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A CHAT ABOUT
THE BRODERERS' COMPANY





CHRISTOPHER HOLFORD,
Thrice Past Master of the Broderers' Company.

A CHAT ABOUT
THE BRODERERS' COMPANY

BY
AN OLD BOY AND PAST MASTER

LONDON
GEORGE ALLEN & SONS
44, 45 RATHBONE PLACE

1910

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THIS book I dedicate with gratitude and affection to my colleagues of the Broderers' Company, with whom I have had agreeable associations for the past thirty-six years. Many of those friends have left the scenes of their labours, and also of their pleasures, yet their kindly words and cheerful greetings held by me in fond remembrance are still as happily dispensed by their successors now in office.

C. H.

868556

PREFACE

AFTER a lengthy wade through all the Minutes of the Broderers' Company, from the earliest book now extant (1679) to the present time, in the hope, alas a vain one, of tracing the origin of the Master's Chair and his hilarious song;—and after a second perusal of the same, for the purpose of extracting the names of the Past Masters of the Company, in which I was more successful, keeping in my mind at the same time the objects of my previous search;—I thought the information I had gleaned should not be kept to myself, so submit *A Chat about the Broderers' Company* with all its faults (trusting that its imperfections will be leniently dealt with by the reader) in the hope that it may afford some information, and perhaps entertainment, to my brethren of the Broderers' Company.

If in this chat I have been reticent about the financial matters of the Company, I have done so in the fear that this book might possibly go astray and find its way into the hands of those for whom it was not intended.

CHRISTOPHER HOLFORD.

5, Northumberland Avenue,
Putney, S.W.,
November 1, 1910.

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A CHAT ABOUT THE BRODERERS' COMPANY

EMBROIDERY AND TAPESTRY

IN chatting about the Broderers' Company one's mind naturally reverts to the Craft from whence they owe their origin, and I find that broidered work is frequently mentioned in the Scriptures, both in Exodus and Ezekiel, and there is no knowing to what further backward extension of time the art may have been practised. It is stated that a Company called the Tapissers, or Tapestry Makers, who were in existence in 1331, and mentioned by Chaucer in his *Canterbury Tales*, was absorbed by the Broderers' Company; although this may have been the case, yet Tapestry and Embroidery are not quite identical; they certainly both begin and end with the needle, yet they differ considerably in the working. In the former the weft stitches are put in loosely and carefully pressed home, so that the warp strings are completely hidden; in the latter the stitches are laid down lengthwise and so put together that they seem to overlap one another, like the feathers on the plumage of a bird. Embroidery is worked upon a woven texture having both warp and woof, whereas tapestry is wrought in a loom upon a warp stretched along its frame, but has no warp thrown across by the shuttle; the weft is done with short threads variously coloured and put in by a needle. These particulars I obtained principally from the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

At no known period has the needle of the embroiderer lain idle. The pageants of the past would have been shorn of most of their splendour had they been divested of the gorgeous caparisons and trappings of the horses, the gay cloaks of the cavaliers, the waving banners, and, when the event was a funeral procession, the magnificent palls and the gorgeous vestments of the clergy. Many of the City Companies still possess their funeral palls, and in their Halls may still be seen these productions of this great English school of embroidery. Nor were such productions confined to the City Companies, for many illustrious families had their palls, many their altar cloths; and beautifully worked clerical vestments are still amongst the treasured possessions of our cathedrals and churches.

Embroidery has had many vicissitudes. It was an art much in vogue in the time of the Tudors, when costly apparel was the order of the day, and the expenditure on costumes was carried out to a ridiculous extravagance; hence Shakespeare, who lived in those times, was evidently impressed with that weakness when he writes, in the address of Polonius to his son—

“Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,
But not expressed in fancy; rich, not gaudy;
For the apparel oft proclaims the man.”

The art waned in the days of the Stuarts, and members of the craft were compelled, in the time of Charles I, to forsake embroidery. A document bearing date 1634 (see page 11) shows the condition of the trade at that time, and which was simply deplorable.

It is, however, a long road that has no turning, and for some years past the art of embroidery has been gradually coming to the fore again.

The Broderers' Company have done all in their power to resuscitate the art of embroidery, both by patronizing schools of that art, and by exhibitions.

Their first exhibition was held on the 4th May, 1894, when ladies and gentlemen assembled at the Mansion House to view the numerous exhibits. The Lord Mayor (Sir G. R. Tyler), with his usual kindness, not only allowed the exhibition to be held in the Egyptian Hall there, but personally performed the opening ceremony, and in his remarks said, that this was the first exhibition of the kind that the Broderers' Company had established, and though this particular exhibition was small, it was the intention of the Company to hold similar exhibitions in the future, which would be, he felt sure, on a very much larger scale. The Master then stated that the Broderers were a poor Company and devoted a large percentage of their funds to charitable purposes and the advancement of education; that it was originally intended to open the exhibition to all comers, but as this was only a trial, it was thought desirable to confine the exhibition strictly to amateurs, therefore only the students of the Royal School of Art Needlework, the Wimbledon Art College, and the Decorative Needlework Society were invited to compete. It had a double object: to encourage the art of embroidery and to help a class of ladies who deserved to be assisted; he trusted that the grain of mustard seed which had thus been sown would not fall upon stony ground, but upon good soil, and bear much fruit.

This exhibition was a decided success, and attracted a considerable gathering of gaily-attired people, yet the prizes given by the Broderers amounted to no more than twenty guineas, supplemented by an additional prize of three guineas, given by the Master.

The second exhibition of the Broderers' Company was on a much more pretentious scale, and is thus graphically described in certain paragraphs extracted (slightly altered) from a leading ladies' newspaper.

EXHIBITION OF EMBROIDERY BY THE COMPANY
OF BRODERERS

The Warden who, tempo Henry VIII, presided over the "Mystery of the Broyderers," doubtless never in his wildest imagination dreamt of such a City of London as that wherein his twentieth-century representative, the Worshipful Master of the Company of Broderers, would see fit to hold an exhibition of the needle's excellency as now practised for ecclesiastical and secular use.

The exhibition took place on Thursday, 30th April, 1903, remained open for the two following days, and was a competitive one, as the Company generously offered a large sum in money prizes. These, in addition to the prospective honour of works accepted, being included in what will undoubtedly be regarded as a national exhibition, should have the effect of giving an additional stimulus to the revival of artistic needlework, which has been steadily going on for the last quarter of a century, and which has resulted in the foundation, under distinguished patronage, of the South Kensington Royal School of Art Needlework, of which their Majesties King Edward and Queen Alexandra were patrons and H.R.H. the Princess Christian president, and many similar institutions throughout the kingdom.

The high state of culture to which the art has attained has been evidenced of late in the King's Banner of St. George and the magnificent Coronation robes worked by the Royal School and the Work Society respectively, presided over by T.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll; as well as by the superbly worked colours of the Guards and the marvellous restoration of the Hardwicke tapestries entrusted to the staff of the Decorative Needlework Society, of which H.M. the Queen is patron.

Such and similar objects carried out by professional workers found places at the exhibition; but as, with large-hearted tolerance, the Company of Broderers made the exhibition free to all skilled workers, it afforded an excellent opportunity for more private individuals to distinguish themselves, and the acceptance of work was probably regarded by them as equivalent to the Seal which, by an ancient rule of the Company, was attached at the Hall to every piece of work satisfactorily executed by its members.

All kinds and descriptions of work were eligible for exhibition, subject to certain limitations as to dimensions and value, which were devised with a view to excluding trifling objects out of keeping with the purpose for which the Company of Broderers was formed, and which its present representatives are anxious to support, viz. that of encouraging a very high standard of excellence in a branch of the applied arts, which has from time immemorial played a leading part in ecclesiastical and secular decoration.

Embroidery may still advisedly take its place as one of the most charming and satisfactory methods of achieving unique and absolutely satisfying schemes of decoration, and of contributing to the imposing splendour of such spectacles as that of the last Coronation. It is also an industry by the patronage of which the wealthy may legitimately afford a means of livelihood to less favoured members of the community, and in thus practically giving encouragement to workers, the Worshipful Company of Broderers are carrying out one of their rules, which inculcates charity to poorer members of their craft.

This second Broderers' Exhibition of Embroidery was held in the beautiful mansion of the Royal School of Art Needlework, Exhibition Road, Kensington, in their great hall. There was a large dais erected for the occasion, on which the following personages took their seats, H.R.H. the Princess Christian occupying the Broderers'

6 THE BRODERERS' COMPANY

ancient Chair, which had been sent there for that purpose. The following are the particulars, viz.—

Opening Ceremony.

On entering the building a bouquet was given to H.R.H. the Princess Christian by the Master's daughter, Mrs. H. L. Goddard.



The Master read an Address to H.R.H.

To H.R.H. was given as a souvenir an elaborately bound copy of the Broderer's Pamphlet.

The Lord Mayor then addressed H.R.H.

There were four judges appointed to award the prizes. Two were nominated by H.R.H. the Princess Christian, viz. V. C. Princep, Esq., R.A., and Miss Wade (Royal School of Art Needlework), and two by the Broderers' Company, viz. W. McWhirter, Esq. (Stafford Northcote & Co.) and C. A. Body, Esq. (Higgins, Eagle & Co.). H.R.H. also appointed Sir E. J. Poynter, President of the Royal Academy, as the Arbitrator.

The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs attended in civic state. Invitations were sent to all Masters of City Companies and their wives, and a grand company assembled to witness the ceremony.

There were 278 exhibitors, representing 351 exhibits, and the prizes awarded amounted to £240 9s., of which no less a sum than £94 10s. was contributed by the Master (Mr. Frederick Gordon).

The total net cost to the Company of this exhibition (deducting all receipts and Master's contribution) was £309 3s.

These two exhibitions have had the effect of giving an additional stimulus to the revival of artistic needlework, and redounds not a little to the credit and generosity of the Broderers' Company.

I should not consider this short account of our great exhibition of embroidery complete if I omitted to give the full award of praise to those to whom the success of the exhibition was really due. To H.R.H. the Princess Christian the Broderers are first indebted for the gracious and kindly consent, so very readily given, to open the exhibition; to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs who went so far afield of their one square mile to lend civic grandeur to the undertaking; to Miss Wade, the principal of the Royal School of Art Needlework, whose skilled knowledge of embroidery was invaluable in giving advice on the occasion; and to that lady also, and to her kind and able assistants, who arranged the exhibits.

Miss Wade is one of the busiest ladies in London, and yet for all that she spared much of her valuable time to me when I was organizing the exhibition. I will give an example of this—

When the newspapers announced that the Exhibition of Embroidery was to be held, letters came flowing in, nearly all of them making inquiries respecting embroidery work, and were of such a technical nature that I could not personally reply to them, owing to my sparse knowledge of the craft; I therefore hit upon this expedient: I extracted from the innumerable letters the various questions asked, and wrote them down on sheets of foolscap paper, which I took to Miss Wade, beseeching her to help me by giving answers to them all; this she kindly did, to the sacrifice of her invaluable time, and I kept these sheets always by me

and used them as my *vade mecum* on which my replies to all inquiries were based. The work of Miss Wade was so cleverly done that there was not a single hitch during the whole time of the correspondence, and that was something to say when the wants and wishes of so many young ladies (278) had to be considered.

Among those who have helped the Broderers in their exhibition, one must not forget the thanks due to Sir Purdon Clarke, who kindly lent several very large screens from the South Kensington Museum, on which the Broderers' exhibits were hung; without these screens there would not have been wall space sufficient for the many works of embroidery that were exhibited.

THE COMPANY GENERALLY

THE Broderers, like many other City Companies, seem to have been lost in their own antiquity, and labour under similar disadvantages to them in having most of their interesting records destroyed by the devastating fire of London in the year 1666. Those who care to search the City Records will find in Letter Book K 89b that in the ninth year of Henry VI, or in 1430-1, the Broderers were spoken of as a Company, and it is evident that its institution was far before this named date to have swallowed up the very ancient Company of Tapissers. The earliest Minute now extant is dated 1679, and what became of the documents and papers between 1666 and 1679 would be buried in obscurity but from information gathered from Vol. I of *Old and New London*, p. 161, that "Another great fire, some years later (January 1678-9), destroyed the old cloisters and part of the old hall of the inner temple," &c., and "the fire spread eastward," &c.; and from the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield's most interesting and instructive work, *Memorials of Old London*, which states that "the great fire of 1666, the flames of which, after destroying King's Bench Walk, licked the east end of Temple Church, was followed in 1678 by another fire which did much damage to the buildings of the middle temple," &c. This may possibly account for the interval that elapsed between 1666, the year of the fire, and 1679, when the first of the Minutes were written. I cannot, however, gather much reliable information respecting this second great fire, although I have made diligent search respecting it.

