.

Hogshead: Measure of capacity of wine etc., equal to one quarter of a tun.

Holland Sheets: Presumably sheets made from Holland cloth, which was a linen fabric from the province of Holland.

Pair

Found at 26s. 8d. per pair in 1594/5.

Honey (Lat.: mel; Text: mellis):

Barrel

The 1507 book values honey at 13s. 4d. per barrel.

Honey is found in the 1540s at 16s. 8d. the barrel and this increases to 30s. per barrel in the later accounts or £12 per ton.

Hooks, Fish: Barbed hook used for catching fish.

C

Valued at 10d. per C in 1594/5, based on custom payments. Not listed in 1582 rates book.

Hooks and Eyes: Fastenings made of steel wire, sown to the inside of bodices and doublets as invisible fasteners. These replaced points in the late sixteenth century as fasteners of hose to garments, with the points remaining as decoration only.⁷³

M

Pays 1d. per M custom in 1600/1.

Hooks, Hake: Fish hooks specific to hake fishing.

Dozen

Found at 6d. per dozen in 1575/6.

Hooks, Small

C

The 1507 book values 'hookes that be small' at 2s. per gross. These are possibly dress hooks, used for fastening clothing. They are found at a value of 2d. per C in the 1540s.

Hopes for Serches: See Serches below

Dozen

Found at 20s. per gross in the 1563/4 account.

⁷³ URL: http://www.vertetsable.com/research_vocabulary.htmh accessed 16th October 2008.

Hops (Text: hoppis, hoppys, lupulor): Female flowers of the plant *Humulus Lupulus*, which are used as a flavouring and stabiliser in beer production.

The 1507 book values 'Hoppys the sack conteaning vii C' at 40s. – i.e. 5s. 8d. per C.

Hops are found at this value in 1503/4. The 1516/17 account records two different values for 'hoppis'; 5s. per C and 6s. 8d. per C., The reason for this is unknown. The account also has 'pockets' of hops, valued at 30s per pocket. A pocket is a coarse bag or sack, for which the capacity varies.⁷⁴ In the 1525/6 account, hops are valued at 10s per C, and at this value also in the 1540s.

The 1582 book values hops at 10s. per C. Note: It also values 'barrel hoops' at 10s. per M. Hops are found at this value in 1575/6 and 1594/5. In the later account, hops are often called 'lupulor', presumably from the Latin *lupulus*. Lupulor are found at the same value in the accounts as hops and on one occasion, cross comparisons of the surveyor and controllers accounts showed that one official entered the commodity as hops and the other as lupulor, indicating that it is the same thing.

Hoperods: Possibly a rod for removing hops from the poles on which they grew. The National Hop Association of England website has reproduced an image with a quote by Reynolde Scott, dated from 1574; "Cut them asunder with a sharp hook and with a forked staffe, take them from the poles."⁷⁵ Perhaps these Hop rods are such staffs.

C

They are found in the 1516/17 account, as an export to Spain, valued at 6d. per C.

Horse (Lat.: equus; Text: equis): Value was presumably determined by declaration of the merchant. Note, since 1495, the export of horses without a licence had been prohibited, unless it was declared to be for the merchant's own use.⁷⁶

Found in the 1540s at £1 6s. 8d. Neither the 1507 nor the 1582 books have entries for horses.

Horse Combs:

Dozen

⁷⁴ Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 306.

⁷⁵ National Hops Association of England Website, URL: www.hops.co.uk/sectionone/History.htm, accessed 18th December 2007.

⁷⁶ *Statutes of the Realm*, III, pp 323-5.

The accounts suggest that, like ordinary combs, horse combs came in different types. The 1575/6 account lists horse combs at 4s. per dozen, while in 1594/5 horse combs pay just 1d. custom per dozen and so are valued at less than 20d.

Hose: ‘An article of clothing for the leg; sometimes reaching down only to the ankle as a legging or gaiter, sometimes also covering the foot like a long stocking’. (OED)

Hose, Mens

Pairs

Found at 3s. 9d. per pair in 1550/1

Hose, Silk

Pair

Valued at £1 6s. 8d. per pair in 1563/4

Hose, Womens

Dozen

Valued at 10s. per dozen pairs in 1550/1 and at 8s. 4d. per dozen (presumably pairs) in 1594/5. Price presumably varies according to material. The 1582 rates book lists only ‘Hose of silk knit the paire’ at 26s. 8d. per pair.

Hose, Worsted

Pair

Valued at 6s. 8d. per pair in 1594/5.

I

Indigo: Blue dye, obtained from shrubs of the genus *indigofera* in the pea family.

Lb

A blue dye, obtained from shrubs of the genus *indigofera* in the pea family.

In 1594/5, 6 lbs of indigo is listed as paying 2s., therefore valued at £2. Willan comments that Indigo was one of

the commodities that was listed in the 'revised book' of 1594 as being undervalued and that its value was increased to 2s. per lb. That however is very far off the value noted here, which works out at 6s. 8d. per lb. this indigo is 'coarse' indigo as another entry described as such is found at the same value in this account.

Insense (Text: ensone): An aromatic substance such as wood or gum that is burned to produce a pleasant odour.

Lb

Valued at 1s. 3d. per lb in the 1540s.

Ink Horns: A small portable vessel (originally made of a horn) for holding writing-ink. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at 7d. per dozen in the 1540s

The 1582 book values 'Inck hornes' at 10s. the gross.

Inkle (Text: ynkle): A linen tape of various qualities and widths.

Piece, Lb, Gross

A linen tape of various qualities and widths.

Inkle of an unspecified is found in the 1600/1 account (the most common sort) valued at around 10d. per piece, but values vary considerably, based on custom payments. This is not described as it is in the 1582 rates book, which has 'Incklerole' by the piece, a term that seems to distinguish wrought inkle from unwrought or inkle thread. The accounts do also have entries for inkle by the lb, which is probably inkle thread.

Inkle, Coloured

Lb

Pays 1d. per lb. custom in 1600/1, so valued at around 20d. per lb.

Inkle, Coarse

Lb/Piece

Found by the lb. and the piece in 1600/1.

Inkle, Narrow

Dozen Pieces

Valued at around 3s. 4d. per dozen pieces in 1600/1, based on custom payments.

Inkle, White

Lb

Presumably the unwrought inkle found in the rates book, which can be 'single or double' and is rated by the C li.

Iron (Lat.: ferrum; Text: ferri): A metal, used for making tools, weapons, implements etc.

1 ton = 2 pipes = 4 hogsheads = 20 C = 80 quarters

The 1507 book values 'iryne the tunne' 40s.

Imported iron, in the accounts for the first half of the century is valued at £2 10s. per ton, exported iron at £4 per ton.

The 1582 book values 'Spanish Iron the tun' £4. Each ton containing 20 x 112 lbs. It values exported iron £8 per ton. There are also entries in the 1575/6 account for flanders iron at 6s. 8d. per lb.

Also noted is a kyndale of iron (1550), value not certain, which according to Zupko is a quintal, equal to a hundredweight.⁷⁷

Iron Wire

Lb

Valued at around 4d. per lb in 1594/5 based on custom payments.

Isinglass: A firm whitish semitransparent substance obtained from the sounds or air-bladders of some fresh-water fishes, esp. the sturgeon; used in cookery for making jellies and also for clarifying liquors, in the manufacture of glue, and for other purposes. (OED)

Lb

Found in 1594/5 and 1600/1, exact value unknown. This is listed in the rates book at 2d per lb.

⁷⁷ Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 342.

Ivory: A hard, white, substance composing the main part of the tusks of the elephant, hippopotamus etc., very expensive and used ornamentally.

Lb

Found at 5s. per lb in 1594/5

Items misc. (Text: diversus parius rebus): Term used to describe what is probably 'lots' of small manufactured items.

J

Jerkins, Leather (Text: jurkins): A close-fitting jacket, jersey, or short coat, often made of leather.

Piece

Valued at 3s. per piece in the 1575/6 account.

Jhumbblas: According to Willan 'jumb' is perhaps jujuba a sort of plumb growing mainly in Provence, used as an aperient and expectorant.⁷⁸

K

Kerchief (Text: kerchers): 'A cloth used to cover the head, formerly a woman's head-dress'. (OED)

Kermes (Text: graynes, graines):

Lb

'Graynes' are usually kermes 'the pregnant female of the insect *Coccus ilicis*, formerly supposed to be a berry; gathered in large quantities from a species of evergreen oak in S. Europe and N. Africa, for use in dyeing, and formerly in medicine; the red dye-stuff consisting of the dried bodies of these insects' (OED)

There is room for confusion in the accounts however as it seems that 'graynes' can mean kermes or 'graines' which according to Willan are Guinea grains or malagueta pepper.⁷⁹ The only way to differentiate between the two is by value, as in the 1582 rates book, graines are valued at only 8d per lb, while kermes graynes are found at 3s. 4d. or 6s.

⁷⁸ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 76.

⁷⁹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 30.

8d. per lb, depending on type.

The 1507 book values Seville ‘grayne’ at 1s. per lb. and Portuguese at 1s. 4d. per lb and ‘graynes’ are found in the 1516/17 and 1540s accounts at these values. The 1525/6 account however has ‘graynes’ at 50s. per C, which works out at only around 5d. per lb. This is probably guinea grains as above. Similarly, the 1563/4 and 1575/6 accounts list graines at 8d. per lb, the value of guinea grains in the 1582 rates book.

The 1594/5 account has an entry for graynes at 3s. 4d. per lb, which is likely to be kermes. To avoid confusion in the datasets, all entries for graynes that seem to be kermes, based on price, are described as such, while the lower value commodity is inserted as ‘graines’.

Kilderkin (Text: kinderkin): A cask for liquids or fish etc. It is usually equal to half a barrel.

Kippe: A measure for skins containing 50 skins.⁸⁰

Knives (Lat.: culter; Text: cult’, knyves)

Dozen, Pair

Knives are a frequent commodity in the accounts and values vary depending on type.

The earlier accounts do not specify types. The 1516/17 account for example has *cultell* at 6s. 8d. per gross, while the 1525/6 account has *cultell* at 1s. 8d. per dozen and at 6s. 8d. per gross. In the 1540s, *cultell* are found again at 6s 8d per gross and there are also entries for *cult’ pars* or *pairs cult’*, at 1s. 8d. per dozen, which most likely refers to pairs of knives, which are also found in the 1582 rates book, which lists cullen knives and French knives by the pair. While these *cultell* valued by the gross are probably for the most part small knives, perhaps like pen-knives, which are found in the later accounts and in the 1582 rates book, also valued by the gross at the more expensive rate of 10s. , this is not always the case. In 1550/1, for example, there is an entry for *cult’* at an expensive 33s. 4d. per gross, which suggests that the earlier accounts contain more variety of types of objects that is immediately apparent.

Knives, Almaine: German knives.

Gross

These are found in the 1550/1 account, valued at 20s. per gross and in the 1563/4 account at 2s. 6d. per dozen (probably pairs) The 1582 book notes that ‘Almaine knives and other coarse knives’ are sold by the gross, being ‘xii dosen pair’, and are valued at 30s. the gross, or 2s. 6d. per dozen pair.

⁸⁰ Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 213.

Knives, Bumbard/ Bombard: Unidentified.

Found in the 1550/1 account, valued at 20s. per gross. Found in 1563/4 listed with Almaine knives.

Knives, Cappe: Unidentified.

Dozen

Found in the 1575/6 accounts, valued at 2s. 6d. per dozen

Knives, Cullen (Text: collyn, collen): Probably Cologne knives.⁸¹

Found at 2s. 6d. per dozen in 1575. These are listed in the 1582 rates book at £3 6s. 8d. per gross (pairs of cullen knives)

Knives, Flanders: From Flanders, or possibly resembling Flanders knives.

Dozen

Valued at 2s. 6d. per dozen in 1575/6

Knives, Paring (Text: paringe): It is sometimes difficult to tell if knives in pairs are in fact 'paring knives'. The fact that paring knives do exist in the accounts, despite not being listed in the 1582 rates book, is suggested by the 1575/6 account, which has an entry for *pairs* of 'paring knyves' at 2d. per pair.⁸²

Dozen

Paring knives are also found in 1600/1, valued at 20d. per dozen, based on custom payments. These are clearly paring knives as opposed to pairs of knives.

Knives (penny and two penny)

Dozen

Penny Knives are found at 20s. per gross in 1575/6 and twopenny knives are found at 30s. per gross.

⁸¹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 20.

⁸² TNA E190/1129/12 f19r.

Knives, Pocket

Dozen

Valued at 1s. 8d. per dozen in 1594/5, based on custom payments.

Knives, Prage: Possibly a knife for eating with.

Dozen

The OED has Prage as a type of knife, but doesn't specify the type. The 1507 book has an entry for 'knyves called prags' and they are found in the 1542/3 account, valued at 12d. per dozen. They are also found in 1563/4, valued at 16s. 8d. per gross.

Knives, Shoe maker (Text: shewmaker)

Dozen

Valued at 20d. per dozen in 1594/5.

Knives, Small

Dozen

Valued at 1s. 3d. per dozen in the 1540s

L

Lace, Chain (Text: cheine): The dictionary of traded commodities suggests that this is similar to 'Chain Boulee', which is described as 'A short rough cord made in macrame lace (made of knotted thread) with two threads'⁸³

It is found on only one occasion in the accounts, in 1595 and is valued at around 5d. an ounce.

Lace, Statute:

Lb/gross

⁸³ 'Chain - Chandelier', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58721>, accessed 16 October 2008.

OED: **1590** in *Antiquary* XXXII. 118, xij yeards *stattute lace, xiid. **1592** *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) II. 211, ij grose of statute lace 12s.

This is likely to be actual lace and not laces / points, as the yards noted above in the OED would be a more appropriate unit for the measurement of lace. It has therefore been entered as lace in the datasets.

This pays 4d. per gross custom in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts and so is valued at around 6s. 8d. per gross.

Lacquer (Text: laqor, lacqor): A gold-coloured varnish, consisting chiefly of a solution of pale shellac in alcohol, tinged with saffron, anatta, or other colouring matters; used chiefly as a coating for brass. (OED)

Valued at 1s. 8d. per gross in 1525/6 and in the 1540s. This is not listed in the rates books

Lanterns (Lat.: lanterna; Text: lanthornes): A transparent case, e.g. of glass, horn, talc, containing and protecting a light.

Dozen

Valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen in the 1594/5 account. These are not listed in rates book.

Last: A measure of hides equal to 20 dickers and of fish, equal to 12 barrels.

Lead (Lat. Plumbum; Text: plumbi'/ plumb' operat): Lead 'in sowes' is a 'large oblong mass of solidified metal as obtained from the blast- or smelting-furnace'. (OED)

Ton/ fother/piece

In the first half of the century, worked lead is valued at £5 per ton. It is also found by the fother in 1550/1, at a value of £4. The 1575/6 account lists lead by the fother and specifies how many pieces are in each fother, but never more than twenty. Each piece is valued at 8s. In the 1594/5 account, lead is valued at £8 per ton. This account specifies that there are 18 pieces to a ton. The accounts also frequently list that lead is 'in sowes', which according to the OED means a 'large oblong mass of solidified metal as obtained from the blast- or smelting-furnace'. This however is clearly different from a bar of lead which is also identified in the 1594/5 account.

Lead, White: It is possible that white lead was a name used for tin. (OED)

Clb/Ton

White lead is valued at £4 per ton in 1600/1. The 1582 book lists white lead at 15s. per C and states that C contains 112 lbs.

Lemons:

Ton, M (12 M (thousand) = 1 ton)

Valued at £2 per ton in the first half of the century. The 1582 book lists lemons at 6s. 8d. per M. This works out at £4 per ton.

Lime (Text:lyme) Alkaline earth obtained by submitting limestone to a red heat, by which the carbonic acid is driven off, leaving a brittle white solid, which is pure lime.

Ton/Last

Valued in the 1540s at 2s. 6d. per ton. It is also found in the 1550/1 account at 5s. per last. Lime is found in the later accounts by the barrel and the last. It is not found in the 1582 rates book.

Liquorice (Text: licoric, licor'): The rhizome of the plant *Glycyrrhiza glabra*. Also, a preparation (used medicinally and as a sweetmeat) made from the evaporated juice of this rhizome. (OED)

Dozen/Bale

Values for a dozen of liquorice vary in the earlier accounts, for example it is found in 1516/17 at 1s. 8d. per dozen and in the 1540s at 10d. or 2s. per dozen. It is also found in the 1525/6 account at 6s. 8d. per C and at 3s. 4d. per bale. In the later accounts, a C is valued at 10s. and according to the rates book, a C contains 112 lbs. and there are two bales in a C. In the 1600/1 account, the amount of bales in a c seems variable however and this account also mentions double bales.

Loaf: A moulded conical mass of hard sugar made by passing syrup through already refined sugar in a sugar pot. Loaves varied in size.⁸⁴ If bought in this form the sugar would have been broken up using sugar nippers. Loaves in the accounts contain anything from 6 to 11lb.

Locks, Hanging: Padlocks.

These are found at different values depending on size. The 1600/1 account has hanging locks at 3s. 4d. per dozen

⁸⁴ 'Sugar loaf - Surfeit water', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58889>, accessed 16 October 2008

and small ones at 1s. 8d. per dozen. Padlocks are listed in the same account at the same values.

Locks, Small Spring: A form of lock in which a spring presses the bolt outwards.

Piece

Found in the 1600/1 account.

M

M: A thousandweight or ten hundreds or hundred weights. *See C.*

Mace: Aromatic spice found surrounding the seed in the fruit of the nutmeg tree, dried and used as a spice.

The 1507 book values Maces the c wayte' £12 10s. (If C wayte = 100 lb, like many other spices are, this is c. 2s. 6d. per lb.)

It is found at 2s. 6d. per lb. up to the 1550s and is valued at 6s. 8d. per lb in the 1663-4 and 1575/6 accounts.

Mace is not found in the 1594/5 or 1600/1 accounts.

The 1582 book values 'Maces the li.' 6s. 8d.

Madder: A reddish-purple dyestuff obtained from the root of the plant *Rubia tinctorum*. Also used medicinally.

Bale (8 C) /C (112 lb)⁸⁵

The 1507 book lists 'mather called croppe mather' as 50s. per bale and 'mullmather' as 20s. the bale. In the 1516/17 account, unspecified madder is found at both 40s. and 50s. per bale. In the 1540s it is found at 6s. 8d. per C and in 1550/1, at 6s, 8d. and 10s. per C.

The 1582 book lists madder by the C and the bale, stating that 8 cwt = 1 bale. Madder is valued at 13s. 4d. per cwt. and mullmadder at 20s. per bale. The 1563/4 account has madder at 18s 8d per C and mul madder at 1s. per C. (8s. per bale), which are rather unusual values, not matching the rates books. The 1575/6 account lists madder at the same value as the rates book (13s. 4d. per C). These varying figures suggest that alongside madder and mul madder there was possibly another grade/grades of madder, not accounted for in the rates books.

Madder, Green: This may be the unprocessed root of the plant.

C (112 lb)

⁸⁵ Willan, Tudor Book of Rates, p. 39.

This is found in the 1540s at 1s. 8d. per C (6s. 8d. bale). It is therefore not the same as Mul madder, which is valued in both rates books at 20s. per bale.

Madder, Mul: The lowest grade of madder, obtained by grinding the loose fibres and fragments detached from the root during threshing. (OED)

Mail (Text: mayles): Can be a bag or a pack and also the metal rings used in armour. As this is valued by the lb, the latter, also called anlets, is more likely.

Lb

The 1507 book values 'Andeletts the c wayt at 33s. 4d. and values 'Maylle the xixM' (12,000) at 10s. The 1582 book refers to 'Andlets called mailes the li. 6d.)

The 'mayles,/mailes' found in the accounts are always entered by the lb. This makes the latter definition more probable. Of the accounts under consideration here, mayles first occur in 1546, where they are valued at 6d. per lb. (the 1554 rates national rates book has mayles the pound at 4d.) Mail occurs again in the 1563/4 account, at 10d. per lb and in 1575/6 at 6d. per lb. It becomes a more frequent entry in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts where it pays only half an ob. custom per lb, so valued at around 5d. per lb. the 1594/5 account also has two entries for 'red mail' which is valued at between 7d. and 10d. per lb.

