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In 1565 the Exchequer issued a series of commissions to survey the ports of the country. At about the same time Bristol’s mayor, Anthony Standbank, received a subsidiary commission to ascertain the nature and extent of smuggling and other illegal practices in the port of Bristol. As the translation of commission’s brief makes clear, the intention was that it should focus on the illicit export of ‘prohibited’ wares from the greater port, which included the Bristol Avon and the Gloucestershire reaches of the River Severn. In the event, the commissioners chose to concentrate on the illicit import of wine and only considered matters in the City of Bristol itself.

Latin translation of the commission

Memorandum that, by the decision of the Barons, letters patent of the present Queen were issued under the seal of the Exchequer this term in these words: Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc., to our beloved and faithful Anthony Stanbanck mayor of the city of Bristol, Walter Dennys knight, George Norton knight, and our beloved Richard Barkley esquire and Robert Brayne esquire, greetings. Know that we, fully confident in your faithfulness and circumspection, assign you, five, four, or at the least three, to enquire, as well within liberties as without, as well by the oaths of

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1 The National Archives: Public Record Office [TNA:PRO] E159/350 Recorda Hil. rot. 351 r, d, et seq. I would like to thank Margaret Condon (University of Bristol) for her considerable assistance on the transcription / translation of this document. The following conventions were employed when transcribing the certificate: the line spacing, spelling, capitalization, underlining, deletions, emphasis (in bold) and punctuation follow the manuscript; reconstructions of suspensions are in italics. Squared brackets indicate editorial additions.
3 Headed ‘Adhuc Communia de termino sancti Hillarii anno septimo Regine Elizabeth. Adhuc Recorda’: Still [i.e. continuing] the Common Matters of Hilary term in the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth. Still the Recorda.’ In the margin is written ‘Gloucestric Civitas Bristol’: Gloucester [and] City of Bristol’. The short text summary that usually appears below the county names is left blank, although a space has been indicated for it.
4 Anthony Standbank, mayor of Bristol, 1564/5. Standbank was vintner and a former customs officer in the city: J. Vanes (ed.), The Ledger of John Smythe, 1538-1550 (Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, JP19, 1974), fo. 206.
5 Sir Walter Denys held the manor of Dyrham, nine miles east of Bristol, as well as property in Bristol. He was Sheriff of Gloucestershire seven times from the 1530s-50s and represented the county in Parliament: S. T. Bindoff (ed.), House of Commons, 1509-1558, II (London, 1982), pp. 36-7. While appointed to this commission, he did not in fact play an active part in it, as the certificate shows.
6 Sir George Norton was a local gentleman, with strong Bristol connections, who had been made a freeman of the city in 1560: M. Stanford (ed.), The Ordinances of Bristol, 1506-1598 (Bristol Record Society, XL1, 1990), p. 28.
7 Richard Berkeley was a Justice of the Peace in Gloucestershire who lived at Stoke Gifford, three miles from Bristol: Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1563-66, no. 121. Although he was later knighted he retained his strong Bristol connections and is, indeed, buried in the Lord Mayor’s Chapel (d.1604) where his effigy can still be seen. As with Sir Walter Denys, while appointed to this commission, he did not play an active part in it, as the certificate shows. Berkeley was, however, active in the concurrent port survey, which after completion, was delivered into the Exchequer on 21 May 1565.
8 Sir Robert Brayne held the manors of Flaxley and Staunton in the Forest of Dean but was also the possessor of the former property of St James Priory in Bristol, which had been granted to Robert’s father at the Dissolution: TNA:PRO, E133/1/181; History of the County of Gloucester, Vol. 5, (1996), pp. 143, 277.
9 ‘within liberties as without’ – i.e. they were given power to carry out their work within any ‘liberties’ that lay within Bristol or Gloucester but where the writ of the sheriffs of those counties did not run.
upright and lawful men of our county of Gloucester and our city of Bristol, as by depositions from witnesses whomsoever, and by all other reasonable ways, means and manners for our good that, according to your wise discretions, seem to you to be more expedient, concerning all and every ships, goods, commodities, and merchandises, laded or unladed by way of mercantile without payment of customs and subsidies within any port, place, or creek within the said county and city or county of the city, or any part of the same, from the first day of January in the fifth year of our reign, and also of whatsoever sums of money and the amount, gold, silver, jewels, oxen, cattle, calves, cows, sheep, bullocks, horses, mares, and other such animals, and also of whatsoever wools, woollen cloths, wool fells, tanned leather, salted hides, calf skins, sheep skins called “pelts”, tallow, cheese, butter, and whatever kind of grain and victual and other things whatsoever that, against inhibitions and restraints, or against the form of any statute, act, ordinance or proclamation made, had, or ordained, have been, within the said time, transported and carried to foreign parts, or laded or shipped to be transported and carried from the county of Gloucester, the city and county of Bristol, or any part of them; and in what ships they are carried, and the owners of them; and further of all and singular wools, woollen cloth and wool fells placed, brought, shipped or loaded towards the same in creeks and suspect places upon the seashore within the said county and city for transporting to foreign parts; and also of whatsoever extortions, oppressions, concealments, and wilful perjuries are made or perpetrated by any of our officers or ministers or their deputies or other whomsoever within the said county and city within the said time, and the procurers of such transgressions, contempts, falsehoods and deceptions; and where and in what manner they are done or perpetrated; and also of persons whomsoever frequenting there [make] false measure and weight within the said time; and whether each and every customer, collector of customs and subsidies, controller, and searchers whomsoever in any port within the said city and county is little resident in the same period. Also of all and singular foreign goods, wares and merchandises, whether in any ship or any vessel, is laded or unladed within the said county and city within the time aforesaid at a place or time prohibited by a certain act at our parliament held in the first year of our reign limiting the time for discharge and laying on land of merchandise coming from overseas; and of all and singular other offences against the same act done and perpetrated within the said county and city within the time aforesaid. And also for whatsoever tuns, pipes, hogsheads, barrels, and firkins of herring being sold there in the aforesaid time not containing assize and measure according to the statutes made and provided, and the names of the sellers of them; and also of whatsoever wines and other liquors being sold ungauged within the said time, and the sellers of them; and by who or by whom, where and how, in what manner and what way the premises were perpetrated or done; and also of the quantity, quality and price of merchandise, commodities, jewels, leather, hides, wool, tallow, skins, animals, victuals, grain, ships carrying victuals and the apparel of the same and all other the premises, and of the names and additions of names of the