The first charter of the Company is dated in 1561, and

this is the first definite evidence now in the possession of the Company of the date of its existence as a Company. But in an indenture of conveyance of certain of the Company's property in Gutter Lane, dated 5 Henry VIII, one Thomas Foster (the grantee) is described as a citizen and broyderer; and "The wardens of the mystery of broyderers within the city of London" are described as a definite body in the will of the same Thomas Foster, dated 20th January, 19 Henry VIII.

The first charter, as above, is dated 25th October, 1561, being the original charter of Queen Elizabeth (see Appendix, pp. 247-8).

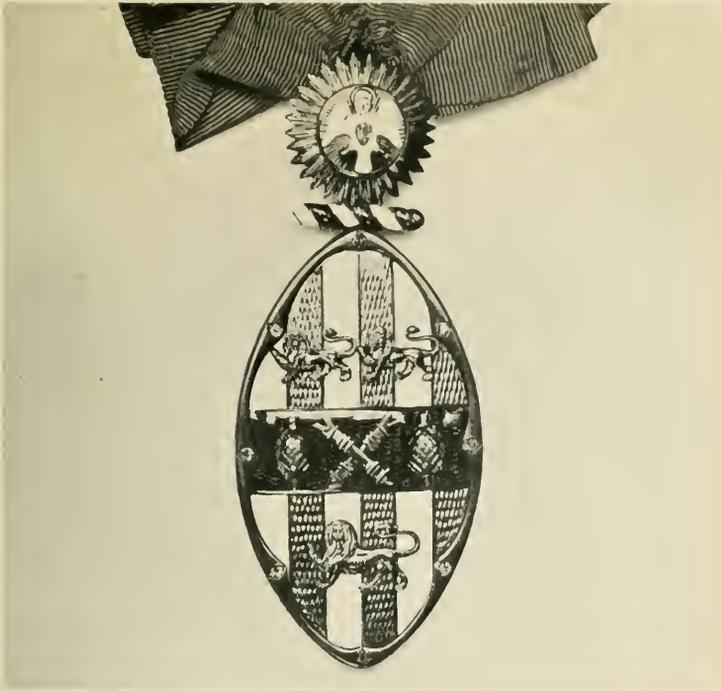
It incorporates the freemen of the mystery or art of the broderers of the City of London and the suburbs, by the name of Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London; to have perpetual succession and a common seal; to bring and defend actions, and especially in the City of London; to hold lands of the annual value of £30, for the assistance and support of poor women and men of the mystery.

Grants powers to the keepers or wardens from time to time to make good and salutary statutes and ordinances for the good regulation and government of the mystery and the freemen thereof, which shall be inviolably observed.

Grants to the keepers or wardens power to overlook and govern the art and all using the same in the City and suburbs thereof, the city of Westminster, St. Katherine's in Middlesex, and the borough of Southwark, and to punish all men for not truly working or selling.

20th April, 1609, 7 James I.—Charter of James I contains only a recital and confirmation of the Charter of Queen Elizabeth, without any alteration or addition.

The above is an abstract of the subsisting charter of the Company. It was surrendered to King Charles II in the year 1684; and King James II, in 1686, granted another charter in lieu thereof. But this surrender and charter



MASTER'S BADGE.



BEADLE'S STAFF HEAD.

BEADLE'S AND PORTER'S BADGE.

Geo. II, 1729.)

PORTER'S STAFF HEAD.

(Stamped 1658).

are not thought necessary to be here set out. All surrenders and grants of charters in the time of Charles II and James II have been rendered void by Statute 2, William and Mary, sec. 1, cap. 8.

The first document in the possession of the Company bearing on the subject of the state of the trade is the charter of 1561, as above.

The next document which the Company have in their possession bearing on the above question is a petition to King Charles I, dated 1634, praying for a license in mortmain, the recitals in which state that the trade "is now so much decayed and grown out of use, so that a great part of the Company for want of employment are so much impoverished as they are constrained to become porters, water bearers, and the like." This quotation is made as illustrating the state of the trade at the date last referred to.

Bearing upon the question of their control over the trade, the Company have a case and opinion of counsel (Mr. Northey) dated 29th August, 1707, as to persons carrying on the trade not having been apprenticed, in which the opinion states that the Company can recover the penalties by information or indictment at the sessions.

Subsequently to this the Company seems to have continued to lose its hold upon the trade until in the year 1709, when there were but few working embroiderers members of the Company; for a controversy was raised in that year and case submitted for the opinion of Mr. Common Serjeant Dee on the question whether the by-laws then in force, providing as they did that "working members should be preferably eligible to office in the Company, did not make the election unfree and fettered, and were not therefore void." The Company have in their possession the opinion of Mr. Serjeant Dee on this case, which goes to show how far the objects for which the Company was founded were then carried out, and a portion of the opinion on this case is given below.

“As long as the ordinance (providing that working members only should be master and warden) remains in force, elections must be made accordingly or the election will be void; for the by-law at the time of the making of the same was in all probability of use to the Company, though by length of time and the alteration of the Company it may now be grown inconvenient and fit to be repealed. I do not think the penalties are in this case recoverable, for it cannot be said that any one particular person was the occasion that the election was not made according to the by-laws.”

On the 19th Dec., 1710, the wardens of the Company, wishing to keep alive their control over the trade according to their power contained in the charter, seem to have made a general search of workhouses of embroidery, “whereupon they found many foreigners, and many were refractory and used scurrilous language and none appeared on being summoned to the hall.” The following quotation is from another case put to Mr. Serjeant Dee representing these facts, whereupon the learned serjeant gave his opinion as follows—

“Any persons exercising the trade that hath not served an apprenticeship for seven years are liable to be sued on the Statute 3 Elizabeth, but I do not think a journeyman that works only for wages can be prosecuted on that statute, but the person that employs him may, if such person is not qualified to exercise the trade. The Company cannot set fines for the breach of their by-laws, nor do their by-laws bind any but the members of the Company; and if any of their members do break any of the by-laws that are just and reasonable, the penalty inflicted by such by-laws may be recovered against them by action of debt. As to the matter of search, the charter will not justify them, but within the city of London such searches may be justified by the customs, but the goods seized must be brought to Guildhall, and a jury empanelled to try whether the same

made deceptfully, and according as their verdict is found, the same may be destroyed or restored." And in the margin of this case Mr. Common Serjeant states the following by-laws to be void: That the keepers may four times a year search. That all illworkers be fined 2s. 6d. That all persons making resistance shall forfeit 20s. That all persons within the limits shall come to the Hall to be sworn. That no person shall set to work any foreigners until presented to the wardens to be examined, who shall appoint the Master and assess the wages.

It appears by this opinion that the powers expressly conferred on the Company by the charter had at this time (if such powers ever, in fact, had any legal force) so long fallen into disuse that the Company were not able to enforce their privileges in relation to the trade, which on its part seems altogether to have ignored the Company so soon as the protection of the trade was ensured by change of customs of the times without the Company's aid. In the face of this opinion of Mr. Serjeant Dee, and of the opposition offered by the trade, it is believed that the Company have not attempted to exercise their ancient privileges since the date last referred to. But in regard to their duties mentioned in the first paragraph of the charter, no application for the assistance and support of poor women and men of the mystery has ever been refused or ignored.

The Company holds a license in mortmain, by virtue of its charter above extracted, to the annual value of £30 per annum. In 1635 the Company obtained from King Charles I a grant of license (dated 14th February, 1635) to hold lands to the extent of £100 per annum.

The present constitution of the governing body of the Company, that is to say, the master, wardens, and court of assistants, is according to by-laws (see p. 268) of 1562 as amended by those of 1582, 1609, and 1710. It consists of a court of assistants and the clerk. Among the members of the Court are included the master, the warden, the renter

warden, and two auditors, who, with the clerk, are the officers of the Company.

The only qualification required for membership of the Court is that the person elected be at the time of his election a member of the livery.

The method of election of each new member of the Court is by vote of the majority of the existing members of that body. The only qualification of a voter at elections to the Court is, that he should himself be at the time of his voting a member of the Court and be present at the Court of election.

The functions of the governing body, as between it and the livery and the freemen, and as between the Company and other persons, are to transact, and by vote of the majority decide, upon every sort of business or matter concerning the Company or its rights, liabilities or property whatsoever, including the admission of freemen and liverymen. The members of the Court pay a fine (see Appendix, page 272) on their election. No salary is paid, but there is an honorary fee paid to each member of the Court for each actual attendance made by him at Court, payable at the conclusion of the business.

The qualification for membership of the Company is either patrimony (*i. e.* right of birth), apprenticeship, or redemption.

The grades of membership are (1) freemen; (2) liverymen; (3) members of the Court of Assistants. Women are not now admitted to membership.

The freedom of the Company may be obtained (1) by servitude; (2) by patrimony; (3) by redemption.

In order to be entitled to admission by servitude the apprentice must have bound himself to some freeman of the Company, with the consent of the parent or guardian, for a term of seven years.

Before his admission to the freedom, his master and some member of the Court must certify on their oath of

freedom that the apprentice had duly served according to his indenture, and according to the custom of the city. In order to entitle any person to admission by patrimony it is requisite that such person be of the age of twenty-one years and have been born in lawful wedlock after the admission of his father to the freedom of the Company. Prior to admission, either the person to be admitted must produce certificate of his father's marriage and his own baptism, and an affidavit of his father or some other competent person, verifying the certificates and identifying him. Or some member of the Court must certify, on his freedom oath, that he knows the person applying to be admitted, that he is the son of his father, and is of full age.

In order to entitle a person to admission by redemption it is necessary that he be proposed and seconded by members of the Court, and resolution made by a majority of votes that he be admitted.

The Company made by-laws (see Appendix, page 268) duly certified in manner specified by Act of Parliament of 19 Henry VII. These by-laws certainly require persons exercising embroidery trade to become free of the Company.

No person by reason of his being an embroiderer only has any process by which he is enabled to procure admission, even by redemption, if the Court do not choose to admit him. Such processes have not been enforced either way for a very great number of years. The Company have no record of any such process ever having been enforced.

Persons exercising the embroidery trade do not commonly become members of the Company.

The livery of the Company is unlimited in number. The qualification for admission to the livery is that the person wishing to be admitted be a freeman of the Company.

Nothing can be found to show that either freemen or liverymen are liable to removal.

The freedom of the city of London should follow

admission to the livery. Every member of the livery and Court is free of the city.

The advantages in the present day of being a freeman of the Company are not apparent.

The practical advantages of being a liveryman are (1) the right to vote in the election of Lord Mayor and sheriffs for the city, and in the election of members of Parliament for the city; (2) the right of voting at election of the Company's officers; (3) the right to be present at the Company's livery dinners each year.

The advantage of being a member of the Court, beyond those enjoyed by the livery, is the right of sitting in Court and voting on every question affecting the Company, and thereby taking an active part in the government of the Company.

Each member of the Company has, in the event of misfortune, or poverty, a claim upon the benevolence of the Company according to his needs or merits, in addition to his claim upon the charitable funds administered by the Company.

The following are the circumstances held in practice to constitute a claim to a pension or donation: (1) poverty, temporary or otherwise; (2) direct membership of the Company by near connection (as wife, child, brother, sister, father or mother of a member of the Company).

The city of London has always been considered a happy hunting-ground by impecunious monarchs. It was not in any way unusual, in former days, for the King to make his financial wants known, and respected, by the great corporation and the city companies, confiscating the charters of those who were obstreperous, and only restoring them again when his Majesty's wants were amply satisfied. This happened to the Broderers' Company in the year 1684, when their charter was surrendered to King Charles II, and King James II granted another charter in lieu thereof in 1686.

THE NEW CHARTER

“19th May, 1684. At this Court it was considered touching the Company’s Charter and what other evidences they have for their constitution, and what other companies have done concerning theirs, and it being put to the vote whether it shall be put to the whole livery for the voluntary and full resignation and surrender thereof to His Majesty (Charles 2nd), with such humble address therewith as the wardens shall think fit, or not. It was carried in the affirmative, and resolved that this present day it shall be put to the vote of the whole livery for the doing thereof.

“The same day the Court took to them the livery, and then the assistants, put the matter concerning the surrendering of the Charter, and evidences, according to the vote of the assistants, now to the said livery, and it being put to the vote first in the affirmative, and then in the negative. It was carried in the affirmative, none contradicting, that the Charter and evidences of the Company’s constitution should be forthwith surrendered to His Majesty in such time and manner, and in such humble address as the upper warden shall think fit, and that he and all other officers be continued for the year ensuing.”

