

THE INCORPORATION OF HAMMERMEN OF GLASGOW

TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS
INSIGNIA AND RELICS





Hammermen Incorporation

With
The Clerk's Compliments.

45 West George Street,
Glasgow.

TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS OF THE
HAMMERMEN OF GLASGOW

TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS
OF THE
HAMMERMEN OF GLASGOW
AND
THE INSIGNIA AND RELICS
OF THE
INCORPORATION OF HAMMERMEN

BY
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CLERK TO THE INCORPORATION



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P R E F A C E

It is believed that some brief memoranda upon the more intimate domestic observances of the Hammerman Craft and upon its insignia and relics may be of service to the members of the Master Court, and, possibly, of some slight interest to a wider circle. With this end in view, these Notes have been prepared, in the hope that in them there may be found, in a convenient form, a record of observances which might otherwise fall into disuse, and a history of the Incorporation's cherished possessions. No printed record of the traditional customs of the Craft exists, and with the interruption enforced by the Great War and the disappearance of an older generation of Hammermen, the present would seem an appropriate time for the appearance of these Notes. Be it understood that they make no claim to literary merit, but should they in any degree encourage the other Crafts to record their customs in similar fashion, their compiler will feel that they have served a useful purpose.

Acknowledgment is due to Ex-Deacon Howie, Ex-Deacon Richmond, Ex-Deacon Jackson, and Deacon Mitchell, as well as to Mr. Harry Lumsden, LL.B., for having perused the Notes in their first manuscript, and for their helpful suggestions and kindly encouragement.

A. M.

GLASGOW, *Sept.* 1923.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

Since these Notes appeared in 1923, they have, it would seem, served, to some extent at least, the purpose for which they were compiled, especially so far as new Members of the Craft and of the Master Court are concerned. The Notes are now out of print, and extensive amendments and revisions are necessary to bring them up to date—in many parts they have been practically rewritten. For this new Edition the Incorporation's thanks are due to Deacon T. L. McLintock, whose generosity has made it possible.

A. M.

GLASGOW, *March*, 1939.

CONTENTS

PART I

TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS OF THE HAMMERMEN OF GLASGOW

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION - - - - -	3
HISTORY OF THE HAMMERMEN OF GLASGOW - - -	4
PUBLIC APPEARANCES - - - - -	4
KIRKING OF THE TRADES HOUSE - - - - -	7
ANNUAL EXCURSION - - - - -	7
NOTES OF PROCEDURE - - - - -	8
DEACON'S CHOOSING - - - - -	9
ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS AT - - - - -	10
THE BREAKFAST - - - - -	13
LEGEND OF THE PEARS - - - - -	14
ANNUAL DINNER - - - - -	17
VISITATION AT - - - - -	18
VISITATION OF PENSIONERS - - - - -	20
OLD DEACONS' DINNER - - - - -	21
REPLICA PRESENTED AT - - - - -	22
" LATE DEACON " and " EX-DEACON " - - - - -	23
DEACON'S DINNER - - - - -	24
COLLECTOR'S DINNER - - - - -	24
ROUPING OF THE DEACON - - - - -	25
THE GILL STOUP - - - - -	29
PROCEDURE AT ROUPING OF THE DEACON - - - - -	30

Contents

	PAGE
LAMMAS COURT - - - - -	31
HALLOW COURT - - - - -	33
CONCLUSION - - - - -	33

PART II

THE INSIGNIA AND RELICS OF THE INCORPORATION OF HAMMERMEN

THE DECREE OF DECLARATOR - - - - -	39
THE DEACON'S MEDAL AND CHAIN - - - - -	41
THE COLLECTOR'S MEDAL AND CHAIN - - - - -	48
THE OLD COLLECTOR'S MEDAL - - - - -	49
THE GAVEL - - - - -	50
THE BANNERS - - - - -	51
THE GILL STOUP - - - - -	54
THE PINT STOUP - - - - -	55
THE GOLD SEAL - - - - -	57
THE BATONS - - - - -	57
THE LONDON STREET MEDAL - - - - -	58
THE HAND BELL - - - - -	59
CAPTAIN BROCKET'S PRIZE - - - - -	61
THE EMBOSSED SEAL - - - - -	62
PATENT OF ARMS - - - - -	63
REPRESENTATION OF THE COAT OF ARMS, SEWN IN SILK - - - - -	67
CASE OF KING GEORGE V COINS - - - - -	68
CASES OF KING GEORGE VI COINS - - - - -	69
THE HAMMERS - - - - -	70
THE KILMARNOCK BONNET - - - - -	71
THE STANDARD BEARER'S BALDRIC - - - - -	72

Contents

	PAGE
THE GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK - - - - -	72
ILLUMINATED BURGESS TICKET - - - - -	73
THE SNUFF BOX AND HAMMER - - - - -	74
DEACON McONIE'S GIFT - - - - -	75
THE DEACON'S BOX - - - - -	75
THE COLLECTOR'S BOX - - - - -	78
APPENDIX I.—INVENTORY OF CONTENTS - - - - -	79
APPENDIX II.—INVENTORY OF CONTENTS - - - - -	84

PART I

Traditions and Customs of the
Hammermen of Glasgow

Traditions and Customs of the Hammermen of Glasgow

It is no matter for surprise that in the course of its corporate existence the Incorporation of Hammermen should have gathered about itself a wealth of traditions and customs, the origin of which—apart from the most occasional and incidental references in the archives of the Craft—is now lost in the mists of antiquity. Handed down through successive generations of Hammermen, as these traditions and customs have been, by word of mouth, there is a real danger that, in the stress and haste of latter day conditions, they may be lost in their entirety, or at least so shorn of their time-honoured associations as to be mere formalities and observances, signifying nothing and apparently meaningless, if not indeed absurd, to the modern mind. To those who reflect with pride that “the good old spirit of the guild brotherhood of S. Eloi has never died out in spite of all the outward changes that have been met in the course of four centuries and more”, their loss would be nothing short of disaster.

The breach between modern conditions and the old traditions and customs, which had been slowly widening with the passage of the years, became of almost chasm-like proportions by reason of the interruption of social activity enforced upon the Craft by the great catastrophe of 1914.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

Happily the "good old spirit" survived, and with it the desire to perpetuate such observances as are in consonance with the dignity of the Incorporation and as form fitting reminders of its great and honourable past.

HISTORY OF THE HAMMERMEN OF GLASGOW

It is no easy task to trace these traditions and customs to an authentic source. The student of the Sederunt Books, Minute Books, "Register of Collectors' Acts", and "Legers" of the Hammermen will find little to reward his patient search. Even those diligent historians, Mr. Harry Lumsden, LL.B., LL.D., Clerk of the Trades House of Glasgow, and the Reverend P. Henderson Aitken, D.Litt., Oxon. (to both of whom the Craft will remain ever indebted), throw little light in the pages of their *History of the Hammermen of Glasgow* upon the more intimate observances—no doubt, for the reason already indicated, that they are to be found, not in the records or archives, but in the continued observance of a ritual passed on, unconsciously almost, from Master Court to successive Master Court.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

With the gradual disappearance of the Crafts from public ceremonial, many of the more picturesque customs of the Incorporation have fallen completely into desuetude. A public appearance of the Trades House is described by Mr. George Crawford in his *Sketch of the Trades House of Glasgow* :

Traditions and Customs

This Corporation has hitherto joined the Magistrates in all public proceedings and public processions. In practice, the House, consisting of fifty-eight members, and the master court of each of the fourteen incorporations, amounting to 250 persons, assemble in the Trades' Hall, and there arrange themselves in their order of precedence, three abreast—the deacon convenor, having the collector and the clerk on either side, leading ; and the deacons of the several incorporations in the order of their rank, having the collector and the clerk on either side, at the head of their respective courts, all dressed in black, with white gloves—the drum-major's staff of the trades battalion, a very handsome staff, with massive silver head, being carried in front by the officer of the House ; and on great occasions the colours of that battalion, and the colours borne by the Hammermen at the battle of Langside, being carried by standard bearers.¹

The appearance of the Hammermen at the laying of the foundation stone of the first building in London Street is referred to in the *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow* as follows :

On the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the first building in London Street, a procession was organized by the Trades House, and the hammermen appointed their committee and took their share in the preparations for the auspicious event, a

¹ See Crawford's *Sketch*, chap. LVI, p. 276.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

report of which was given by the deacon to the masters' meeting in Gardner's Tavern, on the 27th May, 1824, to the following effect :

"That the Committee appointed at last meeting had got the flag taken by the Collector of the Incorporation at the battle of Langside, suspended from a flagstaff on the top of which was the Hammerman Arms, and that on either side of the flag they had inscribed in gilt letters the words 'Langside, 1568'."

He further reported that "silver medals of the Hammerman Arms had been struck by order of the Committee and that the Deacon, accompanied by his Master Court, had attended the procession, each member having a medal suspended by a blue ribbon. Mr. McDonald the present Collector wearing the robe and carrying the ancient flag of the trade, decorated as before-mentioned".¹

It will be observed, on a comparison of the excerpt from Mr. Crawford's *Sketch of the Trades House* with that from the Hammermen Minute of 27th May, 1824, both quoted above, that, in the former, the Langside Banner is referred to as having been "borne by the Hammermen at the battle of Langside", while the Minute speaks of "the flag taken by the Collector of the Incorporation at the battle of Langside", and later on of "the ancient flag of the trade". It is not easy to reconcile these statements, but the balance of probability would appear to be that the Banner was not

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, pp. 192-193.

Traditions and Customs

captured, but borne, at the battle of Langside, as the Colours of the contingent supplied by the Hammermen. A diligent search has failed to reveal any definite authority for the statement that the flag was "taken by the Collector" at that battle.

It is now many years since such an impressive appearance as is described above has been made by the Master Court in public, although the laying of the foundation stones of numerous famous buildings and of certain of the bridges in Glasgow was thus attended.

KIRKING OF THE TRADES HOUSE

The only public function at which the Incorporation is still regularly represented by the Deacon, wearing his Chain, and by the members of the Master Court who are the Incorporation's Representatives to the Trades House, is the Kirking of the Trades House in Glasgow Cathedral.

ANNUAL EXCURSION

For many years it was the practice of the Incorporation to have an Annual Excursion. This usually took place in the month of June, and at one time was a most popular event with the Craft for meeting in a friendly and social fashion with their fellow members, their wives and families, and with such guests as might be asked to join the company. The R.M.S. *Columba*, or other well-known vessel, was chartered for the occasion and proceeded under "Sealed Orders", which usually indicated a cruise in the Firth and

The Hammermen of Glasgow

Lochs and possibly a landing at some favoured spot. Suitable provision against hunger and thirst was made on a generous scale, and numerous toasts appropriate to the occasion were proposed and honoured. In May 1910, when the arrangements for that year's excursion were well advanced, the country was thrown into mourning by the death of King Edward VII; and at a special meeting of the Master Court, at which their sorrow was suitably recorded, it was decided to be but fitting that the excursion should be abandoned. The custom had not been revived when the Great War broke out, and its continuity having been interrupted, the Master Court in 1922, when the matter was considered by them, thought it well that in such difficult times it should not meantime be resumed.

NOTES OF PROCEDURE

It is almost sure that, with the interruption imposed by the War, some, at least, of the more intimate traditions of the Craft might well have been lost, had not certain of the Ex-Deacons and the older members of the Master Court been good enough to place their recollections at the disposal of their successors. These were incorporated in an informal typewritten Memorandum entitled "Notes of Procedure at various Meetings". These Notes have proved well-nigh invaluable to the members who have been added to the Court of recent years, but it is possible that some extension of their terms, and, where such can be found, some explanation of the customs associated with them by immemorial usage may be of service and interest.

Traditions and Customs

The Notes have been used as the basis of much that follows, but have been revised and extended where required or thought desirable.

DEACON'S CHOOSING

The great day in the Craft year is without doubt that of the Deacon's Choosing, the ceremonies and engagements of which, in the times now passed away, occupied a full round of the clock, if indeed not more. By the Laws and Regulations it is provided that "The Deacon, Collector and twelve Masters shall be elected annually at a general meeting of the members specially convened for that purpose on the first Friday after the 15th September in each year".¹

At eight o'clock in the morning—since 1844, prior to which date it is not recorded when the meeting took place—the proceedings opened with the members of the Craft assembling in one of the rooms of the Trades House to elect the Deacon, Collector and Masters. The votes are now received from each member, written or printed in lists, and delivered personally to the Clerk in the presence of the meeting. The old form of voting was for each member to give his vote when answering his name as it was called from the qualified roll.² This procedure was altered by Resolution of the Hallow Court in 1842. From that date until the abolition of the Lammas Court, it was provided

¹ Laws and Regulations of the Incorporation of Hammermen, Art. III (1).

