

**The**  
**Acts and Statutes**  
**of the**  
**Corporation of Cordwainers**  
**Of the Burgh of**  
**Dundee**

Modernised by  
James Thomson  
At the instance of the Corporation

**"LABOREMVS"**

Dundee, 15<sup>th</sup> October 1838.

**Note**

Having been instructed to make the following Copy of the Ancient Acts and Statutes of the Corporation as plain and easy to read as possible, advantage of that has been taken to under the words according to the modern orthography, retaining the old spellings only in cases where it was impossible to mistake the meaning. In no instance whatever have any liberties been taken with the construction as that had been done, there would have a necessity for re-modelling the whole, at the great hazard of marring if not wholly destroying the sense. A more formidable obstacle to the signification than obsolete words or orthography has been met in the course of transcribing these papers, which arose in numerous instances from lines and half lines being wholly effaced by fractures, erasures, and bad ink, which, of course, rendered it impossible to state what these places so affected contained. It is presumed that any Member of the Corporation whose time admits, and whose inclination lies that way, will, with the aid of the modernised edition, feel little or any difficult in perusing the originals.

James Thomson

Dundee 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1838

**Notarial Instrument forming the Craft Introduction**  
**To the Acts and Statutes**  
**The Acts.**

Anent the Admission of men to be Masters of the Cordiner Craft.

- I. Anent Servants to be made masters.
- II. Of the Charge and Stent of Masters.
- III. Anent the Weekly Stent of Masters and Servants.
- IV. The order to enter Apprentices.
- V. Anent the upsetting of Booths
- VI. Of the order of working Servants.

- VII. The manner to elect and choose Deacon, Assessors and Officers.
- VIII. Anent disobeyers of the Deacon and his Officer.
- IX. The order and rule of Apprentices and of their Indentures, and the exhortation to be published to them at their entries.
- X. Anent the order of Servants' fees.
- XI. Anent brawlers and braggards.
- XII. Anent Servants Keeping of Terms.
- XIII. Anent them who takes in Apprentices or sets up booth.
- XIV. Anent the breaking away between Terms.
- XV. Anent the Reformation of that disorder which was agreed by giving in of Masters' false essays.
- XVI. Anent Masters' essays and the penalty.
- XVII. Anent the Custody and Keeping of the Craft's Common property.
- XVIII. Anent the debarring Strangers from the Mastership.
- XIX. Anent the Mastership and essay thereof.
- XX. Anent Apprentices, Vc.
- XXI. Anent fines, Vc.
- XXII. Agreement betwixt the Craft and the shoemakers of Brechin.
- XXIII. Concerning liberty of the Craft through marriage.
- XXIV. Subscriptions for purchasing two Mortcloths.
- XXV. Concerning free Masters' sons
- XXVI. Concerning elections and time of continuing in Office.
- XXVII. Concerning Apprentices, their fees, and elections.
- XXVIII. Expulsion of Thomas Geikie from the Craft.
- XXIX. Deprivation of Alexander Donnet of all advantages concerning from Birthright.
- XXX. First entry of a free Master, of a free Apprentice. And of the late George Dempster of Dunnichen Esq.

### **Detached Papers.**

- No1. Substance of a Sasine dated in A.D. 1509.
- No 2. Statutes, Acts and Ordinances, Vc.
- No 3. Confession and reponment to fellowship of the Craft of Alexander Pack and John Leitch.
- No 4. General Act of the Nine Trades concerning their poor &c.
- No 5. Lord Erskine's Patent concerning Tanning of leather.
- No 6. Disposition of a house.
- No 7. Registered Bond between the Craft and Simeon Mackenzie.
- No 8. David Gray's Bond for good behaviour.
- No 9. William Fleming's Libel to the Craft.

## Appendix.

No I. Subscriptions. Vc. 1. Subscriptions in aid of the Mortcloths. 2. Subscriptions for the Seats in Church. 3. Concerning Masters' Sons and Apprentices. 4. Concerning insufficient Leather. 5. Concerning Seat and Mortcloth.

No II. Act of Parliament Ratifying Order of Precedence of the Nine Trades.

No III. Charter by James VI. Restoring the Crafts to their priviges, and confirming them in the possession of the same.

## The Acts

In Dei nomine amen per hoc presentis publicum instrumentum Vc. In the name of God, amen, by this present public instrument made in the year of the incarnation of our Lord, One Thousand, five hundred sixty and seven, the thirteenth day of January, the eleventh year of the Roman Indiction, and of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord James, by the Grace of God the most illustrious King of Scots, the first year, In presence of me Notary Public, and witnesses underwritten, Personalie constitute, honourable persons Thomas Scott, John Thomson decane of the cordiners within the burgh of Dundie, With the advice of his honourable brethren, consent and counsel, They elected Alexander Maill, Thomas Hendersone, Andro Craufurd, William Mathow, Thomas Thomson, Johnne Jonsoun and Johnne Messone, principal advisers and councillors of the said Decane, to the effect following after, with the assent and consent of the haill rest and remanent of the honourable Masters their brethren of the said cordiner craft within the said burgh of Dundie, To wit, William Marshall, Bartholomew Mathow, Johnne Morgound, Johnne Browne, Johnne Leithe, David Craufurd, William Walker, Johnne Ingryon, William Williamsone, Andro Messone, David Strachan, Johnne Donaldson, Andro Donaldson, David Duncane, James Guyld, Edmond Aitken, William Nicolsone, James Nicolsone, James Buttir, Robert Smyth, James Guyld younger, Johnne Auchterlonie, James Dickson, Archibald Ford, David Morgune, and James Adame their officer for this present year, All presently present, and with ane asent, consent advice and counsel, for themselves as Decane and Masters of the said Cordiner Craft within the burgh of Dundie foresaid, and for their heirs and successors as Decones Masters of their said Craft within the burgh above-mentioned, Under the law evangelical and obedience thereof for maintenance and furth setting of the honour, commonweal, Omill (humble) manners good weal, and order of the said burgh, and of the said Cordiner Craft, to be had, observed and irrevocably copied by them, and ilkane of them, their heirs, successors, Decanes, and Masters of the said Craft, within the burgh above rehearsed, perpetually in all tyme coming, have made settand (certain) acts, statutes and ordinances, as after in this book at more length follows; And are all presentlie and personally for themselves, their heirs, successors, Decones, and Masters of their said Craft within the said burgh, in ane vote faithfully bound, abliged and, and sworn the halie evangelists touched; and by the tennor of this present instrument faithfullie binds and obliges them, and ilk ane of them, for themselves, their heirs, successors, Decones and Masters of their said Craft, To observe, irrevocably keip, inviolably fulfil, and perpetually in all time coming obey, all and sundry the acts, statutes, and ordinances, together with all and sundry pounts, articles, conditions, and causes written and contained in this book as after shall follow, made and statuted by them, and ilkane of them, with ane consent and assent as said is; And that under the pain of infamy perjury, inability, manswearing, and braking of the said statutes, or any part thereof to be informed, and never fra that time furth to enjoy or brook private or public office, and shall never thereafter exercise, haunt, use nor be Decane nor Master of their said Cordiner Craft within the burgh foresaid; but then, and at that time of the breaking of the said statutes and acts shall tine and lose his freedom. Libertie, privilege and office of his said Cordiner Craft within the burgh foresaid forever.

Note.- Then follows the notarial doquet in the usual manner, dated within the burgh of Dundee, an hour before twelve o'clock noon, day, month, year, indiction, year of King's reign aforesaid, present the same honourable men William Marshall, John Morgan, Edmund Aitken, and John Mason, burgesses of Dundee, Thomas Ireland, Notary Public.

The Sets and Statutes following were made by the Persons contained in the said Instrument, upon the thirteenth day of January in the year of God Jai vc sextie seven (1567) years, of our severanes Rigne as after follows:-

### **REX (King)**

At which tyme the most excellent Prince James, by the grace of God, the sext of that name, is King of Scots, and of his rigne (reign) the first year.

### **REGENS (Regent).**

Also the nobill James, Erle of Murray, Commendator of St. Andrews, and Regent to our Soverane his lieges, and Realme.

### **PREPOSITUS et BALLIVI (Provost and Bailies).**

Master James Haliburtone, at the day foresaid, Provost of the Burgh of Dundie. (No Bailies mentioned).

### **MINISTER.**

Master William Christison, Minister of Dundie; William Kyd, reader.

The names of the persons contained in the said Instrument follows:-

Johnne thomsone, decane; alexander mail; thomas henderson; - and so on to the number of fifty nine names, nearly the half of which are obliterated.

## **HEIR BEGYNIS THE STATUTIS AND ACTIS**

1. Anent the admisione of men to be Maisteris of ye Cordiner Craft. - - In the first, the said Decane with ye advice, assent, consent, and counsel of his honourable councillors and brethren written and mentioned in ye said Instrument befoir, all in ane vote, without any disecrpance, have statuted, enacted, and ordained, and by ye tenor of their presents They statute and ordain, That na man fra ye date hereof furth, shall be received nor admitted to be Master of ye said Cordiner Craft within ye burgh foresaid, untill the tyme that he be first made freeman of the said burgh.

Secundlie: that he shall be found by the sight and consideration of the Decane, and wisest Maisters of the said Craft, which happen to be for the tyme suffucientlie doted (endowed) with substance and goods, that therethrough, he may be able and sufficient to sustain and bear burding (burden) and charge of all stents, taxation, walking and warding costs, expenses and all other necessary charges which happen to occur, or fall for the tyme, for the common weal of ye burgh foresaid and of their said Craft.

Thirdlie: the Decane, together with four or fyve at the least of the wisest of the Maisters of the said Craft, which happen to be for the tyme, shall diligentlie and sharplie examine the said man that (wants) to be admitted, and tak trial if he be ane good and sufficient Craftsman. And Cordiner, to work, labour, excerss (exercise), and use the said Cordiner Craft within ye said burt (burgh); And if he beis found unable and not sufficientlie

qualified thereto, he shall not be received nor admitted to ye said Craft, until ye tyme that he be found perfect and sufficientlie qualified in the said Craft, in all the points and practikis (practice) thereof, by due examination.

**fferdlie** (fourthly); if he be found by examination in manner foresaid, ane good craftsman sufficient and worthy thereto, Then in that case he sal swear and depone the great bodilie oath to the said Decane and his honourable body receivers of him, that he sall, ffrathme (from that time) furth, in all tyme coming use and exercise his said Cordiner Craft within the burgh foresaid, lelalie (leallie i.e. faithfully) and truly, but (without) fraud or gyle (guile) in working and labouring sufficiently barked leather, in making of bouteis, schone (boots, shoes), an in all other necessary points and practices pertaining to ye said Craft, and that to the utility and profit and commonweal of our soverane Lord's leiges, and of the burgh foresaid, and to ye commonweal of ye said Craft, as he will answer to God, ye Decane and brethren of said Craft which happen to be for the tyme.