“2nd July, 1684. The Upper Warden caused a copy of the Petition, or address, which on the Company’s behalf he had presented to His Majesty.”

“22nd Octr., 1684. At a general summons of the whole livery. There being an Instrument sent to this Court to be sealed with their common seal, importing this Company’s surrender in pursuance of their late petition to His Majesty. It was now read and every person appearing severally were asked if they approved of the former proceedings, and if the surrender should be sealed or not. It was agreed in the affirmative, none contradicting.”

“17th Dec., 1684. The Clerk of the Company having

in the time of the late upper warden's sickness received from Mr. Barton, one of the managers of the New Charter, the copy of the list of several names approved of by the Rt. Honble. Sir George Jeffreys, Knt. and Bart., Lord Chief Justice of England. Did by direction of Mr. Barton summon those persons together in order to get subscriptions towards the charge of a new Charter, whereto some did then, and some afterwards, subscribed."

"31st March, 1685. At a general meeting of the whole livery. At this meeting the beadle was called and demanded whether he had duly summoned the whole livery and he giving an account that he had so done. It was then proposed by the Upper Warden that the Company having sealed a surrender of their Charter to his late Majesty, and being in some forwardness in the obtaining of a new one, and having received and paid in a considerable sum for that purpose the New Charter could not be effected without the agents concerned had the Old Charter, confirmations, and Instruments relating thereto, which matter being first debated and then all the proceedings about this matter being read and approved of, it was put to the vote, whether they should be delivered out for that purpose to Mr. Harris or not, and each one being severally asked, it was carried in the affirmative, and then those who were for it subscribed their names" (10 signatures).

"On the day and year within written the persons who had subscribed their names in pursuance of the last order were present at the taking out of the charter, confirmations, and Instruments, which were as follows—

"The original Charter dated the 25 Oct. in the 3rd year of Queen Elizabeth.

"A confirmation thereof dated the 20th April in the 7th year of King James.

"An additional grant from King Charles the 1st dated 10 Feb. in the 10th year of his reign.

“A confirmation of Bye-laws under the hands of 3 appointed by the Act for approving of Bye-laws dated 4th Dec. in the 5th year of Queen Elizabeth.

“Another dated the 9th October in the 24th year of her reign.

“All which were delivered into the hands of Mr. Thomas Harris to be returned in a convenient time and lodged where they were before.

“1st Sept., 1685. It being reported by Mr. Harris, whom the Company had intrusted with the management of the New Charter and to obtain the same, touching the state and condition of that affair, and it being considered that the monies necessary to be laid out and paid therein cannot be wholly raised by subscription, and that the Company cannot well make use of their common seal whereby to raise a security till they have their new charter, and that therefore there must be an undertaking by some particular member for raising thereof; and the whole matter being debated, as also Mr. Blagden the late warden not having delivered his keys and no person being capable of receiving them till a new warden be sworn, it was therefore agreed and resolved that on Friday next a meeting again be, and Mr. Blagden, and all persons named in the list last approved of, be summoned to appear and that Mr. Blagden's account be then audited and that Mr. Lucas who was chosen on the last Whitmond day be sworn in Mr. Blagden's room, and receive his keys from him, and that Mr. Harris and he for the raising of such money as shall be needful, shall have such of the company's goods delivered into their custody as shall then be allowed to be a fit security.”

“1st April, 1686. A bill of charge of passing the Company's charter was produced and consideration had of what monies already subscribed and raised. Mr. Lucas (Upper Warden) agreed to raise £25 more;—

“The following plate pledged to Mr. Lucas,

“1 Gilt silver salt with pillars and a cover and case.

“ 17 Silver and gilt spoons.

“ 1 Gilt Silver cup.

“ 1 Silver Beaker.

“ The said pieces weighing 101 oz., great weight.”

I may here mention that it was the custom in former days for all those who attended the meetings to sign the Minutes, and, scrutinizing the signatures, I was struck by the fact that when Mr. John Lucas, the Upper Warden, was in attendance, that his autograph was represented by his mark X or JL. Whether this substitution was through affliction or ignorance there is nothing to show, but one thing is very evident, that in making his bargain with the Company he did not forget to take care of himself, for of the goods made over to him in pledge for his £25, one of the items named was a gilt silver cup, which must have been either the Parr or the Harrison Cup, the former of which the Company now insure against all risks for £5000 and the latter for £3000. I may also state that this John Lucas was removed from his position in the Company by order in council in 1687, when Mr. Thomas Harris took his place under the new charter, but was re-elected Master in 1687, and again in 1689, so that he occupied the chair on three occasions.

“ 23rd April, 1686. The new charter was read.

“ Then it was agreed upon, that such of those named in the charter as will be qualified according to the direction therein contained, shall, before Monday the 3rd of May, receive the Sacrament, and on the same day a Court is to be held and then further directions will be given.”

“ 3rd May, 1686. The several persons named producing their certificates of having received the Sacrament according to the usage of the Church of England, and Mr. Harris being named Master in the New Charter, having first made and subscribed the Declaration, and taking the Oath mentioned in the Statute relating to Corporations 13th Charles

2nd and the Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy, was first sworn an Assistant, and then Master, of the Company, and took his place accordingly, and then the rest being in like manner qualified were sworn assistants," &c.

Full particulars as to the Old and New Charters are given in the Appendix (pp. 247-59).

WORKING EMBROIDERERS

The Broderers seem to have been rather arbitrary in their proceedings to the workers of embroidery, if one may judge from the numerous entries in the Minutes, of which I will give one or two examples, viz.—25th Oct., 1681, when one "Margaret Wadding also appeared and 2 pieces of brodered work for petticoats being upon the last search taken, were now produced, and shown, and adjudged insufficiently wrought, and ordered to be cut and burnt, but on her humble request, and promise not to work any more (she being an unlawful worker) the Court set only a fine of 2s. 6d. upon her, and the work returned to her." Also two others were fined and paid.

On 31st Dec., 1681, "A piece of work taken in search from Elizabeth Coleman, she being found to be an unlawful worker, and one who employed others not qualified according to the ordinances, was fined 40s. and work ordered to be destroyed, but returned on fine." Also two others.

On 5th Augt., 1686, "John Creig summoned and examined touching his keeping a shop and warehouse, not having made a masterpiece, and he refusing to be approved according to the ordinances, or to make his master-piece for his allowance, as a master ought to do, and on proof that he exposes embroidered work for sale, he for his contempt is find 40s. for the use of the company."

On 15th Sept., 1687, "Francis Barron, who upon the late search was found to be an unlawful worker and to

make deceitful and bad work, and from whom was taken a border of a bed, ill and deceitfully wrought, appeared, and being examined, and his work adjudged deceitful, ordered to be cut and defaced, which was done, and he having nothing to say but that being an upholsterer he might work, and it appearing he had kept a workhouse and employed several unlawful workers, upon reading the ordinances of the company, he was fined 40s. for the use of the company."

Similar instances are innumerable, but I think I have given sufficient to show that the Company not only had the power to control the trade but exercised it, and yet the above will show that they not infrequently tempered their judgment with mercy.

It was evidently the custom of the Company to exhibit the masterpieces which were periodically sent in. I find the following entry made on 8th Sept., 1686: "The Audit being over and Mr. Marriott having received his charge, the master-pieces were inspected and a note thereof taken, being in number 91, whereof 54 were without frames. In memory of the workers, and for the reputation of the art: It was agreed that those without frames should be committed to the management of the Master to set upon satin, and afterwards put into frames, and then kept in the Hall or Parlour for public view."

LOANS TO COMPANY

The Broderers were not above doing a little actuarial business on their own account if one may judge from the following Minute—

"1711, Dec. 13. Ordered that £100 be taken in by the Master and Wardens for the use of the Company, of such person or persons as are willing to advance the same for the purchase of an annuity of £10 per annum for the life of such person or persons, or 2 annuities of £5 a piece

for the lives of 2 persons, to be paid by the Company at 2 half yearly payments, or 14 days after, tax free. And for securing the payment of such annuities the Court directs that the Master give Bond under their common Seal."

"And it is further ordered that such £100 when advanced, shall be forthwith applied to discharge the like sum of £100 for which the Company now pays interest at £6 per cent. and that their Bonds be taken up and cancelled."

Nothing, however, seems to have been done as to the above until 5th Oct., 1715, when "Mr. Warden Knewstub acquainted the Court that a gentlewoman was willing to pay £100 to the Company, and to purchase an annuity for her life. And the question was now debated and put whether the Company should accept of that sum upon such terms. Which was carried for the accepting of it. And then another question was put. Whether the Company should pay £9 or £10 per annum for the said £100 for her life. And it was thereupon ordered to pay £9 per annum for the said £100 for life, and no more."

ANNIVERSARY

Although nearly half a century had elapsed since the great fire of London in 1666, yet it was kept by the citizens of London as a day of humiliation, as is shown by a Broderer's Minute of 2nd Sept., 1713. "This day being appointed for "a fast on account of the Fire of London, the Master adjourned the Court."

COUNTRY RESIDENTS

Locomotion was difficult and slow in former days, if one may judge from the following Minute dated 22nd May, 1722. "Mr. Grainger (an Assistant) acquainted the Com-

mittee that by reason of his living out of town, he could not so often attend as the business of his office might require, and therefore moved the Committee that he might be at liberty to name some person to officiate for him when he is absent; which the Committee considered of, and ordered that he should be at liberty to do it, and then he named Mr. Patrickson (also an Assistant) might be the person; which was also consented to."

CROWNS

The Broderers have in their possession two relics of evidently a very distinguished past; they consist of broad bands of brocade, very much the worse for wear, but most elegantly worked; the silk stuff being woven with raised figures and gold and silver threads; the subjects being flowers and leaves, with a centre garter containing the Company's emblem of the Holy Dove. The brocade is some three and a quarter inches wide, sewn together so as to make a perfect hoop of some nine inches in diameter; open at top and bottom, but not at the side. If a thoughtful inquirer were told that these were crowns formerly issued at the installation of the Masters and put upon his head and not round his waist as the size would almost justify, for no heads would be big enough to hold them up without a prodigious lining, it would be a great tax on his credulity, but it would be no less the fact, as I have before me two most interesting and valuable books, both bearing on this subject. One called *A Short Account of the Silver Plate and Miscellaneous Articles belonging to the Worshipful Company of Cooks, London*, compiled by Mr. C. M. Phillips, Past Master of the Company; the other called *The Company of Girdlers*, by Mr. W. Dumville Smythe, M.A., the Clerk to the Company. The former work states that "The Court Books do not appear to throw any light on the method adopted in carrying out

the ceremony of crowning; but the following extracts relating to the repair of the Crowns show that they must have been considerably used, and also that the custom extended into the nineteenth century."

"1739. The Crowns to be recovered and one new one made with the Company's Arms worked thereon."

"1803. The Wardens Caps to be new covered and the Arms revarnished."

In the latter work it states that, "The Great day at Girdlers' Hall has ever been and still is election day," when "The Master and Wardens were crowned after dinner. This crowning is still carried out with a certain amount of ceremony, which has been somewhat revived of late years." There is further mention in this clever book that "It is not known how many hundreds of years this ceremony" (the crowning) "has been carried out, but Mr. S. John Hope on examining the crowns gave it as his opinion that they" (those in the Girdlers' possession) "are sixteenth-century workmanship."

Now if these articles I have mentioned had to be worn by the two Wardens or Keepers of the Broderers' Company, they would want a considerable amount of furbishing to make them even commonly respectable, let alone the top piece, which would have to be new, as that part of the crown is entirely wanting, not having stood the wear and tear of ages like the more substantial portion of the fabric. To a masculine mind the greatest difficulty in adapting the old headgear to modern requirements would be the fitting, seeing that the dimensions of the present crown would not only go over the head but down to the shoulders also, and to make it rest upon the forehead would require a considerable amount of fluffing out; but the ordinary man need not despair as to this, as the fashionable young lady of the present time finds nothing insurmountable in fixing her little head in a hat so enormously large in comparison to that organ, that it looks more like a

gigantic bee-hive or mushroom, totally eclipsing, rather than adorning, the pretty face.

When lovely woman is on folly bent,
 And blindly follows dress, or ornament;
 She cares not, if, when fashion leads the way,
 Whether the dress be gloomy, or is gay;
 Whether the hat be three yards round, or four,
 Or stinted skirt be one foot wide, or more:—
 Blest be the girl who is not fashion's slave,
 A priceless jewel, patient, strong, and brave.