² *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 203.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

that the names of those voting must appear on the Qualified Roll which was made up at that Court held annually on the last Friday of August as noted later. The Lammas Court was abolished on 19th September, 1930, and the Qualified Roll is now made up without the necessity of formal approval by the Craft in General Meeting. Although the lists must be so delivered between the hours of 9.30 and 10 a.m., the formal business does not nowadays commence until 10 o'clock forenoon. This arrangement suits the altered conditions of modern business life, and the tendency has been, for the same reason, to curtail the ceremonies, which, in the case of the Deacon's Choosing itself, follow the lines of an ordinary Annual Business Meeting. The order of Proceedings is as follows :

GENERAL MEETING FOR ELECTIONS, at 10 o'clock
forenoon.

In the Chair—The present Deacon.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

1. The DEACON will declare the Voting closed.
2. The CLERK will read the circular and advertisement calling the Meeting.
3. The CLERK will intimate apologies for absence.
4. The CLERK will read the Minute of last General Meeting and the Deacon will move that it be approved of and confirmed.
5. The DEACON will give a brief review of the year's work.
6. The COLLECTOR will present an Account of his in-

Traditions and Customs

tromissions with the funds of the Incorporation for the year now ended duly audited and give explanations thereon.

The Meeting will approve of the Accounts and discharge the Collector of his intromissions.

7. The CLERK, having examined the votes, will intimate to the Deacon who has been elected Deacon for the coming year.
8. The NEW DEACON, having been informed by the Chairman of his election, will be invested with the Chain of Office and take the Oath. The new Deacon will call for a Vote of Thanks to the retiring Deacon.
9. The retiring DEACON will reply.
10. The CLERK, having examined the votes, will intimate who has been elected Collector for the coming year.
11. The NEW DEACON will inform the Collector of his election and the latter, having been invested with the Chain of Office, will take the Oath.
12. The NEW COLLECTOR will be asked for the names of his Cautioners and these will be put to the Meeting.
13. The votes having been scrutinized, the CLERK will intimate those who have been elected Members of the Master Court for the coming year.
14. The votes having been scrutinized, the CLERK will intimate who has been elected as representatives to the Trades House and the CLERK will

The Hammermen of Glasgow

confirm that these gentlemen possess the qualifications required by Section 71 of the Trades House Order 1920.

15. The CLERK will intimate who has been elected a Member of the Trades House Committee on Buildings from the Incorporation, and the reappointment of the CLERK until the next ordinary period of election will be declared.
16. The new Member of the Master Court will be introduced to the Master Court and invited to take his seat at the Table.
17. The Deacon will intimate that the Meeting is closed and invite such Members as care to be present to partake of the Breakfast to be provided by the Collector.

The Choosing is usually honoured by a visit from the Deacon Convener and Collector of the Trades House.

In former times the Deacon Convener used to convene all the Crafts for Deacon's Choosing Day, by issuing a letter to each Deacon, but the practice ceased many years ago. The Deacon Convener, having convened the Crafts, required to be present at their place of meeting or within easy call, to settle election disputes which required settlement at the time and which did not go the length of formal written complaints and answers. Therefore the Deacon Convener's chair is to the present day always placed in the large hall, so that if any dispute is laid before him, he can hear the parties and give his decision therefrom.

Traditions and Customs

THE BREAKFAST

The Business Meeting is immediately followed by the Breakfast, or "Upstairs Meeting", as it was sometimes called, by reason of its having been held for many years in an upper room of the Trades House. On recent occasions it is to be regretted that accommodation has not been available in the "Auld Hoose", and the Incorporation has had to seek shelter elsewhere.

"As many of the members as may find it convenient" are invited verbally by the Deacon at the conclusion of the Business Meeting to attend the Breakfast, which is perhaps one of the most characteristic of the Hammermen's functions. It is a curious fact that although the Breakfast is provided by the hospitality of the Collector, it is presided over by the new Deacon. The Order of Procedure is as follows :

1. The new Deacon proposes "THE KING".
2. The late Deacon proposes "The Health of the New Deacon".
3. Reply by the new Deacon.
4. Presentation of Replica to the late Deacon.
5. The late Collector proposes "The Health of the New Collector".
6. Reply by the new Collector.
7. Legend of the Pears by the new Deacon.

An alteration in the procedure should be noted here. It was formerly the practice to present a Replica in gold of the Deacon's Medal bearing the name and year of Office of

The Hammermen of Glasgow

the late Deacon on the occasion of the Old Deacons' Dinner and this is referred to when that function comes to be described. It was, however, strongly felt that this honour should be paid to the late Deacon immediately upon his demitting office and in order that he might wear his Replica in token of his having occupied the Deacon's Chair, at the Deacon's Choosing Dinner, usually held upon the evening of his retiral. Accordingly the Replica is now presented to the late Deacon at the Breakfast.

LEGEND OF THE PEARS

Light comestibles, such as sandwiches, biscuits and cheese, etc., are provided, with suitable liquid refreshment, tea, coffee, and a modest quantity of wines and spirits for such as may desire them, and for the purpose of honouring the toasts. In particular, there is provided by the Collector, whose privilege it is to meet the cost of the Breakfast, a plentiful supply of good pears, concerning which there is still recited the "Legend of the Pears" and the old custom thereanent observed. This cannot be better explained than by quoting a Deacon's speech, the notes of which have courteously been made available by Ex-Deacon J. R. Richmond, C.B.E. :

Once upon a time ere Glasgow had cast envious eyes upon the adjacent hamlets that surrounded her, and on just such a morning as this, but somewhat warmer and sunnier as were the autumns of these days, after the election of their officials, the members of the Master

Traditions and Customs

Court were invited by their Collector to adjourn to his garden and refresh themselves after the labours of the morn. The garden stretched in a pleasant and sheltered situation down to the banks of the river Clyde not many hundred yards from where we now are. These were the days before questions of site value had arisen to vex the souls of men, and so the Deacon and his fellow-craftsmen wandered free from care over the rich sward and under the leafy fruit trees of the orchard which formed part of the Collector's domain. From the swelling branches hung fruits of all kinds, apples and—cherries, but exceeding all others in beauty stood a tree which bore upon it a particularly luscious kind of—plum. After doing full justice to these, regardless of the consequences which follow the eating of raw fruit in quantity, the craftsmen came at last to a tree which struck admiration in the breasts of all. It rose to a great height, and shining in the morning sunlight there could be seen hanging from its branches bunches of—the most delectable size and shape. Bidding the craftsmen help themselves, the Collector shook a branch and down fell—the gifts which nature had so abundantly bestowed upon the tree. Filling their pockets and cramming their overcoats, the happy craftsmen departed, carrying with them to their wives and families these souvenirs of their delightful morning, and together they blessed the happy chance which had made them partakers of the Collector's hospitality—and pears.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

It will be observed that the use of the word " pears " is carefully and skilfully evaded until the conclusion of the speech, and, at points where its introduction appears almost inevitable, another word is cunningly substituted. This follows the line of old established usage, as the use of the word " pears " formed the signal for the members to engage in a scramble for the fruit temptingly displayed upon large salvers, a proceeding associated with much merriment and good humoured emulation. This scramble had its origin, of course, in the consequences which might be expected to ensue upon the shaking of the branches of the pear tree, and the acquisition of as many of the fruit as was possible was regarded as a commendable and legitimate aspiration! Recently, however, the actual scramble has not been perpetuated and on the conclusion of the Deacon's speech the pears have been handed round amongst the members in more decorous fashion—not without protest, be it noted, from some of the older members who were loath to observe the partial disappearance of a custom hallowed by many years of observance. It is somewhat worthy of note that this interesting and reminiscent custom is nowhere to be found recorded, or even indirectly referred to, in any of the Records of the Incorporation, and even " The History " contains no account of it. It is certainly the case that the form of address by the Deacon has never hitherto been actually transcribed, which accounts for the variation of the text and method of presentation adopted by successive occupants of the Chair.

Traditions and Customs

ANNUAL DINNER

On the evening of the Deacon's Choosing, or such other evening as may be decided by the Master Court, the members of the Craft dine together with their guests. This dinner is a formal function on the usual lines, and apart from the picturesque ceremony of the Visitation after described, presents few features differentiating it from other public dinners.

When the Dinner was held in the afternoon, it was a lengthy affair, with an elaborate toast list prolonging the celebration well into the night, but in modern times the hour has been changed to 6.30 p.m., and, particularly of recent years, both the Menu and Toast List have been considerably curtailed. The List of Toasts which have been honoured during recent Deacon's Choosing Dinners is limited, after the loyal Toasts which are given simply from the Chair and without reply, to the following: "The Incorporation of Hammermen and Deacon", "The City of Glasgow and its Industries", and "The Trades House".

The Incorporation have entertained at their board numerous distinguished guests, and many of the large number then present will still recall the enthusiasm with which Lord Rosebery, afterwards admitted an Honorary Member of the Craft, was received at the Dinner of 1910, and his address, in the course of which he made use of the memorable phrase: "When the hammer is still, every one in Glasgow has need to feel some apprehension."

It is customary for each Craft to dispatch to the other Incorporations on the evening of their Dinners telegrams

The Hammermen of Glasgow

extending fraternal greetings and good wishes, except in the case of a Craft sending a visiting deputation.

VISITATION

The order of Visitation is by rotation, and is regulated by Circular issued by the Clerk of the Trades House. The arrival of the Deputation is communicated to the Clerk who, addressing the Deacon from the doorway, intimates the fact in formal phraseology, "A Deputation from the Incorporation of ————— is without. Is it your pleasure that they be admitted?" To this the reply is "Agreed", and the Deputation is then conducted by two members of the Master Court, led by the Clerk, to the upper table and presented to the Deacon. After a few words of welcome, the visitors address the company, usually briefly referring to the activities of their own Craft and extending congratulations to their hosts. It is also the custom that the Deacon-Convener and Collector of the Trades House, if their other engagements permit, "visit" the Incorporation at the Annual Dinner and, when such an honour is accorded, the order of procedure follows the lines already described.

The Annual Dinner or Deacon's Choosing Dinner, like other social functions of the Incorporation, was abandoned during the Great War. It was subsequently resumed with increasing popularity each year. The Dinner held during the year 1936 was noteworthy in respect that it was specially held to celebrate the Four-hundredth Anniversary of the granting of the Craft's Charter. The "letters" ¹

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 8.

Traditions and Customs

embodying the rules under which the Hammermen Craft was incorporated—to give the Charter its exact designation—“ were sealed at Glasgow with the round seal of ‘ ane Maist Reverend Fadeir in God ’, Gavin, Archbishop of Glasgow and Chancellor of Scotland, together with the common seal of the chapter of his kirk, and the common seal of the city and town of Glasgow, on the 11th of October, 1536.”

It was felt that the occasion of the Four-hundredth Anniversary was such as to justify a departure from the practice of dining together on the night of the Deacon's Choosing which fell in 1936 on 18th September and instead of that date that the immemorial and fraternal custom of the Craft Dinner should be observed on the night of Wednesday, 7th October, 1936. Upon such a historic occasion the appropriate place of meeting could not be other than within the walls of the “ Auld Hoose ” itself and accordingly the Dinner took place in the Trades House on Wednesday, 7th October, 1936, being the nearest available date to the actual Four-hundredth Anniversary. The Dinner was attended by over 200 guests and was presided over by Deacon A. S. MacLellan. During the evening the Deacon read a message from King Edward VIII who had become a Guild Brother and an Honorary Member of the Incorporation of Hammermen on 9th March, 1921. The message was in the following terms :

The King greatly appreciates the loyal and cordial message addressed to Him by the Members of the Incorporation of Hammermen on the occasion of their

The Hammermen of Glasgow

Four-hundredth Anniversary. His Majesty who is glad to recall His association as Prince of Wales with the Incorporation sends sincere congratulations to all present at this important celebration and His good wishes for the future welfare of the Craft.

The ancient Langside Banner of the Craft was suitably displayed on this occasion.

VISITATION OF PENSIONERS

The Visitation of the Incorporation's Pensioners takes place in the month of October annually, as provided by Article IX of the Laws and Regulations :

IX. Visitation of Pensioners

All persons receiving stated aid from the funds of the Incorporation shall, if residing in Glasgow or neighbourhood, be visited in the month of October annually by a Committee of the Master Court, who shall report to a meeting of the Master Court, to be held same month, on the whole circumstances of the parties, so that if any change, either by increase, reduction, or withdrawal of the allowance is decided upon, it may be ordered by the said meeting. The necessary changes shall then be made upon the Pension Roll, and a new one made up for the use of the Collector. In the case of Pensioners residing at a distance from Glasgow, their names shall be continued on the roll, but the Collector shall, before paying or remitting their allowances, receive satisfactory evidence as to their position and circumstances.

Traditions and Customs

For many years the Visitation was made on the second last or last Thursday in October, and on the following Monday the Court met in the Clerk's Office to receive and consider the reports. These dates are not now rigidly adhered to, provided the Visitation is completed and reported in October, and the Pension Roll made up in time for the first quarterly payment of pensions on 1st November.

