

THE INCORPORATION OF OMNIUM GATHERUM OF STIRLING.

(By DAVID B. MORRIS.)

THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

The name Omnium Gatherum, although applied seriously to the Incorporation which bore it, is obviously a made-up one, and was probably facetious in its origin. It is spurious Latin for a gathering together of everybody, and is spelt in many ways in the records, the forms of most frequent occurrence being Omnigatherum and Omnigadrum. The name may not have been peculiar to Stirling, but I have been unable to trace its use elsewhere to designate a body of mixed composition.

In addition to the Merchant Guild and the seven Incorporated Trades (Hammermen, Weavers, Tailors, Shoemakers, Fleshers, Skinners and Bakers), there were four bodies in Stirling which attained the dignity of formal incorporation. These were the Maltmen, the Mechanics, the Omnium Gatherum and the Barbers. They were known collectively as the Tolerated Communities, a title which indicates that their independence was acknowledged grudgingly. The ancient Incorporations had all the pride of prestige, but as time passed more liberal ideas prevailed. It became beyond the power of the members to retain in a position of inferiority a large number of their fellow townsmen, for no other reason than that these happened to follow occupations which had not been consolidated by the process of incorporation. Other than the Maltmen, the Tolerated Communities did not become organised until the seventeenth century. The process was gradual, the aim being incorporation by a seal of Cause from the Town Council. The first step was the resolution for united action on the part of burgesses who followed unrecognised occupations. It is essential to remember that these were freemen of the burgh although not Guild Brothers or members of the Seven Incorporated Trades. They had been admitted Burgesses qua Neighbours. The Maltmen and the Barbers took separate action. The occupations of the remaining unincorporated freemen were of great variety, and when they became united for the

redress of their grievances they were named the Omnium Gatherum, indicating that they were a mixed lot.

WHO WERE THE OMNIUM GATHERUM?

In its earlier stages the Omnium Gatherum included Wrights, Masons, Slaters, Painters, Glassingwrights or Glaziers, Plasterers and Plumbers, what we might call the building trades, also Litsters or Dyers, Coopers, Cabinet Makers, Bookbinders and Pipe Makers. All these subsequently hived off from the Omnium Gatherum, and gradually formed themselves, between 1643 and 1671, into an independent Incorporation named the Mechanics. In 1723 when the Omnigatherum obtained a Grant from the Town Council they were described as consisting of "Workmen, Hauxters, Carriers, Horse-hirers, and other Dargsmen of such employs or occupations." Their "employs or handylabours" were described as "hyreing of horses, carting, threshing, hauxtering, or other employs of the like kind." This was farther elaborated in the following definition, "to use, follow, or practise hyring of horses, driving of carts, carrying of merchant goods, selling of hauxter ware, keeping of milk cows, fatning of cows for slaughter, or the like employs." Since that date the members have been chiefly followers of occupations in which horses were employed, or cattle kept, although the records of entries show that great latitude was exercised in admitting anybody who cared to join and pay his entry money.

THE OMNIUM GATHERUM AND THE MECHANICS.

As has been mentioned, the Omnium Gatherum and the Mechanics were originally included in one unincorporated body. The earliest mention of this which has been traced is in 1595, when we find that the Omnigadderum were allowed four members of the Town Council, namely Robert Cragingelt of that ilk, Robert Forester of Boquhan, John Marshall and Thomas Mitchell, litsters. Robert Cragingelt and Robert Forester were county gentlemen who probably had residences in the town, and there may have been some special reason for their inclusion in the Town Council, for which their nomination on behalf of the Omnium Gatherum was a convenient excuse. The other

two, who were dyers, were doubtless genuine operative members. In 1598 the representatives were John Marshall, litster and Archibald Smith, notar. This is one of the few references to the legal profession in the Town Council minutes. In 1599 there were three of such members on the Town Council, John Marshall, Robert Forrester of Boquhan and Thomas Mitchell. The right of the Omnium Gatherum to have members on the Town Council was apparently open to doubt, and for the next four years none of their body sat on the Council. On 17th December, 1604, we find the Council enacting that two of the Omnigadderum shall be joined yearly to the Council, as "extraordiner persones of counsall, conforme to use and wount." How far back the use and wont may have gone we cannot tell. John Cunningham and Andrew Kilbowie were chosen. They were appointed again in 1605, and then these extraordinary Councillors disappear from the records. The outstanding point of interest attaching to the foregoing facts is that while the Omnium Gatherum did not attain formal incorporation until 128 years later, and their included branch, the Mechanics, for 76 years, the combined body had attained to membership of the Town Council, although only in an intermittent and temporary form, as early as 1595. Representation on the Town Council was one of the most highly prized of the privileges for which the Craftsmen fought through centuries of bitter struggle and bloodshed on the continent of Europe, in England, and in Scotland.

On 15th June, 1614, there is evidence of a change of opinion, and a recurrence of the spirit of repression of former days. The Town Council ordained that there be no convention nor meeting among the neighbours and inhabitants of this burgh called the Omnigadrum, neither privately nor openly, under the pains contained in the Acts of Parliament, without the concurrence of one of the Magistrates. Their right of representation on the Council was taken away and was never restored.

In 1617 the Omnium Gatherum included a Mason and a Flesher. The Masons were a leading section in the Mechanics, but why a Flesher should be a member does not appear, as the Fleshers were one of the Seven Incorporated Trades. In 1642 the Omnium Gatherum were

stated to include Wrights, Masons, Coopers, Litsters, Glassingwrights, Slaters and Gardeners.

On 9th October, 1643, there is a record of contributions towards the stipend of a Second Minister, in which the following occurs, "The haill Omnigatherim of the said burgh amongst thame, £46 13s 4d, quhairof to be payit be the Mechanikes amongst thame £20, and be the remanent of the said Omnigatherime £26 13s 4d." This is the first mention of the Mechanics in the Town Council records, and shows that in the body of the Omnium Gatherum the Mechanics were now organised as a separate branch. In the Common Good Accounts from Michaelmas, 1650, to Michaelmas, 1651, the Mechanics and Omnium Gatherum jointly contributed £84 to the fund for making up the Ministers' stipends. On 8th September, 1656, when the Rev. Matthias Sympsone was called, the Mechanics contributed £36, and "the rest of the Omnigatherum" £48.

In 1671 the Mechanics took separate action and secured from the Town Council a provisional Seal of Cause dated 1st April in that year. On 6th January, 1672, the Litsters obtained a similar grant, as did the Masons on 4th October, 1687. On 18th November, 1699, the Town Council ordained that the Seven Incorporated Trades, the Maltmen, Mechanics and Omnigatherum should not enter members of their respective Incorporations or Societies until they be first entered burgesses.