**Ffyftlie**; ye said Decane with others godly wisest men, maisteris of ye said Craft which happen to be for ye tyme, sall owkly, and euirilk owlk (weekly and every week) sall diligently search, visit, and extem also tak tryall of ye said maister maid of new, and of his work as boots shoes and other points and practices of his said Craft, as their wisdoms think expedient, if ye same be good and sufficient according to ye bodily oath maid by him thereupon; and if ye same be found insufficient and not good, in that case ye said Decane and Masters sall intromit with and upift ye same boots, shoes and other geir (goods) of ye said masters maid of new (newly made masters), which happen to be found by them insufficient and good work, and sall escheat ye same, and use qvert, and apply ye same to ye qmone (common) weal of thair said Craft, and to ye pure (poor) of ye burgh foresaid as their wisdoms think maist (most) expedient.

**Sextlie**; and last of all, ye said Decane and Masters of ye Craft forsaid, which happen to be for the tyme, from ye date hereof furth in every tyme cuming, sall not admit nor receice any man to be mnaster and brother of their said Cordiner Craft, except at ane (one) tyme in ye year, which salbe yearly, in all tyme coming in ye monet of Januar allanerlie (month of January only).

**II.. Anentis Seruandis to be maid Maisteris, i,e, Anent**, or concerning Servants being made masters. - Item (also), It is statuted and ordained that fra ye day and date of their presents furth, that na servant (journeyman) salbe admitted nor received to be master of ye said Cordiner Craft in ony time coming, until ye tyme that he has maid and srvit (served) ane master of ye same Craft within ye burgh foresaid, ye haill (whole) space of four years next immediate and completely fur the running and completing of his printeschip (apprenticeship), and to sene (serve) ye said four years as servant, and thereafter to be examined, received and admitted, qforme (conformable) to ye said act (No 1) in all points.

**III.. Off the Charge and Stent of Maisteris.** - Item, It is Statuted and ordained that euirilk (every each) Master of ye said Craft, sall incontinent and immediately after he is admitted and received, conforme to ye acts and statutes forsaid, content, pay, and deliver to ye Decane of ye said Craft which happens to be for ye tyme, sex marks (£4) money of this realm, with ane dinner to ye Decane and remanent (remaining) Masters, brethren of ye said Craft; together with sey (essay or proof of his abilities) for upsetting of his bwith (opening of his booth or shop). Neuiryales (nevertheless) if he be a burgess' son, or a free man's son of ye said burgh, he sall pay but forty shillings money foresaid to ye said Decane, wirh ane free dinner to ye persons forsaid, and his essay for upsetting of his booth allenarly.

**IV.. Anent the ouklike (weekly) stent of maister and seruand.** - Item, it is statuted and ordained for maintaining the utility and profit of ye common weal, liberty and freedom of ye said Craft, that ilk Master of ye Craft forsaid sall pay weekly, and ilk week in all tyme coming, to ye Decane of ye said Craft which happens to be for ye tyme, ane halfpenny; and ilk servant of ye same Craft within ye burgh forsaid sall pay weekly to ye said

Decane ane penny money forsaid; and ye said Decane and his officer sall yearly, and ilk year, in all tyme coming, mak just count and reckoning and payment thereof to ye remanent masters, brethren of ye said Craft, yearlie, at four tymes in ye year, That is ilk quarter of ye year aneis (once) to mak count.

**V.. The ordour to enter printesis (Apprentices).** - Item, it is statued and ordained that na Maister of ye Craft forsaid within this burgh, in ony tyme coming sall have but ane (one) apprentice at once; and that apprentice sall not be received nor admitted apprentice to ye said Craft within this burgh until ye tyme he be presentit to ye Decane, Maisteris, and Brethren of ye said Craft, and that ye said Decane and Masters cause wt (write) and insert ye names of ye said apprentice and of his Maister, together with ye day, month, year and date of his entry in apprenticeship to his said Maister in this book; and ye said apprentice sall remain fra ye day and date of his entry in his apprenticeship with his said Maister, ye space of fyve complete years next immediate and together following ye day and date of his said entry to his said apprenticeship, and serve his said master as apprentice forsaid; ye said fyve years being completely, and together furh run, it sallie levesum (lesome, lawful) to ye Maister of ye said apprentice to receive another apprentice in apprenticeship to him for ye space of other five years, providing that he keep to ordour and manner foresaid, and so from the tyme furth from five years. In five years it salbe lawful to ilk Maister to have ane apprentice at once, and that na ma (no more) but one at once during his lifetime, keeping in all tyme coming ye entry of ye said apprentices in manner and ordour above written. Attour, ilk apprentice that is to be received sall pay to ye Decane at ye inputting and writing of his name in this book xiiis. liijd. (13s 4d. a merk). Also at that tyme he sall pay to ye said Decane and his brethren who happen to be present at the writing of his name in this book xiiis, liijd. to ye wyne.

**VI..Anent the Vpsetting of Bwithis (opening of shops).** - Item, it is statued and ordained that no person or persons of ye said Cordiner Craft fra this day furth attempt, not tak in hand to set up ony Cordiner's booth or booths (shop or shops), to use and exercise ye said Craft thereints, upon, or within ony place or places in ony tyme coming, except and within this burgh of Dundee foresaid, conform to ye acts and statutes made before. And if ony person or persons do ye contrary, and breaks these our statutis, in that case ye doer and breaker of ye premises shall never fra that tyme furth be received, nor admitted by the said Decane, Maisteris, and brethren of the said Craft which happen to be for the tyme, to be maister or brother of ye said Craft within this burgh, nor sall never exercise nor use the Cordiner Craft within this burgh forsaid, from that tyme forth in ony tyme coming. And if a maister or brother happens to do ye same, he sall in that case tine and lose his liberty, freedon, brotherhood, and privilage of ye said Craft, and never to have ane booth within yis burgh, nor sall never be restored to be maister nor brother of ye Craft forsaid, but to have lost the same for ever.

**VII.- Of the oudoure of wirking of seruantis.-** It is statued and ordained that na servant of ye said Craft tak upon hand, fra this furth, to bark or sell ony coat which happened to be shaped by a Tailor, and if ony happens to do ye contrary, and breaks this our statute, in that case ye breaker sall pay, ilk tyme that he happens to do ye same, to ye Decane of ye said Craft, which happens to be for the tyme fyve S. (5s.); and as oft as he (sall) break this our statute, as oft to pay to ye said Decane for ilk tyme vs., to be disposed to ye common weal of our said Craft, and ye officer to poind therefor.

**VIII.- The manner to elect and cheise (chose) Decane, Assessouris (Assessors) and Officiar (officer),** - Item, it is ststatued and ordained tha ye haill number of Masters of ye said Craft within this burgh, sall convene together at ane tyme in ye year yearlie, that ids upon ye viij (8<sup>th</sup>) day of ye month of October, and ilk year in all tyme coming, or upon any other day of that month, and place as sall please them, and there sall noiart (nominate) and elect four of ye maist constant, wise and able men to bear office at that tyme. The said four persons elect (elected) and nominated sall pass and go forth fra ye rest and remanent of ye said Masters and brethren; and thereafter ye said masters sall voit (vote) and decern which of ye said four persons salbe their Decane; and as ye said masters, or ye maist part of them, vote, nominate, and decern ane of the said four persons, so that person of the four sal at that tyme accept the said office, and be their

Decane fra that day furth for ane year next immediately following thereafter, without ony exception or excusation whatever. At which tyme ye said Decane, together with ye said haill nuber (number) of Masters, sall elect and cheis (choose) sex wise, prudent, and maist able, as their wisdoms think expedient, of maisteris of ye said Craft, which sex salbe fra that tyme furth assessors with ye said Decane during ye said tyme of his office, and strengthen with their good welsome (Wholesome) counsell in all godly and honole (honourable) affairs in court, complaint, or in whatsomever other matter, action, and cause of the said Craft; and such like, in receiving, disponing, and delivering of whatsomever sums concerning the common weal of the said Craft.

**IX.- Anent disobearis (disobeyers) of the Decane and his Officiar.** Item, it is statuted and ordained that in all tyme coming the maisteris, apprentices,. And servants of ye said Cordiner Craft within ye said burgh,, or any of them, sall compeir and be in before ye said Decane, which happens to be for the tyme, into whatsomever hour and place that he assigns to them thereto, when, and how oft his officer warns and charges them thereto at the said Decon's insistence. And if any of them absents himself, and compears not, being warned thereto lawfullie (lawfully) before upon premonition of an hour, the person which compears not, and is inobedient absenting himself, he sall pay for ilk tyme of his absence twa shillings money forsaide, to ye said Decane, and his officer to poind therfore as oft as need beis. And if any person or persons deforce ye said officer in his said poinding sall pay to ye said Decane, for ilk tyme that he happens to mak ye said deforcement,, the sum of fyve schillings; and ye haill number of Masters sall fortify, maintain and assist to there said Decane and his officer in ye poinding, raising, and uplifting of ye said sums of ye deforcers readiest goods and gear as oft as need requires.

**X. -The ordoure And Reull (Rule) of printeiss (apprentices), and of yair indentaris, and the exortatiane to be publicic (published) to yame at yr enceres (them at their entries).** - Item, it is statuted and ordained that fra tyme an apprentice be received in apprenticeship to ye said Craft, conform to ye act maid before, that fra that tyme furth he salbe ane ane loyal, true, faithful, and diligent servant to his maister; and sall never wit, hear, nor see his hurt, damage nor skaith in his fame, name, body nor goods, but he sall stop ye same after his power, and incontinent reveal and schaw (show) his said maister therefo. And if ye said apprentice beis found ane picker or stealer, he sall, in presence of ye said Decane, be punished and scourged with whips to ye number of forty stripes for the first time. Item, if he continues and intrigues in his said stealing and pickery he salbe punisit in his goods and gear by the said Decane and his well advised councill, assessors, aforesaid, for ye second tyme. Item, if ye said apprentice still remain in his perverse and diabolical theft and pickery, he sall be banished of ye said burgh for ever, and sall at his departing swear ye bodily oath that he sall never in any tyme coming exercise nor use ye said Cordiner Craft, and sall lose and tine all sums of money, goods and gear, which his friends or he has weared, disponed, debursed, or delivered for learning of him ye said Cordiner Craft. Item, there sall na apprentice use a whinger (short sword or hanger) nor sharp nebbit knife during the years of his apprenticeship, except only a knife wherewith he may sufficiently work his labour and cut his meat. Item, if it happens ony apprentice during the years of his apprenticeship to be ane away runner fra his master, or ane adulterer, or fornicator, or breaker of the sabbath day, in that case they and ilkane of them respectively for their own part, salbe punished conform as the pickers and committers of theft, above or written, are punished, for the first, second, and third faults, without ony exception. And this Act to be published to ilk apprentice at his first entry to his said apprenticeship, and the endentures betwixt his master and him to be made hereupon. Mair attour (more and further), It is statuted and ordained that in all tyme coming ye haill apprentice fee which happens to be counted, deponed, or paid, with the apprentice to his maister sal be counted, Kint, allotted, allowed, and stand for the said apprentice's, meat, drink, and boarding, for the first year of his apprenticeship all enarly. And if it happens the said apprentice to inlaik and decease within year and day after that his name be inserted and registered in this book, in that case his maister sall re-deliver and redonnd to the parents or friends of the said apprentice, sa meickle of the sum promised and delivered to him at, and conform to the lait quantity , and sa meickle as it to ryn furth of that ane first year at the decease of the said apprentice. Further, if the said apprentice happens to live ane haill year and day after that, and next

immediately following that his name be inserted and registered in this book, in that case how soon, or what time that ever the said apprentice happens to inluik or decease after the complete ischu (issue) of the said year and day, his said maister sall have the hail sum and duties promised him in apprentice fee pertaining to himself, without any returnance of ony part therof; and this to be insserted in all their indentures in all time coming.