On the day of the Visitation, the Master Court meet at luncheon, when the arrangements for the Visitation are completed. In practice, the Deacon is supplied by the Clerk with sheets applicable to the districts of the city into which the pensioners have been conveniently grouped, and also with a Card applicable to each Pensioner and bearing the report for the preceding year. The Deacon then arranges with the Masters to take a district, and hands them the Visitation Sheets and Cards. Each pensioner is, if possible, visited by two of the Masters, who write their reports upon the Cards, and these reports are read over and considered at the meeting for the purpose of making up the Pension Roll held a few days thereafter.

OLD DEACONS' DINNER

It was formerly the practice on the evening of the day on which the Pension Roll was made up that the Members of the Master Court should adjourn on the invitation of the Collector, to dine together and to meet the Old Deacons. The arrangements were in the hands of the Collector, who presided, and invitations were sent to all the Old Deacons

The Hammermen of Glasgow

of the Incorporation. This was one of the most enjoyable functions of the year, affording as it did an opportunity to those actively engaged in administering the affairs of the Craft of meeting with their predecessors in office and learning from them of the traditions and activities of the Incorporation in the past. It is very much to be regretted that the Old Deacons' Dinner has within recent years been abandoned. It served a most useful purpose in preserving a continuity of policy and a happy domestic atmosphere amongst those in the Master Court and between them and the "Old Brigade". Is it too much to hope that even amid the pressure of modern times this delightful old observance may yet be renewed and the younger members of the Court afforded an opportunity of learning from the lips of their seniors of the great heritage of the Craft and the traditions under which its affairs have been conducted?

The Old Deacons' Dinner was notable also for the observance of two ancient customs or usages.

REPLICA

It was the duty of the Collector to provide a Replica in gold of the Deacon's Badge, bearing the name and year of office of the "late" Deacon. As already stated with reference to The Breakfast on Deacon's Choosing Day, the late Deacon is now presented with this Replica on that occasion. In the course of the Toast List, the health of the "late" Deacon was proposed by the Collector, who at the conclusion of his remarks presented the Replica and pinned

Traditions and Customs

it upon the *right* breast of the recipient, who made suitable acknowledgment.

It was incumbent upon all Old Deacons to wear their Replicas at this Dinner, and should any one be discovered in dereliction, he was subjected to such an appropriate fine as might be decided upon by the Collector and the amount paid into the Gill Stoup towards its replenishment.

The usual Toast List at this Dinner was as follows :

“ The King ”

“ Royal Family ”

“ Health of the Deacon ”

“ Health of the Collector ”

“ Health of the late Deacon ” and presentation of
Replica

“ Health of the Old Deacons ”

“ Health of the Clerk ”

“ Health of any new Members who may have been
added to the Master Court.”

LATE DEACON AND EX-DEACON

As some confusion appears to arise from the use of the expression “ Late Deacon ”, it should perhaps be explained that, *for the year succeeding* his demission of office, a *Deacon is entitled to be known as “ Late Deacon ”*. Thereafter he becomes “ Ex-Deacon ” and joins the ranks of the “ Old Deacons ”. The title “ Late Deacon ” is used by all the Crafts except the Maltmen, who use the term “ Last Visitor ”, the head of that Craft being known, not as “ Deacon ” but as “ Visitor ”. The term “ Late Deacon ” appears very

The Hammermen of Glasgow

far back in the records of the Trades House, although at the same time the word "Last" is sometimes used as well. In the Incorporation of Hammermen no Deacon may be appointed who has not held the office of Collector, and, once elected, it is compulsory upon a Deacon to accept office—unless for weighty reasons. A year must elapse between a Collector demitting office as such and going on to the Deacon's Chair. During this year the retiring Collector is said to "lie fallow", and is entitled to the title "Late Collector".

DEACON'S DINNER

The Deacon's Dinner is customarily held about the middle of January. It is a private Dinner, preferably given by the Deacon in his own house if accommodation permits. The Deacon wears his Medal and Chain. Replicas are not worn at this Dinner. After the toast of "The King", the Deacon's health is proposed by the Late Deacon, who, in conclusion, takes off the Chain from the Deacon and places it round the neck of the lady of the house. He has the privilege of saluting her upon the cheek. It is usual for the lady to make some brief acknowledgment prior to the Deacon returning thanks.

The Deacon Convener's health is proposed and responded to in the usual way.

COLLECTOR'S DINNER

The Collector's Dinner follows the Deacon's Dinner by about a month. It is also a private Dinner, prefer-

Traditions and Customs

ably held in the Collector's house if accommodation permits.

The Collector wears his Medal and Chain. Replicas are not worn. After the loyal toasts, the health of the Collector is proposed by the Late Collector, who in the course of his speech or at the end of it divests the Collector of his Chain and places it round the neck of the lady of the house, "at the same time saluting her in approved fashion". The ceremony follows the same lines as that of the Deacon's Dinner. The Deacon's health is proposed by the Collector and responded to by the Deacon.

ROUPING OF THE DEACON

After dinner the old custom of "rouping the Deacon" is observed. This custom, which had its origin in the days of convivial meetings in the Change Houses, seems originally to have been more concerned with collecting contributions to be applied in paying the reckoning than with what is now the case, that is, the provision of a fund for the more urgent needs of the poor of the Craft. That it has been observed for a lengthy period is obvious from the only recorded reference to it, which is to be found in a Deacon's Petition, dated 28th August, 1790, where the Petitioner is said to have "followed the practice of his predecessors . . . and put the Deaconry up at roup". The reference in the *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, under the rubric, "A storm in a half-mutchkin", is worth quoting *in extenso*.

What we should perhaps consider "a storm in a tea-cup", arising from an unseemly squabble between the

The Hammermen of Glasgow

collector and deacon over the custody of a few shillings of a post-prandial collection, incidentally acquaints us with one of the till then unrecorded yet evidently regular and ordinary practices of these worthy craftsmen, and one which is still observed at the present time. Had it not been for the feeling raised through this incident, and the consequent petitions and appeals being entered in the Minutes, we should not have known of what seems to have been an annual joke which was repeated at every Lammas supper. This was the so-called "Deaconry Roup", of which we have the following account in the deacon's petition, dated 28th August, 1790 :

"As it was usual in that trade after the Lammas Court supper and a good part of the drink was over for the night, to roup what is called the Deaconry for the ensuing year, so the Petitioner followed the practice of his predecessors after the Lammas Court Supper in the last-mentioned year and put the Deaconry up at roup. The meeting, which was composed usually of the Deacon and Masters and such respectable Members as chused to attend, happened to be pretty full and every person who inclined having given such an offer for the Deaconry as he thought proper, and the whole being collected into a half-mutchkin Stoup the money was then counted over for the purpose of being applied so far in paying the reckoning, being the manner in which in former times it had been always universally applied—a number of the Gentlemen having gone away it was found by those that continued that they had more money upon

Traditions and Customs

hand than they could well drink that night and therefore it was agreed that they should adjourn to a future night and have a glass which accordingly took place, but the money was neither that night committed to the petitioner nor was it either in his pocket or at any time after in the smallest degree under his charge. Some of the persons, however, who were present at the Collection of the money but who did not happen to be witnesses of its condemnation at the adjourned meeting took offence at its being spent, and under the pretence of charitable wishes for the poor proposed at a meeting of the Deacon and Masters which the Deacon and Masters agreed to and which the trade finally confirmed at a meeting consisting only of eighteen Members, that the petitioner should be obliged to make good that money and that it should go to the poor—the bare mention of such gross injustice was sufficient for the petitioner's purpose in an appeal to the Trades House, who would perceive at once that the petitioner could no more be made liable to the trade for that money than for the whole Debt of the nation, and that the Decreeing of the one was as iniquitous as if they had attempted the other. But secondly the Trade as such had no more business with the money that had been thus collected than they had with the Charitable Contributions at a Kirk door—the money was collected entirely for Convivial purposes and no person had an interest in it but those who were present at the Lammas Court Supper, and the Petitioner maintained that no majority of that meeting could

The Hammermen of Glasgow

compell the money to be given to the poor or to be applied to any other purpose than that for which it was collected.”¹

It will be observed that the practice at the time of the episode described was observed after the Lammas Court Supper. When this Supper was last held is not recorded, but it is reasonable to suppose that the completion of the Trades Hall in 1794, its extension in 1808, and the addition of the Saloon and Kitchen in 1838, did much to encourage a more responsible meeting place than the old Change Houses, Inns and Taverns at which the Masters had formerly assembled. This is confirmed by the writers of the *History*, from which the following quotation is taken :

The close of 1832 witnessed the gradual abandonment by the Master Court of their traditional and time-honoured rendezvous in the parlour of some homely hostelry. Thenceforward they held their diets in the premises of the Trades Hall building, in Glassford Street. In point of fact, the Commercial Inn, No. 44 Trongate, witnessed the last of those old-fashioned gatherings on the 20th of July of the next year ; and thereafter the Minutes of their meetings regularly begin with the altered preamble : “ At Glasgow and within the Trades Hall ”, although sometimes their meetings took place in their clerk’s office—“ writing office or writing rooms ”, as it was sometimes called—from 1816.²

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, pp. 163–164.

² *Ibid.*, p. 194.

Traditions and Customs

THE GILL STOUP

It is certainly the case that for the best part of a century the custom of Rousing the Deacon has been observed at the Collector's Dinner, the purpose of the contributions being to replenish the Gill Stoup. The Gill Stoup, it should be explained, has an actual physical existence, being an ancient pewter vessel of the capacity mentioned, which is seen only upon the occasion of the Rousing of the Deacon. The name "Gill Stoup", however, is also used to connote the contents of the vessel, or rather the fund represented thereby, and it is in this connection that it is best known to and used by the members of the Craft. The fund represented by contributions to the Gill Stoup is at the unfettered discretion of the Collector, who, without reference to the Master Court, may make disbursements of such amount and to such qualified applicants as may seem to him to be in immediate need. Very frequently the fund is used to afford temporary assistance by way of grant, and, where opportunity offers, the approval of the Master Court is obtained, but the Collector's right of disbursement without consultation is invaluable and one of the most jealously guarded privileges of his office. The amount and disbursement of the Gill Stoup funds do not appear in the Account of the Collector's Intromissions, and that for the reason explained. Until a few years ago the Gill Stoup Fund was retained in the custody of the Collector in person, but is now, as a matter of convenience, kept by the Clerk and specially "earmarked". It can be readily appreciated that the means afforded by the Gill Stoup of giving im-

The Hammermen of Glasgow

mediate aid to an urgent case, without waiting for a Master Court meeting, is in entire consonance with the benevolent objects for which the Incorporation now exists, and it is but right to record that the privilege has been most kindly and wisely exercised by successive Collectors when necessity required.

Such a praiseworthy object is surely sufficient justification for an indulgence in that "little nonsense now and then" which is said to be relished even "by the wisest men", and if the observance of the old custom be sometimes found to be a trifle trying to the dignity of the participants, it is a small price to pay for the benefits thereby accruing to others.

PROCEDURE AT THE ROUPING OF THE DEACON

The "Rouping of the Deacon" is conducted as follows : After dinner, preparations are made for the rouping of the Deacon. The Collector's box is opened, and from it are taken the flags of the Incorporation, the Kilmarnock Bonnet and other trappings, and the Deacon is arrayed in these. He is led into the room and, an auctioneer having been appointed, the Collector goes round with the Gill Stoup and collects contributions from the different Masters of the Court, the auctioneer descanting meanwhile on the high qualities of the Deacon. Bidding starts and continues until no more bids are obtainable, when the Deacon is knocked down to the person bidding highest. The Gill Stoup is then opened by the Collector and Clerk and the contents counted. If the highest bid exceed the amount in

Traditions and Customs

the Gill Stoup, the difference is made up by the highest bidder. The amount so made up by the highest bidder remains as a contribution to the Gill Stoup. If the bid be less than the amount of the contents, the last bidder is released from his obligation.

LAMMAS COURT

The Lammas Court Meeting was held annually on the last Friday of August "for general business, at which meeting the qualified roll of members shall be made up and docketted and signed by the Deacon or Chairman of the meeting".¹ After this meeting the Master Court formerly adjourned for lunch, the arrangements for which were made by the Collector. At this luncheon a discussion took place relative to the Annual Dinner and to the vacancy or vacancies in the Master Court which fell to be filled at the Deacon's Choosing.

In 1930, in view of the changing conditions and the general feeling that the Lammas Court Meeting served no real purpose and merely involved the Incorporation in a considerable expense for printing the circulars and giving the advertisements necessary for its convening, it was abolished by a Resolution of the Craft at a General Meeting held on Deacon's Choosing Day when it was resolved that Art. V of "The Laws and Regulations of the Incorporation" be altered by the deletion of the paragraph which made provision for the holding of the Lammas Court Meeting. It must be conceded, however, that the aban-

¹ Laws and Regulations of The Incorporation of Hammermen, Art. V.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

donment of the Luncheon which followed on this Meeting at which arrangements for the Annual Dinner and possible candidates for any vacancy on the Master Court were discussed has made it more difficult to obtain an expression of view upon these matters from Members of the Court in an informal atmosphere.