10 ‘de’: taking the ablative but used here in a genitive sense: and therefore loosely translated.
11 ‘causa mercandis’.
12 Bristol had been made a county in its own right in 1373. The writ of the commission thus covered the whole of Gloucestershire and the whole of the city and county of Bristol.
13 1 January 1563.
14 ‘aceciam de quibuscumque denariis summis in pecuniis numerat’.
15 ‘pellibus ovium vocat’ peltes’: the word ‘peltes’ is thus in English.
16 The export of all the goods mentioned was illegal, unless the merchant had bought a special licence from the Crown, under letters patent, to permit the export.
17 ‘An Acte lymiting the tymes for layeng on Lande Marchandise from beyonde the Seas, and touching Customes for Sweete Wynes’ (1559), Statutes of the Realm, IV, pp. 372-74.
18 ‘premises’ – i.e. the aforementioned.
owners of the same and others offending in the premises, and the full truth and certainty of all
other articles and circumstances whatsoever concerning the premises. And thus we command
you that at certain days and places you, five, four or three of you at the least appointed to this
diligently make inquisitions upon the premises, and these clearly and openly made and taken,
return your proceedings under your seals, or those of five, four or three of you, and the seals
of those by whom it is done, as quickly as you can, and by the latest one month after Easter,19
without delay, together with these our letters patent. We order also our sheriffs, as well of our
said county of Gloucester as of our said city of Bristol

[rot. 351 dorse]20

that, at the days and places that you, five, four, or three of you, make known to them, they are
to cause to be present sufficient21 true and lawful men of their bailiwick by whom the truth of
the thing of and in the premises can best be made known and enquired. Thus we give you,
five, four or three of you, by these presents,22 full power and authority to summon and
procure appearance before you, five, four, or three of you, at whatsoever time and place you,
five, four or three of you assign according to your sage discretions of whatever persons to you
seem most suitable to have for your better information about the execution of the premises, or
for witness and discovery of the truth in the same premises; and having examined them upon
and in the premises on their oaths, and recorded the examinations on parchment, send these to
the barons of the Exchequer, together with the said inquisition, under the seals of five, four, or
three of you. And therefore we command you that you will employ, or that five, four or three
of you shall have employed, your diligence in these matters so that nothing further should
remain to be done concerning our order. We give also to each and every our lieges firmly in
command by these presents that they are to be intendant and obedient to you, five, four or
three of you, as is fitting, for the execution of the same premises. In witness of these things
we have caused our letters patent to be made. Witness Edward Saunders, knight,23 at
Westminster, on the twelfth day of February in the seventh year of our reign; 24 by the
memoranda roll of Hilary25 of the same year seven, ‘Commissions and Letters Patent’, rotulet
[blank], and by the Treasurer and Barons. Saunders.