**XI. - Anent the ordour of Sarvants feis. - Item,** in like manner it is statuted (enacted) and ordained by the brethren foresaid, That if ony dettis sal happen to be owing to any brother of the occupation forsaid within the sum of sum of twenty shillings, of yet stands fies or surety to them, in that case it salbe lawful to the complainer in presence of the Deacon when he sall complain upon the creditor and of the said deacon and brethren of Craft, ane sufficient day of payment salbe appointed, and that the same be not justly kept, and the sum whatsomever unpaid it salbe lawful to the said Deacon to poind the creditor therefor xxiiij (24) hours for shillings in respect of his disobedience.

**XII. - Anent tulzeors and bragars (brawlers and braggers). - Item,** it is statuted and ordained that when it sall happen the said Deacon and brother Craft to convene for ony their purpose conviction of parties, if ony salhappin to occur betwixt neighbours or brethren, and ony of them that be found giving injurious words, drawing ony rapier, or in any other way pretending bodily harm to whatsomever person; in that case the faultier who commiits any of the poynts above written, to the Deacone for the first tyme the sum of fyve shillings, to be distributed among the puir (poor) of the foresaid occupation. And for the second fault, if he continues in his offences, he sall pay to the said Deacone the sum of ten shillings money, to be uplifted of his readinest goods and gear, and that sum to be distributed among the said poor of the said occupation; and sall humble himself in presence of the said Deacone forsaid, and brethren of Craft, and underly such conviction as by them salbe appointed to the offender whatsomever.

**XIII. - Anent Servands Keiping of Termes. - Item,** it is also statuted and ordained that na servand of ye said Craft sall fie with ony maister of the said Craft, other than that (The remainder is so foul that it cannot be read).

**XIV. - Anent thaim that takis in prentices, or settis up their Bwichis. - Item,** it is statuted and ordained by the Deken and his council with the rest of the Commons, that whamsomever taks in ane apprentice he sall pay xl (40)S. to the Deken whomsoever for the tyme; and also it as statuted and ordained that ilk zown ma (each young man or master) at the up-set of his booth, sall pay vjS.viiij D. (6s. 8d or half a merk) to the Deken whosomever for the tyme; and also it is statuted that all me (members) of the Cordiner Craft, sall pay at their entries in matrimony to the Deken for the tyme whatsomever, half ane merk, and that till be put in to their close box to be for the cuming to the utility and profit of the Craft; and that to be distributed to the support of the decayed brethren , to be (at ) the sight of the Dekene and his Cownsall (Council).

**. - Anemt thr braking away betuix Termis. -Item,** it is statuted and ordained that ne servant sall brak away from his maisteris service betwixt terms, without licence asked and given of his maister; and that at his partin of the town he tak the Deacon's under pains of double entries at his return.

**XVI. - Anent the reformatioun of that disorder qlk (quhilk, which) was vsit (used) be gewin (giving) in of Maisteris colorit seyis (false essays). -1591,** the xxxj (31<sup>st</sup>) day of December, it is statuted and ordained for remedt hereof be the Deacon and his brethren of the Cordiner Craft, that in all time coming the man who sall pretend to be a brother or a maister of the said Cordiner Craft, sall at the Deacon's right and if his council give his seys of his craft, and of his form of working, and that of his work being his maisteris stick salbe his own hand only, and of his own wit and ingyngyn (genius), begun, prosectued, and sufficiently ended and perfected in all points, as becomes ane ripe and cunning maister of his craft, to serve the King's Majesty his leiges. And that all this be done by pretending maister, he being enclosed by the said Deacon and brethren of the Cordiner Craft, in ane close house by himself alone; and that the said Deacon for reforamtion of the said colour

and deciet used as is spoken afore, sall bear the Key of the said house with him, and keip it in his custody even to the last sicht of that maisteris stick (job), and till it be perfectly vtred (uttered) in all points, and so be received in by the Deacon and his brethren.

**XVII.** - 1591 years, the 31 of December, Item. Mair it is statued and ordained that he who sall in ony time hereafter pretend to be maister and brother among the brethren of the Cordiners, sall give in in his essay to the Deacon and his council, and his maisters appointed for visitaion and consideration of his work, six pieces of wark as it salbe lawful (or proper) for him to work there after in his booth or workhouse at ony time or occasion whatsomever. Certifying them, and ilk ane of them, who shall pretend in the contrary hereof by working any other kind of work or stuff he gives up in his maisters stick whereof the preter (pretender) salbe with his name registered in the Craft's book, at his entry thereto, sall pay at the Deacon's sicht and his brethren, as penalty. The sum of five pounds money of Scotland, and that for his wilful obstinacy, to be uplifted without favour and distributed to the poor.

**XVIII.** - **Anent the custodie and keiping of the Craftis comone geir.** - Item. it is ordained because of the disorder that has been used in losing of acts and ordinances purchased (aquired) by this Craftis moyen (exertions) and expenses, that the haill letters, instruments, saisines, investments, acts, contracts, and other writts (writings) purchased by the said Craft for their own weal, salbe put in ane rental and inventory for the better Keeping of the same, and that the inventory be written in the Craft's locked book and that there be contained in the said inventory the haill keys maid upon the Craft's expenses, with the mortcloth, handsenzie, and pensiles of the same, and all other things belonging to the Craft as common, so that at the expiring of ane Deacon forth of his office he sal be held to deliver the same inventory of the Craft's common propertry and writings whatsomever, together with every piece thereof contained in the inventory, to the Deacon his successor, who sall tak upon him to bear that office for the year to come. And whatsomever piece or part of this common property belonging to the Craft is found to be lost or inlaking (wanting) by the said Deacon in his time, he sall restore and refund the same using his own moyen (means) and expenses, be it writing or other gear.

**XIX.** - **Anent debarring strangers from the maisterie.** - **1591 the xxxi day of December,** Item in respect of the manifold skaith, great inconvenience, and apparent injy (injury) of the estate of Cordiners in this burgh, and of thar occupation, and that be reason of their lenitie, courtesy and gentleness used by them towards strangers, and that in obeying their suits and requests, and that for their admissions to the brotherhood and mastership, of that said occupation, which has in time past greatly damaged and injured the same, yea, and meikle mair appearing to braik the same, except that in time it be exacuat (avoided) by reasonable and good foresight: herefor, and for remidyng hereof, the Deacon of the Cordiners and his Council, together with the haill brethren of of that Craft in Dundie, being convened in the holf (Howff) of the same, of full and deliberate mind, being well and ripely advised in this action, decern and ordain that it shall be in no wise be lesum hereafter to them or any of them in any time coming, nor yet to their successors, for ever, to receive or admit to the mastery in the said occupation, any stranger that has not orderly begun in the town, and that by apprenticeship and other proceedings duly within the same, for any cause, favour, friendship, sums of money that might be offered, or other motion whatsomever. The causes allenary being accepted, that if it sahill happen him to obtain the favour, liking and singular goodwill of any free brother of the said occupation, and that by bestowing ane of their dauchteris lauchfullie (lawfully) begotten to him in marriage; and for the mair fortification and better stadning of their premises, the haill number of foresaid brethren have faithfully promised and avowed to maintain the same; and ordains that whomsoever he be among them who sall happen to contravene the same in any time coming, by procurement in the contrary of this ordinance, in favour of any qsueur (whomsoever), yea if he be his nearest Kinsman, that he salbe accounted perpetual by us perjured and infamous.

**XX.** - The zeir of God 1597 years, the x day of January, Item.- the foresaid Deacon and brethren ordain, that in all tyme coming it shall no ways be lesum or lawful to receive or

to admit any brother' son to be maister of the Cordiner Craft, like as they have been in times past, and that for many weighty causes, clearly known and through seen be them, and specially for avoiding of ingorance, so that the maister's sons serve ane sufficient time in service, like as all strangers and other servants do before their admission to the said mastership, sall not only have the better sight of their work and craft, whereby they may be the mair able to serve the King's his Majesty's leiges by also by experience and serving of sufficient time in service, they sall learn the better to mak their proffit which is the cheise (choise) point of our standing; therefore, it is statuted and ordained, that in all tym coming every master's son who shall pretend to be ane master of the said Craft, sall give the sey and peruse of his work, and of his forme of working to the Deacon of the Craft and his council for the time, according to the form of essaying other intrants in all points, except this only, - That the master's son who shall be intrant, shall mak no expenses with the Deacon or his Council but forty shillings only, after the last visitation of his work when it is ended, if so be that he be counted worthy to pass, by the fosaid Deacon and Council; and that the name of the intrants shall be inserted in the Craft's lokkit buik, the year of God, the day of the month and the Deacon's name therewith specified; together with the pieces of work whereupon they sall pass and be admitted; and the payment of these xl ss. (40s.) sall no wise tak away the former duty which is sex ss. Viiij. (6s.8d.) and ane payment of them to the Dekyn.

**XXI.** - The year of God a thousand v hund.foir sevyn and sevintyn (1597) years, the xii (12) day of December, William Saddler, deacon, together with the haill brethren of the Cordiner Craft of Dundie, being convened in the Houff of the same, being deliberate to avoid feasting enormities and things outstanding their own welfares and commodoties, after great reasonings upon the subsequent, by the foresaid Deacon and brethren finding themselves in time past to have been evil served of their servants partly by their licentisness, and partly by their ignorantness. Ordains for remedy hereof it sall be lesome to any free brother of Craft within this burgh in all times coming, having ane prentice who has served out three years of his apprenticeship, and if it shall happen or schant (chance) any other man to offer to ye said brother or master of the said Craft, any boy to be bound apprentice to the said craft, and that he agree with the chyld and his parents, then in that respect the said master sall have his recourse, according to the ordinary form, to the Deacon of the Craft for the time, who sall have sufficient puer (power) and warrant with his Council, to book the said second apprentice in our Craft's locked book, providing always, as it is before said, that the first apprentice has served out three years of his apprenticeship; for the which booking and entering of the second apprentice, we the foresaid Deacon and brethren, ordain the parents, or else the master of the same boy, to pay to the welfare of the said Craft, to the Deacon and his Council X merks money usual of this realm. Whereof seven merks shall be put in the Craft's box, and XL (40) ss. to ye bankit (banquet); and in respect that this ordinance is advised and set down by our ain consents, and our names not required herein, without any gainshow (gainsaying) or contradiction therefor, we, the foresaid Deacon and hell bode (whole body) of the Cordiner Crafft protest before God, that whomsoever shall presume to break or gensa (gainsay) this ordinance, sall be accounted mansworn and punished therefore by his brethren, and that no man pretend ignorance but that an apprentice shall be bound always for sax years, and do service according to the Craft's indentures in all points.