Mailing Cord (Text: maylinge corde):

Piece

According to the dictionary for traded commodities, this is 'a cord for tying round a mail or for tying a mail to a horse. Mailing cord is sometimes found with the protective pack cloths as in 'two packe clothes two maylinge cordes' [Inventories (1639)], or accompanying the package it will be used to tie up as in 'Cloakebags & some malinge Corde' [Inventories (1617)]'.⁸⁶

Not found in the OED. Found in the 1600/1 account, valued at around 5d. per piece. (4 pieces pay 1d. custom)

Malt (Text: brac' bracy): Barley or other grain prepared for brewing, distilling, or vinegar-making, esp. by steeping, germinating, and kiln-drying.

1 wey = 6 quarters = 48 bushels (bushel = 64 pints)

⁸⁶ From: 'Mace - Malting tub', *Dictionary of Traded Goods, 1550/1820* (2007). URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk>

Valued at 16s. 8d. per wey in the accounts prior to the rates revision. . The 1582 rates book values malt at 6s. 8d. per quart (£2 per wey). It is found in the 1575/6 account paying 4s. per wey custom (along with beans, barley and rye) which based on poundage at 1s. per pound works out at £4 per wey and sometimes the customs officer has inputted this value. In the case of grains however, after 1571, this is a meaningless figure. An act ‘for the increase of tyllage’ in that year decreed that it was lawful to transport any grain or wheat only from a port with a resident customs officer and that the new rate of custom would be 12d. per quarter for wheat and 8d per quarter for all other grains (peas, malt, beans, barley). The figures seen in the account reflect this custom and in some cases the officer has back projected to provide a value. This explains why sometimes the value in the accounts seems to be twice that of the rates book. In the datasets, the values given in the rates book have been imputed, to avoid confusion and maintain continuity through the accounts, for the sake of data analysis.⁸⁷

Mantles (Text: mant’): A kind of blanket worn in rural Ireland and the Scottish Highlands.

These are valued at 3s. 4d. per piece in the accounts before 1558 and at 5s. per piece thereafter. The 1600/1 account records a ‘dyed mantle’ paying the same custom as the unspecified sort, and in 1575/6 grey mantles is also valued at 5s. per piece

Also noted in the 1550/1 account is ‘Mantle Frieze Cloth’. Again this was imported from Ireland and is measured by the C (probably 120 yards). It is valued at 40s. per C.

Mantles, Small (mant’ parvas): Possibly ‘waist mantles’.

Marmalade: A preserve, consisting of a sweet, solid jelly.

Lb/roves

The 1507 Book lists ‘Marmelado the lb.’ At £4. This is presumably a mistake – the true price being 4d. In the accounts for the first half of the century marmalade is valued at 13s. 4d. per C (or just over 1d. per lb.) In the 1503 account it appears in ‘roves?’ which are valued at 2s. 6d. each/ and at 10s. per C. The 1582 book values ‘Marmelade’ at 8d. per lb. No marmalade is found in the accounts for the second half of the century, with the exception of one entry for 50 lbs of marmalade in 1594/5, which pays 2s. 4d. custom, so valued at £2 6s. 8d. This works out at around 11d. per lb custom value.

Masts: Upright pole or spar, fixed in the keel of a sailing ship in order to support the sails. *See* also coral above.

Masts are found in 1551 being imported on a Hanseatic ship at a value of 20s. per piece. These must have been of a particularly large size as ‘great masts’ are valued at only 6s. 8d. per piece in the 1582 rates book. Masts are found in the 1600/1 account at 6s. 8d.

⁸⁷ Statutes of the Realm, (1571)Vol. 4, chapter XIII, p. 547.

Mastic: Aromatic gum or resin which exudes from the bark of the lentisk or mastic tree, *Pistacia*, used chiefly in making varnishes and in medicine.

Lb

Found in the 1516-17 account at 32s. 8d. per dozen lbs. The 1582 rates book lists 'mastick the c. containing v.xx' at £10

Matches: Piece of wick, cord, etc., used to fire a cannon or other firearm.

Lb

As 'matches' in the rates book are listed as 'matches for gunners' the above is presumably what is referred to. These occur in the 1594/5 account and are usually listed after gunpowder. They are valued at 16s. 8d. per C. These are listed in the the 1582 rates book at 2d. per lb.

Match Cords (Text: matye cordes): 'piece of rope prepared as a slow match'. (OED)

C

Found in the 1594/5 account. These pay slightly more custom than matches (11d. per C), so value is around 18s. 4d. per C

Meal: The edible part of a grain or pulse, ground to powder or granules.

Found at 16s. 8d. per barrel in 1525/6.

Measure: A measure of woad etc., of varying quantity.

Meat

Barrel

Found at 5s. per barrel in the 1540s and at 6s. 8d. per barrel in 1525/6.

In 1550/1, Ox meat is found at 6s. 8d. barrel. Meat is also found in 1563/4, valued at £2 per hogshead.

Meise: *See* red herring.

Mercury (Text: argent 'vive, quicksilver): According to the OED, quicksilver is 'The metal mercury, so called from its liquid mobile form at ordinary temperatures'.

Argent Vive is found in the 1525/6 account at 5d. per lb and also at 15d. and 18d. per lb. It is found at 5d. per lb in the 1540s. Quick silver is found in the 1563/4 at 4s. per lb. It is listed however in the 1582 rates book at only 16d. per lb, and is found closer to this value in the 1600/1 account. This suggests that it may have been one of the commodities over valued in the rates revision and was subsequently re-valued.

Merells: The game piece used in nine men's morris.

Gross

Found at 4s. per gross in 1563/4 and 1594/5.

Millstones: A pair of circular stones which grind corn by the rotation of the upper stone on the lower.

Pair

Valued at 20s. per pair

Millstones, Small called Doggstones: A smaller version of the above.

Pair

Found at 20s. per pair in 1594/5.

Molasses (Text: malases): Thick, brown, uncrystallized syrup drained from raw sugar. (OED)

C

Found at a value of 10s. per C in 1594/5

Morions, Plain (Text: morines): A type of helmet without a visor.

Piece

Willan notes an error in the 1582 rates book, which has these at 2s. 6d. per piece.⁸⁸ They are valued at 3s. 4d. per piece in the 1558 rates book and are found at this value in the 1594/5 account.

N

Nails (Text: nalls, nayles, nawls)

C

The 1507 book lists various kinds of nails by the barrel and the 'small', but not by the C.

Found at 10d. per C in the 1540s. Given the low price, C may be 100 nails. 1582 book also lists various kinds of nails.

Nail Blades (Text: nalblade): Possibly a blade for cutting nails.

C

Found in 1551, valued at 12d. per C.

Nails, Board (Text: borde naile, bord naylle, borde nayle): Presumably these were nails used mostly to nail down wooden boards. The OED suggests a brad or a large spike.

These are not listed in the 1582 rates book but occur frequently as an export to Ireland in the later accounts. They are valued at 6d. per C in 1575/6 and at 3s. 4d. per M in 1600/1 and in 1594/5.

Nails, Fourpenny: A type of lath nail, used for 'Pantile Lathing'⁸⁹

M

They are found in 1600/1, valued at 2s. 6d. per M.

Nails, Lath: Lath is the term 'denoted a thin narrow strip of wood, used to form a groundwork on which to fix slates, tiles or the plaster of a wall or ceiling. A lath nail was a type of headed nail used for fixing lath to battens. There were two types of lath nails. The first were the 'reparation or lath nails, which are used for plain tile lathing, and outside and inside lathing for plastering'. The other sort were the four penny, and six penny nails,

⁸⁸ willan, p. 40.

⁸⁹ 'Lasch - Lazy back', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58807>, accessed: 16 October 2008.

used for pantile lathing' as above. The former were smaller and seem to have been sometimes described as twopenny or threepenny lath nails.⁹⁰

Nails, Rouze: These are most likely 'rove' nails. A rove, according to the OED is 'A small metal plate or ring on which the point of a nail or rivet is clinched or beaten down in the building of boats or small ships.'

They are found in the 1540s at 13s. 4d. to 15s. per C

Nails, Rouze & Clenth: These are likely to be Rove and Clinch nails as found in the OED above.

C

They are found in the 1540s at 13s. 4d to 15s. per C

Nails, Scopp: Unidentified type of nail.

M

Found in the 1594/5 account, pays 1d. custom per m so valued at around 20d. per M.

Nails, Yellow

Lb

Found in 1594/5 and valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen lbs.

Neck Bracelets: An ornamental ring or band worn on the neck. (OED)

Dozen

Found in 1594/5 account, valued at 10s. per dozen.

Necklaces: 'An ornamental chain or string of jewels, precious metal, beads, etc., worn round the neck.' Also 'a lace or ribbon for the neck; a necktie'. (OED)

Found in 1594/5 account, valued at 2s. 6d. per dozen. As this is the same value as the bugle necklace below, it may be of a similar type.

Necklaces, Bugle: *See* bugle bead.

⁹⁰ 'Lasch - Lazy back', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58807>, accessed: 16 October 2008.

Dozen

Found in 1600/1 as an export to Ireland. Valued at 2s. 6d. per dozen, based on custom payments.

Needles (Text: nelds): Valued by the clout which is a piece of cloth containing a certain number of pins or needles.

Clout

1507 book lists 'nedylles the clowte' but gives no valuation. The values vary in the earlier century from 8d. to 1s. 8d. per clout. The 1582 book lists needles at 20s. per dozen M. In the accounts however, needles are always listed by the clout and pay an ob. per clout custom, so value is around 10d. per clout. The 1600/1 account also records a variety of needles of specified types, detailed below.

Needles, Jhus: Unidentified, but presumably specialist needles.

M

Found in 1600/1 valued at 3s. 2d. per M

Needles, Spanish: Unidentified type of needle, but presumably of Spanish origin or style. They must also have been quite substantial in size as the OED provides a reference from Markam in 1615, which states that the best substance with which to make Angling hooks, is either old Spanish needles, or else strong wire.⁹¹

Found in the 1600/1 account, valued at 33s. 4d. per M

Needles, Yellow Band: Unidentified but presumably specialist needles.

M

Found in the 1600/1 account, valued at around 3s. 4d. per M

Nickel: 'A hard silvery-white chemical element, which is both malleable and ductile, and which usually occurs in combination with arsenic or sulphur'. As nickel was discovered from *kupfernickel* (copper of the devil 'nick') in 1751, this entry possibly relates to the latter, which had some uses for colouring glass green.

Piece

⁹¹ M. Gervase, *Country contentments in two bookes: the first containing the whole art of riding great horses, etc.: the second intituled The English huswife* 1615 (1631, 1649, 1668), from OED online.

Not listed in the 1582 rates book. Found in the 1594/5 account, valued at 10d. per piece.

Nutmeg (Text: nuttmygge, nutmigg) A spice used for culinary and medicinal purposes.⁹²

Lb

The 1507 book values 'nottmygges the c weayte' £5 (i.e. 1s. per lb. if cwt = 100 lbs).

Nutmeg is found in 1516/17 and 1525/6 at 1s. per lb. It is found in the 1540s accounts at both 20d. and 12d. per lb. The 1582 book values 'nutmegs the c. containing v.xx' at £16 13s. 4d. (3s. 4d. per lb) it is found in the later accounts at this value.

O

Oakum (ocam): The fibres of hemp or flax used for caulking the seams of ships and as a wound dressing.

C

Valued at 3s. 4d. per C in the first half of the century and at 5s. per c thereafter, in line with the 1582 rates book, which values 'Ocam the C' (112 lbs) at 5s.

Oclem pro seri: Unidentified.

Dozen

Found in the 1525/6 account. Valued at 10d. per dozen

Oclem Serptorn: Unidentified.

Dozen

Found in the 1525/6 account. Valued at 15d. per dozen.

Oars (ores): A long pole, widened and flattened at one end into a blade, used to propel a boat by pressure against the water.

Dozen

⁹² For detail on preparation for trade etc. see 'None so pretty - Nutmeg plums', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58828>, accessed 16 October 2008.

Found in the accounts valued at 4s. per dozen in 1503/4 and at 5s. per dozen in 1575. the 1582 rates book lists 'ores the c. containing vi.xx' at £4 per C (8s. per dozen)

Oar Ends: The blade of the oar, as above.

Dozen

Valued at 8s. per dozen in 1600.

Oar Staves: Stick of wood used to make oars.

Dozen

Valued at 13s. 4d. per dozen in 1601, based on custom payments.

Ochre: A mixture of varying proportions of clay and iron oxide used as a pigment.

Clb

Ochre is a mixture of varying proportions of clay and iron oxide used as a pigment.

It is found in the 1575/6, as an export to Ireland, valued at 3s. 4d. per C. The 1582 rates book simply values 'oker the barrel' at 13s. 4d. per barrel.

Ochre, Yellow: As above, a yellow pigment, when the iron oxide is limonite.

C

Found in the 1575/6, as an export to Ireland, valued at 10s. per C

Oil, Bay: Made from bay or laurel berries and used as a perfumed oil.

Lb

Bay oil is oil made from bay or laurel berries and used as a perfumed oil.

The 1582 book values 'oyle de bay' at 26s. 8d. per barrel, each barrel containing 100lb. (i.e. 3.2 d. per lb.)

The value varies in the accounts. It is found in 1525/6 at 7d. ob. per lb and in 1541/2 at 6d per lb. It has not been found in the accounts examined for the second half of the century.

Oil, for lamps (oleum pro lampadis)

Tun

Valued at 40s. per tun in the 1516/17 account.

Oil, Olive (Lat.: oleum; Text: olie, olii): This is olive oil which was also sometimes called ‘wool oil’ because its chief use was in the processing / cleaning of raw wool. *Olium* is sometimes specified as Seville Oil, which according to the OED is olive oil from Seville.

Tun

The 1507 book lists ‘oyle called wolle oylle’ at £4 per tun. Oil is valued in the accounts prior to 1558 at £4 per tun. The 1582 book lists ‘oyle olive the barrel’ containing 27 gallons at 30s. *Olii* is recorded in all of the accounts in the second half of the century at £8 per tun. It is sometimes specified as Seville Oil, which according to the OED is olive oil from Seville.

Oil, Petroleum:A viscous liquid, that is formed by the decomposition of organic matter buried in sediments, is present in some rock formations and is extracted and refined to produce fuels. (OED)

Lb

Found in the 1516/17 account at 10d. per lb

Oil, Punice: Unidentified.

Tun

This commodity only occurs in the 1600/1 account.⁹³ It is expensive, valued at £20 per tun and is imported to Bristol from France. It is not recorded in the 1582 rates book. One suggestion is that it could be Pomegranate seed oil as *punica* is the latin for pomegranate. There is also an interesting reference cited in the OED from Wornum, ‘Punic wax (*cera Punica*) was the common yellow wax, purified and bleached by being boiled three times in sea-water, with a small quantity of nitre... This wax was the Greek substitute for oil in painters’ colours’⁹⁴. It could therefore be an oil used in painting. It seems unusual however that either of these would be found in such large quantities as occur in the account.

Oil, Train (Text: trayn): Train oil comes from boiling the blubber from whales or seals. May also be applied to fish oil – esp. cod liver oil in this period.

Tun

⁹³ TNA E190/1132/11 f07r., f07v.

⁹⁴ R.N. Wornum (ed) Lectures on painting, by the Royal Academicians Barry, Opie, and Fuseli v.d. (1848) cited in the OED online.

The value of train oil varies in the accounts from the first half of the century. For example in 1516/17, 'trayne' is valued at 46s. 8d. tun. In the 1540s, it is found at 53s. 4d. or 70s. per tun and in 1550/1 it is found at £4 and £5 a tun. In the accounts examined for the second half of the century, train oil is always valued at £5 per tun, as in the 1582 rates book.

Olives (Text: oil berries): Shipped in barrels.

Little barrel/hogshead

Found in the 1525/6 account listed as olives and masys at 2s. 6d. per lb. In the 1540s, olives are recorded at 6s. 8d. per 'little barrel' and at 20s. per hogshead.

The 1582 book values 'olives the hogshed' 53s. 4d. Olives are found at this value in the 1575/6 account. There are none recorded in the 1594/5 06 1600/1 accounts.

Onions: Found in bunches, ropes and barrels. Onion seed in contrast is found by the C weight.

Rope/barrel

The 1507 book values 'c bunches' of onions at 6s. 8d. and barrels at 8d.

They are found in the 1540s at 1.2d per rope.

The 1582 book values 'c bunches containing v.xx' at 8s. 4d. and the barrel at 16d. They are found however in the 1600/1 account paying 3d. custom per barrel as an export to Ireland. The value is therefore 5s. per barrel.

Oranges (orynges)

Ton, M (12 M = 1 ton)

Found in the accounts up to the 1550s at 3s. 4d. per M. The 1582 book values 'orenges the M' 6s. 8d.' They are found at this value in 1600/1.

Oranges and Lemons

M

Listed together in the 1594/5 account at 6s. 8d. per M.

Orchil (Text: orrchall, archal): a 'red or violet dye prepared from certain lichens'. (OED)

C/last

The 1507 book values 'ortshall the c wayte' 20s. and the barrel 13s. 4d.

It is found in the accounts at 13s. 4d. per C before the 1558 rates rise.

The 1582 book values 'orchall the c. containing' 112 lb at 20s. and notes that a last contains 3 C. Orchil is found in the later accounts at 20s. per C. It is often shipped by the firkin which usually contains 1 C.

Orchement: Unidentified. It does not appear to be Orpiment or Ornament as in the rates book, as its value is much higher.

Lb

Found in the 1563/4 account, valued at 8d. per lb. It does not appear to be Orpiment or Ornament as in the rates book, as the value for orchement is much higher (£3 13s. 4d. per C?)

Organ Pipes (old): Generally made out of metal or wood, these are the sound producing elements of a pipe organ.

Piece

The 1550/1 account records three 'olde organ pyppes' being shipped to the continent, valued at 40s. for 3.

Pane: A bundle of varying from 30 to 100 skins.

Pans:

Lb

Pans are listed in the accounts by their weight. For example in the 1550/1 account there is '1 pan waying 10lb' listed at a value of 3s. 4d.

Pans, Brass: As above.

Piece/C

Valued at 4s. per pan in the 1540s accounts.

Also entered as '1 C pan brass', which refers to the weight of the pan. In 1575/6 a 20lb brass pan is valued at 6s. 8d., a 40lb pan is valued at 16s. 8d. and a 60lb pan is valued at 20s.

Pans, Dripping: Pan used to catch the ‘dripping’ from roasting meat.

Piece/C

The 1507 book values ‘droppyn pans of yerne the c wyte’ 10s.

These are valued at 10d. per pan in the 1540s.

The 1582 book has a cross-reference entry for ‘pannes look in dripping, frying and warming pannes’. However, while there are entries for frying and warming pans, there is not one for ‘dripping’. The 1594/5 account records a dozen ‘plate dripping pans’ valued at 5s.

Pans, Frying: A shallow pan, usually of iron, with a long handle, in which food is fried.

C

Valued at 13s. 4d. per C in 1594/5, as in the 1582 rates book. Presumably cwt refers to the weight of the pan, as in the 1550/1 account.

Paper: Usually either brown or white and valued by the ream, which according to the 1582 rates book is 20 quires.

Ream

The 1507 book has entries for ‘paper called wyte’ by the bale and ream, but gives no valuation. Also has an entry for ‘paper called browne the bundelle’ 8d.

Paper is listed in the 1540s at 1s. 8d. per ream and in 1563/4 and 1575/6 at 2s. 8d. per ream.

The 1582 book lists ‘paper the bale containing x remes’ 26s. 8d. (i.e. 2s. 8d. per ream). It also notes that a ream contains xx quires’. The 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts show a higher value for white paper, which pays 2d. custom per ream and so is valued at 3s. 4d.

Paper, Brown: A less expensive type of paper than the white variety.

Ream

Brown paper is much less expensive in the accounts than white, and pays only an ob. custom per ream, giving it a value of between 5d. and 10d. per ream. Brown paper is listed at 8d. per bundle in the 1582 rates book.

Paper, Gold: Presumably this is a paper dyed a gold/yellow colour or embossed with gold.

Dozen

Valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen in 1594/5.

The account also listed painted paper at 6s. 8d. per ream. These are not found in the 1582 rates book. It does however list 'paper royall the reme' at 6s. 8d. per ream.

Parchment Skins: Piece of animal skin, esp. from a sheep or goat, dressed and prepared as a surface for writing.

Dozen

Usually valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts.

Peas (Lat.: pisum; Text: pisar, pis'): Any of the seeds of the plant *Pisum sativum* which grow in elongated pods and are eaten as a vegetable, or as a pulse when dried.

