

Trades House of Glasgow

The Story of

Deacon Convener Provost James Kirkwood (1905-1906)

Deacon of the Incorporation of Coopers (1899)



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Trades House Honorary Archivist

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Ex Deacon Convener Provost James Kirkwood

1847 Birth of James Anderson

James Kirkwood was born on 21st September 1847 in Kilbirnie. His parents were John Kirkwood, employed as a clerk and Janet Kirkwood.

Siblings

James had a number of brothers and sisters, the first was:

John Kirkwood and he was three years younger than James being born on 3rd October 1850.

William Kirkwood born 1857 in Avondale

Sarah Lauson Kirkwood born 1859 in St Quivox and Newton on Ayr

1851 Census

James Kirkwood was 3 years-of-age at the time of the 1851 census and he was the son of John Kirkwood (24), employed as a clerk and his mother Janet Kirkwood (22) and mother Janet Kirkwood. Living in the family home was his brother James Kirkwood, aged 3-years and John Kirkwood his youngest brother aged 5 months.

1861 Census

In 1861 James Kirkwood was 13 years of age and still living with his father John Kirkwood (34), employed as a Coalmasters Book Keeper, and his mother Janet Kirkwood (32). They were residing in 162 North Street, Barony, Glasgow along with their children John (10), William (5) and Sarah L (1). Alexander's uncle Benjamin Kirkwood (18), is listed as a student, was also staying with the family. The family had two lodgers Joseph Milne (19), Lodger Marthar Wylie (20), and Joseph Milne (19) and Marthar Wylie, 20. James was listed as a Messenger W A Baker.

Early Employment

After he finished his education, he moved to Glasgow to train as a clerk and by 1870 he was living at 244 Buchanan Street and working in the stockbroker's office of Robert Strang, 83 St George's Place, Glasgow. The next year they moved offices to 7 Royal Bank Place, Glasgow. On 1st September 1874 the partnership was dissolved by the retirement of Robert Strang and James Kirkwood continued to practice on his own. In 1896 his sons James and John became partners and the firm became known as James Kirkwood & Sons, stock and share brokers, 62 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.

1870 Marriage to Mary McGavin Anderson

James Kirkwood (23) married Mary McGavin Anderson (19) on 15th April 1870 at 14 Holmhead Street, in Central District, Glasgow, this was the home of his wife Mary. James's home was at 22 Dundas Street, Glasgow and his employment was listed as a Stockbroker's Clerk.

James's father was listed as a Mercantile Clerk and Mary's parents were called John Anderson, Slater Master and Ellen Chambers.

1871 Census

James Kirkwood set up his own home and was staying at 244 Buchan Street with his new wife Mary. He was employed as a Broker's Clerk, and they had a servant called Christina Robertson (20)

1881 Census

James Kirkwood, now 33 years of age and the family had moved to Ardentinn, Dunoon and Kilmun, Argyll. His wife Mary (29) was also living in the family home along with his children

John A Kirkwood, (9), James Kirkwood, (7), Helen Harvey Kirkwood, (6), Jenny Wilson Kirkwood, (4). Also living with family were John Anderson, (67), a Retired Master Slater, his Father-in-law and two servants: Elizabeth Mc J McFarlane, (24), Mary M Hyslop, (22). Mary Ann Affleck Reilly, employed as a nurse (23), James's sister was also at home during the census. James's employment was listed as a Member of Glasgow Stock Exchange

1891 Census

By 1891 James Kirkwood was 43 years old and the family was now staying at Edinburgh Hydropathie during the census. James was employed as a Stockbroker and his wife Mary was 39 years of age and their 16 year old daughter Helen H Kirkwood was with them along with another daughter Jane W Kirkwood aged 14 years. Both daughters were listed as scholars in this census.

Also living at the Edinburgh Hydropathie was John Murdoch aged 64 years and William Martin (56), both were living on Private Means.

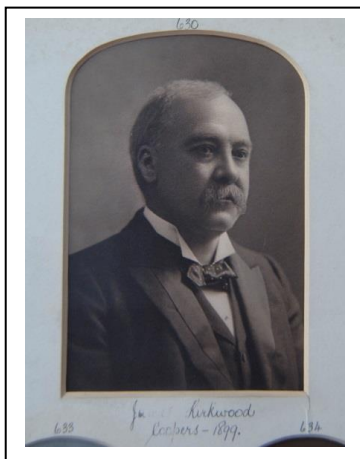
1892 Provost of Govan

He was elected as Provost of Govan in November 1892 and re-elected in November 1898. During his time as provost he tried to advance his liberal beliefs and ideas and his tenure is remembered for the building of Govan Police Station, Govan Town Hall and the Public Baths.

