

Trades House of Glasgow
Incorporation of Hammermen
Extracts of Minutes from 1775 to 1793



Transcribed
By

Craig R Bryce
Honorary Trades House Archivist

MMXVII



Extracts from The Incorporation of Hammermen's Minutes 1775 to 1793



Date	Extract						
25 th August 1775	A Board ordered to be painted and put up in the Alms House to the memory of James Dunlop, Hammerman, who left a legacy of £10 to the Craft.						
12 th September 1775	John Craig, Late Deacon, fined for refusing to accept office as Trades Master. Protest and Appeal entered to the next Higher Court.						
24 th November 1775	John Craig refuses to pay his fine.						
10 th April 1776	John Craig refuses to pay his fine. Collector authorised to pay the remainder of the subscription of the Craft for building Rutherglen Bridge.						
15 th August 1776	In booking Indentures, the Clerk to insert the time when they commence.						
30 th August 1776	<p>Statute- No Freeman to take an Apprentice on trial longer than 6 weeks before being indentured, and no Freeman to antedate Indentures more than 6 weeks. Fine £1.</p> <p>No Member to marry at a time when he is supported by, or has received the charity of the Trade else his widow, in case of decease, shall not be entitled to the Trades Charity unless the Craftsman has paid up the whole of the money he received.</p>						
12 th September 1776	<p>Complaint by the Trade to the Town Council that members of the Craft visiting the Market on 4th September, had found a clock exposed to public sale there, which appeared to be very insufficient.</p> <p>Craving the authority of the Magistrates to seize the clock, so that it might be inspected by proper judges, and if found insufficient, that the owner might be punished. Warrant subscribed by the Lord Provost for detaining and inspecting the clock. Report made by the inspectors. Warrant granted by a Baillie for carrying the work, but not the case, to the Clerk's chambers, there to remain for further trial. Complaint to be served on William Paton, Wright, the owner of the clock. Petition from Paton submitted to the Deacon and Masters, placing himself in the hands of the Incorporation. The Craft decided that as the Warrant was lodged in the Clerk's chambers by authority of the Magistrates, they could give no judgement without the same authority.</p>						
28 th November 1777	<p>Sum to be paid Clerk for writing two copies of an</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Indenture</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">For one copy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5/6d</td> </tr> </table> <p>Clerk's fee to be £8 8/- per annum for trouble attending Trades Courts and Meetings and managing the affairs of</p>	Indenture	-	7/-	For one copy	-	5/6d
Indenture	-	7/-					
For one copy	-	5/6d					

	the Trade, with power to charge for extra business. All Indentures, whether the apprentice is bound for his freedom or not, to be drawn by the Clerk (see 25 th November 1768).
30 th December 1777	The Deacon authorised to subscribe £150 Sterling towards raising a Battalion of men to aid the Government in suppressing the unnatural rebellion in America.
31 st December 1777	Carried by a great majority that the Deacon be authorised to subscribe £200 for the above purpose, the Deacon to draw upon the Collector when called for.
9 th January 1778	Committee appointed to wait upon the Committee carrying out the plan of raising the Glasgow Regiment, and in the name of the Trade, recommend in the strongest manner Mr John Lindsay and Mr Henry Wilson for appointments or commissions as high as may be in the proposed Glasgow Regiment.
8 th February 1778	£200 to be borrowed to pay for the Subscription.
25 th September 1778	The extract of the Decree of Declarator lodged with the Incorporation, the Tailors and Cordiners and Maltmen to have power to borrow it at any time.
21 st December 1778	Resolved that the Incorporation opposes the repeal of the Statutes against Popery and express their view that the Trades House meets to consider this matter, a letter should be written in the name of the House and Incorporations to Lord North asking whether his administration means to countenance and give aid to such a repeal.
22 nd December 1778	This resolution approved unanimously and Committee appointed in connection with the opposition to see that no time is lost in writing to Lord North.
2 nd April 1779	John Muir, Town Office, to be "Red Coat Officer" to the Incorporation.
28 th August 1779	<p>Petition and complaint by Adam Anderson that in March or April last, he engaged John McFeat, Journeyman Hammerman in Glasgow, to serve him for a year; that John McFeat continued in his service till three weeks ago, when by unfair means, he was led to desert the Petitioner's service by Allan Duncan, Freeman Hammerman, to go and work for him, whereby Duncan became liable to a fine, more especially as he has been required by the Petitioner to restore John McFeat to Petitioner's service, but has refused to do so. The Deacons and Masters find Allan Duncan culpable and fine him in the sum of £2 Sterling and authorise the Clerk to carry on action for recovery of the fine. Allan Duncan protests in order that he may have a hearing before a full meeting of the Trade.</p> <p>The appeal heard by the Trade on 24th September 1779 when the Trade affirms the sentence. Allan Duncan protests and appeals to the Trades' House.</p>
26 th November 1779	Statutes re raising Entry Money and re-taking on Apprentices.
18 th May 1780	Claude Marshall, Writer, having made and given in a cast of nails as his essay and produced his Burgess Ticket is