Wey

Valued at 16s. 8d. per wey in 1525/6.

Pect: In most cases 'pect' are combs, and are found by the dozen. They also occur however by the bale. In 1516 a bale of 'pect' is valued at 20s. These are possibly reeds from the Latin *pectin*. Reeds are listed in the 1582 rates book, but by the C/M. Nevertheless this seems a possible explanation as a bale is a typical unit for hay etc.

Penners: A metal or leather case for holding pens.

Dozen

Valuations in the first half of the century vary from 5d. to 1s. 5d. per dozen. The 1582 book values Penners, both with inkhorns and without, at 10s. per gross (10d. per dozen). They are found in the 1575/6, 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts at this value.

Pepper (Lat. Piper; Text: piperis): Spice derived from the peppercorns of the pepper plant.

Lb/C

The 1507 book values pepper at £6 per 'c wayte' (1s. per lb if 120 lbs). Note that in 1516 a C is valued at £5 and C appears to be 100 lb weight. 1lb valued at 1s. It is also valued at 1s. per lb in the 1540s accounts. The 1582 book values pepper at 20d. per lb and notes that a 'c pound' contains 100 lbs. Pepper is found in the 1575/6, 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts at 20d. per lb.

Percular: Unidentified.

Dozen

This is found in the 1540s and is valued at 1s. 8d. per gross but this is variable.

Perfume: Uncertain if this is liquid based or insense.

Lb

Valued at 1s. 9d. per lb in 1546.

Petticoat: A women's light loose undergarment in the form of a shirt or dress.

Dozen

Valued at 24s. per dozen in 1551 These are probably cotton or wool, which are listed at 30s. per dozen in the 1582 rates book. The book also lists a silk petticoat at £12 per dozen.

Pewter

C/Lb.

Valued at 4d. per lb in the 1540s and at 33s. 4d. per C in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts.

Also listings for broken pewter. There are 100lbs. in a C.

Pewter Salt: As this is found by the dozen, it may relate to a pewter container for salt.

Dozen

Valued at 5s. per dozen in 1575/6

Pile Weights: A series of brass weights, fitting one within another. ⁹⁵

Lb

They occur in the 1594/5 account, where 2lb pay 1d. customs, so the value is around 10d. per lb. The 1600/1 account records 'brass weights' which are presumably the same thing as the 1582 book lists 'brasse weights called pile weights the c. containing v.xx xii li' at 1s.

Pilus Tinctus: There is uncertainty regarding the exact meaning of this term. Wendy Childs and Elenor Carus-

⁹⁵ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 10.

Wilson have both interpreted it as 'dyed hair', possibly a reference to dyed wool. Longfield on the other hand has interpreted it as dyed cloth. Given that it is always found by the lb, the former explanation seems more likely. A further suggestion is that it is a type of coloured thread (phili) which can also be found by the lb. *Pils* have also been found in the accounts and have been translated as caps (see caps above). It is possible that pilors tinct may be a coloured material used in cap making.

Lb

It is valued at 40s. per C (120lb) This commodity occurs in the 1503/4, 1516/17 and 1525/6 accounts.

Pins

M

Valued at 3d. per M in the first half of the century.

The 1582 book values 'pinnes the dosen M' 3s. 4d. (3.33 d per M) They are found at this value in the accounts.

Pins, Flanders

Dozen

Found in 1516/17, valued at 2s. per dozen

Pin-Wheel: A revolving circular box or drum with wooden pins projecting from the inner surface, in which hides are washed, softened in the process of leather making.

Unit unknown.

Found in the 1594/5 account, no value available.

Pipe: A cask; hence a measure. A pipe of wine is equal to half a tun. Its varies with other commodities.

Pipe Boards: These are the timber pieces used to make a pipe cask.

M

Valued in 1516/17 at 16s. 8d. per M.

Pipe Staves: Similar to the above.

C

Valued at 5s. per C in 1575/6

Pipes, Tobacco: Probably made of clay or wood.

Dozen

These don't occur in the accounts considered here before 1600. In that year, three dozen tobacco pipes paid an ob. custom, so the approximate customs value is 3s. 4d. per gross.

Pitch (Text: piche, pytche, pytch, pitche, piche, pich): 'A tenacious resinous substance of a black or black-brown colour, hard when cold, but becoming a thick, semi-viscid liquid when heated. It was used among other things to stop the seams of ships after caulking and to protect wood from moisture. It was also used medicinally to treat coughs, arthritis, and as an ingredient of ointments.'⁹⁶

Last/C/Cake

The 1507 book values 'pyche the last' 20s. (1s. 8d. per barrel). It is found in the accounts at 26s. 8d. per tun/ton in the first half of the century and at 40s. per ton in 1563/4.

The 1582 book values 'pitch and tar the last containing xii barrels' 40s.

In the later accounts (1594/5, 1600/1), pitch is recorded (often with Rosin) by the cake, at 3s. 4d. per cake. There are entries for 'pice', which is probably pitch, in the 1575/6 account at £3 6s. 8d. per tun/ton.

Pitch, Hearth: May be the same as pitch as it has the same value.

Ton/Cake

Not listed in 1582 book. It is found in the 1525/6 account, where twelve of an unspecified unit (perhaps C) is valued at 10s. It is also found in the 1575/6 account as an import from Spain at 40s. per ton, and in the 1600/1 account, by the cake at 3s. 4d. per cake, the same value as ordinary pitch.

Plate Locks: Probably refers to a lock made from metal plate.

Dozen

Probably refers to a lock made from metal plate.

Found in the 1600/1 account, valued at 2s. 6d. per dozen, based on customs payments.

Playing Cards (Text: cardes pro ludendo, cart pict' (picture): Set or pack of cards, used in playing various games.

⁹⁶ 'Pine - Pitchfork', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.britishhistory.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58842>, accessed 16 October 2008.

Dozen

The 1507 rates book values 'playeng cardes the grosse' at £4. This seems unrealistically high, as it would work out at more than 6d. per card, about six times the price of a whole primer.

Cards are listed at 10d. to 1s. 3d. per dozen in the 1540s accounts and at 20s. per gross in the 1582 rates book, confirmed by entries in the later port books. This all suggests the price given in the 1507 book is a mistake.

Playing Tables: Table on which games are played;. one which has a playing board inlaid on its surface.

Dozen

1582 book list various types but the cheapest is 8s. per dozen. Listed in the 1595 account at 5s. per 6 pairs, ie per dozen.

Pocket: Sack or bag, sometimes used as a measure of quantity, particularly for hops, where it equals 3C.

Points (Lat.: ligula; Text: ligul', laces): 'A tagged lace or cord, of twisted yarn, silk, or leather, for attaching the hose to the doublet, lacing a bodice, and fastening various parts where buttons are now used'. A large variety of types are found.

'Laces' have been entered in the datasets as 'points', since, while the term is not used anymore, it was the term used at the time to describe an item of dress-ware that is not used today. A slight difficulty with this however is that it is sometimes difficult to distinguish in the later accounts between laces (points) and lace. For example chain lace and statute lace could be laces or lace, although the dictionary of traded goods suggests that chain lace is a cord.

The 1507 rates book values 'poynts the small grosse' at 5d. and the 'grett grosse' at 5s. The 1582 book values 'points the great groce containing xii small' 10s. There is therefore 12 small gross in a great gross. A small gross is presumably 12 dozen pieces.

The accounts up to 1550/1 simply list points or ligulas at 1s. per gross. There are also a small number of entries for silk points. The fact that these points are all listed at the same value suggests a genuine lack of variety and not merely a less specific method of recording than the accounts from 1575 onwards, which list a great variety of points/laces as detailed below. The 1563/4 lists points by the small or great gross at 8d. per small gross and 8s. per large gross and also has leather and red points/laces.

Points, Broad 1d. (Text: id broad lace, peny bread lace)

Dozen

This occurs in the 1594/5 account. It looks like penny laces or points. It could however be a broad type of lace but this would mean that dozen is a 'dozen yards' and 10d. seems like too low a value for a dozen yards of lace. Lace is listed in the 1582 rates book (bone lace) and is valued there at 6s. 8d. per dozen yards. The 1594/5 account also list 'peny bread lace' at a value of 6s. 8d. per lb. This is probably the same commodity and is most likely to be a type of point.

Points, Bugle (bugle lace)

Dozen

As a bugle is a tube shaped bead used in ornamental garments, bugle lace is unlikely to be 'lace' but is probably laces or points, perhaps attached in some manner to a bugle bead. These occur in 1594/5 and pay 1d per dozen custom so are valued at around 20d. per dozen.

Points, Copper (copper lace)⁹⁷

Ounce

Twelve ounces of copper points paid 4d. custom in 1600/1 and is therefore valued for customs purposes at around 6s. 8d.

Points, Coarse (coarse lace)

Lb

Valued at 4s. per lb in 1594/5 based on customs valuations. Again it is unclear if these are points/laces or lace. They are not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Points, Crewel (crewel lace)

Gross

Probably points/laces made from crewel yarn. Valued at 6s. 8d. per gross in 1594/5.

Points, Green (greene lace)

⁹⁷ E190/1132/11 f37v.

Lb

Valued at 6d. 8d. per lb in 1594/5. The more expensive value may mean that these are a type of lace and not laces/points.

Points, Inkle (ynkle pointe)

Gross

Valued at around 10d. per gross in 1600/1 based on customs payments.

Points, Leather (leather points/laces)

Gross

Valued at 20d. per gross in 1563/4. Pays an ob or half an ob custom per gross in the 1600/1 account so valued at between 5-10d. per gross. The account also lists 'single leather points' paying an ob custom per gross. Not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Points, Paris Red

Gross

Valued at 20d. per gross in 1563/4. These occur in the 1575/6 account and are valued at 8d. per gross.

Points, Red

Small gross

Valued at around 20d. per small gross in 1594/5, based on customs payments.

Points, Saye (saye lace)

Gross

Points/laces made from saye. Valued at 6s. 8d. per gross in 1594/5

Points, Silk (silke poynte, ligulas serc)

Gross/lb

Valued in the 1540s at 1s. 8d. to 2s. per gross. In 1575, these are valued at 12s. per lb and in 1600/1 they pay 1d. custom per gross and are therefore valued at around 20d. per gross.

Points, Thread

Gross

Generally pays an ob. per gross (small) custom. The value is therefore about 10d. per gross, which is the same as the 1582 rates book. The 1600 account has 'thread points' and 'single thread points' but they both pay the same custom.

Points, White Leather

Gross

These also pay an ob. custom per gross, so value is around 10d. per gross in 1600/1.

Porpoise (Text: porpas): Any of various small delphinoid whales of the family Phocoenidae, characterized by a blunt, rounded snout and usually a low, triangular dorsal fin. (OED)

Barrel

Valued at 6s. 8d. per barrel in 1550/1. Also in 1525/6, four pieces of 'littyl porpas' are valued at the same amount. Presumably the porpoise shipped by the barrel is porpoise meat, while those shipped by the piece are intact.

Portmanteau (porteos, portmantial, port manters): A case or bag for carrying clothing and other belongings when travelling.

Piece

Valued at around 20d. each based on custom payments in 1594/5. These portmantial are probably portmanteau, but presumably, based on the value they are not made of leather.

Potol: A 'pottle' can be a pot or vessel capable of holding a pottle (i.e. half a gallon) of liquid. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at 10d. per dozen in the 1540s

Pots, Brass

Piece

These are recorded similarly to pans, so probably 'cxx libr pott brasse' for example means brass pots/pot weighing 120 lbs. They are valued in 1575 at 33s. 4d. each for 100lb, 40s. for 120lb and 50s. for 150lbs.

Pots, Iron

Dozen

Valued at 10s. per dozen in the 1594/5 account. Iron pots are listed in the 1582 rates book at the same value.

Pots, Stone Uncovered

C

Valued at 5s. per C in 1600/1.

Prunes: Dried plums, but the term was sometimes used for fresh fruit also.⁹⁸ They are shipped in 'punchons' and each punchon holds 4 C.

C

Valued at 6s. 8d. per C and at 10s. per C in the later accounts. They are usually shipped in a puncheon, which according to Zupko is a large wooden vessel, resembling a cask, used for several different commodities.⁹⁹ The 1582 book lists 'prunes the C' containing 112 lb. at 10s. per C. Listed in 1591 and 1595 per C at 10s. They are shipped in 'punchons' and each punchon holds 4 C.

Pullock (Text: pullocke): The OED lists pellock or pullock as 'A dolphin, porpoise, or similar marine animal.

⁹⁸ 'Precipitate - Prussian blue', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58847>, accessed 16 October 2008.

⁹⁹ Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 329.

This however may also refer to 'Pollack' which the OED defines as any of several edible marine fishes having a protruding lower jaw, now or formerly included in the genus *Pollachius*, which includes such fish as coal-fish, also found in the accounts.

C (lbs?)

Valued at 5s. per C in 1525/6.

Puncheon: Large wooden vessel, resembling a cask, used for several different commodities.¹⁰⁰

Purses (Lat.: crumena; Text: purs' / cruminar): Money bag or receptacle for money. Various types exist, defined by the fabric used, or the style/origin/utilisation of the purse, for example 'Venice purses' and 'pin purses'.

Dozen

1540s 4d. -6d. per dozen. They are found in the 1540s at values from 4d. -6d. per dozen and in the 1594/5 account at 3s. 4d. per dozen. The 1582 book lists purses for children at 15s. per gross and various types of 'Venice purses' for 12s. to 40s. the dozen, depending on whether they were made from leather, embroidered leather or embroidered silk.

Purses, Pin

Dozen

Valued in 1594/5 at 3s. 4d. per dozen.

Purses, Taffeta

Piece

These are valued at around 10d. each in 1594/5.

Q

Quadraer: Unidentified. A possibility is that this is quartern wire, which the dictionary of traded goods suggests

¹⁰⁰ Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 329.

was a fine wire, valued by the lb like virginal wire.¹⁰¹

It is valued at 8d. per C in the 1540s. The 1582 booke contains a reference to 'Quatuor semini frigidorum' at 4s. the lb, however, Willan did not know what it was. The large difference in price suggests that this is a different commodity in any case.

Quarter: The fourth part of some usual measure.

Quern Stones: Stones for grinding grain.

Pair/Last (12 pairs)

Found in 1594/5 at £1 16s. 8d. for 11 pairs which works out as the same value given in the 1582 rates book (40s. per last ie. 12 pairs)

In 1550/1 a last of quern stones is recorded at 10s., size unknown, and in 1575, a last is valued at 12s., which fits with neither the value for the 'great' or 'small' sort in the 1582 rates book.

Quintal (Text: kindal): Equal to a hundredweight.¹⁰² Found as a measurement for iron.

Raisins (Text: resyns, resons, raisinges): Partially dried fruit of some varieties of grape. Listed in the 1582 rates book as 'Great' raisins, a term sometimes used to distinguish between raisins and 'Corinths' or currants.

Ton

Raisins are valued in the accounts before the rates increase at £2 per ton. A ton consisted of 24 pieces. After this, the customs value was raised to £6 per ton for 'great' raisins, or 5s. per piece.

Raisins, Gallipola: Probably raisins from Gallipoli in Turkey.

C

Found in the 1594/5 account and valued at the same price as 'great' raisins.

Raisins, Malaga: Raisins from Malaga, Spain. The 'dictionary of traded goods' suggests that these were

¹⁰¹ 'Quadrille box - Quoiler', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58849>, accessed 16 October 2008.

¹⁰² Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 342.

'Raisins of the Sun', which were probably also produced in other areas.¹⁰³ The accounts suggest otherwise however as Malaga raisins are valued at 6s. 8d. per C, the same as 'great' raisins, while raisins of the sun or sundried raisins are valued at 16s. 8d. per C.

Raisins, *Rotta*: Unidentified.

Ton, C, piece

These are not listed in the 1582 rates book. they are found with 'shoeris' raisins in the 1594/5 account. The dictionary of traded goods refers to 'Roate' raisins but doesn't supply a definition.

Valued at the same price as 'great' raisins.

Raisins, *Shoeris* (sheres, shoeris): Unidentified.

Piece

Valued at 5s. per piece in 1594/5.

Raisins, of the Sun (Text: raysons of the sunne, raisins solis): Sundried raisins.

C (112 lb.)

Valued at 16s. 8d. per C.

Ream: *See* paper.

Ribbons (Text: rybbands): Various types found. *See* Caddis, Check, Saye, Crewell.

Dozen (presumably pieces) although 'peny ribbon' is valued by the lb.

Price for unspecified ribbon varies. The 1540s accounts have ribbons at 1s. 8d. per dozen, while in 1575/6 a dozen is valued at a lower 12d. per dozen.

The 1582 book lists 'cap ribband' and 'Venice Riband' at 26s. 8d. per dozen and also 'Thred ribond' at 6s. 8d. per dozen.

¹⁰³ 'Rabbeting plane - Ranter', *Dictionary of Traded Goods*, URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=58850>, accessed 16 October 2008.

Ribbon, Caddis

Dozen

1s. 6d. per dozen in 1540s.

Ribbon, Check

Dozen

Found in the 1600/1 account. A gross is probably valued at around 6s. 8d. based on customs payments.

Ribbon, Crewell (Cruell): Crewell is a worsted yarn.

Piece

Valued at around 10d. per piece in 1594/5.

Ribbon, de fiba (?)

Gross

Found in 1516/17 at 4s. per gross

Ribbon, Penny Broad (peny, 1d.)

lb

Valued at around 6s. 8d. per lb in 1594/5.

Ribbon, Saye

Dozen

Valued in the 1540s at 4s. per dozen.

Ribbon, Silk

Gross

Valued at around 16s. 4d. per gross in 1594/5.

Rice: Food grain obtained from the seed of the plant *Oryza sativa*.

C (lb)

Listed in the 1582 book at 16s. for a clb, containing 112 lbs. It is found in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts paying 10d. custom per C, which works out at a value of 16s. 8d. per C. It is sometimes entered in the account books by the 'bag' with no volume given. The value of a bag is 26s. 8d. Rice is not found in the accounts that we have studied before 1575/6. In the 1575/6 account it is entered at two different values, 20s. per C and 10s. per C, for some inexplicable reason.

Rings, Copper: Probably ornamental rings as the 1582 book lists 'copper rings fine with stones the dozen'.

Dozen

Valued at 4d. per dozen in the 1540s. The 1582 book lists 'copper rings fine with stones the dozen' 3s. 4d. per dozen and also 'copper chaines the groce' 4s. (i.e. 4d. per dozen)

Rope: Usually made of twisted strands of hemp, flax, or other fibrous material, but also of strips of hide, pliant twigs, metal wire. (OED)

C

Valued at 13s. 4d. per C in 1540s and at 16s. 8d. for rope and white rope in 1595/5.

Rosin (Text: rozen, rosin, rosen): Obtained as a residue of the distillation of oil of turpentine from crude turpentine and used along with pitch on ships as a sealant / preservative. It was also an ingredient of soap, and was used to treat coughs, arthritis, and as an ingredient of ointments. It was most likely traded in its solid form, as the later accounts mostly contain rosin by the cake.

C/Cake

Valued in the earlier accounts (up to 1550/1) at 26s. 8d. per ton (20d per C). It is occasionally found at a higher value of £2 per ton.¹⁰⁴ In 1575/6, it is valued also at £2 per ton. In the 1595/5 and 1600/1 accounts, rosin is found

¹⁰⁴ TNA E122/22/4 f17r.

by the cake. A cake paid 2d. cusom and so is valued at 3s. 4d. The accounts state that there were 20 cakes to a ton, so a ton is therefore valued at £3 6s. 8d. The cake found in these accounts is probably the 'peece' found in the 1582 rates book as both are valued at 3s. 4d.

Rugg: A type of rough woollen blanket from Ireland.

Piece/yard

According to a list of rates from (?) 1519, Ruggs are the same as, or similar to, Caddows.¹⁰⁵ In the accounts they are both valued at 10s. a piece, along with coverings, blankets and coverlettes. They are imported exclusively from Ireland.

Rye: Food-grain obtained from the plant *Secale cereale*.

1 wey = 6 quarters = 48 bushels (bushel = 64 pints)

Valued at 16s. 8d. per wey in the earlier accounts. It is not listed in 1563/4 but is listed in 1575/6 as paying 40s.. custom per 60 quart/8d.

Rye Meal: Ground Rye with the bran bolted out.

Last

Valued at 16s. 6d. per last.

S

Saddle (Text: sadles): Seat for a horse rider with side flaps and fitted with girths and stirrups.

