



Memorial to King Alexander III (1249-1286)

The metal inscription plaque on the base of the monument has the poem lamenting the death of Alexander III, 18 March 1286:

Quen Alysandyr Oure King wes dede
That Scotland led in luive and le
Away wes sonce of ale and brede
Of wyne and wax, of gamyn and gle
our gold wes changed into lede
Chryste! Borne into virgynyte
Succour Scotland and Remede
That stad is in perplexyte.

Jim Black gave the following, his own translation:

When Alexander our King was dead,
that Scotland led in love and peace,
there ended all abundance of ale and
bread,
wine and wax, of gaming and of glee.
Our gold was changed into lead.
Christ, born into virginity,
Assist Scotland and cure
what is beset in perplexity [trouble].

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