Not until 22nd January, 1726, did the Mechanics obtain from the Town Council a real Seal of Cause. In the meantime, the Omnium Gatherum had on 19th February 1723, obtained their official Seal of Cause, in which their occupations as owners of horses and cattle were clearly set forth. The long connection between the building trades and the carting, cattle dealing and dairying trades thus came gradually to an end.

SEAL OF CAUSE.

On 19th February, 1723, the Town Council records bear that the Council had received a representation from James Graham and Alexander Chalmers, neighbours, burgesses of the burgh, present Deacons of the Tolerate Society or Incorporation of Workmen, Hauxters, etc.

It is to be noted that the petitioners were burgesses and were described as "neighbours." They were acknowledged as freemen, and the existence of their body is recognised by the self-contradictory phrase "Tolerate Society" or "Incorporation," later on defined in the same document as an "Indulgent Society." The petitioners were the two Deacons, presumably the Deacons of the two territorial sections into which the Society was now divided.

The petition set forth that the Omnigatherum are frequently called to serve the government and burgh on all occasions, if not more than others, especially in time of disturbance in the nation, removal of forces quartered in one place, or coming of forces transiently thereto in carrying their baggage therefrom. It was undoubtedly true that the owners of horses in Stirling had done valuable and patriotic service on many occasions when the national troubles caused the coming and going of armies, and baggage trains had to be hastily improvised. It was complained that men who escaped such services and who did not bear a share of the town's burdens were free to deprive the members of the incorporation of their bread, and reap the advantage without paying for the liberty.

It was also stated that the "Omnigatherum have been ane allowed incorporation as above, past memory of man, and most ready to serve in the greatest extremities." This claim was certainly justified as the body had been officially acknowledged from at least 1695. The Town Council granted the request and issued a Seal of Cause, which we give in full as follows:—

SEAL OF CAUSE.

19th February, 1723.

GRANT IN FAVOURS OF THE OMNIGATHERUM.

The provost, bailies and town council, treating of the common concerns of the said burgh, and having formerly and now had under their serious consideration ane representation given in to them the twenty eight day of January last, then and at dyets thereof thereafter read in publick council, by James Grahame and Alexander Chalmers, neighbours, burgesses of the said burgh, present deacons of the tolerate society or incorporation of workmen, hauxters,

carriers, horsehyrers and other dargsmen of such employs or occupations therein, commonly called the omnigatherum, for themselves and in name of the remanent members of the said indulgent society, mentioning that where albeit the saids representants and severall others of their incorporation have been from time to time charged by the magistrats authority to enter burgesses of this burgh, yet within some years past severall persons have followed the saids employs or handylabours as residents therein without entering burgesses, to the manifest hurt and prejudice of the members of omnigatherum, since those of that society were actually entered are able to serve the burgh and inhabitants in such cases, and that these not entered who practised the same thereby deprive such as are entered members of the said incorporation of their bread in so far, and reap the advantage thereof without paying of any satisfaction for any such liberty; and further shewing that albeit the representants and other members of the omni gatherum in their stations and capacity are frequently called to serve the government and burgh on all occasions, if not more than any others, especially in time of disturbance in the nation, removeall of forces quartered in the place, or coming of forces transiently thereto in carrying their baggage therefrom, yet hitherto there has been no act or constitution granted or appointed by the saids magistrats and council or their predecessors, whereby any practising any handycraft or employ used and followed by any of the omnigatherum are oblidged to enter with the said society after their being entered with the burgh, and to pay to the omnigatherum for their entry therewith as the council shall appoint, notwithstanding that other tolerate incorporations have some indulgence allowed them that way, whereby it might easily appear that the omnigatherums inability to serve the towns demands on publick occasions proceeded not from their unwillingness, but from their above circumscribed straitning circumstances in their present case; and therefore humbly craving that their honours might be pleased, in consideration of the premises, not only to take an effectuall method to suppress such as are not entered with the burgh and are able to enter therewith from and discharge their following or practising any

handy labour or the like work or occupation used by them therein till they actually enter burgesses, under such pains, penalties and certifications as their honours shall think fit; but also, in regard the omnigatherum have been ane allowed incorporation as above past memory of man, and most ready to serve in the greatest extremities; to ratify, renew and approve of all former grants or allowances in their favours with respect to their said incorporation and privilegedges thereof, and of new to give, grant, and confirm the same to them, allowing the said incorporation and their successors, by their deacons or representatives, to charge such as beis entered burgesses and use hyreing of horses, carting, threshing, hauxtering, or other employs of the like kind, and beis not entered with any other of the incorporations of this burgh, to enter with the omnigatherum in such time after the charge to be given them by their officer for that effect, and under such prohibition, penalty, and certification as their honours shall think fit. The saids provost, baillies and toun council, after mature deliberation, hereby statute and enact that no person or persons for present residents within this burgh, or who hereafter shall happen to be indwellers therein, and who are entered or beis judged capable by the toun council present or to come to be admitted burgesses and enter with the burgh and beis not entered with any other of the trades or incorporations therein, shall be allowed or suffered to use, follow or practise hyring of horses, driving of carts, carrying of merchant goods, selling of hauxter ware, keeping of milk cows, fatning of cows for slaughter, or the like employs, but are hereby discharged therefrom under the pain of four pounds Scots money to be forfeit and payed by ilk one of them for ilk contravention in manner forsaid ay and whyle they enter with the said omnigatherum in manner after prescribed; and declare that any for present practising as aforesaid and are not entered with the burgh, and beis deemed proper by the toun council to be received and admitted as burgesses by them, shall be oblidged upon information thereof from the omnigatherum within the space of a month thereafter to enter burgesses or be ordered to remove furth of this burgh and territories thereof. And further, the saids provost, baillies and toun council, as representing the community