**XXII.\*.** - Aperil dundie wiclsimo mono die mensis January Jai ve monagesimo octuas, Regnge L. D. N. Jacobi sexti anno trigesimo secundo - At Dundee the 29<sup>th</sup> day of the month of January, Ane thousand five hundred and ninety eight, and of the reign of our sovereign Lord James the Sixth the thirty second year. The which day George Garioch, Deacon of the Cordiner Craft of the said burgh, being in the Houff convened with his whole Council of the said Craft, and most part of the masters of the said Craft, considering the great abuse of unlaws (fines) after mentioned uptaken by Deacons ,and extraordinary spending of the unlaws, it is statuted and ordained with ane general assent of the haill Masters of the said Craft, that na unlaw shall be drunk nor extraordinarily spent, only the ordinary unlaws of twa shillings, with the unlaw of disobedience and disturbance betwixt neighbours and brethren of the said Craft, but the unlaw to be levied be the Deacon and his council, and delivered to the boxmaster, and

the same to be forthcoming to the commodity of the Craft wz. (viz.) the annual rents pertaining to ye said Craft heritably to be put in their box without deduction, quarter accounts, outstates, to wit, and marked forty shillings money of ilk entered apprentice, sax ss. aucht pennies at the entry of ilk master married or servant within the said burgh, sax shillings aucht pennies money for ilk offence of fornication committed either by master or servant. Five shillings for the unlaw of unbarked leather as for the first fault, ten shillings for the next and twenty for the third fault. The whole unlaws uptaken by the Deacon and his visitors for insufficient schone (shoes) sold in the market, shall likewise be input in the box, and that by the oath of the visitors; the entry of the boys five shillings. And in case the Deacon forsaied, or any Deacon sucecssors, shall take upon him to drink, or extraordinarily to spend any part or portion of them except permission of Deacon and his Council for the time , and breaks of this present ordinance, sall refund or repay the same out of their own purses, and the present act to be ane decret for payment of the same, the provost and bailies' writs to be interponed hereto of this gude burgh, and that their spoil and robbing may be marked off the hail collection before mentioned, it shall be lesum to the haill Craft ye Council, except to there ane honest man to try ane of the box, wha shall be ay present himself to see the collection, and that ilk week and that upon tuesday, whereby the premises may redound to the support of the poor of the said Craft, and satisfaction of so far as the same will extend. And for ampler securitie of the haill premises, the Deacon foresaid with the haill body of the said Craft, at the least most part thereof have subscribed this their present ordinance, with their hands, so many as can subscribe, and by William Spalding, notary public, at their commands, because they cannot write themselves.

George Garioch, forsaied, Deacon of the said Craft, John Rankine, Walter Forbes, Alexander Saddler, Gabriel Symmer, Henry Clark, Robert Ramsay, &c, with our hands at the pen, led by the notary, at our command, because we cannot write ourselffis.

\*This in chronological order should have preceeded No XXI.

**XXIII.** - At Dundee the twenty twa day of October, the year of God Jai and Sex hundreth (1600) years, It is appointed, agreed, and finally concorded betwixt John Rankine, Deacon of the Cordiner Craft of the said burgh of Dundee, for himself and taking the burden for the haill remanent brethren Craftsmen of the said Craft, within the said burgh, on the one part, and Thomas Low, Deacon of the Cordiner Craft of the city of Brechin, for himself, and taking burden on him for the haill remanent of the masters of the said and Craftsmen of the said Craft in the said city, on the other part, in manner as follows.- To wit, the said Thomas has taken burden on him as said is for him and his successors, Deacons of said Cordiner Craft of Brechin, gives and grants liberty and power to the said John Rankine, Deacon and remanent masters of the said Craft of Dundee, and their successors, Deacons and Masters of the said Craft to haunt and frequent to the mercat of the said city of Brechin, in all time coming, on whatsoever mercat days of the same when they please, and there to sell their shoes, boots, mullis, or other merchant goods pertaining to the Cordiner Craft, freely, without any searching of the said work or trial thereof, and without payment of any duty, as they and their predecessors have been in use in all time past of before, except sic trial as the Deacons of the said Craft of Dundee shall take among theirselves, as they were in use as before. For the which cause the said John Rankine taking burden on him as said is, by their presents, permits and accentiates the said Thomas Low, Deacon and remanent masters of the said Craft, and their successors in Brechin, to resort and frequent the market of Dundee on the market days thereof, in form and as freeilie as they had been in times past, and that in all times coming. In witness thereof both the said parties have subscribed their presents, which are written by John Patterson, writer, day, year, and place aforesaid, before their witnesses, John Mason, David Donaldson, Patrick Hodge, Henry Clerk, burgesses of Dundee, and Alexander Gelly, John Will, and William Gourlay, in Brechin.

**XXIV.** - The year of God ane thousand sax huddr. and fourtin (1614) years, the fifth day of October, the whole brethren of the Cordiner Craft being convened in the cross of Dundee, after long reasoning of the great loss and hurt that has risen and to rise upon that act maid anent the marriage of our brothers' daughters with strangers, and erecting them to the liberty of the said Craft, finding the great skaith of the said act, have ordained the said act to be all whole broken in all time to come, and that act never to take effect in all time to come.

Robert Brown, Deacon	James Neish	William Jackson
John Rankine	James M	Henry Clerk, Younger
Patrik Hodge	Alexander Ramsay	John Deuchars
William Strachan	John Louny	Thomas
William Saddler	William Williamson	John Thomson
Robert Ramsay	Alexander Watson	William Neish
Henry Clerk, older	Robert Shepherd	William Crawford
William Roystone	Ramsay	John Miln
James Dickison	William Gairdner	Alexander Law
Andrew Bowman	George Thomson	Andrew Thomson
Forbes	J. Ramsay	Thomas Thomson
Andrew Christie	Robert Schemer	

In all thirty five brethren

**XXV.** -The year of God 1634 years, the 4 day of Februar, there is collected and gathered to the buying of two velvet mortcloths, one large, one small, the persons named as follows. -

Andrew Christie	10 lb	William Lounie	4 lb
John Smyth	20 merks	Thomas Thomson	6 lb
James Paterson	6 lb	James Dickison	6 lb
William Williamson	20 merks	Alexander Lamb	3 lb
Robert Brown	10 lb	John Mather	3 lb
James Neish	4 lb	David Strachan	5 merks
John Williamson	10 lb	Robert Johnson	4 lb
William Cock	5 lb	Andrew Bowman	6 lb
William Maiden	10 merks	John Hagus	5lb
Patrick Ramsay	12 lb	William Crawford	5 lb
Peter Wright	10 lb	John Leys	2 lb
Patrick Duncan	20 lb	Peter Gardiner	3 lb
William Forbes	40 merks	George Thomson	5 merks
John Geikie	10 merks	Thomas Johnson	2 merks
William Jackson	30 s.	Robert Shemer	3 lb
Patrick Anderson	29 s	Henry Williamson	3 lb
Alexander Blair	29 s	William Gairn	8 merks
		William Shemer	3 lb

In all thirty five names and the amount £228.8s.

There is statued and ordained by the Deacon and Brethren of the Cordiner Craft, that all masters who have not paid and contributed to the said mortcloths shall have no benefit, nor free mens' sons, till they agree with the Deacon and his Council.

There is statued and ordained by the Deacon and Brethren of the said Cordiner Craft, that all apprentices when they are admitted masters shall have no benefit till they agree with the Deacon and his council for the mortcloths.

**XXVI.** - Dundee. the second day of January jai vic and nyntie twa (1692) years, which day in a court holden by John Kirkland, present Deacon of the Shoemakers of Dundee, with consent of ye Councillors and remanent Brethren of the said Trade, have enacted, and hereby enacts, That no free master's son of the said Trade shall be admitted a free master of the same, until he first pay into the boxmaster of the said Trade, for the use and behoof of the remanent Brethren and members thereof, the sum of twelve pounds Scots money. And this present act is hereby ordained to stand in full force in all time coming. In testimony whereof the said Deacon, Councillors, and Brethren of the said Trade, have subscribed their presents day and date forsaid.

Nineteen signatures follow, of which four are marks.

**XXVII.** - Dundee, the third day of February one thousand seven hundred year, which day in a court holden by John Maiden, present Deacon of the Shoemakers of Dundie, with the consent of the Councillors and remanent Brethren of the said Trade, have enacted, and hereby enacts, that in all time coming that no Deacon shall continue in his office of Deacon longer than two years at once, this being the second year of the said Deacon in his office of Deacon, so that if any Deacon in all time coming shall offer to present himself at the time of the

election among the number of those who are appointed for the Deacon's office, he shall be liable in the fine of twenty pound Scots, notwithstanding of the fine that he is liable too the act made anent the same among the Nine Deacons. likewise if any member of the said Trade shall give his vote to the aforesaid Deacon or Deacons, for the third year in his office, ilk member shall be liable in the fine of ten pounds Scots, besides the fine of the act among the Nine.

Twelve signatures follow, one of which is a mark, and also this Memorandum:-

This Sederunt is disannulled and Tendered Invalid by Ane enacted the 26 September 1811. James Keith, Clerk.

**XVIII.** - Dundee the third day of February, one thousand seven hundred years, the which day in a court holden by John Maiden, present Deacon of the Shoemaker Trade with consent of the Council and remanent Members of said Trade, have enacted and hereby enacts, That all free Apprentices who are to enter to be free Master shall pay to the Trade two hundred merks (£133. 6. 8) money and to serve one year as officer to the Trade, immediately after he is admitted free master, and that without any other expense.

It is likewise statued and ordained by the Deacon and whole Trade at the election that no Deacon present or late, shall refuse to go out among the number of those who are appointed for the Convener's office, if legally voted, he shall be liable in the fine of twenty merks; and any Deacon or other Member who refuses to go out among the number of those who are appointed for the Deacon's office, if legally voted, he shall be liable in the fine of ten pounds; and any member who shall refuse to go out for the boxmaster's office or Councillor, if legally voted, shall be liable in the fine of ten merks Scots, toties quoties besides the performance of the same; and for the better observance it is hereby afirmed by the Deacon and Trade.

Ten signatures follows, of which one is a mark.