	found qualified to serve His Majesties Lieges and is admitted Freeman of the Craft.
11 th July 1780	Reported that David Warnock, Goldsmith, unanimously nominated by the Craft to the Trades' House for filling the place of the Craft's Old Man in the Hospital Yard has by the false representations of Deacon Robert Scott, Cordiner, lost his election. The Craft agreed to petition the House for redress of the injury, craving that Deacon Scott be censured and punishment inflicted on him, and in case no redress be given by the House, the Deacon is empowered to protest and appeal to the Magistrates and Town Council for remedy.
29 th September 1780	Election dispute
27 th October 1780	Petition by William Thomson, an Apprentice, that George Thomson, his Master, has no employment for him, so that he is under the necessity of applying for work to another Master. David Hendrie, Sadler, is willing to take petitioner for the remainder of his time. The Craft granted the desired Petition to allow Thomson to serve with Hendry.
24 th February 1781	Decision of the Trades' House in the Election Dispute intimated. House unanimously find Petition and complaint groundless and ill-founded, and dismiss same. (It was a complaint that the election of James Craig as Collector was illegal).
2 nd July 1781	James Muirhead, Deacon, complains against David Paton, a Freeman, for scandalising the Deacon. Consideration delayed.
26 th October 1781	Complaint heard. It appears that Paton had called the Petitioner a villain and a scoundrel, and stated he would call him so before the Court of the Craft. Evidence led. Confession made by Paton as follows:- "I was unjust and injurious in uttering these expressions and do beg pardon therefor." David Paton classed for the space of three years, and deprived of the privilege of voting in any Elections or affairs of the Craft, but in regard that the said David Paton has already been fined in consequence of a process before the Commissary of Glasgow, the Deacon and Masters pass from fining him further, although he is liable to a fine under the Statutes of the Craft.
23 rd November 1781	The classing of David Paton confirmed. Protest lodged by John Calder, Watchmaker, (David Paton appeals to the Trades' House).
23 rd January 1782	Order given to prosecute Thomas Stenhouse, Maker for payment of a new "Upset" for carrying on a branch of the Hammermen Trade with a person who is not entered as a Freeman, in violation of his admission oath.
18 th February 1782	Answers approved to David Paton's Petition to the Trades' House, and resolved that if the House give a decision in

	favour of Paton the Craft should appeal to the Magistrates and Town Council.
15 th March 1782	Reported that on 12 th April, the Deacon and Collector had obtained Decree against Stenhouse for £12 12/- with a fourth part more for expenses concerned Archibald McLellan as a partner. The Meeting considering that McLellan had now made an essay and that Stenhouse had agreed to pay the expense incurred by the Trade in obtaining Decree, resolved to pass from any further demands.
29 th November 1782	Reported that the Magistrates and Council had ordained the Incorporation to restore David Paton to his privileges. The Meeting, in obedience to said sentence, restored Paton to his privileges as a Member, and put his name on the Qualified Roll. Act anent paying up Quarter Accounts at the Lammas Court Meeting. Act anent Candidates for Office. Act anent Booking apprentices. Act anent entering into indentures with Journeymen. Abstract of the Acts of the Trade to be made out and printed.
28 th February 1783	Trade resolved that any application to Parliament (1) For power to extend the royalty of the City to regulate its Police, establish Watchmen, etc. and (2) For laying an additional pontage on the old and new bridges are altogether unnecessary at present. But at the same time Magistrates ought to take the Feuars of the lands outside the royalty bound that they shall not oppose any Bill that may be brought into Parliament for extending the royalty in case it might be thought necessary, at any future period, to apply for an extension.
26 th May 1783	Petition versus Michael Bogle [a Pendicle of the Trade] by James Lumsden and other four Members complaining of booking of Apprentices who are not bound to any one branch of the Trade, and especially the booking of: (1) an Apprentice with Michael Bogle, Merchant, a pendicle of the Trade, to serve his time as a Plumber which has no manner of connection with the Hammerman Trade. (2) James Lockhart booked with Michael Bogle as a Hammerman. Resolved that as Bogle neither carries on nor has any qualified man for carrying on any branch of the Trade, the booking was improper. Bogle asked to lodge answers to the complaint.
29 th May 1783	Resolved to print Abstract of the Acts of the Trade and supply copies to each member.
6 th June 1783	Deacon and Masters instruct the Clerk not to give out a partial Extract of the proceedings of 29 th May last, and if a full Extract is required, the Deacon and Masters authorise

	<p>the Clerk to give out the same in presence of and at the desire of the Meeting of the Masters.</p> <p>James and Matthew Robertson, Booksellers, to print the Acts of the Trade. Committee appointed to examine proof copies. 500 copies to be printed.</p>
2 nd May 1783	<p>Page 132. Here is engrossed a Minute of the Trades' House of Glasgow of this date as to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Proposed reform in the set of the Burgh. And (2) Petition by the Bonnetmakers and Dyers to have a part of the stock of their trade put amongst the funds of the House.
23 rd June 1783	<p>Committee appointed to draw Answers to a Petition to the Trades' House by Robert Buchanan and others.</p>
30 th July 1783	<p>Answers to Petition and Appeal of Robert Buchanan and others approved and subscribed.</p>
8 th August 1783	<p>Masters resolved that the Trades Sederunt Book shall in future lie in the hands of the Clerk under lock and key to be patent at all times to any of the members. None of the Members to be allowed to take Extracts or copies. The Deacon refuses to subscribe to this resolution, but the Masters agreeing have subscribed in his presence.</p>
28 th August 1783	<p>Petition for admission from George Scott, who took out his essay last Hallow Court and paid half his fine. On the ground of poverty he is allowed till Lammas Court to pay the other half. Meantime his essay is to be brought forward against "tomorrow's Court", but not to be passed till the other half of the fine is paid.</p> <p>Agreed to delay the booking of John Rankin as Apprentice to Adam Anderson as he never wrought in his shop, but was all along with John Thomson's Widow.</p>
29 th August 1783	<p>Meeting for reading over, comparing and docquetting the Qualified Roll.</p> <p>Andrew Machan, Founder, one of the Masters, protested that if between this date and the election of the Deacon it appears that any of the persons whose names are enrolled are debtors of the Trade, then the names of such persons shall be struck off the Qualified Roll and not be entitled to vote or be voted upon. Andrew Machan asks and takes instruments.</p> <p>Same day Archibald McLellan, Coachmaker, protests that all the members on the Qualified Roll last year and this year are owing no arrears, by the declaration of the Deacons and Masters, he asks and takes instruments.</p>
5 th September 1783	<p>Committee appointed to examine as to whether Quarter Accounts are paid or not. Committee appointed to enquire whether Mr. James Clark's men or any others are all booked and the dues paid.</p>
18 th September 1783	<p>Committee reported that Messrs. Bogle, Clark & Co., of which James Clark is a partner, are owing for the booking</p>

