

Trades House of Glasgow Trades House Free School



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The Trades Free School

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THE TRADES FREE SCHOOL

Early Schooling in Scotland

Education has been encouraged in Scotland from early times, in 1494, the Scottish Parliament enacted that Barons and free-holders had to send their eldest son to the Grammar School until they were completely grounded in Latin, and thereafter they had to study Law for three years. Failure to do so would result in a fine. Several Acts were passed after the Reformation for the encouragement of learning. The 1646 Act established a national system of education by ruling "*that there be a school in every parish, and a schoolmaster appointed by the advice of the heritors and minister of the parish.*" A salary for the schoolmaster varying from 100 to 200 merks, (1 merk is equivalent to 2/3rds of a pound Scots and 1 pound Scots is equivalent to 1/12th of one pound Sterling), was set for the schoolmaster and this was payable by landowners and tenants. Later on it was necessary to build a school-house and dwelling-house for the school master and these had to be maintained by the landowners and their tenants.

As Glasgow grew in size, the legal provision of supplying one school-master per parish became inadequate and the number of children became impossible to teach with one person. The landowners and tenants were often unwilling to increase their expenditure on more teachers, schools and dwellings for school-teachers. The shortfall was supplied by bequests for educational purposes and partly by private teachers. The Trades House was one of the organisations that attempted to fill the need for the education of the children of the Incorporations.

Early Mention of a Trades School

Education is one of the main charitable functions that the House supports and this goes back to the mid-1600s when the House started its first school for the children of its members. The following examples illustrate the House's long association with education:

In September 1649, at a meeting of the Trades House they discussed a motion made a number of times concerning the setting up of a school and schoolmaster for instructing the poor children whose parents were not able to pay for their education. The Deacons of the Hammermen, Tailors, Cordiners, Visitor of the Maltmen, Deacons of the Baxters, Weavers, Masons, Chirugeones, Fleshers, Skinners, Coopers, Wrights, Bonnetmakers and Gardeners agreed to pay different amounts to support the school.¹ In November 1649 John Patersone was elected to be the school master and was payed accordingly.² John Patersone was instructed to carry himself and his charge to conform to instructions by the ministers.³

On 29th November 1651 the House met and discussed the remuneration of the schoolmaster and decided that they were content with his fee and decided to pay John Fultoune elder, Skinner £3 and [] Semple, daughter of the deceased [] Semple £3.⁴

¹ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, 10th September 1649 ~ page 270.

² Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, November 1649 ~ page 277.

³ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, November 1649 ~ page 278.

⁴ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, November 1651 ~ page 296.

In April 1652 Johne Patersoune, the schoolmaster, complained that some poor are not able to pay for their tuition. Walter Neilson, George Broome, Patrik Clerk, Johne Patson and Johne Weir were tasked with visiting the school to determine which poor could not pay their schooling. It is this reference which makes it clear that the school was located at the Wynecheid. Precisely where this is, is still a mystery.⁵

Poor Boys

In June 1652 the Trades House proposed an act whereby they decided to fund poor boys who were born in the City, to learn an apprenticeships.⁶ The Deacons met with their Crafts and agreed this would be a good and pious thing to do and agreed to support it.^{7 8}

It is unclear if or when the House ceased to have a school, possibly the Almshouse had become unsuitable or too distant from their homes.

Flethers' Free School.

In 1802, the Incorporation of Flethers founded a Free School and endowed it with Funds from the Sale of Manure, collected in the Slaughter-House, this cash had been formerly spent at convivial meetings. The only qualification for this School was, that the Children belong to Freemen Flethers of three years standing. The term of Education was not limited; the Children were taught Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and Geography; in 1816, there were Sixty Children in the School and the annual expenditure amounts to £120.⁹

CREATION OF THE TRADES FREE SCHOOL

Election of House Chaplain ~ 1806

In August 1806, a new Chaplain to the House was to be elected and this was opposed by Mr. Archibald Newbigging and his adherent who protested and tried to stop the vote being taken. A vote was taken whether to appoint a Chaplain or not and by a large majority it was decided to appoint a Chaplain. The Reverend Messrs. John Love and John Ritchie were put into the leet and Mr John Ritchie was elected by a majority of one vote.¹⁰ It may seem strange to refer to the election of the Chaplain as part of the formation of the proposed Trades Free School but the Chaplain was to become the new Principal Teacher of the Trades School.

Approach made to the Chaplain to take charge of a proposed Trades School

Just over one month later, Mr. Archibald Newbigging (Weaver) proposed that the House should appoint a committee to converse with the present chaplain to know if he could undertake upon an augmentation of twenty or thirty pounds being made to his salary, to take charge of a school by himself, or to find a person to do so under his superintendence to instruct fifty or sixty children under the patronage of the House. The House unanimously approved the motion and the thanks of the meeting were given to Mr. Newbigging.¹¹

⁵ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, January 1654 ~ page 300.

⁶ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, January 1652 ~ page 297.

⁷ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, January 1652 ~ page 297.

⁸ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, January 1652 ~ page 298.

⁹ James Cleland, Annals of Glasgow, 1816, Page 268.

¹⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 25th August 1806.

¹¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 7th October 1806.

In October

1806, the House appointed a committee to visit Mr. Ritchie, the new Chaplain to the House, to see if he would be willing to accept the charge of looking after the school if the House should agree to it.¹² Apparently Mr. Ritchie agreed and progress followed rather slowly for the setting up of the Trades Free School.

First Report on the practicalities of setting up a School

It was not until September 1807 that the Committee appointed to examine the practicality of setting up a school presented their extensive report which is attached below:

***First** that fifty or sixty boys, may be taught two or three hours each day with benefit for the sum of thirty pounds sterling.*

***Second** that the same number may be taught five hours each day during the summer season and four hours each day during the winter season with considerably greater success for the sum of fifty pounds sterling.*

***Third** that one hundred and four boys may be taught five hours each day during the summer and four hours during the winter months, every lawful day, (Saturday excepted) for the sum of one hundred pounds sterling; allowing the teacher to enjoy an assistant, and to pay him out of that sum, the teacher always considered as responsible.”*

Upon the first of these plans the Committee have to remark that the time appropriated for teaching is too short: the powers of the children would not be sufficiently employed hence a habit of idleness would be contracted, which, if acquired in youth, would deprive not only themselves of being industrious, but also the world of active members of Society in future.

Upon the second, that number is too few for was such a number divided among the thirteen or fourteen Incorporations, its influence would not be felt. What proportion would four or five from each body bear to the number of applications which necessarily would be made?

The last, and most extensive, is that which appears to the Committee as the best, as the one calculated to produce the greatest utility and improvement, becoming the dignity and respectability of the Trades House and Incorporations.

The Committee have to add, that the Chaplain will under his services as extensively useful to the House are in his power.

House Plan for setting up a School

The House having heard the report made the following plan:

Plan for establishing and conducting a school of one hundred and four boys under the patronage of the Trades House and Incorporations of Glasgow:

***First.** That the members of the Trades House for the time being shall meet yearly the first week of for the purpose of electing of their numbers*

¹² Minutes of the Trades House, 9th October 1806.

as managers, along with the Deacon Convener for the time being, who shall act of presses of their meetings until the next election of managers, three of whom along with the Deacon Convener, forming a quorum, whose business shall be to regulate all matters relative to the institution, and the Deacon Convener and managers so chosen shall remain in office during the space of one year complete except in the case of a vacancy occasioned by death, or any other cause which may render them incapable of acting in that capacity, in which case the same shall be filled up by a vote of the House.

Second. *That the school shall consist of one hundred and four boys, belonging to the members of the different Incorporations who shall contribute toward the institution. That they shall continue in the school for the space of four years complete. The first two years they shall be taught to read the English language, the third writing and the last writing and arithmetic, and that the business of the school may be carried on methodically. Twenty six of these boys shall be declared finished each year, and the same number admitted, to free up the vacancy, but no vacancy shall be filled up until the regular stated time of entry, once a year it being understood that the first nominations of the boys, regard shall be had to put in such as are so far advanced in their education as to fall out progressively, agreeable to the above order.*

Third. *That the parents who wish their boys to be enrolled in said school shall make application in writing to the Deacon and Masters of their respective Incorporations, two weeks previous to the time appointed for the annual admission of boys to the school, and the Deacons and Masters of their respective Incorporations shall meet and make out a report of the circumstances and situations of the boys who are to be admitted from their Incorporations for the year and transmit the same to the Deacon Convener and Managers who shall, from such report, name the boys to be admitted;- and the boys when admitted, shall always appear at school in a decent and respectable manner, and shall, while there, keep and maintain good order, and shall be under the censure and discipline of the teacher, declaring hereby that upon complaint of the teacher to the Deacon Convener and Manager, of any boy continuing in the habit of disobedience or disorder, such boys rights to the school, shall be determined by the Deacon Convener and Managers.*

Fourth. *That no boy shall be admitted to the school under the age of seven years nor above the age of nine years and the boys so admitted shall be bound to furnish themselves in all their books, paper, pens and ink, etc.*

Fifth. *That the members of the Trades House for the time being shall the exclusive right of electing a teacher, whether by comparative trial of his abilities or any other manner which they may judge proper. A vote of the House shall determine the person to be chosen.*

Sixth. *That the schoolmaster so elected shall remain in office (at least) for the space of one year for which he shall receive a salary of one hundred pounds sterling per annum, free of room and rent, coal and all other necessaries. He shall be a person of good moral character and shall instruct the boys in the principles of the Christian religion, the English language, writing and arithmetic in their separate classes or order. He shall be bound to employ an assistant, and pay the same out of the above sum, he being always considered responsible – he shall teach five hours every lawful day (Saturday excepted) during the summer season and four*

hours each day during the winter season and two hours each Saturday. He shall also keep a regular account of the attendance of the boys, to be shown to the Deacon Convener and managers, and shall exercise a uniform and proper discipline over them, that there shall be a vacation once a year during such a length of time, as shall be annually fixed by the committee of management.

Seventh. That in the event of the members of the House choosing at the end of any year to change the schoolmaster, they shall meet three months previous to the election to determine the same, and immediate notice of such resolution shall be transmitted to the Master in writing, and in the event of the teacher choosing to resign his office at the end of any year, he in like manner shall be bound to give the Deacon Convener and members of the Trades House notice thereof, in writing three months previous to the expiration of that year otherwise if he should pass that time he shall be bound to remain in office for the following year.

Eighth. That there shall be an examination of the school, (at least) four times a year, upon the the the it shall be conducted in presence of the Deacon Convener for the time being and managers, either by the teacher himself or by any Clergyman or other gentleman whom they shall judge proper to appoint for that purpose of marking what each boy professes, and how they perform, that by comparing their improvement at that time with what they could do at their former examination, a judgement may be formed of the flourishing or declining state of the school:- also the examiners are to make out a report of the progress of each scholar to be entered in said book, subscribed by the reporters, and read at their stated meetings previous to all other business.

Ninth. That for every boy sent by the Incorporations, they shall pay fifteen shillings annually towards the expense of establishing and conducting the school, and agreeable to this the following statement is made viz.

The	Hammermen to pay	£4. 10s for 6 boys
	Tailors to pay	£7. 10s for 10 boys
	Cordiners to pay	£7. 10s for 10 boys
	Maltmen to pay	£6 for 8 boys
	Weavers to pay	£11. 5s for 15 boys
	Bakers to pay	£4. 10s for 6 boys
	Skinners to pay	£4. 10s for 6 boys
	Wrights to pay	£7. 10s for 10 boys
	Coopers to pay	£3. 15s for 5 boys
	Fleshers to pay	£3. 15s for 5 boys
	Masons to pay	£4. 10s for 6 boys
	Barbers to pay	£4. 10s for 6 boys
	Gardeners to pay	£4. 10s for 6 boys
	Dyers to pay	£3. 15s for 5 boys

And according or in proportion to these sums each of the Incorporations shall have liberty to recommend the number of boys as above specified, and which sums shall be annually paid by the said Incorporations to the Collector to the House for the time being and the deficiency of the one hundred pound sterling of salary, shall be made up and paid to the schoolmaster by the Trades House who shall also pay the school room rents, or furnish a room for the school.

Tenth. *That the Deacon Convener and members of the Trades House for the time being shall have the power from time to time to alter and amend any of the foregoing articles which shall tend to the good and benefit of the institution.*

The House approved the above and circulated it to the Deacons and Masters for discussion asking that they report their Master Courts views to the Deacon Convener within ten days from the date.¹³

School Committee's Report ~ 1807

The School committee reported that they had reviewed the different reports from the Incorporations and noted that the different interests of the Incorporations in the funds of the House were ascertained by the Grand Decernitive and therefore in place of the previously proposed number of boys from each Incorporation, they proposed two boys for each member they have in the House, in which case instead of one hundred and four boys, there will be one hundred and eight boys in the school.

Weavers desire additional School places

The House unanimously approved and accepted the report and the Incorporation of Weavers indicated that they wished an additional eight boys and the Incorporation of Wrights and additional six boys put into the school. The House agreed to the additional numbers as long as the Incorporations paid an additional fifteen shillings for each boy and a proportion of the other expenses being paid by the House, corresponding to the number of additional boys so that the other Incorporations would not suffer. It was agreed to remit these alterations back to the Incorporations.¹⁴

School Committee's second report ~ 1808

The School Committee reported to the House the views of the Incorporations. Which summarised as follows:

- a. *The Incorporations approved the plan to allow two boys per member of the House to become scholars at the school.*
- b. *That the condition annexed by the Taylors for withdrawing from the school could not be acceded to.*
- c. *The request from the Wrights and Weavers for additional number of boys into the school was generally objected to by the Incorporations and this should be given up by these Trades.*

*The House unanimously agreed to the report and asked the Incorporations of Taylors, Wrights and Weavers to consider their position and to report back to the House.*¹⁵

¹³ Trades House Minutes of 15th September 1807.

