

ADDITIONAL NOTICES OF SIR PETER YOUNG.

Mr LAING exhibited a portrait of Sir Peter Young, engraved in Richardson's collection, 1793, from an original picture in the possession of the Earl of Leicester. Having obtained the use of the copperplate, he said he would be able to furnish impressions as an appropriate illustration to these biographical notices (Plate XIII.), and he would take this opportunity to supply a few additional particulars:—

In a well-known work by a learned English divine, Dr Thomas Smith, entitled "*Vitæ quorundam Eruditissimorum et Illustrium Virorum*," Londini, 1707, 4to, there is an elaborate Life of *Petrus Junius Eques Auratus* (or Young), and also of his son Patrick, a very distinguished scholar, who was successively librarian in St James's Palace, London, to Kings James and Charles I. In the account of Sir Peter Young, extracts are given from a Latin Ephemeris or Diary: and these notices of his relations, of his own employment in the King's service, and of his children, correspond with the above communication. From this we learn that he was born at Dundee, on the 15th of August 1544. In noticing the death of Theodore Beza, he says that he had studied under him at Geneva. King James the Sixth was a boy of four years of age when Young was appointed one of his preceptors, and had for his colleague

the illustrious George Buchanan. But while the latter treated the youthful monarch with wholesome severity, the former was disposed to overlook the faults and flatter the vanity of his royal pupil. Sir James Melville, after giving a character of Alexander Erskine, and the Laird of Drumwhassell (Cunningham), and the two Abbots who were conjoined in the education of James along with Young and Buchanan, says:—

“My Lady Mar was wyse and schairp, and held the King in gret aw; and sa did Mester George Buchwhennen. Mester Peter Yong was gentiller, and was laith till offend the King at any tym, and used him self wairly, *as a man that had mynd of his awen weill*, be keping of his Majesteis favour.”¹

In the prospect of the King's marriage with Anne of Denmark, “Mr Peter Young of Seytoun, his Hienes Elimosinar,” is mentioned in the “Treasurer's Accounts” as one of the commissioners “directed towards Norroway,” 17th October 1589. In the collection of “Ecclesiastical

Letters during the reign of King James the Sixth,” contributed to the Bannatyne Club,² there is one written by Sir P. Young, dated 19th June 1609 (having his name thus signed in Greek): it confirms Melville's opinion of his time-serving spirit, and flattering mode of address-

ing “the Lord's Anointed.” Having received, in 1605, the honour of knighthood, Sir Peter Young soon after, also obtained from the King an annual pension of L.300 sterling.

The eldest son of Sir Peter Young was named James, at the King's special request, by whom, at a later period, he had the honour of knighthood. He obtained a grant of land in Ulster, Ireland, as one of the Scottish settlers; but died at London, a few years after his father, as appears from the Edinburgh Commissariat Register, 22d July 1635, in which he is styled, “Sir James Young of Seton, Knight, who died in London, in England;” but the date of his decease is left blank.

It may be proper to notice that a common mistake is to connect Sir Peter Young with Seaton in East Lothian, instead of East Seaton in Forfarshire. Mr Chalmers informs me that Sir James Young was succeeded