1890 Burgess of the City of Glasgow

On 14 Nov 1890 James Kirkwood became a Cooper Burgess and Guild Brother of the City of Glasgow as a member of the Incorporation of Coopers at Far Hand.

1899 Deacon of the Incorporation of Coopers



In September 1897 James Kirkwood became Collector of the Incorporation of Coopers.

Two years later as is the norm he became Deacon and led the Incorporation with great aplomb.

1901 Census

James Kirkwood was now 53 years of age and was living at Carlin Lodge Ibroxholm, Govan, Glasgow, employed as a Stockbroker. His 49 year old wife Mary was still living with him as was his 28 year old son James Kirkwood who was also employed as a Stockbroker. Also in the family home were 3 servants: Elsie R Ross (33), Catherine McAlpine (34) and Mary J Ferguson (36).

1905 to 1906 Deacon Convener



James Kirkwood was elected Collector of the Trades House in 1899.

As Collector of the House, he had the honour of being one of the deputations to present the address in person to King Edward and Queen Alexandra on their State visit to Glasgow in 1903.

As Collector and later as Late Collector, Deacon Convener and Late Deacon Convener, James Kirkwood was a great supporter of the Trades House Bowling Competition, attending as an observer many games and

between 1903 and 1912 many of the prize giving ceremonies.



In 1905 and 1906 he was elected as Deacon Convener of the Trades House of Glasgow

In 1905 The Platform presented The Trades House Golf Trophy, which is a magnificent shield to be presented annually at the Trades House Golf Competition. He along with many members of the Trades House with an interest in the Golf Competition met on 5th December 1905 to approve the rules proposed by the sub-committee. Deacon Convener Kirkwood presented the shield to the winners of the first competition which took place on 9th May 1906, The Deacon of the Bakers was presented with the Trophy on behalf of the Incorporation. The second competition was again won by the Incorporation of

Bakers and Deacon Convener Kirkwood presented prizes at this competition.

1907 Death of Mary McGavin Kirkwood nee Anderson

Mary passed away on 16th November 1907 at 10 a.m. she died in 6 Kensington Gate, Glasgow, her normal residence was Carling Lodge, Ibroxholm, Govan. Mary was 56 years of age, and the cause of death was Hemiplegia (right) from Cerebral Haemorrhage. James Kirkwood was present at the death. Mary was buried in Plot E 699 at Craigton Cemetery, Glasgow.

1911 Census

At the 1911 census James was staying at Carling Lodge, Govan which had 11 rooms with windows. James was listed as a Stockbroker and an employer. Also staying in the Lodge were John A. Kirkwood, (39), also a widower and a Stockbroker employing people. With him was his children Mary A. Kirkwood (10) and Ian W.A. Kirkwood (7).

Supporting the household were three servants: Edith E. Stevens (35), Housekeeper, Charlotte Fletcher (33), Housemaid and Marion McKinnon (20) Cook and Domestic.

1912 Govan amalgamates with Glasgow

Mr. Kirkwood was, a much-respected worker in other branches of the public life of the city and suburbs. He was for ten years Provost of the neighbouring Burgh of Govan, and after its annexation to Glasgow in 1912, he represented one of the Govan wards in the Town Council of the city, latterly holding the ancient office of Bailie of Provan.

He was also a prominent Freemason for many years and held high office in the craft. An active church worker, he was an elder of Bellahouston Established Church and was on several occasions appointed a representative elder to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and he was a council member of the Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts and president of Bellahouston Tennis Club and vice president of Bellahouston Bowling Club and in other spheres of usefulness was of great service during a generation and a half, to his fellow-citizens.

1921 Census

James was staying at Hopetoun Place in Haddington, Berwick at the time of the 1922 census and listed as a retired widowed stockbroker. Mary Sharp a 54-year-old nurse was staying in the same house at this time

1922 Death of James Kirkwood

James died at Cluny Gardens, Edinburgh on 8th February 1922 at 3.20 a.m. aged 74. He died of a Cerebral Haemorrhage. James was buried in Plot E 698 at Craigton Cemetery, Glasgow.