	<p>of two Apprentices and for the booking of one Journeyman. But the Deacon and Masters considering the ferment the Trade is in by a plot for a new Deacon, for which James Clark is one of the Candidates, and by Act of the Trades' House of 16th May, 1734, Bogle Clark & Co. are debarred from voting or being voted on at the ensuing election of Deacon, yet to free the Court from imputation of taking part in any dispute or disqualifying James Clark, they delay giving any judgement until the election of a new Deacon is over, reserving power to any Member at the Election Meeting to take what objections they please. [Clark was not elected]</p>
19 th September 1783	<p>John Hamilton, Watch and Clock Maker, protests that at the last Lammas Court when the Qualified Roll was made up that if any Members then enrolled were afterwards found to be debtors to the Trade they should be disqualified at the ensuing election, and that the Partners of Bogle, Clark & Company are all disqualified because some of their workmen are still unbooked and their dues unpaid. Hamilton further protests that James Clark, one of the partners and a present Master of the Craft should not be voted on in the Election of Deacon or that votes given for him should be void and null.</p>
25 th September 1783	<p>The Deacon and Masters consider an Act passed last Hallow Court and again confirmed on 29th May, that Members not regularly bred to the Trade and capable of making good essays demonstrative of their knowledge thereof are declared incapable of bearing office. Seeing that this has created ferment and disturbance, the Masters are of opinion that an amendment should be made at next Hallow Court, but that for the ensuing year such Members as are ineligible for office should, for the present, be leeted.</p> <p>The Masters also consider the questions regarding Bogle, Clark & Co., as debtors to the Trade, but delay decision thereanent until next Meeting, reserving powers to members to object. It is noted that Bogle, Clark & Co., although debtors to the Trade at the time of former objection, had paid the Booking Money of the two men in question since the election of the Deacon, which clearly establishes the charge against them.</p>
26 th September 1783	<p>Hamilton's protest again entered.</p>
30 th September 1783	<p>Committee appointed to make out a List of Debtors to the Trade.</p>
28 th November 1783	<p>Reference made by the Deacon to the Act passed at last Hallow Court, descriptive of Members eligible for office, confirmed on 29th May last. The Meeting, considering the judicial process upon this Act since 29th May, by which a handle had been made to split the Incorporation into parties, again consider whether the Act should have any retrospect or whether all Members formally in use to be leeted should continue to be leeted and be eligible for office, but that no person designing himself Hammerman in</p>

	his Burgess Ticket should be entitled to bear office on account of that designation only, unless he has served a regular apprenticeship to some one branch of the Craft, and made a sufficient essay, reserving to sons their privileges as formerly. On account of the smallness of the Meeting, consideration of this proposal delayed.
4 th December 1783	Petition to the Deacon and Masters lodged by Thomas Scott and others as to the Act passed at Hallow Court, 1782, relating to the qualification of Office Bearers, confirmed on 29 th May thereafter. Asking the Court to immediately take this question into consideration and call a Meeting of the Craft to consider that Act, in order that it may either be continued or amended or rescinded. The Masters decide that the Trade have full power to reconsider the Act, notwithstanding, John Wilson's protest and are of opinion that the Deacon should call a Meeting for tomorrow.
5 th December 1783	Question considered to (1) Continue the Act or (2) Amend or rescind the same. Carried amend, in terms of the recommendation of the Deacons and Masters, 28 th November last.
19 th February 1784	Masters consider Resolutions of the Citizens of Edinburgh of 21 st April 1783, and report of a Committee of the Citizens of Edinburgh of 24 th December last. Masters are of opinion there are grievances existing in the present constitution of the Burgh, and that a general reform is necessary. Meeting of the Trade to be called.
23 February 1784	The Trade meet to consider this question. The meeting agree that grievances exist in the present constitution of the Burgh and that a reform of the set, and extension of suffrage at the Election of Member of Parliament is necessary. Meeting also agree to concur and correspond with the Edinburgh Committee and other Cities and Burghs in Scotland and other Incorporations of Glasgow for that purpose. The Meeting authorise the Deacon to join other Members of the Trades' House in appointing Delegates from the Conveners House to the Edinburgh Committee to be held on 25 th March. The Meeting authorise the Deacon to sign the address to His Majesty in the name of the Craft on the present critical situation of national affairs. Meeting recommend the Deacon to move in the Convener's House that an address of thanks from the Trades' House be made to the gentlemen who called the Meeting in the Merchants Hall for the purpose of addressing His Majesty, and failing this, the Meeting resolved that the Craft present such an Address
27 th February 1784	Committee appointed to meet with the Trades' House Committee and Committees from other Incorporations regarding the grievances that exist in the present Burgh constitution and the intended reform of the Set, and