of the said burgh, by this their act and grant, for certain reasonable considerations not only ratify and approve of all former grants and indulgences by the magistrats and toun councill of this burgh in favours of the said omnigatherum and privileges thereby accruing to them, but also of new grant, allow and confirm, liberty and privilege to the members of the said omnigatherum who are entered burgesses to embody or incorporate themselves in ane tolerate society or incorporation of omnigatherum by the saids magistrats and councill their allowance and under their authority, hereby giving and granting to the said omnigatherum full power annually to elect two of their number as deacons of their society, who are hereby authorised to take care of their whole publick concerns with consent of the other members of said society or plurality of them as they shall see cause and find reasonable, and to appoint ane clerk, boxmasters and officers ane or moe, of their society as the members thereof by unanimous consent or majority of votes shall from time to time think fitt to elect and appoint; and likewise by their officer, in the space of six months after the entry of any as burges who beis not a member of any of the other trades or incorporations, to cause charge such to enter with the omnigatherum within the space of fifteen dayes after the charge by their officer, under the pain of fourty shilling money forsaide to be paid in by such to their box in case of faillye, attour being liable for the entry money in manner after exprest; and which penalty is allowed to be exacted and uplifted by the omnigatherum, the concurrence of one of the magistrats being alwise asked and obtained thereto and to do every other thing else lawfull and convenient for the right management of said society and its concerns, as freely in all respects as any other society tollerate by the magistrats and toun councill of this burgh have done or may by law do and exert in the like cases; declaring the same nevertheless upon application to be alwise subject to the cognisance of the magistrats and toun councill of this burgh present and to come as they shall find just and reasonable. And sickliek, the saids magistrats and toun councill hereby statute and ordain that any person hereafter entering burges and practising any of the forsaid employs, and who does not enter with

any other of the trades or incorporations therein, shall be obliged to pay into the box belonging to the said omnigatherum the sum of nine pound money forsaide for the use of their poor for his entring with them, unless the said society or tolerate incorporation shall hereafter think fitt to low the said entry, which they are hereby empowered to do as they shall find cause; and likewise to appoint the entry of the children of any of their members or of their sons in law, the same alwise not exceeding the fourth part of the entry money above appointed. Providing alwise that by this present grant the said society be obliged to apply their entries and interests of their present stock and what arises therefrom amongst their poor for their support, and for defraying the expence of their other publick and necessar concerns so far as the same will extend to. And likewise that the said omnigatherum shall from time to time when required render ane accompt to the magistrats and toun councill present and to come of their common stock and entries and how the same are applied. Hereby declaring that the usuall number of the members of said omnigatherum shall be obliged to go the yearly fairs, and do other publick services thereat and on all other necessar occasions to this burgh, when called thereto according to use and wont. And furdur declaring that this present grant is only to continue during the provost, baillies, and toun councill of this burgh present and to come, their pleasure, and to be subject alwise to rescision, alteration, restriction, or innovation, as they shall find cause; with and under which speciall provision and declaration this present act and grant is made and past and no otherwise. And in testimony hereof the dean of gild, as preses of councill, has in their names subscribed this present act and grant, ane extract whereof signed by the toun clerk being hereby declared to be as sufficient to all intents and purposes as if this present were signed by the whole magistrats and toun councill; and the great seal of this burgh is hereby appointed to be appended to the extract hereof.

PUBLIC OBLIGATIONS OF THE INCORPORATION.

The Omnium Gatherum accepted their obligations as a corporate body in all that pertained to the public good. Thus on 1st

July, 1603, they paid their share of the cost of repairing the pier, and one of their number acted as stenter or tax collector, along with three members of the Guildry and three from the Seven Incorporated Trades. The Incorporation owned a share in the harbour dues or "Shore Mail" or "Shore Silver" as these were called. On 20th October, 1617, they renounced and gave over to the town for the help of the Common Good their share of the dues. On 11th February, 1620, they concurred in the letting of the Shore Silver.

On 28th November, 1642, the Council appointed Duncan Ewing to be Town Drummer. His pay was £60 yearly, with a suit of livery yearly, or "ilk tua yeir," and also £4 yearly and his Yule wages. He was to faithfully exercise the said office, and tuck his drum nightly at seven hours and every morning at four hours, beginning at the Lady Vennell and therefrom through the whole town. The £64 was made up thus—Town Council, £4; Guild Brethren, £20; the Crafts, £20; Maltmen, £10; and Omnigadrum, £10.

On 7th April, 1674, the Town Council remitted to the Dean of Guild for the Guildry, the Deacon Convener for the Trades [these being in the Council] and to one Bailie to acquaint the Maltmen, and another to acquaint the Mechanics and Omnigatherum [these having no representatives in the Council] to provide buckets in case (as God forbid) fire should fall in the town, and the Treasurer to provide cleiks and towes. On 14th March, 1696, further provision was made against fire, and the Incorporations were required to furnish the following ladders—the Guildry 2, the Seven Incorporated Trades, each of them 1, the Maltmen 1, the Mechanics 1, and the Omnigatherum 1, which ladders were all to be of double tree length, and kept by the said respective Incorporations and made forthcoming to the town upon all necessary occasions.

On 7th April, 1698, the taking down of the old Tolbooth with its steeple and the erection of a new structure was considered at a joint meeting of the Maltmen, Mechanics and Omnigatherum, called at the instance of the Town Council. They agreed to the proposal, as also did the Guildry and Trades, and the present building in Broad Street, with its handsome tower was duly erected.

On 5th January, 1710, the Town Council considered a design of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland for propagating Christian knowledge in the Highlands and Islands. They recommended the Incorporations, including the Omnigatherum, to take action for giving contributions. A very interesting phase of the development of the Highlands was instituted as the result of this movement.

On 25th December, 1740, the Town Council took steps to put down begging, and set up a poor fund to which the Incorporations were required to contribute. The Omnigatherum were included.

In all these instances it is to be noted that the fact of the incorporation of the Omnium Gatherum was duly acknowledged, and that the members took their full part in the responsibilities of freemen burgesses of the burgh.

THE INCORPORATION A SOCIETY OF CARTERS COMPARISON WITH OTHER BURGHS.

The Omnium Gatherum became recognised as a society of Carters. Thus in what is known as Randall's History of Stirling published in 1817, it is stated that there are four Communities who have tolerations, or sets of corporations, granted to them by the magistrates. These are Mechanics, Barbers, Carters, Maltmen.

The anonymous writer of "A New Description of the Town and Castle of Stirling," published in 1838 by Ebenezer Johnston writes thus contemptuously of the Omnium Gatherum. "There are three other communities, termed tolerated, viz., the mechanics, the barbers, and the brewers, besides a nondescript affair termed the omnegatherum or carters; but for the life of us, we have never been able to discover what advantage the members of these enjoy, except the mere name of being incorporated, and thus being neighbour-like."

There can be little doubt that the fact of incorporation gave the Omnium Gatherum a standing in the community which they otherwise would not have possessed. They paid their share of the minister's stipend and took their part in the exercise of the patronage of the church. At civic gatherings and public displays they took a conspicuous and honoured place.

Their case appears to be unique in this respect that in Stirling they attained a better position than in the other Scottish burghs, thus carrying the centuries old process of civic evolution a stage farther than it reached anywhere else in Scotland.