FINES RETURNED

It was not an unusual occurrence to return fines that had been paid to the Company in the case of impecunious members. There are several such cases entered in the Minutes. I will mention three of them as a sample. On the 12th March, 1740, Mr. Richard Gurney, a Liveryman, and one of the Court of Assistants, "being reduced by losses and other misfortunes to very low circumstances, and being through his great age rendered incapable of providing for his subsistence came to the Court and Petitioned to have his Livery fine returned to him," which was acceded to. Mr. Thomas Traffles on 14th Oct., 1745, was similarly dealt with. "On 29th Sept., 1756, Mr. Richard Hayward, one of the Livery and also of the Court of Assistants of this Company now petitioned this Court a return of his livery and Court of Assistance Fines." When it was "Ordered that the Clerk do pay back to the said Richard Hayward the sum of £7, being his livery and Court of Assistants fines and that from henceforth the said Richard Hayward be discharged from being one of the Court of Assistants of this Company."

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography has been several times patronized by the Broderers' Company. There is a Minute of 25th June,

1866, stating "That a photographic copy of the Grant of Arms be taken, and mounted, and framed in oak, and presented to each member of the Court."

Again, on 12th March, 1880. "That Photographs of the Company's Cups, Grant of Arms, and the conveyance of the 21st Edward 1st of the Company's property in Gutter Lane, be made, and that a copy of each be presented to each member of the Court." And in the following June an order was made to give a copy of the Grant of Arms to each of the Livery.

Further, on 24th May, 1880. "That a copy of the photographs of the Company's Grant of Arms, and the conveyance of the Company's property in Gutter Lane, be presented to the Guildhall Library."

One of the most interesting of the Company's photographic possessions is a Photographic Album, in which the portraits of all Past Masters (the Clerks being afterwards included), or as many as could be obtained, are inserted. The order was given on 25th June, 1903, when it was "resolved that a Photographic Album be obtained, and that the Clerk do communicate with every Past Master, asking him to forward to the Company their photographs (cabinet size) for insertion therein," and thus those who have served the Company as Master will be kept in remembrance.

ROBES

I am a little at fault to know whether in former days there were two or three gowns belonging to the Company. The inference is that there were two, those of the Clerk and the Beadle, which I have separately dealt with under their headings, but am at a loss to know whether in early times one or the other were lent to a new Liveryman on his installation into that office, or if there were a third gown for the last purpose, for I find no earlier Minutes on the subject than the following: "29th Sept., 1891. The

Bill for the new Livery gown amounting to £6 11s. was ordered to be paid," and one dated 9th May, 1822, as mentioned under the heading "Livery."

It was not until the year 1893 that the Broderers awoke to the fact that although they were a Livery Company, they had no livery. Up to that time it was the custom for the Company to hire robes for the Master, Warden, Renter Warden, and sometimes for the Clerk, in which to receive their guests at the periodical banquets, and for which they were charged 5s. apiece. This funereal proceeding was put a stop to by an Order of the Court on 13th March, 1893, when "It was resolved that the Company purchase gowns for the Master, Warden, Renter Warden, and Clerk, at a cost not exceeding 50 guineas." These gowns were purchased of Messrs. Ede & Son, of Chancery Lane, who carried out the order in a most exemplary manner, and are the same robes as are now used on all festive occasions.

LOTTERIES

The Company evidently did not mind a little gambling occasionally, as the following Minute will show: "13th Dec., 1763. The Clerk informed the Court that the Lottery Ticket bought on account of this Company in pursuance of the Order of this Court, No. 5719, and which cost £12 19s. 6d., is come up a Prize of £20. Ordered that the Clerk do sell this Prize and carry the amount thereof to this Company's account."

Here is another entry of a like nature: "29th Sept., 1772. Ordered that the Master, if he thinks fit, do buy 2 Lottery tickets for the account of the Company in the present State Lottery."

REFRESHMENTS

The business of the Company must have been of a very exhaustive nature if one may judge from the following Minute—

“15th May, 1780. It being moved and seconded that a Tavern be appointed by the Court to which the members may resort for refreshment after their holding Courts for the business of the Company. It was ordered that the Half Moon Tavern, Cheapside, be the Tavern for such resort until the Court shall make further orders thereon.”

FIRE ARMS

There is no mention of Fire Arms in the list of the Broderers' Goods made in 1741 (as stated at page 161), and therefore I presume there were none in possession; whether they were more timorous in later days, or got frightened at the time of the Gordon Riots in 1780, I have no means of knowing; but I find this Minute: “29th Sept., 1804. Ordered that Mr. Johnson's bill amounting to 11s. 4*d.*, for cleaning the Company's Fire Arms, be paid.” The amount of the bill, however, shows that the warlike implements were not very numerous.

SAFES

I am not very clear as to the precautions formerly taken by the Company against fire accidents, but evidently they awoke to the fact that their plate and documents were not as secure as they should be by the following Minute, viz.—

As early as 13th Dec., 1732, it was “Ordered that Mr. Inson do buy an Iron Chest,” and on 14th May, 1744, it was “Ordered that the writings of this Company's estates which are now in the clossett in the Court Room be now

put into the strong box provided for that purpose under 2 locks, and that the said box be put in the same closett where the writings now are."

"13th Dec., 1813. It appearing advisable to erect an Iron Safe for the secure custody of the Company's papers and plate, and for a proper place in the cellar of the Beadle's house" (8 Silver Street) "for such erection: Ordered that Mr. Collier be requested to inspect and superintend the building one accordingly." And on "12th March, 1814, Mr. Ward informed the Court that he had purchased an Iron Safe, which had been fitted up and completed in the cellar of the Beadle's house." This arrangement does not appear to have been very satisfactory, as shown by a Minute of 12th March, 1834, when "The Court resolved to take into consideration at their meeting on Friday the propriety of lodging all the title deeds, and all other documents, and muniments, with the Charters of the Company in a record room at the Guildhall of the City." But this idea does not appear to have been carried out.

And on the "13th Dec., 1858. The Clerk then reported that he had engaged a fire proof repository at the Law Institution in Chancery Lane (numbered 84) and had placed the Company's boxes, labelled Charters and Bye Laws, Title Deeds, and Stifford Estate in such Repository."

This last arrangement continued for about eight years (25th June, 1866), when "The Clerk then reported that he had removed the several deed boxes containing the Company's Title Deeds and other documents from the repository at the Law Institution, Chancery Lane, to a Fire proof repository at the Clerk's Office No. 20 Gutter Lane, Cheapside; and the Court was pleased to approve of such removal."

On the 12th March, 1890, a special Committee of the Master (Mr. G. H. Barber) and two Assistants were appointed to consider and report on various matters con-

nected with the Company, among other things “to purchase a safe at an expense not exceeding £50, to be placed in the office of the Clerk,” and “to superintend the removal of the documents, &c., from Messrs. Freeman & Sons’ office, and see same deposited in the Company’s safe.” And at a Court Meeting held 28th April, 1890, “Dr. Sedgwick Saunders reported that the Committee appointed at the last Court had purchased a safe at a cost of £37” (this safe turned out to be a bogus one, and £30 was refunded by the seller; when a real John Tann was purchased at a cost of £45). “Also that the Committee had inspected the Charters, Title deeds, and other Documents belonging to the Company, and seen that same were deposited in the safe at the Clerk’s Office.”

QUARTERAGE

Very few persons are acquainted with the origin of the charge for quarterage; yet many people have been questioned on the subject, and nearly all members of City Companies are liable to its payment; the sum demanded is only trivial, and no one questions its legality, but it is agreeable to obtain information on any subject in which one is personally interested.

I was equally ignorant with my fellows as to quarterage, until I came across that cleverly written *History of the Girdlers’ Company*, compiled by W. D. Smythe, Esq., the Clerk of the Company, and in that very interesting work I found what I had long sought, elucidation on the subject above referred to, and which I will transcribe literally (with kind permission) for the edification of my brethren of the Broderers’ Company—

“The word guild, derived from the Saxon verb *gilden*, to pay, signifies a fraternity or company, because every one was *gildare*, i. e. to pay something towards the charge or support of the Company, and these laws of King

Athelstane even go so far as to fix the amount of this payment, which was to be rendered four times a year, and was usually fourpence, which payment is now called quarterage, and is still paid by members of the Girdlers' Company, only the amount instead of being fourpence is now four shillings. The originals of these guilds or fraternities have been traced back by different authorities to various sources, some even ascribing them to the Romans, who are supposed to have introduced them into England; others, again, say that in England they originated from the old Saxon law by which neighbours entered into an association and became bound for each other to bring forth him who committed any crime, or make satisfaction to the party injured, for which purpose they raised a sum of money among themselves and put into a common stock. From hence came our fraternities or guilds, and they were in use in this Kingdom long before any formal charters or licenses were granted to them, and in fact under the Saxon laws no license was required."

SCARES

The Broderers were once in fear and trembling that they would lose their trade by the action of the Government; for by a Minute of 27th Jan., 1743, "A Court of Assistants were summoned at 10 of the clock in the forenoon to consider of the consequences that may attend the Trade of the Embroderers if the bill now depending in the House of Commons to prevent the wearing any gold or silver lace thread or wyre on any apparel should pass into law." I cannot find from the Minutes that this Bill ever became an Act, so that the fear was not realized.

Another trouble occurred later on, for there is a Minute of 28th Sept., 1833, stating that "The Clerk then submitted to the Court a letter and the papers he had received from

Sir Francis Palgrave, one of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the existing state of the several Municipal Corporations in England and Wales, requesting information on a variety of points specified, so far as the same are applicable to the Company of Broderers. The Court thereupon took such papers into consideration, and as part of the information required was to have copies of the governing charters, and the dates of all other charters with copies of all by-laws regulating the elections of the governing or ruling body or bodies, the number of persons admitted to the Freedom or Livery of the Company from the year 1813 to the month of August last, distinguishing the rights or grounds under which they were admitted, and the amount of fines paid to the Company, whether admitted or not to the freedom of the City, and whether resident or not resident. When it was ordered that the Clerk do furnish the said Commissioner with such several particulars, notwithstanding any ordinance or by-law prohibiting the making or delivering copies of any papers or matter belonging to the Company to any person whomsoever, and that he be indemnified for so doing.

“On the 9th Nov., 1833, the Clerk reported that he had caused a copy of the charters of Queen Elizabeth, and also one of that of King Charles I, and copies of the general ordinances and bye-laws of the Company to be made, and that he had delivered such several copies to Sir Francis Palgrave, one of the Commissioners appointed under the Commission, to enquire as to the existing state of the several Municipal Corporations in England and Wales. That the said Commissioners had requested information on a variety of points stated in the printed circular; but that he, the Clerk, had declined to give such information until he had received further directions from the Court. Thereupon the Court made an order for the holding a special Court at the Beadle's office (8 Silver Street) on Wednesday next, the 13th inst., at 11 o'clock in the forenoon precisely, to read

over the ordinances and bye-laws of the Company before making any further return to the said Commissioners." On the 13th Nov., "The book of ordinances and the bye-laws of the Company were now read as directed at the last general Court, but this Court did not at present come to any conclusion as to the matters requested by Sir F. Palgrave," and that at a Court Meeting held 10th Nov., 1834, they "Resolved unanimously that the Commissioners having been furnished by the Company with copies of their several charters, and of their ordinances and bye-laws, the Court declined giving any further information."

I find that on 24th June, 1834, "The circular queries from the Commissioners of Municipal Enquiry were again submitted to the Court, but the Court did not make any order thereon."

And on 10th Nov., 1834, "This Court was summoned in pursuance of an order made at the last Court for the purpose of taking into consideration, and of coming to some determination as to the applications made to this Company by the Commissioners of Municipal Inquiry for answers to the several queries contained in their circular of the 12th day of March last; when upon considering and discussing the matter, the Court Resolved unanimously that the Commissioners having been furnished by the Company with copies of their several charters, and of their ordinances and by-laws, the Court declined giving any further information." Mr. Dixon was then master.

Nearly half a century (1881) then elapsed before another Commission was instituted respecting City Companies, including, of course, the Broderers; when a draft of the proposed inquiries of Her Majesty's Commissioners was carefully considered, and the Company sent the following memorandum with the annexed returns—

"In the annexed returns the Company have furnished full particulars of their Trust property.

