

## Extracted from *The Burgh Laws of Dundee* by A. J. Warden

The Locked Book of the Maltmen was begun in 1623, and it is the only old document now possessed by the body. The following Statutes of the Fraternity, and details relating to the Incorporation, are extracted from the Book -  
10th April, 1623.

Heir followes ane buik of certane guid and ressonabill formes and nichtborheid to be maid vsit and obseruit amangis the Maltmen of the brut of Dundie, for the weill and tred of the said calling, and Ytheris desyring to serue yrin, begun the tent day of Apryll, - Jaj vjc and tuentie thrie zeiris.

Quhillk day, in pres- of the brethrene of the said calling vnderwrettin, it is agreit wt all thair co-sentis be thair ayt gewin that nane of thair nwumber of the said tred sall anyways sell any malt to any of thair nichtbors, callandis, and chengeris of malt to yame, nather wtin brut or land, or sell to thame, nather zit aill nor heir. Qubill sick tyme as thair said calland or chenger to thame mak first co-pleit payment to his first pairtie of the haill siluer that he sall happin to be restand awne to him ayer for malt, beer, or aill, vnder the pane off ten merkes, to be payit be the co-travener, toties quoties, he sall happin to co-travene, to be payit but fauer.

And ferdir, thay ar co-tent and co-sentis heirby and obleisses thame be vtheris in maner foirsaid, that nane of thame sall accept any prentes to serve in the tred forsd, quhill sick tyme as befoir he cast any malt in this brut, he first pay to the co-mone box of the said calling fourtie schillingis for payment yrof, the Mr of the said prentes salbe co-ptabill to be bestoutit to ye co-mon Yse of thaire said tred and help of the indigent yrof wtin the said burt. And siclyk, yat the said prentes sall nawayis be resaut in the nwumber of the bretherene of the said tred, and thair societie, quhill sik tyme as he be first frie burges of the said burt, and resauie his warrand yrof And lykwayis pay to the box foirsaid, to be bestoutit to ye vse aboue wretin, four libs.

And lykwayis that na maister of the said tred sall resaiue in his seruice ane vther- maisteris servand qll sik tyme as he obtene his maisteris gudwill, vnder ye pane of fywe lib, to be vplifit but fauer to the co-mon vse of the said calling.

And ferder, it is ordenit heirby that na Mr of the said tred or calling, nor servand, or prentes servand thame, sall mak any malt in the boundis of the said Mr, his libertie or tredding place, to any vnfriemen yat will tap or sell aill yrof, bot only to noblmen and gentilmen of thair awin stuff, vnder ye pane of fywe lib, toties quoties, to be payit to the Yse foirsaid of ye said tred. And yat ilk stipend that salbe maid to vnfriemen, ayer nobillmen or gentilmen, sall pay to the said box, toties quoties vj.ss 8d for payment yrof The Mr salbe co-ptabill for his servand.

And lykwayis that ilk friemans's sone of the said tred sall pay, at his entrie in the societie of the rest of his nichtbors and trederis in the calling forsd, tuentie schillinges to the vse foirsaid, at his buiking.

As lykwayis that na prentes nor servand sall mak any malt ayer to yame selffis or vtheris, qll thay be first free burges of the said burt, Ynder ye pane of ten merkes, toties quoties, and the Mr, to be co-ptabill for the said servand or prentes.

And siclyk, that na Mr sall accept ane prentes except for thrie zeris co-pleit, vnder the pane of ten lib.

Siclyk, ilk ane of the tred and calling foirsaid obleisses thame to pay to the keiper of the said box, to be input yrin to the co-mm vse foirsaid, twelff penneis Scotis moe of ilk stipend thay sall mak in tym cwmyng, rud day, Lambes, hallowmes, and candelmes, beginnyng ye first quarteris payt at lambes nixt, and that thav. sall co-vene wt ye keiper of this buik and box zerle, at ye four termes foirsaid, and sum vther honest men of the said tred, and give yr aithes thair anent.

This was done in the duelling hous of James Clerk, skipper, burges of Dundee, at twa hors eft nwne the day foirsaid, Befoir Rot. Co-stabill, Rot. Duncane, Alexr. Gray, Rot. Wanles, James Ramsay, David Ramsay, James Nicoll, Henrie Brown, Thomas Flemyng, Alexr. Brown, Walter Gourlay, Willm. Thowe, Willm. Hill, Gilbert Nicoll, Rot. Morgund, Rot. Co-stabill, zor, Thos. Duncan, James Wanles, sone to ye said Rot. Wanles, maltmen, burgesses of the said brut. -Signed by six of these parties, and by a Notary for the others.