The provision of baggage horses for the troops constituted at times a grievance on the part of other Royal Burghs. On 3rd December, 1679, the Convention petitioned the Treasury that the expenses which the burghs of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, Linlithgow, and several other burghs were at in furnishing baggage horses for the services of His Majesty's forces should be allowed to them out of the cess, which was the annual tax paid to the Crown by the Royal Burghs.

The minutes of the Town Council of Stirling on 12th January, 1712, contain this entry:—"Appoints the treasurer to pay to John Chalmers and Thomas Fairlie, for themselves and in the name of the rest of the Omnigatherum who furnished horse for carrying of the baggage belonging to Stonebyres troupe when they went last from this place, forty nine shillings Scots, wherein the said troupe was deficient in payment to them of their just dues." The Town Council in Stirling thus made good the shortcomings of the army, and in doing so they dealt with the Incorporation as a whole through its officials.

So recently as 1804, the transport of soldiers' baggage constituted a grievance to the Stirling Omnium Gatherum, who describe themselves in their minute of 13th January in that year as the Society of Speculative Carters.

The Town Council of Glasgow regulated the prices of carters on 17th February, 1655, but these do not seem to have been combined in any way as a corporate body. On 12th September, 1657, the Glasgow Town Council again took steps to make the carters conform to the scale of charges.

The Town Council of Edinburgh, on 21st April, 1584, raised five hundred men to be sent to Stirling to guard the King's person. Shovels and mattocks were sent with them and a cart and horse. The duty of providing these was laid on the Treasurer, and there does not appear to have been any organised body of carters to deal with.

At a much later date the Town Council of Edinburgh found themselves forced to deal with the question of the considerable numbers both of men and women who sought to earn their living; but could not afford to enter as burgesses. On 23rd April, 1729, authority was given to the Dean of Guild and his Council to accept small annual payments from such of the inhabitants as "occupied some low and inconsiderable branches of trade, such as the retail of ale, beer, milk, horse hiring, cowfeeding and the like," and to permit these to trade as stallangers. On 28th April, 1736, this enactment was confirmed, the Stallangers being allowed to trade in "ale, beer, fish, milk, herbs, roots, fruits, cowfeeding, horsehiring, poultry, eggs, salt fish and salt flesh, and in nothing else." It will be observed that the Edinburgh Stallangers were given mere temporary toleration by the Merchant Guild.

The Town Council of Lanark complained bitterly of the burden placed upon them of providing baggage horses for the army. This occurred in 1653, 1684, 1689 and 1716, but on none of these occasions is there any trace of an Incorporation of horse hirers.

The Town Council of Peebles took a careful census of the horses within their burgh, which was entered in their minute book on 25th February, 1569, and the census also records the names of those who did not own horses and the number they ought to possess. The immediate object was the carriage of lime to the erection of the town wall. It appears to have been taken for granted that every burgess of a border town like Peebles would possess a horse or two. On 26th October, 1685, Peebles provided a silver badge for the town's carrier. The pasturage of the horses of the burgesses was carefully regulated in Peebles, and the grievance of carrying the baggage of the army was also felt. Apparently there was no need for an Incorporation of horse hirers in a burgh where every burgess was expected to possess at least one horse.

THE CHURCH.

The contributions of the Omnium Gatherum to the stipend of the Second Minister of the Burgh in 1643, 1650 and 1656, have already been noted.

In the famous Act of Relief of 16th January, 1731, when the Incorporations thirled themselves to the Bridge and Burgh Mills, thus providing the Town Council with funds to pay the stipend of a Third Minister, the Omnium Gatherum were included with the rest.

Consequently in the selection of a minister of the Second Charge or Third Charge the Omnium Gatherum had a say, the Patronage being vested in the Town Council, Kirk Session, seven delegates from the Seven Trades, four delegates from the four Tolerated Communities, and a delegate from the Guildry.

In 1797 the Omnium Gatherum acted along with the Guildry, the Seven Incorporated Trades and the three other Tolerated Communities in presenting a Petition to the Court of Session to ordain the Town Council to take steps to call a Third Minister, the third charge having been vacant since the secession of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine about 1740. The petition was thrown out on the ground that the Court had no jurisdiction, and that the action should have been taken in the Court of Teinds. A Third Minister was not appointed until 1817.

Like the other Incorporations in the town, the Omnium Gatherum had their seats in the Parish Church. In the plan of the East Church, dated 1802, showing the seating before that date, the seats of the Omnium Gatherum are placed in the centre of the apse, facing westwards into the body of the church. There are two, both numbered 27, on the south side, and three, numbered 26, adjoining on the north. In addition there is in front of the three seats just mentioned, a box seat, also numbered 26, oblong in shape, with seating all round the four sides and a table in the centre. This seat projects slightly into the body of the church where the communion table now stands.

In the plan, also dated 1802, showing the seating after the alterations, the seats of the Omnium Gatherum are those numbered 72, 73, 74 and 75. These are all in the apse, facing westwards, on the south side of a middle passage which was then made, and forming the four backmost seats on that side. Owing to the angle of the wall, the seats are of diminishing width backwards, from 12 feet to 7 feet 9 inches. These seats were stated to be capable of

accommodating 27 persons. The apse was packed with a great number of additional seats.

When these seats became occupied by the church choir, there was some difficulty for a time, but on 29th July, 1868, the Incorporation accepted the first long seat and the first short one on entering the south door in lieu of their four pews.

The Omnium Gatherum had no sittings in the West Church.

ADMINISTRATION AND USAGES.

A unique feature in the administration of the Omnium Gatherum was the division of the society into two sections, known as the Baxters' Wynd End and the Mary's Wynd End. There is nothing comparable to this in the arrangements of any of the other Incorporations. The principle of allocation of the members does not appear, but presumably the town was divided, and residence was the determining factor. Separate Minute Books were kept by the two Ends. They met in November, not always on the same date, and elected separate office-bearers. Thus there were two Deacons of the Omnium Gatherum, and two Master Courts, and the two sections kept separate funds. For important purposes the two Ends met together and acted jointly, and throughout the period of the records, extending to 160 years, there appear to have been unanimity and cordiality. When a new member joined, it is generally stated which of the sections he was attached to, but sometimes this is not mentioned. It is quite clear, however, that he joined either the one branch of the Incorporation or the other. The form of entry was different, and these forms were adhered to for over a century and a half. The Minute of the Baxters' Wynd End is expressed thus:—"Admits (the new member) to the freedom of our Box and Mortcloths, at the same time paid his entry money and gave his oath de fideli." The Mary's Wynd End Minute is as follows:—"Entered (the new member) with the Omnigatherum in Mary's Wynd and has a full right to all the privileges of said Society." Occasionally this is varied to "said United Society."