“With respect to such other property as is not subject to any trust, the Company have anxiously considered what answers it is their duty to make to the Commissioners’ interrogatories, having regard, on the one hand, to the respect which is due to Her Majesty’s Commission, and, on the other hand, to their duties to the society which they represent and whose rights and interests they are bound to protect. They are advised that, from a legal point of view, the Commissioners have no power to compel the required returns to be made, and that the Companies would be acting within their clear constitutional and legal rights if they declined to submit to any examination. The Court of the Company, however, do not wish to stand upon the ground of mere legal right; they have furnished the required information, reserving only such privileged matters relating to their own private and corporate property, as in all courts and cases every public or private body or person is universally held entitled, if not bound, to uphold and protect. The Company, at the same time, wish to place on record that, in furnishing the foregoing replies, they do so without admitting any jurisdiction on the part of the Crown or the right of any power in the State to enquire or examine into the Company’s private affairs and property, or to deal therewith in disregard of the rights and interests of its members. In respect to their own property, however acquired, they claim the rights which every individual, as well as every corporate body, according to English law, possesses for its protection and preservation, none the less and *à fortiori*, because their rights and privileges have existed for centuries past, and have been handed down to the present members of the Company from a long line of predecessors, and they therefore formally claim that the returns hereby made shall be deemed to be, and they are, made without prejudice to the rights, privileges, and franchises of the Company and its members, as absolute owners of all property vested in them,

and not subjected by a donor or founder to any specified trust for the benefit of others.

“The Company maintain that their corporate estates and property are as fully and unquestionably private property and as little liable to interference in its management as the funds of the numerous commercial companies or associations which have been incorporated by various methods, possessing a capital provided by the subscriptions of their constituent members, past or present; and they further claim and insist that if the private and beneficial rights, interests and privileges which they so maintain and assert, and which for centuries they have exercised without any question or dispute, are now or hereafter to be disputed, the question shall be decided by the ordinary tribunals of the country in due process of law.”

By Minute of 19th July, 1881, it was resolved “That a copy of the enquiries of the Commissioners and of the returns sealed this day be preserved in a book to be provided for that purpose at the expense of the Company, and that there be preserved in the same book a Copy of the same as originally approved by the committee for the purpose of perpetuating the information on various subjects connected with the Company therein contained.”

H.M. Commissioners were evidently not entirely satisfied with the replies given by the Broderers to their inquiries, as the following correspondence will show, viz.—

City of London Livery Companies Commission,
2 Victoria Street, S.W.
15th February, 1882.

SIR,

The Commissioners desire me to thank, on their behalf, the Court of the worshipful Company of Broderers for the information which they have supplied to the Commissioners, but at the same time to state that that information is not in their judgment quite sufficient. I am therefore to draw attention to some points in the returns of the Broderers’

Company, with regard to which the Commissioners must respectfully ask for further information. The points are mentioned in the Schedule hereto, and the Commissioners will be much obliged to the Court if they will let them have the additional particulars as soon as possible.

I am, &c.,

H. D. WARE, *Secretary.*

The Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Broderers.

SCHEDULE

The Commissioners respectfully ask for further information with respect to the following points—

Part 4, Circular of 14th Aug., 1880.

The Court has given the Commissioners no information as to the corporate property, the corporate income, and the corporate expenditure of the Company.

There seems to have been no reply to this communication, as is shown by the following letter, viz.—

City of London Livery Companies Commission,
2 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.
19th June, 1882.

SIR,

I must beg to remind the Court of the worshipful Company of Broderers that the Commissioners have not yet received an answer to the circular addressed by them to the Company, dated the 15th February last.

I am, &c.,

H. D. WARE, *Secretary.*

C. E. FREEMAN, Esq., Clerk to the Broderers' Company.

These letters were considered by the Court, for I find the following Minute: "28th June, 1882. That this Company have carefully considered the subject of the Circular of the Commissioners dated 15th February last, and have

nothing to add to the answers already given, or their reasons for not having answered some of the questions."

Consequently the following letter was sent to the Commissioners, viz.—

The Worshipful Company of Broderers,
(Clerk's Office) 20 Gutter Lane, Cheapside, London.
30th June, 1882.

SIR,

In answer to the circular of Her Majesty's Commissioners to enquire into the City of London Livery Companies, referred to in your letter of the 19th instant, I am instructed, on behalf of this Company, to inform you that the Company "anxiously considered what answers it was their duty to make to the interrogatories" of Her Majesty's Commissioners, dated 14 August last, when preparing these answers, and this fact is stated in the Company's remarks which preceded their answers; and they beg respectfully to intimate to Her Majesty's Commissioners that the Company have nothing to add to the answers already made, and the Company's remarks as to Part 4 of the enquiries, and the preliminary remarks there referred to.

I am, &c.,

C. E. FREEMAN, *Clerk.*

H. D. WARR, Esq., &c., &c.

PETITION OF APPRENTICES TO THE KING WHO FELT THEY
HAD A GRIEVANCE

Mr PRATT (Clerk of Broderers Co^e)

The young men wer here this morning with me in reference to their complaint. They are solicitous for an issue, And I am as much for it. Because it is very probable my L^d Middleton req^{rs} an answer, I send you underneath the contents of their petition w out leaveing any material thing to yo^r prejudice, I am

Y^{rs} to serve you

Pr RICH

Guildhall 5 Jan 168⁹₇

To the Kings most Excellent Matie

The humble Petition of *all* the Apprenticies of and
 belonging to the Comp^e of Embroiderers
 May it please yo^r most Sacred Matie

We yo^r humble Pet^{rs} being wronged in our Liberties by the intrusion of certain upstart Interlopers & false pretenders to the Art and Myserie of Embroidery to the detriment of the Pet^{rs} And contrary to the Statute made in the Reign of 2. Elizabeth yet y^e s^d Interlopers have been admitted & entertained by the assistants of the Company And notwithstanding *these persons have served* no Lawful Appticship Yet are *Authorized* in y^e s^d Art by the Assistants and to get others to work in y^e s^d Art w^{ch} is a prejudice to those w^{ch} have served and such as shall serve their times And hereby is a discouragem^t to any your Maties Subjects to put out their Sonnes Apptcies to this Art And this is not only an abuse & damage to y^e Pet^{rs} but to the Nobility by doing base and slight work

The Pet^{rs} being indigent of Sons & not able to take a due course at Law ag^t the Interlopers throw themselves at His Maties feet the Fountain of Justice Hopeing His Matie will take their Grievance into his Gracious consideration as shal seem best to his Princely Wisdome &c

And shall Pray &c

Whitehall 5 Feb 1686

His Matie is Graciously pleasd to referr this Petition to Sr Peter Rich Kn^t Alderman & Chamberlain of the City of London to call unto his assistance the M^r & Wardens of the Comp^y of Embroiders, and having with them examind the allegations of the Pet^{rs} to report the state of the case

to His Ma^{tie} with his y^e s^d S^r Peter Rich his opinion what he thinks fit to be done thereupon And then His Ma^{tie} will declare His further pleasure

MIDDLETON

What His Majesty's further pleasure was I do not see entered in the Minutes, nor can I find any document bearing on the subject.

PROTESTANT RELIGION

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, and certainly the Broderers of the past had plenty of faith when they believed that King James the Second, who was a professed Roman Catholic, would maintain the Protestant Religion.

The following copy of a document will show that flattery was sometimes resorted to by our predecessors in office when addressing the Sovereign, but it borders on sycophancy in stating that His Majesty's Royal word is "the best security under heaven"—

To the King's most Excellent Majesty

MOST GRACIOUS SOVERAIGNE

Wee yo^r Ma^{ties} Loyal & obedient subjects the Corporation of Imbroderers London doe returne yo^r Ma^{tie} our most humble thanks for yo^r great Condescention & Royall Word (the best security under heaven) to mainteyne us in our Religion as by Law established

And wee humbly beseech yo^r Ma^{tie} to accept of those our thanks which (though late) are sincere & hearty And doe thanke God that hee hath brought yo^r Ma^{tie} with *peace* to the throne of yo^r Ancestor^s & that you may long & prosperously enjoy the same,

with the blessings of heaven shall be the daily
Prayer of

Yor Maties most dutifull faithfull
& obedient subjects & servants

Signed by us the Master
Wardens & Assistants of the
Corporacon in Court assembled
this 11th of Aug : 1687

The marke	of			
Jo ⁿ	IL	Lucas	Mr	ffrancis Groome
Edward	Mytton	}	Wardens	John Springwell
			John Johnson	Will ^m Sherard
Jonah	Keeling		John Barber	Edward Jones
Tho	Harris		Robert Grew	the TP marke of Tho : Parkins
John	Marriott		Owen Morris	
John	Norton		Robert Quester	

GRANARIES

It may not be generally known but once upon a time the City of London followed the example shown to them by the ancient Egyptians under Joseph in husbanding corn to meet possible emergencies. The following copy of an old document informs us that the Broderers had to provide their quota of the good and sound wheat which was levied on the City Companies generally for storage in the City Granaries in case of dearth.

*To the Mr & Wardens of
the Company of Embroiderers*

BY THE MAYOR.

Whereas by the antient Lawes and Constitucons of this City the severall Companies thereof are to provide and keep constantly in store 10,000 quarters of corne to

be brought into the Markett for the provision of this City upon any necessary occasion as death (dearth) or other emergency for which purpose there have antiently bin & still are granaries appointed & fitted at the Bridghouse And it being by me and my brethren the Aldermen adjudged needful & expedient that all the said Companies should have their stores of corn in readiness to be made use of upon any occasion or necessity that may happen in this time of diffeculty & hazard And whereas the proportion of yo^r Company towards the s^d provision formerly allotted by act of Common Counsell is forty Quarters. These are therefore in his Ma^{ties} name to will & require you forthwith to make yo^r Companies provision accordingly of the said forty quarters of good and sound wheat & cause the same to be laid upp in the Granaries afores^d And that you give an account to me & my brethren the Aldermen on the 4th day of Decemb^r next of yo^r pceeding herein Hereof faile not Given this 14th day of Novemb^r 1688

WAGSTAFFE

ROYALTY

Very precise were the Orders given by the Lord Mayor when Royalty entered the City as the following Copy of a document will show, viz.—

To the Master and Wardens
of the Comp^y of Embroyderers

By the Maior

Whereas by a former precept dated the first of October last you and the severall Livery Men of yo^r Comp^y were enjoyned to be ready prepared to receive his Maj^{tie} upon his returne if he should be pleased to pass through this his City upon further notice to be given you And it being now signified

by me and my Brethren the Ald^rmen that his Maj^{tie} (thanks be to God) is safely arrived in this Kingdom And that he intends on Tuesday the sixteenth day of this Instant November to honour this City with his presence in his passage to Whitehall and will be in the City by Ten of the clock.

These are therefore to require you that you and all the Livery of yo^r Comp^y be on the said sixteenth day of November at Nine of the Clock in the morning in yo^r Stands well apparrelled and with all the Ornaments of yo^r Comp^y before you pressuant to the direction of the said former precept to remaine there till his Majestie and his retinue shall pass by And hereof you are not to faile as you tender the honour of this City

Dated this 15^t day of November 1697

GOODFELLOW

DEFENCE OF THE KING (WILLIAM the Third)

There are events in the history of our country which would never have become public property had they not been unexpectedly brought to light whilst searching old records in other matters. The following is one of these instances and redounds greatly to the credit of the Borderers for their loyalty.

Subscripcions of Liverymen and other Members of the Company of Broderers London

Whereas there has been a horrid & Detestable Conspiracy formed & carried on by papists & other wicked & traitorous persons for assassinating his Majesties most Royall pson in order to Incourage an Invasion from ffrance to subvert our Religion Lawes & Libertyes. Wee whose names are hereunto subscribed doe heartily sincerely & solemnly

professe testifye & Declare that his present Majesty King William is rightfull & Lawfull King of these Realme And wee doe mutually promise & engage to stand by and assist each other to the utmost of our power in the Support and Defence of his Majties most sacred pson & Government against the late King James & all his adherents And in case his Majesty come to any violent or untimely death (which God forbid) Wee doe hereby further freely & unanimously oblidge ourselves to unite Associate & Stand by each other in Revengeing the same upon his enemies & their Adherents & in Supporting & Defending the Succession of the Crowne according to an Act made in the fifth year of the reigne of King William Queene Mary Intituled An Act Declareing the Rights and Libertyes of the Subject and Settling the Succession of the Crowne

Assistants Livery and other Members

*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*

The two following orders by the Lord Mayor notify that the City Companies were never backward in giving thanks for mercies vouchsafed to the Nation at large.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

for Victories in Brabant and Catalonia

(Stand to be erected)

To the Master and Wardens	}	By the Mayor
of ye Company of Embroiderers		

Whereas it hath bin signified to me and my Brethren ye Aldmen that her Majty intends to come to St. Pauls Church on Thursday ye 27th of this Instant June being ye day appointed by her Majestyes

Royall proclamacon Dated the 21st of May last past for a publick Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the late signall victory obtained by her Majestyes forces & those of her Allies over the ffrench Army in Brabant And for y^e great successes of her Majestyes Arms & those of her Allyes in Catalonia & other parts of Spain To the Intent therefore that her Majesty may be recid by us & our fellow Citizens with such joy and affeccion as is suitable to our Duty upon so solemn an occasion These are to require you to have your usuall ornam^{ts} of Tryumph belonging to your company in good order And that you and y^e Livery of your Company be and appear on the same day at 8 of y^e clock in y^e morning in your stands to be appointed you in your best Gownes and apparell with your said ornaments & musick before you & remaine therein till her Maj^{ty} returne from y^e said Church And you are to send your Beadle or Carpenter to meet y^e Clerke of y^e Cityes works at Guildhall on Monday next at 8 of the clock in y^e fore noon who is appointed to sett your ground where and how your stand may most conveniently be erected. Hereof faile not

Dated this 19^t day of June, 1706

GIBSON

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

for raising the Seige and Victory at Audenarde.