It is impossible to pass from the Lammas Court Meeting without recalling the paragraph in the *History* under the rubric, "Lammas, its pagan origin", in which the link is traced between this meeting and the very earliest times. That paragraph reads :

The most important of these meetings was that held at Lammas, in Anglo-Saxon times, the "Loaf-mass" (hlaf-mæsse or hlammasse) festival, originally the festival of the wheat harvest, observed on the first of August O.S., corresponding to the thirteenth of that month on the modern calendar. It is supposed to have taken its name from the practice of offering first fruits at the service of the mass on that day, in the form of loaves of bread. It was, in fact, but the Christianized continuation of an ancient pagan usage in connection with the worship of the sun, as was also the case with the other old quarter days. The day and date of this annual meeting of the Incorporation is, consequently, one of the most ancient survivals of immemorial tradition, and links up the earliest, almost prehistoric, practice of the Saxon Trade Guilds with that of the present day.¹

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 166.

Traditions and Customs

HALLOW COURT

The Hallow Court, formerly held annually on the last Friday of November "for general business, and more particularly for the purpose of seeing that the Collector's account for the previous year has been duly recorded in the book kept for the purpose, and comparing therewith the vouchers or security writs held for the investments of the capital funds of the Incorporation",¹ was abolished in 1917 in view of the decision that the Collector's accounts should be audited annually by a professional accountant before the Deacon's Choosing.

CONCLUSION

Anyone who has studied the records of the Incorporation cannot but observe that, in consonance with the spirit of the times and the changes in the conduct of business, the old convivialities associated with meetings of the Craft or the Master Court have gradually passed away. It would appear that, not so many years ago, it was practically the invariable custom, when the formal business had been disposed of, to adjourn to what was termed an "After Meeting", which was frequently of no short duration. Nowadays any reference to such After Meetings is received with amused toleration, but it is open to question whether the prolonged discussions which took place at these gatherings—touching upon the activities of the Craft, its customs

¹Laws and Regulations of The Incorporation of Hammermen, Art. V.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

and privileges, and above all, its painstaking interest in all those who were compelled to seek its bounty—did not serve a useful purpose in promoting a more leisurely exchange of views and a more considered decision than is now possible. What would appear to be matters of trivial moment were gravely weighed, and, although times and manners have changed, it is questionable if the Trades House of Glasgow and its fourteen Crafts would have enjoyed their present dignity and affluence had it not been for the hours passed by its former members in earnest deliberation upon a social pretext. It cannot but be supposed that at their gatherings in the Change Houses of such worthies as Walter Bell, John Barclay, and Mrs. Thomson, in the candle lit parlour of the Black Bull Inn “at the head of the Saltmarket”, or even in the more decorous atmosphere of the Craftis Hospitall or of the Laigh Kirk Session House, some order of procedure, of old-time ceremonial, was observed. What this was is now, unfortunately, lost, but certain of the relics of the Incorporation, in particular the Wooden Hammer (gilt) with iron stand, surmounted with Wooden Crown (gilt and crimson) which, with its smaller neighbour, is still carefully preserved in the Collector’s box, suggest the use of emblems of the Craft, in formal fashion, at the meetings of the Incorporation or of the Master Court. The wearing of the Deacon’s and Collector’s Chains and (since its presentation by Ex-Deacon J. R. Richmond, C.B.E., in 1913) the appearance of the ivory and gold gavel before the Chairman at public meetings and functions, at the Deacon’s Choosing Meeting and at the

Traditions and Customs

Deacon's and Collector's Dinners are now the only observances.

It is not uncommon for those unacquainted with the traditions of the Craft to comment upon what would appear, even upon a perusal of the foregoing pages, to be the amount of convivial intercourse still observed in the course of the Craft year, and beyond the ranks of the Crafts the view is not uncommonly held that such gatherings as have been referred to are, to some extent at least, paid for out of the funds of the Incorporation. Such an expression of view may have arisen from confusion with the English Craft Guilds who, in many cases, are the proud possessors of magnificent plate and invitations to whose banquets are greatly sought. It cannot, therefore, be made too clear that of the cost of all the Hammermen Dinners, Luncheons, etc., and of supplying the late Deacon with his Replica, not one penny comes out of Craft Funds and, as has already been seen, even that invaluable emergency fund, the Gill Stoup, is replenished from the private generosity of the Members of the Master Court on the occasion of the Collector's Dinner.

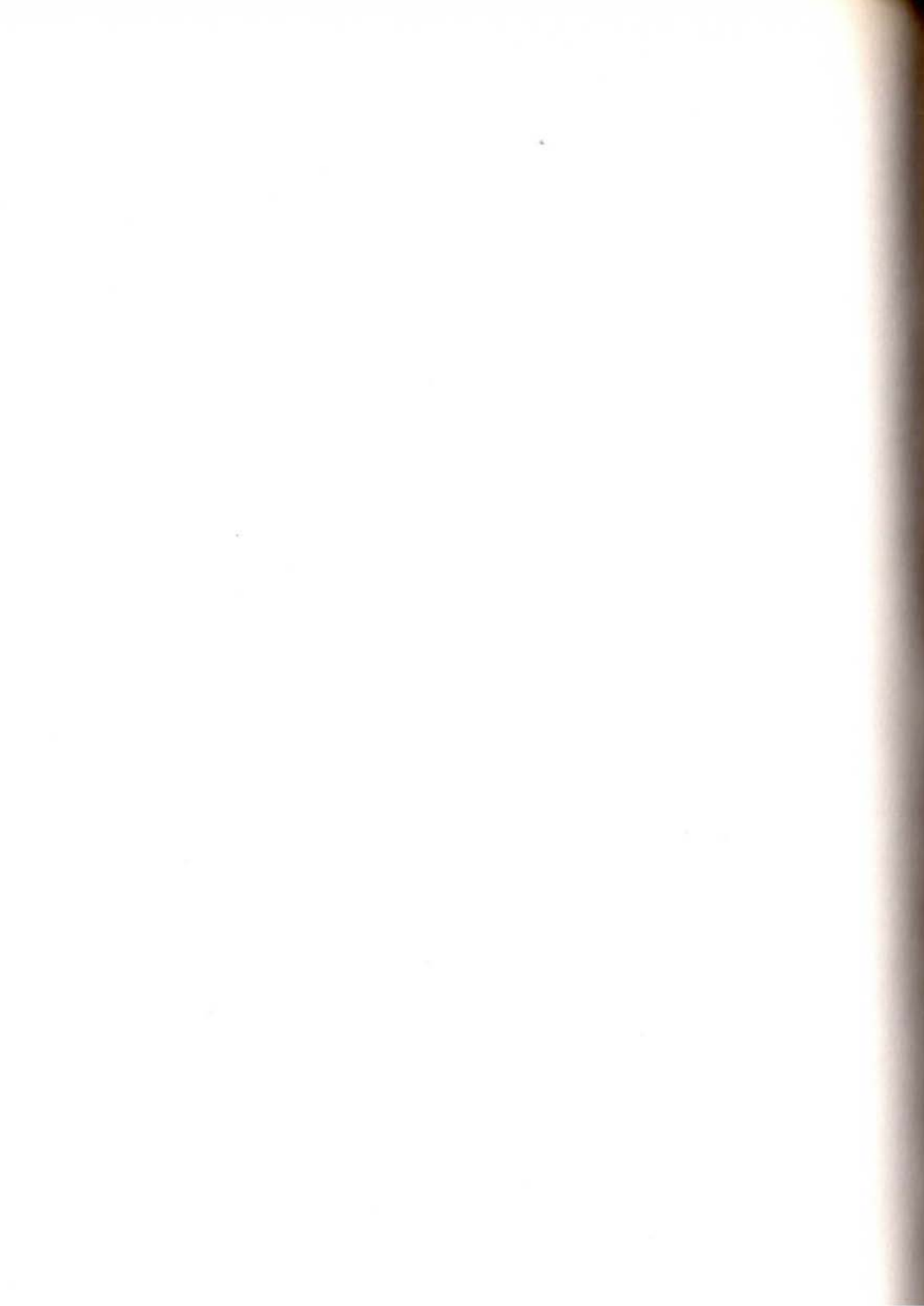
The last few decades have witnessed great changes in the customs of the Craft, and now, with the exception of the events referred to already in these notes, the social side of the Craft life has largely vanished. With it no doubt have disappeared many interesting and picturesque customs of which no record is available, and it would indeed be a misfortune if those few which now remain should be permitted to lapse. Of this there seems at present but

The Hammermen of Glasgow

little need for apprehension, as, concurrently with the application of modern principles to the conduct of the affairs of the Incorporation, there has arisen a spirit of respect and devotion to such of its ancient traditions and customs as are still observed.

PART II

The Insignia and Relics of the
Incorporation of Hammermen



The Insignia and Relics of the Incorporation of Hammermen

The Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow is the fortunate possessor of Insignia of Office, worthy of its position as the premier Incorporation of the Trades, and also of certain interesting Relics forming links with its ancient and honourable history.

DECREE OF DECLARATOR

The Incorporation of Hammermen, although neither the most ancient of the Glasgow Crafts nor the wealthiest, has the distinction of being the "premier" Craft. The Hammermen had always maintained their right to be ranked first amongst the Trades, and the practice at least since 1609 was that they invariably received precedence in the records of the Convenery. In 1771 an attempt was made to increase the representation of ten of the Crafts but this was opposed by the Hammermen, the Tailors, the Cordiners and the Maltmen, who took proceedings by way of Action of Declarator and Interdict in the Court of Session. A bitter and protracted struggle followed and it was not until after six years' litigation that the Court finally pronounced the Decree of Declarator which settled the constitution of the Deacon Convener's Council, the number of representatives from each Craft, and also the vexed question of their rank and precedence.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

The order of precedence of the fourteen Crafts constituting the Trades House was declared by the Decree to be as follows : Hammermen, Tailors, Cordiners, Maltmen (the four premier Crafts), Weavers, Baxters, Skinners, Wrights, Coopers, Fleshers, Masons, Gardeners, Barbers and Bonnet-makers.¹

A Notarial Copy of the actual Decree of Declarator of 1776 by Alexander Tait, one of the Clerks of Session, was in due course obtained. As the *History* records, "At the Hallowmas, or 'Hallow' Court following" (i.e. 1778) "this palladium of the rank and rights of the Hammermen as the premier Craft was formally 'lodged in the box'." ² In actual practice, the Copy Decree is kept for safe custody in Bank.

The following exact description is taken from the Appendix to Book II of the *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow* : ³

Title

19

DECREET

the first four trades

of the

Convenery

Glasgow

against

the last ten

trades

T. C. S.—1777

G. M.

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, pp. 110 and 167.

² *Ibid.* 167.

³ *Ibid.* 424.

Insignia and Relics

Description

A large folio, bound in "law calf"; blind tooled; title (as above), the number "19" in ink on a paper label, the gilt lettering in ten lines on two red basil labels; margins marked by folding.

Collation

The book consists of 380 folios in quires of 6, except quires 1 and 64, which have 3 and 5 folios respectively. 1, 1 is attached (like 64, 6) to the board; 1, 2-3 are loose; 1, 4-6 are lost, as is also 64, 5. The third and fourth leaves of the second quire represent two *odd* half-sheets fastened together, as is shown by the water-marks being on *both*. Blanks are—1, 1-3, and 63, 6 r°.—64, 6 r°.—*i.e.* folios 1-3 and 378 r°. to the end. Pagination extends from 2, 1 v°. to 63, 5 v°. = pp. 2-742. Each page is signed: Alex: Tait.

Contents

"Decreet of Reduction Declarator | and for Expences | The Incorporations of Hammermen, | Tailors, Cordiners and Maltmen of Glasgow | Against | The Incorporations of Weavers, Baxters, Skinners, Wrights, Coopers, Fleshers, Ma- | sons, Gardiners, Barbers and Bon- | netmakers of Glasgow. | T. C. S. 1777 | G: Mair's."

THE DEACON'S MEDAL AND CHAIN

The Deacon's Medal is a beautiful example of the modern goldsmith's craft. It is oval in shape, of gold richly chased, and has on its obverse side the Arms of the Incor-

The Hammermen of Glasgow

poration surmounted by the City Arms, the whole being enclosed in a riband embellished with the Scottish Thistle, bearing the words "Incorporation of Hammermen, Glasgow". The Medal dates from 1896. It is recorded in the Minute of the Master Court of 10th December, 1895, that : "For some time past a feeling had arisen among the Members of the Master Court that the Medal worn by the Deacon on official occasions during the last seventy years was of too insignificant a character and unworthy of the position which the Incorporation held among other Incorporated Trades," and it was unanimously agreed that a new Medal be obtained. The selection was made by Deacon Fergus, Collector Sir David Richmond, Ex-Deacon Thomson, and Mr. McCorkindale, and the Medal first used in 1896. It was made to the instructions of the Committee through Messrs. Hislop, Jewellers, Argyle Arcade, Glasgow, and was designed and executed by Messrs. John Macdonald & Co., 24 Queen Street, Glasgow, upon whom its workmanship reflects the greatest credit.