And after, to wit, on the fifteenth day of May this seventh year Anthony Standbank, then
mayor of the said city, George Norton, knight, and Robert Brayne, esquire, sent here the said
letters patent, together with a certain certificate taken by virtue of the said letters patent,
annexed to the same letters patent, which are among the Inquisitions and extents26 of this
seventh year. The tenor of which certificate follows in these words.

[see below]
The Certyfycat of Anthony Stanbanck maior of the citie of Bristoll Syr George Norton knighte and Roberte Brayne esquier Comissioners appoynted by the quenes highnes Commyssyon to them and others directed and to this present Certificat annexed ~ ~ comprehendinge the effecte and some of the execution of the same ~ ~ Comyssyon accordinge to the tenore and purporture27 of the same as well at ~ their metinge and Assemblye at the citie of Bristowe aforesaid the thirde daie of Apryll in the Seventhe yere of the reigne of oure Sovereigne lady Elizabeth28 by the grace of god of Englande Fraunce and Irelande quene defendoure of the faithe &c. As also at the same citie at diverse other tymes after. By Vertue of which Comyssyon wee the abovenamed ~ Comyssyoners have executed and used all waies and meanes we can or maye for the tryeinge oute29 of all offences trespaces transgressions and all other thinges mencyoned and expressed in the same Comyssyon videlicet30 as well by vyewe of the Custumers and Comptrollers bookes31 examinaciones of theym and their Clarkes,32 Waighters33 and Searchers34 ~ deposycions35 of wytnesses vewinge of Charter parties,36 the portages37 of shippes and vessells arryvinge in that porte, Inquisycions, veredictes38 of juries sworne, as also by other devyses and meanes, In the dewe consideracion of all which premyses and of the cyrcumstaunces thereof we fynde that sithens39 the xxth daie of November laste paste40 there have arryved in the porte of Brystoll eightene shippes and barkes oute of the domynyon of Fraunce laden fully with wynes of the groweynge there (as muche as we can understande) and weare dischardged in the saide porte of the same wynes, which eightene shippes and barkes be of the portage or burthen of nyne hundred fyftie and eighte ~ tonnes42 as particularie appereth underwritten, which portage was

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27 ‘tenore and purporture’: tenor and purport.
28 3 April 1565.
29 ‘tryeinge oute’: trying out – i.e. investigating / examining.
30 ‘Videlicit’: that is to say.
31 The customer and controller were the two chief customs officers in a port. The customer (also known as the collector) determined the duties paid, collected the revenue and recorded the entries in his book. The controller was meant to keep an independent record of what was collected in his own book, as a check against possible frauds committed by the customer.
32 ‘Clarkes’: clerks. All the chief officers of a major port needed to employ deputies and clerks, out of their own pockets, to conduct their business.
33 The four tide-waiters of Bristol were responsible for supervising the movement of goods between the customs house and the anchorage near Avonmouth called the ‘Hungroad’, four miles downriver from the city.
34 The customs searcher was the officer responsible for checking the merchants’ declarations against what was actually on a ship and, more generally, preventing the illicit lading or unlading of goods.
35 ‘deposycions’: depositions.
36 ‘Charter parties’: freighting contracts.
37 ‘portages’ – i.e. the carrying capacity of a ship in ‘tons burden’, this being the number of tuns of Bordeaux wine a vessel could carry in its hold.
38 ‘veredictes’: verdicts.
39 ‘sithens’: sithence – i.e. since.
40 20 November 1564.
41 That the wine was all believed to be French wine was significant for customs purposes, since only French wine was subject to the impost of 53s. 4d. per tun.
42 ‘nyne hundred fyftie and eighte tonnes’: 958 tons.
accompted unto us by the Waithers and Searchers abovesaide – upon their othes. And notwithstandinge there appere in the Controllers booke to be entered but iiii lxxxviiij tonnes sythins that tyme and in the Customers booke of the inwarde entries iijxxijij tonnes pipe hoggeshedd, so that there wantethe of the saide iijl viijij tonnes fyve hundred threscore tonnes, by the which it appereth that the quenes highnes is not aunswered of the ymposte of the said vClx tonnes so wantinge for the whiche is dewe and yet unpaide – MliiijCiiijXXxiijli vjs viijd. And of her auncyent Custume and duties being iij.