-*Dundee*, xij Harecke, 1623.-Quhilk day co-peirit the persones vnderwretten, Aw. Watstone, Dd. Flemyng, Rot. Howesone, Pr. Howesone, his sone, Del. Wandles, Rot. Carnegie, Jn. Howat, Rot. Kyd, Wal. Smyt, A. Smyt, his sone, Dd. Quhyt, Henrie Guthrie, Jas. Rodger, Wm. Pares, Jn. Jacksone, in Dichtie, And gave yr co-sent to ye actis forsd, and obleiss thame in thair aithes, swerne to obtemper ye samen in all poyntis, and in taiken yrof hes subt thir prests wt yr hands, day, zeir, and place forsd. -Signed by three of them, and by a Notary for the others.

Several such entries occur about that period, in which large numbers of Maltmen bound themselves to conform to the preceding Acts of the Trade. The calling was then a large and important body, as there appears to have been then about one hundred Maltmen members of the Incorporation.

*Admission of Apprentices as Members.-29th March, 1638.* --Whilk day, in presce of ane gryte number of the honest men and brethering and Mr of ye maltmen tred of ye brut of Dundie, compeirit Wm. Fyfe at Trottak Mylis, on Dightie Water, and several others, maltmen wtin ye said brut, who having past yr prentes tymes wtin ye said brut, And also having obtenit yame selfils to, be frie burgesses of ye said brut, Hes gevin yr aithes to yr elder bretherine for fulfilling of ye haill Statuts and Actis sett down of befoir yes dait, wich is abocwretin, co-forme to the tenor yrof, in all points, Lykas Aw. Webster, maltman, servt to Peter Kymmond, hes compeirit and gevin his aith in maner foirsaid, And hes all subseryvit ther prest, wt yr hands, And payit yr dewes co-forme to ye preceeding actis, &c.

*Entry of Masters.*-The number of masters entered from 1661 to 1700, being forty years, was 240, being an average of six every year. Some of them entered as free apprentices, some as freemen's sons, and some as unfree strangers.

*A Maltman Expelled the Trade.*-On 27th January, 1698, John Fleming was entered a freemaster. Opposite the admission in the Locked Book, an entry in the following terms is recorded "Dundee, 24th November, 1737, John Flemis name is, by order of the fraternity, deleted, on the other side, out of this their locked book of Freemasters, Because he, being a Kirk Elder was, by his own confession, emitted before the Session, on the first day of November instant or yrby convicted of stealing the poors money, so that he is no longer a free master among the maltmen."

*John Morgan.* - In 1642 John Morgoun compeirit in presence of the brethrine and obleist him selfe be his oath to observe the actis of this buik contenit yrintill. In 1656 another person named Johone Morgone entered; Wm. Morgan, on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1748; and Thos. Morgan, on 5th May, 1756.

*Assessment for the Poor, &c.*-26th August, 1724.-The Maltmen considg that hitherto there had been no fixed time for electing one to keep their Book and take care of the affairs of the Fraternity, agreed that on the second Thursday of December yearly one of their number should be elected Boxmaster to the Trade, who should take care of the hail affairs of the Fraternity. And in order to relieve their poor, who had lately increased, and to keep in repair their seats in the East Church and put up a new one in the West Church, they enacted and ordained that thereafter every free master should at Lammas yearly pay six shillings; also, that every frie master, at his entry, should pay 40s Scots to pay a servant to keep the Trade's seat in the West Church, or keep it themselves for a year, in the option of the Boxmaster, and for relieving the burdens of the Fraternity, in addition to the other dues payable at entry - Freemasters' sons to be exempt from the latter charge; also, that none be elected keeper of the Book who does not become bound to keep the Church, and frequent one or other of the seats in said Churches.

On 6th November, 1737, the payment for keeping the seat in Church was raised to £4.

*Apprentices and Journeymen.*-6th September, 1727.-1 The Maltmen convened in the West Church, and ordained that none should thereafter be admitted as free apprentices unless they were bound for at least two years, and their Indenture produced to the Boxmaster before the apprentice be booked, and pay the ordinary dues of apprentices. A journeyman to pay £4 to the Boxmr on entering himself to any master, half to the Guildry, and half to the Trades poor. When the booked journeyman enters as a master he shall pay £16 Scots, of which £6 to the Guildry and £10 to the poor of the Trade, besides the ordinary dues. That instead of paying ten pennies Scots for every steeping of their own malt, and half a merk for every steeping made to noblemen or gentlemen, as heretofore when the steeping was generally ten bolls ; now, as some masters steep more and some less than that quantity the payment shall be one penny per boll of barley, bear, or other grain steeped for malting by any free master for his own use, and eight pennies per boll for every boil steeped within the liberties of the burgh for noblemen or others, the same to be paid to the Boxmaster for the use of the Trade. On 25th October, 1827, the rate was raised to one penny stg. per boll steeped for himself, and 6s 8d Scots when steeped for strangers.