The two Ends were formally united on 11th November, 1852. The question of union was mooted in the Mary's Wynd End, and a joint

meeting of the two Master Courts was held on 29th November, 1848, at which the proposal was discussed. Thereafter joint meetings were held for various purposes, but the two Ends continued also to meet separately. The last separate meeting of the Mary's Wynd End was held on 8th November, 1851, when their own office-bearers were elected. The Minute Book contains the record of a joint meeting on 30th March, 1852, and then the minutes cease, the rest of the book being blank. The last separate meeting of the Baxters' Wynd End took place on 25th August, 1852. The next minute in their book records on 11th November, 1852:—"Which day the Society of Omnium Gatherum, Both Ends, held their Annual Meeting in the house of Mrs Jaffray, Baker Street, at which it was unanimously resolved to unite both Ends into one." They then elected office-bearers. The minutes of the united body are recorded in the minute book of the Baxters' Wynd End. The office-bearers of the separate Ends, and afterwards of the united body, were the Deacon, two visitors of Mortcloths, two Auditors, Clerk, Treasurer and Officer.

Generally the minutes do not bear where the meetings were held, but apparently these took place frequently in some public house. This saved trouble and tended to sociability and the price of the liquor paid the cost of a meeting place and attendance. From 1790, by arrangement with the Convener Court, the Omnium Gatherum had the right of meeting in the Trades Hall for a lump payment of 25 shillings, the Society sharing the obligation of defraying the cost of repairs to the building from time to time with the other Incorporations.

In 1821 the Omnium Gatherum claimed to have 150 members. In 1833 the membership was stated in the Report on Municipal Incorporations in Scotland to be 60.

About 1790 the dues of entry were:—

Neutrals	£0 10 0
Burgess	0 6 8
Freeman's son and son in law	0 3 4

In the Report on Municipal Incorporations in 1833 the dues were stated to be:—

Incorporation. Burgh.	
Sons	£0 3 4 £1 0 0
Sons in law	0 3 4 1 0 0
Strangers	0 10 0 2 0 0

In the Report of 1833 the Omnium Gatherum were said to have no realised funds. Their only assets were the seats in the East Church, which when let provided a small revenue. The other sources of income were receipts for the use of the Mortcloths and dues of entry of new members. The expenditure consisted of small sums for the cost of administration, and of payments to widows of members and to members who required assistance. There were always several of each class on the list.

In 1817 the Omnigatherum were affected by the Friendly Society movement, which was tried also in the Weavers' and Shoemakers' and perhaps other incorporations. None of these succeeded. Three members of the Omnium Gatherum had to make up the loss of the Incorporation, amounting to £28 7s. This was probably the Society of Speculative Carters referred to in the minute of 13th January, 1804.

One small relic of the ancient glory of the Incorporation still exists. The marches of the burgh are now walked once in seven years only, although at one time this was an annual event. The Omnium Gatherum have for a long period had the duty of providing the Birlawmen on these occasions. Those who walk the marches are the Town Council, the Dean's Council of the Guildry, the Convener Court of the Seven Incorporated Trades and the new members of these bodies who have joined since the last time the duty was performed. The company are divided into three parties each accompanied by any citizens who care to join. The parties are led respectively by the Provost, the Dean of the Guildry and the Convener of the Trades, and each takes a separate route. Each party is headed by the three Birlawmen, the chief carrying a stick, and his assistants a pick and a shovel respectively. With these implements the boundaries are duly marked by the removal of a turf at outstanding points.

The later development of the Incorporation was along lines somewhat different from the other Crafts of Stirling. The Omnium Gatherum became known for their spectacular appearances in public on occasions of national or local importance. The members paraded mounted on horseback, clothed in fancy dress, more or less suitable to the particular circumstances. When this habit began is not clear,

but it was in use as early as 1810. Dr Lucas in his Diary writes under date 3rd August in that year: "The carters or whipmen rode through the town with a bagpiper before them. They had two flags carried by two of their Society, and the first was a shabby representation of the Bridge of Stirling with a horse and a cart passing over it. On the other there was a bad representation of a man with a horse and a loaded cart. The inscription was the Stirling Society of Whipmen. They wore sashes of various colours, with ribands and roses on their hats, and were about 20 in number." It is to be remembered that Dr Lucas had a very caustic pen and seldom had a good word to write of anything or anybody. It is interesting to note that the incorporation were tiring of their peculiar name Omnium Gatherum, and had begun to style themselves the Stirling Society of Whipmen.

When the late King Edward, then Prince of Wales, was married in 1863, there were great rejoicings in Stirling as elsewhere throughout the land. A procession was formed and paraded through the town, the Omnium Gatherum as was their wont, leading the way. David Taylor, the St. Ninians poet, celebrated the event in a piece, from which I quote the following.

"In Allan Park they gathered strength,
The grand procession formed the while;
'Twas beautiful! an sic a length,
'Twad measure maist a lang Scots mile.

The "Gatherums" sae brave and brisk
Wi' marriage favours led the van;
Their briskit naigs their tails did whisk,
An' pranced aneath the sturdy clan.

O leeze me on his witty gab,
His lang grey locks, like friar holy;
And on his cronie "Ruskie Rab,"
The Captain of the Carters jolly."

The last occasion on which the Incorporation paraded was in 1914 at the celebration of the sixcentenary of the battle of Bannockburn. Under their Deacon, the late Mr Hugh M'Master, and with their numbers greatly augmented by other owners of horses in the town, the Whipmen made a gallant show. In a great and notable procession their pageant was the outstanding feature, and Bruce and his

knights in full suits of mediæval armour were much and deservedly admired.

The Omnium Gatherum is presently in a moribund condition. No meetings have been held for many years, and there are no acting office-bearers. There must be a few members still alive, and a considerable number of sons and sons in law of former members who could take up their right to join if the Society were resuscitated.

A JACOBITE DOCUMENT.

On the back pages of the Minute Book of the Baxters' Wynd End section of the Incorporation is a contemporary record of the doings of Prince Charles and his Highland Army in 1745 and 1746, which has not previously been published. It adds nothing to our knowledge of the events which occurred, but it is an indication of how popular interest and feeling were aroused. The Clerk to the Omnium Gatherum took upon himself the office of recorder of current events for the information of posterity. His record discloses a strong anti-Jacobite bias. How far this was real we cannot say. His contemporary namesakes, the Wordies of Torbrex, were notorious supporters of the Prince, and were intermarried with the leading Jacobite families of the district. I give the record in its own quaint spelling.