[new membrane, unnumbered]

the tonne ~ lxxxvij besides the prisage of the same wynes so wantinge And also wee fynde that sithens the feaste of S. Michael tharchaungell laste paste there also Arryved in this porte of Bristol diverse other vessells and shippes laden with oyles yron Allam Salte frute and other merchandizes beinge in the whole of the portage or burthen of MDlxiij tonnes. And in the Custumers and Comptrollers bookes of inwarde entries be entred but MiiiiXX and xij tonnes of the same merchandizes so that by conferringe the Custume aunswered to the quenes majestie which that of righte shoulde have bene aunswered ye the entry had bene accordinge to the portage of the same shippes and vessels, her majestie is also unaunswered of Ixxixiij x. So ~ that there wante of thymposte custume and subsidie of the wynes and ~ other merchandizes abovesaide (which is unaunswered and yet oweinge ~ MDClvji xvij. viijd. And furthermore we fynde that dyverse ~ merchandizes the Custume and Subsidie whereof being smally rated be entred untruly in the place of merchandizes of greate rates to the greate defraudinge of her highnes.

And that neither owner nor Purser of any shippe or other vessell doe signyfie in the Custume howse upon thentrie of the same merchandizes the names of the merchautes of the same.

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43 'othes': oaths.
44 'iiij lxxxviiij tonnes': 398 tons.
45 'iiij xxij tonnes pipe hoggeshedd': 413.75 tons.
46 'fyve hundred threscore tonnes': 560 tons. In other words it is stated that because the total tonnage of the eighteen ships had been 958 tons and they only declared 398 tons of wine, this indicated that 560 tons was 'wanting' – i.e. had not been declared.
47 'vClx tonnes': 560 tons.
48 'Miiij iiij xxij vjs viijd': £1,493 6s. 8d. Since 1558, French wine had been subject to an 'impost' of 53s. 4d. per tun, which is the basis for this figure.
49 Headed 'Adhuc de tenore litterarum patencium et certificationem incipiente in ventre rotuli': Still of the tenor of the letters patent and certificate beginning in the front of rotulet (-). The rotulet number has not been entered.
50 Wine had long paid a duty called 'tonnage' of 3s. per tun – hence the assertion that the duty payable on the missing wine amounted to £84.
51 'prisage': the Crown’s right to receive, by way of purveyance, one tun of wine from any ship carrying more than ten tuns of English-owned wine and two tuns from any ship carrying more than twenty tuns.
52 ‘S. Michaela tharchaungell laste paste’ – i.e. Michaelmas (29 Sept.) 1564.
53 'oyles yron Allam Salte frute': [olive] oil, iron, alum, salt, fruit.
54 'MDlxiij tonnes': 1,563 tons.
55 'MiiiiXX and xij tonnes': 1,092 tons.
56 'Ixxixiij x': £79 10s.
57 'MDClvji xvij. viijd': £1,656 16s. 8d.
58 In other words, goods that attracted high duties were being declared as goods subject to lower duties.
accordinge to the statute in that behaulfe provided,59 but that the same merchaundizes be entred by the merchauntes or their servauntes withoute any othe60 exhibited to the enters of the same by the ~ Custumers Controller their Clarkes or deputies / And as unto other Arryvalles of Shippes and barkes and of the quantitie and ~ ~ qualities of the merchaundizes of the same discharged in this porte or any other place belonyinge to the same before the saide feast of Saincte michaell tharchaungell or of any concealmente trespas or transgression commytted or done in or aboute the same before that tyme we can have no due intelligence thereof, for that the Custumers and Comptroller affirme uppon their personall aunswers that they have geven upp their Accomptes and booke vs upon their laste Accompte,61 And that they have no copies of the same bookes in their possessions / And moreover we understande that the Clarkes of the Custumers and Comptroller of this porte of ~ ~ Bristoll do usually exacte and take for Cockettes62 and Certificates xxd or ijs a pece contrarie to the aunciente ordre of that howse63 / And wee also fynde variaunce betwene the Custumers booke inwarde and the Comptrollers booke for that outhe of a shippe called the Katherine of Conquett was entred in the Custumers booke xv tonnes pipe hogeshead of Frenche wyne the vijth daie of January laste / And upon oure viewe of the Controllers booke whiche was the thirde of Apryll above written there was no wyne nor other merchaundizes of the same shippe entered64 / And yet one Richarde Serche a waighter beinge sworne confessed before us xvj tonnes to be landed and discharged oute of the same shippe / And overmore we fynde that all the officers of the Custume howse of this porte be resident uppon their offices theare savinge John Younge esquier one of the Custumers there who hathe his deputie one Thomas Warren which John Younge upon his personall Aunswer saithe that he hath a dispensacion from the quenes highnes for his nonresidence upon the same office / And fynally we saie that as unto all other ~ ~ offences disorders trespases and transgressions mencyoned and expressed in the saide commyssion commytted or perpetrated within the porte of ~ ~ Bristoll or Countie of the same sithens the firste daye of Januarie in the fyvethe yere of the reigne65 of the quenes majestie that nowe is we can have no advertysemente therof by any meanes or waies / And as unto any thinge inquirable in the Countie of Gloucester by force of this Commyssion