¹⁴ Trades House Minutes of 7th October 1807.

¹⁵ Trades House Minutes of 2nd February 1808.

Tailors and Wrights agree to the School Committee Report ~ Weavers disassociate themselves from the School

A few weeks later the Incorporations of Taylors and Wrights agreed to the conditions and the Weavers declined to have any connection with the school unless they were allowed to send sixteen boys. The House and the other Incorporations could not agree to the Weavers request.

Agreement to build additional accommodation for the School

At last the House was ready to create a Trades Free School but they had no accommodation for the venture. It was proposed to build a hall on the vacant ground behind the Trades Hall, which the House unanimously agreed to and asked that the Committee along with Mr Brocket, Mason, procure plans for the building and furnishing the hall and to report back to the House.¹⁶

School Committee Report ~ 1808

In May 1808, the School Committee reported the following:

- a. *The Committee have procured plans from Mr David Hamilton, architect, of the proposed school and a specification of works from Messrs Alexander Hay, John Carmichael and Andrew McFarlane, Wrights and Waddell and Park Thomas Wilson and John Baird, Masons for estimates.*
- b. *The Committee on reviewing the estimates received proposed that the lowest should be accepted and these were by: Mr Andrew McFarlane, Wright and Mr Thomas Wilson, Mason.*
- c. *The House unanimously approved the report and authorised the committee to enter into contracts with Mr Andrew McFarlane, Wright and Mr Thomas Wilson, Mason and also to engage Mr David Hamilton to supervise the execution of the work.¹⁷*

Mr Ritchie, Chaplain elected as new School Master

With the planned completion of the school building in September 1808¹⁸, the selection of the new school master could proceed and on 13th June, 1808, Mr. Ritchie, the chaplain, was elected schoolmaster the foundation stone of the schoolroom having been laid on the preceding Friday.¹⁹

School Regulations ~ 1808

Prior to the opening of the Trades Free School, the School Committee produced the following regulations:

Rules and Regulations

For conducting the School, under the patronage of the Trades House and Incorporations of Glasgow.

¹⁶ Trades House Minutes of 15th March 1808.

¹⁷ Trades House Minutes 20th May 1808.

¹⁸ Trades House Minutes 20th May 1808.

¹⁹ Trades House Minutes 13th June 1808.

Article 1. *That the Committee for managing the School shall consist of the Deacon Convener, Oldest Trade Baillie, and Collector of the House/ex officio/; and each of the Incorporations shall meet and choose one out of their members to be Director of said School, which Committee shall be filled up on the last Tuesday of October, annually. The Deacon Convener shall act as Preses of their meetings,/four of the Directors with the Deacon Convener, forming a quorum, and whose business shall be to regulate all matters relative to the Institution, and the Committee thus chosen shall remain in office during the space of one year complete, except in the case of a vacancy, by death or any other cause, which may render any of them incapable of acting in that capacity, in which event the vacancy shall be filled up by the respective body to whom the Director or Directors did belong.*

Article 2. *That the School shall consist of one hundred and eight boys belonging to the members of the different Incorporations who shall contribute to the Institution. That they shall continue in the School for the space of four years complete. The first two years they shall be taught to read the English language; the third writing and the last writing and arithmetic: and that the business may be carried on methodically, twenty seven of the boys shall be declared finished every year, and the same number admitted to fill up the vacancy; but no vacancy shall be made up, until the regular stated time of entry once a year; it being understood that in the first nomination of the boys, a regard shall be had to put in such as are so far advanced in their education as to fall and to progressively agreeable to the above order.*

Article 3. *That the parents or guardians who wish their boys to be enrolled in said School shall make application in writing to the Deacon and Masters of their respective Incorporations at least two weeks previous to the time appointed to the annual admission of boys to the School; and the Deacons and Masters of their respective Incorporations shall meet and determine the boys who are to be admitted from their Incorporation for that year, and transmit the same to the Deacon Convener and Directors. The boys, when admitted, shall appear at School in a decent and respectable manner; and shall, while there, keep and maintain good order; and shall be under the censure and discipline of the Teacher; declaring that upon complaint of the Teacher to the Deacon Convener and Directors of any boy continuing in the habit of disobedience or disorder, such boys right to the School shall be determined by the Deacon Convener and Directors.*

Article 4. *That the School shall be filled up annually upon the first Monday of October and no boys after the first year be admitted to the School under six years, nor above the age of eight years; and the boys so admitted shall be bound to furnish themselves in all their books, paper, pens and ink, etc.*

Article 5. *That the members of the Trades House for the time being, shall have the exclusive right of electing the Teacher, whether by comparative trial of his abilities, or in any other manner they may judge proper. A vote of the House shall determine the person chosen.*

Article 6. *That the School Master so elected shall remain in office, at least, for the space of one year; for which he shall receive a salary of one hundred pounds sterling, free of room, rent, coal and all other necessaries; he shall be a person of good moral character; and shall instruct the boys in the principles of the Christian Religion, the English language, writing and arithmetic, in their separate classes or orders; he shall be obliged to employ an assistant, if the Directors, for the time being,*

see it necessary, and pay the same out of the above sum, the principle teacher always being considered as responsible; he shall teach five hours every lawful day (Saturday excepted) during the summer season, and four hours each day, during the winter season, and two hours each Saturday; he shall also keep a regular account of the attendance of the boys, to be shown to the Deacon Convener and Directors; and shall exercise an uniform and proper discipline over them; and there shall be a vacation once a year, during such length of time as shall be annually fixed by the Committee of Management.

Article 7. That in the event of the members of the House choosing, at the end of any year, to change the School Master, they shall meet three months previous to the annual election, to determine the same; and immediate notice of each resolution shall be transmitted to the Master in writing; and in the event of the Teacher choosing to resign his office, at the end of any year, he in like manner shall be bound to give the Deacon Convener and members of the Trades House notice thereof, in writing, three months to the expiration of that year; otherwise should he pass that time, he shall be bound to remain in office for the following year.

Article 8. That there shall be an examination of the School at least four times a year, upon the first Tuesday of January, first Tuesday of April, last Tuesday of July and last Tuesday of September. It shall be conducted in the presence of the Deacon Convener, for the time being, and Managers, either by the Teacher himself, or by any Clergyman or other Gentleman, whom they shall judge proper to appoint for that purpose; and a book shall be kept, for the purpose of marking what each boy professes, and how they perform; that, by comparing their improvement at the time, at what they could do at their former examination, a judgement may be formed of the flourishing, or declining state of the School; also the examiners are to make out a report of the progress of each Scholar, to be entered in said book, subscribed by the Reporters, and read at their stated meetings, previous to all other business.

Article 9. That each Incorporation shall send to the School two boys, for each member representing them in the House; and shall pay for each boy fifteen shillings Sterling annually, towards the expense of conducting the School; and, agreeably to this, the following statements will be the proportions:

			1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year
The Hammermen to pay	£9 for	12 boys	3	3	3	3
Taylors	£9	12	3	3	3	3
Cordiners	£9	12	3	3	3	3
Maltmen	£9	12	3	3	3	3
Weavers	£6	8	2	2	2	2
Bakers	£4. 10s	6	1	2	1	2
Skinners	£4. 10s	6	2	1	2	1
Wrights	£4. 10s	6	1	2	1	2
Coopers	£4. 10s	6	2	1	2	1
Fleshers	£4. 10s	6	1	2	1	2
Masons	£4. 10s	6	2	1	2	1
Gardeners	£4. 10s	6	1	2	1	2
Barbers	£4. 10s	6	2	1	2	1
Dyers	£3	4	1	1	1	1

And the deficiency of the one hundred pound Sterling of salary shall be made up, and paid to the School Master by the Trades House: who shall also pay the School Room rent, or furnish a room for the School.

Article 10. *The Deacon Convener and members of the Trades House, for the time being, shall, have power, from time to time, to alter and amend, any of the foregoing articles, in such manner as shall tend to the good and benefit of the Institution.*

After the House read over the Rules and Regulations, they approved them and ordered that five hundred copies be printed and distributed to the Incorporations and the House.²⁰

Opening of the new School ~ November 1808

In November 1808, the School Committee reported that the School Room was in such a good state that it could be opened on Monday first. As the undertaking appeared to be so popular, the Committee suggested that all members of the House together with the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Ministers of the Established Church in the City should be invited to attend and the Minister of the Parish should be requested to preside on the occasion. The House agreed to the proposal.²¹

Entrance to School for Pupils

The House clearly did not wish lots of School Pupils walking through the Trades Hall enroute to their classes in the School. The solution was to have them enter via the lane at the rear of the Trades Hall. The lane was owned by the William Clark Esquire of Kerse and Messrs Austin and Clelland visited him and he agreed to sign any paper regarding the entry that they thought proper.²²

Proposed School Uniform

The House must have been very proud of their new school as Mr Robert Robertson proposed that the Incorporations clothe their boys at school for the first year. The Late Deacon of the Tailors was asked to get estimates for the cost of clothing the boys.²³

The Report to the Committee indicated the following costs for clothing one boy:

Jacket Halshies	£1 3s 0d
Cap	1s 6p
Two shirts at 4/6	0 9s 0d
One pair shoes	0 5s 0d
Two pair stockings	<u>0 3s 0d</u>
	£2 1s 6d ²⁴

No further details of any decision regarding school uniform appears in the minutes and it is therefore unknown what the final decision might have been.

²⁰ Trades House Minutes of 13th September 1808.

²¹ Trades House Minutes of 13th November 1808.

²² Trades House Minutes of 13th November 1808

²³ Trades House Minutes of 5th December 1808.

²⁴ Trades House Minutes of 13th February 1809.

Bible for each pupil on leaving the School

At the end of the year that a pupil left the Trades School, they were presented with a Bible.²⁵

New Assistant Teacher

Not surprisingly, the School Management Committee came to the conclusion that it was impossible for the teacher to paying attention to so many boys in the school and that justice could not be done to the boys in the different departments of education being taught in the school without an assistant. The Committee asked the House for an augmentation of salary of thirty pounds Sterling to enable him to pay for an assistant.²⁶

The House agreed to augment the salary of the teacher by thirty pounds Sterling to pay for an assistant. The House insisted that the School Management Committee must retain the power to select the assistant teacher.^{27 28}

Introduction of Geography and Music to the Curriculum

In September 1811, the Managers of the Trades Free School reported on the success of the introduction of the branch of Geography to the highest class of boys for the previous period of 12 months. The Committee were unanimous in their opinion that Mr. Ritchie, the House Chaplain, had done a very good job and that they believed that one hour per each second day should be utilised for the teaching of Geography. Mr. Ritchie had given the extra tuition without recompense and it was agreed that he should be given in future, ten pounds per annum and that globes and maps as were necessary should be purchased for this subject.

It was also thought that the boys should be taught Church Music for one hour each second day and the Convener stated that Mr. Brown had offered to teach this for five pounds sterling per year.

It was also noted by the meeting that the expectation of a prize had encouraged the boys to strive harder (the prizes had been purchased by the Convener at his own expense the previous year) and to excel in their studies, it was unanimously agreed to continue the practice and that House would defray the expense, not exceeding six pounds.

Juvenile Library

Bailie Ferguson proposed that to improve the minds of the boys and to give them a turn at reading and employing their leisure hours at home, he proposed that six pounds should be given to the school to start a juvenile library and one pound per year for additional books. The books would be lent to the boys and they would be allowed to take them home for personal reading. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously agreed to, it was also proposed that the Convener should subscribe for a copy of Mr. Lancaster's Treaties on education which they understood is to cost twenty shillings sterling.

²⁵ James Clelland, Annals of Glasgow, 1829, page 187.

²⁶ Trades House Minutes of 12th October 1809.

²⁷ Trades House Minutes of 21st December 1809.

²⁸ Trades House Minutes of 14th May 1810.

The House unanimously agreed to all articles except that instead of Mr. Brown, Mr. Weir would teach Church Music, provided that he did it at the rate stated in the minute.²⁹

Proposed Clock for the School

In 1812, the Managers of the school proposed to the House that a clock should be purchased for the school room, but the House decided that this was an unnecessary expense and rejected the idea.³⁰

In June 1813, the House approved the proposal of the Trades Free School Managers to have the school oil painted since the school vacation had taken place.³¹

Proposed Education of Female Pupils ~ March 1814

In March 1814, the House nominated the following as a committee to look into the state of the House funds to determine if it was possible to introduce a school for the education of females.³² It would take quite some time before the House would be able to financially support the introduction of female pupils. Ten years later, in April 1828 the House appointed a Committee to consider extending the benefits of Education which were then being given, to females of families of members of the Incorporated Trades. The House stated that they were in unanimous favour of such a plan.^{33, 34} In February 1829, the Committee reported back that they were in favour of female pupils but the problem was that some of the Trades did not have sufficient funds to be able to contribute without diminishing the support of their poor. The Committee then passed the problem back to the House and suggested that the House establish a school from their own funds. They indicated that to teach fifty five female children belonging to the fourteen Incorporations would not cost more than one hundred pounds per annum. It was unanimously agreed that the proposal should lie on the table until a further period.³⁵ As has been noted earlier, leaving a topic to lie on the table was often a way of kicking it into touch for a number of years.

Reorganisation of the Trades Free School

In November 1831, Mr. Alston raised the question of the cost of maintaining the Trades Free School and the House asked the Managers to report on the efficiency of the school and the possibility of reducing its expense.³⁶ It is unlikely that Mr Alston would realise the far reaching consequences of raising the question.