Piece

Valued at 6s. 8d. each in 1575/6.

Saffron (Lat.: croceus; Text: croc'): An orange-yellow spice, used also as a medicine and a dyestuff, made from the dried stigmas of the crocus.

Lb.

¹⁰⁵ Henry Bush, p. 53.

Valued at 10s. per lb pre 1558. The 1582 book values 'saffrone' at 13s. 4d. per lb, and it pays 8d. per lb custom in the later accounts which works out at this value.

Sails (sels): Pieces of canvas or other strong textile material fastened to the masts, spars or stays of a vessel, so as to catch the wind and cause it to move through the water. The accounts also contain 'Sail Yardys' which is probably the nautical term for the yards (spars) to which a sail is fixed. (*See* OED)

Valued at 6s. 8d. per piece in the 1540s. In 1551, 'Sail Yardys' are 10s. per (?) piece. Not listed in the 1582 rates book. This value doesn't seem high enough to make this a ships sail, although the 'sail yardys' probably indicates that this is yards of the material used to make a sail.

Salt (Lat.: sal; Text: sal, sel, sawlte): Listed sometimes as Bay salt, which is from Borgneuf Bay, south of the Loire; made by evaporation, it produces large crystals or white salt, which is prepared and refined mainly for household use.

Ton/Wey/Bushel

1507 book lists 'sawlte the waye' 13s. 4d.

Valued at 10s. per ton in the earlier accounts, this figure doubling to 20s. per ton after 1558.

Salt in the accounts is almost always listed by the ton and not the wey, as listed in the rates book. It is not usually specified by type, though in 1595 there is a listing for 'French salt' which is also valued at 20s. per ton. The 1582 book lists 'salt bay the way containing xl bushels' 20s. Bay salt is salt from Borgneuf Bay, south of the Loire. Made by evaporation, it produces large crystals. It also lists 'Salte white, the way' valued at 26s. 8d. (So 1 wey = 2560 pints, making it 25% greater than a tun (2016 pints).

Sandlewood: A tree of India which has a hard fragrant timber, used as a dyewood and in medicine.

Lb

Listed in the later accounts as paying both 1d. and an ob. custom per lb so difficult to work out exact value. Probably 10-20 d. per lb value. This difference in apparent value could also be the distinction between the white and yellow varieties as listed in the 1582 rates book, which lists yellow saunders at 16d. per lb and white at 20d. per lb.

Saws: Sometimes specified as 'hand saws' which were carpenters saws, according to the 1582 rates book.

Dozen

Valued at 16s. per dozen, the 1582 rates book doesn't list any saws at this value. Presumably these are larger than 'hand saws' and therefore more expensive.

Saw Files: A file specially adapted for sharpening the teeth of saws.

Dozen

Valued at 18d. per dozen in 1576.

Saws, Hand

Dozen

Valued at 6s. per dozen in 1576 and at around 3s. 4d. in 1600/1. the 1582 rates book lists 'sawes for carpenters, called hand saws' at 3s. 4d. per dozen and also 'sawes called two hand sawes the dozen' at 6s. 8d.

Scabbard (Text: scaberd): A cover for the blade of a sword or dagger.

Dozen

Valued at 2s. per dozen in 1576.

Scissors (Text: siseres): Cutting instrument consisting of a pair of handled blades.

Dozen

Valued at 2s. 6d. per dozen in 1575/6.

Scrofe (Text: scrof): Perhaps refuse wool but as it's valued higher than wool flocks it seems unlikely.

Lb

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen lbs in 1503/4 and at 10s. per C in 1525/6.

Scythes (Text: sithes): Tool used for cutting crops such as grass or corn with a long curved blade. These could also be 'sithes' which the OED defines as milk strainers.

Piece

The 1507 book lists 'scythes the sheffe' 6s. 8d. A sheaf if 'a bundle of iron or steel containing a definite number of gads' (OED). Valued at 1s. 8d. per piece in 1540s. not listed in 1582 book. Sithes are valued at around 10s. per dozen in 1600/1.

Sea Horse Teeth: Hippopotamus teeth, traded for their ivory.

Jobson, describing a hippopotamus, which he called a "sea-horse"- *"He is in fashion of body a compleat horse, as round buttock'd as a horse of service, and in his whole body answerable; his head like unto a horse with short eares, but palpably appearing, which he wags and stirres as he shews himself, onely toward his mouth he growes broade downe like a bull, and hath two teeth standing right before upon his lower choppe, which are great and dangerous."* (The Golden Trade, 1623)¹⁰⁶

Bosswell- *"This water-horse of the sea is called a hippotame, for that he is like a horse in back, mayne, and neying: rostro resupinato a primis dentibus: causa tortuosa, unguis binis. He abideth in the waters on the day, and eateth corn by night et hunc Nilus gignit."* (Works of Armorie, 1589)

Seals (Text: seles, seale fish): In the 16th century seals were sometimes described as a type of fish, along with porpoises.

Piece

1582 book lists 'seale fish' at 13s. 4d. per fish. In the 16th century seals were sometimes described as a type of fish, along with porpoises.

Seal Pigs: Possibly also seals, although they are half the value of seals in the accounts.

Piece

Seeds, Caraway (Text: caraweyes): Small fruits from the plant *Carum Carui*. Used medicinally and as a spice.

Lb

Valued at 20d. per lb in the 1575/6 account.

¹⁰⁶ <http://www.eaudrey.com/myth/seahorse.htm>

Seed, Cumin (Text: commenseed, cummin): Seed of a plant cultivated in the Levant for its fruit, which possesses aromatic and carminative qualities.

Dozen (Lbs)

Cumin seed is found in the 1595/5 and 1600/1 accounts, although it is likely that the cumin found in the accounts up until this is also seed. The 1582 book values 'comine' at 26s. 8d. per 112 lb, noting 1 bale – 3 C. and doesn't specify that this is seeds, but in the 1600/1 account a C of cumin seed is found at the same value.

Cumin is found at 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1563/4 and 1575/6 and at 1s. 4d. per dozen in the 1540s but values for this commodity tend to vary.

Seed Fennel: *Feniculum vulgare*, cultivated chiefly for its use in cookery.

Lb

Valued at 2d. per lb in 1563.

Seed, Leek (Text: licke, leeke sede): A culinary herb.

Lb

Valued at 10s. per dozen lbs in 1540s and at 6s. 8d. per dozen in 1600/1. Not listed in 1582 rates book.

Seed, Mustard: Seed of a mustard plant.

Bushel

Found at a value of 20d. per bushel in 1595/5, based on custom payments.

Seed, Onion (Text: ynion): Seeds imported to grow onions, a culinary vegetable.

Lb.

1507 book lists 'onyons sede' the c wayte at 20s. (c.2d. per lb.) listed at both 8s. 4d. and 10s. per dozen in 1540s

The 1582 book lists 'onyon seed' the C of 112lb at 33s. 4d. (c.3.5d. per lb.) which is the value at which it occurs in the later accounts.

Seed, Porcelic: Perhaps parsnip or parsley seed.

Lb

Valued at 3d. per lb in 1563. Only occurs in this account.

Senna (Text: senys, senie): A large genus of flowering trees, growing in warm climates. The senna in the accounts is probably a laxative prepared from the dried pods of the trees.

Lb

The 1507 book lists 'sene the c wyght' £3 (c. 7d. per lb, if c equals 100). The value varies in the pre- 1558 accounts from 4d. to 10d. per lb. The 1582 book lists 'senie the C containing v.xx' at £7 10s.

Serches: Sieves or strainers.

Dozen

Valued at 4s. per dozen in 1516/17 and at 4s. 2d. in the accounts between 1517 and the 1550s. Serches or serces occur in the later accounts at both 6s. 8d. per dozen or 10s. per dozen. There is one entry for serces valued by the lb. in the 1600/1 account, which suggests that a dozen may consist of 12 lbs. There are a few possible explanations for the term. The OED lists Sark or Serc 'as garment worn next the skin; a shirt or chemise'. It is very unlikely however that such a commodity would be found by the lb. Another possibility is that it is serge cloth, but the fact that serge cloth turns up as 'sarge' in the same accounts as serches makes this also very unlikely. The most likely explanation, particularly as serches always arrive as a minor part of an iron consignment from the Spanish Basque region, is that they are sieves. The OED has searce as a sieve or strainer, and it appears to have been often written as serche or sarch. This explanation would also help to explain the presence of 'hopes for serches' in the 1563/4 account, which are probably hoops of some type.

Seron: A bale or package made up in an animal's hide, usually of soap.

Setting Stick: stick used for making holes for 'setting' or planting.

Dozen

Valued at around 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1595/5.

Sheets: these are bed sheets as they are found by the pair. Coarse sheets are possibly hempen and Holland sheets, which are more expensive, are made from Holland linen.

Pair

Valued at 10s. per pair in 1595/5.

Ship-Boards: Plank of a ship.

C

Valued at 20s. per C pre-1558. Not listed in 1582 rates book.

Shoe Horns: Tool for assisting the user to put on shoes more easily.

Dozen

Valued at around 5d. per dozen in the later accounts.

Shovel (Text: showyll): Type not specified.

Dozen

Valued at 6d. per dozen in 1550/1.

Silk (Lat: seres; Text: seric')

Lb

The 1507 book lists 'rawe sylke' at 6s. 8d. per lb. The term can refer either to the unspun silk or to silk cloth made from a fabric made from spun silk. It also lists 'thrown silk' at 13s. 4d. per lb. which would generally refer to silk thread.

'Thrown' or 'worked silk' (seric' operat) is valued at 13s. 4d. per lb in the accounts before the rates increase. Raw silk (seric rawe) doesn't feature in the accounts examined before 1563. In this account it is recorded at 6s. 8d. per lb. The 1582 book has various listings for silk of different sorts. Those appearing in the accounts are listed below.

Silk, Black Spanish:

Lb

This is probably the 'silk of Granado black the pound' (xvi ounces) as listed in the rates book as 'Spanish silk' is more expensive at 26s. 8d. per lb. Valued at around 20s. per lb in 1600/1 as in the rates book.

Silk, Bredth Peny (Text: Peny Bredth Silke): Unidentified.

Silk, Bridges: Silk from Bruges.

Lb

Valued at 15s. per lb as in the rates book.

Silk, Caddis (Text: caedese sylke): 'Floss silk' used as padding etc. (OED)

Lb

1507 book lists 'sylke called rawe cades' at 4s. per lb. Valued at 6s. 8d. per lb. in the 1540s.

Silk, Ferrett (Text: floret) : A kind of coarse silke. Also known as floss silk.¹⁰⁷

Lb

Pays 4d. per lb custom in 1600/1, which values it about 6s. 8d. per lb. Valued higher than this in the rates book at 8s. 4d. per lb. Valued at 8s 4d in 1595/5 and at 16s. 8d. per bolt.

Silk, Flanders: From Flanders.

Lb

Valued at 6s. 8d. per lb in 1575/6.

Silk, Nobs: Uncertain.

Lb (21 ounce)

Listed in the 1582 rates book at 8d. per lb. Pays ob. custom per lb in 1595 so probably around the same value as the rates book. Willan doesn't explain what a 'nob' is and there is no listing for this in the 'Dictionary of Traded

¹⁰⁷ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 54.

Goods and Commodities, 1550/1820' The OED lists 'nob' as 'a knot (on thread).

Silk, Paris:

Lb, paper

Valued in the accounts at 6s. 8d. per lb, as in the rates book. Also appears in 1601 by the 'paper' paying 8d. custom so valued at around 13s. 4d. A 'paper' of silk is equivalent to two pounds.

Silk Raw (Text: rawe): This can mean silk simply drawn from the cocoons by the process of reeling and also a fabric of spun silk. As this is shipped by the lb, like all other silks, it is likely to be the latter.

Silk, Cyprus (Text: Sipers): A name given to several textile fabrics originally imported from or through Cyprus.

Lb

The 1582 book lists sipers cotton but not silk. It occurs in the 1591 account. No value available. Valued at 20s. for 24 yards in 1595/5.

Silk, Slew: Slew is a filling made of two or more strands worked together.

Lb

Valued at around 6s. 8d. per lb in 1600/1. Not listed in rates book.

Silk, Sticking (Text: stitching): Silk thread.

Ounce

Valued at around 10d. per ounce in 1600/1.

Silk, Worked (Lat.: serica operat; Text: seric' op'at): 'Thrown' or 'worked silk' generally refers to silk thread, in particular silk thread consisting of two or more 'singles' twisted together. (OED)

Skillets, Small: Cooking utensil of brass, copper, or other metal, usually having three or four feet and a long handle, used for boiling liquids, stewing meat, etc.

Valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen in 1600/1.

Skins, Beech Marten (Text: pell' foyne): A marten native to southern Europe. Used for the fur or dressed skin.

Valued at 12d. per piece in 1546 which is same value as martens in general.

Skins, Beaver: Amphibious rodent with a coat of soft fur. Valued by the roll, which is a measure of varying length.

Roll

Valued in 1503 at 10s. per roll.

This is in line with 1582 rates book which values them at double this exactly.

Skins, Budge (Text: pell' de boge/bougie): A kind of fur, consisting of lamb's skin with the wool dressed outwards. These originated in North Africa.

The 1507 book values wyght badge' at 13s. 4d. per 100 (16s. 8d. per dozen) and 'blake budge' at 20s. per 100.

The 1582 book values 'budge white tawed' at 20s. per 100 and black tawed at 13s. 4d. per dozen. Taw relates to the tanning process for white leather. In practice the accounts list three categories of budge (1550/1) It can be described simply as 'pell budge', valued at 4s. per dozen, 'pell budge, coarse' valued at 3s. 2d. per dozen and 'fyn bowge' valued at 5 s. per dozen.

In 1576 'fine budge' probably represents the fine variety but it seems to be valued at 10s. for one, which seems too much.¹⁰⁸ The 1595/5 account has one example of non specified budge at 13s. 4d. per dozen.

Skins, Calf (Lat.: vitula; text: pell' vitul'): A form of leather. The export of calf skins was subject to the same restrictions as the export of tanned hides.

Dozen

As a form of leather, the export of calfskins was subject to the same restrictions as the export of tanned hides. The export of both was illegal, except under licence, from 14 October 1538.¹⁰⁹ For licence purposes, ten dozen calf skins were the equivalent of one dicker of hides. From 1575, calf skins were subject to a parliamentary subsidy of 3s. 4d. per dozen hides.¹¹⁰ This was payable in addition to the aforementioned poundage, which would work out at 6d. per dozen.

¹⁰⁸ TNA E190/1129/12 f16r.

¹⁰⁹ Hughes and Larkin, *Tudor Royal Proclamations* Vol. I no.184.)

¹¹⁰ *Statutes of the Realm*, Vol. IV, 619-20.

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen before 1558 and at 10s. per dozen for exported skins thereafter.

Skins, Civit (Text: pell' de sivett): Wild-cat of central African origin.

Piece

Valued at 16d. per piece in 1516/17.

Skins, Cony (Text: cunny skyns, coney stagers): a rabbit: formerly the proper and ordinary name, but now superseded in general use by *rabbit*, which was originally a name for the young only. (OED) The grey variety are sometimes called coney 'stagers'.

Coney skins are valued at 2s. 6d. per C in 1600/1. The 1575/6 account has black coney skins at 6s. 8d. per dozen and also 'fine' coney skins at 10s. per piece.¹¹¹ There are no skins of this high a value listed in the 1582 rates book.

Skins, Deer (Lat.: cervus; Text: pell' cervor):

Dicker

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dicker in the pre-1558 accounts and at 50s. per dicker (10 skins) in 1600/1 (ie. pays 2s. 6d. custom for 10 skins) This seems like a remarkable difference in value. Not listed in rates book for 1582. There were several kinds of deer skins exported from Ireland to Bristol in the sixteenth century and the more expensive type seen here may for example be Hart hides, which, according to Longfield, were specified were more expensive.¹¹²

Skins, Fawn (Text: pell' fawn): young fallow deer, a buck or doe of the first year.

Quarter

Valued at 15d. per quart in 1503/4.

Skins, Fish (Text: pell' pisc'): Probably had a variety of uses.

OED: **1759 COLEBROOKE** in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 43 A piece of old wainscoat..was smoothed with a fish-skin.

¹¹¹ TNA E190/1129/12 f16r.

¹¹² See Longfield, *Anglo-Irish Trade*, p. 65. for a detailed discussion.

Valued at 1s. 8d. per dozen in the pre-1558 accounts.

Skins, for Fletchers (Text: pro fletchers): The only skin listed in the rates book that is similar to this in spelling is 'fitches' which according to Willan is the skin of a polecat. The entry in the 1503/4 account however clearly states 'pro' fletchers. A fletcher, according to the OED was 'One who makes or deals in arrows; occasionally, one who makes bows and arrows'. It is possible then that fletcher skins were used by fletchers in the regard.

Valued at around 3d. ob. per skin in 1546.

Skins, Fox (Lat.: vulpes; Text: pell' vulpis, fox cases): Used for fur.

Piece/pane

OED: a pane or mantle of skins, is a bundle that can vary from 30-100 skins.

1507 book values 'fox skynes the pane' 6s. 8d.'

In the accounts these are valued at 2d. per piece up to the 1550s and then at 8d. in the 1563/4 account and at 10d. in 1575/6. There are, interestingly, no fox skins exported to Bristol from Ireland in the 1595/5 or 1600/1 accounts. The 1582 book values 'fox skynes the pane or mantle' 10s. and the piece 8d. This suggests that there are 15 fox skins in a pane.

Skins, Genet: a civet-cat native to southern Europe and North Africa, that produced a high value pelt.

Piece

Valued at around 12d. per piece in the earlier accounts. There are no examples after 1550/1 account.

Skins, Goat (Text: goate skynns): used as a garment but also to make purses and wine bottles etc.

Valued in 1600/1 at 20s. per dozen. This is the same as the 1582 rates book.

Skins, Golden (Lat.: aureolus; Text: pell' aureor'): presumably some form of dyed and tanned skin.

Dozen/Kippe

These were a popular export to Ireland in the 1540s. Valued before 1558 at 4s. 2d. per dozen skins. Also shipped by the 'kippe' which appears to be 50 skins, as in Zupko's dictionary of weights and measures.¹¹³ These are valued at 5s. per dozen in 1563/4 and do not appear in the accounts examined after that.

Skins, Greis: The OED states that 'in grease' was a term used chiefly in hunting and indicates that an animal was in prime and fit to kill. It suggests 'Greis' may be a shortened version denoting a hart or deer killed during this season. These however occur in the 1550/1 account at a value of only 5s. for sixty skins, which seems too little for this quantity of deer skins. In 'greis' may be a general term applied to any animal killed in season. As the value is given per piece it is unlikely that it refers to animal grease of any kind.

In 1550 'Pell vocat greis' are valued at 5d. per piece, there is also an entry for 'pell grais' at 1d. per piece.¹¹⁴

Skins, Kid (pell' 'edors, hedorn): mostly used for making gloves and shoes.

C/Dozen

'Edors' is from the latin *haedus* fro Kid. It is sometimes written as 'hedorn'

Valued in the pre-1558 accounts at 5s. per C or 6d. ob. per dozen. It is also this value in the 1563/4 account. The 1582 rates book values 'kids white the mantel' at 4s. A mantle is equal to a kippe, 50 skins. In the later accounts (1595/5), kid skins are still listed by the C weight, at 10s. per C.

Skins, Lamb (Lat.: agnus; Text: pell' agn'): The 1582 book divides between white and black skins, which implies they had wool on them. It is not clear though whether the earlier skins had wool on them. Interestingly, while there are a small number of lamb skins imported from Ireland in the 1575/6 account, there are none in the 1594/5 or 1600/1 account and all lamb skins are entered as Morkins, which, according to the rates book, are the skins of lambs that died of disease.

Valued at 6s. 8d. per C rising to 16s. 8d. in the 1563/4 account.

The 1582 book values lambskins for export at 16s. 8d. per 100. (C in the earlier accounts is 120).

Skins, Marten (Text: pell' martron): The fur of martens seems to have been mostly used as edging on fine gowns etc.

Skins, Morkin: The skin of a sheep or lamb that has died of disease or accident.

C

¹¹³ Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p. 213.

¹¹⁴ TNA E122/22/4 f19v. and f9r.