60 ‘withoute any othe’: without any oath. Article IV of the Act stated those entering goods from inbound vessels could be required to do so ‘upon his or theyr othe yf nede so requyer’.
61 Customers and controllers were required to submit their books to the Exchequer each year at Michaelmas. The commissioners thus reported that they had been unable to investigate any possible illicit dealings prior to that time, since the customers and controllers had told them that they no longer had their old books.
62 ‘Cockettes’: cockets. These were customs certificates issued to merchants when they declared a consignment of imported or exported goods at the customs. Cockets were also necessary, however, if a merchant wished to ship prohibited wares (e.g. grain or leather) coastwise.
63 It is thus suggested that the clerks to the customer and controller were demanding 20d. or 2s. to issue cockets and that this was more than the ancient practice.
64 Both the customer and the controller kept what was meant to be an independent record of goods entered in the customs house. A comparison between the two sets of books had revealed that 15.75 tons of wine entered in the customer’s book had not been entered in the controller’s. On the other hand, this would not be evidence of fraud, since it was the customer who collected the dues and his book had recorded this consignment.
65 1 January 1563.
we coulde not execute the same for the greate busynes we have had in and aboute the premysses inquirable in the porte and Contie of Bristoll. The names of the shippes barkes and vessells

[dorse]

Arryvinge at the abovesaide porte of Bristoll sithins the above mencyoned twentith daie of November laden with Frenche wynes with the names of the owners and doers in and aboute the same wynes and of the quantitie of their severall portages and burthens. / The Roberte of Plymnmouth the of the portage of xxx"ie tonnes boughte by Domynyck Chester of Bristoll merchaunte, The Starre of Bristoll portage xl tonnes boughte by the same Domynyck and Willyam Gyttons of Bristoll. The Marye of Conquett portage ¹ie tonnes ~ owner John Agowthe Alien. The Mystres of Conquett portage xxv tonnes bought by John Atkyns of Bristoll. The John de Harneys portage xl tonnes boughte by William Pepwall of Bristoll. The Harte of Bristoll portage lxx tonnes merchauntes George Higgens William Gyttns and others of Bristoll. The Prymerose of Brystoll portage lxxx tonnes merchauntes Thomas Aldworth, John Suche, Roberte Smythe and others of Brystoll. / The Mary ~ Hollond portage lxxxx tonnes merchauntes Robert Kytchen, John Robertes draper and others of Bristoll. / The Unycorne of Bristoll portage xxx tonnes, merchauntes John Atkyns, Leonarde Sompter and others of Bristoll. / The Cleydon of Hodiarne portage ¹ie tonnes Fortick de Caske Alyen merchaunte. / The Mighell of Bristoll portage xl tonnes /Thomas Kelke and Robert Hawgton merchauntes of Bristoll. / The George of Padstowe portage xl tonnes ~ ~ merchauntes Wylyam Perffaye, John Langley and others of Brystoll. The Grace of god of Bristoll portage Cij tonnes merchauntes George Higgens, Roberte Kytchin, Robert Smythe and others of Bristoll. The Clement of Tintarne portage iiij tonnes merchauntes Domynyck Chester, The Katheryne of Conquett portage xxiiij tonnes merchaunte John Bradshawe of Brystoll. / The George of Absomme portage ¹ivij tonnes owner and merchaunte Richard Sturbridge of Apsame. / The Mawdelyn of Penmarme portage ¹tonnes owner John Calve Alien. / The Mawdelen of Feckham portage ¹tonnes, merchaunte Lawrence Vyne of Bristoll. / The Prymrose of Brystoll in her seconde vyage portage lxxx tonnes merchauntes Thomas Aldworth Robert Smythe and others of Brystoll. / Shippes ~ xvii, bote j. ~ portage DCCCClviij tonnes as appereth by the Comptrollers booke. So that the portage surmounteth the entrie in the Custumehowse CCCCxxviiij tonnes as appereth by the Comptrollers booke. So that the portage surmounteth the entrie in the Custumehowse Dlx tonnes / Deposycions of wytnesses taken at Bristoll before us ~