(Stand to be erected)

By the Mayor.

To y^e Master &
Wardens of y^e
Company of
Embroiderers

Whereas it hath been signified to me & my Brethren the Alderen y^t her Ma^{ty} intends to come to

St. Paul's Church on Thursday y^e 19^t August next being y^e day appointed for a public Thanksgiving by her Ma^{ty}s Royal Proclamacon dated y^e 18th of July Instant

To the intent therefore y^t her Ma^{ty} may be reced by us your fellow Citizens wth such joy & affecon as is suitable to our Duty upon so solemn an occasion These are to require y^e to have yo^r usual ornaments of Triumph belonging to yo^r Company in good order and that y^e & the Livery of yo^r Company be & appear on y^e same day at Eight of y^e clock in y^e morning in yo^r stands to be appointed y^e in yo^r best Gowns and apparrel with yo^r sd ornaments & Musick before y^e and remain there till Her Ma^{ty} returnes from ye s^d Church And y^e are to send yo^r Beadle or Carpenter to meet y^e Clerk of Citty Works at Guildhall Munday y^e 16 day of Aug^t af^d at 8 of y^e clock in the forenoon who is appointed to set out y^e ground where & how yo^r stand may most conveniently be erected Dated 20^t day of July 1708

GIBSON

GUTTER LANE PROPERTY

THE HALL

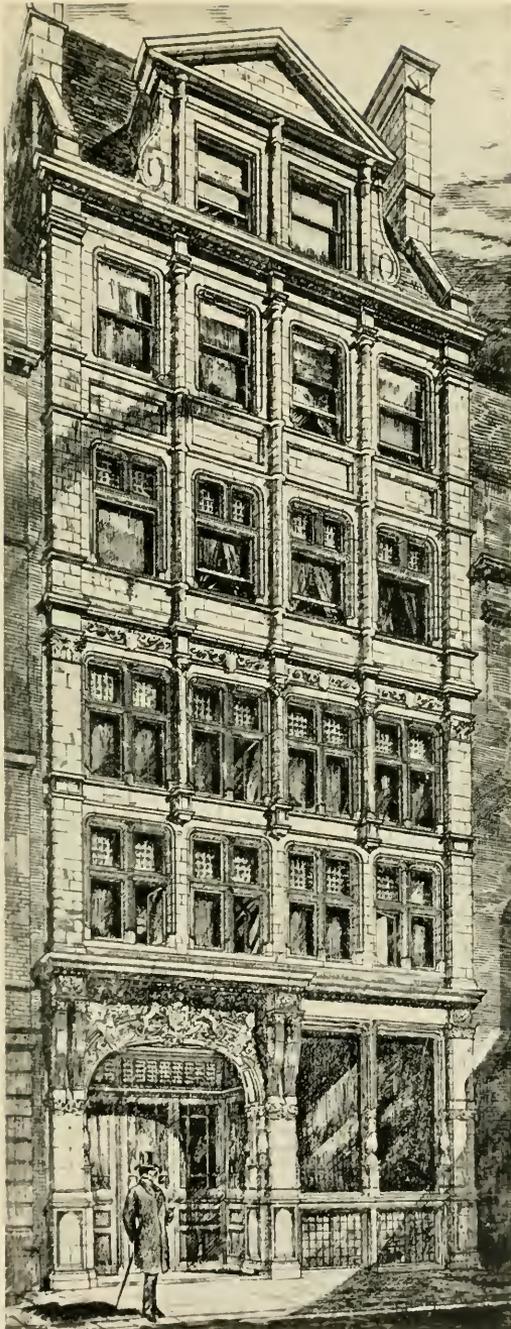
MANY persons might think because the Broderers give their banquets at the Metropole Hotel and elsewhere that they have no Hall; this is certainly not the fact, as is evidenced to any one going down Gutter Lane from Cheapside and looking to the left, at No. 36, where would be seen a very handsome stone building (see Plate II) with a most imposing entrance surmounted by the Arms of the Company. This is Broderers' Hall.

I will now state how this property came into the Company's possession. Under date of 23rd March, 6 Henry VIII, An original Indenture between Thomas Foster, Citizen and Broderer, and John Sampson, Citizen and Carpenter. The said Sampson agrees to build a sufficient house in Gutter Lane, according to a plan, containing in length 35 feet, and in breadth 25 feet, and of the description herein fully set forth; and the said Foster agrees to pay the sum of £50 for the same. This Thomas Foster, broderer (being seized of the premises) by deed poll (which seems to have been a deed of gift without pecuniary consideration) dated 20th Jan., 19 Henry VIII, conveyed the same to Stephen Humble, his heirs and assigns, to the use of Thomas Foster for life, and after his decease to the use of Alice Scawesby for life. The said Thomas Foster, by will dated 6th Feb., 19 Henry VIII, willed that immediately after his decease his feoffees should permit Alice Scawesby to enjoy the premises for life, and after her decease that the same should remain to Stephen Humble, his heirs and assigns, and he further willed that by the oversight of the wardens of the Broderers' Company, the premises should be

charged with 13s. 4*d.* (to be bestowed as therein mentioned) when the said premises should come to the disposition of the said Stephen Humble, broderer, his heirs or assigns.

By a conveyance for no pecuniary consideration dated 27th April, 26 Henry VIII, Stephen Humble conveyed the premises to Pickard, Tiplady, Young, Ibgrave, Master, Bradley, Ibgrave, Harrison, Corbett and Anstey, citizens and broderers, their heirs and assigns.

By a conveyance dated 10th Sept., 5 Edward VI, Pickard, Ibgrave, and Ibgrave, citizens and broderers, conveyed to Redyng and Nevill, citizens and broderers, the said premises (which the said grantors had with the other parties named in the last deed as grantees, and who were since deceased). To hold to Redyng and Nevill on condition that they, within 4 days, should re-convey to the said Pickard, Ibgrave, and Ibgrave, and to Nurse, Lowth, Banstead, Hyndman, Ibgrave, Chest, Deacons, Watson, Fovey, Shaw, Mytton, Halberd, Ward, Golding, Cooper, Smyth, Povey, and Pickard junior, citizens and broderers, their heirs and assigns. By a conveyance dated the 11th Sept., 5 Edward VI, the said Redyng and Nevill, pursuant to the said condition, conveyed the premises to said Pickard and others, citizens and broderers, their heirs and assigns. By a lease dated the 12th Feb., 25 Elizabeth, made between David Smith and John Parr, keepers or wardens of the art or mystery of Broderers of the City of London, and the society of the same art or mystery of the one part, and Robert Connye of the other part, the premises were demised to Robert Connye for 21 years at the rent of 40*s.*; this lease contains, amongst others, a covenant not to assign or let without the license of the said wardens or their successors, and by endorsement thereon the lessee is not to erect any work to impair the lights belonging to Broderers' Hall. By a deed poll dated 26th July, 29 Elizabeth, without pecuniary consideration, Halbert and Golding conveyed to Shaw, Povey, and Povey, citizens and broderers, their



THE HALL.



heirs and assigns, a messuage called Imbroiderers' Hall and two cottages thereto belonging, situate in Gutter Lane. By the deed poll dated the 1st Aug., 29 Elizabeth, Shaw, Povey, and Povey, citizens and broderers, conveyed to Armitage and Ashby, citizens and broderers, the messuage called Imbroiderers' Hall and two cottages thereto belonging, lying together in Gutter Lane, which said messuage and two cottages, the said Shaw, Povey, and Povey, together with Halberd, Golding, and others then deceased, citizens and broderers, held to them, their heirs and assigns by the grant and confirmation of Reyding and Nevill, citizens and broderers, also deceased, dated 11th Sept., 5 Edward VI, To hold to Armitage and Ashby, their heirs and assigns for ever, on condition that they should within 6 days convey to said Povey and one Elledy, citizens and broderers, then keepers or wardens of the Society of the art or mystery of Imbroiderers of the City of London, and that they, said Povey and Elledy, then keepers or wardens, and the Society of the art or mystery of the Imbroiderers of the City of London, and their successors, keepers or wardens, and of the society of the art or mystery aforesaid, should continue and be and known to be by the name of Imbroiderers incorporate for ever; and to the intent that they, said Povey and Elledy, then keepers or wardens of the society of the art or mystery aforesaid and their successors, keepers or wardens of the society aforesaid, should yearly for ever give out of the said land 6*s.* 8*d.*, and 6*s.* 8*d.* given by the will of Thomas Foster. To hold to said Povey and Elledy and their successors, keepers or wardens, and of the said society to the intent aforesaid, and for the aid and sustentation of the poor men and women of the art or mystery for ever to the only proper use and behoof of said Povey and Elledy and their successors, keepers or wardens of the said society, so long as they and their successors should continue keepers or wardens of the said society.

By a deed poll dated 4th Aug., 1587, 29 Elizabeth, the

said Armitage and Ashby conveyed the said premises to said Povey and Elledy, then keepers or wardens, and of the said society aforesaid to the intent aforesaid, and for the aid and sustentation of the poor men and women of the society aforesaid for ever. To the use of said Povey and Elledy and their successors, keepers or wardens, and of the said society of the art or mystery aforesaid as long as they and their successors, keepers and wardens of the society should continue keepers or wardens, and of the society of the art or mystery of the Imbroiderers of the City of London incorporate.

By an indenture of the 5th Aug., 29 Elizabeth, the said Armitage and Ashby, citizens and broderers, conveyed said premises to Povey and Elledy, citizens and broderers, then keepers or wardens, and of the Society of Imbroiderers of the City of London, and of the said society, to hold to said Povey and Elledy and their successors, keepers or wardens, and of the said society, upon condition that so long as they, said Povey and Elledy, then keepers or wardens, &c., and their successors should continue keepers or wardens, &c.; and to this intent also that they should yearly for ever give out of the said premises the aforesaid 6s. 8d. and 6s. 8d. to the use of Povey and Elledy and their successors, keepers or wardens, &c., so long as they and their successors should continue and be and endure to be incorporate by the name of keepers or wardens and of the society of the art or mystery aforesaid for ever.

By indenture dated 3rd Oct., 43 Elizabeth, said Povey and one Ashby, heir of said Ashby, citizens and broderers, in pursuance of any trust and confidence reposed in them or the ancestors of either of them, and for divers good causes and considerations, conveyed to the keepers or wardens and the Society of Broderers and their successors a capital messuage or tenement called Broderers' Hall and two tenements adjoining thereto on the north part, situate

in Gutter Lane, to hold unto and to the use of said keepers or wardens and their successors for ever.

These buildings were destroyed in the Great Fire of London and others erected on their site, in pursuance of the covenants of a building lease granted 2nd March, 1670, 23 Charles II, viz. from the keepers or wardens and Society of the art or mystery of Imbroidery of the City of London to Thomas Kentish, citizen and carpenter. In consideration of £150 paid by Kentish as a fine and of the costs to be expended by him in new building a messuage or tenement on the ground thereafter demised according to the Act of Parliament for rebuilding the City of London. Of

All that piece or parcel of ground being parcel of the Toft and ground of and belonging to the Hall buildings of the said keepers, &c., at the time of the late dreadful fire in 1666 situate and being on the west side of Gutter Lane, alias Goderone Lane, in the parish of S. Vedast, otherwise Fosters in Foster Lane, in London.