According to Willan, morkins are lamb skins taken from beasts that died by disease or accident

They are listed in the 1582 book of rates at 6s. 8d. per C and are found in the later accounts at this value. They are often listed with broken sheep skins which are the same value. This is something that requires further investigation as it seems that all exports of 'pell agnor' from Ireland have been replaced by 'morkins'. This may be because of taxation or for other reasons such as livestock disease but the latter is unlikely as large quantities of morkins are found in the 1591, 1594 and 1600 accounts, which seems a long period for such disease to persist.

Skins, Otter (Text: pell' otur): The examples given in the OED suggest that the use of otter skins varied from jerkins to quivers for arrows.

Piece

1507 book values 'otter the tymber' with 40 skins to the timber at 40s. (1s. per pelt).

Valued at 5d. per piece in the earlier accounts rising to around 20d. per piece in the 1594/5 account. The 1582 book values raw otter skins at 12d. each and tawed ones at 16d.

Otter skins are valued at 12d. per piece in the 1563/4 account, as in the rates book for raw skins. They are valued at 20d. in the 1575/6 and 1594/5 accounts, which is higher than the highest value given in the rates book.

Skins, Red (pell rub', rubeor): Like 'golden skins' these were probably dyed skins.

Dozen

1540/50 2s. 1d. per dozen.

Like 'golden skins' these were presumably dyed skins. It occurs a lot in the accounts up to 1550/1. There is one entry for 'pel cunirub' being exported to Ireland in 1563/4 which could be a related commodity but it doesn't match with the values for either 'red hides' or 'red lash' in the 1582 rates book.

Skins, Salted: Salted cow hides.

Dicker

Valued at 13s. 4d. per dicker in the earlier accounts examined up to 1550/1 and not occurring after that. They are valued in the 1582 book as 'salt hides the dicker' £3 6s. 8d.

Skins, Sheep (Lat.: ovis; text: pell' oviu'): Worked or 'tawed' skins are rare in the accounts and it seems likely that these did not have wool.

Dozen

Valued in the earlier accounts at 10s. per C (120 skins) worked or 'tawed' skins are rare in the accounts but do occur in the 1540s at 13s. 4d. per C.

It seems likely that these skins did not have wool, as in the 1503/4 account, skins listed specifically as having 'no lain' are listed at the same value.

The 1582 book values untawed sheepskins at 13s. 4d. per 100 for export. Tawed at 53s. 4d.

They occur as an import from Ireland at 13s. 4d. per C in 1563-4 but all accounts examined after this date list only 'broc fell' or broken sheep skins.

Skins, Sheep Broken (Text: brok' fell'): short-stapled wool found in certain parts of the fleece, when 'broken' or sorted. A fleece consists of two main kinds of wool distinguished by the length and strength of the fibre; the sorts which are long and suitable for combing being called 'matchings' or 'combing-sorts', the rest 'short wools' or 'brokes'. The spinning of the two sorts is by different processes. (OED)

C

Valued at 5s. per C in the 1540s, 1563/4 and 1575/6 and at a higher value of 6s. 8d. per C in 1594/5 and 1600/1. Mostly they are listed with morkins at the same value.

Skins, Spanish: Type of leather.

Dozen

Valued at 20s. per dozen in 1550/1 and then at £3 per dozen in 1563/4 as in the 1582 rates book.

Skins, Vellim for Drums Head (Text: velum): Fine parchment made from animal skin, used to stretch over a drums head.

Dozen

Valued at around 5s. per dozen in 1600/1. Uncertain as to what a dozen signifies in this case, perhaps yards or pieces of a specific size. Not listed in the rates books.

Skins, Wolf (Lat.: lupus; Text: pell' lupor): Used for fur.

Piece

Prices vary in the earlier accounts from 4d. to 10d. per piece.

The 1582 book values wolf skins at 18s. 4d. untawed and 20s. tawed.

None of the accounts examined after 1551 contain wolf skins.

Sleek Stone: Smooth stone used for smoothing and polishing. (OED)

Valued at around 5d for 4 pieces in 1600/1. Not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Snaffles: simple form of bridle-bit, having less restraining power than one provided with a curb. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen pieces in 1594-5. Listed with reins in the 1600/1 account.

Snatches: A hasp, catch, or fastening. (OED)

Snuffers (Text: snoufers): candle snuffers.

Dozen

Candle snuffers are listed in the 1582 rates book at 2s. 8d. per dozen.

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1594-5 account.

Soap, Black (Text: sapon nigri, *smigmatēs*): The OED states that there were two types of Castile soap, white and mottled, Black soap perhaps relates to the latter. Carus-Wilson suggests ‘smigmatēs’ are a kind of soap, based on an entry in the *Account Rolls of Abbey of Durham*,¹¹⁵ Therefore ‘blacksoap’ may be the English translation for smigmatēs. Classical Latin has *smegma* or *smigma* (for which one form of the dative plural is *smegmatis*); the definition in Lewis and Short (under ‘smegma’) is ‘cleansing medicine or detergent’, as opposed to ‘soap’ for *sapo*.¹¹⁶

Soap, Castile (Lat.: sapon; Text: sope, sapon): fine hard soap made with olive-oil and soda. There are two kinds, the white and the mottled. (OED)

Dozen, lb or C

¹¹⁵ Carus-Wilson, *Overseas Trade of Bristol*, p. 338.

¹¹⁶ URL: <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cgi-bin/ptext>, accessed 15th October 2008.

1507 book values Castile or white soap at 10s. per 'c wyght'.

White and Castile soap are valued in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts at 15s. per C, as in the rates book.

The values in the 1575/6 are somewhat confusing. Sapon albi is recorded at 13s. 4d. per C¹¹⁷ and at 4d. per lb¹¹⁸ and also at 4d. per dozen.¹¹⁹ A dozen therefore is not 12 lbs and is perhaps a different kind of soap, such as a bar, neither is there 112 lbs in a C, but rather 40 lbs, which doesn't make sense either. . The earlier accounts show the same thing, a C is valued at 10s. while a dozen in 15d.

Sokatt: Unidentified.

C

Found in the 1525/6 account.

Sort: *See* figs.

Spectacles: Device for assisting defective eyesight, or for protecting the eyes from dust, light. (OED)

Dozen

Valued in the 1540s at 3d. for pocket spectacles and 4d. for others.

Spectacle Cases, Ungilded: Case for glasses not gilded or in other words overlaid wholly or in parts with a thin coating of gold.

Dozen

Valued at 7d. per dozen in 1575/6

Spermaceti (Text: sparmacete): A fatty substance found in the head of the sperm-whale and used largely in various medicinal preparations, and in the manufacture of candles. (OED)

Lb

1542/3 values vary.

¹¹⁷ TNA E190/1129/12 f12v.

¹¹⁸ Ibid. f16v.

¹¹⁹ Ibid f11r, f16r.

1551 valued at 1s. 8d. per lb

1541/2 valued at £5 per C. ¹²⁰

The 1582 rates book lists it as ‘Parmacitie. The pound’ at 10s., which seems like a lot and could be an error. There are no entries for this commodity in the later accounts examined.

Spert: Possibly refers to hartwort, a herb which, according to Culpepper is ‘ a warm martial plant, both heating and drying; it provokes urine and the menses, expels the birth and after birth; and is good in disorders of the head and womb’ .¹²¹

Dozen

Spikenard (Text: spignard): an aromatic substance employed in the preparation of a costly ointment or oil, obtained from an Eastern plant, now identified as the *Nardostachys Jatamansi* of Northern India. (OED)

Lb

Valued at 10d. per lb in 1516-17. The 1582 rates book lists it at £33 6s. 8d. per C (100 lbs).

Spurs: Device for pricking the side of a horse in order to urge it forward. Various types found including ‘white’ and ‘coarse’ spurs.

Dozen Pair

Valued at 1s. 6d. per dozen pair in 1550/1.

The 1575/6 account has spurs at 3s. 4d. per dozen for ‘pairs’ and 2s. 6d. for ‘singles’.

There is also an entry in this account for white spurs at 30d. per dozen pairs. Coarse spurs and small spurs are recorded in the 1594/5 account at 3s. 4d. and 20d. respectively.

Starch (Text: styrtche, sterche): Substance obtained from flour by removing some of it’s constituents, various uses including stiffening fabrics and sizing paper.

Lb

Valued at 4d. per lb in 1550/1 and in 1563/4 at 2d. per lb (styrtche)

The 1582 rates book lists starch at 13s. 4d. per C (112 lb)

¹²⁰ TNA E122/21/10 f02v

¹²¹ URL: <http://www.complete-herbal.com/culpepper/sermountain.htm>, accessed 14th October 2008.

Stecull: Unidentified.

Valued at 6d. per dozen in 1545.

Steel: General name for certain artificially produced varieties of iron, distinguished from those known as 'iron' by certain physical properties, esp. greater hardness and elasticity. (OED)

C / burden

Steel occurs in the accounts mainly by the 'burden'. Imported steel is valued at 10s. per C in the 1542/3 account and exported at 13s. 4d. per C in 1600/1, otherwise all entries are by the burden. Almost all entries are for steel exported to Ireland.

The value of the burden varies greatly in the accounts. In the 1540s it is 3s. 4d. but in 1550/1, there are three different values for a burden (3s. 4d., 5s., 1s. 8d). In 1563/4 a burden is 4s., 1575/6 its 2s. 6d. and in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts, a burden is valued at 5s.

The 1582 book values steel at £6 per half barrel containing 1 bundle = 6 sheafs = 180 gads.

According to Zupko's dictionary of weights and measures a burden' is a weight for steel containing either 6 or 12 sheaves of 30 gads each and sometimes reckoned at 9 score or 180 lbs.¹²² These variations in the volume of a burden must explain the discrepancies in the values found in the accounts.

Stock-Card (Text: stockards): Not to be confused with stockings. These are large wool-cards fastened to a stock or support. Probably a quicker and cheaper method than using a wool card.

Pair

Not listed in the 1582 rates book. Valued at 1s. per pair in the earlier accounts and at around 15d. per pair in the late accounts.

Stockings: Close-fitting garment covering the foot, the leg, and often the knee. Various types found, defined by length or fabric used.

Not to be confused with stockards which are stock-cards) Stockings don't appear in the accounts examined before 1575. The 1575/6. 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts record stockings of various lengths and materials being exported to Ireland. Price varies depending on material, which is not always specified in the accounts.

¹²² Zupko, *Dictionary of Weights and Measures*, p 54.

Stockings, Cloth

Dozen pairs

Valued at 20s. per dozen pairs in 1600/1.

Stockings, Coarse

Dozen pairs

Valued at 10s. per dozen pairs in 1575/6.

Stockings, Kersey

Dozen pairs

Valued at 20s. per dozen pairs in 1600/1

Stockings, Short

Dozen pairs

Probably woollen stockings

Valued at 8s. 4d. per dozen pairs in 1594/5 and at 10s. and 20s. per dozen in 1600/1

Stockings, Short Knit

Dozen pairs

Valued at 10s. per dozen pairs in 1594/5

Stockings, Short, Womens

Dozen pairs

Valued at 8s. 4d. per dozen pairs in 1594/5.

Stockings, Short, Woollen

Dozen pairs

Valued at 8s. 4d. per dozen pairs in 1594/5.

Stockings, Short Worsted

Dozen pairs

Valued at 60s. per dozen pairs in 1594/5.

Stockings, Woollen

Dozen pairs

Value varies

Stockings, Worsted

Dozen Pairs

Valued at 40s. and £3 per dozen pairs in 1594/5

Stock-Lock: A lock enclosed in a wooden case, usually fitted on an outer door. (OED)

Dozen

Valued at 3s. 4d. per dozen in 1600/1

Stone (petra): A weight varying locally and for different commodities; from 8 to 24 lbs.

Strats (*stratts*): Unidentified but possibly describes a strait of some commodity such as cloth or ribbon.

Valued at 4s. 2d. (? each) in 1543.

String (Text: streng):

Bolt

Valued at 3d. per dozen bolts in 1550/1.

Sturse: *See* sturgeon fish.

Stygret: Unidentified; possibly a spice or medicine.

Valued at 5d. per lb in the 1540s

Succade (Text: succado): Fruit preserved in sugar, either candied or in syrup. (OED)

Lb

Listed with Marmalade and valued at around 1s ob in 1594-5

Sugar

Lb, chest, loaf

Sugar in the pre-1558 accounts is valued at £2 per chest (cist/cashe/casse). There is 120 lb per chest (4d. per lb)

Sugar in the later accounts is valued at £3 6s. 8d. per C. There are 3C to a chest.

Sugar is frequently entered in the accounts by the loaf. A loaf is a moulded conical mass of hard sugar made by passing syrup through already refined sugar in a sugar pot. Loaves varied in size.¹²³ If bought in this form the sugar would have been broken up using sugar nippers. Loaves in the accounts examined here contain anything from 6 to 11 lb.

Sugar-Candy: Sugar clarified and crystallized by slow evaporation. (OED)

Lb

Valued at 8d. per lb. in the 1540s and at 1s. per lb in 1575/6. The 1582 book values sugar candy at £3 6s. 8d. the half chest.

¹²³ : 'Sugar loaf - Surfeit water', *Dictionary of Traded Goods, 1550-1820* (2007). URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp>

Sugar, Mucovado: Raw or unrefined sugar obtained from the juice of the sugar cane by evaporating it and draining off the molasses. (OED)

C/Chest

This only occurs in the 1594/5 account and is listed with white sugar at £10 per chest. It is not listed separately in the 1582 rates book.

Sugar, Panele (Text: panells): Brown unpurified sugar from the Caribbean. (OED)

This occurs in the 1594/5 account at half the value of white sugar, £5 per chest. A chest contains 3C. The account also records 'Panele de Brassel' at the same value.

Sugar, Powder (Text: saccari powther de Brasill): Refined sugar, crushed into powder.

There is one entry in the accounts for this, again in 1594/5. It is shipped by the C, but there is not 3C to a chest in this case (9C in 4 chests), unless there is a recording error. Valued for customs purposes at £3 6s. 8d. per C, the same as white sugar/loaf sugar, and not at a higher value as suggested by the dictionary of traded commodities.

Sugar of Roses (Text: succar rosars): Made of red rose buds and double refined sugar reduced to a powder separately and then combined, mixed with a little water, and formed into lozenges before drying.¹²⁴

Lb

The OED doesn't list it before 1668 (under rose) but does mention honey of roses and syrup of roses before that date, which are probably very similar.

Valued at 2s. 6d. per lb in 1550/1 and at 2d. per oz in 1525/6.

Sulphur (Text: brymstone): A greenish-yellow non-metallic substance, found in volcanic regions, and occurring free in nature as a brittle crystalline solid, and widely distributed in combination with metals and other substances. (OED)

Lb

Value varies in the accounts but usually about 1d. ob. per lb. The same value in the accounts for the entire period.

¹²⁴ Ibid.

Sumach: A preparation of the dried and chopped leaves and shoots of plants of the genus *Rhus*, used in tanning, also for dyeing and staining leather black, and medicinally as an astringent. (OED)

C (112 lb)

Valued at 13s. 4d. per C in the accounts as in the 1582 rates book.

Sword Blades: Swords are often traded in their various components as well as finished.

Values vary. In 1550, they are recorded at 13s. 4d. per dozen and in 1575/6, they are recorded at 13s. and 6s. 8d. per dozen. The 1582 rates book lists 'sword blades course the dozen' at 13s. 4d.

Sword Hilt: The handle of a sword or dagger.

Dozen

Valued at 10s. per dozen in 1575/6. The 1582 rates book lists these at 13s. 4d. per dozen.

T

Tables, Pairs

Listed in 1600/1 account being exported to Ireland when 'iiii payer tables' paid 5d. custom, so valued at around 8s. 4d. (2s. 1d. per pair) Not listed in 1582 rates book.

Taishail: Unidentified. As this is an export from Ireland in 1503/4, it is unlikely to be a manufactured item. Unlikely to be teazels either as these are often found as imports to Ireland.

This occurs in the 1503/4 account coming from Ireland. It is recorded at 20s. for both 1 and 2 pieces.

Tallow, Rough (Lat.: sebum; Text: cepi/cepe rowe): Hard substance made from animal fat, used for making candles and soap. There are two types, rough and rendered or 'molton' which was more expensive.

1516/17-5s. per C

1507 book values 'tallow in cakes the c wayte' 6s. 8d.

The accounts up to 1558 show that rough tallow was valued at 3s. 4d. per c for customs purposes. Perhaps the 1507 rates book refers to rendered tallow, which was more expensive.

1582 book values 'tallowe' at 16s. 8d. per C. Note, the unlicensed export of tallow was forbidden after 14 October 1538

Tankard: A drinking-vessel, formerly made of wooden staves and hooped. It can also be a tub or basin.

Dozen

Listed by the 'shock' in the 1582 rates book.

Valued at 10d. per dozen in the 1540s.

Tapes and Cannelles: 'Tapes', when they occur with 'cannells' are probably Taps, as a cannel according to the OED was a pipe for a cask.

C

Valued at or under 10d. per C in the later accounts.

Tar: Dark, thick flammable liquid distilled from wood or coal, used for preserving wood.

Last

Valued in the later accounts at 40s. per last as in the 1582 rates book.

Value varies considerably in earlier accounts, for example in 1516/17 and 1545/6 tar is valued at 40s. per last while in 1525/6 and 1542/3 it is valued at half this amount.

Teazle/Teasel (Text: tezell, teasell, tasel): A plant with prickly leaves, used to produce a napped surface on fabrics.

M

Valued at 2s. 6d. per M in the 1540s and at 6s. 8d. per M in the later accounts as in the rates book . They are listed at a much lower value in 1563 at 20d. per M. Perhaps a different quality or variety but the 1582 rates book doesn't indicate this.

Tennis Ball: used in the game of tennis.

M

Valued at 10s. per M. Imported to Bristol from Flanders in 1516. Listed in the 1582 rates book by the fat and the M, 20s. per M.

Terra Sigilla: Perhaps ‘Terra Sigillata’ as in the 1582 book of rates, an astringent bole used for medicinal purposes.

Lb

Valued at 3d. per lb in 1563/4. Valued at 12d per lb in the 1582 rates book.

Testers: A flat canopy for a bed.

Yard

Listed in the 1595 account with curtains and described as being of ‘coarse drapery’. The exact value is unknown¹²⁵

Thimbles: Bell-shaped sheath of metal or leather worn on the end of the finger to push the needle in sewing. (OED)

Dozen

In the 1541/2 account price varies from 1d. to 3d. per dozen. Listed in the 1554 Rates book at 5s. per M. Valued at 13s. 4d. per M in the later accounts.

Thread, Black

Lb

Valued at 15d. per lb in 1576.

Thread, Bridges (Text: brigges): Bruges thread.

Dozen lb

Valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen in 1516/17.

¹²⁵ E190/1131/10 F12r

Thread, Brown

Lb

Valued at 15d. per lb in 1576.

Thread, Blue

Lb

Valued at around 20d. per lb in 1595.

Thread, Coloured

Lb

Valued at around 20d. per lb in 1595.

Thread, Inkle (Text: ynkle): A kind of linen tape or the thread or yarn from which it is made.¹²⁶

Dozen/Lb

Valued at 4s. 4d. per dozen in 1516/17 and at 13d. per lb in 1575/6.

Thread, Irish Linen

C lb

Valued at 30s. per C in 1525/6 account.

Thread, Outnall: A kind of linen thread. Willan suggests that it is from Oudenaarde as the 1558 Book of Rates has Oownarde.¹²⁷

Thread, Packet: Strong cord or twine used for sewing or tying up packs or bundles.

Valued at 4s. per dozen lbs in the later accounts, where it is a common entry. This must be ‘bottom packthred’ as listed in the rates book at the same value

¹²⁶ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 34.

¹²⁷ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 61.

Thread, Paris: Presumably thread from Paris.

Bolt/But

1576-3s. 4d. per bolt

Listed in the rates book as a bale containing c bolts at £10 and as a but at 2s.

Thread, Piecing: Used for repairing cloth. (OED)

Valued at 2s. 6d. per lb in 1594/5 account.

Thread, Sisters: Bleached thread.

Valued at 5s. per lb in 1601 as in the rates book.

Thread, White

Lb

Valued at 20d. per lb in 1576.

The 1582 rates book lists Inckle unwrought called white thread single or double the c li. At 20d. per lb however this seems to be a different type of white thread.

Thread, Shoemakers

Lb

1600/1 valued at 10d. or under per lb.