	extension of Parliamentary Suffrage, but the meeting oppose sending of any Delegates from the Incorporations to the Edinburgh Meeting as the whole Incorporations are sufficiently represented by Delegates nominated from the Trades' House.
8 th June 1784	The Masters refuse to accept from William Merrilees, Apprentice of James Brodie, an essay of a Saddle Tree, as that is not part of the Hammerman Craft, the Deacon having appointed him to <u>rivet</u> a Saddle Tree as his essay.
15 th June 1784	Merrilees' application again considered. Meeting of opinion that as he did not serve to any branch of the Trade, but that as his Indenture bore that he was taught to make Saddle Trees and he had been booked as an Apprentice, he ought to be allowed to enter by right of Apprenticeship. His request to be allowed to make a Saddle Tree as an essay not granted, as applicants have no right to fix upon their essays, that being the privilege of the Deacon and Masters. If Merrilees refuse to comply with their request, he ought to be proceeded against as a person encroaching on the privileges of the Members.
15 th June 1784	Meeting considered the Proclamation of the Lord Provost and Magistrates on Sabbath Day Observance. Proclamation approved of. The Deacon authorised to order the Trades Officer to act agreeably to the Proclamation, i.e., "The Magistrates hereby requests the Deacons of each of the Fourteen Incorporations of the City to preamble the Streets every Sunday in four divisions, each accompanied by an Officer of the Peace, for the purpose of reporting to the Magistrates, the names, designations and places of abode, of every person who shall appear upon the Streets or Lanes of this City in crowds for idle or licentious purposes, that effectual measures may be taken for convicting and punishing every offender with the utmost rigour of the Law." Proclamation dated 1 st June 1784.
29 th October 1784	Committee appointed to examine Proof copies of the Acts of the Trade being printed and instructed to add the Act of 1784 respecting the hours of journeymen.
26 th November 1784	Petition of William Lang and others respecting the dangerous and alarming combination of the Journeymen amongst the Craft to shorten their hours of labour and leave their work at 7 in the evening and on Saturdays at 6, in place of 8 every lawful night, being the hour of departure from work which has been invariably observed from time immemorial by Journeymen, Apprentices and Servants. The Journeymen had by letters to their Masters, declared their resolution to give over work at the hours mentioned. The Petitioners remind the Craft of the Act of October 1784, when a similar disturbance had taken place. The Petitioners made every effort to come to an arrangement with the Chairman, but were obliged to apply to the Magistrates for assistance and a Warrant was obtained for apprehending the Journeymen and to hear evidence.

	<p>In the course of the procedure combination amongst the Journeymen was clearly established. Two of the Journeymen were imprisoned and the rest professed penitence and willingness to return to work. The Journeymen returned accordingly, but the spirit of disaffection again broke forth and a greater number of Journeymen and Servants deserted their service, the combination being so strong that those who were disposed to return to their duty declared they would endanger their lives in doing so.</p> <p>The Petitioners again had recourse to Law, and preferred a complaint to the Justices of the Peace under Act of Parliament of 1784, whereby such combinations were declared to be illegal and offenders doomed to 3 months' imprisonment. A Warrant was accordingly procured and afterwards confirmed by the Justices for Renfrew and Stirlingshire, but the Journeymen convicted deserted their families and former places of abode and were in concealment. The Petitioners journeyed to Greenock and Carron in quest of them but having been unable to quell the disturbance, they desired to bring the whole matter before the Craft, as they were feeling the consequences of the combination severely, their workmen having almost wholly deserted their service, on account of which they were unable to carry on business. Petitioners learn, on good authority, that the Refractory Journeymen are receiving pecuniary aid from the working Journeymen so that the combination cannot be crushed in a short time. The Petitioners believe that the dismissing and setting idle of the whole of the Journeymen workmen presently employed in the different branches would be the most effectual mode of bringing the disturbance to an end. While the Petitioners are lying under severe hardships in this matter, it is only just that the trade at large who are not suffering but reaping profits and advantages thereby, should pay the liquidate damages which the Petitioners have already suffered or may suffer.</p> <p>The Deacon and Masters are of opinion that the Trade should authorise the Clerk to advertise in Newspapers describing Members of the Combination and offering a reward of £1 1/- for their apprehension. On their apprehension, the Deacon be authorised, along with a Committee, to prosecute the defaulters and that the Trade should authorise the Collector to defray the expenses. The Meeting approved of the suggestion of the Deacon and Masters; one Member protested.</p>
25 th February 1785	<p>The Masters consider an Extract Minute of the Trades' House pointing out that for some time great animosities, discords and divisions had subsisted among the Professors and Students in the College, whereby the usual number of Students had greatly decreased and those attending the College had greatly suffered. The House</p>