**XXIX.** - Dundee, 30 August 1720 years, which day in a court holden be William Petrie, present Deacon, and haill remanent members and brethren of the Shoemaker Trade of Dundee, within the buriel place of the Brough, being ye ordinary place of their meeting, the said Deacon and members of the said Trade taking to their consideration that the Lords of Justiciary, by their Sentence dated at Edinburgh the ninth of August instant, for the causes therein mentioned had deprived Thomas Geikie, Cordiner or Shoemaker in Dundee, of his right of Burgessship and freedom of this burgh and declared him incapable of enjoying the same in all time coming; and that the Magistrates and Council of this burgh had likewise, in obedience to the said sentence, deprived the said Thomas of his right of Burgess ship and freedom of the said burgh, and declared him incapable of enjoying the same in all time coming; so likewise the said Deacon and whole remanent members of the said Shoemaker Trade, in compliance with the said Lords of Justiciary's Sentence, and Act of council off this Burgh, against the said thomas Geikie, have deprived and hereby deprives the said Thomas Geikie of his right and freedom to the said Shoemaker Trade of this burgh, and declare him incapable of enjoying the same in all time coming, and ordain the said Thomas Geikie's name to be cancelled out of this book. In testimony whereof thir presents signed by the said William Petrie, Deacon, in name, and at the desire of the whole remaining members and brethren of the said Trade. (signed Wm. Petrie).

**XXX.** - Whereas Alexander Donnet, son to the above George Donnet, is convicted of theft, sentanced to, and was whipt, conform to sentence, we do by the Corporation power in us eject and cast him out from any part of the brotherhood he could have enjoyed by his Birthright derived from his said father; written and signed at Dundee 19 day of October 1737. By Thomas Stirling, Deacon, and other seven.

Note. - Donnet's father was admitted free master 7<sup>th</sup> June 1720, the entry which immediately preceeds this notice of his son in the Locked Book.

**XXXI.** - First entry in the Locked Book No 1, of Free Master:-

The year of God a thousand v hundreth four scoyr x (1590) years, William Saddler is admitted master to the Cordiner Craft, and has given his essay shoes, boots, mullis. William Matthew, Deacon for the time.

First entry of an Apprentice:-

The second day of February, the year of God one thousand five hundred three score one (1561) years, which day George Clerk is become apprentice to John Johnson, and at that time John Mason is Deacon.

At Dundee the Tenth day of June Seventeen hundred and Sixty one years, which day Mr George Dempster of Dunnichen, Advocate, Member of Parliament, was Created & admitted an Honorary Member of the Cordiner Trade. & Initiated to the haill priviledges therero belonging , He having given his promise to maintain & support the hall priviledges of the Trade. (signed) George Dempster.

## **Nine Detached Papers**

Connected with the Trade.

**NUMBER I.** - Charter to Richard Howyson and his heirs of William Gray's house on the south side of the Cowgate, dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 1509, witnessed by Provost Alexander Ogilvie, and Bailies Alexander Erskine and Mr David Crail. It contains nothing of moment.

**NUMBER II.** - Thir are the statutes, acts and ordinances, concluded and decerned by the Deacon and Masters of the Cordiner Craft within Dundee, by the parties contractors Masters, Parents and Apprentices, ilk ane for their own parts in form as follows:-

**In the first**, It is statued and ordained by the said Deacon and Brethren of Craft, that all persons received and admitted to the Cordiner Craft, should mak leal and true service unto their masters, unto the complete issue and furthcoming of the years of their apprenticeship contained within their Indentures made betwixt the parties contractors in all points; and in special, that none of them be found convicted in that time of theft, picking or stealing, under the pains after specified, to wit the person convicted in the said crime sall for the first fault be punished in his person with forty stripes, in presence of the Deacon and Brethren of Craft; and for the second, the person offender, shall be punished in his goods, at the sight and discretion of said Deacon and Brethren of Craft. And in case that neither of these punishments take effect, but the person still to continue in his former wickedness without amendment, in that effect the offender salbe compelled to manswear the said Craft, and his parents tine (forfeit) their apprentice fee bestowed upon him. And, moreover, he shall neither wear whinger (hanger) nor pointed knife during his apprenticeship, except to carve his meat; and that conform to the tenor of the gift obtained by the said Craft from the authority, and under the King's (unreadable) touching the liberty of the said Craft in all points

**Secondly**, it is statued and ordained in manner forsaid, that in case the said apprentice be found negligent in awaiting upon their labour, or without liberty asked and granted of their master, wilfully. and at their own hand, to absent themselves from his service, or be found convicted in adultery, fornication, or breaking of the sabbath day, in that case they salbe punished for their offence conform to the tenor of the first Act in all points.

**Item, Thirdly**, for eschewing of the former inconveniences above specified, we ordain all masters to insert the said Acts and effects thereof in the indentures made betwixt them and their apprentices, conform to the Ordinance of the Craft as effeirs.

**Fourthly**, there shall be no apprentice usurp the office of a master, until he has served four years immediately after the issue of his apprenticeship, and further if need is, in case of insufficiency.

**Fifthly**, under standing that all apprentices' fees bestowed upon finishing of their apprenticeships before (unreadable) to our Knowledge of ye said Craft, we decern and ordain, that in case the apprentice depart from this life, or decease, or otherwise, within year and day after his entry, in that case his master shall contribute with the child's parent or friends for his apprentice fee; otherwise, if it shall happen the year be expired before the decease of the said apprentice, the master shall receive his whole apprentice fee and if he has already received the same, shall nowise be held give account thereof to any parties for etending interest thereto.

**Note.** - This document is without date, seems to be a separate embodiment of the previously recorded enactments concerning apprentices.

**No III.** - Vigesimo quinto die nensis January Ano Dni millesimo quingentesimo octagesimo quinte, i.e. 25<sup>th</sup> January A. D. 1585, The which day in presence of David Crawford, Deacon and whole body of the Craft of Cordiners, personally appeared Alexander Pack and John Leitch, granting them and ilk ane of them to have committed great and heinous faults, to the hurt, and liberty, and brethren. Thereafter their confessions after following with their own mouths speeking, in presence of the said Deacon and Brethren, to wit, That forsomuch as we acknowledge and confess, us, and ilk ane of us, through ignorance to have failed and transgressed to ye said Deacon, Brethren, commodity, and liberty of the said Craft, us in special with their dealing and handitting with our servants gear, so that us, and ilk ane of us, accounts us worthy of deprivation of the liberty of the said Craft wherewith we were in liberty and traffic thereof, granted to us by the Deacons, Brethren, and whole community of the said Craft, Therefore submit us and ilkane of us to the merciment, goodwill, and discretion of the said Deacon, Brethrenand Community. Which offer and humiliation so had and made by the said Alexander and John, the said Deacon, Brethren and community, for the love and favour which they bore to them and ilk one of them, remit and dispences with them and ilk ane of them, of their former falts and trespasses committed by them, Nine inde, and restores them hereafter to their auld liberty again under this provision, that ever they, or any one of them, shall happen to commit the like in any time hereafter, in that case they nor yet any of them to have any liberty, trust, to be enjoyed, or brooked by them in any time hereafter; whereunto the said John and Alexander finds and obliges them under their hands forsaid. In the which causes and receiving of them again the said Deacon has received the notice of the other Deacons in taking of their receipt and admission. Further, the said John by their presents, binds and obliges him to thankfully, content, pay and deliver to the said David, Deacon forsaid ye sum of five pounds money, to be paid at the times after following, to wit xx (20)ss. money thereof at the making hereof, and other four pounds money at Whitsunday in the year eighty six (1586)\* years, which failing submits him to the pains foresaid, at the sight and deliberation of the said Deacon and Brethren thereof, which they have desired in their names to subscribe year, day, place and whole community of the said Craft.

Written at the command of the said Alexander and John by Andrew Whyte, writer, notary.

\*A marginal Note has "& ye tither thrie lib in haill & qpleit payment of ye said fyfe lib money, at witsunday in anno lxxxvij zeirs. Julyt ssnl."

**No IV.** - WE, the Collector, Deacons and Brethren of the Crafts of the Burgh of Dundee, under subscribing, taking consideration of the great burden which we bear and sustain, not only in the common affairs of the said burgh, and for the advancement of the common weal thereof, but also in the aiding, supporting, and supplying of our poor and decayed Brethren, when it pleases God to visit them with poverty and inability of person; and being careful to provide some means whereby in a part the foresaid burden and charge may be borne out to the glory of God, advancement of the said commonweal, and the comfort of our said needy and distressed brethren, WEE therefore statuted, ordained, and for us, and our succssors, Collectors, Deacons, and Brethren of the said Crafts, concluded to uplift of the subsidy and contribution underwritten, of the persons under mentioned, at the time and in manner underspecified, in all time coming, VIZ., of every apprentice that salbe or received hereafter to any Craft within the said burgh under Deaconry, ten shillings, before he be booked or received. Item, from every person that salbe admitted master of any of the Crafts foresaid, before his admission, if he be not a free man's son, thirteen shillings and fourpence.

Item, of each master of Craft, without exception, at his marriage, ten shillings. Item, of each Craftsman under Deaconry, as well apprentice as apprentice or servant, if he commits adultery and (torn and effaced) enjoy the liberty of his Craft and office (effaced) of that number, six shillings and eight pence; which contribution and subsidy, we, by the tenor hereof bind and oblige ourselves, and our successors to thankfully content, and pay, each one of us, at the times and occasions foresaid, to the Deacon of Craft, which we profess, or shall happen to profess hereafter within the said burgh, without stop or impediment; like as we, the said Deacons, by the tenor hereof, bind and oblige us and our succssors, Deacons of the said Crafts, faithfully, and truly to collect, lift, and gather the said subsidies and contributions, and each quarter of the year to make count, reckoning and payment thereof to the Collector of the said Crafts for the time; and for that effect to given our oaths upon the true discharge of our

said offices in that part, and to exhibit quarterly to the said Collector our common book for verifying tghereof And if we, or any of us, contravene these presents. That the contravener shall pay to the said Collector forty shillings unlaw (or fine) for the contravention of ilk point of the promises, vix., as well for abstracting of the said contribution and delaying to pay the same, as for his refusal to exhibit his book for verification thereof. And such like that each master or brother of Craft that shall refuse to pay the duties above written (being lawfully required thereto by the Deacon of his said Craft), shall pay to the said Deacon forty shillings fine, for his refusal, beside the payment of the said duties; and notwithstanding that the brethren of the Baxter Craft of the said burgh, are abandoned be a law made among themselves from the receiving of any apprentices (torn and effaced) years, it is provided by the tenor therof, with their own consent, that the Deacon of the said Craft shall be accountable yearly to the said Collector for the dutie foresaid of each apprentice extending to ten shillings for ilk apprentice, as if they were received by them. And for the duties foresaid appointed to be received of their masters, extending thrie masters to forty shillings by the duty above written, to be uptaken of their Free master's Sons. Further; in case it shall happen any controversy or pley (plea) to fall out betwixt any brethren of Crafts and their Deacons, which shall happen to be decided by the said Collectors and remaining Deacons of Crafts, according to their old privelages, it is agreed upon by all our consents that the brother of Craft that shall be tried to have complained wrongously upon his Deacon, shall content and pay to the said Collector to the use above mentioned twenty shillings; and if the Deacon be found to have done wrong to his said brother of Craft, he should pay to the said Collector to the uses foresaid forty shillings money. And such like, when it shall please the brethren of the said Baxter Craft to receive apprentices in their said Craft, it is provided by the tenor hereof that they shall be subject to such order as the remaining apprentices of the said Craft; and thereafter that the Deacon of the said Baxter Craft shall not be astricted to pay the duty foresaid, but for so many apprentices and masters as they shall happen to receive to their said Craft. And, finally, we bind and oblige us, and our successors, to observe, Keep and fulfil the whole promises under the pains and unlaws above specified, and this to be without prejudice to such other unlaws as we, the said Collector, Deacons and our predecissors have been in use to uplift of disobedient persons of before. And for the better securitie we all consent and assent that these acts be inserted in in the common Council Books of the said burgh, and decerned to have the strength of a decret of the Provost and Bailies thereof, and their said authority to be interponed thereto, with execution of pointing, warding (imprisonment), and horning, each one without prejudice of the other, to pass thereupon, and the horning to pass upon a simple charge of six days only; and to that effect constitutes Conjuntly and severally our procuration, promising de rats est. In witness thereof, we; the said Collector and present Deacons of the said Crafts, with the Council of each of the said Crafts, representing the whole body thereof, have subscribed to these presents as follows, at Dundee the twenty seventh day of December, the year of God Jai six hundred and three (1603) years.