In light of Mr. Alston's question the Managers of the Trades Free School presented the following report:-

“Report in pursuance of the remit to us by the Director of the Trades House Free School, we have deliberated upon various plans for improving that establishment and we now report the following scheme for extending its usefulness and increasing its efficiency which the recent resignation of the assistant affords us an opportunity of adopting without adding to its expense.

²⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 17th September 1811.

³⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 2nd June 1812.

³¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 24th June 1813.

³² Minutes of the Trades House, 28th March 1814.

³³ Minutes of the Trades House, 6th April 1828.

³⁴ Minutes of the Trades House, 10th November 1828.

³⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 10th February 1829.

³⁶ Minutes of the Trades House, 21st November 1831.

1st the number of pupils ought to be continued at 108. But the Incorporations ought to have the privilege of presenting daughters of Freemen Craftsmen as Scholars. Although sons should be preferred.

2nd Reading the English language and the principals of its grammar and composition and elocution ought to form one department of education. Writing, Arithmetic and Geography ought to form another department. Church music ought to be taught separately and the principles of Christian Religion ought to be included in all departments.

3rd Mr. Ritchie ought to devote his attention exclusively to the department of writing, arithmetic and geography without an assistant.

4th A properly qualified person ought to be engaged to the exclusive charge of teaching reading, grammar and composition and elocution.

5th The time which has hitherto been devoted to tuition appears to have been unusually limited and ought to be considerably increased – care being taken that separate hours should be set apart for the different departments as far as may be practicable and that the pupils should be distributed in classes according to their several states of advancement.

6th Music ought to be taught in the evening, so as not to interfere with the other branches, and three evenings in the week from October till May.

7th Mr. Ritchie's salary ought to be reduced from one hundred and ten pounds to one hundred which your committee apprehends would be fully adequate to the discharge of his diminished duty. A similar salary of one hundred pounds should be provided for the teachers of reading and ten pounds ought to be continued for salary for the teacher of music. The salaries would thus amount to two hundred and ten pounds in place of £170 an increase which your committee apprehends to be indispensable to the procurement of efficient teachers.

Lastly to avoid the increase of any burden upon the funds, your committee recommends the abandonment of the giving of an annual dinner to the Scholars which has averaged £21 a year – placing the purchase of the school books and stationary under the immediate charge of the Director who ought to take in three estimates whereby ten pounds a year may be saved and the reduction of Mr. Ritchie's salary as chaplain to the House from thirty to twenty pounds which latter sum your committee considers would be fully adequate for the duty.

The committee apprehend that under that plan the usefulness of the establishment would be greatly extended and its efficiency materially increased, without any increased burden being imposed upon the funds of either the House or the Incorporations. Your committee would further recommend that the House in selecting a fit person to be teacher of English should avoid selecting a probationer or any person having views to the Ministry and that all such persons shall be specifically excluded from being candidates”

And the meeting having considered the report approved it with the exception of giving Mr. Ritchie a salary of one hundred pounds as teacher and reduce his salary

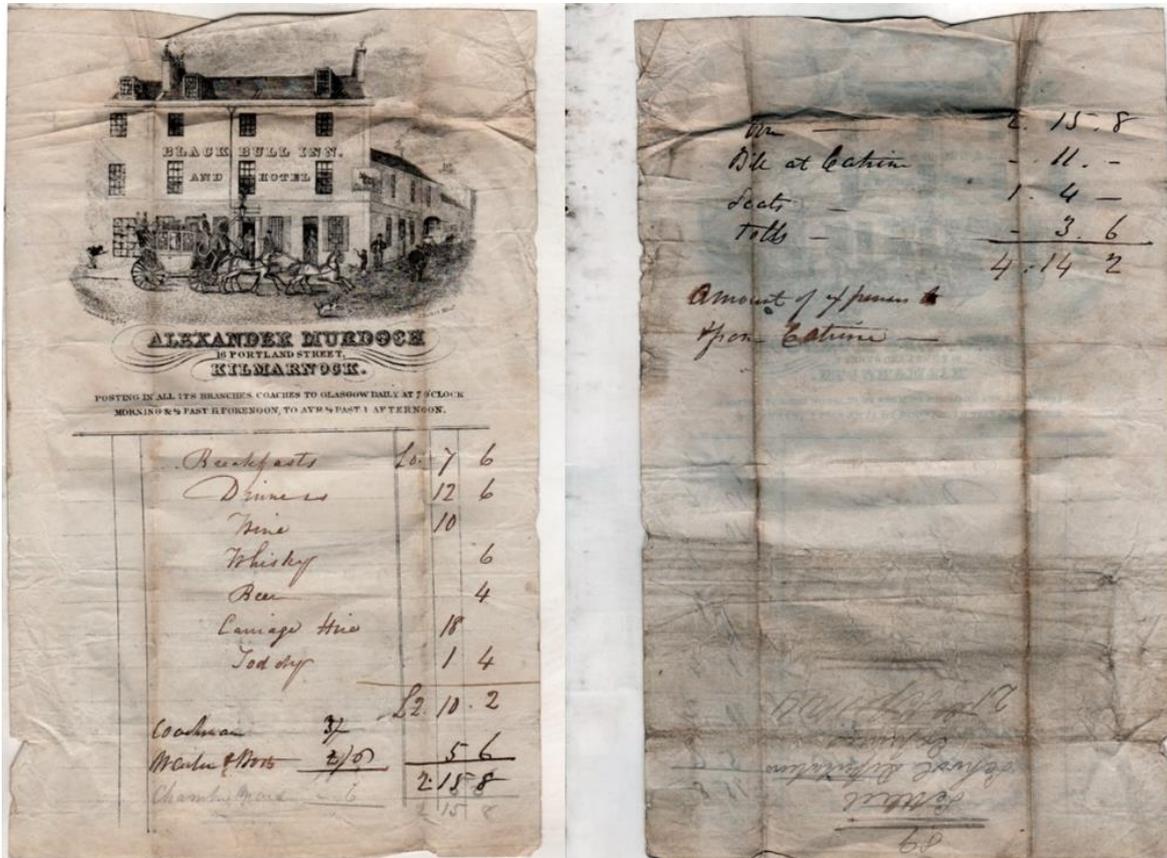
as chaplain to twenty pounds. The majority of the meeting being of the opinion that the School Director could not without propriety of entering upon the question of reducing the salary of the Chaplain and the meeting having by a majority resolved that Mr. Ritchie's salary as teacher should be reduced to ninety pounds.

After further discussion it was agreed to retain Mr. Ritchie's teaching salary at one hundred pounds."³⁷

Method of recruiting new Teachers

The normal method of recruiting new Teachers was to either visit them in their school to observe them teaching a class or to invite them into the Trades House School where they could be observed teaching. Visiting Teachers in their own locations was often the best way of assessing the prospective Teacher but this meant that the Committee often had to travel quite some distance to observe the Teacher.

We have evidence that this was taken seriously by the receipt below from the Black Bull Inn and Hotel, Kilmarnock when a delegation had visited a Teacher in Catrine, near Kilmarnock.



Employment of a new Assistant Teacher

The House met in August 1833 and approved the minute of the Management Committee of the Trades Free School of 13th April 1833. The minutes of the Management Committee of the Trades Free School dated 23rd July 1833 and 9th September 1833 were also tabled and the latter gives a wonderful insight into the

³⁷ Minutes of the Trades Free School Committee, 13 April 1833.

thinking of the Management Committee and the lengths that they were willing to go to ensure that the school employed the best Assistant Teacher that they could find.

The candidate proposed by the Committee was Mr. Duncan Stewart as the person who in their opinion would best fill the vacant situation and if elected they had no doubt but his abilities and assiduity would raise the Trades House Free School to a level, if not greatly to exceed any school whether public or private in Glasgow. But sadly things are not always as straightforward as they appear and very soon an objection was raised.

Discussion took place and the question of whether the application of Duncan Stewart had been lodged after the closing date. Deacon Fowler and seconded by Deacon Bowman, moved that Duncan Stewart should be struck off the list of candidates due to his late application and by a majority, the vote was carried and he was struck off.

The House then proceeded to the election of the additional Teacher and Mr. Henry Duff, teacher in Miller Street, Glasgow was elected by a majority, for one year at the salary of one hundred pounds.

The vote stood as follows:

For Mr. James Taylor ~ five; Mr. Charles Bannatyne ~ nineteen; Mr. Henry Duff ~ twenty votes.³⁸

One of the items on the agenda when the Saloon was used for the first time on 1st October 1838 was a motion moved by Mr. Fowler that daughters of freemen ought to be admitted to be taught in the Trades Free School and this was seconded by Mr Cairns, the motion was appointed to lie upon the table.³⁹

Building of additional School Accommodation ~ 1837

In November 1837, plans were well underway for the construction of additional buildings on the back ground of the Trades Hall. The new building was to have an additional Hall, communicating with the Great Hall, with a kitchen below and a school room above, as well as improved toilet facilities. It was estimated that these additions would cost £1521.⁴⁰

Presentation of John Alston's Bibles to the School

Mr John Alston, who had been a Deacon, Collector, Bailie and Convener wrote to the House offering them two volumes, printed in relief, of the Gospels for the use of the School.⁴¹ The House accepted these fine gifts and thanked him for his kind and generous gift.⁴²

³⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 9th August 1833.

³⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 1st October 1838.

⁴⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 16th November 1837

⁴¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 12th October 1837.

⁴² Minutes of the Trades House, 12th October 1837

Education of Female Pupils ~ December 1838

Mr. Fowler was not going to be put off and at the December meeting of the House in 1838, he intimated that at the next meeting he would move that daughters of Freemen be admitted to be educated in the Trades Free School.⁴³

True to his word, Mr. Fowler moved that provision be made for an extension of the Free School establishment so as to admit a limited number of the daughters of freemen of the several Incorporations to be taught the ordinary branches of education and such other instruction as is usually given to females with the aid of competent female teacher. He also proposed that a Committee should be appointed to confer with the Directors of the School and especially to consider the number of children of both sexes to be admitted and the branches to be taught in the School, and to suggest such alterations in the present regulations, practice and system pursued in the present school as is expedient or necessary to accomplish the before mentioned object. He asked that the Committee should report to the House on or before Candlemas next, the motion was seconded by Deacon Lochore and unanimously adopted.⁴⁴

Report on the Trades School (Including female pupils) ~ 1839

The Committee appointed on 18th March 1839 to look into the Trades School, reported as follows:

“First That the Board of Directors for the Management of the School should consist of the Deacon Convener and Collector of the House, Late Convener, Late Collector, two Directors to be elected by the House in October annually and one Director to be elected by the Deacon and Masters of each of the fourteen Incorporated Trades. The Convener should be chairman and any five a quorum. In the Conveners absence from any meeting the Directors present should elect a chairman of that meeting. The Directors from the Incorporations should be elected in October annually and may be re-elected. The Board of Directors should have full power to regulate from time to time the system of education to be taught in the School, the discipline and hours of teaching.

Second *One hundred and eight boys and fifty four girls the sons and daughters of freemen of any of the Incorporated Trades of Glasgow should be admitted to the School to receive the benefit of all branches of education taught in it. The following are the proportions from each incorporation.*

	Sons	Daughters
<i>Hammermen should appoint</i>	12	6
<i>Tailors should appoint</i>	12	6
<i>Cordiners should appoint</i>	12	6
<i>Maltmen should appoint</i>	12	6
<i>Weavers should appoint</i>	8	4
<i>Bakers should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Skinners should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Wrights should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Coopers should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Fleshers should appoint</i>	6	3

⁴³ Minutes of the Trades House, 18th December 1838.

⁴⁴ Minutes of the Trades House, 24th December 1838.

<i>Masons should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Gardeners should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Barbers should appoint</i>	6	3
<i>Dyers</i>	6	3
	108	54

The boys appointed to the School should be entitled to remain in it four years and the girls three years complete and should be taught reading, writing, arithmetic, Geography and Church Music and should be trained in regular reading of the Scriptures and in the principles of the Christian Religion. The boys and girls should be taught those branches together distributed into classes. The girls in addition should be taught needle work and knitting under a female teacher to be appointed for that purpose. Twenty seven boys and eighteen girls should be removed from the School in July yearly as finished at the termination of the respective three and four years instruction and the vacancies thereby occasioned should be filled up by the Master Court of each Incorporation on or before the first day of August yearly. The full number of fifty four girls should be immediately appointed.

At the end of each first and second years each Master Court should decide which of the numbers so appointed should go out to produce a vacancy of one third and lead to the appointment of eighteen. The Master Court having the power to reappoint any of the girls.

The sons of children of Freemen between the ages of seven and ten years of age and daughters of Freemen between six and nine years of age complete should alone be eligible to the benefit of the School. The right to appoint should vest in the Master Court of each Incorporation and it should be competent to appoint the son or daughter of a Freeman of any of the Incorporated Trades although not a Freeman of the particular Incorporation making the appointment.

The pupils should appear at the School in a clean and respectable manner and should be under the control of the Teachers and subject to dismissal by the Board of Directors.

No additional charge upon any of the Incorporations should be made for the extension of the establishment – The increased cost to be defrayed by the Trades House exclusively and the following should continue to be the sum payable by each Incorporation towards the expense of the School.

<i>Hammermen</i>	£9
<i>Tailor</i>	£9
<i>Cordiner</i>	£9
<i>Maltmen</i>	£9
<i>Weaver</i>	£6
<i>Baker</i>	£4 10s
<i>Skinner</i>	£4 10s
<i>Wright</i>	£4 10s
<i>Cooper</i>	£4 10s
<i>Flesher</i>	£4 10s
<i>Mason</i>	£4 10s
<i>Gardener</i>	£4 10s
<i>Barber</i>	£4 10s

With the customary proportion of the expense of the School Books, paper, pens and ink according to the number of boys. The additional expense and the cost of all furnishings for the girls should be defrayed by the House.