	recommended a Petition to His Majesty, setting forth the grievances and requesting a Royal Visitation of the University to cause enquiry to be made into the past conduct of the Professors and Students, and discover from what causes the grievances have arisen, so that remedies may be found. The Masters authorise the Deacon to call a Meeting of the Craft to consider this proposal.
28 th February 1785	Meeting of the Craft held. Agreed to adjourn Meeting until the Petition be signed by the Deacon Convener. Meantime the Deacon enquire as to the number of Students attending the different classes at the College for 20 years past, and also as to the truth of the other allegations made in the Petition.
12 th March 1785	Petition produced to the Masters subscribed by the Deacon Convener. Resolved that the same be brought before the Trade. Petition submitted to the Trade. Adjourned sine die .
24 th August 1785	Proposed that the Tax of 6d. on each man at work should be abolished. Masters delay consideration of this till Hallow Court Meeting.
12 th September 1785	James Foyar (Smith and Town Officer) admitted Red Coat Officer to the Trade.
25 th November 1785	Act imposing 6d. upon every man at work rescinded. Archibald McLelland protests against £30 being paid towards expense of Process in defence of a Law made by the Trade, and rescinded by the Trades' House, and also against his having refused to have the Collector's Accounts read over agreeably to former practice.
19 th December 1785	William Lang to be served with a copy of the Petition by John Wilson and others against him and to lodge answers.
16 th February 1786	Messrs. Wilson and others to see Lang's answers, and to lodge replies.
29 th March 1786	The Deacon and Masters agree to put the following to vote: Re: Petition against Lang – proceed to give judgement or delay – agreed to delay till, Tuesday 4 th April.
4 th April 1786	The Deacon and Masters find Lang has incurred the Penalties under the Act of 15 th October 1748, anent hours of employment of Journeymen, but owing to the alleviating circumstances are of opinion that classing should <u>not</u> be resorted to.
18 th August 1786	Petition of James Caldwell, Apprentice to Archibald Millar, Watch and Clockmaker, to the effect that their Apprentice has served most part of his time in Galloway where he had been decoyed together with his Master whereby his right to freedom of the Glasgow Trade had been forfeited by having served in the country although with a Freeman. Craving the Deacon and Masters to declare the Indenture void.

	<p>The Meeting declare they cannot annul the Indenture nor can they permit the Apprentice to serve two years for meat and fee with another Master in order to recover his freedom he not having served five years previous within the Royalty.</p> <p>The Masters declare that no Master can compel any Apprentice bound to him for his freedom, to serve outwith the Royalty or liberties of the City.</p>
1 st September 1786	Sentence <u>re</u> Wilson and others v Lang viz:- William Lang not guilty of any breach of the Act of Trade of 1748 anent hours or time of hiring of Journeymen and Servants
1 st September 1786	<p>John McLochoar, Apprentice to the deceased James Lang, craves for authority to transfer his Indenture to James Wylie, Copper and White Iron Smith. Authority granted.</p> <p>John [], Hammerman, a King's Freeman, and others, informed against as guilty of encroaching upon the privileges of the Incorporation. They appear before the Deacon and Masters and produce their discharges from the Army and Navy, entitling them to carry on their respective branches of the Craft, excepting Allan McDougall, smith, who refused to produce any discharge unless before a Justice of the Peace. The meeting resolved to convene Allan McDougall before a Justice of the Peace and oblige him to produce his discharge.</p>
31 st October 1786	Act of the Trades' House respecting the importation of grain imported into Scotland submitted. The Meeting are of opinion that the Bill altering the present Law, should be opposed by the Craft. Committee named therefore on the Corn Bill to co-operate with the Chamber of Commerce and Trades' House or other Incorporations in the City.
24 th November 1786	Part of the Act of the Trade of 1748 rescinded in so far as respects the hours of working, viz., from 6 in the morning till 8 at night, and no further, and in time coming it is to be understood that the Members of the Trade are at liberty to employ their Journeymen to work what number of hours in the day and their Journeymen can best agree.
29 th December 1786	Petition from Walter McGowan, craving his Entry Money to be returned or part of it on account of his having served for his freedom. Resolution carried not to return the money.
19 th February 1787	Decision of the Deacon and Masters upon the Reform and better regulation of the election of the Town Council and obtaining system for regulating Magistrates and Councils intromissions with the Public Funds. The Masters decide to support an application to Parliament for reform. Protest lodged by James Campbell that no part of the Poor Funds or Public Stock of the Craft be applied to carry on any process against the present Magistrates or set of the Burgh or for any application to Parliament relative thereto.
20 th February 1787	The whole Trade agree to the decision of the Deacon and Masters anent the reform Mr. James Campbell again protests.