The names of the Master Court responsible for its adoption are inscribed on the reverse side as follows :

James Fergus, *Deacon*.

David Richmond, *Collector*.

James McEwan, *Late Deacon*.

Archibald Maclean, *Late Collector*.

Masters

David Tullis.

Dugald McCorkindale.

John Thomson.

William Robertson.

Insignia and Relics

Alexander Davie.	William A. Kinghorn.
Thomas Potter.	Robert Sutherland.
John F. Miller.	Thomas C. Guthrie.
Duncan Campbell.	Hugh Muir.
A. Craig Paterson, LL.B., <i>Clerk.</i>	

The Minute further records " that it was proposed that the expense of the Medal should be met out of the moneys payable by entrants in name of Officer's Fees, which owing to the Master Court having dispensed with the services of an Officer many years ago, had now accumulated in successive Collectors' hands so as to amount to a sum more than sufficient to meet the expense of the Medal and that the general funds of the Incorporation would therefore not be encroached on ". This was approved.

The Chain by which the Medal is suspended is much older. It will be observed that the Minute speaks of the old Medal having been in use for " the last seventy years ". This is confirmed by the date which the old Medal bears—1823—but the Chain—or at least part of it—may be of earlier date, and the first stamped link bears the date 1813. Probably this date may have been put on, however, when the Chain was obtained, as in the Collector's Account for 1825–26 the following entry appears :

" Gold Chain, £10."

After 1830 the dates of the successive Deacons' terms of office appear on the links, with a few early exceptions, in almost unbroken continuity. For over a century it has been the custom for retiring Deacons to add a link to the

The Hammermen of Glasgow

Chain. At first such links were of plain design and bore merely the name, the word "Deacon", and the date, but the later practice seems to have been originated in 1850 with the gift of Deacon Archibald McVicar of a Link in the shape of an Anchor. This was followed by Deacon Charles Thomas in 1854 with a Wheel, by Deacon Colin McAlpine in 1855 with a Link with Anchor, by Deacon Wm. Clark in 1857 with a Plain Ring with Soldering Iron, by Deacon William More in 1858 with a Cog Wheel, by Deacon R. M. Lindsay in 1864 with a Link with Feather, by Deacon Andrew McOnie in 1874 with a St. Andrew's Cross, by Deacon John Z. Kay in 1875 with a Tube, and by Deacon Walter Macfarlane in 1877 with a Coat of Arms. Since that date, almost without exception, the links have been of designs varying with, and appropriate to, the calling of the donor. These links are beautifully wrought and finished specimens of delicate workmanship. Not only do they serve as perpetual reminders of the particular branch of business with which the old Deacons presenting them were associated, but the result as a whole is to provide a chain of rich appearance and singular interest. The following is a List of Deacons whose tenure of office is thus perpetuated :

James McVicar	-	-	1813 & 1827	2	Plain rings welded together.
Hugh McDonald	-	-	1825 & 1830	2	Plain rings welded together.
James Rae	-	-	1826		Plain ring
James Bowman	-	-	1831		Plain ring.

Insignia and Relics

Robert Murdoch	-	1832	Plain ring.
Andrew Crichton	-	1833 & 1834	2 Plain rings welded together.
George Young		1835, 1838 & 1840	2 Plain rings welded together.
Alexr. Wood	-	1837-1838	Plain ring.
John Dougall	-	1837 & 1838	2 Plain rings welded together.
David McDonald	-	1841	Plain ring.
William Logan	-	1842	Plain ring.
John McCallum	-	1843	Plain ring.
Wm. Alexander	-	1845	Plain ring.
Alex. Bowman	-	1846	Plain ring.
John McLeod	-	1847	Plain ring.
John Croall	-	1848	Plain ring.
David Steel	-	1849	Plain ring.
Archd. McVicar	-	1850	Anchor link.
John Morrison	-	1851	Plain ring.
John Neill	-	1852	Plain ring.
Alexr. Bilsland	-	1853	Plain ring.
Charles Thomas	-	1854	Wheel.
Colin McAlpine	-	1855	Link with Anchor.
R. M. Lindsay	-	1856 & 1864	{ 1 Link. 1 Link with Feather.
Wm. Clark	-	1857	Plain ring with soldering iron.
William More	-	1858	Cog Wheel.
Anthony Inglis	-	1859	Plain ring.
Wm. E. C. Clark	-	1860	Plain ring.
David Sutherland	-	1861	Plain ring.
Wm. Robertson	-	1862	Plain ring.
Peter McLellan	-	1863	Plain ring.
Thomas Warren	-	1865	Plain ring.
William Stephen	-	1867	Plain ring.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

William Smith	-	-	1868	Plain ring.
Joseph Healy	-	-	1869	Plain ring.
Archd. Gilchrist	-	-	1870 & 1871	2 Plain rings welded together.
John Broadfoot	-	-	1872 & 1884-1885	Plain ring.
John Donald	-	-	1873	Plain ring.
Andrew McOnie	-	-	1874	St. Andrew's Cross.
John Z. Kay	-	-	1875	Tube.
Robert Murdoch	-	-	1876	Plain ring.
Walter Macfarlane	-	-	1877	Coat of Arms.
William Robertson	-	-	1878	Plain ring.
John Young	-	-	1879	Oval Link with Phoenix.
John L. K. Jamieson	-	-	1880	Oval Link with Pump.
David Kinghorn	-	-	1881	Oval Link.
David Corse Glen	-	-	1882	Oval Link with Steam Hammer.
James C. MacEwan	-	-	1883	Oval Link with Oak Tree.
William Boyd	-	-	1883-1884	Oval Link with Kiln.
John Phillips	-	-	1885-1886	Plain Link.
James Gilchrist	-	-	1886-1887	Oval ring with 4-bladed Propeller.
Hugh Muir	-	-	1887-1888	Steering Wheel.
John Thomson	-	-	1888-1889	Reciprocating Engine.
Alexander Davie	-	-	1889-1890	Cross Keys.
Thomas Potter	-	-	1890-1891	Padlock.
Archd. Stewart	-	-	1891-1892	Monogram.
John F. Miller	-	-	1892-1893	Nut.
David Tullis	-	-	1893-1894	Bullock's Head.
Jas. McEwan	-	-	1894-1895	Slag Bucket.
James Fergus	-	-	1895-1896	Coat of Arms.
Andrew McLean	-	-	1896-1897	Galley.
Sir David Richmond	-	-	1897-1898	City Arms.
Duncan Campbell	-	-	1898-1899	Wheel.
D. McCorkindale	-	-	1899-1900	Coat of Arms.

Insignia and Relics

Wm. Robertson	-	1900-1901	Lifebuoy and Steamship.
Wm. A. Kinghorn	-	1901-1902	Winch.
Robert Stevenson	-	1902-1903	Coil of Wire and Coat of Arms.
James Broadfoot	-	1903-1904	Universal Joint.
William Sorley	-	1906-1907	Teapot.
Robert Howie	-	1907-1908	Anvil.
Hugh Reid	-	1908-1909	Locomotive.
Wm. F. Russell	-	1909-1910	Colliery Plant.
William Lorimer	-	1910-1911	Boiler Tubes.
Walter MacFarlane	-	1911-1912	Two Moulding Cupolas.
J. R. Richmond	-	1912-1913	Feed Pump.
Alexander Gracie	-	1913-1914	Battleship.
William Jackson	-	1914-1915	Propeller.
James Watson Stewart		1915-1916	City Arms.
Henry Mechan	-	1916-1917	French .75 cm. Shell.
Thomas Hutchison	-	1917-1918	Lifebuoy with House Flag.
Wm. Brown	-	1918-1919	Dredger.
Jas. H. Mathieson	-	1919-1920	Crossed Hammers and Hammer Heads.
W. T. McLellan	-	1920-1921	Prince of Wales Feathers.
A. Scott Younger	-	1921-1922	Rising Sun of Japan.
George A. Mitchell	-	1922-1923	Miner's Lamp.
Sir Archd. McInnes Shaw		1923-1924	Piece of Artillery.
J. Howden Hume	-	1924-1925	Forced-draught Fan.
David Meiklereid	-	1925-1926	Steamship.
Sir Wm. Rowan Thomson		1926-1927	Thrust-block.
W. Cecil Easton	-	1927-1928	Royal Engineers' Crest.
G. W. Service	-	1928-1929	Lifebuoy with House Flag.
David Laidlaw	-	1929-1930	Gasometer.
Archibald Gilchrist	-	1930-1931	Patent Anchor.
A. B. Allan	-	1931-1932	Hemispheres with Cable.
John Dundas	-	1932-1933 & 1934-1935	Crest (Phoenix).
Robert Robertson	-	1933-1934	Electric Light Bulb.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

R. A. Whitson	-	-	1935-1936	King George V Bridge, Glasgow.
A. S. MacLellan	-	-	1936-1937	Torpedo Boat Destroyer.
A. D. McInnes Shaw	-	-	1937-1938	Foundry Cupola.
T. L. McLintock	-	-	1938-1939	Scottish Lion Rampant.

THE COLLECTOR'S MEDAL AND CHAIN

The Medal now worn by the Collector is that which was used by the Deacon until 1896. It is also of gold, but of much plainer and lighter design than the Deacon's Medal. It bears upon its obverse side the Arms of the Incorporation surrounded by a riband inscribed "Incorporation of Hammermen, Glasgow", and on the reverse side the names of the Master Court in office at its adoption, as follows :

Hugh Macdonald, *Deacon*.
William Bryden, *Collector*.
George Munro, *Late Deacon*.
James Rae, *Late Collector*.

Masters

Alex. Wood.	A. McLellan, Senr.
A. McLellan, Jun.	Ja. McVicar.
Jas. Maxwell.	Alex. Bonthron.
John Hogg.	Henry Field.
Jas. Bowman.	Jn. McIntyre.
Jn. Brown.	Alex. Kerr.

Hugh Moncrieff, *Clerk*.

It is dated 1823, which confirms the Master Court's Minute

Insignia and Relics

of 10th December, 1895, where reference is made to the Medal as having been worn during the last seventy years.

An interesting feature of the Medal is the inscription on the rim :

The origin of this Chain and Medal was £10 left by the late Chas. Miller, Esq., the rest by subscription. Transferred to the Collector, 1896.

The Chain is of plain gold links of simple character and would appear to have originally formed part of the Deacon's Chain, being removed in 1896, by which date the Deacon's Chain had become much lengthened by the addition of the special presentation links.

THE OLD COLLECTOR'S MEDAL

The old Collector's Medal is not now in use, having been superseded in 1896, and is preserved in the Collector's Box in a green morocco leather case. It is of silver, borne on a clasp of silver in the form of a wreath enclosing the Hammer and Crown and suspended by a loop of green silk ribbon. It bears on its obverse side the Arms of the Incorporation and on its reverse the names of the Master Court at its institution, as follows :

William Robertson, *Deacon*.

John L. K. Jamieson, *Collector*.

Walter Macfarlane, *Late Deacon*.

John Young, *Late Collector*.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

Master Court

Anthony Inglis.	John Zuill Kay.
William Smith.	David Kinghorn.
Archibald Gilchrist.	David Corse Glen.
John Broadfoot.	Thomas Warren.
John Donald.	Robert Laidlaw.
Andrew McOnie.	John Mowat.

Adam Paterson, LL.D., *Clerk.*

1878.

THE GAVEL

The Gavel, which is placed before the Deacon's Chair on ceremonial occasions, was presented to the Incorporation "for the use of succeeding Deacons" by Late Deacon J. R. Richmond, C.B.E., on his demitting office as Deacon in 1913. It is a most valuable and interesting addition to the insignia of the Incorporation. The shaft and hammer head are of solid ivory, embellished at the shaft-end, at the grip of the shaft and at the points where the hammer head emerges from the shaft with a foliage design in gold. On each side of the head are medallions of gold, the one bearing the Incorporation Arms and the other inscribed, "Presented by J. R. Richmond, Deacon, 1912-13". The head is surmounted by an Imperial Crown in gold, so that the whole forms a skilful and beautiful adaptation of the Arms of the Hammermen. The Gavel, when in use, rests upon a plinth or support of purple velvet, which displays to advantage its elegant lines and workmanship. It was made by Mr. R. Stewart, Silversmith, Buchanan Street, Glasgow. When

Insignia and Relics

not in use, the Gavel is kept in a handsome case of polished mahogany, brass-bound, and bearing a plate inscribed "Property of the Incorporation of Hammermen".