Which said piece or parcel of land thereby demised containing from North to South, on the front part against Gutter Lane, alias Goderone Lane, 25 feet, little more or less; and from North to South on the West, or back part thereof, abutting on other ground of the said Company where their Hall and parlour was intended to be built 25 feet, little more or less; and from East to West on the south part bounding on a house there, then or late in the occupation of John James Blacksmith 28 feet, little more or less, and from East to West on the north part abutting on a piece of ground theretofore in the occupation of John Puslin, 23 feet, little more or less. And also all that cellar and vault on the west part of the premises as the same was then inclosed and under the surface of the adjoining ground of the said Company, where the parlour aforesaid was intended to be built. And all the cellaridge

and vault within the dimensions of the ground thereby demised.

Reserving to the Company a free passage of 6 feet in width from North to South, clear between wall and wall, to be left in the first story above the vaults or cellars of the building of the house on the premises throughout the ground thereof thereby demised from East to West; on the south part thereof next the said house, in the occupation of John James Blacksmith, for so far as his house wall reacheth westward from the street, for an enclosed and entire passage to and from the Hall of the said Company at all times.

And also except the surface of the ground over the back cellar and vault whereon such parlour was to be erected.

From 25th December last (1669) for 90 years; at the rent of 20 shillings. Covenant by the tenant to erect a substantial house.

Attested by

JOSEPH LATHAM, *Clerk.*

THOMAS HUDSON.

JOHN PLATT, *Beadle.*

JEFFERY GIBSON, *Porter.*

I suppose our predecessors were a frugal race and turned an honest penny when they could, for whenever they had the chance of letting their Hall they did not neglect their opportunity; and were not at all particular about the occupation of their tenants who were of a heterogeneous lot. I will now extract a few of the Minutes bearing on this subject.

“1681, Oct. 10. Mr. Englefield, a dancing master, took the Hall for 3 days a week, when not wanted by the Company, at the rent of £14 per annum.”

“1687, Sept. 29. Agreement signed with Stephen

Caudry, dancing master, for the use of the Hall when the Company do not meet, at a rent of 50s. a quarter."

1687, Dec. 9. The Company of Fishermen proposed to use the Hall every Friday at £8 a year, and £1 to the Beadle."

1688, March 12. The Master reported that some persons called Presbyterians or Independents desired to take the Hall for 2 or 3 days a week. The Master authorized to treat with them, subject to the condition of His Majesty's late Declarations, during His Majesty's pleasure."

"1692, Sept. 6. Mr. Pollard the Porter of the Company sought a residence in the Hall, as stated under the heading 'Beadle and Porter.'"

"1702, Dec. 14. The use of the Hall to be granted to Mr. Lawson, the Minister, for a year, at £12 for every Friday afternoon, and Sunday morning and afternoon."

"1708, Nov. 25. Ordered that such part of the Hall as is usual, be let to a meeting for Sabbath days, and public days, of fasts, and thanksgivings by authority, at £12 per annum to the Company, and £2 per annum to the Beadle, for a year certain, and a quarter's warning from Christmas next, and that articles be prepared accordingly."

"1729, Feb. 27. Mrs. Elliott, who keeps a school, and Mr. South, the Dancing Master, attended this Committee, and desired to have the use of the Hall to teach children in their respective ways; and also to have use of the Committee Room for Balls and Publick nights, and to have a Chimney made in the Hall, and also desired to have the use of Mr. Dandy's apartments; and offered to give £20 per annum for the same;—And upon this, they were ordered to withdraw. And the matter being debated, and the question put; Whether the premises (except the Court Room) should

be let at £20, £25 or £30. It was carried at £25 per ann. One half whereof Mr. Dandy was ordered to have, and that Mrs. Elliott should pay £1 1s. to the poor box. It was further ordered that Mr. Dandy do employ the Carpenter and Bricklayer to take down the wainscott in the Hall and to see whether a Chimney can be made without prejudice to the Hall and what the same will cost."

People were not more complacent in former days in paying taxes than they are at the present time, as it is stated in a Minute of 22nd March, 1745, that "the Master complained of the high charge of the Poors rate on the Company's hall. And the Churchwardens of the parish attended with the books of the parish; and it appearing that the Company were charged for the present half year at the rate of 2s. 6d. p. week, whereas the former rate was 3s. 9d. per week, and after taking this affair into consideration, It was ordered that the Clerk of the Company do refuse to pay the present half years rate until he had applied to the parish officers and vestry for redress." At a subsequent meeting, on 24th June, 1745, "The Clerk reported that he had attended the Church Wardens and Overseers of the poors rate and that they assessed the Company for their hall at the sum of 2s. per week"; which was agreed to.

About this period there seems to have been a qualm of conscience in the minds of the Court, or it may have been that the terms were not sufficiently remunerative, for at a Court held 12th March, 1760, "It was resolved, *nem. con.*, that this company will not let the hall." This qualm, however, did not last very long, as I find by a Minute of 3rd April, 1766, or six years afterwards, that "a special Court was summoned to consider whether they should let the Company's hall. And it was ordered that the Clerk do advertise in the *Daily Advertiser*, 'To be let a roomy house, very near Cheapside, enquire of Mr. Sierra, in Staining lane, by Haberdashers hall.' And that the Clerk do ask the sum

of £50 per ann., clear of all taxes, and the tenant to take the same, on a repairing lease of 21 years."

This advertisement was evidently a partial success, for on the 24th June, 1766, "The Clerk informed the Court that an application had been made to him about taking the hall for a society of religious persons, to be used on Sundays and one other day in the week and that £25 per annum was offered for the rent."

By a Minute of 13th Dec., 1769, "It was stated that a Mr. Joseph Settree, near the Asylum of Lambeth attended the Court and offered to take the great room, called the hall, and Court room, at the rent of £16 per ann., to use the same only 3 days in the week to teach his scholars to dance, and he likewise proposed to embellish the same at his own expense, except repairing the deficiency in the wall, or chimney in the hall, which occasions the steam from the repairs incommoding the same. Ordered that Mr. Settree do occupy the said premises until a survey can be taken of the said deficiency."

This same gentleman also attended the Court held 24th June, 1772, and offered to take the great "room called the hall, and the court room, and the room over the court room from that day, and to use the same 3 days a week to teach dancing, and for keeping a day school, and for the mistress or governess to lodge, at the rent of £24 per ann., payable quarterly, to be tenant at will, to quit on 6 months notice. The Company to have the use of all the premises as often as they shall have occasion. Ordered that the above proposal be agreed to."

On the 25th May, 1774, the Clerk informed the Court that he had by the Master's direction let the use of the Company's kitchen to Messrs. Hodgson and Donaldson, china merchants in Cheapside, at the rent of £15 per annum, and this Court doth approve thereof.

In the year 1782 the Gutter Lane property became sadly dilapidated, so much so, indeed, that on the 12th March

of that year a plan of the hall and premises was submitted to the Court, who ordered an estimate to be made for building two houses on the ground on which the hall then stood. But on 12th March, 1784, there was an agreement between the Company and John Birkenhead of Gutter Lane, jeweller, letting to him the use of the kitchen of the Hall at six guineas per annum, determinable on one month's notice. And calculations were submitted to the Court showing that for the three years 1782 to 1785 the costs of the Hall to the Company in repairs and taxes averaged £43 9s. per annum, and that the income was—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Smith				10	0	0
The Kitchen				6	6	0
Harrow Ale House	30	0	0			
Allowance	5	5	0	24	15	0
				<u>41</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>

On 9th Nov., 1786, an offer was made by a Mr. Perry to take the Hall and Public House, on a building lease, for seventy-two years, at a rental of £30, and build two houses in their place, but this offer appears not to have been accepted.

At this time the Company gave notice to a Mr. Rust to quit the Harrow Ale House which he held of them.

On 10th March, 1787, a letter was received from Mr. Little, the Company's Surveyor, stating that there was some difference of opinion with the Goldsmiths' Company concerning the boundary walls on the Gutter Lane property.

And on 26th March, 1787, Mr. Little sent in an estimate for taking down the Hall and the Harrow Ale House, and rebuilding the same agreeably to the plans approved by the Company for £2,200, exclusive of old materials.

On 12th March, 1799, "the Court took into consideration the propriety of purchasing, on redemption, the Land Tax charged on their several Estates, and Resolved only to purchase the land-tax charged on the Hall and Harrow

Ale House.” This was reconsidered at Court held 29th Sept., 1801, and again approved. But it was not until 24th May, 1803, that “the Clerk reported to the Court that the purchase of the Land Tax for Broderers’ Hall and the Harrow Ale House had been completed. And that the Estate was exonerated and freed from the Land Tax. The Register dated 28th March, 1803, signed William Ratcliffe the 28th March, 1803. The land tax for the other part of the Company’s Estates the Court did not think it proper to redeem.”

The contention between the Broderers’ and the Goldsmiths’ Companies respecting the party walls between their respective properties seems to have reached a climax in 1800, when there was delivered a brief to Counsel on an appeal to the sessions against the certificates of surveyors condemning the party wall between the Hall and the ground adjoining, lately let by the Goldsmiths’ Company to Mr. Moffatt on a building lease. The Broderers’ Company denying that they are party walls, but belong altogether to the Broderers’ Company.

On 4th October, 1800, there was a letter from the Clerk of the Goldsmiths’ Company stating that their property, and that of the Broderers, were inconveniently intermixed, and it was desirable there should be an adjustment.

Nor was this difference of opinion with the Goldsmiths’ Company the only thing that troubled the Broderers, as the following Minute will show, viz.—

13th Dec., 1800. “The Clerk informed the Court that from the ruinous state of the Hall it had been necessary to provide an habitation for the Beadle and for the preservation of the Company’s effects, and that a small house for that purpose was taken in Silver Street (No. 8), for one year certain from Christmas 1800 at £16 16s. per annum. Which the Court approved.”

30th March, 1801. “The Court was summoned to consider the propriety of selling the materials of the Hall by

public auction; and the question being put it was carried in the affirmative."

On the same day "Mr. Byfield the Company's Surveyor stated to the Court that he had met the Surveyor for the Goldsmiths' Company, and had agreed upon Terms respecting the back building abutting upon the Goldsmiths' Company's ground on the West and produced a plan of the situation of the intended new wall; and the question being put whether the same be approved it was carried in the affirmative."

In this year there appears to have been an agreement between the Broderers' Company and the executors of Mr. Moffatt to arrange the dispute by partly pulling down a wall built by Mr. Moffatt and erecting a party wall in the position described; the Company giving up their ancient lights over the ground occupied by Mr. Moffatt under the Goldsmiths' Company.

In a Minute of 14th May, 1801, there was this curious entry: "The Court in consideration of their Hall being pulled down declined the formal procession of proceeding to Church on Whit-Monday next."

On 21st June, 1801, "The Clerk laid before the Court the Auction account of the Sale of the Materials of the Hall, on which, after deducting the charges, there remained a balance due to the Company of £96 5s. 6d."

In October 1801 the Company advertised in seven newspapers their ground in Gutter Lane on building leases by tender.

And between the above date and two subsequent years nine plans were submitted by Mr. G. Byfield for building on the Company's ground in Gutter Lane, viz.—

1. Showing a proposed party wall between the Company's property and the Goldsmiths'.
2. Showing the elevation of the South wall of part of the Hall and the windows therein.

3. A rough plan of the Ground plot of the whole property.

4. A finished ground plan showing Mr. Butler's house to the front of Gutter Lane with a passage to the Hall on the South side thereof, and in the rear the proposed Beadle's Office, area, Court room, entrance and staircase. The dimensions of the entire plot on this plan correspond with the dimensions of the whole property as demised by two separate leases to Mr. Butler in 1801 and 1815.

5. Finished plan containing on one pair floor Hall and Watercloset, on the 2nd floor a bedroom and Closet (and which correspond in space with the proposed Court room entrance and staircase only on the ground floor) and Basement containing Kitchen and Cellars corresponding with the above, and also the proposed beadle's office and area.

6. Elevation of Mr. Butler's house.

7. „ „ the (proposed) Hall.

8. „ „ the Entrance to the Hall in Gutter Lane.

9. Plan of the ground behind Mr. Butler's house, belonging to the Company.

There was also a specification of the works to be performed in building a hall, estimated to cost £1,500.