The whole school Books, paper, pens and all furnishings for the School should be supplied under the superintendence of a committee of the Board of Directors to be elected annually for that purpose.

The Trades House should have the exclusive rights to elect the Teachers, to remove and reappoint them at pleasure and to regulate the salaries to each from time to time.

Measures ought to be adopted for the extension and improvement of the School Library.

The quarterly examination of the School as now practiced, should be continued.

Regulations ought to be framed regarding the qualification of the Teachers – the hours of instruction and the conduct of the children and their parents and guardians.

Signed: John Neill'

The report having been read and considered, the House on the motion of Mr. Thomas Neilson, seconded by Mr. William Wilson unanimously approved and adopted it.

The House then appointed a committee to follow up the report and decided that the salary of the Female Teacher should not exceed fifty pounds. They also authorised the committee to advertise for candidates for the office of Female Teacher, to reduce the list of candidates to five and to report a leet of five to the House, the House would then elect the Female Teacher from the list. The meeting then decided on the motion of Deacon Alexander Miller and seconded by Mr. John Dougal, the House unanimously resolved that the Teachers and Scholars should not hereafter join in the annual procession of the Charity Schools of Glasgow⁴⁵.

First Female Teacher Employed

The Committee appointed to select a short leet for the Female Teacher met quickly along with the Directors of the School and advertised for candidates for the post. Thirty four applications were lodged with accompanying testimonials. The Committee reduced the list to of candidates to ten and afterwards to five. Those five applicants' applications and testimonials were printed and sent to members of the House. The five best qualified were:

Margaret MacKeoch
Jean Kyle
Janet MacFarlane
Helen Lauders
H. C. Allan

⁴⁵ Minutes of the Trades House of Glasgow, 18th March 1839.

Mr McLellan moved that the salary of the female teacher should be fifty pounds and the House unanimously agreed to this.

Thereafter the meeting proceeded to elect a Female Teacher and the Roll having been called and the votes marked Janet MacFarlane and H. C. Allan were the first vote cast off the leet as having the fewest votes and the Roll having been again called Margaret McKeoch was cast off as having the fewest votes and the roll having been again called and the votes marked, thirty voted for Jean Kyle and twenty two for Helen Lauder and the meeting accordingly elected and appointed Jean Kyle to the post of Female Teacher during the will and pleasure of the House at the salary and at a rate of fifty pounds a year. It was agreed that Miss Kyle should start her duties immediately after the School vacation, being Tuesday 9 July 1839.⁴⁶

Grandchildren permitted to enter the School

The Director of the School and the School Committee of the House at their joint meeting on 23 July 1839, made the following recommendations to the House:

“First *That the grandchildren of a Freeman of any Incorporation shall be eligible for admission to the School – the immediate children being preferable.*

Second *That in case any Incorporation shall fail to fill up a vacancy in the School for three months from the time the vacancy shall be reported to the Deacon, it shall be competent to the Directors to select the child or grandchild of a Freeman of any Incorporation to fill up the vacancy permanently.*

Lastly *That each Incorporation shall report to the Teachers, the name of the father or Grandfather of each child selected for the School and of the Incorporation of which he is or was a Freeman along with the name and age of the child.”*

The House agreed the above recommendations and enacted them as bye laws for the regulation of the School.⁴⁷

In December 1839, James Stewart the Music Teacher in the School wrote a petition to the House asking for an increase in his salary. The House remitted the request to the School Directors for their consideration and asked that they report back on their conclusions.⁴⁸ The Minutes of the House does not record the conclusions of the School Directors and we do not know if he received an increase in salary.

Reverend Ritchie retires from the School on a pension

Reverend Ritchie, had been in post as a teacher of the School since its inception in 1808 and in late 1841, the House discussed giving him a pension and improving the establishment and its existing laws of the School. On the motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Lyal, the House unanimously agreed to grant a pension of seventy pounds a year to Mr. John Ritchie, Teacher of the School to commence on 1st October 1841 when he ceased to be Teacher of the School. Mr Ritchie retained his

⁴⁶ Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd May 1839.

⁴⁷ Minutes of the Trades House, 25th September 1839.

⁴⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th December 1839.

office of chaplain to the House with salary of thirty pounds during pleasure of the House.⁴⁹

Proposal that the School should be discontinued

The House then went on to debate the management of the School. Mr. Fowler moved that the School be continued under such improvements as shall be afterwards adopted and was seconded by Mr. McGowan. Mr. Cairns moved as an amendment that the School be discontinued the children of Freemen requiring education be sent to schools in their own neighbourhoods in terms of the report to the Director of 6th May, this amendment was seconded by Mr. Andrew Thomson. Fortunately for the School only seven voted for the amendment and twenty six voted for the motion to retain the School. The meeting then asked that the Director of the School should consider a plan for increasing the School's efficiency.⁵⁰

New Principal Teacher

The Director of the School reported to the House in October 1841 and proposed that Henry Duff, the Teacher of Reading should be the Principal Teacher for one year from the date of the meeting at the salary of one hundred and ten pounds. He was to have charge of the School and be responsible for the efficient teaching of all departments. He was also to have a male assistant at a salary not exceeding fifty pounds. His contract bound him to teach six hours each day. The House unanimously accepted the report proposed by Mr Fowler and seconded by Mr McGregor.⁵¹

The minutes of the Directors of the School of 12th and 15th April 1842 were read and discussed at a meeting of the House and on the motion of Deacon Scott, unanimously approved the following recommendations:

1st. To elect and hereby appoint Malcolm McGregor to be assistant teacher until next ordinary time for election at a salary at a rate of forty pounds a year to commence from the time of his entry.

2nd. That the Directors shall arrange with Mr. Stewart the Teacher of Music for additional hours of teaching at a salary not exceeding fifteen pounds.

Lastly. That the Collector shall give fifteen pounds from the funds of the House to the Directors of the School for purchasing maps and books for the School Library.⁵²

Children's Water Closet

We are fortunate in having details of the ablutions available for the children and in October 1842, Mr York was contracted to repair or rebuild the water closet for the children in the back court.⁵³ We have a further insight into the toilet arrangements for the children in a Minute of the Building Committee in January 1843 when they decided *to alter the ash pit in the centre court and water closet there for the children at the school, by dividing the whole space into two parts, the one part to be an ash pit; the other part to be made a water closet with two rows of seats for the use of*

⁴⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th August 1841.

⁵⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th August 1841.

⁵¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 1st October 1841.

⁵² Minutes of the Trades House, 12th April 1842.

⁵³ Minutes of the Building Committee, 7th October 1842.

*boys alone; and that the closet at the top of the stair next to the door of the large schoolroom be converted into a water closet for the girls if practicable.*⁵⁴

Review of the School Rules and Regulations ~ March 1843

The Directors of the School reviewed the rules and regulations of the School and proposed some updates at their meeting in March 1843. The House considered these proposals and unanimously approved them. The proposals adopted were as follows:

1st That the instruction of children of freemen craftsmen of Glasgow in reading the English language, writing, arithmetic and singing, with sewing and knitting for the girls is the object for which the Trades School is maintained; and while these as the more generally useful and common branches of education shall be regarded by the teachers as the object of the institution to the efficient teaching of which they are required to devote their attention. Bible and moral training must be particularly attended to, and the necessity of labour, industry and frugal economy shall be inculcated upon the pupils as essential to their advancement, comfort and happiness through life.

2nd That the time of the Teachers and pupils shall not be occupied in attempting to give instruction in the physical sciences, a knowledge of which can, at a more advanced and fit age can be acquired at the Mechanics Institution or any other of the schools of science in the City without interfering with those more useful branches of education.

3^d That spelling shall be particularly attended to but the etymology of language ought not to be pushed too far as hitherto been done in tracing words to their Greek and Latin roots and while elocution shall be taught in so far as necessary to train the pupil in the accurate reading and pronunciation of the language that branch ought not to be pushed so far as training them in public speaking and debate.

4th That Henry Duff, Malcolm McGregor and Miss Kyle shall severally attend at the School and instruct the children in those branches from nine in the morning till four in the afternoon during five days of the week and from nine in the morning till twelve noon on Saturdays; that those hours shall be devoted by them exclusively in instructing the children at the School; and that during those hours the Teachers shall not undertake any other employment and shall not be employed in any other occupation whatever.

5th That the boys and girls shall be distributed in classes and taught together and shall not be detained in school more than two hours at a time, and not more than sixty shall be together in a single room, with the exception of the third section and the meetings on Saturday.

6th That the female teacher in addition to giving instructions to the girls in needlework and knitting, shall bring such boys and girls as are not qualified for admission to the junior reading and spelling classes, to such state of advancement in those branches as to fit them for these classes.

7th That the following shall be arrangement hours:-

⁵⁴ Minutes of the Building Committee, 23rd January 1843.

	<i>Girls with Miss Kyle</i>	<i>Boys and Girls with the male Teacher</i>		<i>Interval</i>
<i>First or Young section</i>	<i>9 till 11</i>	<i>11 till 1</i>	<i>2 till 4</i>	<i>1 till 2</i>
<i>Second Section</i>	<i>12 till 2</i>	<i>2 till 4</i>	<i>9 till 11</i>	<i>11 till 12</i>
<i>Third Section</i>	<i>2 till 4</i>	<i>9 till 11</i>	<i>12 till 2</i>	<i>11 till 12</i>

8th The hours of attendance on Saturday shall be from nine till twelve when religious instruction, history and geography shall be more particularly attended to.

9th That singing shall be taught on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from six to seven o'clock in the evening and on Saturday from one till two. For that purpose the children shall be divided into three sections of about fifty four each, one section only to attend upon each of those days, excepting Saturday when the whole shall assemble for practice together.

10th That the children shall attend punctually at nine in the morning when the school is opened.

11th That they shall attend neatly and tidily, dressed, washed and combed and in all respects clean.

12th That the Teachers shall not have right to dismiss any child but shall report to the Director of the Trade which the child belongs, any conduct that he thinks warrants dismissal, and upon such report the Director may dismiss, but if the teacher and that Director disagree on that point, the general body of Directors shall decide it.

13th That no supernumerary children shall be introduced into the School, and no separate class shall be taught in the rooms by any of the teachers without the special permission of the Directors.

14th That the annual and quarterly examination of the School shall take place on Thursday in place of Tuesday.

Lastly. That an extract of these resolutions shall be transmitted to Mr Duff and that he be requested to state within eight days whether he will conduct the establishment in all respects in strict compliance with these resolutions.⁵⁵

The above rules give a clear picture of the curriculum and some of the logic in its development. The rules also cover the teaching staff, especially their times of attendance and not being allowed to accept any other employment whilst during the hours that they were employed by the House. Mr Henry Duff, replied in writing to the House acknowledging receipt of the "Extract of the Minutes of 3rd April 1843, and assured the House that the School would be conducted as specified in the Minutes.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd April 1843.

⁵⁶ Minutes of the Trades House, 24th April 1843.



The photograph to the left shows Thomas Struthers who was appointed Principal Teacher to the School on 1st November 1844. He had previously been employed as a Teacher of English at the Grange Academy, near Sunderland. His starting salary was one hundred and thirty pounds⁵⁷

Proposal to reduce the salary of the Female Teacher

The Directors of the School reported to the House a few alterations to the running of the School in November 1844. The most contentious point was a proposal to reduce the salary of the female teacher from fifty pounds to thirty five pounds. Mr Peter McGregor moved that this reduction would take place and was

seconded by George Dick. Fortunately for the female teacher, Mr Archibald McLellan disagreed and proposed the amendment which was seconded by Thomas Neilson. The meeting adjourned consideration of the proposal to reduce the salary.

Amendments to the School Rules and Regulations ~ 1844

The House then approved the following amendments to the School rules and regulations:

1st That double the number of girls shall be entered as pupils and the School will therefore consist of 216 pupils, half boys and half girls. If an Incorporation has insufficient candidates of one sex, they can submit one of the other sex as long as they record that in their minutes.

2nd That pupils shall not be admitted under seven nor above ten years of age and shall be allowed to continue for five years at the School, but shall not be entitled to continue at it after fourteen years of age.⁵⁸

Principal Teacher Thomas Struthers' leave of absence

A small part of Principal Teacher Thomas Struthers' personal life is recorded in the Trades House Minutes when he intimated his intention to go to America to wind up the affairs of his dead uncle who had made him the executor of his estate. Mr Struthers indicated that he intended to return by the end of May 1846, when he would resume his duties as teacher. In the same letter he indicated that he had found a person willing to undertake his duties during his absence. On the motion of Mr Dick, the meeting agreed to give Mr Struthers leave of absence until 1st June 1846 on condition if he did not return by then, he would forfeit his appointment.⁵⁹

Report by the Directors of the School ~ 1863

In February 1863 the Directors of the School's Report was taken into consideration along with the opinions of the Incorporations of Hammermen, Tailors, Cordiners, Maltmen, Weavers, Skinners, Wrights, Fleshers, Masons, Gardeners and Barbers as

⁵⁷ Minutes of the Trades House, 10th October 1843.

⁵⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 12th November 1844.