THE BANNERS

The Banners are the greatest treasures of the Craft. They are both of silk, one is divided into three bars of green, gold and green fessways, with a green and orange fringe. The other now presents a plain field without embellishment of any kind and is, on the one side, of the traditional Scots blue, on the other of yellow and is edged with a gold fringe. The latter has for many years been regarded as the Langside Banner and it has been exhibited as such at three Exhibitions in Glasgow.

As is recorded in the *History* :

The ancient blue silk banner of the Incorporation was lent in June 1888, to the Scottish Archaeological and Historical Section of the Glasgow International Exhibition, was exhibited in the Bishop's Palace, and proved an object of marked interest to thousands of visitors. It was returned, after the close of the Exhibition, in March, 1889, and duly deposited in the Collector's Box.¹

At the Scottish National Exhibition in 1911, the Banner appeared on loan with other relics of the Incorporation and many beautiful examples of the Hammerman's Craft.

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 216.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

Along with the Gill Stoup, two Batons of 1714, Hand Bell (1789), London Street Medal, and Captain Brocket's Prize, it was again exhibited to the public in the Scottish Historical Section of the Empire Exhibition, Scotland, 1938.

In 1931 the Blue Banner, having become somewhat frail, was mounted on net in a most careful fashion by Mrs. Evershed, 8 South Molton Street, London, an expert in the restoration of ancient flags. The cost, which was considerable, was generously met by Deacon A. B. Allan.

The green and gold Banner was in a worse state of preservation than that already described, and during 1938, while the Blue Banner was displayed at the Exhibition, the Master Court had the green and gold Banner sent to Mrs. Evershed for examination and report. A most interesting, if embarrassing, discovery was made! This Banner, which had been used for at least a century as the "Robe" in which the Deacon was arrayed during the Ceremony of Rouping the Deacon, was found to be faintly marked in paint or ink with the inscription :

This Robe was taken by the Collector of the Hammermen at the Battal of Langside saved from decay 1817.

GEORGE MUNRO
(Deacon).

JOHN RITCHIE
(Collector).

Reference to the records showed that George Munro was, in fact, Deacon in 1817 and John Ritchie, Collector. Ex-

Insignia and Relics

amination was at once made to see if either Banner bore any trace of the inscription in gilt letters "Langside 1568" ordered by the Master Court in 1824 (*vide* p. 6). No evidence could be discovered on either flag, although it is thought that the inscription might have appeared upon the part of the green and gold Banner that shows the greatest wear. It is difficult to believe that when this Banner was "saved from decay 1817", the Masters of that time were not certain of the authenticity of the flag which they sought to preserve. The conclusion is indeed irresistible that some confusion between the flags arose between 1824 and 1888 (the year of the first Glasgow International Exhibition) and that, since the latter date, the honours accorded to the Blue Banner were rightly due to its companion. It is perhaps fortunate that the record now available will prevent, in future, the perpetuation of this extraordinary misconception. One thing seems clear: that the Banners, both of which have now been restored, the latter by the generous act of Deacon T. L. McLintock, are much too precious to be used again at the Rousing Ceremony and that it should be the aim of all loyal Hammermen to ensure their reverent preservation.

Of the Langside Banner's authentic history little indeed is known. It is said in one place to have been "taken by the Collector of the Incorporation at the Battle of Langside" (1568),¹ but is more frequently referred to as having been borne by the Hammermen at the battle. It was fre-

¹ Report by the Deacon, 27th May, 1824. See *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 193.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

quently carried in state in the public processions at which the Hammermen appeared. Thus we read in Crawford's *Sketch of the Trades House* :

On great occasions the colours of that battalion (*i.e.* the Trades Battalion) and the colours borne by the Hammermen at the battle of Langside being carried by standard bearers.¹

It must be now many years since the Banner was borne in public, but the leather baldric and socket for the standard bearer and the golden tassels which once embellished the pole are still preserved with the Banner itself in the Collector's Box.

Of the other Banner even less is known. There is no definite record of its history, but it would appear to be another of the "Colours" of the Incorporation referred to in Crawford's *Sketch of the Trades House*, and was probably borne in company with its more historic fellow at the public appearances of the Craft.

THE GILL STOUP

The "Gill Stoup" is a pewter vessel with lid, of the type familiar to all collectors of pewter ware, and is in a remarkably good state of preservation. As may be inferred from chance references, casual levies or contributions at social meetings of the Master Court were formerly collected by the circulation of a Gill Stoup as a convenient and—may it be said?—appropriate receptacle. The fund represented by the "Gill Stoup" is now devoted to the more

¹ Crawford's *Sketch*, chap. LVI, p. 276.

Insignia and Relics

urgent calls upon the Incorporation, and as already suggested, the present practice would appear to date from the time when the meetings ceased to be held in taverns or inns. This is confirmed by the date appearing upon the Gill Stoup, which was presented in 1817, for the purpose of perpetuating the old practice of Rousing the Deacon in the functions held in the houses of successive Collectors. It is inscribed :

Given to the Incorporation of Hammermen by
George Munro, Deacon, in the year 1817 for the purpose
of Rousing their Deacons.

It is the case, therefore, that for more than a century the Gill Stoup has been devoted to its present beneficent purpose, and the contributions collected through its agency must, in that space of time, have amounted to a large sum of money. Its use in the Rousing of the Deacon has already been described. The Gill Stoup was exhibited at the Empire Exhibition, Scotland, 1938.

THE PINT STOUP

The Pint Stoup is a pewter vessel of one pint capacity with hinged lid, and bears, on its base, the initials "R. B."

While a comparatively recent acquisition, it deserves to be honoured for the manner in which it came into the possession of the Craft. At the Annual Visitation of 1921, Ex-Deacon Sir James Watson Stewart and Collector Sir Archibald McInnes Shaw called together upon Mrs. Lawson, a Hammerman's widow, who remarked that she

The Hammermen of Glasgow

had never expected to be honoured by a visit from two Ex-Lord Provosts of the City of Glasgow, and, to mark the occasion, asked that the Incorporation should accept, as a small recognition of their kindness, the Pint Stoup in question. This, she explained, had been for many years in her family. It was said to have been originally in the old Inn at Tarbolton, and the initials "R. B." were believed to be those of Robert Burns.

This gift was acknowledged by the Clerk on the instructions of the Master Court in the following terms :

45 West George Street, Glasgow,
4th February, 1922.

Mrs. LAWSON,
12 Ure Place,
Off Montrose Street,
Glasgow.

DEAR MADAM,

I am desired by the Deacon, Collector, and Master Court of the Incorporation of Hammermen, to whom I had the pleasure last evening of submitting your gift of an Antique Pewter Stoup to convey to you the thanks of the Incorporation, not only for an interesting and historical memento, which will be given an honoured place amongst the relics in the custody of the Incorporation, but also and more especially for the kindly appreciation of the Incorporation which the gift manifests.

I am, Madam,
Your obedient Servant,
(Sgd.) ARTHUR MUIR, *Clerk.*

Insignia and Relics

THE GOLD SEAL

The Gold Seal cannot be better described than in the words of the *History* :

Another item of historical interest is the account of the ordering and procuring of an official gold seal for the Incorporation, in May, 1825, which was produced at the Master Court in the Swan Tavern on the 22nd September, 1825. It is described as a "gold seal chased, with ivory handle, upon which is engraved the Hammermens Arms". The meeting, we read, "expressed themselves highly pleased with the execution and appoint the seal to be deposited in the Deacons box".¹

THE BATONS

The Batons are preserved in the Collector's Box in two cylindrical tin cases. The larger case contains a baton with a silver plate at each end, one bearing the Arms of the Incorporation in reduced form, and the date, "6 Aug., 1714", the other a monogram. The smaller case contains a shorter baton, with a plate at one end only.

Both are of quaint and interesting design, and would appear to be Batons of Authority held by the Craftsmen chosen for night duty in patrolling and policing the streets to distinguish them from mere night walkers and marauders. They were exhibited at the Empire Exhibition, Scotland, 1938.

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 193.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

THE LONDON STREET MEDAL

The London Street Medal was one of those struck by order of the Master Court in 1824 to celebrate the laying of the foundation stone of the first building in London Street. One of these medals, suspended by a blue ribbon, was worn by each member of the Master Court in the procession on that occasion.¹

The history of this occasion is interesting. A Company known as the "London Street Joint Stock Company" had been formed by Mr. Kirkman Finlay and other well-known Glasgow citizens of the time, for the purpose of constructing a thoroughfare from Monteith Row westwards to Glasgow Cross, and after various negotiations the scheme was reduced to final shape and the foundation stone of the first building laid in April, 1824. In the Minutes of the Hammermen this thoroughfare is always referred to as "London Street", although in Mr. Crawford's *Sketch of the Trades House* he refers to the procession as having been held to mark the "laying the foundation stone of the first building on the line of the new London Road".² This may have been the popular method of referring to the thoroughfare, but there can be no doubt that it is correctly designated as London Street—a fact which has been verified by reference to the Extracts from the Records of the Burgh of Glasgow, in which it is described as extending from Great Hamilton Street or Monteith Row to the Cross. The street now known as London Road commences further east.

¹ *History of the Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 193.

² Crawford's *Sketch*, chap. LVI, p. 277.

Insignia and Relics

The medal is of silver, oval in shape, with hammer-in-hand and crown in silver gilt in strong relief on the obverse side. The lower half is surrounded by a riband or scroll bearing the Incorporation's motto, "By hammer in hand, all arts do stand". The reverse side is plain and is furnished with a hook for purposes of suspension. It formed part of the Craft's exhibit at the Empire Exhibition, Scotland, 1938.

It is recorded in the Master Court Minute of 4th October, 1906, that :

The Clerk reported that Councillor Breeze had presented to the Incorporation through Mr. William F. Russell, a badge which he had picked up in a curiosity shop and which he thought might at one time have had some connection with the Incorporation. The Clerk was instructed to write and thank Councillor Breeze for his gift and assure him that it would form an interesting and valuable addition to the property of the Incorporation.

THE HAND BELL

The Hand Bell is of brass on a hardwood handle, and bears the inscription :

Ex dono
Wm. Fulton
Glasgow
1789.

It forms a link with the old "officers" of the Craft, an

The Hammermen of Glasgow

appointment which has now lapsed. This picturesque official is thus referred to in the *History* :

His duties were to “warn” the craftsmen and the masters to meetings, to carry the box and candles to the meeting place, to act as Deacon’s “man” and attend upon him on public occasions, such as conveying “the Lords” or the Bishop in and out of town. He was provided with a “stand” of clothes, hat, shoes, and stockings, a wylie coat, and a small annual “fiall” of £8 Scots, rising to 1s. sterling weekly towards the end of the eighteenth century. But he also received special items of remuneration for extraordinary duties, besides “fairings” and New Year gifts.¹

The “warning” of the Craftsmen and Masters was formerly effected by the Officer in the manner of a “Town Crier” or “Bellman”—hence the need for a Hand Bell—and this method continued until the year 1839, when the recommendation of a Committee appointed for the purpose of adopting a more satisfactory method of calling general meetings of the Craft was adopted. As the *History* observes :

This was to be done by letter, either delivered personally by the Officer, or put by him, *unpaid*, into the Post Office!²

The ancient “warning” of the Masters and Craftsmen is recalled by the heading to the Minutes in use to this day,

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 42.

² *Ibid.*

Insignia and Relics

which contains the phrase, "the whole having been warned to attend, as was verified".

The last Officer of the Craft was William Brodie, who resigned in April, 1873, and died soon afterwards, and in 1909 the Hand Bell used by the Officers was returned to the custody of the Deacon and Master Court in the circumstances described in the excerpt given below from the Master Court Minute of 9th December, 1909 :

The Clerk read a letter from Ex-Deacon Stevenson stating that by arrangement with Mrs. Agnes Brodie, the widow of the last Officer to the Incorporation of Hammermen, the Hand Bell which was the gift of William Fulton in 1789 to the Incorporation has now been returned to the custody of the Deacon and Master Court. As suggested by Deacon Stevenson it was unanimously agreed to send to Mrs. Brodie a letter appreciative of the care which she had taken of this interesting relic during these many years. It was agreed that the Bell should be kept in the Deacon's Box.

At the Scottish National Exhibition, 1911, and the Empire Exhibition, Scotland, 1938, the Hand Bell appeared on loan with other relics of the Hammermen.

CAPTAIN BROCKET'S PRIZE

This interesting Medal is of solid silver, the shape being oval, $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth. It bears upon its obverse side a beautifully engraved representation of a Private of the Glasgow Trades Battalion in the Uni-

The Hammermen of Glasgow

form of the early part of the nineteenth century, holding a flintlock musket at "The Present". There is engraved on the reverse side in clear script :

Presented by Captain Brocket to
Geo. Dallas as a prize for the best
shot of the 8th Compy. Glas^w.
Trades Battn. 20th June, 1804.