Stirling, the 12 day of September, 1745.

Ane memorandum testifying for times to come that upon the tenth day of September 1746 (sic) the Battal of tronenth was fochan called Gledsmoore battal nier to Embrough and also testifying that upon the eight day of Janeuariey thir after the heillen ribells called Prince Charels armie came into Stirling upon that same veriey day and lickwies that upon the first day of Februariey thir after 1746 the hillen rebels did roun from Stirling bag and bageh all of them with great feer and dried and teror upon them he was the best fellow that could ron best of from the pless for the Ducke of Comerland was advancen veriey hard upon them and came with his aremey upon the second day of Februariey that was upon the morrow after the rebels did run from the ples. And upon the sixtin day of Apriell 1746 the Battal of Kill-loudon was strocken beyound Inverness and all the hillen aremie was distroied and rane and left all ther

arems and ther bagges and lost ther ground with a loss of a great maney of ther men and never did advance aney mor. And also upon the last Wensday of January being the tuentiey eight day of the month the Castell of Stirling did faier ther bigest canon upon the ribells canon and on ther trinchis and did dimolishe them that they did never advance aney moor but put them all out of order and thrat they were mightley dicorided and never prospered after that time upon that reson that ther men was daley going away from them and upon the thried day of Febuariey the Duke of Comerland and his men and Huske and Halley his tuo Generals went from the toun of Stirling straight north after the Prince and his armie and pirshouied still after them till the Battal of Killoudan was fogghen. In that verrey time Robart Gilcrist was Dicken and John Row and George Gillespie mestres and William Shaw and Andrew Hutton oversiers to our Box at that time and

Thomas Wordie ther Clarke

On the following page is a shortened repetition of the same record, which I give in modern spelling.

At Stirling, the 8th of January, 1746.

A Memorandum testifying for times to come that upon the eighth of January the Highland army, called Prince Charles' army did come in to this town of Stirling, and likewise that they did run from this town bag and baggage when the army of King George came forward with Duke William upon their head, called the Duke of Cumberland. Th. Highland rebels did depart from Stirling with great fear and dread upon them all upon the thirty first day of January, 1746. And likewise the battle of Culloden was [fought] upon the sixteenth day of April, 1746. This is to testify as a memorandum for times to come. And likewise that upon the twenty-eighth of January, 1746, the Castle of Stirling with their guns did destroy the rebels' cannon on their trenches and put them all out of order as they never did advance any more, but after that was mightily discouraged and never prospered any more.

Written by me, Thomas Wordie, their Clerk, to the Incorporation of Omnigatherum in the Baxters' Wynd in Stirling.

A POETICAL REPORT.

In earlier days the mortcloths and flags had been well looked after. Indeed the "airing of the mortcloth" appears as a recurring item of expenditure in the accounts with such frequency as to suggest that this duty was made the occasion of a little convivial gathering. But as times change so do customs, and the use of mortcloths went out of fashion. In 1880 the condition of these once valued possessions gave rise to inquiry and the visiting masters were instructed to report. A year later these gentlemen submitted the result of their investigations to a meeting of the Incorporation which was held in the Corn Exchange Hotel. The Report was in verse, in the following terms.

Dear Brethren, hear our true Report,
We promise you to cut it short,
The Carters' Mortcloth, we gaed for't
To the kist i' the carse.
Now whist, and ye shall hear some sport,
A Solemn Farce.

We saw the Charter of our Order,
We'd hae it framed in a golden border.
A hunder year it's your recorder
An forty mair;
The hert o' Jove it wad afford her
A pleasure rare.

We cam across some papers auld
Accounts o' things to the Carters sauld,
We laid them by i' the faithfu' fauld
Just as we got them.
A hunder year the're died an' cauld,
The men wha wrote them.

Wi' gladsome heart we too record
How safely too our flags were stored,
Bright as the banners o' a lord
Ower castle wa',
Staffs and flags and silken cord
In order braw.

But now it is our mournful fate
A sad misfortune to relate.
We found the mortcloth in a state
Of great dejection,
You sent us years alas too late
On that inspection.

Tae open the kist we were gayen sair tried
 As the key had been lost or in hurry mislaid.
 "What's to be done?" tae ilk ither we said,
 It was strong to resist.
 But like a bold sexton we got hold o' a spade,
 And got into the kist.
 We opened the lid. In amazement stood both,
 For, alas, our dear brethren, the rat and the
 moth
 Had ruined for ever our noble mortcloth
 Beyond recall or repair.
 Rottens and rags! Oh, Sirs, we were wroth,
 Could hae torn our hair.
 Oh, it was ance a perfect beauty,
 The richest of velvet, sae sable an' sooty,
 But noo it wadna cloak "auld Clootie,"
 The King o' Flags.
 It's a' oor faut. Neglect o' duty
 Ends aye in rags.
 Alas poor Pall! Mortcloth no more
 Proudly thy folds on our shoulders we bore,
 All that is left of thee now to the fore
 Rat-eaten rags
 (A plague upon you, ye cursed crew),
 Burst a' your bags.
 We took it up. We laid it doon,
 Only fit for some cadger loon
 Wha hawks the country morn and noon
 Wi' basket and bag,
 Torn tae tatters, twad maddened the moon
 Tae see sic rags.
 Now, here our verdict we declare,
 Your humble servants in despair,
 We were both judge and jury there.
 "It came by its death
 Just through sheer want o' gettin' air,
 For want o' breath."

EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS
 OF THE
 OMNIUM GATHERUM INCORPORATION
 OF STIRLING.

NOTE.—Only two books have been preserved, one
 belonging to the St. Mary's Wynd End and
 the other to the Baxters' Wynd End. These
 contain Minutes and also the Treasurers'
 Accounts. The older volumes have been lost.

The Baxters' Wynd End book contains the
 minutes of the united body after the two
 sections of the Incorporation were joined in
 1852.

MARY'S WYND END.

6th Nov., 1784.—Which day the Communitie of
 the Omnigathrom ordered their Clerk to trans-
 scribe some Acts narrated in their old Book into
 this new Book.

6th Oct., 1705.—A freeman being legally warned
 to our Court by our officer and does not compear,
 as usual shall be fined in six shilling and eight
 pennies Scots without a reasonable excuse.

Every man at his entry is to give in to the
 Deacon when he takes him by the hand to be a
 faithful brother 12s Scots, to be at the Deacon's
 option to return it back or not; 6s 8d Scots to
 the Clerk, and 4s to the officer with consent of
 the whole Incorporation.

