

St. Mark's Altar

Extracted from Maxwell's Old Dundee Prior to the Reformation

St. Mark's Altar. In 1525, the deacon and craft of the walkers or fullers of cloth entered into an obligation under which they became bound to pay certain duties "perpetually to be upliftit," to "the honour of Sanct Mark, our patron, and of haly Kirk, and to the reparation of ane altar to be biggit and reparallit before the pillar now foundit next before Sanct Michael's altar, and for the uphald of God's service daily to be done, and to the honest sustentation of ane chaplain daily to sing and say at the said altar. The whilk chaplain sall come to the festival of service of the Kirk and queir in their ganand¹ habit, as other crafts chaplains does, and yearly to be feeit be us, and removit be us – his demerits requiring." For his sustentation they granted him permission to accept all funeral dues, offerings, and legacies of whatsoever kind; and became bound to pay him yearly the sum of ten merks.

There was "a land pertaining to St. Mark's Chaplainry on the north side of the Flukargait." At the time of the Reformation "Sir James Kinloch had in his fee the yaird callit Sanct Marks' yaird."

There is also a reference to a decree dated 9th April 1529 that James Dick one of the Bailies of Dundee, was directed to line or bound the lands pertaining to J, Young Chaplain of the Altar of St Mark belonging to the Walker Craft of Dundee.

¹ Becoming.