The date on the Medal corresponds with the period immediately preceding the Napoleonic Wars, when every endeavour was being made to interest young men in military training and shooting, and the medal in question is believed to be one of the earliest of its kind extant. It is in an excellent state of preservation.

The medal was presented to the Incorporation of Hammermen by the Clerk, Mr. Arthur Muir, on the occasion of the Deacon's Dinner on 8th February, 1924.

Captain Brocket's Prize was included amongst the other Incorporation Exhibits at the Empire Exhibition, Scotland, 1938.

EMBOSSED SEAL

At the Master Court meeting of 7th July, 1909, a suggestion was made that members on joining the Incorporation should receive a parchment certificate, and it was remitted to Mr. Donald Stewart, Mr. Broadfoot, and the Clerk to enquire and report. At the Master Court meeting of 3rd March, 1910, the Clerk reported that he had made enquiries of the Clerks of all the Incorporations as to what

Insignia and Relics

form of Certificate of Membership was given by them, and had ascertained that four of them gave either parchment or cartridge paper certificates, and the other nine merely engrossed a docquet of admission on the entrant's Burgess Ticket. After some discussion, it was finally decided not to have a separate certificate, but to get an embossed seal of the Incorporation, and with it impress the usual docquet on the Burgess Ticket. A suitable seal was obtained, bearing the Arms of the Incorporation, and this remained in use until the Craft received a Patent of Arms from the Lord Lyon King of Arms in 1918, when a new seal bearing the Arms as registered was obtained. The seal of 1910 is preserved in the Collector's Box.

PATENT OF ARMS

The desirability of obtaining registered the Arms of the Incorporation was first considered by the Master Court at their meeting of 31st October, 1911, when the following letter from the Clerk of the Trades House, was read :

Chambers, 105 West George Street,
Glasgow, 14th October, 1911.

HUGH MONCRIEFF, Esq.,
Clerk, Incorporation of Hammermen,
45 West George Street, Glasgow.

DEAR SIR,

I am desired by the Trades House, following upon the unanimous recommendation of the Finance and Public Business Committees, to intimate that the

The Hammermen of Glasgow

House has recently registered its Coat of Arms in the Books of the Lyon Court, and has received a Patent of Arms from the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Sir James Balfour Paul. It seems that none of the Glasgow Incorporations have registered their Arms, although several groups of Burghal Incorporations throughout Scotland have had this done, *e.g.* the Incorporated Trades of Stornoway, whose Arms were registered so far back as the year 1772.

* * * * *

If your Master Court and Craft decide to do anything in the matter, I shall be glad to give you any information and assistance in my power. Meantime I may refer you to the Act 30 Vict., Cap. 17, and also to *Coats Memorial of Scottish Incorporated Trades* by P. J. Anderson in the Library of the Faculty of Procurators.

Sir James Balfour Paul will gladly answer any questions you may put to him on the subject.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) HARRY LUMSDEN,

Clerk.

After due consideration, it was remitted to the Clerk to ascertain what the other Crafts intended doing and to report. These enquiries revealed that there was a considerable divergence of view amongst the other Crafts, and it was decided on 8th December, 1911, to take no steps to register the Incorporation's Coat of Arms.

Insignia and Relics

The question of registration of the Arms was later reviewed and a Petition to the Lord Lyon King of Arms was lodged in 1917. In this application the late Mr. Hugh Moncrieff, B.L., then Clerk of the Incorporation, was much interested, and after conducting the negotiations with the Lord Lyon to a successful issue, he generously defrayed the whole costs of the application.

The Patent of Arms is now displayed, by order of the Master Court, in the Clerk's office in the room where the Court's meetings are usually held. The Patent is engrossed in colours on vellum. It bears the Arms of the Incorporation in their heraldic form as registered in the Court of the Lord Lyon King of Arms and reads :

TO ALL AND SUNDRY whom these Presents Do or May Concern, WE, Sir JAMES BALFOUR PAUL, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Doctor of Laws, Lord Lyon King of Arms, SEND GREETING. Whereas the Deacon, the Collector, and Remanent Members of the Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow, have by Petition of date the 20th day of October last Represented unto Us that they are the Premier Incorporation of the fourteen Ancient Incorporated Trades of Glasgow : That they were first incorporated by Seal of Cause, granted by the Magistrates of and Town Council of Glasgow, with concurrence of Gavin, Archbishop of Glasgow, under the Seal of the City and the Round Seal of the Archbishop, dated the 11th day of October One thousand five hundred and thirty-six : And the said Petitioners have prayed that We would Grant Our

The Hammermen of Glasgow

(COAT
OF
ARMS)

Licence and Authority unto them and to the said Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow to bear and use such Ensigns Armorial as might be found suitable and according to the Laws of Arms : Know Ye Therefore that We have Devised and Do by these Presents Assign, Ratify, and Confirm to the Petitioners, the Deacon, the Collector, and Remanent Members of the Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow, and to their successors in office and to the said Incorporation to bear and use the following Ensigns Armorial as depicted upon the margin hereof, and matriculated of even date with these Presents in Our Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, viz. :—Gules a dexter arm issuing from the sinister flank fessways, the hand holding a smith's hammer, in chief an Imperial Crown all proper ; above the shield is placed a helmet befitting their degree with a Mantling Gules doubled Or and on a Wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest on a mount vert an oak tree proper, the stem at the base thereof surmounted by a salmon on its back also proper with a signet ring in its mouth Or, on the top of the tree a redbreast and hanging from the sinister side an ancient hand bell also proper and in an Escroll over the same this motto :—“ By hammer in hand all arts do stand.” In Testimony Whereof these Presents are subscribed by us and the Seal of our Office is affixed hereunto at Edinburgh, the 28th day of March in the eighth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Fifth by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great

Insignia and Relics

Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, &c., and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and eighteen.



(Sgd.) J. BALFOUR PAUL,
Lyon.

EMBROIDERED COAT OF ARMS

In 1937 the Incorporation were the recipients of a unique gift when Late Deacon Alexander B. Allan presented to the Court a representation of the Coat of Arms of the Craft sewn in silk by Mrs. Allan. The Deacon on behalf of the Court expressed appreciation of the beauty of the gift and the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr. and Mrs. Allan conveying the Craft's thanks, which he did in the following terms :

45 West George Street, Glasgow,
26th August, 1937.

A. B. ALLAN, Esq.,
South Cottage,
Portencross,
Ayrshire.

DEAR MR. ALLAN,

At a Meeting of the Master Court held yesterday the Coat of Arms sewn by Mrs. Allan and kindly presented to the Craft was shown to the Members present. They desire me to convey to Mrs. Allan and to yourself

The Hammermen of Glasgow

their appreciation of this magnificent piece of needle-work, and to extend to you both their warmest thanks for this most interesting gift.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) ARTHUR MUIR, *Clerk.*

KING GEORGE V COINS

In 1911 the late Mr. Wm. Robertson Smith, who was then a Member of the Master Court, presented to the Incorporation a case containing a set of the Coins of the reign of King George V, and also a copy of the Arms of the Incorporation. The coins are displayed to advantage in a case of red morocco leather and velvet.

They are :

£5 piece (gold).	1/- piece (silver).
£2 „ „	6d. „ „
£1 „ „	4d. „ „
10/- „ „	3d. „ „
2/6 „ silver	2d. „ „
2/- „ „	1d. „ „

Within the lid of the case are two medallions of gold, one of the Arms of the Incorporation, and the other inscribed, "Presented by Wm. Robertson Smith, 1911."

The case and its contents form a most interesting item of the Craft's treasures, particularly in these latter days when gold coinage is conspicuous by its absence and a generation has grown up, many of whom have never seen a sovereign or half-sovereign. At the Master Court meeting

Insignia and Relics

of 18th August, 1911, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. Robertson Smith be thanked for his handsome gift and that the case—the contents of which were much admired and appreciated by the members of the Court present—should be retained among the Archives of the Incorporation.

KING GEORGE VI COINS

During his term of office, Collector T. L. McLintock in 1937 presented to the Craft a full set of the coinage issued as a memento of the Coronation of King George VI. The coins are contained in two cases :

In the small case :

£5 piece (gold).	£1 piece (gold).
£2 „ „	10/- „ „

In the large case :

5/- piece (silver).	
2/6 „ „	
2/- „ „	
1/- „ „	} (reverse different).
1/- „ „	
6d. „ „	
4d. „ „	
3d. „ „	} (reverse different).
3d. „ „	
3d. „ (nickel-bronze).	
2d. „ (silver).	
1d. „ „	

The Hammermen of Glasgow

1d. piece (copper).

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. „ „

$\frac{1}{4}$ d. „ „

At a Master Court Meeting on 25th August, 1937, the Deacon on behalf of the Court thanked Collector McLintock for this valuable addition to the Craft's collection.

THE HAMMERS

There are preserved in the Collector's Box two Hammers, surmounted by Crowns, obviously copied from the device appearing upon the Arms of the Incorporation. These Hammers are of wood, gilded over, and the Crowns which surmount them are also of wood, gilt and crimson, and of a handsome appearance. They are constructed so as to unscrew into three pieces, presumably for convenience in packing, and are supported in a vertical position upon circular bases of cast iron. The larger Hammer is 22 inches in height, measuring to the top of the Crown, and the smaller 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The Minutes and other records throw no light whatever upon the history of these relics, or upon the use to which they were put, nor do the Hammers bear any date, although from their workmanship—particularly that of the circular bases—and the freshness of their embellishment, they do not appear to be of very ancient origin. It is probable that they were used at formal meetings of the Incorporation of the Master Court as symbols of the Craft, being placed before the Deacon, and possibly the Collector, in much the same manner as a

Insignia and Relics

Mace or other emblem. This is, however, mere conjecture, and it is possible that they were used in connection with some Craft observance which is now fallen into desuetude. Should the conjecture made be correct, their purpose is now superseded by the appearance of the ivory and gold Gavel already described.

THE KILMARNOCK BONNET

The records are also silent as regards the Kilmarnock Bonnet. It is a typical broad bonnet of blue, with red "toorie" and red and white diced border of the Kilmarnock pattern, now rarely seen except in a less exaggerated form as the headgear of certain Scottish regiments. The Bonnet is worn at the ceremony of Rousing the Deacon, but as to whether or not similar bonnets were worn by the Master Court, at their public appearances, there is no information. Whether such additions to a Master Court, "all dressed in black, with white gloves," as Mr. Crawford describes the appropriate costume,¹ formed a sartorial combination approved by the taste of olden times must remain an open question! That the Incorporation took heed of the decencies of dress is, however, proved by the Minute of 6th May, 1648 : ²

Sexto Maij, 1648.

The quhilk day the Deacon, Masters and Members of Craft being conveyned considering ye credit of yr.

¹ See Crawford's *Sketch*, chap. LVI, p. 276.

² *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 86.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

calleing and finding many of thame at thair meiteings in ye Hospitall, neglect ye Crafts credit by bringing vpon yr. heids old bonnets contrair ye custome or oyr calleings they haif yr.foir statut that it shall not be leasom to no maister of craft, at nae tyme heireftir to convein vnles they haif ane honest hatt vpon yr. heid and whusa transgressis to pay forty shillings moey *toties quoties* to be bestowed according to ye mynd of ye Deacon for ye tyme.

STANDARD BEARER'S BALDRIC

The Standard Bearer's Baldric, a leather belt, with socket for supporting the end of the flag pole, is already referred to under the "Langside Banner", and was presumably used at all processions at which the Colours were carried. It is to be regretted that the "flagstaff, on the top of which was the Hammerman Arms" referred to in the Deacon's Report of 27th May, 1824, as well as the gilt lettering, "Langside, 1568", on the Banner itself have disappeared.

THE GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK

Among the Hammermen's possessions, the Grandfather's Clock which adorns the Clerk's Room has an honoured place. The Clock stands six feet eight inches in height and is contained in a case of stained oak. Its face is of brass, with hour, minute and second hands of iron and it records, in addition to the time, the days of the month in a slotted recess. The gong for sounding the hours is of a pleasing tone. The brass face is engraved

Insignia and Relics

with a foliated design and the maker's name, " Breakenrig, Edinburgh ". The Clock was made about 1757 and while it is a magnificent example of work which falls within the ambit of the Hammermen Craft, its greatest claim to interest is perhaps that it was made by one who was never a member of any Incorporation, a somewhat remarkable achievement at a date when the power of the Crafts was still unaffected by the Reform Act. Within its case it bears the following printed intimation :

The maker, Robert Breakenrig in business in the Grass Market, Edinburgh, in the year 1757 was prosecuted as an unfree man. This implied imprisonment in the Tolbooth if the Incorporation choose to exercise their powers, but was generally met by the payment of a fee £2 Stg., known as " Stallangers " dues, which had to be paid yearly.

This capable man, for some unknown reason, would not join the Incorporation of Hammermen and remained outside their jurisdiction all his life.

