

# Ship's book of *Caledonia*, one of the ships of the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies, 1698-9



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These records are part of a collection held by RBS Archives relating to the [Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies](#).

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**background** *Caledonia* was (along with *St Andrew*) one of two ships built for the Company of Scotland in Lübeck. Both were clinker-built in the style of Indiamen and carried 56 guns. On her arrival in the Firth of Forth in November 1697 *Caledonia* was greeted by cheering crowds and a gun-salute from the walls of Edinburgh Castle.

Captained by Robert Drummond, *Caledonia* was one of the largest ships involved in the first expedition to the Isthmus of Darien, carrying both cargo and settlers. Unlike the other ships in the fleet, she returned safely to Scotland later in 1699.

**document** The ship's book for *Caledonia* contains details of pay due to its crew during the voyage to Darien. Additional information includes the names of sailors who died aboard and of sailors who had been transferred from other vessels in the fleet.

The main part of the book is arranged according to rank, beginning with an entry for the Captain and working down through the ranks to the regular sailors. Each entry gives details of the pay due and the dates of the sailor's service. The pages to the rear of the book include information about sailors who transferred to *Caledonia*, with entries arranged in broadly chronological order.

**physical description** 132 pages, cover missing and edges to some pages damaged. Handwritten in ink on paper. Dimensions: 30.5 x 19cm.

**alphabetical index** The following crewmen are mentioned in the ship's book of *Caledonia*:

Name	Role
ADAM William	foremastman
ALBERT Francois	-
BAIRD Andrew	foremastman
BAIRD William	armourer's mate
BALFOUR Charles	midshipman
BALFOUR William	foremastman
BALNAVES Robert	steward's mate
BANNANTAIN William	foremastman
BANNATAIN John	-
BARKER Thomas	foremastman
BARVEY George	foremastman
BATEMAN William	-
BEATTIE William	assistant in the hull
BETRY Francis	-
BINNING David	foremastman
BIRLE James	foremastman
BISHOP Robert	surgeon's first mate
BLACKIE David	foremastman

BLAIR John	foremastman
BLYTH George	first mate
BLYTH Robert	foremastman
BOGIE William	foremastman
BOOST John	foremastman
BOWIE Alexander	foremastman
BOWIE David	chalker
BOYD Alexander	foremastman
BREADY John	-
BROOKS Yeoron	foremastman
BROWN Andrew	cooper
BRUCE Peter	-
BUNTHORN James	assistant to boatswain's mate
BURT Thomas	-
CALLICK Thomas	foremastman
CALQUHAN James	steward
CAMPBELL Colin	third mate
CAMPBELL Robert	foremastman
CARNEGIE John	cook
CARNEGIE John	boatswain's yeoman
CARWALDS John	quarter master
CLEATON Robert	foremastman
COLTS John	boatswain's mate
COOK John	foremastman
COOK John	captain's cook's mate
COUSTON Robert	foremastman
CROCKET Robert	-
CRUDDEN William	foremastman
CUMMING Patrick	foremastman
CUNNINGHAM Henry	boy
DENNINGSTON Adam	-
DICK Edward	foremastman
DICK John	cook's assistant
DISCO John -	
DONALDSON Thomas	foremastman
DOVE James -	
DRUMMOND Archibald	midshipman
DRUMMOND David	midshipman
DRUMMOND Robert	captain
DUFF Mathew	foremastman
FERGUSON James	msm
FERGUSON Robert	master's servant
FILLIAS Matthias	-
FLEEMING George	boy
FLEEMING George the elder	foremastman
FOORD William	foremastman
FRASER Hugh	foremastman
FREELAND Peter	foremastman
GARVIN John	foremastman
GIBB John	foremastman
GIBSON James	foremastman
GIBSON John	foremastman
GILBART William	-
GILCHRIST Henry	foremastman
GILLARY John	-
GILMURE John	foremastman
GLOVER Moses	coxswain
GORDON James	-
GOVAN Robert	carpenter