⁵⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 15th December 1845.

reported by their minutes and partly by their Deacons personally. This was an extremely important report and covers hither unrecorded points relating to the School. The new information in the report was as follows:

Proposal to move the School out of the Trades Hall

1. In 1860 a Committee was formed to consider what changes should be made to the School. No formal report was made but the Convener of the Committee suggested that the School should be removed from the Trades Hall and new school rooms erected, with play-ground attached for seven hundred pupils, male and female. That the number of teachers should be increased to greatly expand the system of education including the Classics and Modern Languages, in the same manner as was taught in the best and most expensive schools in Scotland. To defray the increased costs, it was proposed to admit the public and to charge a moderate fee.
2. In 1861 another Committee was formed to consider the expediency of remodelling and extending the system of education and improving the general efficiency of the School. No formal report was made but Mr Fowler, its convener on 14th August 1862, proposed that the School should be removed from the Trades Hall, the School rooms let and a capital of £9000 raised for the construction of new School rooms. He also proposed that the number of scholars and teachers should be increased, the branches of education extended and fees charged for each scholar.

The salaries of the teachers are also quoted in this report and they were:

Principal Teacher	£170
First Assistant	£25
Second Assistant	£20
Third Assistant	£10
Teacher of Sewing and Knitting	£50
Teacher of Music	£20

It is interesting to note that the female teacher was the second highest paid teacher in the School. This disproves the false believe that the female teacher was paid less than her male counterparts.

The report outlined in great detail, the reasons why it was wrong and impractical to consider removing the School from the Trades Hall and erecting new buildings. The thrust of those proposing to remove the School from the Trades Hall was to utilise the funds in the Buchanan Bequest to pay for the new school, but this would not have been allowed by the Trustees nor the law.

Mr McLellan moved that the report be approved and adopted to the extent after mentioned, and this was seconded by Mr I. W. MacGregor.

Mr Clark moved as an amendment that the payments by the Incorporations should not be increased but should be continued and was seconded by Mr Tennant.

When the vote was taken nine members voted for the amendment and twenty one for the motion, the House therefore adopted the report with its proposed increases.

The following was adopted:

1st That the proportion of fifteen shillings which each Incorporation at present contributes for the original number of scholars towards the salaries of the Teachers and other expenses of the School shall be increased to thirty shillings for each scholar the Incorporations severally have the privilege to recommend which would produce three hundred and twenty four pounds a year being at the rate of seven shillings and six pence a quarter for each scholar.

Next That the original regulation of the School that the scholars should pay the expense of the books, paper, pens and ink shall recurred to; and that hereafter the Incorporations shall not pay that expense, which shall be paid by the scholars.⁶⁰

Questions about the viability of the School

Further debate on the viability of the School took place on 29th September 1863 and on the motion of Mr Rennie, seconded by Deacon Bannerman unanimously resolved:

1st That in the view of giving further time to the House and Incorporations to consider and decide upon the permanent arrangements for maintaining the School and of obtaining the benefit of the practical working of the rate of thirty shillings a year of School fee to be paid by each Scholar the several Incorporations shall send to the School, instead of the thirty shillings a year for each pupil they have the privilege of recommending, the House shall re-elect the present Teacher and School Mistress for the ensuing year at their present salaries upon the understanding that each Incorporation shall have the privilege of sending the number of scholars they had hitherto the right to recommend upon paying a School fee of thirty shillings a year or seven shillings and sixpence a quarter for each scholar they shall have in the School for those periods or any shorter periods instead of for each scholar they have the privilege of sending.

2nd That the expenses of the books, and of writing and other materials, shall be paid to the Teacher by the scholar or the Incorporation recommending and shall be collected by him and that no further sum than the foresaid School fee of thirty shillings a year and the proportion of the expense of the books and materials shall be paid by the Incorporations.

Lastly That this shall be a temporary arrangement for one year from first day of October next 1863. And that in the view of adopting a permanent arrangement to take effect, on 1st October 1864 the House shall appoint a Committee to meet with a representative from each Incorporation, to endeavour to devise a scheme for continuing the School, after 1st October 1864, in such manner as shall allow the House to give reasonable intimation to the Teachers and Assistant Teachers that their services shall thereafter be dispensed with in case it shall be found necessary to discontinue the services of any of them in consequence of the diminished attendance of scholars or of the impracticality of raising funds necessary to pay the present salaries.⁶¹

⁶⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 19th September 1863.

⁶¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 29th September 1863.

School reprieved

The School was now under considerable threat with quite a few people wishing to close it down and at a meeting in July 1864, the House met to decide the fate of the School. A joint committee of the delegates appointed by the Incorporations and the Directors of the School had been tasked with considering and reporting a scheme for continuation the Trades School after 1st October 1864 and this report was laid upon the table and read.

Mr Ledingham moved that the report should be approved and was seconded by Mr Morrison.

After considerable discussion and after several amendments were moved and withdrawn.

Mr Bruce moved as an amendment that the School be discontinued after 1st October next and that the necessary notice be given to the Teachers that their services will not thereafter be required and was seconded by Mr Copland.

The motion and amendment having been put to the vote, nine voted for the amendment and twenty eight for the motion and the meeting accordingly approved the Report and resolved that the School should continue after 1st October 1864.

The report consisted of the following points:

1st That after the 1st day of October next the following shall be the number of scholars to be recommended by the following Incorporations who still adhere to the School and the amount each of those Incorporations shall pay towards the expense of maintaining it by half yearly payments in February and August, viz:

	<i>Number of Scholars</i>	<i>Sum Payable Yearly</i>
<i>Hammermen</i>	24	£16
<i>Cordiners</i>	24	£16
<i>Maltmen</i>	24	£16
<i>Skinners</i>	12	£8
<i>Wrights</i>	12	£8
<i>Coopers</i>	12	£8
<i>Fleshers</i>	12	£8
<i>Masons</i>	12	£8
<i>Gardeners</i>	12	£8
<i>Barbers</i>	12	£8
<i>Dyers</i>	6	£5 6s 8d
	162	£109 6s 8d

2nd That towards making up the sum to necessary to defray the expense of the School, each scholar attending it shall pay the low School fee of three shillings a quarter which the Committee estimate will yield £129 12/- a year.

3rd That also towards making up the sum necessary to defray the expense of the School and correcting the effect of the secession of the Incorporation of Tailors, Weaver and Bakers, the Trades House shall contribute seventy pounds thirteen shillings and four pence a year, being thirty six pounds a year more than those

seceding Incorporations formerly paid, and shall have the privilege of presenting fifty four scholars being the number those Incorporations formerly had the privilege of presenting.

4th That the Scholars presented by the House shall also pay three shillings a quarter.

5th That the Scholars presented by the Incorporations and the House shall be either children or grandchildren of Freemen of the Craft Rank.

6th That the fifty four scholars to be presented by the House shall be selected and presented by the six Directors representing the House in the Board of Direction of the School and they shall be entitled to present the Children or Grandchildren of Guild Brethren of Craft Rank generally.

Lastly Should any Incorporation not present their numbers of scholars, the Directors of the School shall be entitled to introduce to it from either the children or grandchildren of the Craft Rank generally.

The meeting further resolved that a copy of the Report and the resolutions of this meeting shall be sent to the eleven Incorporations still adhering to the School, for their information. And that a copy of the Report and the Resolutions of this meeting shall also be sent to the Incorporations of Tailors, Weavers and Bakers with a request that they will consider the same and accompanied by the expression of the hope of the House that they will continue their connection with the School.⁶²

Principal Teacher or Head Master?

With the School saved, the Teachers must have felt relieved that their jobs were safe. In November 1865, the Principal Teacher, Thomas Struthers wrote a letter to the House which had then been printed and circulated to the members of the House. Mr Struthers claimed that the minutes of the House and other documents for some years previously had referred to him as Teacher when in fact he claimed to have been appointed by the House as Head Master of the School. Mr George Crawford, Clerk to the House read letters from Mr Struthers in which he charged Mr Crawford with “*having loosely and arbitrarily dealt with the titles of Teacher*”, and “*with having taken it upon him without the sanction of the House to change the designation of Head Master*” which Mr Struthers claimed to have been appointed. He also claimed that Mr Crawford “*persisted doggedly in adhering to that arbitrary and insulting cause*”.

Mr Crawford stated that the term “Head Master” is not to be found in the regulations of the School in which the Teacher is designated “Teacher” or in the Minute of the House, and he read the advertisement which appeared in the Edinburgh and Glasgow newspapers in July and August 1844, headed “Teacher Wanted”, under which Mr Struthers applied for the situation, and also the Minutes of the House dated tenth October 1844, under which Mr Struthers was elected Principle Teacher of the Trades School, and he referred to the minutes of the yearly appointments of Mr Struthers from 15th October 1845 to twelfth October last.

⁶² Minutes of the Trades House, 6th July 1864.

And the meeting having considered the whole circumstances, on the motion of Mr Inglis, seconded by Mr Bogue unanimously resolved that the Minute of Mr Struthers election of English in 1854 and the twenty yearly reappointments of him since its date to the present time were strictly in terms of the resolutions of the House and that there is not any minute of the House appointing Mr Struthers Head Master. But instructed Mr Crawford to get the lists of the Committees of the House printed for the use of members to designate him Principal Teacher in terms of the minute of his appointment.⁶³ The clarity of the House's decision must have resolved the case as there are no more references to Head Master in future minutes.

Female Teacher's Appointment

In July 1855, the School was looking for a female teacher for the girls and 25 applicants put in their notes of interest and references. We are fortunate in having a copy of these applications in the original hands of the ladies concerned and the method used in leeting them. Applicant number 2 was Mary Miller and she wrote:

"To the Deacon Convener, and Gentlemen of the Trades House, Glasgow,

Sirs,

I beg leave to offer myself as a candidate for the situation of Female Teacher in the Trades School, and respectfully solicit your attention to the enclosed Testimonials, in which are stated my claims for the situation to which I aspire.

*I have the honour to be
Gentlemen,*

*yours with the utmost respect,
Mary Miller*

6 Taylor Street, 30th July 1855."

Ten testimonials were sent to George Crawford by Mary Miller, the Clerk to the Trades House and these were returned to her in February 1856.

The other applicants, along with the scoring sheet were:

Number on cover	Names	Residences	No of certificates and how marked
1	Eliza Ross Mr Paul to see her. <i>Up in years, not to be called.</i>	39 Warrick St., Gorbals	Six marked A
2 For Leet	Mary Miller <i>To be seen</i>	6 Taylor St., Glasgow	Nine marked B
3	Emma Ferrie <i>Not to be called</i>	Blackford by Auchderarder	Six marked C
4 For Leet	Rosina Collie I to consider whether she should be sent for	38 Collie Street, Edinburgh	Eighteen marked D
5	Margaret Munro <i>Not considered experienced Not to be called</i>	122 Thistle Street, Glasgow	Three marked E

⁶³ Minutes of the Trades House, 14th November 1865.

6 For Leet	Jane McKellar <i>To be seen</i>	11 South Stirling Street, Glasgow	Fourteen marked F
7 For Leet	Mary Munro <i>To Be seen</i>	73 Canning Street, Calton	Five marked G
8 For Leet	Janet Henderson <i>Convener to enquire</i>	Union Buildings, Port St., Stirling	Ten marked H
9	Margaret Morrison <i>To be seen. Not to be called,</i>	62 Surrey Place, Glasgow	Six marked I
10	Margaret Darling <i>Not to be called.</i>	36 Danube St., Edinburgh	Six marked K
11	Ann McLean <i>Not to be called.</i>	161 Shamrock St., Glasgow	One marked L
12	Annie Learmouth <i>Good Certificates. To be seen. Not to be called</i>	27 Barony St., Edinburgh	Seven marked M
13	Euphemia Kilgour <i>Convener to see. Not to be called ~ Too young.</i>	107 East George St., Glasgow	Five marked N
14	I King <i>Not to be called</i>	52 Buccleuch St., Glasgow	Six marked O
15	Margaret Wilson Connell <i>Not to be called</i>	Moniaine, Glencairn, Dumfries	Nine marked P
16	Eleanor Forrester <i>Not to be called.</i>	57 Holinhead St., Glasgow	Two (one sheet) marked Q
17	Jane Linn <i>Not to be called.</i>	Broxburn, P. of Uphall	Two (one sheet) marked R
18	Jane Wilson <i>To be seen. Not to be called.</i>	Nicholson Square, 2 Hay Street, Edinburgh	(Printed tests) marked S
19	Jessie Bruce <i>To be seen. Not to be called.</i>		Six marked T
20	U. A. Morrison <i>Convener to write Not to be called.</i>	49 Murray Gate, Dundee	Six marked U
21	Anne Johnston Whyte <i>Not to be called</i>	Ness House, Stromness, Orkney	(Printed tests) marked V
22 For Leet	Christina Clark <i>To be seen.</i>	16 Bath Street, Glasgow	Five marked W
23	Margaret McGilvrat <i>Convener to call on her. Not to be called.</i>	27 Kinning Place, Glasgow	Two marked X
24	Janet Swan <i>To be seen. Not to be called.</i>	Miss Cooke's. 168 Holm St., Glasgow	Marked Y
25 For Leet	Agnes Miller <i>To be seen</i>	20 Simpson St., Newcastle	Six marked Z

It is worth noting that one lady was considered too old and one too young but the committee seemed to be very diligent in meeting or seeing the applicants and then

not calling them in for the short leet unless they appeared to have reasonable prospects at gaining the vacant position.⁶⁴

School Report ~ 1866

Once again a School Report was presented to the House in May 1866 where it was noted that one hundred and thirty one pupils were attending the School in February 1865. The following amendments to the bye-laws and Regulations of the School were voted on and approved:

1st That children from seven to ten years of age shall be admissible to the School in terms of its original constitution and the existing resolutions of the House dated 14th November 1844.

2nd That an Assistant Teacher shall be appointed by the House at £60 of Salary instead of £40.

3rd That that Principal and Assistant Teachers and the Teacher of the Female Department shall attend at the School and instruct the children from nine morning till three afternoon, being six hours a day continuously for five days a week.