The Clock was presented to the Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow by Ex-Deacon Alexander B. Allan when Late Collector in May 1931, and a small plate on the reverse side of the case door bears an inscription to that effect. At a Meeting on 4th June, 1931, the Court expressed warm appreciation of Mr. Allan's gift.

ILLUMINATED BURGESS TICKET

In the year 1933, Captain Morgan of Bunalun, Skibereen, County Cork, presented to the Craft for safe custody

The Hammermen of Glasgow

an Illuminated Burgess Ticket in name of his ancestor "Peter Morgan, Esqr., of Burdoeaux". The Burgess Ticket is dated 17th April, 1769, and bears that Mr. Morgan was admitted a Burgess of the City of Glasgow and a "Gild Brother" in the presence of the then Lord Provost, certain Bailies and the Dean of Guild and sundry of the "Gild Councill". It is interesting on account of the hand illumination by which it is embellished being of a period before colour printing was introduced. It also seems to suggest that the style of "The Right Honble" as applied to the Lord Provosts of the City was just coming into use because this honorific prefix appears as interlined before the name "James Buchanan Esquire Lord Provost of the said City". The Master Court in pursuance of their promise to have the Burgess Ticket preserved in a manner commensurate with its interest, gave instructions to have the document mounted in double glass so that both sides may be visible. It is displayed in the room in the Clerk's office where the Master Court hold their meetings.

SNUFF BOX AND HAMMER

Amongst the articles in the Collector's Box there are two which are really associated with the Hammermen Corporation of Ayr, but which were presented to the Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow by Mrs. Caird Parker, the widow of a former member. One of these is a wooden snuff box with a silver plate bearing the inscription "The Oak of the Old Ayr Steeple. Presented to the Hammermen Corporation by a Member, Oct. 21st 1835".

Insignia and Relics

The other is a small oak hammer or gavel with a silver plate on the end of the shaft inscribed " From A Friend to the Hamm. Corpn. 1836 ". Along with these Mrs. Caird Parker presented certain records of the Ayr Hammermen Corporation which are preserved in the Deacon's Box.

DEACON McONIE'S GIFT

At the Lammas Court of 1874, the Deacon, Mr. Andrew McOnie, presented an Album to the Incorporation, which, he suggested, should be devoted to collecting photographic likenesses of the members.¹ This large volume is preserved in the Deacon's Box and contains a number of interesting photographs of well-known Hammermen of the past. For a number of years, however, it has not been kept up to date, and accordingly, as a pictorial record of successive Master Courts, it is incomplete.

THE DEACON'S BOX

It is a common entry in the Minutes with reference to any document of interest or value that " it was ordered to be deposited in the Box ". Similar ordinances were made by the other Incorporated Trades and the Trades House itself with reference to the boxes kept by their officials. It is interesting to note that the Deacon of the Hammermen kept one of the three keys of the Deacon Convener's first box. The second box, made in 1644, had four keys, three outer and one inner, the inner key being kept by the Deacon of the Hammermen and the three outer keys by the Deacons

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 210.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

of the Tailors and the Cordiners and the Visitor of the Maltmen, thus showing the early precedence of these Incorporations over the others.¹ The Incorporation of Hammermen has two boxes, the Deacon's Box and the Collector's Box, and although certain of the more valuable belongings of the Craft are now lodged in a more secure place, these boxes represent the very arcana of the Incorporation. In olden times their importance as the receptacles of the cash, deeds, and other valuables of the Incorporation was fully recognized, and this is perpetuated to this day in the appointment of two of the members of the Court to be "Keymasters", the former to keep the large key and the latter to keep the small key.

In 1616, the Craft's affairs were managed by a Deacon and twenty-three Masters, of whom four were Box Masters, as the Key Masters were then called, an Officer, an official known as "common procurator", and a Clerk.² In 1617 there were three boxmasters³ and thereafter it was usual to appoint two or more boxmasters. In addition to being known as boxmasters, afterwards keymasters, the occupants of this office were sometimes called "goldies", and their appointment is thus headed in certain of the older Minutes. The importance of the office will be appreciated when it is recalled that modern banking facilities did not then exist, and the appointment of two keymasters, having different keys of the Box, was to ensure the safety of the

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, pp. 39, 40.

² *Ibid.*, p. 37.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 42.

Insignia and Relics

Incorporation's funds, etc. The *History* contains the following interesting paragraph with reference to the "Box" and the functions of the "keymasters":

Money, as received, was kept by the Collector until he had as much in hand as made it necessary for safety that it should be placed in the box. For this purpose the assistance of the key masters was required, and once in the box the money could not be taken out again without their knowledge and co-operation. There were no banks in Glasgow until 1750. Nothing, therefore, passed between the Collector and his debtors and recipients except coin of the realm. When the debtor could not pay his annual rent or entry or booking money, a note of hand was taken and placed in the box, but cheques and notes as now in use were unknown. Down to 1766 there is no trace of any banking transactions. The Collectors were much troubled with counterfeit coin, clipped money, and light gold, but for losses thus incurred the Craft always generously gave them credit.¹

The office of Keymaster is, with the introduction of modern financial methods, a sinecure, and, for practical reasons, the keys themselves remain in the custody of the Clerk.

The Deacon's Box is of rectangular shape, 14 inches by 14 inches by 24 inches, and is of oak, with a veneered surface, the front being inlaid with the Hammer and Crown and the inscription:

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, p. 95.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

17

By Hammer (Crown) in hand

12

All Airts (Hammer) doeth stand.

It is fitted with two locks on the left and right upper portions of the front panel. The locks are of different construction and are turned by two exceedingly handsome keys, of which a photograph appears in the *History*.¹ By inadvertence, they are there described as the "Keys of Deacon's and Collector's Chests", but the keys illustrated are the keys of the Deacon's Box. The small key is of somewhat uncommon design, having a triangular barrel, with the apex to the back. The locks, although now more than two centuries old, are in excellent order and the bolts still operate with considerable force.

The contents of the Box are enumerated in the Inventory of Contents of Deacon's Box, which forms Appendix I.

THE COLLECTOR'S BOX

The Collector's Box is of plain polished mahogany of rectangular shape, 13 inches by 11½ inches by 24 inches. The date of its construction is not known, but it would appear to be approximately 1750. It has one lock, operated by a key of ordinary design.

The contents of the Box are enumerated in the Inventory of Contents of Collector's Box, which forms Appendix II.

¹ *History of The Hammermen of Glasgow*, facing p. 40.

Appendix I

1. Extract Act of the Hammermen Trade of Glasgow, dated 31st January, 1754.
2. Hand Bell, dated 1789.
3. Extracts from Minutes of Meetings of Incorporation of Hammermen held 1824 and 1825.
4. Impression in wax of the old Seal of the Incorporation.
5. Photograph Album of Hammermen.
6. Bundle of Loose Photographs.
7. Leather Cash Bag.
8. Green Cloth Bag.
9. Penny dated 1877.
10. Menu dated 26th January, 1906, with signatures on back.
11. Clelland's *Annals of Glasgow*, Vol. I and Vol. II (published 1817 and presented to the Incorporation by the Author).
12. Reprint of the First Glasgow Directory.
13. Eight Prints of Rules for engaging Workmen.
14. Bundle of Miscellaneous Documents containing the following :
 - (1) Print of the Protestation of the Noblemen, Barrons, Gentlemen, Borrowes, Ministers and Commons ; Subscribers of the Confession of Faith, September 9, 1638.
 - (2) Print of Petition of the Deacon and Corporation of Cordners of Glasgow, dated 1756.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

- (3) Print of Act in favour of the Town of Glasgow, for Two Pennies Scots upon the Pint of Ale and Beer, dated 1705.
- (4) Signed Oath of Adherence to the Confession of Faith and to King Charles I, dated 1664.
- (5) Print of Town Clerk's Fees.
- (6) Print of the Confession of Faith, dated 1580 and 1581.
- (7) Extract Act of the Trades House, dated 1744.
- (8) Contract of Agreement between The Hammermen of Glasgow and the Hammermen of Gorbals, dated 1668.
- (9) Petition for the Magistrates and Trades of Glasgow, dated 1687.
- (10) Extract of the Lords of Exchequer in favour of the Town of Glasgow, dated 1687.
- (11) Extract of Oath of Alleadgance and Assurance by the Deacon and Masters, dated 10th September, 1702.
- (12) Act of Council anent Auldhouse's Mortification, dated 7th June, 1745.
- (13) Extract Act of the Trades House in favour of the Hammermen Trade, dated 1748, fixing working hours at 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- (14) Extract Act of the Hammermen Trade, dated 1748, as above.
- (15) Discharged Account, The Incorporation to William Wilson, W.S., 24th January, 1754.

The Hammermen of Glasgow

- (29) Letter from William Wilson to Mr. Witherford, dated 26th June, 1756.
- (30) Receipt by William Halbert for papers taken out of Box, dated 30th November, 1804.
- (31) Abstract of the Laws and Regulations of the Incorporation of Hammermen in Glasgow as ratified and confirmed by the Town Council and Trades' House, April 21st, 1796.
- (32) Letter from W. Lindsay to Mr. J. R. Blakey, dated 31st July, 1800.
- 15. Roll of Honorary Burgesses of the City of Glasgow since 1880.
- 16. Rights, Bye-laws and Regulations of Incorporation of Tailors, dated 13th November, 1920.
- 17. Collector's Account, 1812-13 (Alexander Wood). Presented by Mr. David Meiklereid, 1926.
- 18. Envelope containing Papers relating to Ayr Hammermen Corporation. Presented to Incorporation of Hammermen by Mrs. Caird Parker.
- 19. Minute Book of Hammermen Corporation of Ayr, dated 1850-1886. Presented by Mrs. Caird Parker.
- 20. Qualified Roll of Incorporation of Hammermen, dated 26th August, 1814.
- 21. Print of List of Gentlemen who have attached themselves to Capt. Newall's Company of the Glasgow Armed Association, dated 14th January, 1820.
- 22. Envelope containing Speech by Mr. David Murray, LL.D., on the occasion of the presentation by Mr.

Appendix I

Timothy Warren, Dean to the Faculty, of a Chain of Office, dated 4th December, 1924.

23. Sermon by Rev. James McGibbon, dated 23rd October, 1921.
24. Inventory of Charters, Deeds, Old Minute Books and other records belonging to the Trades House of Glasgow.
25. Bundle of Menus.
26. Telegram from Prince of Wales to the Clerk, dated 16th October, 1925.
27. Parcel containing :
 - (1) Confession of Faith.
Print by George Anderson for the Incorporation of Hammermen.
 - (2) Confession of Faith.
Print by Robert Young.
 - (3) Act of the Deacon Conveners House of Glasgow in favour of the Incorporation of Hammermen there, dated 1693.
 - (4) Apprenticeship Articles.
28. Pen used by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., on the occasion of his admission to the Incorporation of Hammermen on 9th March, 1924.
29. Speeches delivered at Dinner to mark the 400th Anniversary of the Incorporation of Hammermen.
30. Cylinder containing Coronation Ball Programme.

Appendix II

1. Langside Banner.
2. Second Banner.
3. Kilmarnock Bonnet, scarlet and black border.
4. Pewter Gill Stoup, bearing date 1817, to be used for Rousing the Deacon.
5. Pewter Pint Stoup.
6. Long tin box containing Baton with Silver Plate at each end, 6th August, 1714.
7. Long tin box containing Baton with Plate at one end only.
8. Standard Bearer's Baldric.
9. Wooden Hammer (gilt), with iron stand surmounted with Wooden Crown (gilt and crimson).
10. Smaller Hammer as above, with iron stand.
(These Hammers unscrew into three pieces each.)
11. Seal which was superseded, October 1918.
12. Collector's old Silver Medal in case, 1878.
13. Packet of Collector's receipts.
14. Facsimile of Patent of Arms of Incorporation of Coopers.
15. Medal presented by Captain Bocket in 1804, as a prize for the best shot of the Glasgow Trades Battalion.
(Presented by Arthur Muir, Clerk of the Incorporation, 1924.)
16. Copy of Grant of Arms of the Incorporation of Barbers.

Appendix II

17. Small Wooden Hammer presented by "A Friend" to the Incorporation in 1836. (Ayr Incorporation.)
18. Oak Snuff Box bearing the inscription "The Oak of the Old Ayr Steeple. Presented to the Hammermen Corporation by a Member, Oct. 21st, 1835." (Ayr Incorporation.)
19. Book entitled "Notes on Swordes with signed Basket Hilts by Glasgow & Stirling Makers" by Charles E. Whitelaw, F.S.A. (Scot.).
20. Photograph of presentation of Casket to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., on the occasion of his admission to the Incorporation of Hammermen on 9th March, 1921.
21. Two photographs of Casket presented to the Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, on the occasion of his admission to the Incorporation of Hammermen on 19th February, 1930.
22. Speeches delivered at Dinner to mark the 400th Anniversary of the Incorporation of Hammermen.

The drawer inside of box contains a packet of papers, mostly modern.