30 th August 1787	£120 subscribed to the Infirmary to be erected, the money to be paid out of the means of the common stock of the Craft.
31 st August 1787 (Lammas Court)	12 Apprentices booked; 7 Freemen admitted; Collector received Quarter Accounts. Collector received Journeymens Booking Money. Charity Apprentice booked free.
27 th September 1787	Committee appointed to enquire into the conduct of the Trades' Officer and form a system of laws for regulating his Fees and Dues.
28 th September 1787	Collector discharged. New Collector elected. Deacon nominates 6 Masters, the Trade elects 6 Masters; 8 appear, accept office and give their oaths. 4 absent. 2 Box Masters elected. Clerk and Officer continued.
30 th November 1787	Cart of coals given to each of the poor. Loan of £60 granted to James Brownlie, Spirit Dealer in Glasgow, and two Cautioners accepted for him in a bond to the Deacon and Collector and their successors. No other security mentioned.
15 th January 1788	Ninian MacGill, Smith, presents a Petition to the Deacon and Masters against James Robb, Smith, for contravention an Act of the Incorporation of 19 th February 1761, by employing James Smith, a servant of MacGill, without giving him notice, and after knowledge that he was a servant of MacGill. Parties heard. Complaint found proven. James Robb found £2. On failure to pay, Clerk ordained to carry on a prosecution against him in the name of the Deacon and Collector to recover the fine and costs of suit.
15 th January 1788	Deacons and Masters resolve to approve of the 2 nd , 4 th , 5 th and 6 th Resolutions of the Trades' House laid before them for approval regarding the intended reform and set of the Burgh. Suggestions made for alterations on the other Resolutions. £20 of the Trades' Stock voted for carrying on a general reform of the Burghs of Scotland and approval given for the Trades' House also voting £20. Committee appointed to meet with the subscribers to the Glasgow Infirmary to deliberate and determine as to the conditions of the Trust to be vested in the Trustees and Managers, etc.
18 th March 1789	Andrew Peacock, Cutler, Petitions the Trade. His Petition and relative letters laid before the Masters who resolved, by majority, to record the papers and lay the business before the Trade. Protest entered by Deacon Merrilees and others on the case of Andrew Peacock, against the papers being recorded. The Deacon enters a complaint against James Lang, Late Deacon, for insulting him in the Chair in the presence of the Masters at this Meeting, and calling him a liar.

	<p>The dispute was one concerning an application for relief.</p>
	<p>Petition recorded by William Merrilees to the Deacon Convener, Deacons and Members of the Trades' House against James Lang, Brassfounder, Late Deacon of the Craft, for insulting the Deacon, calling him a liar. (See Trades' House Records for 1789)</p> <p><u>N.B.</u> It appears the question being put to the Meeting of the Craft of this date – Is Mr. James Lang guilty or is he not guilty – it was carried not guilty, 5 having voted not guilty, and 5 guilty. The Deacon therefore protested and appealed to the Trades' House.</p>
10 th April 1789	<p>Police Bill considered. The Deacon and Masters received to recommend that the Trade should oppose the hurrying through Parliament of the Police Bill in its present form by every legal method, and to join and concur with the Trades' House and any Incorporations and contribute their share of expense in opposing same.</p>
13 th April 1789	<p>Police Bill considered by the Trade. Recommendations of the Deacon and Masters approved.</p>
16 th June 1789	<p>Petition from John Wilson, Ironmonger, setting forth his reason setting forth his reasons for not booking his Apprentice, John Livingstone, and craving to be ordered by the Deacon and Masters to pay up the Apprentice's Booking Money with interest and with such a reasonable fine for the good of the poor as the Masters see fit to inflict.</p> <p>Resolution that John Livingstone be admitted a Freeman on paying Dues as an Apprentice and that the case of Mr. Wilson be referred to the whole Trade with recommendation that the Act of Trade infringed by Mr. Wilson should in some measure be mitigated.</p>
21 st July 1789	<p>Police Bill again considered. Section 3 criticised as improper as it would create another body of Tradesmen in Glasgow totally independent and unconnected with those already incorporated, and that in the opinion of the Craft it would be better to put the settlers in the extended royalty on the same footing as the Trades in the ancient royalty.</p> <p><u>Section 52</u> – Trade of the opinion that instead of a Superintendent of Police with Officers under him, it would be more advisable to appoint one or two additional Magistrates to take charge of the Police and an additional number of Officers to assist them, the Meeting being of opinion that inhabitants and Burgesses of Glasgow of great respectability would readily fill these additional offices of Magistrates without asking any salary. The whole Trade recommended the carrying into execution of these suggestions.</p> <p>John Wilson ordained to pay the Booking Money of John Livingstone with interest to date, and a fine of £1.</p>
11 th August 1789	<p>Booking Money, Interest and Fine paid.</p>

27 th August 1789	Clerk reports an Indenture between Maxwell and Company, Brassfounders, and Archibald Kerr an Apprentice, who had left their service, on which account the Employers did not wish him booked. Masters therefore refuse to allow him to be booked.
17 th September 1789	John Wilson, an Apprentice, permitted to serve out the remainder of his time with another Master.
3 rd November 1789	Extract Act of the Trades' House laid before the Deacon and Masters, providing for the future management of the Gorbals Lands. The Act approved and Stephen Maxwell recommended to be the Delegate for the Lands.
5 th November 1789	Meeting of the Trade. Recommendation of the Masters approved. Stephen Maxwell elected the first Delegate for the Management of Gorbals Lands.
28 th December 1789	Police Bill again considered. The Trade disapprove of the altered Bill and of the conduct of such persons as shall attempt to get the authority of the legislature for carrying the Clauses of that Bill into execution.
26 th February 1790	Extract Act of the Trades' House submitted as to the building and erecting of a Quay on the south side of the River Clyde opposite the Broomielaw. Delegate appointed to consult with the Magistrates and Council on the subject. Police Bill again considered. Deacon and Masters recommend a vote of £50 to oppose Bill.
1 st March 1790	Meeting of the Trade. The Trade approve of the recommendation of the Masters <u>re</u> the intended Quay. The Trade approve of opposition of the Police Bill and the vote of £50.
3 rd March 1790	Masters consider how far the Trade will countenance and support the Convener's House against an interdict of the Magistrates in preventing the House from the free and full management of their funds agreeable to the constitutional and immemorial practice of the Trades' House and to know how far the Trade will concur with the House in opposing the Police Bill. Masters are of opinion that the Interdict of the Magistrates respecting the management of the funds of the Convener's House is an interference improper and unknown and calculated to prevent opposition to their Bill. The Masters also of opinion that the House should proceed in the matter of the money voted as if no Interdict had taken place, and the Craft should support the House in its defence. The Trade should also authorise the Deacon to sign any Petition against the Police Bill. Deacon and Masters in <u>re</u> Petition and Complaint William Lang against John Brand, fined Brand 40/- in terms of the Act of the Trade engaging other peoples servants. Brand protests.
4 th March 1790	Police Bill and Interdict of the Magistrates again considered. Carried. Agreed to support the Convener's