Sic subscr.,

John Robertson.

11th Oct., 1707.—If any member be absent after
 being legally warned by our officer to pay for
 each absence 6s 8d Scots, and if the officer fail to
 warn any member he is to pay 6s 8d for each
 person not warned.

13th Jan., 1731.—Act of Thirle. (In terms of the
 Act of Relief by the Town Council, dated 16th
 January, 1731, engrossed in the Minute Book.)

10th March, 1762.—The Community of the
 Omnigathrom of both Ends ordain that it shall
 not be in the power of the Master Courts to lend
 or hire the best Mortcloth without the consent
 of the Community.

25th Dec., 1784.—Which day, Walter Hutchison,
 Maltman in Stirling, was admitted a member of
 the Communitie of the Omnigathrom of the
 Maries Wind End, and he has a right to all the
 privileges wherein we are concerned.

John Laing, Deacon.

Walter Hutchison.

John Corser, Clerk.

(Numerous similar entries follow.)

5th Nov., 1785.—Which day the Society of the
 Omnigathrom of Maries Wind met in the Flesh
 Market to make their election, and they did make:

choice of James Garrow for their Deacon, Walter Hutchison and James Craford for their Treasurers, Walter Mittchal and William Dawson for their Auditors, and William Bowie, oversier of the Mortcloaths, John Corser their Clerk, John Wattson, Officer.

Attested per order

by John Corser, Clerk.

(Numerous similar entries follow.)

24th Feb., 1786.—The Clerk to get fifteen pence per quarter for his trouble.

29th May, 1786.—Complaint that the officer demanded a shilling for carrying the mortcloth to Quakerfield, Bannockburn, for the funeral of one of the family of a member, which the members thought extravagant. Ordained that the officer is to ask nothing for carrying the mortcloth within the town, but if he carries it without the town he shall have sixpence.

27th Nov., 1786.—Object to the Town Council letting the fishings without any restriction to serve the inhabitants with fish.

22nd Dec., 1787.—Both Ends agreed to purchase a Mortcloth.

21st Nov., 1788.—No persons to be admitted unless they are of a sober, morrall carrietur.

5th March, 1789.—Representative appointed by both Ends to vote for a minister to fill the second Charge of this Parish.

23rd May, 1791.—Disapprove of any complaint by the Town Council as to the election of the Hon. Andrew Cochrane, son of the Earl of Dundonald, representative of this District of Burghs.

24th Sept., 1791.—Agreed to meet in the Trades Hall, and to pay £1 5s, to give place to the Convener Court and to the Seven Incorporated Trades and the other Societies who already have a right of meeting there, and to pay a proportion of the repairs from time to time.

2nd Jan., 1797.—Delegate appointed to concur in promoting the settlement of a Third Minister and having the West Church repaired.

18th March, 1814.—Object to the Corn Law Bill.

15th Feb., 1817.—The Community and Master Court met in order that they might receive back

their money which was appropriated for a fund as a Friendly Society, but did not succeed. We received

John Laing's Bill	-	-	-	£15	0	0
William Jaffrey's Bill	-	-	-	8	0	0
Richard Davies' Bill	-	-	-	5	0	0
Cash Bill	-	-	-	0	7	0
				<hr/>		
				£28 7 0		

27th Dec., 1817.—As William M'Kindrick's bill has lain over for some time, and he still contemtuuous, agreed to employ James Lucas to recover the money

18th April, 1818.—New mortcloth inspected.

3rd Jan., 1821.—Agreed to apply to the Town Clerk to extract their Charters of new from the Town Books.

5th Feb., 1821.—Committee appointed to make out a list of all the persons that infringe our privileges, and call upon them to enter with the Society of Omnigathrum.

8th Jan., 1823.—Deliberated upon the best plan to secure the dead corps belonging to the Society. They come to the following resolutions:—

1. The Churchyard wall should be raised and all places leading to the yard made secure.
2. The Society agrees either to Mort Safes or a Vault, or what the majority of the Trades and Communities will agree to, but watching we disapprove of that plan altogether.

1st March, 1838.—Return sent by request to H.M. Commissioners for Religious Institutions in Scotland as to Church sittings belonging to the Incorporation. Figures given from 1831 to 1835 differing slightly. 1833 is as follows:—

8 let at 2s 3d	-	-	-	£0	18	0
6 let at 1s 10d	-	-	-	0	11	0
7 let at 1s 8d	-	-	-	0	11	8
5 let at 1s 6d	-	-	-	0	7	6
1 unlet	-	-	-			
				<hr/>		
27				£2 8 2		

14th April, 1846.—Nine members from both Ends appointed to go the marches.

29th Nov., 1848.—At a meeting of Master Court of both Ends, it was proposed that both Ends be joined into one body.

7th Nov., 1849.—Both Ends met. Agreed that the present office-bearers be continued for the ensuing year, it being found advisable that both meetings be thrown into one.

8th Nov., 1851.—The members of the Omnium Gatherum Society belonging to the Mary's Wynd End met and elected office-bearers.

30th March, 1852.—In the house of Mrs Jack the members of the Omnigatherum Society of both Ends met after the walking of the marches.

BAXTERS' WYND END.

NOTE.—This volume contains entries corresponding to many in the book of the Mary's Wynd End.

2nd Oct., 1702.—The said day admits James Graham to the Liberty, and he is to pay three pound Scots, which is paid.

4th Oct., 1707.—The Corporation in the Baxters' Wynd hath for the ensuing year chosen William Duncan their Deacon and Overseer, and Thomas Fairlay and Peter Graham, Box Masters, and this by plurality of votes.

(Numerous similar entries follow.)

July, 1709.—Supplicate the Council to ease the Trade from keeping guard at the fairs or else to augment their pay. The Council found that the Omnigatherum should not be obliged for watching at the fairs more than the other Trades. Each man to have 4s S. of wages.

28th April, 1748.—Members appointed to meet the Lords at their incoming to this town of Stirling.

10th March, 1762.—The Master Court not to line the last mortcloths without the consent of the Community.

8th Dec., 1762.—Agreed to pay 11s 4d for the deficiencies of some young men not going the marches. Agreed that no one be warned to go the marches until the Magistrates' authority be first obtained.

9th Nov., 1785.—Agreed to sell some wool that they have on hand for debit due them from a brother, and, no proper offer being made, they

empowered John Jamieson to give it out to spin, and after a trial of how it turns out to report. He is to order one halfpenny worth of oyl to every pound, being forty and four.