*Head Washing.*-22d Dec., 1739.-The Maltmen met in the new Church, by authority of the Dean of Guild, and considering that the practice of brothering or head washing new entrant apprentices or servants is contrary to the Municipal Laws of the burgh, and is often the cause of abuses and immoralities, besides being a heavy charge upon said parties, Therefore they discharged the practice for the future, and ordained that no free master shall allow any meeting of Maltmen lads, for this purpose, to be in any of their houses, nor afford them meat or drink, nor be present thereat or give countenance thereto, under the penalty of £12 Scots, to be paid to the Boxmr, toties quoties. But if any such entrant pleases to give a moderate refreshment to the other lads in the same malthouse, he may do so, providing there be not more than six persons present, nor more than one pint of ordinary twopenny ale given to each person present, and no other liquor whatever to be used. As this will be a considerable ease to the entrant, to pay 20s Scots of additional dues. Also, as the Fraternity wish to save all they can to the poor, no free master on entering shall be obliged to give any entertainment to the other free masters, but shall instead pay 40s Scots to the Boxmr for the use of their poor.

*Entry Money.*-24th Nov., 1755.-The Trade resolved that the entry money, payable by free apprentices on being entered as free masters, be as follows:-To the Trade, £7 10s; Church Seat, £4; In lieu of "four hours," £4; To the Guildry, £4; Hospital, £3 ; and £1. 10s to the Officer, Clerk, &c.; making in all, £24-Strangers to pay in all £35, Scots. On subsequent occasion the dues of entry were raised to provide for their poor brethren, masters, Widows, and indigent children, whose numbers had increased, while the entry of free masters, &c., had fallen off. The last entries on the subject in the Locked Book are dated 25th Oct., 1827, the payments being-Strangers, to the Trade, £25, and Fees, &c., £1 9s 6d, in all £26 9s 6d. Apprentices, varying with the term of the apprenticeship, from £10 to £18, with Fees, &c., £1. 9s. 6d. Sons and Sons-in-law to pay £1 8s to the Trade, and Fees as above.

The Statutes and Laws of the Maltmen were frequently changed to suit the altered circumstances of the Corporation, and several abridgments of them are engrossed in the Locked Book, the last being dated 25th Oct., 1817.

They are substantially as follows :-

That no person be booked a free master until he be free to the town, either by birth or purchase.

That he shall not be booked until he pays the dues for his freedom to the Visitor of the Trade.

That yearly, upon the fourth Thursday of November, a Visitor to the Fraternity be chosen from among the members, who is to keep the accounts of the Trade, and clear them at the end of the year, and hand any balance on hand over to his successor.

That all the members shall attend all meetings of the Trade when called to do so by the officer, by the order of the Visitor, under a penalty of one shilling stg. for each time absent without a lawful excuse.

That the quarter accounts (6s yearly) be regularly paid.

That no master shall take the customers of another, nor use means for that purpose, until they are fairly clear and separate the one from the other.

That no free master shall have or engage the servant of another free master, until he be fairly free from his previous master, after warning given.

That masters on their marriage pay to the Visitor 5s stg. of marriage dues.

That if the quarter accounts stand over unpaid for two years at one time, double the sum shall be charged, and until such payment be made the party to cease to be a member of the Fraternity, and if the accounts stand over three years he shall not be again admitted without the consent of a majority of the members at a general meeting, called on the petition of the party so cut off, and until he pay up all arrears, and such fine as the meeting may impose. Intimation in writing to be sent by the Clerk of the Arrears, to the member so falling into arrears, and mentioning also the consequences of his not settling them.

*Heads Washing Revived.*-On 16th Oct., 1834, it was enacted that apprentices on their entry may or may not have their heads washed, as shall suit their own inclination, but the dues to the Trade to be paid within 14 days from the commencement of their apprenticeship, under a penalty of 10s 6d, for which the master is liable to the Trade - That no master or journeyman be present at a head washing unless one pound be paid to the Trade in name of booking money, under a penalty of 5s for a master, and 2s 6d for a journeyman-That any master or servant guilty of any irregularity to the Trade, or their affairs not specially mentd in the rules presently in force for their government, shall be liable to be taken account of by the Deacon, Boxmaster, and Committee, and a fine imposed.