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66 Headed ‘Adhuc de tenore litteratum patencium et certificacionem infrascriptum’: Still of the tenor of the letters patent and certificate underwritten.

67 ‘DCCCClviij tonnes’: 958 tons.

68 ‘CCCIxxxxviiij tonnes’: 398 tons.

69 ‘Dlx tonnes’: 560 tons.
abovenamed the xiijth daye of Apryll Anno predicto  

John Syllye of S’ Georges in the countie of Somerset masters mate of the abovesaide shippe called the Prymerose of Brystoll beinge sworne saith that the same shippe came to the porte of Brystoll from Burdeux in November laste laden with Gascoigne wynes trayne and rosonne and pitche beinge of the portage of lxxx tonnes And that there was dischardged in the saide porte at her saide Arryvall oute of her lv tonnes of wyne and lx cakes of rosonne and pitche and for the trayne he knoweth not the quantytie thereof And further he saith that in her viage from Rochell in February laste she arryved at ~ Bristoll laden with Sibias wyne and salte but the quantytie he dothe not nowe remember / In the Custumer and Comptrollers bookes is entred but xxiiij tonnes pipe hogeshead wyne and the reste of her burthen in trayne and rosome  

John Lytche of Torbaye in the ~ Countie of Devon master of the abovesaide shippe called the George of ~ Absome beinge also sworne saith that the saide shippe did arryve at Brystoll in February laste laden with gascoyne wyne heringe and hake and that she discharged at Brystoll lv tonnes of wyne and of the heringes and hake he knoweth not the certentie and to his knowledge no parte of the same wynes weare dyscharged any where but at Brystoll./ In the Custumer and Comptrollers bookes be entred but xxiiij tonnes of wyne and the reste in fyshe / Deposycyon of a witnesse taken at Brystoll before us the Commyssioners abovesaide the xxvijth of Aprill Anno Predicto. / William Warren of Walton in the Countie of Somersett boteswayne of the abovesaid shippe called the Grace of god sworne also saieth that in the vyage from Burdeux in November the same shippe came to Bristoll laden with Gascoyne wyne ode and yron and was there dischardged of Cj tonnes of wyne fyve tonnes of ode and three tonnes of yron / And further saieth that in the same shippe were neither trayne ne rasomme but onely a cake of rasomme wayeing di midium C weighte for the provysyon of the shippe / And that the same shippe called the grace of god is of the burthen of Cx tonnes or thereabouts. In the Custumer and Comptrollers bookes be entered but onely xl tonnes and the reste in trayne and yron .// Anthony Sandbancke maior, George Norton, Robert Brayn /

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70 *Anno predicto*: the said year.
71 ‘Gascoigne wynes trayne and rosonne and pitche’: Gascon wines, train [oil], rosin and pitch.
72 ‘Rochell’: La Rochelle.
73 ‘Sibias wyne’. Possibly a type of wine produced in or around La Rochelle.
74 ‘xxiiij tonnes pipe hogeshead’: 24.75 tuns.
75 Headed ‘Adhuc de tenore litteratum patencium et certificationem incipiente in ventre rotuli’: Still of the tenor of the letters patent and certificate beginning in the front of rotulet (-). The rotulet number has not been entered.
76 ‘ode and yron’: woad and iron.
77 ‘dimidium C weighte’: half-a-hundredweight, i.e. 60 lbs., if the long hundred (120) is meant.