

The Tudor shop

The Shoppe

In pinte of score ponde fransis fampal	
Item my burgeth hattel	vj lb m d
Item y ^e cymamome	vi lb
Item a pice of Hamlett	vij lb
Item a dosey paper	vij lb
Item a feygerbede tyle	vij lb m d
Item a pice of grell rasinget	vij lb
Item vj lb of wredet hane elatye	vij lb m d
Item in small rasinget	vij lb m d
Item in grell hantebone small rasinget	vij lb
Item Canferon	v lb
Item y ^e dosey of my frenche hattel	v lb
Item y ^e li of annete beaded	v lb
Item a ponde of mace	v lb
Item a dosey vine	v lb
Item a dosey almond	v lb
Item y ^e li of elowet	v lb
Item salt a ponde notemmyet	v lb
Item a ponde of tender	v lb
Item a dosey anlette	v lb
Item salt a pice of vrede baye	v lb
Item a dosey a salt of weill vrede baye	v lb
Item y ^e ponde of blake vrede	v lb m d
Item in rappet	v lb m d
Item in bulberane	v lb m d
Item in dosey plerunge cardet	v lb
Item in dosey of vmede	v lb
Item a salt a salt of gretfowche	v lb
Item y ^e dosey of steyll	v lb m d
Item y ^e dosey of steyll	v lb m d
Item a pome a salt of panper	v lb
Item a pome of danc panper	v lb
Item in bollet of Cannet	v lb
Item in stone of pale vrede	v lb m d
Item two poyre of small belande	v lb
Item in kittel	v lb
Item in y ^e dosey of vrede	v lb
Item two dosey comefetel	v lb

Extract from the inventory of Richard Anderson, 1539 (The National Archives: PROB 2/240)

Simple Transcript [with explanations in the right-hand column]

The Shop				Our notes (not part of the original list)
	£	s	d	<p>The Tudors used different money to ours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £ means pounds • s means shillings; 20 shillings = one pound • d means pennies; 12 pennies = one shilling
First, 200 pounds French hemp	2	10		about 90 kilos of strong cloth or rope made from the hemp plant
4 Bruges hats		9	3	Bruges is a town that is now in Belgium
1 pound cinnamon		5		spice from the East Indies, it would have been in little rolls of tree bark
A piece of camlet		18		soft, expensive cloth, by this time made from the hair of Angora goats, but originally made from camel hair
A dozen piper	1	4		we think piper was dried fish
A featherbed tick		13	4	cloth cover to hold all the feathers, a bit like a duvet cover, but much tougher
A pair of great rackans		7		long chains for hanging a cooking pot over the fire
36 yards linen cloth	1	13	4	about 30 metres of cloth made from the flax plant
Small rackans		13	4	chains for hanging a cooking pot over the fire
3 great hanks and one small wire		7		a 'wire' was used to support a ruff or help a lady's hair puff up nicely, so perhaps the 'hanks' were loops of wire waiting to be made up into a 'wire'
Saffron		10		orange-red spice made from crocus flowers; so expensive it was worth its weight in gold
27 French hats	1	7		
12 pounds of aniseeds		4		about 5 kilos of a very popular spice; aniseed usually grew in the eastern Mediterranean countries, but in very hot summers would grow in England
A pound of mace		6		about half a kilo of a spice from the Molucca Islands in the East Indies (Indonesia); mace came to England through the spice markets of the eastern Mediterranean
A dozen rice		1	8	a dozen usually means 12 in number, but here it means 12 pounds in weight which is about 5 kilos
A dozen almonds		3		about 5 kilos of almonds
3 pounds of cloves		17		about 1.5 kilos of a spice from the Molucca Islands; Moluccans planted a clove tree for every child born
Half a pound of nutmegs		1	4	another spice from the Molucca Islands that came to England from spice markets of the eastern Mediterranean
A pound of sanders		2		spice made from red sandalwood grown in India

A dozen small rings		5		
Half a piece of red say		11		about 7 metres of fine woollen cloth
A dozen and a half of wool cards		9		a dozen and a half = $12 + 6 = 18$; cards had iron teeth and were used to comb wool just taken from sheep
10 pounds of black thread		6	8	thread was fine cord made from flax or wool, not cotton
4 caps		6	8	
Buckram		16	8	stiff cloth used for lining clothes
3 dozen playing cards		4		3 dozen packs of cards
3 gross of pins		16		a gross was 144 so $3 \times 144 = 432$ pins; pins were used to fasten clothes like we would use buttons
A gross and a half girth-webs		5		strong wide tape
16 wisps of steel		10	8	bundles of steel used to make tools or weapons
45 bundles of steel	6	15		
750 sheets of paper		3		
500 sheets of brown paper			11	
3 bowls of canes	1	10		we're not sure what these were
3 stone of pack thread		4	4	about 20 kilos of strong cord used for tying up bundles
2 pairs of small balances		4		scales for weighing things
7 kettles		15		large metal pots for boiling food or liquid over a fire
13 stone and 6 pounds of sugar	4			about 85 kilos of sugar, probably from sugar cane grown in the Mediterranean
2 dozen comfits		12		sweets
Total	36	8	1	yes, this doesn't add up to the right total

Original Transcript

Item the shope

In primis 10 score ponde franch hemp 50s
Item 4 burges hattes 9s 3d
Item 1 li. cynamonne 5s
Item a pece of chamlett 18s
Item a dosen pyper 24s
Item a fetherbede tyke 13s 4d
Item a pere of grett rakinges 7s
Item 36 yardes lyne clothe 33s 4d
Item in small rakinges 13s 4d
Item 3 gret hankes and one small wyr 7s
Item sauferon 10s
Item 2 dosen and 3 frenche hattes 27s
Item 12 li of annete seaddes 4s
Item a ponde of mace 6s
Item a dosen rice 20d
Item a dosen almondes 3s
Item 3 li of clowes 17s
Item half a ponde notemuges 16d
Item a ponde of sanders 2s
Item a dosen anletts 5s
Item half a pece of rede saye 11s
Item a dosen and a half of woill cardes 9s
Item 10 ponde of blake thred 6s 8d
Item 4 cappes 6s 8d
Item in bukkerane 16s 8d
Item 3 dosen playinge cardes 4s
Item 3 grose of [p]ynnes 16s
Item a grose and a half of gyrthewebe 5s
Item 16 wyspes of steyll 10s 8d
Item 45 budinge of steill £6.15.0
Item a ryme and a half of pauper 3s
Item a ryme of done pauper 11d
Item 3 bolles of cainnes 30s
Item 3 stone of pake threde 4s 4d
Item two payre of small balands 4s
Item 7 kettelles 15s
Item 13 stone and 6 ponde of sucare £4
Item two dosen comefettes 12s

Total £36.8.1