Lastly That an interval of one hour for each of the three sections into which the Scholars shall be arranged in such manner as shall keep the School open and the Teacher and Assistant engaged from nine to three continuously, and at the same time allow an interval of one hour for the scholars in each section – this interval to be at a different hour for each section in terms of the Regulations dated 3rd April 1843, and more particularly that the interval for all the scholars shall not be at the same hour, to avoid the annoyance to the neighbourhood which would be occasioned by all the children playing about the neighbouring streets and closes at the same time.

Mr Inglis moved that the House should contribute ten pounds towards the expense of the ensuing trip for the Scholars attending the School and the motion was carried.⁶⁵

School pupil numbers

Close monitoring of the cost of running the School was often being examined by the House. Concern at the number of children and the incorporations contributing to the cost came up in a meeting of the House in May 1866 when Mr Struthers return to the Directors of the School was examined.

The points raised were:

Instead of 216 Scholars there are only 171 attending the School.

Of this number the following were presented by the following Incorporations:-

<i>Hammermen</i>	<i>24 in full of their number</i>
<i>Cordiners</i>	<i>11 being 13 short of their number</i>
<i>Maltmen</i>	<i>20 being 4 short of their number</i>
<i>Skinners</i>	<i>8 being 4 short of their number</i>
<i>Wrights</i>	<i>12 in full of their number</i>

⁶⁴ Archives of the Trades House of Glasgow, August 1855, bundle 4.

⁶⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th May 1866.

Coopers	11 being	1 short of their number
Fleshers	5 being	7 short of their number
Masons	11 being	1 short of their number
Gardeners	10 being	2 short of their number
Barbers	<u>9 being</u>	<u>3 short of their number</u>
In all presented	121 being	35 short of their number

The Principal Teacher appears to have selected children of the following Incorporations to fill up vacancies:

Of the Hammermen	9
Cordiners	2
Maltmen	1
Skinners	2
Wrights	14
Coopers	4
Fleshers	1
Masons	<u>3</u>
	36

It appears further that the Principal Teacher introduced to the School children said to be children of Freemen of the following Incorporations who have withdrawn from the establishment and do not contribute to its expense viz-

Children of the Weavers	10
Children of the Bakers	<u>4</u>
	14

The number of children at present attending the School is thus composed of:

Children presented by Incorporations	121
Children introduced without presentation	36
Children taken into the School by the Principal Teacher who are known not to be connected to any of the contributing Incorporations.	<u>14</u>
In all	171 ⁶⁶

⁶⁶ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th May 1866.

Resignation of Principal Teacher Thomas Struthers

It looks as if the last two disagreements with Thomas Struthers was enough to encourage him to look for alternative employment because in July 1866 the House considered a letter sent by him intimating his resignation as Principal Teacher of the Trades School and his intention to leave Glasgow at the end of the end of June.

A copy of Mr Struthers letter is attached below:

*To The Convener and members of the Trades House of Glasgow
42 Carnarvon Street
Glasgow
6 July 1866*

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to respectfully resign the situation of Principal Teacher of the Trades School and hope you will have the goodness to relieve me of the office at the expiration of the current quarterly term as I shall then be under the necessity of leaving Glasgow.

In closing a twenty two years connection with the Trades School, I may be allowed gratefully to acknowledge the large measure of confidence and encouragement that has been bestowed on me during that time and to say that the long recollection of the long intercourse I have had with the Trades House and Incorporations will always be associated in my mind with more of pleasure than of regret.

*I have the honor to be gentlemen,
Your obedient humble servant
(Signed, Thomas Struthers)*

Mr Warren moved that the resignation should be accepted and that the House should record "*the very creditable and efficient manner in which W. Struthers has conducted the School and educated the children attending it during the long period of twenty two years he has been Principal Teacher*", and this was seconded by W Craig. W McGregor proposed that the resignation should lie on the table and that a committee should be appointed to communicate with Mr Struthers on the matter. When the vote took place only six voted for the amendment and sixteen for the motion, the meeting therefore accepted Mr Struthers' resignation.

The meeting unanimously agreed that Mr Struthers had "*in a very creditable and efficient manner conducted the School and educated the children attending during the long period of twenty two years he has acted as Principal Teacher.*"

So ended Thomas Struthers connection with the House after 22 years' service.

Search for a new Principal Teacher

The House did not have long to find a new Principal Teacher and at the same meeting in July 1866 the meeting appointed Messrs George Ledingham, E. W. Henry, Thomas Warren, Charles Malloch and R. A. Bogue along with the Convener, Collector and Late Collector, to fill the vacancy and request applications to be lodged by intending candidates. It was also agreed that the salary of the new Principal Teacher was to be set at one hundred and twenty pounds. The Committee were also tasked with approaching the Incorporations who had seceded from the School, to re-join the enterprise.

The applications forwarded by sixty four candidates for the vacant situation of Assistant Teacher were laid on the table and the meeting asked the committee to reduce the list and present it to the House at a later meeting. They were also asked to recommend additions and alterations of the existing rules and regulations of the School as they thought necessary to increase its efficiency and to promote prosperity.⁶⁷

Recommendations for new Teacher and Principal Teacher

The meeting of the House in early August was called to receive the Report by the Committee appointed to look into the vacancies of Principal Teacher and Assistant Teacher of the Trades School. The Committee had met six times, three times in July and three times in August and the minutes of these meetings were and applications for one hundred and eighteen candidates for Principal Teacher and sixty four candidates for Assistant Teacher was laid on the table, along with testimonials forwarded by the candidates. The Committee reported David Laugland, Archibald Russell and W. L. Thomson as the reduced list of candidates for the Office of Assistant Teacher. They recommended that David Laugland should be appointed, and reported William Hood, Archibald McNeil and Peter McDougall as the reduced list of candidates for the Office of Principal Teacher and recommended that Archibald McNeil should be appointed Principal Teacher.

As was the normal practice, the Deacon Convener moved that David Laugland should be appointed Assistant Teacher and this was seconded by W. Ledingham. Interestingly, W Copland moved as an amendment that there should not be any person appointed Assistant Teacher and was seconded by W. Marshall. The vote was then taken and the motion was carried and by a large majority; and the meeting accordingly elected David Laugland, Teacher of number six Nursery, Kilmarnock to be assistant Teacher of the Trades School until the next ordinary time of election in October next at the rate of Sixty Pounds a year.

The Deacon Convener moved and was seconded by Mr Graham and the meeting unanimously elected Archibald McNeil, Teacher at number 170, Kent Road, Glasgow, to be the Principal Teacher of the Trades School until the next ordinary time of election at the rate of one hundred and twenty pounds a year. A few conditions of service such as that the two new members of staff were subject to annual election in October each year and each party were entitled to terminate the contract by giving two months' notice. The House would also give two months' notice or payment in lieu of notice if they wished to terminate the contract. They were also to teach and instruct two hundred children of the Guild Brothers of Craft Rank.

Archibald McNeil and David Laugland were also instructed to sign a copy of the minute and to sign a copy of the School's rules and regulations, which the House would hold as proof of their conditions of election.

The meeting further resolved that the said Archibald McNeil and David Laugland shall be bound to attend at the School Rooms in rear of and in connection with the Trades Hall Buildings in Glassford Street, during the hours and upon the days specified in the existing rules and regulations of the School and to teach and instruct

⁶⁷ Trades House Minutes, 13th July 1866.

two hundred and children of Guild Brothers of the Craft Rank upon nomination of the Trades House and Incorporations of Glasgow, the several branches of education specified in those Rules and Regulations or such other hours and days or such other branches of education as shall be specified in any alteration or addition to the existing rules which shall from time to time hereafter be enacted by the Trades House of Glasgow for the regulation of the School.

The meeting further resolved that the said David Laugland and Archibald McNeil shall subscribe a copy of this minute and of the existing rules and regulations to be preserved as evidence of the conditions upon which they are elected.

The meeting thanked the Committee for all the trouble and effort that they had gone to in considering the numerous candidates.⁶⁸

Mary Miller Teacher of the Female Department resigns

The Trades House were once again considering the resignation of one of their long term Teachers after only two months from the previous resignation. In October 1866, the House considered Mary Miller's letter of resignation in which she intimated that she had been appointed Matron of the Convalescent Home at Bothwell and hence her resignation as Teacher of the Female Department. Mr Warren moved that the House accept the resignation of Mary Miller and this was seconded by Mr MacGregor. The meeting then appointed a committee to advertise the vacancy and to report to the House their recommendation for the post. It was agreed that the salary for the successful applicant would be fifty pounds.

Mary Miller's resignation letter is printed below:

Glasgow 26th September 1866

*To The Deacon Convener of the Trades House,
Dear Sir,*

In consequence of feeling less robust of late, I have thought it desirable that I should endeavour to obtain a situation in which it would not be necessary for me to go out in all weathers at such an early hour as my present duties require.

The Matronship of the Convalescent Home, Bothwell being at this time vacant I applied and have this day been appointed to the office.

I assure you that it is with considerable regret that I shall leave the Trades House School where I have been engaged for the past eleven years and I trust that the directors of the School and Gentlemen of the Trades House may feel that I have faithfully discharged my duties while in their service.

I most sincerely thank you, your predecessors in office and all the other Gentlemen with whom I have had to do for the kindness and consideration I have at all time met with from them since I came among you.

My year ends next month and as I am required to enter on my new duties on the first of November, I trust you will find a suitable person to fill my place in the Trades House School by that time. I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

⁶⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 9th August 1866.

New Female Teacher appointed

The House met again in November 1866 to appoint a new Female Teacher of the girls in the Trades School. Ninety candidates had applied for the post and their applications were laid on the table. The Deacon Convener moved that the minutes of the Committee appointed to recommend the name of the prospective Female Teacher should be approved and the recommendation followed. This was seconded by Mr Warren and the minutes and recommendations were approved unanimously. Mr Ferguson dissented the decision and the House elected and appointed Mrs Mary Walker of number 99 Bath Street, Glasgow to be Teacher of the girls attending the Trades School to the next ordinary time of election in October at the rate of fifty pounds a year. She was also to be subject to the existing rules applicable to the School. The same conditions as for the previous teaching staff were again listed.⁷⁰

Fortunately for the House, the resignation slowed down and it was not until July 1868 that the next resignation was placed before the House, this time it was Mr A McNeil, the Principal Teacher of the Trades School who wished to leave the House's employment. The Directors of the School recommended that the House unanimously accept the resignation.

Principal Teacher Resigns

On the motion of Mr Inglis and seconded by Mr Maclean, the meeting unanimously accept that resignation and resolved to pay Mr McNeil one quarter salary from the date of his resignation. The Directors were then tasked to advertise the position and to give a short list of five candidates to the House.⁷¹

135 Applications for post of Principal Teacher

One hundred and thirty five applications were received for the post from the advertisement. This had been reduced to eleven applicants and then to eight candidates, each of the eight were interviewed which reduced the leet to six. One of the six in the interim had been appointed to another post and therefore the leet presented was five:

James Galloway
Archibald M. Dunlop
William Robertson
William Adam
George Ness

The Directors had observed all the Teachers teaching, George Ness in St. Peters School and the remainder in the Trades School. They recommended James Galloway as the most suitable candidate.

On the motion of John Morrison seconded by Deacon Duncan the House unanimously chose James Galloway, Teacher of the Western Institution at Partick as

⁶⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 2nd October 1866.

⁷⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 22nd November 1866.

⁷¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 6th July 1868.

Principal Teacher at one hundred and fifty pounds a year. The usual conditions were then recorded in the minutes of the House.⁷²

School Report ~ October 1868

The Directors of the Trades School had visited the School periodically and written a report of their visits in a book and they met quarterly to discuss their reports.

They were confident that the new Principal Teacher, Mr James Galloway would prove to be a benefit to the School. There was 92 boys and 95 girls attending the School.⁷³

School Examination and Outing

The House met in May 1869 to set the date of the School Examination which was to be 17th June 1869 and the vacation was to be from 17th June to 3rd August. The Annual Excursion was set to be to Arrochar and a steamer was to be booked and ten pounds was allocated to the excursion.⁷⁴

School Report ~ October 1869

The 1869 School report was fairly short and the salient points in it were as follows:

Drawing had been added to the curriculum and a Mr Stewart had been employed as a drawing teacher.

The teaching staff consisted of:

Mr Galloway Principal Teacher
Mr Laughlan Assistant Teacher
Mrs Walker Sewing Mistress
Mr Stewart Drawing Master
Mr Robson Teacher of Music

New desks had been added to make teaching of writing and arithmetic better. The school was divided into three Divisions and sub-divisions within the above to suit the abilities of different scholars.

There were now eleven Incorporations sending scholars as the Bakers and Barbers had reunited. Pupil numbers have increased from 173 in 1868 to 192 in October 1869.⁷⁵

School Report ~ March 1870

This is an interesting Report partly for what it does not say! Two minutes of the Directors of the School were read and also a letter from Mr Laughland, Assistant Teacher of the School was also read. Unfortunately Mr Laughland's letter has not survived and was not recorded in the House Minutes so we cannot know its contents.

⁷² Minutes of the Trades House, 8th September 1868.

⁷³ Minutes of the Trades House, 15th October 1868.

⁷⁴ Minutes of the Trades House, 28th May 1869.

⁷⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th October 1869.

Several gentlemen expressed their opinion on the conduct of Mr Laughland and Deacon William Morrison moved that the whole matter regarding the charges made by Mr Laughland and his conduct as Assistant Teacher should be remitted to the Directors of the School and giving the Directors the power, if they thought it appropriate, to give him two months' notice of the termination of his contract with the School or if they felt that he should be dismissed and to pay him for two months instead of giving him notice. The motion also proposed that the Directors would have the power to advertise and to make arrangements for the employment of another Assistant Teacher. The motion was seconded by Mr Guthrie and the meeting unanimously (Mr MacGregor dissented) agreed to the motion.