	<p>House in the quest for independence before the Magistrates about the appropriation of the House Funds for opposing the Police Bill against the Interdict of the Magistrates by 56 to 1.</p> <p>Resolved to concur with the House and other Incorporations in Petitioning Parliament against Bill.</p>
14 th May 1790	Corn Bill considered at a Meeting of the Trade. The Deacon authorised to subscribe a Petition to the House of Lords against alterations proposed on the Corn Laws.
7 th June 1790	The Deacon and Masters consider an Act of the Trades' House respecting the litigation before the Magistrates as to the appropriation of the House Funds for opposing the Police Bill, and the decision of the Magistrates thereupon finding that the Acts of the House in voting Funds for this purpose are unwarranted. The Masters are of opinion that the decision of the Town Clerk is illfounded, and that the Magistrates in pronouncing the same, have not paid a proper deference to the arguments of the House. The Deacon and Masters consider an appeal should be carried to the Court of Session, but that the House should not raise the merits of the question on the Letter of Guildry, but upon the original constitution and Acts of the House and the uniform practice thereof, their view being that the Letter of Guildry, so as it relates to the Merchants and Trades Ranks is partly a political document to preserve peace and good order, but in no shape did the Letter interfere with and alter the destination of Funds for the purposes for which they were originally contributed, and which was priorly, and has been posteriorly sanctioned by uniform practice.
8 th June 1790	Sentence of Magistrates considered by an Act of Trade and the recommendation of the Masters approved.
12 th July 1790	<p>Committee appointed to enquire after such men as are carrying on Freemen's Trade under the pretext of being King's Freemen. Report what they have done.</p> <p>Clerk instructed to write to John Logan, asking for production of his certificate from the Navy and James Macfarlane, asking for evidence of his being a soldier's son, and for Act of Parliament whereby he, as a soldier's son, is entitled to carry on business.</p>
5 th August 1790	Cases of alleged King's Freemen again considered, and several persons carrying on the Trade asked to take out their Essay, failing which, the Deacon and Masters will give judgement against them.
24 th August 1790	Cases of four Unfreemen considered, who have been summoned before the Deacon and Masters for working as Freemen without entering the Trade. Deacon and Masters of opinion that a process before a competent Court be raised in the name of the Incorporation, to compel these persons to enter.

27 th August 1790	Late Deacon William Merrilees protests against his non-entry in the Qualified Roll in respect of his not having paid the 20/- alleged to be due by him to the Trade.
1 st September 1790	Merrilees petitions the Trade to be entered on the Qualified Roll.
16 th September 1790	Merrilees put on the Qualified Roll by Decree of the Trades' House. John Steven protests against statements in Merrilees Petition affecting him. Mr Merrilees again protests against Deacon and Masters not expunging from the Trade Records the different Minutes or Acts of the Trade referred to in the papers connected with the Decree of the Trades' House.
24 th September 1790	Deacon and Masters besides recording the Trades' House Decree in Merrilees Petition declare that the Minutes of the Trade of 27 th October and 27 th November 1789, are hereby rescinded in obedience to the said decree in so far as they relate to William Merrilees.
29 th October 1790	Committee appointed to enquire after shopkeepers carrying on business under the denomination of Ironfounders who execute sundry pieces of manufacture in the same manner as Freemen working smiths do, and such if is the case to report within three weeks. Question considered as to whether Freemen are immediately entitled to adopt the practice of the Counties of Scotland, which is that no Freeholder, after being put on the Roll, is entitled to vote for a Member to represent the County until he is a year and a day enrolled.
26 th November 1790	Act passed by that Trade that every person who shall enter as a Freeman in time coming shall not be entitled to vote at any election of whatever description until year and day expires after having taken out his Essay, or if he does not make an Essay, until a year and day after he pays his Freedom Fine.
27 th November 1790	Corn Bill considered and Resolution of the Trades' House thereanent. Deacon and Masters approve of these and recommend the Trade to concur in every measure therein suggested. Deacon and Masters of opinion that for the dignity of the Trades' House and Incorporations, a Hall is necessary, provided such a proposal meets with the approbation of the different Crafts.
29 th January 1791	The Trade unanimously approve of the Masters' proposal regarding the Corn Bill and the Trades' Hall.
3 rd February 1791	George Crawford appointed assistant Clerk (the Deacon having sent within the last six days, many times to Matthew Gilmour, the Trades' Clerk and having been unable to get a visit from him), Deacon McCash obliges himself to pay George Crawford out of his own pocket.