HAMILTON Alexander	foremastman
HAMILTON John	foremastman
HARDY John	boy
HARPER David	foremastman
HAY William	boy
HEATHERWEEK John	foremastman
HENDERSON David	foremastman
HENDERSON David elder	foremastman
HODGE Andrew	foremastman
HUNTER James	boy
HUSSIE Michal	-
JOHNSTON Samuel	foremastman
JOHNSTOUN James	foremastman
JOHNSTOUN Richard	boy
KEITH William	boy
KERR Henry	-
KEY James	-
KEY John	-
KILGOUR Alexander	foremastman
KINNEIR Alexander	-
KNOWS George	foremastman
KONNOICH Alexander	foremastman
LAW William	foremastman
LEGGATE John	foremastman
LEISHMAN James	foremastman
LINDSAY Thomas	foremastman
LITTLER Samuel	-
LOURIE Christopher	carpenter's mate
LOVE James	foremastman
LUTTONS Hermon	foremastman
MACKENZIE John	gunner
MAITLAND William	foremastman
MALLOCH / MILLER George	foremastman
MART William	captain's cook
MARTIN Daniel	sailmaker
MASTERTON Alexander	boatswain's yeoman
MATHISON Kenneth	foremastman
McALLUM Donald	boy
McALLUM Malcolm	boy
MCDOUGLE Duncan	foremastman
MCEVAN Archibald	foremastman
MCFARLANE John	foremastman
McGRUTHER Cornelius	-
McKULLOCH John	-
MCNEA Robert	foremastman
McNEAR Robert	-
MILLER James	foremastman
MILLER Malcolm	foremastman
MILN Alexander	-
MILN George	-
MONTGOMERIE James	boy
MORE John	-
MORRISON John	-
MOSSON Joseph	-
NESMITH William	sailer
NIMMO Andrew	foremastman
OLIPHANT John	foremastman
OLIPHANT Lourance	foremastman
PAGE John	foremastman

PAISLEY James	-
PARDON James	-
PETRY Charles	foremastman
PRETTIS Thomas	-
PURDON John	foremastman
RAMSAY Thomas	-
RICHARDSON Walter	foremastman
RIDDOCH Patrick	foremastman
RIVET Edward	second mate
ROBERTSON Thomas	foremastman
ROBERTSON William	surgeon
ROSS Andrew	foremastman
RUSSELL James	foremastman
SAINTCLARE John	foremastman
SANTCLARE Daniel	foremastman
SCOTT James	foremastman
SCOTT John	purser
SEATON Alexander	midshipman
SHEARRER David	surgeon's second mate
SPEED John	foremastman
STENNIS George	-
STEWART William	-
STIRLING William	foremastman
SUMMERVEAL James	surgeon's assistant
SUMMERVEAL John	foremastman
SUSAN William	yeoman of the powder room
SUTTIE David	foremastman
SYCE Evan	-
TAITT John	foremastman
TAYLOR Alexander	foremastman
TAYLOR Alexander	carpenter
TAYLOR Andrew	foremastman
TAYLOR James	foremastman
THOMSON George	foremastman
THOMSON William	foremastman
TRAQUIR James	foremastman
TROTTER George	-
VASS Charles	foremastman
WALKER George	foremastman
WALKER Robert	midshipman
WALKER Simon	cook's mate
WALLACE John	-
WARRANTER William	foremastman
WATSON James	foremastman
WATSON John	gunner's mate
WATT Allan	-
WATT John	armourer
WATT Thomas	foremastman
WEEMS John	foremastman
WIGHTOUN Henry	foremastman
WILKIE Andrew	-
WILLIAMS Edward	-
WILLIAMS Thomas	boatswain
WILSON David	foremastman
WINDRUM Robert	foremastman
YOUNG James	foremastman
YOUNGER James	foremastman