Thrummys (Text: thrums): Ends of the warp-threads left unwoven and remaining attached to the loom when the web is cut off. (OED)

Valued at 6s. 8d. per dozen lbs in 1525/6. This cannot be the same 'thrummes' listed in Willan as this is listed at 20s. per C in 1582, which is much less. Willan doesn't give a definition.

Ticks (Text: tikes): The case or cover containing feathers, flocks, or the like, forming a mattress or pillow; also from 16th c., applied to the strong hard linen or cotton material used for making such cases.

Listed in the 1554 national rates book at 3s. per piece, they are valued in 1516/17 at 3s. 4d. per piece.

Tierce: Measure of capacity equivalent to one third of a pipe, usually of wine but also means a cask or vessel holding this quantity, and can be of various other kinds of provisions such as honey.

Tin (Lat.: stannum; Text: stanum): Well-known metal with many uses including making tin-plate and lining culinary and other iron vessels.

C/burden

Valued at 20s. per C pre-1558 and at 5s. per burden in 1595. Not listed by the burden in the rates book.

Tin, Devonshire

C (112 lb)

Valued at 30s. per C in the post-1558 accounts, as in the rates book.

Tin, Worked/Wrought (Text: stanum operat)

Lb

Valued at 30s. per C in 1550/1

Tobacco: Dried and prepared tobacco plant leaves.

Lb

Found only in the 1600/1 account and pays 2d. per lb custom and so is valued at around 3s. 4d. per lb. Tobacco was re-valued in 1604 to double this value.¹²⁸

Ton: Measure of capacity for various solid commodities, such as lime, wheat, cheese, etc.

Torch: Hand-carried light, consisting of a stick of resinous wood, or of twisted hemp or similar material soaked with tallow, resin, or other inflammable substance.

¹²⁸ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. xli.

Tow (Text: towe): The fibre of flax, hemp, or jute prepared for spinning by some process of scutching.

C (112 lb)

Valued at 6s. 8d. per C in 1575, 1595, as in the 1582 rates book.

Treacle (Text: treacle): A medicinal compound, composed of many ingredients, formerly in repute as an antidote to venomous bites, poisons generally, and malignant diseases. (OED)

Valued at less than 10d. in the 1595 account so probably the same as the 8d. in the rates book.

Treenails (Text: dowels): A cylindrical pin of hard wood used in fastening timbers together, particularly in shipbuilding and other work where the materials are exposed to water.

C

Valued at 3d. per C in the pre-1558 accounts and not found in the accounts examined thereafter.

Trenchers: A plate or platter of wood, metal, or earthenware.

Gross/M

Valued at 4d. per gross in 1546 and 1563 (type unspecified) rising to 3s. 4d. per gross by 1575. There is also a 'common' trencher listed in the later accounts at a cheaper value of 10d. per gross.

The 1582 book values 'trenchers of common sorte' 5s. per M.

Painted trenchers valued at 5d. each in 1550/1 and wooden trenchers are around 13d. per gross in 1594/5.

Tressels: Unknown but unlikely to be a 'trestle' as shipped by the 'M'.

M

Valued at c. 6s. 8d. per M in 1600/1. Not listed in the rates book.

Tun: A cask of definite capacity; hence, a measure of capacity for wine and other liquids, usually equivalent to 2 pipes or 4 hogsheads, containing 252 old wine-gallons.

Tunnage: The space occupied by a tun cask of wine which was the unit used in measuring the carrying capacity

or burden of a ship.

Turnsole: A violet blue or purple colouring matter.¹²⁹

C (lb)

The 1582 rates book lists it at £3 6s. 8d. per C (8d. per lb)

It turns up in the 1601 account, paying ob. per lb custom, so less than 10d. per lb nominal value, so probably the same value as the rates book.

Turpentine: Resin from coniferous trees. Distilled turpentine is used to create a volatile oil.

C

The 1507 book values 'tyrpytne the c wayte' 9s. 4d. and 1d. per lb. (implies c = 112 lb.).

It is found in 1516-17 at 5s. per C and in the 1540s at 13s. 4d. per C. In the accounts after the rates revision, it is valued at 10s. per 112lb, as in the 1582 rates book.

Twine

Lb

Valued at c. 2d. per lb in the 1540s.

Twine, for Nets

Lb

Valued at 4d. per lb in the 1540s.

Urinals: Glass vessel used to collect urine for medical examination.

Dozen

¹²⁹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 62.

Valued at under 10d. per dozen in 1595

Verdigris (Text: vertigris): A chemical with a vivid blue-green colour; used as a pigment and also had medicinal uses.

Lb

The 1507 book values 'vergresse the c wayte' 40s. (4.3d. per lb. if 112 lb.) The value seems to vary somewhat in the pre-1558 accounts as in the 1516/17 and 1525/6 accounts, its valued between 8d. and 9d. per lb, but is 5d. in the 1540s and 1550/1 accounts.

1516- 10d. per lb, 1526- varies 8d. and 9d. per lb.

1582 book values 'verdegrece' the 112 lb. at £3 6s. 8d. (7.1d. per lb.) The method of recording in the later accounts (custom payments only and not values, makes it impossible to work out the exact value per lb.

Vestments: Presumably items of ceremonial clothing from latin *vestimentum*.

Valued at 33s. 4d. per piece in 1551.

Vice, Hand: A mechanical device used to operate another piece of apparatus. (OED)

Piece

Found in the 1594/5 account at around 20d. per piece.

Vinegar (Text: vini egri): This is 'corrupt' wine; produced from the acetous fermentaion of wine and used in food preservation and cooking.

Tun

Valued at £2 per tun pre -1558 and £2 6s. 8d. per tun thereafter, as in the 1582 rates book.

Viols: Possibly small containers for medicine (ie. vial).

Dozen

The 1582 rates book lists 'viols the peece' at 6s. 8d., but Willan doesn't offer an explanation of the term. The most likely explanation for the 'viols' in the accounts are small containers for medicine (ie. vial) as they are

valued at only around 10s. per gross in 1595.

This value is too small for viols to be an instrument or the Viol listed in Willan at 6s. 8d. per piece.

Violes, Square: As above.

Virkin (Text: vyrk, firkin): Measure of salmon; equal to a quarter of a pipe.

Visers (Text: vizars): The front part of a helmet, covering the face but provided with holes or openings to admit of seeing and breathing, and capable of being raised and lowered.

Valued at approximately 10s. per dozen in the 1600/1 account.

W

Wainscot: Wooden panelling.

C (100 pieces.

Valued at £2 per C in the 1540s and rising to £4 per C in the 1582 rates book.

Walnut: The nut of the walnut tree. The seed of the mature fruit is eaten like any other nut, and the soft unripe fruit is used entire for pickling. (OED)

Ton

Valued at 9s. per ton in 1551. The 1582 rates book lists them by the barrel at 3s. 4d. per barrel.

Wax (Lat.: cera; Text: wex / cere): Substance produced by bees and when warm it can be moulded to any shape. It could be bleached white or left in its original yello colour. Uses include candle-making, seals and coating writing tables.

C (lb)

The 1507 book values 'Wexe the C wayte' 40s. (4d. per lb if C = 120 lbs.).

The 1540s accounts suggest that C=120 lbs as wax is valued at 4d. per lb. The 1550/1 account however suggests that there are 100 lb in a 'C' as it's valued at 5d. per lb.

The 1582 book values wax at £3 per C (112 lb.) Wax is valued at this amount in the later accounts, but it is

impossible to be precise about amount of lbs to a C as the values are estimated, based on customs payments.

Wax, Red (Text: cere rub'): Probably used for seals.

Lb

Valued at 8d. per lb in the 1564 account. Not listed in 1582 rates book.

Wey: Measure of salt, coal, wheat etc., varying locally and for different commodities. A wey of wheat for example equals 6 quarters which equals 48 bushels.

Whale Meat (Text: pisc' de whals): Presumably this refers to whale meat since in the sixteenth century, sea mammals such as dolphins and whales were often classed as fish.

Hogshead

Valued at 5s. per hogshead in 1525/6.

Wheat: Grain used to produce flour.

1 wey = 6 quarters = 48 bushels (bushel = 64 pints)

Valued 20s. per wey / 3s. 4d. per quarter, in the earlier accounts .

The 1582 book values exported wheat 10s. per quarter and imported wheat 6s. 8d. per quarter.

Whittles (Text: whitelles): Coarse shaggy mantles made in Ireland; also blankets.

Found in the 1503/4 account, valued at 3s. 4d. per piece.

Wick Yarne (Text: wike): Possibly yarn used to make candle wicks.

Dozen

Not listed in the 1582 rates book. valued at 18d. per dozen in 1576. Dozen could be lbs.

Wine: Usually described according to it's origin ie.; Canaries, Bordeaux, Charente, Malaga, Gascon etc.

1 Tun = 2 pipes / butts = 3 tertian = 4 hogsheads = 6 tierce = 8 barrels

Not valued. Pays 'Tunnage' of 3s. per tun.

In 1582 an Imposition of 50s. per tun is levied on French wine by Queen Mary, in return for lifting a blanket ban on French wine imposed since the start of England's war with France.

Some time after that an imposition of 40s. per tun is levied on imports of all sweet wines, which covers all those coming from Iberia and the Mediterranean.

Wine, Alegant: This possibly refers to *alegar*, which is vinegar formed by the acetous fermentation of ale ie. malt-vinegar and is to ale what vinegar is to wine. If so, it is not clear why it is recorded as wine. A further possibility is that it refers to Alicante wine.

Wine, Bastard: Sweet Spanish wine.

Wine, Madeira: Fortified dessert wine.

Wine Muscadel: Any of various sweet wines made from muscat or similar grapes.

Wine, Rob Davy: This, according to the OED, is Roberdavy wine, a wine used in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Wine, Seck/Sack: General name for a class of white wines imported from Spain and the Canaries.

Wine Peresomena: Unidentified.

Wire, Virginal: Possibly relates to wire used in the virginal, a keyed instrument.

Lb

Valued at 20d. per lb in 1576. It is not listed in 1582 rates book.

Woad: A yellow flowered plant whose leaves were used to make blue dye. Despite the variety of terms used to describe woad in the accounts, study of its values and the locations from where it is exported to Bristol over the course of the century suggest that there are actually only two main types, Woad from Toulouse and Azores or Green Woad.

Azores woad is listed as Gaid de Insulis, Gualdi Viridi and Pastel de Surries. These three types are all found in the later accounts coming from Sao Miguel and Terceira in the Azores and although the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts contain only 'Gualdi Viridi' or Green Woad, this is valued at the same price as Pastel de Surries and Gaid de Insulis. A possible explanation for this is that Green Woad almost always comes from St Michaels or

Sao Miguel which is also known as 'Green Island' and so this name could have been used to identify woad from there. According to the dictionary for traded goods, the 1660 rates book had an entry for 'Islands or Green Woad' which further suggests that Azores and Green Woad are the same thing. The 1582 rates book lists only 2 types Tholos and Green woad. Pastel de Surries is listed as coming from Terceira and green woad from 'Insulas de Surries' with same values, again suggesting that Pastel de Surries is azores or green woad. The exact meaning of 'Insulas de Surries' is as yet unknown. Insulas being plural suggests the possibility that it is a generic name for the group of islands. The only difficulty with this is an entry in the 1554 national rates book, listing woad of the isle of Assorns and of the isle of Surrey separately.

Woad, Azores (Text: wod / gaid de insulis/ gualdi viridi/ pastel de surries): All found in the later accounts coming from Sao Miguel and Terceira in the Azores. Green Woad almost always comes from St Michael's or Sao Miguel which is also known as 'Green Island' and so this name may have been used to identify woad from there.

1 bale = 2 ballet (approx.) = 2.5 C

Valued at 6s. 8d. per C in pre-1558 accounts and at 10s. a ton thereafter. Same as green woad.

Woad, Toulouse (Text: wood, ode, gaid de Tholos, Tolos): Toulouse in France.

1 bale = 2 ballet (approx) = 2.5 C

pipe=4 bales=8 measures

C=112 lb

A pipe is valued at £5 in 1516/17. It is also found at 8s. per C pre-1558 and at 13s. 4d. per C in the later accounts.

Wood Ashes: The 1582 book lists 'ashes called wood or sope ashes the last'. Willan suggests that these were 'ashes from burnt wood, which provided the alkaline base for soap.'¹³⁰ There is a possibility that the ashes in the accounts are 'woad ashes' as the spelling is always 'wod or wode'. The OED acknowledges that woad ashes can refer to this definition also, but the term more commonly denotes burnt wine lees, which are used to make a dye.

Seam/last

¹³⁰ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 6.

The 1507 rates book lists 'ashes called wood ashes the last' at 20s. In the 1540s a seam is valued at 3s. 4d., so presumably there are about 6 seams to a last.

Wood, Block: Logwood. The wood of an American tree used in dyeing and also in medicine as an astringent. The name derives from the fact that it was imported in logs.

C

Valued at 10s. per C in 1594/5 based on customs payments.

Wood, Box, for combs (box pro pecten): Used for making combs.

It is listed in the 1582 rates book by the but, pipe or fat containing iiii M. Valued at 2s. per C in the 1540s.

Wood, Brazil (Text: brazel): A red wood from which dye is obtained.¹³¹ The term can also be used to refer to the dyestuff extracted from the wood.

Dozen/C/Ton (lbs)

The term can also be used to refer to the dyestuff extracted from the wood.

Valued at £33 6s. 8d. per ton in the 1594/5 and 1600/1 account, as in the 1582 rates book.

Wood, Clapholt (Text: clappoll): Clapboard is 'A smaller size of split oak, imported from north Germany, and used by coopers for making barrel-staves'. (OED)

C

It is shipped by the small C (v xx) and the great C (xxiiii small)¹³² Pre -1558, a small C is valued at 3s. 4d. and a great C at £4. The 1582 rates book lists it at 5s. per small C and £6 per great C.

Found at 5s per C in 1600-01.

Wood, Deal (Text: deale boards): Planks or boards of fir or pine wood.

Piece

¹³¹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 10.

¹³² Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 16.

Imported on a Hanseatic ship at 18d. per piece in 1551. Note this is the same value as given to 'Fire' boards (Fir) in this account so it is likely that the deal here is fir. The 1582 rates book lists three different types of deal boards: spruce, meighborow and Norway.¹³³

Wood, Fir (Text: fyreboards): Fir wood imported from Norway.

Piece

Listed in 1551 account (see above)

Wood, Irish (Irish boards): Technically a board is a piece of timber sawn thin, and having considerable extent of surface. The type of timber is not specified.

C

Valued at 20s. per C in the pre-1558 accounts.

Wool Cards (Text: wolcards): These were used to disentangle fibres of wool prior to spinning.

Dozen

The 1507 rates book values woolcards at 6s. 8d. per dozen for new ones and at 4s. per dozen for old ones, rising in the 1582 book to 10s. and 6s. per dozen respectively. The cards of the Bristol accounts are generally going to Ireland and are of the old sort.

Wool, Irish (Lat.: lana; Text: lane hibn'): Sheep or lambs wool.

Stone (Petras)

Valued at 2s. 8d. per stone before 1558 and 5s. per stone thereafter.

Wool, Spanish (lane hespan'): This is probably Spanish felt wool, used for making hats.

Stone/C

Valued in the earlier accounts at 5s. 4d. per stone.

The 1582 book values 'wul called Spanish wul the C' £5 but the Spanish wool that is actually listed in the

¹³³ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 22.

accounts is called 'Spanish Hat Wool' at £4 3s. 2d. per C which occurs in both the 1594/5 and 1600/1 accounts.

Wormseed (Text: wormsed): Native to Central and South America and the Caribbean. It was used to expel intestinal parasites (especially roundworms and hookworms) in humans and animals. It was also used to make a tea for menstrual cramps, fever, and chills.

C/Lb

Valued at 2s. per lb or £10 per C (100 lbs).

Yard (Text: virg): A measurement for cloth. The statute yard is 36 inches.

Glossary of Cloth

Cloth of Assize ¹³⁴

Cloth of Assize, without Grain (Lat.: pannus sine grano; Text: pann' sine grano): This was the standard woollen broadcloth for customs purposes: 24 yards x 2 yards in size. It is important to note that a cloth of this size rarely existed in reality, the standard 'broadcloth' type of cloth was assessed for customs purposes in terms of how many cloths it would make up. Without grain meant the cloth was not dyed using the expensive scarlet dyestuff 'grayne' (kermes).

Cloth of Assize, dyed with Grain (Lat.: pannus in grano; Text: pann' in grano): Broadcloth dyed with kermes.

Cloth of Assize, Dozen: A 'dozen' cloth was 12 yards long, rather than the usual 24.

Cloth of Assize, Strait: In the E122 series of accounts, a strait cloth was half the width of standard broadcloth, and paid half custom. In the later accounts however a streit or street is valued as a sixth of a cloth which is confirmed by the 1582 rates book. ¹³⁵

Cloth of Assize, Dozen Strait: Half the width and half the length of a standard cloth a quarter of a cloth.

Cloth of Assize, Bridgwater: Equivalent to half a standard cloth.

Cloth Cardinals, White: According to the 1582 rates book, there are 6 cardinals to a standard cloth.

Cloth of Assize, Devonshire Dozen: Usually four to a standard broad cloth.

Cloth of Assize, Devonshire Dozen Double: Two to a standard cloth

¹³⁴ Strictly speaking, many of the cloths in this category had their own customary sizes but the term 'cloth of assize' has been used during the course of this study to distinguish those cloths of English production which are generally found to be customised pro rata in relation to the standard broadcloth and therefore paid specific rather than 'poundage' duties. These cloths usually do not have nominal values ascribed to them in the accounts. They were taxed in this manner because of the difficulties associated with the many different types, sizes and weights of cloth produced in England. It is clear from the often inconsistent methods of estimating cloth duties used by the customs officers, that a certain amount of rough estimation was used to value such cloths. Due to this and various other methodological issues, any analysis of the relative importance of woollen cloth over the course of the century can only produce very broad trends.

¹³⁵ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 73.

Cloth of Assize, Kersey: When paying the ancient custom, there are three of these to one standard cloth.

Cloth of Assize, Northern: Exact size or value unclear.

Cloth of Assize, Northern Dozen: Exact size or value unclear.

Cloth of Assize, Northern Plains and Checks: Four to a standard cloth.

Cloth of Assize, Western Dozen/Western Kersey: Equal to a quarter of a cloth

Cloth of Assize, Penistones:¹³⁶ Four unfriezed penistones, or two friezed, to a standard cloth.

Cloth of Assize, Pinwhites: Six to a standard cloth.

Cloth, Other

Cloth, Bay (Text: baie): A napped material, half worsted with a warp of combed wool. Used for stiffening and lining. Range of quality depended on number of threads per inch.¹³⁷

Valued at 20s. per piece with one in every ten allowed custom free in the later accounts.

Cloth, Bologna Sarcenet (Text: bollonia): A soft thin silk in plain or twill weaves.

Yard

Valued at around 3s. 2d. per yard in 1595.

Cloth, Breton (Text: brecnocks): A woollen cloth.

Piece

Valued at 20s. per piece in the 1540s.

Cloth, Breton Canvas (Text: canvas britan'): Canvas cloth from Brittany.

C (yards)

Found in the 1503/4 account, valued at 20s. per C

Cloth, Breton Linen (Text: pan' linen britan'): Linen cloth from Brittany.

Bolt

¹³⁶ E. Charlesworth, 'A local example of the factors influencing industrial location', *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 91, No. 4. (Apr., 1938), 340-351.

¹³⁷ URL: www.vertetsable.com/research_bibliography.htm, accessed 12th October 2008.

Found in the 1503/4 account, valued at 6s. 8d. per bolt

Cloth, Bristol White: Probably a white woollen cloth.

Piece

Found in the 1540s, valued at 8s. 8d. per piece.

Cloth, Buckram: A stiff-finished heavily sized fabric of cotton or linen used for interlinings in garments, for stiffening in millinery, and in bookbinding.

Piece/Role/Dozen

Cloth, Buckram Black: A less expensive variety of buckram.

Yard

A less expensive variety, valued at around 8d. per yard in 1575.

Cloth, Buffin: A coarse cloth in use for the gowns of the middle classes. (OED)

Piece (8 yards)

Customs valuation of around 13s. 4d. per piece (8 yards) in 1595 and at 20s. per piece (size unknown) in 1600/1.

Cloth, Calico: One of the oldest cottons, originating in Calcutta, India. It is generally plain white, coarse and light-weight.

Piece

Customs valuation of around 6s. 8d. per piece in the later accounts.