Jhon Aleson, Dekyn of ye Baxtir.

Patrik Rasay (Ramsay) dekyne of ye hamermen.

Wm Pittilloke, Dekn of the Skynneris.

Rot. Goldman, Convenor of ye craftis

Gabriel Somer, Dekyn of ye Cordoners.

Jon Nicoll, dekyne of ye Taileoris.

Patrick smart, dekyne of ye flesheris

K dekyne of ye bonetmakers.

Alexr, middletoun, dekyne of ye brabeners.

Jon. Sym, dekyne of ye Walkeris..

**No V.** - Copy of my Lord Erskine's Gift anent the Tanning of Leather. 8<sup>th</sup> March 1620.

Our sovereign Lord ordained a letter to be made under the Great Seal in due form, making mention, that whereas in the parliament holden at Edinburgh in the year of God 1617 years, ther was a supplication presented to the King's Majesty and his Estates there convened, in name of the Cordiners and handlers of leather within this Kingdom of Scotland, complaining of the ignorance of barkers and tanners of leather, and of the many abuses committed by them through their unskilful handling of the leather, wherethrough the said Cordiners were constrained, to their great hazard and hurt of the country, to make their provisions of leather for furnishing of the country, abroad; and the Kings Majesty out of his princely and tender

respect to the commonweal of this Kingdom, being careful that the said abuse should be reformed, and that the true and upright form of tanning should be brought in practice within the said Kingdom, and his Majesty's most important and weighty affairs occurring in the said Parliament, not admitting his Majesty the opportunity nor leisure at that time to advise, resolve, and determine upon that subject, therefore his Majesty, with advice of his Estates, remitted the order taking herewith to the Lords of his Majesty's Privy Council, and since then his Majesty has of new recommended the same to them by writ; whereupon the said Lords having called before them a number of the principal barkers and tanners of leather within the said Kingdom, with certain Cordiners of good report, knowledge and experience in that trade, and having had divers meetings and conferences with them, as well anent the abuse, as anent the means to reform the same; and it being truly and clearly confessed and granted, that the said abuse proceeded from the miskilfulness of the Tanners themselves, and that there was a necessity of inbringing of strangers, for instructing of them in the right form of Tannage, the said Lords thereupon entered in deliberation how that project anent the inbringing of strangers might be effectual; and having at great length, and diverse and sundry meetings conferred and advised upon thereupon, they have in the end, with good and mature advice and deliberation, resolved upon certain heads, articles, and conditions, both anent the inbringing of strangers, their entertainment and furnishing during the time of their abode here, the distribution of them athewart the country, for instructing of the country people, the conditions whereunto they shall be tied in this service, and upon certain other points touching the advancement of ye said service; and they have appointed and refixed a certain term, to wit, the first day of January in the year of God 1622 years, within the which barkers; if they be willing, may have convenient time to learn the true and perfect way of Tannage; and after the expiring of that term they have ordained that hides should be presented to ye market, sold, or put in work, till the sufficiency thereof be approven by a seal to be set and stamped therupon; and they have made sundry provisions and cautions against the Keepers of the seals for their dutiful carriage in that charge, and they have thought meet, that the person whom his Majesty will be to trust with this seal, shall have the charge and burden of intringing and entertaining of the said strangers, and of all other debursements in this service, and in the articles made or set down by the said Lords to this effect, containing diverse other clauses and conditions for the furtherance of this work at length is contained; And his Majesty allowing very well of the proceedings of his Majesty's council in this business, and accordingly finding it very meet and expedient for the credit and weal of the said Kingdom, that the said strangers shall be brought in for instructing of country people, and that there shall be a seal made for sealing of the said hides, and that the inbringing of the said strangers, and Keeping of the seal shall be committed to some person of credit, who will be careful to approve himself worthy of that charge and trust reposed by his Majesty in him, for the weal and benefit of the country; and his Majesty having good proofs of the honest disposition and worthy inclination of his trusty cousin and councillor John, Lord Erskine, whose bypast carriage and behaviour in the whole course and progress of his actions has been, and is, well approven by his Majesty; therefore, his Majesty with advices of Lords of Secret Council, has committed, and by the tenor hereof commits the charge and trust of inbringing of the said strangers, and keeping of the said seal, to the said John, Lord Erskine, and gives to him, his heirs, and assigns the office thereof, and makes and constitutes them Keepers of the said seal, for the whole three terms, and years of thirty one years next, and immediately following the date hereof; with power to them to bring in the said strangers for instructing of the country people in the right form of Tanning of leather, and to direct and disperse them through the country to that effect, after that they shall be presented to his Majesty's Council, and that they have received the direction and injunctions of his Majesty's Council for their behaviour and carriage in that service; as also to cause make the said seal with a crowned thistle on the one side thereof, and to appoint deutes, for whom he shall be answerable, in all convenient parts and places of the Kingdom, according to the conclusions of his Majesty's Council, for trying of the sufficiency of all hides that shall be presented to market, sold, and put to work, and for sealing of the same, and generally all and sundry other things necessary, and belonging to the charge of keeping of the said seal, to do and use which lawfully in such cases may be done firm and stable, having, and for to have, all and whatsoever thing shall be lawfully done herein, with this special provision and condition always, That this said John, Lord Erskine, and his foresaids, shall conform themselves to the conclusions of his Majesty's Council already made and set down, in the progress of this business. And his Majesty considering that the said Lord Erskine will be driven in very great charges and expenses upon occasion of this service, that not only the

inbringing and entertaining of strangers, during the appointed time of their abode here, and in directing of them through the country, and appointing of deutes in all convenient places to attend that charge and service, but through a number of other occasions which daily will intervene and occur in the said service, which will require daily debursements, and having respect therewith, all to the great benefit that this reformation will produce, not only to the Tanners, but to the whole country. Therefore, and for retribution of the said charges and expenses for the said John, Lord Erskine, his hazard and adventure in this so necessary and profitable a work, his Majesty, with advice foresaid, has given, granted, and allowed, and by the tenor hereof gives, grants, and allows to the said John, Lord Erskine, his heirs and assigns, during the first twenty one years of this patent, the sum of four shillings Scots money upon the hide, as the price of the seal to be uplifted by them and to be paid by the owners of every hide that shall be sealed by them as said is; and the said twenty one years being expired, because the service will by then become facile and easy, and that no further advancement is to be made there upon, his Majesty, with advice forsaid, allows only to the said John, Lord Erskine, and his forsaid, during the last ten years of his patent, the sum of three pennies Scots upon the hide allanerly to be paid by the owner of the hide beforesaid. And for eschewing of all questions that may arise betwixt the said John, Lord Erskine, and his forsaid, and the owners of the hides anent the quality of the hides, his Majesty, with advice forsaid, declares that four stirk-hides of two years old or within, shall be accounted for one hide; and his Majesty, with advice forsaid, discharges herby all his subjects that none of the presume, nor take upon hand to make, use, or counterfeit the said seal, but to suffer the said John, Lord Erskine, his heirs and assigns to have, brook and enjoy the benefit, liberty and privelage of the said seal, conform to his Majesty's gift and patent made to them thereupon, under the pain to be called, pursued, and punished in their persons and goods as counterfeitors of his Majesty's seal, with all rigour, and without favour or mercy; and that the said letter be extended in the best form with all clauses needful, and that precepts be directed thereupon in form as effeirs. Given at Whitehall, the eighth day of March 1620, according to the Scots calculation, and of his Majestsy's reign the seventeenth, and fiftieth and third year.  
Very copie, A true Copy.

**No. VI.** -Disposition of a house on the north side of Argyll'sgait or the Overgate, by James Crichton of Ruthven, nearest heir of the goodsire's (grandfather's) brother's son, in favour of John Stranchachine. Wright, burgess of Dundee, and Sibilla Nevay his wife, which house was sold by the Laird to the Tradesman for the sum of two hundred and forty merks (£160) Scots, dated the penult (31) day of December 1627, but contains nothing beyond any ordinary deed of the same nature.