5th March, 1789.—Both Ends chose a delegate to vote for a minister to fill the Second Charge.

26th Nov., 1789.—The best old mortcloth to be taken down and dyed and made up afresh, the second old mortcloth to be taken down and made up to answer as a child's mortcloth; the best or new mortcloth to be hired at three shillings, and the second best at two shillings till it be dyed.

12th Feb., 1790.—The large child's mortcloth to be hired at two shillings, and the small child's mortcloth at one shilling and sixpence.

21st Feb., 1792.—Admitted Thomas Farmer, a black man, born in Ponsylvania in America.

20th March, 1792.—Three King's Freemen admitted for 3s 4d each less than the usual rate.

4th Feb., 1794.—One shilling of advance to be charged with the ontry money, both to children of members and neutrals.

29th Oct., 1795.—John Wordio, Carter, Newhouse, admitted.

29th Jan., 1796.—William Jenkins, Nailer, Whins of Milton, admitted.

3rd May, 1796.—Peter M'Nab, Smith, son of Angus M'Nab, farmer at Killin, admitted.

9th Dec., 1796.—Adam M'Farlan, farmer at Carsmill, admitted.

7th Nov., 1797.—Children of members of the united society to be entered at 3s 4d.

19th Oct., 1799.—Delegate appointed to vote for the Rev. Mr John Russell for the Second Charge.

24th May, 1800.—John Wilson, spoon maker in Newhouse, admitted.

13th Jan., 1804.—The Society of Operative Carters in Stirling is under necessity of applying for an Act of Parliament with respect to exporting of soldiers' baggage.

24th May, 1817.—The Community of Omnigatherum of both Ends appointed a delegate to vote for supplying the vacancy of the Second Charge occasioned by the death of the Rev. Mr John Russell.

5th Feb., 1818.—As Deacon Henry Taylor was going to Edinburgh to reside for a few weeks, James Harvie was appointed to act in his absence.

6th Feb., 1818.—A Geneva velvet cloth to be procured from James Haldane, Merchant, equal in quality to the one furnished by him for Logie Parish.

23rd Oct., 1818.—The seat rents collected amounting to £1 17s 10d equally divided betwixt the two Ends.

17th Feb., 1820.—Returned to the Town Council that the Omnigatherum have 150 members.

6th Sept., 1831.—Matters arranged for the procession to take place on 8th inst.

7th June, 1832.—Committee appointed to bring forward the refractory persons who refuse to enter.

14th June, 1832.—Two pounds to be taken for purchasing a flag to display on the day of rejoicing on account of the passing of the Reform Bill in Parliament.

2nd July, 1835.—Agreed to purchase a fair copy of their Act and Grant from the Magistrates dated 19th February, 1723.

2nd Oct., 1837.—Agreed to meet in Bridge Street and walk the Marches in company with the Town Council and the other Trades, all as use and wont, it being 17 years since the last walking of the Marches. To meet at 11 o'clock a.m.

20th Oct., 1838.—Proposed that to encourage the good old use and wont practice of a procession or ride on horseback, the old allowance be granted, but agreed as the funds are now very small and having had no entries for several years back that no allowance be given, but to encourage the old habit of riding the loan of the flags would be granted. The new flag of the Bridge of Stirling belongs to our End alone.

11th July, 1839.—The operative Carters to have their annual equestrian procession which takes place on the Lammas Fair Day.

13th Nov., 1841.—The members to have a dinner in the house of Hugh Fraser, Vintner, our Treasurer, on 24th inst., at 5 o'clock afternoon.

9th Sept., 1842.—Considered what steps should be taken to compliment Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, who is to pass from the north through Stirling on her way back to Dalkeith Palace, thence to London, along with her spouse,

Prince Albert; it not being convenient for the body to walk in procession, they agree to meet in Hugh Fraser's and drink Her Majesty's health. God Save the Queen.

24th Nov., 1843.—Delegate appointed to vote at the calling of the Second and Third Ministers.

25th Dec., 1845.—Appointed Mr. Robert Mac-Naughton, Clerk, in room of Mr. Robert Mitchell, our late worthy Clerk, who was this day, being Christmas, consigned to the grave.

6th Dec., 1848.—Committee appointed to carry the measure of union with the St Mary's Wynd End.

11th Nov., 1852.—Unanimously resolved to unite both Ends into one.

SOCIETY OF BOTH ENDS UNITED.

16th July, 1856.—Agreed not to contribute to the cost of a Music Band for the late procession.

17th Nov., 1856.—Mr. William Galbraith, Town Clerk, gave it as his opinion that the Omnium Gatherum has no right to any seats in the East Church, more especially as they did not pay anything for last repairs in 1818.

2nd Sept., 1857.—27s received for seat rents in East Church.

2nd Nov., 1857.—Agreed that the Town Council be relieved of their obligation to maintain the Burgh Mill dam.

23rd Nov., 1857.—Agreed to free the Town Council of all obligations come under by them in the Act of Relief of 16th May, 1731.

7th June, 1861.—Made choice of a Commander at the procession.

19th June, 1861.—Names of those to ride at the Wallace Monument procession.

19th June, 1862.—Agreed that we meet at Duncan Cameron's house at 11 o'clock, the Colours to be sold to the highest bidder on the morning of the ride for cash. Anyone breaking through the rules, or going against the Captain's orders, will be dismounted and carry his saddle.

23rd Feb., 1863.—Agreed to ride at the celebration of the marriage of the Prince of Wales.

29th July, 1868.—Agreed to take the first long seat and the first short one on entering the south door in lieu of the four pews.

2nd July, 1875.—Five Birleymen appointed to go the Marches.

22nd Nov., 1877.—Agreed not to turn out at the unveiling of the Bruce Statue on account of the inclemency of the weather.

22nd Nov., 1881.—A Report on the mortcloth and flags in verse submitted to the Annual General Meeting of the Incorporation. (The verses are quoted in the foregoing paper.)

21st June, 1887.—Agreed to turn out on Saturday to the Wallace Monument, and that all who ride be treated to a pint and pie in Mr. Woolleys.

22nd Nov., 1887.—Recorded that 28 new members have joined this year.

4th June, 1889.—Agreed to ride in procession at the unfurling of the British Ensign and Scottish Standard at Dorrostone.

11th June, 1889.—Forty-two horses agreed to parade at Orchard Place for the Demonstration on 22nd June.

26th June, 1889.—A Committee meeting held in Deacon Macdonald's shop. Agreed to take a subscription to defray the expenses of the brass band. (The foregoing is the last Minute in the book.)