The next item on the agenda was a motion by the Convener, which was unanimously approved, to increase the salary of Mrs Walker, Teacher of the girls from fifty pounds to sixty pounds a year to commence on 1st February 1870.⁷⁶

At the next meeting of the House on 31st March 1870, after the reading of the last minute, Mr MacGregor stated that the minute was inaccurate as it represented him as having dissented from the resolution of the House regarding the minutes of the Directors of the School and the conduct of the Assistant Teacher, when in fact he had withdrawn the objection. The Clerk reminded the House that Mr MacGregor stated his objections repeatedly and did not agree with the resolution until after it was adopted. It looks as if the Clerk's view was upheld as there is no further comment on Mr MacGregor's objection.

A question of clarification was raised concerning whether the Directors had the power to employ the Assistant Teacher and the meeting decided that the Directors should submit to the House a small leet of the candidates that they recommend and that the House would then elect the Assistant Teacher from the list of names on that reduced list.⁷⁷

New Assistant Teacher

At the next House meeting in May 1870, the Deacon Convener reported that post of Assistant Teacher of the Trades School had been advertised in several Glasgow newspapers, and that fifty nine applications had been received. All of the applications had been considered by the Directors of the School. From the candidates, the Committee had selected William Pitcairn, Teacher Falkirk; Adam Beveridge, Teacher Helensburgh; Duncan McKenzie, Teacher at Blackburn near Bathgate; James Harvey, Teacher at Bridgeton of Glasgow and Robert McFadyen, Teacher in Paisley as in their opinion they were well qualified to fill the vacant situation and those names were accordingly submitted to the meeting as the reduced leet of candidates.

On the motion of the Deacon Convener, seconded by Mr Ledingham the meeting unanimously elected and appointed Adam Beveridge, Assistant Teacher of Springfield Academy at Helensburgh as the Assistant Teacher of the Trades School at the rate of sixty five pounds a year of salary. It was agreed that Mr Ledingham would commence his duties as Assistant Teacher on 1st June 1870. The normal

⁷⁶ Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd March 1870.

⁷⁷ Minutes of the Trades House, 31st March 1870.

conditions concerning him agreeing to follow the rules and regulations of the School was then listed in the minute.⁷⁸

Proposal to Cancel the Annual School Trip

At the House meeting on 3rd August 1870, Mr MacGregor gave notice of his intention to move that the School Trip as at present conducted be discontinued as extravagant and misdirected.⁷⁹ Either Mr MacGregor changed his mind about moving the cancellation of the School Trip or the decision to continue with it was agreed at a subsequent meeting and unrecorded.

At the June 1871 meeting the House unanimously that the annual examination of the scholars should take place on Wednesday 14th June and that the School Trip Should take place on Thursday 15th and that the Deacon Convener, Collector, Late Convener, the Late Collector and Messrs Blyth, Dougall and Anderson should form the committee to arrange all details regarding the examination and prizes. Mr Blyth to be Convener of the Committee.⁸⁰

Assistant Teacher's salary increased

The meeting also approved the proposal made by the Committee on the School, that the salary of Adam Beveridge, Assistant Teacher of the School Should be increased from sixty five pounds to eighty pounds a year.⁸¹

Increase in Principal Teacher's Salary

Annual salary increases was not a feature of the Trades Free School conditions of service and in October 1870 the Deacon Convener, seconded by Mr Bell, the Collector moved that an addition of twenty five pounds a year should be made to the salary of Mr James Galloway, Principal Teacher of the Trades School, that his salary should be increased to one hundred and seventy five pounds to mark the appreciation of the House for the satisfactory manner he had conducted the School and carried forward the education of the pupils since he was appointed Principal Teacher. The motion was unanimously approved and his salary was increased from the date of the meeting, 3rd October 1870.⁸²

New Teacher of Girls

No information is recorded in the minutes of the House concerning why Mrs Walker, the Sewing Mistress' post was vacant. The June 1872 minutes of the House records that appoint Miss Barbara Ross was unanimously appointed as Teacher of the Industrial School at sixty pounds a year due to a present vacancy.⁸³

New Assistant Teacher Appointed

After only 17 months with the School and Mr Adam Beveridge, Assistant Teacher of the Trades School had resigned his situation and ceased to act as one of the Teachers, the meeting of the House unanimously remitted to the Directors of the School the appointment of Assistant Teacher instead of Adam Beveridge.⁸⁴

⁷⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd May 1870.

⁷⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd August 1870.

⁸⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 8th June 1871.

⁸¹ Minutes of the Trades House, 8th June 1871.

⁸² Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd October 1870.

⁸³ Minutes of the Trades House, 3rd June 1872.

⁸⁴ Minutes of the Trades House, 12th November 1872.

Unfortunately no information exists regarding the reason for Mr Beveridge leaving the School.

The minutes of the Directors of the School were read and approved and the meeting on recommendation by the School Directors unanimously appointed John L. Cook to be Assistant Teacher of the Trades School at the salary of fifty pounds a year subject to the conditions of the election of Adam Beveridge, late Assistant Teacher as contained in the Minute of the Trades House on 10th October 1872.⁸⁵ At the meeting of the House on 14th April 1873, Mr Archibald Gilchrist moved that the salary of John L. Cook, Assistant Teacher of the Trades School should be increased to eighty pounds a year instead of seventy pounds as recommended by the Directors of the School and this was seconded by Deacon Morrison and the meeting unanimously agreed to the salary increase.⁸⁶

New Teacher of Girls Appointed

The House were in the position of having to employ a new Teacher of Girls due to the death of Miss Barbara Ross and so at a meeting of the House in April 1873, the Directors of the School proposed that Miss Maggie MacDonald who resided in Glasgow, should be appointed to be Teacher of the female department of the Trades House School at the salary of sixty pounds a year and under the same conditions as stated in the minutes of 10th October 1872.⁸⁷

It is interesting to note that after the appointment of Miss MacDonald, the meeting agreed to increase the salary of the male Assistant Teacher to eighty pounds. Was this a means of maintaining a differential in the wages of male and female teachers?

School Report October ~ 1873

The School report of 1873 is a most valuable one as it is detailed and informative, the following are the main points of the report:

1. The Directors gave an outline of the staffing at the School and the changes over the previous year noting that Mrs Walker had resigned as Teacher of the Industrial Department and Miss Barbara Ross had replaced her and with hardly a days' absence from the School, had died suddenly and was replaced by Miss Maggie MacDonald.
2. They also commented that the Assistant Teacher, Mr Beveridge, had been appointed to a Mastership in another school and was replaced by Mr John L Cook.
3. The present staff at the School was:
 - Mr James Galloway ~ Head Master
 - Mr John L Cook ~ Assistant Teacher
 - Miss Maggie MacDonald ~ Female Teacher
 - Mr Robson ~ Singing Master
 - Mr Stewart ~ Drawing Master

⁸⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 20th February 1873

⁸⁶ Minutes of the Trades House, 14th April 1873.

⁸⁷ Minutes of the Trades House, 14th April 1873.

4. The list of the number of Scholars attending the School from the different Incorporations during each quarter of the previous session is listed below:

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Hammermen	39	40	41	40
Cordiners	20	19	21	21
Maltmen	27	28	27	27
Bakers	13	13	14	14
Skinners	8	9	8	8
Wrights	14	13	14	14
Masons	6	8	9	8
Coopers	13	14	14	15
Fleshers	11	11	13	13
Barbers	16	16	17	17
Gardeners	9	10	10	10
Trades House	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total:	178	183	190	189

The average attendance was 185.

The above list indicates that three Incorporations were not participating in the School i.e. Bonnetmakers and Dyers; Tailors and Weavers.

5. The Report indicated the improvements in the method of delivering the education in the School. They also took some of the credit by stating that *“the Teachers with the advice of the Directors had arranged the classes and subjects in each department, so that the whole may form one interrupted course of instruction in the various branches, from the first year to the last of the scholars’ attendance”*. These changes had improved the results and they stated that two years ago the highest division in the School only had twelve scholars, the year after, that number had risen to twenty five and now stood at twenty nine scholars.
6. There seems to have been a change in the attitude towards female teachers as it was reported that oral lessons in Grammar and Geography had been introduced in Miss MacDonald’s highest class and elementary lessons in history in Mr Cook’s classes with the most satisfactory results.
7. In Singing and Drawing the last examination demonstrated a much improved in these topics.
8. The Directors praised Mr Galloway, the Head Teacher as had taught the senior boys up to the first book in Euclid and carrying out simple equations in algebra and intended to offer either at mid-day or after close of the School to have a voluntary Latin class for those advanced scholars who wished to attend.
9. This Report gave the name of the Medal Boy for session 1871-72 as David Gardner whose father was a Matman and that Incorporation had sent him to the Glasgow Academy where he gained the following honours:
- First prize in English
 - First prize in History and Geography
 - First prize in Religious Knowledge
 - First prize in arithmetic
 - Second prize in French
10. Thanks were given to those members of the House who had donated prizes to the School the previous session and encouraging prizes for the coming session to be intimated to enable the scholars to be informed to encourage greater effort.

11. An interesting item in the Report is a request for a sewing machine for the Female and Industrial Department of the School. It was claimed that this would be a great boon to the School and sewing would continue to be taught but girls in their final year could be taught to work a sewing machine, this would open up a new department of industry when they left the School and also assist them when they were housewives. The estimated cost of the machine was eight to nine pounds.
12. The Great Scottish Education Act was being discussed by the Directors and they unanimously agreed that it was a most important matter that required consideration.⁸⁸

A comment is necessary on a few points in the above report. Principal Teacher was the title of the head of the School and in this Report he is listed as "*Head Master*" and "*Head Teacher*", when Thomas Struthers wished the title of Head Master to be used when referring to him, the House refused his request. One must wonder if the above titles were errors or a change in the perceptions of the Directors and the House in General.

The other very important comment near the end of the Report concerns the Great Scottish Education Act. The Directors were proud of their School considering it second to none and aware that the Act would affect them, but not knowing how. It would not take long for the School to cease because of this Act.

Principal Teacher's Pay Rise

The minutes of the Committee of Directors of the School were read at the meeting of the House in November 1873 where they agreed to increase the salary of Mr James Galloway, Principal Teacher of the School from one hundred and seventy five pounds to two hundred pounds a year.⁸⁹ The superb Report by the Directors must have had a very positive effect on the House to encourage them to raise the Principal Teacher's salary by twenty five pounds. The minutes of the House did not reflect the Report's reference to Mr James Galloway, Principal Teacher as a Head Master or Head Teacher.

Numbers attending the School prior to closure

The Minute Book from 1873 to 1876 is wanting and therefore we are unable to state exactly what happened in the final throws of the Trades School. The School Roll from 1873 to 1876 still exists and this gives an insight to the number of pupils attending the School during that period. Bakers; Barbers; Coopers; Cordiners; Fleshers; Gardeners; Hammermen; Maltmen; Masons; Wrights and Trades House were still sending children to the School. The Bonnetmakers and Dyers; Skinners, Furriers and Glovers as well as the Weavers were not supporting the School during the last three years of its existence. In the session 1873/4 there was approximately 190 pupils attending the school, the following year 1874/5 the numbers had dropped to around 165 pupils and in the final year of its existence, 1875/6 the pupil numbers were down to 150. These numbers indicate that the parents had strong support for the School and were reluctant to withdraw their children from the School even though alternatives were emerging.⁹⁰

⁸⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 8th October 1873.

⁸⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 17th November 1873.

⁹⁰ Trades House Archives, Trades House School Register 1873 to 1876.

Report for the Winding up the School ~ March 1876

At a meeting of the Directors of the Trades' School, this ninth day of March, Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-six a meeting of the Directors of the School prepared a Report proposing the winding up of the School which had existed for 68 years and supplying excellent education for the children and grand-children of the Incorporations.

The Committee's reasons for closing the School were:

1. The expense to the House and Incorporations still adhering to the School is considerably in excess of the cost of educating the children at Board Schools, where an equally good elementary education can be obtained.
2. The extension of the City since the School was instituted, has so altered matters that few entitled to the benefits of the School live within a suitable distance for the attendance of the children.
3. By the Union Bank alterations, the children will be deprived of their present very limited playground accommodation.
4. The School Buildings themselves are now quite unsuitable in size and position, and would not, it is believed, satisfy Government requirements.

The Directors proposed that each of the Incorporations should continue to pay 13/4d for each child as has been the case for a long time and that the Trades House should contribute the pay the difference between that sum and the cost of education at the Board Schools. The Directors were keen to ensure that every child no matter from how humble a parent, they were not to be disadvantaged educationally.

The Buchanan Bequest was due to be disposed of as follows:

To invest in Bank of England Stock, in name of the Trades' House of Glasgow, in trust for educational purposes on behalf of the sons of decayed members of the Trades' House, the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds twelve months after the death of Jane Jack or Buchanan, my wife; the dividends and bonus accruing therefrom to be in all time coming exclusively appropriated and expended towards the education of the sons of decayed members, and also for promoting the studies of such' of them who give decided promise of mechanical genius, particularly in the department of engineering, in such a manner as the Managers of the Trades' House of Glasgow may deem best.

The Sub-committee also recommended that the Trades' House should take into consideration a much more liberal action in the cause of education, to aid those desirous to acquire a superior secondary, technical, or university education; and they suggested that this might be carried out most efficiently, by the institution of educational grants or bursaries, allocated amongst the several Incorporations.

The Sub-committee further recommended, that the existing Regulations for the School, adopted on 18th March, 1839, as to the Board of Directors for the management thereof, should still subsist, and that the same were to in future to be called the Education Committee of the House.⁹¹

⁹¹ Trades House School Report, 9th March 1876.