Cloth, Cambric: A kind of fine white linen, originally made at Cambray in Flanders. (Also applied to an imitation made of hard-spun cotton yarn.)

Valued in 1600/1 at around 40s. per piece, based on custom payments.

Cloth, Camlet (Text: chamlet): A fine, lustrous, woollen fabric made of camel hair, angora wool, or silk.

Piece

Valued at 15s. per piece in the 1540s and at 20s. per piece in 1563. The 1582 rates book lists Camlet 'watered' and 'unwatered' at 20s. a piece.

Cloth, Canvas: A strong or coarse unbleached cloth made of hemp or flax, used as the material for sails of ships, for tents, and by painters for oil-paintings, and also for clothing, etc.

Yard/Ell or Bolt

Canvas is found in the 1525/6 account at 26s. 8d. per C (presumably yards)

In the 1540s, it is valued at around 2d. per yard or at 13s. 4d. per bolt. The 1600/1 account records canvas by the ell, valued at around 4d. per ell and also has an entry for 'coarse canvas' at a value of 10s. per piece, based on custom payments, and also at 6s. 8d. per dozen yards.

Cloth, Changeable Taffeta: A silk taffeta in which the warp threads were of one colour and the weft threads were of another.¹³⁸

Ell

Not listed in the rates book, it is valued for customs at 8s. per ell in 1576.

Cloth, Check (Text: chek): A rough woollen cloth, imported from Ireland.

Yard/C

There are 120 yards in a 'C' of Check Cloth.

Cloth, Check Manchester: A coarse woollen cloth from Manchester.

Dozen

Found in the 1600/1 account, rated by the dozen. It is valued at around 20d. per dozen based on custom payments.

¹³⁸ URL: www.vertetsable.com/research_bibliography.htm, accessed 13th September 2008.

Cloth, Cottons: A woollen cloth found by the goad, which was a measure of 1.5 yards.

C Goad

Valued in the later accounts at £3 6s. 8d. per C Goad, as in the 1582 rates book.

Cloth, Damask: Could be a rich silk or a rich linen fabric.¹³⁹

Yard

Valued at 4s. per yard before the 1558 rate increase, 8s. per yard thereafter.

Cloth, Dornick with wool (dornix en Lani): A cloth originally manufactured at Doornick in Flanders.¹⁴⁰

Yard

There are fifteen yards in a 'piece', valued at 10s. per piece in 1595, as in the 1582 rates book.

Cloth, Dowlas or Lockram: A coarse linen, used for cloak bags and cases as well as for neckwear and clothing by the lower classes.¹⁴¹

Yard

Valued at 33s. 4d. per piece, which according to the 1582 rates book contains 100 elles.¹⁴²

Cloth, Dunster Cotton: Not listed in rates book, presumably a woollen cloth.

Piece

Not listed in the rates book, presumably a woollen cloth. Valued at 20s. per piece for custom purposes. Size of piece unknown.

Cloth, Flannel (Text: flanen): An open woollen stuff, of various degrees of fineness, usually without a nap. (OED)

Yard, ell

¹³⁹ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 21.

¹⁴⁰ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 22.

¹⁴¹ URL: www.vertetsable.com/research_bibliography.htm, accessed 11th August 2008.

¹⁴² Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 23.

Found at 6d. per yard. In the 1540s. It is listed in the 1582 rates book at 8d. per yard and it is found at this value in the 1594-5 account. The 1600-01 account has flannel at 5s. per dozen ells and at 3s. 4d. per dozen yards.

Cloth, Frieze: A kind of coarse woollen cloth, with a nap, usually on one side only.

Cloth, Frieze *Bristol*

Piece

Valued at 13s. 4d. per piece in 1550. It is listed at both 20s. and 40s. per piece in 1564, after the rates increase, probably denoting single and double friezes.

Cloth, Frieze *Irish*.

C yard

This is valued at 4d. per yard or 40s. per C (120) yards. This value doesn't change with the new rates after 1558.

Cloth, Fustian: A cloth made of cotton and flax.

Piece

Found at 15s. per piece in the 1582 rates book, an increase of 1s. per piece from the earlier accounts.

Cloth, Fustian *Holmes*: A fustian made at Ulm in Germany.

Piece

A fustian made at Ulm in Germany. Valued at 13s. 4d. per piece and occurring only in the later accounts. Not listed in the 1582 rates book.

Cloth, Fustian *Irish*

Piece

A cloth made of cotton and flax. Only listed in 1594 and then valued at 13s. 4d. per piece, size unknown.

Cloth, Fustian *Jeane*

Piece

A kind of fustian from Genoa, Italy. A piece contains thirty yards and is valued at 13s. 4d. This only occurs in the later accounts.

Cloth, Fustian Milan: A kind of fustian from Milan, Italy.

This is valued at 20s. per piece in 1595. It is listed at this value in the rates book, but the size of the pieces are unknown.

Cloth, Fustian, Osborne: Unknown origin.

Piece

Found in the later accounts, valued at 13s. 4d., in line with the 1582 rates book.

Cloth, Grosgrain Coarse (Text: grograine): A coarse fabric of silk, of mohair and wool, or of these mixed with silk; often stiffened with gum. (OED)

Piece

Found in the 1600-01 account, valued at £2 6s. 8d per piece.

Cloth, Hamborough & Portingale: Probably Hamburg and Portuguese cloths.

It could also refer to the 'Hasbrough' cloth listed at 40s. per C (100 ells) in the 1582 rates book, although this one is slightly more expensive at 6d. per ell in the 1595 account. There is also a 'narrow Hamborough linen' listed in 1595 at £25 for M ell.

Cloth, Hair (Text: here): 'Cloth or fabric made of hair, used for various purposes such as tents, towels, shirts of penitents and ascetics; also in drying malt, hops, or the like. (OED)

Yard

Valued at 8d. per yard in 1576.

Cloth, Holland: A linen from the province of Holland.

Ell

Valued at 3.33d. per ell , rising to 13.33d. in later accounts, or 24s. per piece. There are approximately 22 ells in a piece.

Cloth, Lemagois: Unidentified cloth.

Yard

Valued at 40s. per C (120 yards)

Cloth, Linen Irish

Yard/C

In the earlier accounts this is valued at 1d. per yard or 10s. per C (120 yards). After 1558 this increases to 26s. 8d. per C.

Cloth, Lining, Narrow

Piece

Valued at 4s. 2d. per piece in the 1540s.

Cloth, Lining, Russet

Piece/yard

Valued at 3d. per yard in the 1540s.

Cloth, Lining, Yellow

Piece/yard

Valued at 13s. 4d. per piece or C. and at 3d. per yard in the 1540s.

Cloth, Mantle Frieze: Presumably the frieze cloth used to make mantles.

Yard

This was imported from Ireland. It is listed by the 'C', which is 120 yards and valued at 40s. per C in 1551.

Cloth, Mockado: A mixed fabric of wool and silk, in imitation of velvet, from Flanders.¹⁴³

Piece

Valued at 13s. 4d. per piece.

Cloth, Molton: OED: A kind of coarse, heavily fulled cloth with the warp of hemp and the weft of poor quality carding wool.

Piece

Found in the 1540s at 4s. 2d. per piece.

Cloth, Motley: A woollen cloth.

Piece

It is found in the 1540s accounts at £1 per piece and at 4s. 2d. for a 'strait'

Cloth, Ozenbridge: A linen cloth of Osnabrück.

Ell/Yard

Valued at 26s. 8d. per C (100 ells) and at 20s. per C yards.

Cloth, Paris: This may be serge as the account also list 'serge, called Paris cloth' but at a lower value.

Piece

Valued at £3 per piece in 1595, not listed in rates book. One in every ten cloths allowed to the merchant custom free. The same account also contains 'Serge, called Paris Cloth' at £2 per piece.

¹⁴³ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 41.

Cloth, Poldavis: A coarse canvas cloth from Pouldavid in France.

Bolt/Piece

The earlier accounts list it as pieces of Poldavis (1551) and as simply Poldavis (1546), both valued at 10s. The rates book for 1582 lists Poldavis the bolt at 20s., so it is possible that the pieces listed in the earlier accounts are in fact bolts.

Cloth, Sack (cloth for sacks): Coarse textile fabric used chiefly in the making of bags or sacks and for the wrapping up of bales.

Piece/Yard

This occurs in the 1600-01 account at 6s. 8d. a piece and at the same value for 40 yards, so therefore a piece is comprised of 40 yards. This is clearly not the sackcloth of silk or the white sackcloth of the rates book, both of which are significantly more expensive. Sackcloth occurs also in the 1575 account at 4s. 8d. per yard and in the 1595 account at 13s. 4d. per piece.

Cloth, Sarcenet: A fine silk material.¹⁴⁴

Ell

Exported to Ireland at 4s. per ell and at 3s. 4d. per yard in 1563, this is probably either Florence or Bologna Sarcenet, both listed at 3s. 4d. per ell in the 1582 rates book. There is a 'coarse sarcenet' listed in 1576 at 5s. per ell, which is not listed in the rates book, and there is also a type of unspecified sarcenet in the 1595 account at the more expensive value of 6s. 8d. per yard (may be an error for ell) as the rates book lists a 'Gold Sarcenet' at 6s. 8d. per ell.

Cloth, Satin: A silk fabric with a glossy surface on one side.

Yard

Found at 5s. per yard in the 1540s, this is presumably 'satin out of grain' as listed in the 1582 rates book at the higher value of 9s. per yard.

Cloth, Saye: A lightweight cloth usually made from worsted and woollen yarn.

Yard/Piece

¹⁴⁴ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 51.

Listed by the yard in the 1540s account at 1s. 5d. and later by the piece at 20s., as in the rates book. The size of the piece is unknown.

Cloth, Serge: A woollen fabric, which up until the 16th century was chiefly used as material for hangings, bed-covers, etc. After this it is often referred to as worn by the poorer classes (both men and women), probably due to its durability rather than of its price, which was never especially low. (OED)

Piece

Serge cloth or 'Sarge called Paris Cloth' occurs in the 1594-5 account, valued at 40s. per piece, with 1 piece in every 10 allowed to the merchanyt custom free.

Cloth, Soultwich: This is a linen cloth, probably from Salzwedel in Germany.¹⁴⁵

Piece

It is found in the 1600-01 account, where 10 pieces pay 3s. custom and so are valued at £3. The 1582 rates book lists Soultwich cloth at 40s. per Cell, containing vi.xx.

Cloth, Stolorn: Unidentified Cloth.

Piece

Not listed in 1582 rates book, valued at 10s. 4d. per piece in the 1540s.

Cloth Taffeta: According to the OED, taffeta is 'a name applied at different times to different fabrics. In early times apparently a plain-wove glossy silk, in more recent times, a light thin silk or union stuff of decided brightness or lustre'.

Yard

This is valued at 6s. 8d. per yard in line with the 1582 rates book.

Cloth, Taffata Broad

Ell

¹⁴⁵ Willan, *Tudor Book of Rates*, p. 56.

A smooth, fine, shiny silk. Valued at 8s. 4d. per ell in the 1594-5 account. This is not listed in the 1582 rates book, but there is a listing for narrow Spanish Taffata at 4s. per yard, so perhaps this is just a wider sized piece.

Cloth, Taffeta Levant: The term 'Levant' signifies that the cloth originated in the eastern part of the Mediterranean.

Ell

Valued at 8s. 4d. per ell in the 1594-5 account. This is not listed in the 1582 rates book, but there is a listing for narrow Spanish Taffata at 4s. per yard, so perhaps this is just a wider sized piece.

Cloth, Taffeta Towers: Probably from Tours in France.

Ell

Willan suggests that this is Tours in France. It is listed in the 1582 rates book at 3s. 4d. per yard. It occurs in the 1600-01 account by the ell.

Cloth, Tissue: A rich kind of cloth, often interwoven with gold or silver. (OED)

Piece

Found in the 1540s, valued at £2 per piece. The 1582 rates book lists tissue cloth at £3 6s. 8d. per yard.

Cloth, Velvet (Text: velure): Textile fabric of silk having a short, dense, and smooth piled surface. (OED)

Yard

The value of velvet and velure varies in the accounts. It is found at 7s. 6d. and 10s. in the 1540s accounts, and at the higher value of 15s. per yard in the 1576 account in line with the rates book. It is also found in the 1600-01 account at approximately 26s. 8d. per piece.

Cloth, Wadmal (Text: wodnall, wodmal): A coarse woollen material used principally for covering horse-collars, and other rough purposes; for petticoats, mittens, etc. (OED)

Piece

Found in the earlier accounts at 15s. per piece. It is listed in the 1582 rates book at 20s. per piece and is found at

this value in the later accounts.

Cloth, Worsted: A woollen fabric made from well-twisted yarn spun of long-staple wool combed to lay the fibres parallel. (OED)

Ell

Valued at 2s. per ell in the 1540s.

Glossary of place-names

Port Modern	Name in Accounts	Country	Co-ordinates
Alderney	Aldern	Channel Islands	49° 42' 0' N, 2° 4' 60 W
Amsterdam	Anster, Anser, Amsam	Netherlands	52° 23' N, 04° 54' E
Andalusia	Andolosia, Andolosar	Spain	
<i>Arcuzauries</i> ¹⁴⁶	<i>Arcuzauries</i>	Unknown	
Antwerpen	Anwarpe	Belgium	51° 12' N, 04° 26' E
Arnhemuiden	Armewe	Netherlands	51° 30' N, 03° 41' E
<i>Ars-en-Ré</i> ¹⁴⁷	Ile de Ars	France	46° 12' N, 01° 31' W
Aveiro	Avero	Portugal	40° 37' N, 08° 38' W
Ayamonte	Eymontie, Amounty	Spain	37° 13' N, 7° 23' W
<i>Baldeike</i> ¹⁴⁸	Baldeike	Ireland (?)	
Ballyhack	Bellohake	Ireland	52° 15' N, 6° 58' W
Barnstaple	Barnestable	England	51°5' N, 04°03' W
Bergen-op-Zoom	Barrow	Netherlands	51° 30' N, 4° 18' E
Barry	Barry	Wales	51° 24' N, 03° 17'
Bawnard	Bawdenolle	Ireland	51° 53' N, 8° 10' W
Bayonne	Bayon, Bay, Boyne	France	43° 29' N, 1° 29' W
Berkeley	Barcklie	England	51° 41' N, 2 27' W
Bermeo	Barmew	Spain	43° 25' N, 2° 43' W
Bewdley	Bewdeley	England	52° 23' N, 2° 19' W
Bideford	Bydford, Byddyforde	England	51° 01' N, 4° 12' W
<i>Bigges Weare</i> ¹⁴⁹	Bigges Wear, Bixwier, Co. Gloucestershire	England	
Bilbao	Bilbowe	Spain	43° 15' N, 02° 54' W
Blavet	Bluet	France	47° 45' N, 02° 21' W
<i>Bloie</i> ¹⁵⁰	Bloie	France (?)	
<i>Bokeslate</i> ¹⁵¹	Bokeslate	Unknown	
Bordeaux	Burdeux, Burdux	France	44° 51' N, 0° 34' W
Boscastle	Bottes Castell, Botescastle	England	50°41' N, 4°41'W
Bremen	Bremen	Germany	53° 05' N 08° 51' E

¹⁴⁶ Unidentified. This is the 'home port' of a prize ship, so probably a Spanish port.

¹⁴⁷ *Il de Ars* may be *Ars-en-Ré*, on the island on Il -de-Ré, off the Western Coast of France.

¹⁴⁸ Unidentified. Most likely an Irish place-name.

¹⁴⁹ Exact location unknown.

¹⁵⁰ Possibly Blavet.

¹⁵¹ Unidentified.

Brest	Breste. Breeste	France	48° 24' N, 4° 29' W
Bridgwater	Briggwatter	England	51°7' N, 3° 00' W
Bristol	Bristoll, Bristow	England	51° 27' N, 2° 35' W
Bourgneuf (?)	Burniffe	France (?)	
Cabo de San Adrián	Adrian	Spain	43° 21' 0 N, 8° 49' 60 W
Cabo de Saõ Vicente	St Vincent	Portugal	37° 01' N, 8° 59' W
Cadiz	Cales, Calis, Calix,	Spain	36° 32' N, 6° 17' W
Caerleon	Carlyon	Wales	51° 37' N, 2° 57' W
Camarinas	Kamyno	Spain	43° 08' N, 09° 10 W
Campvere; Veere ¹⁵²	Camphere	Scotland	
Candelaria ¹⁵³	Candalars, Candie, Candalary	Spain/Portugal	
Cardiff	Cardeff	Wales	51° 29' N, 3° 11' W
<i>Carigham</i> ¹⁵⁴	Carigham, Kerry	Ireland	
Carmarthen	Carmarthen, Carmthen	Wales	51°51' N, 04°19' W
Cashel	Cashel	Ireland	52 °31' N, 7° 53' W
<i>Castrow</i> ¹⁵⁵	Castrow	Unknown	
Charente	Sherante	France	
Chepstow	Chepsto'	Wales	51° 38' N, 2° 40' W
Cherbourg	Sherbrocke	France	49° 38' N, 01° 37' W
Churcham	Churcham	England	51° 51' N, 02° 20' W
Clonmel	Clonmell	Ireland	52° 21' N, 7° 43' W
Combe Martin	Combe	England	51°12' N, 4° 01' W
Combwich	Comewich, Comydge	England	51° 8' N, 3° 13' W
Cork	Corke	Ireland	51° 54' N, 8° 28' W
Crail	Carell	Scotland	56° 16' N 2° 38' W
Crozon	Croyden	France	48° 15' N, 4° 30' W
Dartmouth	Dartmouth	England	50° 21' N, 3° 35' W
Deusto (Bilbao) ¹⁵⁶	Dews	Spain	43° 15' N, 2° 55' W
Dingle	Dengell, Dinglecush	Ireland	52° 8' N, 10° 16' W
Drogheda	Dorodats	Ireland	53° 43' N, 6° 21' W
Dublin	Devalyg, Devablyn	Ireland	53° 20' N, 6° 16' W
Dundalk	Doundawk	Ireland	54° 00' N, 06° 24' W

¹⁵² Campvere, or Veere, is in the Netherlands on the island of Walcheren, near Middelburg. Vere was the location of the Scottish staple in the Low Countries down to the eighteenth century.

¹⁵³ This could be Saõ Miguel in the Azores, or alternatively Tenerife in the Canary islands.

¹⁵⁴ Unidentified town.

¹⁵⁵ Unidentified.

¹⁵⁶ Deusto or Deustu is a district of the city of [Bilbao](#), on the right bank of the [estuary of Bilbao](#).

Dungarvan	Dungarvan	Ireland	52° 5' N, 7° 38' W
Elmore	Elmor, Elmower	England	51° 50' N, 02°18' W
Emden	Emdon, Emdin	Germany	53° 22' N, 7° 13' E
Errenteria	Rendrie	Spain	43° 19' N, 1° 54' W
Exmouth	Exmoth	England	50° 37' N, 03° 24' W
Falmouth	Ffalmothe	England	50° 09' N, 5° 04' W
Faro	Farowe	Portugal	37° 01' N, 07° 56' W
Fécamp	Feccam, Feckam	France	49° 46' N, 0° 23' E
Fethard-on-Sea	Feddar	Ireland	52° 11' N, 06° 50' W
Fowey	Foye	England	50° 20' N, 04° 38' W
Framilode	Framylade	England	51° 4' N, 02° 21' W
Fremington	Fremington	England	51°04' N 4°07' W
Friesland	Freslond	Netherlands	
Fuenterrabia ¹⁵⁷	Foutraby	Spain	43° 22' N, 1° 28' W
Galicia	Gallizia	Spain	43° 0' 0" N, 8° 0' 0" W
Galway	Gallowaye	Ireland	53° 16' N, 09° 03' W
Gatcombe	Gatcombe	England	51° 47' N, 02° 3' W
Gdańsk	Danncowyck, Dannes, Dansike	Poland	54° 21' N, 18° 39' E
Genoa	Jene, Jeynet, Jeyne	Italy	44° 25' N, 8° 56' E
Gibraléon	Geburlion	Spain	37° 23' 0" N, 6° 58' 0" W
Glandore	Glandore	Ireland	51° 34' N, 09° 07' W
Glasgow	Glascoc	Scotland	55° 32' N, 04° 15' W
Gloucester	Gloc'	England	51° 52' N, 2° 15' W
Granville	Grandevilla	France	48°50' N, 01° 36' W
Guernsey	Garnesey	Channel Islands	49° 27' 0" N, 2° 32' 0" W
Guinea	Ginney	Africa	
Haarlem	Harlam	Netherlands	52° 22' N, 4° 38' E
Hampton	Hampton	England	50° 45' N, 3° 3' W
Hanley Castle	Hanley	England	52° 5' N, 02° 14' W
Hasfield	Hasfeld, Haysfeld	England	51° 56' N, 02° 15' W
Haverford West	Hereford	England	51° 48' N, 4° 58' W
Holt	Holte	England	52° 16' N, 02° 15' W
Hondarribia	Foutraby	Spain	43° 22' N, 1° 28' W
Honfleur	Hownflete	France	49 25' N, 0 14' E
Hoom	Hoorne	Netherlands	51° 13' N, 5° 57' E
Hull	Hull	England	53° 43' N, 0° 20' W

¹⁵⁷ Alternate name for Hondarribia.