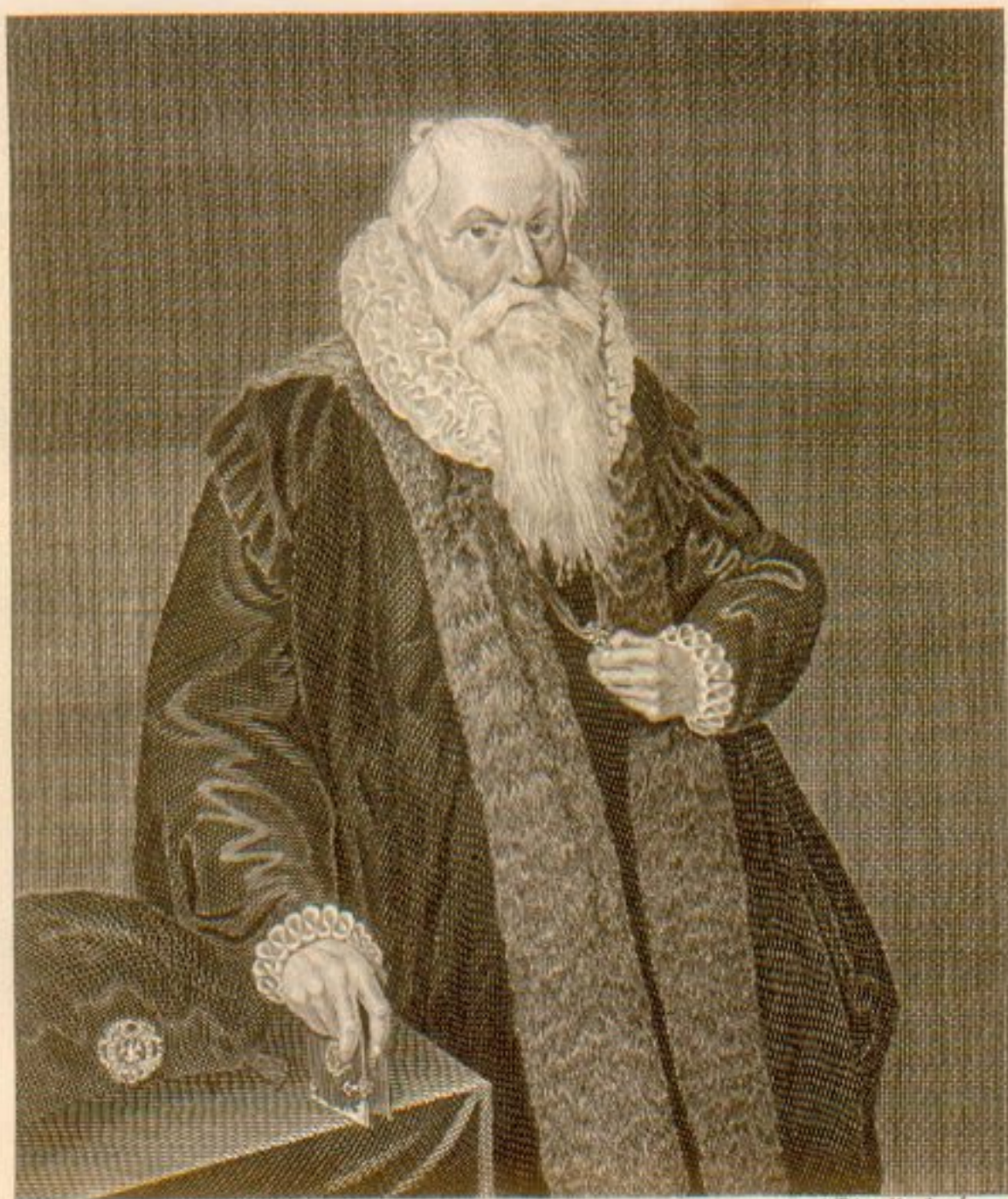
¹ Memoirs, Bannatyne Club, 1827, p. 262. ² Vol. i. p. 204. Edinb. 1851, 2 vol. 4to.

by his son named Peter, who along with his son Robert, with consent of their wives, sold the lands of Easter Seaton, &c., to Henry Crawford, merchant burghess of Dundee, and Margaret Dunsmure his spouse and Henry Crawford their son; disposition dated 14th and 25th July 1670. The Crawfords obtained a Charter of Resignation and Confirmation under the great seal, 28th January 1676. They sold and disposed the estates to Alexander Strachan of Tarrie; disposition dated 13th May 1715.

Mr Patrick Young, already mentioned, died at Broomfield in Essex, 7th September 1652, and was interred in Broomfield Church, having latterly resided in the house of Mr John Atwood, who had married his eldest daughter.

Dr John Young, Dean of Winchester, was Sir Peter Young's sixth son, and was also distinguished as a learned scholar.

DAVID LAING.



A. Birrell Sculp.

*Petrus. Young a Selen Eq. aur.
Mag. Britan. etc. Regi a Censil. et
Legat. ad Reges ac Princip. Clariss.
Ann 55.*



*invictiss. ac potent. Jacobo VI.
Elean. in reg. Sect. necnon variis
an. Dni. 1622. Æ. 79. Servivi Regi mee*

*Engraved from an original Picture in the Possession of the Right
Hon^{ble} the Earl of Leicester.*

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