The next phase of the Trades House in Education

After the school ceased to be a working entity, consideration had to be given to what should be done with the premises and the books etc., previously used by the school. In January 1873 a Report by late Collector Bogue and Mr Henry Bruce regarding the School Library, &c., recommended that the Books and Maps lately in use in the School should be given to the Logan and Johnstone School, and the Slates to the Buchanan Institution, was read and approved.⁹² The House had a connection to both the Buchanan Institute which bears the name of one of the House's previous benefactors and the Logan and Johnstone School had Governors appointed by the House on 12th October 1876 at a House meeting where Messrs Robert Murdoch and John Zuill Ray were the parties entitled to act along with the Deacon of the Hammermen as Trustees and Governors of the Logan and Johnston School.⁹³

Rules for the Trades House Scholarship

In October 1876, the rules for the Trades' House Scholarships were drawn up. Clearly the House still wanted to ensure that the poorer children of the Craftsmen retained the ability to achieve the best that they could.

RULES FOR THE TRADES' HOUSE SCHOLARSHIPS.

1. The Scholarships of the Trades' House shall consist of two kinds, and be known as Junior and Senior Scholarships, for the promotion of higher education.
2. That there shall be thirty Junior Scholarships of the average value of Fifteen pounds, and tenable for three years, - Ten Pounds to be paid the first year, Fifteen the second, and Twenty the third year.
3. That there shall be nine Senior Scholarships of the average value of Thirty Pounds, and tenable for three years, - Twenty-five Pounds to be paid the first year, Thirty the second, and Thirty-five the third year.
4. That those Scholarships shall be open to the Children and Grand Children of Freemen in connection with any of the fourteen Incorporations, educated in any school. That the maximum age for boys and girls competing for a Junior Scholarship shall be fixed at fourteen years; and those for Senior, at seventeen years.
5. That a boy or girl able to pass an examination in the Fifth* Standard of the Scottish Code, and any two of the specific subjects of secular instruction mentioned in said Code, will be eligible for a Junior Scholarship.
6. That the holders of the Junior Scholarships shall be required to attend some school where a graduated course of higher instruction is given, and give evidence of attention to their studies, by submitting to the Clerk of the House a certificate from their teacher, before the second half of their annual allowance is paid.
7. That a boy able to pass an examination in a standard to be proposed by the Examiner herein after-mentioned, and approved of by the Committee-the standard to be somewhat equivalent to the entrance Bursary Examination at the University - will be eligible for a Senior Scholarship. A corresponding standard will be fixed for girls.
8. That the holder of such Senior Scholarships shall attend the University or some Technical School, and give evidence of attention to their studies, by

⁹² Minute on the Committee of Education, 18th January 1877.

⁹³ Minutes of the Trades House, 12th October 1876.

submitting to the Clerk of the Trades House a certificate from their professor or instructor before the second half of their annual allowance is paid. Girls that hold Senior Scholarships must also prosecute their studies in a place and manner satisfactory to the Committee, subject to the same conditions as the boys.

9. That ten Junior Scholarships shall be filled up for the first year, and the same for each succeeding year; and in like manner with the Senior Scholarships- three to be filled up each year.
10. The payments to be made on 1st November and 1st May in each year.
11. The examination for the Junior Scholarships shall be held in August; and for the Senior, in October of each year.
12. The Examination for the Junior Scholarships shall be awarded according to the merits of the Candidates, on the report of a duly qualified Examiner appointed by the Committee on Education, with the sanction of the House ; but the minimum of 400, out of 1000 marks, must be reached in order to entitle to a Scholarship, provided always, that the Candidates shall be restricted to necessitous Children or Grandchildren, (a preference being given to Orphans), and especially to those who mean to prosecute a technical education. That for the purpose of furthering the education of young Craftsmen connected with the Incorporations, the House be recommended to allow the Committee on Education a sum not to exceed in anyone year £100 sterling, to be spent in payment of Fees for Technical instruction in morning or evening classes: careful arrangement to be made by the Committee to supervise the instruction, and secure attendance and efficiency.
13. In the event of misconduct or inattention to studies on the part of any one holding any of the above Scholarships, it shall be in the power of the "Committee on Education" to suspend from the benefits of said Scholarships, or altogether deprive of the same.⁹⁴

* **Standard V - Reading**.- Reading with expression a short passage of prose or poetry, with explanation, grammar, and elementary analysis of simple sentences. *Writing* - Writing from memory the substance of a short story or narrative read out twice by the Inspector; spelling, grammar and hand-writing to be considered. *Arithmetic* - Practice, Bills of parcels, and simple proportion. *History and Geography* - Outlines of the History of Great Britain from the Union of the Crowns to the Death of George III. Geography of Scotland, with special knowledge of the county in which the school is situated and map drawing of it.⁹⁵

Setting up the Scholarship Scheme

At a meeting of the Committee on Education in February 1877, the method of implementing Rule 12 above, was discussed. Collector Bogue moved that Mr John Hutcheson, M.A., classical master of the High School of Glasgow should be recommended to the Trades House to be appointed as the Examiner of the Junior and Senior Scholarships. It was also proposed that a Committee consisting of the Deacon-Convener, Collector, David Aitken, Henry Bruce, William Maclean, jun., and himself, should be appointed along with the Examiner, to act in making all the necessary arrangements for the examinations. It was also proposed to send to each of the Incorporations a circular giving full information on the scheme so that they could receive applications for candidates.⁹⁶

⁹⁴ Minutes of the Trades House, 12th October 1876.

⁹⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 12th October 1876.

⁹⁶ Minutes of the Committee on Education, 22nd February 1877.

Proposed trip for School children or members

At a meeting of the Trades House on the 9th May 1877, concern was shown that the children and grandchildren of the Incorporations did not know each other now that the Trades House School was closed, it was suggested by the Deacon Convener that the Trades House should arrange a trip for the members of the Trades House or the children who attend school. The proposal was agreed to and the Education and Finance Committee were asked to arrange the trip.

Mr Donald Munro proposed that the House should defray the cost of the trip as in previous years, this was unanimously agreed to.⁹⁷

9th July 1877 joint meeting of education and finance committees

The joint meeting of the Education and Finance Committees met in July 1877 and agreed not to have a trip for the children at the expense of the House or Incorporations. They then elected a committee to arrange the first Trades House trip for members of the House.⁹⁸

First Junior Scholarship

The Committee of Education met to discuss the report by the Sub-Committee on Applications for Junior Scholarships and after some debate agreed to it. The report indicated that they had received 35 applications and 10 of them had not been eligible. The remaining 25 applicants had been called in for examinations which lasted two days, of the 25 applicants, only 21 presented themselves for examination the other 4 who had received notice were absent.

The Sub-Committee verified the examination papers and the method of marking and agreed to propose ten candidates for the Scholarship as they had attained at least 400 marks out of a possible 1000 marks as laid down in rule 12 of the scheme.

The following are the names of the successful candidates:

Simon G. McLennan,	Thomas White Shannon,	David Alexander Sutherland
Annie Smith Findlay,	Andrew Wishart,	Anna Grant Mackintosh,
Hugh Anderson Macpherson,	Jane McGowan,	Mary H. Drinnan,
Minnie O. White.		

Mr John Barnet, was voluntarily withdrawn by his father, in order that some other more necessitous Applicant might receive the Scholarship.⁹⁹

Senior Scholarship

At a meeting of the Committee on Education in October 1877, the Clerk produced the following applications for the Senior Scholarship:

Incorporations	Applicants
Tailors	4
Maltmen	1
Weavers	1
Bakers	1

⁹⁷ Minutes of the Trades House, 9th May 1877.

⁹⁸ Minutes of the Joint Education and Finance Committees, 9th July 1877.

⁹⁹ Minutes of the Committee on Education, 24th August 1877.

Skinner	2
Wrights	2
Barbers	1
Dyers	1

Having considered the applications, they recommended the following as eligible candidates to compete:

Margaret Wallace Wingate, Jane Reid, Catherine McLennan, Frances Marie Findlay, John C. Thomson, John Wylie, Ann Crawford, and Jessie Pearston.

The application of Ellen Galbraith, from the Incorporation of Dyers was remitted to Mr James Reid to ascertain if, in his opinion, she was eligible to compete. The meeting then appointed a Sub-Committee to make all necessary arrangements for the Examination of the applicants.

The sub-Committee was also asked to purchase Bibles and to present them to the applicants who had been unsuccessful in obtaining a Junior Scholarships.¹⁰⁰

Females as well as males to receive assistance for scholarships

The meeting of the Committee on Education on 31st October 1877 started with a motion from the Deacon Convener in which he proposed that Females as well as Males should receive assistance for Technical Education and the Rules for Scholarships in reference to Technical Education, should be altered to reflect this.

Senior Scholarships Awarded

The meeting then approved the Report by the Sub-Committee on Senior Scholarships. The Report indicated that 13 applications had been received for Senior Scholarships and 4 of these were not eligible to compete. Only 7 applicants attended with 2 applicants being absent from the two day examination. The subjects of the first day were-English and Latin or French and that of the second day- Mathematics, History and Geography, Music, and Arithmetic.

The Sub-Committee, considering that only three competitors, viz., John C. Thomson, Catherine McLennan, and Frances M. Findlay had attained the number of marks to entitle them to a Senior Scholarship in terms of the Rules - the other competitors having failed to attain the minimum number of marks required. The meeting unanimously recommended John C. Thomson, Catherine McLennan, and Frances M. Findlay to receive the Senior Scholarships.

Trades House and Education today

The Trades House and Incorporations have continued to support School pupils, College and University students by encouraging them to achieve their utmost. They still give Bursaries and Scholarships, prizes and run competitions for the benefit of the individuals. Below are a few of the ways that the House and Incorporations encourage the youth of today:

¹⁰⁰ Minutes of the Committee on Education 15th October 1877.

Burns Festival

The Trades House runs a Burns Festival for school pupils in January each year and it includes recitation, singing and instrumentals. Prizes are awarded to pupils and schools.

Citizenship Award

The Trades House of Glasgow aims to recognise the excellent work being undertaken by schools in, for and with their communities and the the Citizenship Award is open to all schools - pre-5, primary, secondary and special needs. There is no monetary award, rather a certificate for all commended schools and a plaque for the winning school. Each school gaining the award is entitled to display the Trades House logo on their stationery.

Schools qualifying for the award competition would be involved in some of the following:

- contributing to the life of the local community
- participating in local events
- undertaking local ventures
- contributing to newspapers and other media
- linking with local industry/employers
- providing events which the local community can attend
- involving the local community in the educational life of the school by assisting pupils in a variety of activities
- enabling members of the local community to take part in educational experience to encourage lifelong learning
- any project which involves the community helping the school or the school helping the community

Each year, the winning school is announced at an award ceremony held in the Trades Hall.

Determined to Make Movies

In addition to supporting many of the Scottish Government's 'Curriculum for Excellence' initiatives, Determined to Make Movies encourages children from an early age to think about careers in the growing film industry in Scotland and develop their skills.

The Deacon Convener often helps to judge the entries prior to the awards ceremony. Some members of the House then attend the event along with schools, teachers and associated organisation to watch the fantastic winning films from Glasgow primary and secondary schools on the huge screen at a Cinema.

Craftex Competition

The annual Craftex competition and its associated exhibition provides a showcase for the very best work of students from the city's colleges. Encouraged by success in the competition many students have gone on to start up their own business or have been employed by others as a direct result of their participation in Craftex:

"After visiting Craftex last year I interviewed a number of students whose work I had seen in the Exhibition. Sam Lauriston was successful and is a great employee!"

Trades House not only gives financial prizes for the best entries, but the work is

exhibited in the Trades Hall, 85 Glassford Street, Glasgow, open to the public with free entry. This is a fantastic opportunity to see the best art, design craftsmanship and technical skills that Glasgow's college students have to offer. It is always an incredible display and well worth a visit.

The Glasgow Modern Apprenticeship Award

The apprenticeship system was first established and maintained in the City in medieval times by the 14 historic Craft Guilds, which united to form the Trades House of Glasgow in 1605. The goal then was to ensure high quality workmanship and customer service.

The Trades House of Glasgow Modern Apprentice Award has been running since 2006. It aims to encourage those embarking on Modern Apprenticeships to become proficient in their chosen vocation. The competition is open to those working towards a Scottish Modern Apprenticeship or who have been employed by any employer in Glasgow and the West of Scotland.

The winner is chosen from one of six finalists and presented with an inscribed trophy, which will remain on display in the Trades Hall, home to the Trades House of Glasgow. They also received an inscribed replica of the trophy and a cash prize of £1,000 for study. A second prize of £500 and a third of £250 will also be awarded. Each finalist receives a certificate of commendation.

Winners and runners up have included a wide range of professions: painter and decorator, electrical engineer, joiner, hotel night manager, chef and a mechanical engineer. Apprentices in professions like pharmacy and administration have also featured among award winners.

A judging panel assesses the candidates against criteria - capability, commitment, community engagement, overcoming difficulties, and the overall quality of the application.

Kinship Care

The House supports children who are being looked after by grandparents etc., and who have a more difficult challenge in reaching their educational attainment levels. Homework clubs and other methods to support this group is a major part of the House and Incorporations charitable giving each year.

Incorporations Supporting Education

On top of the above, each of the 14 Incorporations gives thousands of pounds in prizes to students at Colleges and Universities in Glasgow.

Many students receive their prizes and awards at the appropriate Incorporation's Deacon's Choosing Dinner. The receipt of any award from the Trades House and Incorporations is viewed with great regard by the winners and features on many young person's C.V. with pride.