Huntley	Hunteley	England	51° 5' N, 02° 24' W
Hutton	Hutton	England	51°19' N, 2°56' W
Ilfracombe	Ilfercombe	England	51°12' N, 4° 07' W
Island of Madeira	Insulas de Mathera	Portugal	
Ile d' Oléron ¹⁵⁸	Olone, Olderone, Olone	France	
Haydon	Temple Haydon, co. Somerset	England	51.27° N 02.46° W
Jersey	Gersey, Gerse	Channel Islands	49° 11' N, 2° 6' W
Kenilworth Castle	Kellenworth	England	52° 21' N, 1° 35' W
Kenton	Kenton	England	50° 38' N, 03° 28' W
Kidwelly	Kydwelly	Wales	51°44' N, 4°18' W
Kilkenny	Kilkenny	Ireland	52° 39' N, 7°15' W
Kilmallock	Kilmallock	Ireland	52° 39' N, 7°15' W
Kingswear	Kingsweye	England	50° 24' N, 08° 35' W
Kingswood	Kingswood, Co. Wiltshire	England	
Kinsale	Kensale, Kynsale	Ireland	51°42' N, 8° 31' W
La Foye ¹⁵⁹	Lafoile, La Foyle	France	
Lantringuier ¹⁶⁰	Lantrea, Lantriger	France	
<i>Larmuster, Larmister</i> ¹⁶¹	Larmuster, Larmister	France (?)	
La Rochelle	Rochell	France	46° 10' N, 01° 09' W
Lasa (?)	Lasa	Portugal (?)	
La Tremblade	Tremlado, Trimlavi	France	45° 46' N, 1° 09' W
Laugharne	Laugharne	Wales	51° 46' N, 4° 28' W
Le Conquet	Conquete	France	48° 22' N, 4° 47' W
Le Croisic	Crosegwiecke	France	47°18' N, 2° 30' W
Leith	Leeth	Scotland	55° 59' N, 03° 10' W
Lezo	Lezo	Spain	43° 19' N, 1° 54' W
Limerick	Lymbricke	Ireland	52° 40' N, 08° 37' W
Lisbon	Luxbon	Portugal	38°44' N, 9° 08' W
Liverpool	Lyvorpole	England	53° 25' N, 2° 59' W
Livorno	Ligorne	Italy	43° 32' N, 10° 19' E
Llansteffan	Lanstaffan	Wales	51° 46' N, 04° 23' W
Longney	Langney	England	51° 48' N, 02° 20' W
Lequeitio	Lettewre ¹⁶²	Spain	

¹⁵⁸ Other possibilities include Olonne-sur Mer and Les Sables d'Olonne just north of Rochelle and also the Ile de Ré.

¹⁵⁹ Lafoile is possibly La Foye, in the Charente-Maritime Department of France.

¹⁶⁰ H. Touchard, *Le commerce maritime Breton a la fin du moyen age* (Paris, 1967) p. 184.

¹⁶¹ A suggestion is Noirmoutier, off Les Sables d'Olonne, France.

¹⁶² Lettewre is probably Lettewe, which was often the medieval English form of Lequeitio in Biscay.

Lübeck	Lubiecke	Germany	53° 52' N, 10° 42' E
Lyme Regis	Lyme	England	50° 44' N, 2° 56' W
Magor	Magor	Wales	51° 34' N, 2°49' W
Majorca	Mayorlia	Spain	39° 37' 0" N, 2° 59' 0" E
Málaga	Malaga	Spain	36° 43' N, 04° 25' W
Malahide	Malahyde	Ireland	53° 27' N, 6° 09' W
Mallow	Mallow	Ireland	52° 08' N, 8° 39' W
Marenes	Maryne	France	45° 49' N, 1° 06' W
Marseilles	Marcellus	France	43° 18' N, 5° 23' E
Marshfield	Marshfield, Co. Gloucestershire	England	51° 28' N, 2° 20' W
Mathern	Mathern	Wales	51° 37' N, 02° 40' W
Middelburg	Mydleborowe	Netherlands	51° 30' N, 3° 38' E
<i>Messes</i>	Messes	France?	
Milford Haven	Milford	Wales	51° 43' N, 05° 02' W
Millbrook	Millbrooke	England	50° 20' 49" N, 04° 12' 57" W
Minehead	Mynhed	England	51° 12' N, 03° 29' W
Minsterworth ¹⁶³	Minsterford	England	51° 51' 10" N, 02° 19' 30" W
Morales ¹⁶⁴	Morles	Spain	36° 48' N, 2° 15' W
<i>Mometes</i>	Mometes	Unknown	
Morbihan	Morbean	France	47° 36' 0" N, 2° 48' 0" W
Moreton	Morton	England	50° 42' N, 02° 16' W
Mortain	Mortania	France	48° 39' N, 0° 56' W
Mount's Bay	Mountes Baie	England	50° 07' N, 05° 32' W
Mumbles	Mumbull	Wales	
Mundaka	Mundake	Spain	43° 25' N, 2° 42' W
Mutriku	Motrico	Spain	43° 18' N, 2° 23' W
Nantes	Nantes, Nannte	France	47° 13' 1° 33' W
Newlyn	Newlyn	England	50° 26' N, 5° 33' W
Newnham	Newnam	England	51° 48' N, 02° 27' W
Newport	Newport	Wales	52° 1' N, 04° 50' W
New Ross	Ross	Ireland	52° 23' N, 6° 57' W
<i>Nongell</i> ¹⁶⁵	Nongell	Unknown	
Northam	Northam	England	51° 02' N, 04° 12' W
<i>Nostradam</i>	Nostradam	Unknown	

¹⁶³ Minsterford has not been identified but it is possibly Minsterworth in Gloucestershire.

¹⁶⁴ Found in 1516, coming from Seville with a cargo of fruit and wine. Morles may relate to the Morales river in southern Spain. A further possibility, although unlikely in view of the cargo is that Morles is Morlaix in Brittany.

¹⁶⁵ Possibly Youghal.

Odemira (?)	Odiem	Portugal	37° 35' 0" N, 8° 38' 0" W (?)
Oldbury-on-Severn	Olebury	England	51° 38' N, 2° 34' W
<i>Oloone of Barges</i> ¹⁶⁶	Oloone of Barges	France (?)	
Orio	Orio	Spain	43° 16' N, 2° 56' W
Overton	Overton	Wales	52° 58' N, 2° 34' W
Padstow	Patstow	England	50° 32' N, 4° 56' W
Paimboef	Peimots	France	47° 17' N, 2° 01' W
Paimpol	Pympole	France	48° 47' N, 3° 02' W
Palma de Mallorca	Palma	Spain	39° 34' N, 02° 39' E
Purton ¹⁶⁷	Parton	England	54° 34' N 03° 35' W
Pasajes de San Juan	Passage, Pasaia	Spain	43°19' N, 01°57' W
Passage East	Passage	Ireland	52° 14' N, 6° 59' W
Pembroke	Penbroke	Wales	51° 40' N, 04° 55' W
Penmarch,; Penmarc'h	Penmarch, March ?	France	47° 49' N, 04° 20' W
Piltown	Pilto[]n	Ireland	52° 21' 12" N, 7° 20' 25" W
Plymouth	Plymothe	England	50° 22' N, 4° 8' W
Portugal	Portugale	Portugal	
Pouldavid	Poldavy	France	
Puerto de Santa Maria	St Marys Port	Spain	36° 36' N, 6° 14' W
<i>Quimper</i> ¹⁶⁸	Kynprollantyne	Unknown	
Quimperlé	Quimperleye	France	47° 52' N, 3° 32' W
Renteria ¹⁶⁹	Rendrie	Spain	43° 19' N, 1° 54' W
Ribadeo	Ribadew	Spain	43° 33' , 07° 02' W
Roosendaal	Rosendale	Netherlands	51° 31' N 04° 28' E
Roscoff	Roscoe	France	48° 43' N, 3° 59' W
Rothesay	Rothe	Scotland	55° 50' N, 05° 03' W
Royan	Roane, Royon	France	48° 38' N, 1° 01' W
<i>Saffolania</i>	Saffolania	Unknown	
Salcombe	Saltcome	England	50° 14' 13" N, 03° 46' 08" W
San Antonio Abad (?)	Sanct Anthonio	Spain	28° 38' 60" N, 17° 46' 0" W (?)
Sanlúcar de Barremeda	Seint Lucar	Spain	36°46' N, 06°21' W
San Sebastián	Sent Sebastyan	Spain	43° 19' N, 01° 59' W

¹⁶⁶ Possibly relates to Olonne. See note 76 above.

¹⁶⁷ A small pill/loading place on the River Severn.
 URL: www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/History/Maritime/Sources/1565bristol.htm, accessed 10th July 2008.

¹⁶⁸ Kynprollantyne may be Quimper, France. Quimper was often known in the middle ages as *Quimpercorentin* after its first bishop, who did miracles and to whom Quimper cathedral is dedicated. We would like to thank Prof. Wendy Childs (Leeds) for this suggestion.

¹⁶⁹ Alternate name for Errenteria above.

Saõ Miguel (Green Island)	St Michaelles	Portugal	37° 46' N, 25° 28' W
Seville	Seville, Civill	Spain	37° 24' N, 5° 58' W
Shirehampton	Sherehampton	England	51° 29' N, 02° 40' W
Sines	Synott	Portugal	37° 58' 08° 52' W
Sligo	Sligo	Ireland	54° 17' N, 08° 28' W
Slimbridge	Slembrigge	England	51° 43' N, 02° 22' W
St Bride's	Seynt Brides	Wales	51° 45' N, 05° 11' W
St Briec	Seint Briak	France	48° 31' N, 02° 45' W
St David's	Seynt Davies	Wales	51° 53' N, 5° 16' W
St Gilles Croix-de-Vie (?)	St Giles	France	46° 52' N, 01° 56' W
St Ives	Seynt Ives	England	50°13' N, 5° 29' W
St-Jean-de-Luz	Seynt John de Luce	France	43° 23' N, 1° 39' W
St- Malo	St Mallos	France	48° 39' N, 02° 00' W
St Pol de Lyon	San Poule de Lyon	France	48°41'10"N 3°59'06"W
St Surine	St Surine	Unknown	
Stonehouse	Stonehowse	England	51° 45' 2° 17' W
Swansea	Swaynsey	Wales	51°37' N, 3° 06' W
Susare	Susare	Unknown	
Talmont	Talamounte	France	45° 32' N 0° 54' W
Taunton	Taunton	England	51° 01' N, 04° 42' W
Teignmouth	Tinmouth	England	50° 33' N, 03° 30' W
Tenby	Tinbie, Tynbygh	Wales	51° 40' N, 04° 42' W
Terceira	Insulas Tercera	Azores, Portugal	
Tewkesbury	Tewkisbury	England	51° 59' N, 02° 09' W
Tidenham	Tidn[]	England	51° 39' N, 02° 38' W
Tintern	Tyntorne	Wales	51°41' N, 02° 41' W
Tiverton	Tivarton	England	50° 54' N, 3° 29' W
Topsham (Exeter)	Opsam	England	50° 41' N, 3° 27' W
Totnes	Totnes	England	
Toulon	Tholone	France	43° 08' N, 5° 56' E
Uphill	Uphyll	England	51° 19' N, 02° 59' W
Ushant	Ussaunt	France	48° 27' 29" N. 05° 05' 44" W
Vannes	Vanyse, Vanns	France	47°39' N, 2° 45' W
Viana do Castelo	Viana	Portugal	41° 42' N, 8° 49' W
Vila do Conde	Villacondy	Portugal	41°21' N, 08° 44' W
Vlissingen	Flushinge	Netherlands	51° 27' N, 3° 34' E
Waterford	Waterford, Watford	Ireland	52° 15' N, 7° 07' W

Wexford	Washeford, Waisford	Ireland	52° 20' N, 6° 28' W
Weymouth	Waymouth	England	50° 37' N, 02° 27' W
Workington	Wirkington	England	54° 39' N, 03° 33' W
'Yealm' ¹⁷⁰	Yalme, Yame	England	50° 21' N 03° 59' W
Youghal	Yoghall, Youghill	Ireland	51°58' N, 07°51' W

¹⁷⁰ This 'port' probably relates to the mouth of the Yealm. This wasn't a community but it was an anchorage and there are other examples of ships being given as coming from a haven/waterway rather than an actual community - e.g. Mount's Bay.

Glossary of first-names

First names are generally Latinised in the accounts (Jacobus for James, Dionisius for Dennis, Elias for Elliot, Egidius for Giles). For names that have no real Latin form, Latinisation is often achieved by simply adding a ‘us’ or ‘is’ ending (e.g. Arthuris, Reginaldus, Gonsalus). If the name appears to be Latinised, it is translated into the vernacular. If there is a common English vernacular equivalent, this is the one that is adopted. It must be remembered, however, that some names, would almost certainly have taken a different form in real life. For example, while all individuals called ‘Johannes’ are transcribed as John, if the merchant was Spanish, he would probably have been called ‘Juan’, if French, ‘Jean’. If there is no common English equivalent for a Latinised name, the name is translated into the most likely vernacular form (e.g. Affonsus becomes Alfonso, Ffernandus becomes Fernando). Where names have not been Latinised (e.g. Tege, Raphael, Merike, Manuel), the original form is kept. In such cases, the original spelling is maintained (e.g. Dirike is *not* changed to Derick or Derek).

Note: Names in (brackets) are the Latinised, or apparently Latinised, versions of the name. In those cases where it has not been possible to identify a vernacular equivalent of the name, the Latin version has been given (e.g. Catuanis). Italics indicate suspensions (e.g. *Williamus* will appear in the accounts as Willm).

Name in Trancription	Name in Accounts (if different)	Notes
Adam		
Alan	(Alen)	
(Aldrean)		TNA E122/199/9
Alfonso	(Affonsus)	
(Alerno)		
Alexander		
Alvero		
(Amathere)		TNA E122/21/15
Ambrose	(Ambrosius)	
Andrew	(Andreas)	
Anthony	(Antonius)	
Arnold	(Arnaldus)	

Arthur	(Arthuris)	
Asker		Alien (may be variation of Asher)
Auger	(Awger, Auger)	
(Babtaherius)		TNA E190/1131/10
(Balcher)		TNA E190/1131/10
(Baltran)		TNA E122/21/10
Baptist	(Baptiste)	
(Bawdewyn)		
Bennett		
Bernard	(Barnadus)	
Botholl	Bothulph, Botholl	TNA E190/1129/11
(Cataunis)		TNA E122 199/1
Cecilia	(Scisilia)	
Christine	(Christiana)	
Christopher	(<i>Christpoferus</i> , Crisostome)	Written 'Xpoferus'
Claus	(Close)	TNA E122/199/9
Cornell	(Cornelius)	
Daniel		
Darby	(Darbye, Derby)	
David		
Dennis	(<i>Dionisius</i>)	
Derek	Dirike	
Dominic	(Domingus, Dominick)	
(Domingo)	(Domyngo)	
(Donarte)	(Donarte)	TNA E122/22/4
Edmund	(<i>Edmundus</i> , Edmundus)	
Edward	(Edwardus)	
Emmanuel	(Manuel)	
Elliot	(Elias)	
Englebert	(Anglebart)	
Evan	(Evond)	TNA E122 199/1
Fernado	(Ffernandus)	
Ferdinand	(Fernando)	
(Firsopus)	(Firsopus)	TNA E122/21/15
Florence	(Flowrannce, Florens)	TNA E122/22/4
Fowke?Fulk		TNA E122/199/4, E122/21/15
Francis	(Ffranciscus)	
(Gadelus)		TNA E122 199/1

Gareth	(Garrett, Garrote, Garriett)	
Garrold		
Geoffrey	(Galfrius, Gulfridus)	
George	(Georgius)	
Gerald	(Gerardus)	
Germain	(Germanus, Germyn)	
(Gillam)	(Gillam)	TNA E122/22/4
Gilbert	(Gilbtus)	TNA E122/22/4
(Gillermo)		
Giovanni	(Geovanni)	(form of John)
(Gowldhen)		TNA E190/1132/11
Gonsalo	(Gonsalus)	
(Goveran)		TNA E122/22/4
Gratien	(Gratianus)	
Gravell	(Gravell)	TNA E122/21/2
Griffeth	(Griffeth, Griffith)	
(Gruand)		TNA E122/22/4
(Gwylgo)		TNA E122/22/4
(Hanndridge)		TNA E190/1129/11
(Harinanus)		TNA E122/21/10
Harry	Harrie	
Haus		
Harvy	(Harvye)	
Hector		
Henry	(Henre)	
(Higon)		TNA E122 199/1
Hugh	(Hugo)	
Humphrey	(Humfríus, Humfridus)	
Isaiah	Esia	TNA E190/1131/10
(Isbrane)	(Isbrane)	Norwegian TNA E190/1132/11
James	(Jacobus, Jacques)	
(Jan)	(Janof)	TNA E122/22/4
Jasper		
Jenkin	(Jenkyn)	
(Jenott)	(Jenott)	TNA E122/22/4
Jeremiah	(Jeronimo, Jeramus)	
Jeremy		

John	(<i>Johanes</i>)	
Johanna		
Jordan	(<i>Jurdanus, Geordannus</i>)	
Josiah	(<i>Josias</i>)	
(Jovands)		
Katherine	(<i>Katerina</i>)	
Laurence	(<i>Laurence</i>)	
Leonard	(<i>Leonardus</i>)	
Lettice	(<i>Leticia</i>)	TNA E122/199/9
Lewis	(<i>Lodwicus/ Lewes</i>)	
(Libard)		TNA E122/21/2
(Lopo)		
Lucas		
Luke	(<i>Lukes</i>)	TNA E122/22/5
Malagur		
Manuel		
(Manus)		TNA E122/22/5
Margaret		
Margery	(<i>Margeria</i>)	
Martin	(<i>Martinius</i>)	
Maurice	(<i>Mauric, Mauricius</i>)	
Matilda		
Matthew	(<i>Matheus</i>)	
Merike		
Michael	(<i>Mighel</i>)	
Morgan		
Nicholas	(<i>Nicho/us</i>)	
Noel	(<i>Nowell</i>)	
Ochoa		
Oliver	(<i>Oliverus</i>)	
Owen	(<i>Owen, Owynus</i>)	
Patrick	(<i>Patricius</i>)	
Paul	(<i>Paulus</i>)	
(Peraton)		TNA E122/21/15
Peter	(<i>Petrus, Petro</i>)	
(Pero)		TNA E122/22/4
Philip	(<i>Philippus</i>)	
Pierce	(<i>Peers</i>)	

(Predictus)	(Predictus)	
Ralph	(Radulfus)	
Randal	(Rendell)	TNA E122/24/12
Raphael		
Raymond	(Raimundus)	
(Regerus)		Possibly <i>Reginaldus</i>
Reginald	(Reginaldus)	
Rewe		
Richard	(Ricius)	
Robert	(Robertus)	
Roderigo	Rodrigus	TNA E122/21/15
Roger	(Rogerus)	
Roland	(Rowland)	
(Ryall)		TNA E122/21/10
Sampson		
Sancho	(Sanchius)	TNA E122 199/1
Sebastian	(Sebastianus, Bastian)	
Silvia	Sivelia	
Simon	(Simon')	
Stephen	(Stephanus)	
Tege		
Tessick	(Tessicke)	TNA E190/1131/11
Thomas		
Tibald	(Tibaldus, Tybalt)	
Tobias	(Tobiott)	
Ultan	(Ulstan)	TNA E122/22/5
(Veronius)		TNA E190/1131/10
Vincent	(Vincens)	
Walter	(Walterus)	
Watkin	Watkyn	
William	(Williamus)	