**No. VII.** - Maister Simeone Mackeinzie contra The Cordineris of Dundee. Regorat. Speid Dundei decimo quadragesimo, That is, At Dundee 19<sup>th</sup> Day of May the year of the Lord 1640, which day, in the presence of Thomas Haliburton, younger, one of the Bailies of the burgh of Dundee, compeared Robert Chaplin, writer, their procurator lawfully constituted for the parties makers and subscribers of the bond and obligation under written, desiring the same to be inserted and registered in the common court Books of the said burgh, and the said Bailie to interpone his authority thereto; which desires the said Bailie found reasonable and ordained the said obligation to be inserted and registered in the said books, and interponed, and by these presents interpones his dcreet and authority thereto, ordaining letters and execution to pass thereupon in manner specified in the said obligation, providing always that the Provost and Bailies of the said burgh, nor their successors, be not holden to put these presents in execution without the pursuer exhibit and show to them, the defenders, their goods to be poinded, or persons to be warded therefor, of which obligation the tenor followis:- We, Patrick Duncan, Cordiner, collector of the Crafts of the burgh of Dundee; John Williamson, Deacon of the Cordiners of the said burgh of Dundee; William Forbes, Cordiner, burgess of the said burgh; Patrick Ramsay, Cordiner, burgess thereof, and William Maiden, Cordiner, burgess also of the said burgh, by the tenor hereof grants and confesses as presently to be justly debtbound, and resting owing to Simeon McKenzie of Lochstaine, the sum of five hundred fifty five merks (£370) money of Scotland, and that for the contained price and value of certain victual, good and sufficient market stuff and merchant ware, presently coift (purchased) and received by us from him, to our own contentments; which sum forsaid of five hundred fifty five merks money above specified we, by the terms hereof bind and oblige us all, conjunctly and severally, our heirs, executors, successors, and assigns, and

intromittors with our goods and gear whatsoever, thankfully to content and pay to the said Simeon McKenzie, his heirs, successors and, assigns and intromitors with our goods and whatsoever, thankfully to content and pay to the said Simeon McKenzie betwixt the Date present, and at the feast of Pasche (Easter) next to come in the year of God Jai vic & thretty and nine (1639) years without longer delay; and failing thereof, to content and pay to the said Simeon McKenzie and his for saids, by, and over the said principal sum, the sum of one hundred pounds money forsaid, liquidated by these presents for losses, hurts, and damages to be sustained therethrough, all remedy of law excluded; together also with ordinary annual rent for the said principal sum, yearly, termly, quarterly, monthly, weekly, and proportionally for the sames, conform to the laws of this realm, so long as the said principal sum rests owing unpaid, after the payment there of above written, without prejudice always to the execution under written to be directed against us, or any of us, or our forsaid, conjunctly or severally, at the said day of payment, or at any other time or times thereafter following, as the said Simeon McKenzie or his forsaid please, without any requisition or for emonition to be made for that effect; and we, the saids obligants, oblige us, our heirs and successors, hine inde, to others, to warrant, free, relieve, and skaithles keep, interest, and our forsaid, each one of us for our own parts, of a just and equal first part of the whole sums of money above written, contents of these presents and all that may follow thereupon hereafter. And for the more security we are content that these presents be inserted and registered in the Books of Council and Session, or Burgh of Dundee, and decerned to receive all execution of horning, poinding and warding, the one without prejudice of the other, and the horning to pass upon a simple charge of six days only; and hereto constitute the said Robert Chaplin our procurator conjunctly or severally, promising de rato Vc In witness whereof we have subscribed these presents with our hands as follows, written by Thomas Hunter, younger, notary, servant to Mr Alexander Wedderburne, Common Clerk of Dundee, At Dundee the seventh Day od August Jai vic. Thirty and eight (1638) years, before these witnesses, Andrew Herrick and William Cowper, Tailors, burgesses of Dundee; Robert Chaplin, writer there, and Thomas Donald, Tailor, servant to the said William Cowper. Sic subscribitur we, Patrick Duncan and John Williamson forsaid, with our hands at the pen led by the notaries undersubscribers and at our command, because we cannot write ourselves.

De mandat. Dict. Patricii duncane et johannis wmsone yc At the command of the said Patrick Duncan, and John Williamson Thomas Hunter and William Balfour, Notaries, led their hands. William Forbes, H. Ramsay, William Maiden, Andrew Herrick, Couttie, R. Chaplin, witnesses.

Extracted furth of the book of the Sets of the burgh of Dundee.

Alexander Wedderburne.

Upon the twentieth day of May 1640. I David Leys, one of the ordinary officers of the burgh of Dundee, past at command of the above written Decree, and lawfully charged the whole defenders therein above written, personally apprehended, to content and pay to the complainer above specified the sums of money, principal, annual rent, and liquidated expenses above contained, within ten Days next hereafter, under all just pain and charge that after may follow. Witnesses Robert Symer, Alexander Cock, John Howieson, Robert , and John Herald, burgesses of Dundee; and for the more security hereof have subscribed with my hand is affixed

David Leys Offr.

**No. VIII.** - Be it known to all men by these present letters, me David Gray, Cordiner, burges of Dundee, for the many oversights done by me to the Deacon and Tradesmen of the Shoemaker Craft of the burgh of Dundee, and for the evil speeches and blasphemous railings spoken by me against my whole Craft, to be bound and obliged, like as I by these present binds and obliges me; my heirs, executors, successors assigns and intromittors with my goods and gear whatsoever, to Peter Wright, present Deacon of the Shoemakers of the burgh of Dundee, and their successors Deacons and Council of the said Shoemaker Craft of the said burgh of Dundee present and to come, in manner following, wherein case ever I shall happen to be found cailing, or speaking any blasphemous words against the said Deacon present and to come, or any of the said Shoemaker Craft whatsoever to the scanal or reproach of any of the said Craft, after the date of these presents, that then, and in that case, I oblige one and my forsaid to content and pay to the said Peter Wright, and his successors forsaid, Deacons of the said Shoemaker Craft to the behoof and utility of the poor of the said

Craft, for each blasphemous and railing word I shall happen to swear hereafter to any person whatsoever, or any of my neighbours of my said Craft or craftsmen, to pay to the said Deacon and his successors, the sum of (not filled up) money of Scotland, toties quoties it shall happen me so to rail as said is hereafter. And for the better security I am content that these presents be registered in the Books of Council and Session, Commissary Books of St. Andrews or Brechin, Sheriff Court Books of Forfar, and Burgh Court Books of Dundee and decerned to receive all execution of horning, pointing and warding, the one without prejudice of the other; and the horning to pass upon a simple charge of six days only, and hereto constitutes my procurators promising de rato et. In witness whereof I have subscribed these presents with my hand as follows (written by John Lyell servitor(clerk) to George Wighton, Notary Public) Clerk (not filled up) year of God Jai vic and forty (1640) years, before these witnesses (blank)

**No. IX.** - William fliemeing his libel to the cordiner craft 16 Jary 1657.

I, William Fleming, indweller in the Kinreich in the parish of Neathie, do hereby bind and oblige me, my heirs, executors, and intromittors with my goods and gear whatsoever, that if it shall happen that if in any time coming I shall buy any hides within the burgh of Dundee, to forfeit and lose them, in witness thereof I have subscribed these presents at Dundee, the sixteenth day of January Jai vic. and fiftie and seven (1657), before these Witnesses, William Henderson, baxter, and Alexander Mitchell, and Francis Guthrie, son to James Guthrie, writer and burghess of the said burgh of Dundee.

W.F  
Wm. Henderson, witness  
J. Guthrie, witness

Dundee 26<sup>th</sup> October 1838

**Note.** - This document is without date, seems to be a separate embodiment of the previously recorded enactments concerning apprentices.

**No. IX.** - William fliemeing his libel to the cordiner craft 16 Jary 1657.

I, William Fleming, indweller in the Kinreich in the parish of Neathie, do hereby bind and oblige me, my heirs, executors, and intromittors with my goods and gear whatsoever, that if it shall happen that if in any time coming I shall buy any hides within the burgh of Dundee, to forfeit and lose them, in witness thereof I have subscribed these presents at Dundee, the sixteenth day of January Jai vic. and fiftie and seven (1657), before these Witnesses, William Henderson, baxter, and Alexander Mitchell, and Francis Guthrie, son to James Guthrie, writer and burghess of the said burgh of Dundee.

W.F  
Wm. Henderson, witness  
J. Guthrie, witness

Dundee 26<sup>th</sup> October 1838

## APPENDIX.

### No. I SUBSCRIPTIONS, &c

(The following five heads, with exception of the fifth, have no dates. - The first, third and fourth, are supposed by a former Clerk to belong to about the year 1642, while the second must be subsequent to the year 1645, as it was in that year the Earl of Montrose burned the Town and churches. And in order to re-edify the latter grants of areas in them were made to the Incorporations by the Magistrates under the condition that these areas should be filled with seats at the expense of the grantees).

#### I- Subscriptions in aid of the Mortcloths after they were purchased.

There is given to the Mortcloths since the Cloths were bought:-

John Malloch	8 merks	Gabriel Innes	4 merks
George Crawford	40 sh.	William Lamb	40 sh.
William Duff	3 lib.	Robert Thomson	54 sh.
Andrew Crawford	53 sh 4d.	Andrew Caird	
Thomas Watson	8 merks	Alian Donaldson	8 merks
John Hutcheon	58 sh.	John Wright	8 merks
William Rait	8 merks	Walter Bonella	4 merks
Alex. Christie	8 merks	In all	£52. 15 shillings Scots

**II. - Subscriptions for the Seats in the South Church.** - A memorandum of the Shoemakers of Dundee for the repairing of the Seat, out of their own charity, as follows, to wit :-

Thomas Thomson	ten merks	William Forbes	six pounds
Peter Wright	eleven pounds	George Robertson	five merks
William Brown	ten pounds	Rot. Johnston	three pounds
Andrew Christie	nine pounds	Rot. Symmers	four pounds
William Maiden	nine pounds	Rot. Anderson	five merks
John Malloch	eight pounds	Wm. Christie	four pounds
Andw. Donaldson	eight pounds	Robt. Thomson	four pounds
Robt. Christie	ten merks	Wm. Symmers	five pounds
Pat. Robertson	seven pounds	Wm. Deuchars	three pounds
Walter Bonella	seven pounds	Thos. Robertson	two pounds
William Blair	ten merks	Alex. Blair	two pounds
William Gairie	sex pounds	Wm. Crawford	two pounds
Robt. Jackson	five pounds	Alex. Law Sen.	Sex pounds
Andw. Christie Jun.	five pounds	Robert Crawford	thirty shillings
John Williamson	five merks	Wm. Hasties	thirty shillings
James Paterson	four pounds	Andrew Miller	thirty Shillings
Wm. Williamson	four pounds	Andw. Anderson	three pounds
Alex. Crawford	two pounds	William	two pounds
Alex. Law Jun.	four pounds	John Deuchars	thirty shillings
Pat. Aiken	forty shillings	Andrew Angus	two pounds
Wm. Paris	three pounds	Andrew Geikie	two pounds
Alex. Blair	one pound	Andw. Ramsay	two pounds
John Cock	one pound	John Leighton	three pounds
	three pounds	Robert Geikie	two pounds
Alex. Petrie	three pounds	William Cook	two pounds
Wm. Robertson	three pounds	Robert Ramsay	two pounds
Jas. Robertson	five pounds four sh.	William Geikie	two pounds
James Anderson	six pounds	William Brown	two pounds
John Kirkland	three pounds		
Thos. Ouchterlony	two pounds	In all	£222.14s Scots.

**III. - Concerning Masters sons and Apprentices.** - This is statuted and ordained, with consent of Deacon and Brethren of Craft, that every masters' son or apprentice being admitted Master after this date, shall be liable to the Crafts' Decreet accordingly.

Thomas Thomson  
Peter Wright  
William Brown  
Robert Christie

**IV. - Concerning insufficient Leather :-** the second day of July, the Collector and Deacons of the Burgh of Dundee, convened in the Huff, for certain causes moved among the Cordiners; and with consent of the Collector and Deacons, and the whole remaining of the Cordiner Craft, it is decreeted that whosoever be Deacon of the Cordiner Craft, shall pass through the town with his Council of Craft, and search where they may apprehend insufficient

gear, that is to say ill barked leather or any sik thing that be insufficient that the Deacon, with the consent of his Council, dispone and use this insufficient gear as they think guid.