	Committee appointed to carry on the process against White & Chadwick, non-Freemen.
10 th March 1791	Matthew Gilmour, Late Clerk, submits certificates under the hands of two Sergeants, and a letter from Mr. Alexander McCulloch, offering to officiate as Clerk for Mr. Gilmour. Mr Gilmour protests against the Deacon and Masters for refusing to allow him to officiate as Clerk.
14 th March 1791	John White, Partner of Chadwick, expresses his willingness to take out an Essay and pay the half of his Freedom Fine. Deacon and Masters agree to this proposal.
14 th March 1791	Meeting of the Trade. Matthew Gilmour's protest recorded. Carried by 15 to 3 that Mr. Gilmour should be Custodiar of the Trades' Books.
25 th March 1791	Committee appointed to raise a process against Cotterell to compel him to enter with the Trade.
9 th June 1791	Joseph Pylar found guilty of a breach of the Act of 19 th February 1761, and fined in £2.
25 th August 1791	Mr Adams' plan of the Trades House approved by the Masters. Petition by the Bonnetmakers and Dyers craving to be restored to certain privileges. Consideration delayed.
1 st September 1791	Mr. Adams' plans approved by the Craft. Petition of the Bonnetmakers and Dyers remitted to the Deacon and Masters.
22 nd September 1791	James Anderson, Trades Officer appointed additional Poor Man in the House. Election of a new Officer to be delayed till a General Meeting of the Trade.
23 rd September 1791	Matthew Gilmour continued Clerk and James Robertson continued Officer.
21 st November 1791	Four applications for the Trades' Officer shall be considered by the Masters. Choice to be made by the Craft.
25 th November 1791	James Kirkwood appointed Officer of the Craft.
13 th March 1792	Mr. Adams' new plan of the Trades' Hall considered. Delegates appointed to represent the Trade regarding the Plans and Estimates. Police Bill considered. Joseph Pylar's Fine modified to 20/-.
15 th March 1792	Masters appointed of delegates <u>re</u> Trades' Hall Buildings approved. Certain suggestions regarding the Police Bill recorded.
23 rd April 1792	Police Bill again considered and criticised by the Masters and on the same date by the Trade.

	Police Bill to be opposed by the Members of the Trades' House from the Hammermen Craft.
7 th August 1792	A Plumber who keeps a man working as a Brassfounder as well as a Plumber to be prosecuted along with White, Chadwick and others.
30 th August 1792	Certain complaints considered regarding Freemen engaging servants of other Freemen.
6 th September 1792	The Masters at this date and for several years prior thereto appoint a Committee to take in Essays of applicants for admission.
20 th September 1792	Andrew McKendrick, White Iron Smith, fined £2 for enticing away a Freeman's servant.
30 th December 1792	A cart of coal given to each of the poor.
14 th December 1792	<p>A meeting of the Trade unanimously came to the following Resolutions:</p> <p>On request from the Convener's House to express their sentiments upon the present measurements which agitate public opinion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) We declare unanimously that we revere and admire the British constitution as fixed at the glorious revolution in 1688, and will to the utmost of our power, give every aid and assistance to support the same; (2) We further declare that we with great indignation reprobate every libellous or seditious publication tending to disturb the peace of Society or unhinge the present constitution as vested in the King, Lords and Commons; at the same time where we see writings of merit tending to enlighten mankind and improve society, we think the authors entitled to good countenance of the community. (3) We declare that if tumult or riot happens in this city we will attend the Magistrates and use every exertion to prevent and suppress the same, but we are happy to say that not the least symptoms of mob or riot in these times has hitherto made the smallest appearance in this city.
25 th February 1793	The Deacon reports that the process in <u>re</u> John Wilson and others against the Deacon, Collector and Masters for repetition of £20 paid out of the Trades' Funds towards the Burgh Reform in obedience to an Act of the Trade made at a General Meeting called by order from the Trades' House, has been before the Lords, who have reversed the sentence of the Lord Ordinary which assoilized the Craft from the demand, and have confirmed the decision of the Magistrates by which the Deacon, Collector and Masters were ordained to pay back £20 with interest; as also expenses of the Petitioners both here and at the Court of Session. The opinion of the Deacon and Masters is that Deacon James Scott, Collector Thomas McCash and the other Office Bearers should pay the money decerned for under protest, so that they in the interim may reserve power both for appealing to the other Incorporations in

	<p>Glasgow and Scotland for their advice, all being equally interested in the principles of the decision. The Masters also recommend that a short statement of facts be laid before the public and every member left at liberty to subscribe or not subscribe voluntarily and that a subscription paper be opened.</p> <p>The Craft agreed to these proposals.</p> <p>Petition of Daniel Gibson submitted. About 6 years ago he had been bound apprentice to Andrew Peacock for 7 years, and that Peacock now being dead the Petitioner has been working with David Smith, Freeman of the Trade and craving permission of the Deacon and Masters to serve out his Apprenticeship with Smith.</p> <p>Petition granted.</p>
25 th February 1793	<p>Archibald McLellan protests that none of the parties successful in the recent litigation should take any of the Funds or Poores Money to pay their expenses.</p> <p>John Wilson protests against any part of the Public Stock of the Craft being paid or applied to assist the Trades' House in following out the reclaiming Petition in Court of Session against the Judgement of that Court of 16th January last. Reasons of protest stated at length.</p>