**V. - Concerning Seat and Mortcloth.** - Dundee the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1718. A list of those who have paid into the seat and Mortcloth, as follows, and from henceforth no Masters' Son, whose predecessors have not paid, shall at his booking be liable, and Entrants also, in three pounds Scots.

Thomas Geikie twenty shillings Scots, his father having paid forty shillings  
James Coock ditto.

George Hunter Intrans three pounds

Thomas Skirling do do

George Walker do do

Andrew Mathew forty shillings his father having paid forty shillings\*

Alexander Coock twenty shillings

John Coock forty shillings his father having paid forty shillings

\*This was written by mistake, read Andrew Mathew, Intrans, three pounds.

Robert Geikie twenty shillings his father paid forty shillings

Alexander Watson three pounds

James Constable, Intrans, three pounds

William Lownie, twenty shillings his father paid forty shillings

John Neilson paid to seat and mortcloth three pounds Scots

George Donald do do

William Ogilvie do do

George Thomson do do

Andrew Brown do do

Andrew Whyte do do

## APPENDIX

**No. II** - Act of Parliament ratifying precedence.

"At the Parliament held at Edinburgh 9<sup>th</sup> May A.D. 1695, Cap 131. Ratification in favour of Nyne Trades is within the Burgh of Dundee, passed 17<sup>th</sup> July." Extracted from the records of the Parliament of Scotland, 6<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1838 by James Thomson.

"Our sovereign Lord, with the Advice and Consent of his Estates and Parliament (for the good and faithful services done and performed to his Highness most Royal Progenitors in times past, by the nyne Trades and Incorporations after specified their predecessors, and upon Consideration of their great Sufferings in life and goods by the Storm of the Burgh of Dundee the time of the late English usurpation, and of the constant Loyalty of the saids Burgh, and mainly of the saids Trades and Incorporations therein, to the crown) by their Presents Ratifies, Approves, and Confirms to the said nyne Trades and Incorporations and their successors therein, for ever in all time coming, the Act of the head Court of the magistrates, Dean of Gild, Treasurer, and remanent members of council of the said Burgh Deacon-Convener and Deacons of Crafts thereof after specified whereof the tenor follows:- At Dundee the first day of April Ane thousand and nynty five years, The which day the Provost, Bailies, Dean of Gild. Thesaurer, and remanent members of Council of the said Burgh, Deacon-Convener and Deacons of Crafts therof being frequently convened in ane head court of said Burgh within the Tolbooth therof, for treating and consulting the common affairs of the same, Taking to their serious consideration and Representation made to them by John Nicol, Deacon-Convener of the Trades of this Burgh, that there are some of the nyne Trades therof that are not content with their station they and their predecessors have, and have had, amongst the Trades past all memory of man, but wold aspire higher to the great disturbance of the peace of the Burgh, and the prejudice of the other Trades therein. And likewise Considering that it is not only a dangerous thing, and a bad preparative for any of the nyne Trades, any wayes, to attempt the alteration and Change of their places and stations they presently possess and enjoy, but it is also contrar to all the municipal Lawes and acts of the said head court of this Burgh, in which the Deacon-Convener accompanied with the nyne Deacons of Crafts always Compeares and protests in face of the Court that nothing be done

therein to the prejudice of the antient rights and privileges of theirselves so to alter and change their stations and place were an innovatin and breach of the common Lawes of the Burgh; Therefore the Provost, Bailies, Dean of Gild, Thesaurer, and remanent members of council of said the Burgh, after mature deliberation had by them in the said matter: Statutes and Ordains that the whole nyne Trades of this Burgh and their Deacons and members of Trade , and their successors in place and office, shall keep, possess, and enjoy the respective places and stations amongst themselves in all time coming, that they do presently possess. and that they and their predecessors have enjoyed for the space of fourty years by gone preceeding the date hereof as they are ranked in manner underwritten, viz., **Primo**, the Baxters; **Secundo**, the Shoemakers; **Tertio**, the Skinners; **Quarto**, the Taylers; **Quinto**, the Bonnetmakers; **Sexto**, The Fleshers; **Septimo**, the Hammermen; **Octavo**, the Weavers; **et Nono**, the Waksters; and not to make any disturbance theranent, innovation nor alteration therof in no time coming, upon no ground foretence whatsoever, under the penalty of an thousand merks (£666.13.4.) Scots money, to be paid by the Contraveening Trade for the common use of the Burgh toties quoties ( so oft as it shall any to fail) In the hail heads, clauses, and articles therof; and fursaid Sovereign Lord, with advice and consent forsaid, Statutes and ordaines the said said Ratified Act, Approven and Confirmed, to be punctually observed, kept, and fulfilled by the saids nyne Trades perpetually, in all time coming, according to, and in the precise terms therof in all poyants and not to make any disturbance thereanent, innovation or alteration therof in no time coming, upon no ground nor pretence whatsoever, under the penalty of above specified, to be payed by the contravener for the Common use of the Burgh toties quoties, as said is".

**Note.** - This is a general Act and concerns the whole Nineinone, but it leaves us in the dark as to which was the disturber or disturbers of the peace of the Nine; however a very brief entry in the Record, immediatly following the recital of this Act, informs us that the Waksters and Listers, that is, the Walkers or Fullers and Dyers protested against this Ratification - unsuccessfully, of course, as there is no further mention of this protest. Query. Were these two Trades the disturbers of the Nine; It looks very like it. The same day that this Act passed, another Act (Cap.134) passed ratifying the Union into one body of the Walkers and Dyers, against which amalgamation the Town Council and other Trades protested, but in vain, most likely, as there also is no further mention of their protest.

**No.III.** -Charter by King James the Sixth, in favour of the Craftsmen of Burrows.

James, by the Grace of God, King of Scots, to all and sundrie our Leiges and Subjects, to whose presence thir presents shall come, Greeting. Witt ye, because we understanding that our most noble progenitors Kings of Scotland, having an good mind, and respect to the common will of our Realme, and without honest Craftsmen the common policy well composed could not stand Longer; Therefore they gave and Granted many and diverse priviledges to the Craftsmen of our Burrows of Edinburgh, Pearth, Dundie, Aberdeen and all other Burrows and Cities of our Realme; And namelie, that they might elect and chose, principallie of every craft in superiors and Deacons, to Visite and expedie their own crafts, to the effect that no extortion might be brought in use to the Leiges of our Realme; But that every Craftsman should work and Labour honestlie in his own Craft, without fraud, or guile, or malice; and to make Statutes and pains upon their own crafts, and the same to put to execution; and to keep every one upon their own, according to equity and reason, that thereby they may be recompensat of all damnadge or Skaiths: ATTOUR, they granted priviledges and power to honest Craftsmen that are free Burgesses of Burrrows, to Sell and Merchandise as other Merchants of our realme use, with other diverse and Sundrie priviledges and faculties granted to them under the great Seal of our most noble Progenitors, be as seen and considered, Whilks, not the Less, be our Act of Parliament holden at , the day of June one thousand five hundred and fiftie five years; for certain causes expressed and declared in the said Parliament, it was Statute and ordained that no Deacon, frae that time forth, should be chosen within Burgh, But that the Provost, Bailies, and councill of every Burgh should choice a Craftsman most honest and Cunning in his own Craft, and that the persons that shall be called Visitors of Crafts, and Yearlie to be chosen at the feast of Michaelmass; and that no Craftsman bear office in Burgh in time comeing except two, he be chosen Yearlie upon the Councill of Burgh; with diverse other restrictions, as at more length is Contained in the said Act of Parliament: And we acknowledging that the time of the making of the said Act, there was no reasonable cause wherefore the Same Should have been done, to the effect it was deduced and thereby many

of the saids crafts being more slack than of before, Therefore we most willing to dirrigate our priviledges granted by our Predecessors (without a great, urgent, and weightie cause) Granted as before, according to equity and reason, And therefore repons them in their former estate: And Sicklyke, we desiring that no publick nor private discussions. hatreds and contentions should occur amongst Merchants and Craftsmen dwelling within our Burrows, and for certain other reasonable Causes moveing us, and of our certain Knowledge and proper will, with the advice of the Lords of our Secret Councill. Have dispensed, Likeas we, be the tenor hereof, dispenses with all and sundrie craftsmen of our said Burrows of Edinburgh, Pearth, Dundie, and Aberdeen and Remanent Burrows and cities of our Realme, anent the said Act of Parliament, and all articles and clauses therein contained; Unto the whilks priviledges and liberties granted by our most noble Progenitors off before to them. whereof they have been in a long and Continuall possession, to be Vertue of the Same we repone them to use, and to have Deacons of Crafts, who shall have vote in choiceing of Officers of Burrows, and shall elect and admitt all Kinds of Ccraftsmen within Burgh to use and exerce their craft, if they be found able therefore; And they shall, Sicklyke, hear the compts of the common good, and be parts of the Auditors thereof; and they shall convey, and make Priviledges, Statutes, and ordinances above the said craftsmen, for Keeping of Good order amongst them, and sustentation and entertainment of God's Service\*; and shall use and exerce all manner of merchandize within our said Realme, and outwith the same, as they shall think most expedient to their greatest commoditie; with all and sundry priviledges, liberties and faculties, granted to them by our mosdt noble progenitors, or whereof they have been in possessions in times by past, Notwithstanding the said Act of Parliament, or whatsomever pains contained therein anent the whilks, we, be their presents dispenses: ATTOUR, we, be thir presents ratifies, and approves all pivilidges, liberties and faculties, given and granted by our most noble Progenitors to the saids Craftsmen in all times by past, to be used and exerced by them in the same forme, force, and effect in all time coming, as they possesst the same before without Impediment or contradiction: wherefor we command and charge you, all and sundrie, our Leiges and Subjects, that ye, nor none of you presume in the contrare of their presents, nor make any impediment, molestation, nor obstacle in time Coming to the saids Craftsmen in the brooking, possessing and useing of the priviledges, liberties, and faculties above written, Not withstanding whatsomever letters, Statutes, commands or proclamations made, or to be made in the contrare, or any pains contained therein, under all pain, perrill, and offence whilk ye, or any of you may Incurr, or committ against our Majestie in that part. In witness of the whilk thing, to thir presents we have commanded out great Seal to be appended. At Dalkeith, the twenty second day of July, One thousand five hundreded and eightie one years; Et regni oustri decimo quarto - and of our reign the fourteenth.

- We subjoin the Parish Minister's Stipend as settled on Mr John Guthrie, 5<sup>th</sup> November 1667, from which will be seen what the Crafts did for "God's Service" at that time. -

By the Town Treasurer	£840. 0. 0
By the Hospital Master	97. 6. 8
By the Dean of Gild	35. 0. 0
<u>By the Crafts</u>	<u>34.13. 4</u>
By the Sailors	20. 0. 0
By the Maltmen	25. 0. 0
By the Litsters (Dyers)	<u>8. 0. 0</u>
	£1060. 0. 0 Scots.