On 9th Nov., 1801, A Lease was granted by the Company to the said William Butler of all that piece or parcel of land or ground on which part of their Hall, and the Harrow Ale House in the front lately stood, situate on the west side of Gutter Lane &c. Together with the new erected built messuage or tenement building, and premises lately erected and built thereon abutting in front towards the East for the space of 20 feet and 1 inch on Gutter Lane; towards the North for the space of 47 feet and 9 inches on premises belonging to Sir Charles Morgan and others, in the

occupation of Mr. Samuel Stafford Hobson; towards the West end or rear, for the space of 18 feet and 7 inches, on other ground belonging to the Company on which the Hall of the said Company lately stood, but then vacant, and South, for the space of 50 feet on the floor level with Gutter Lane in part on a certain enclosed passage of and belonging to the said Company, leading from Gutter Lane to their said vacant Ground; and as to the residue upon the said vacant ground, or some part thereof, and extending over the said passage by all the remaining height of the said Messuage or Tenement 5 feet 9 inches, further Southward unto and abutting upon premises belonging to the Goldsmiths' Company and then in the occupation of Mrs. Moffatt, or her under-tenants, with the liberty of using the said enclosed passage for the more convenient entrance to the said Messuage thereby demised, but not to make any further use thereof, the possession and property of the said passage being vested in the said Company.

From 25th March, 1802, for 61 years; bond being given by the said William Butler to the Company in £2000 for performance of the covenants contained in the said lease.

I may here mention that on 14th Dec., 1801, "The Court took into consideration the Bye-law restricting the letting their premises for only the term of 21 years, and as no person could be found who would build for so short a term, and it being for the benefit of the Company that the term should be extended;—Resolved that the Company do approve of the Wardens extending the term to 61 years and will Indemnify them for so doing."

On 29th Sept., 1803, it was "Ordered that John Burge's bill for removing the rubbish from the Company's ground in Gutter Lane amounting to £65 be paid, the same having been signed by Mr. Byfield, the Company's Surveyor."

In July 1804 a letter was received from Mr. Byfield

stating that he had surveyed the walls enclosing the vacant ground at the back of Mr. Butler's house in Gutter Lane, and reported that they were not in immediate danger.

On 30th Aug., 1809, there was a lease (prepared by the Clerk of the Company) by the said William Butler to William Morley of Mitre Court, Cheapside, warehouseman, with the license of the Company: Of all the premises demised to Butler by the said lease of 9th Nov., 1801. From Midsummer last, for 21 years, subject to the covenants therein contained.

On 9th Nov., 1815, there was granted a lease: From the Company to the said William Butler, then of York Place, City Road, builder. In consideration of the costs of erecting and finishing the warehouse and premises thereafter demised—

All that piece or parcel of Ground, on which part of their Hall lately stood, situate lying and being on the West side of Gutter Lane &c. and being in the rear of certain other premises theretofore demised by the Company to the said William Butler and then in the occupation of the said William Butler or his under-tenants, together with the new erected brick and timber Warehouse building and premises lately erected and built thereon. Together with free complete and entire right to and use of the enclosed passage or entrance leading from Gutter Lane to the said thereby demised piece or parcel of land or ground, warehouse, building, and premises only excepted and reserving thereout the use of the said enclosed passage for the more convenient entrance to the said other premises theretofore demised by the Company to the said William Butler.

From the 25th March, then past, for 48 years, subject to the covenants therein contained.

On 4th March, 1816. Attested Copy Indenture of Lease (prepared by the Clerk of the Company) by Ann Butler of

York Place, City Road, Widow of the said William Butler, Frederick Butler of Little Chelsea, Middlesex, Builder, and Samuel Paynter of Coleman Street, Surveyor, the Executrix and Executors of William Butler, deceased;— to the said William Morley, then of Gutter Lane (by License from the Company) of

All that piece or parcel of land or ground on which the Hall belonging to the said Company, and the Harrow Ale House, formerly stood situate and being on the West side of Gutter Lane &c. Together with the Brick Messuage or Tenement, Warehouse, Building, and premises lately erected and built thereon; abutting in front towards the East for the space of 25 feet and 10 inches on Gutter Lane aforesaid; towards the north for the space of 85 feet 4 inches on premises then or late belonging to the said Sir Charles Morgan, formerly in the occupation of John James; and then or late of Mr. Addington towards the west or rear for the space of 31 feet 6 inches, and South for the space of 89 feet 9 inches, on premises belonging to the Goldsmiths, then or late in the occupation of William Lane.

From Christmas day last for 14½ years.

14th May, 1829. Attested Copy Indenture of Lease (which appears not to have been prepared by Mr. Gibbard but by Messrs. Wilks & Co. of Finsbury Place) By the said Ann Butler, Frederick Butler, and Samuel Paynter, to William Morley and James Morley, of Gutter Lane, Warehousemen Co-partners (with the License of the Company) Of

All that piece or parcel of land or ground on which the Hall belonging to the said Company, and the Harrow Alehouse formerly stood, situate on the West side of Gutter Lane aforesaid, together with the Brick Messuage, or Tenement, Warehouse, buildings and premises erected and built thereon; abutting in

front towards the East for the space of 25 feet and 10 inches on Gutter Lane aforesaid as the said premises were then held, by the said William Morley by an Indenture of Lease, being the last abstracted Indenture.

To hold from the 24th June, 1830, when the existing Lease would expire, for 21 years, and subject to the Covenants therein contained and amongst others: Not to assign, or let, or part with the Lease or premises, or the term, or any part thereof, without the license of the said Ann Butler, Frederick Butler, and Samuel Paynter, and to deliver to them a true and attested Copy of every alienation, and that all leases, writings, and agreements, concerning the premises, or for assigning, leasing, conveying or otherwise disposing thereof during the term shall be drawn, written, and executed by the Clerk of the Company for the time being according to the antient custom, he taking reasonable fees for so doing.

These two last are subleases from the Company's tenant to Messrs. Morley.

1863, June 17. "Lease from the Company to William Morley and Robert George Morley for 21 years, from the Feast Day of Blessed Virgin Mary 1863."

1868, Feb. 24. "Lease from the Company to William Morley and Robert George Morley for 21 years, from the Feast Day of the Nativity of our Lord Christ 1867."

Extract from existing Lease of the Property

This Indenture made the 30th day of Sept., 1889. Between the Keepers and Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of Broderers of the City of London (here-

containing on the East side thereof next the said premises now or lately in the occupation of the said Le Gros Thompson and Co. 3 feet 2 in.; then again running from East to West and containing on the North side thereof next the same premises 3 feet 6 in.; and containing at the rear from South to North on the West side thereof next premises belonging to the Goldsmiths' Company and now in the occupation of the Tenants 31 feet 4 in.; and containing from West to East on the South side thereof next premises now belonging to the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths 20 feet 10 in.; and then running from South to North 5 feet; then again running from West to East and containing on the South side thereof 69 feet 7 in. And also All that brick and stone built messuage or dwelling house Warehouse Buildings & Premises on the said piece or parcel of land erected and built, which said premises are now in the tenure or occupation of the Tenants, and are with the dimensions thereof, be the same little more or less, and the abuttals and boundaries thereof, more particularly delineated and described in the plan thereof drawn above. To hold unto the Tenants from Christmas day 1888 for the term of 60 years from thence next ensuing.

Of the two charges on this property spoken of previously. The annuity of 6s. 8d. in coal in the winter season for the poor of S. Vedast. This sum was regularly paid to the Churchwardens of S. Vedast, Foster Lane, for distribution among the poor of that parish, until the year 1892, when, by an order of 5th Aug. of that year, the Company redeemed this charity sum by purchasing £13 6s. 8d. two and three-quarter per cent. Consolidated Stock in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

With reference to the second 6s. 8d. destined for the marriages of poor maidens, this sum appears never to have been paid by the Broderers because no applications have ever been received and there have been no poor of their own body entitled to receive it. Doubtless the smallness

of the amount had a good deal to do with it, but the Company redeemed this sum also by purchasing £13 15s. two and three-quarter per Cents in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

I will now wind up my little statement of the Hall by giving a copy translated from the Latin, of the oldest document in the Company's possession of the property; also extracts from *The Builder* of 12th March, 1892.

To all the faithful in Christ who shall see or hear this present writing Thomas de Goderone poulterer Greeting in the Lord. Know ye that I have granted released and for me and my heirs altogether quit claimed to William de Herlake saddler of London and Agnes his wife and to their heirs and assigns for ever that mark of yearly rent which I ought to receive of the hands of the said William and Agnes and their heirs and assigns out of all that tenement with the appurtenances in Goders Lane London which said tenement is between a tenement formerly of Adam the goldbeater on the south and a tenement of Idonea de Cantebrigge on the north and the king's highway on the east and a tenement of the said Idonea on the west. So that neither I the aforesaid Thomas nor my heirs nor anyone in our name shall have any right or claim henceforth in the aforesaid mark of yearly rent nor in the aforesaid tenement by reason of the said rent. And for this grant and release and quit claim the aforesaid William and Agnes have given to me in hand ten marks sterling. And that this my grant release and quit claim may be secure for ever I have to this present writing set my seal. These being witnesses Sir John Le Bretoun then Warden of the City of London Martin de Aumbresbyre and Robert de Rokesle then Sheriffs of London Nicholas de Farne-donne then Alderman of the Ward Raymond de Burdeus Geoffrey de Parys John de Westlee Robert de Asshyndone Maurice de Herlawe saddlers John de Hamelee William de Blith John de Stokewell painters Thomas de Frowyk

and others. Given at London Sunday after the feast of Saint Martin (15th November) in the twenty-first year of the reign of King Edward the son of King Henry (1293).

THE HALL OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BRODERERS

“The original building of the Broderers’ Company dates back to the tenth century, when it formed part of a monastery; and during the excavations in forming the basement traces of Roman work were found, also pottery and glass of that period, whilst several loads of human bones were removed.”

“The front of the building is of Portland stone, and, with the exception of the ground floor storey, has been kept plain on account of the narrowness of the street and the height of the building. The lower portion, however, forming the entrance, has been enriched with the arms of the Company, and also of the Master and Wardens. The lobby is richly treated with Roman mosaic and a moulded frieze with figures representing the ancient art or mystery of embroidery. In the upper part of the building is a large dining-hall capable of accommodating 100 persons, and the necessary offices in connexion therewith. Inasmuch as the Company have now but little use for a hall, the premises have been erected to suit the requirements of Messrs. Morley, the well-known Manchester warehousemen.”

“The Hall was rebuilt from the designs and under the superintendence of the architect of the Company, Mr. H. Huntly-Gordon. The contractor was Mr. D. Charteris, of Westminster. The carving, and also the plaster frieze, were excellently carried out by Mr. Gilbert Seale, and the mosaic by Messrs. Simpson, of S. Martin’s Lane.”

The drawing of the Hall was exhibited in the Royal Academy of 1890.

IRISH ESTATES

AT the commencement of the seventeenth century, in the latter end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, O'Neill, Earl of Tir-Owen, with several other Roman Catholics of eminence in the province of Ulster, rebelled against the Crown of England, but were finally subdued, and attainted of high treason, and their princely possessions, consisting of six counties, were, in the succeeding reign, vested in the Crown by Act of Parliament, as forfeited property.

As this part of Ireland was notorious for having always afforded shelter to rebellious subjects, King James I, when he came to the throne, determined, in order to support his power, to make use of the reformed religion as a means of establishing a settlement on the forfeited lands, composed of such English and Scottish Protestants as he could induce to settle amongst a people so turbulent as the natives of this part of the country then were; and, with a view to the formation of such an establishment, applied to the City of London, and offered to grant the citizens a great part of the forfeited estates, as an inducement for them to undertake the proposed plan of settlement. The citizens, accordingly, undertook the plantation; and King James, on the 29th March, 1613, granted them a charter for carrying the same into effect; and although they encountered great difficulty, by reason of the enormous expense which attended the measure, and the opposition they met with, yet they finally succeeded in accomplishing the intended object.

By this charter the Irish Society were incorporated, and they acted under it till the following reign of Charles I, when it was revoked, and declared void by a

sentence in the Court of Star Chamber; but in the reign of King Charles II, on the 10th April, 1662, a fresh charter was granted, which confirmed the previous charter of King James I, and restored the Society to their rights; and under this latter grant the Society continued to act as a corporation.

Londonderry greatly distinguished itself on two occasions, viz. in the year 1641, when it was held by the English and Scots in the King's name, and again eight years afterwards, when it was held for the Parliament by Sir Charles Coote and the celebrated General Monk, who obliged the lord of Ardes to raise the siege.

The Crown invested the Society with the most ample authority to enforce their own regulations for the general objects of the plantation; and notwithstanding the division of the estates amongst the twelve chief companies, such estates were considered to be under the paramount jurisdiction of the Irish Society, and liable to contributions, if necessary, in common with the indivisible estates in the Society's hands, towards the general expense of maintaining public works and edifices, supporting the civil government of the city of Derry and town of Coleraine, repairing Protestant churches and chapels, establishing schools throughout the whole plantation, and, generally, for the execution of such measures as tend to promote and improve the civil and religious interests of the tenantry.

After the publication of the conditions of plantation, His Majesty, conceiving the City of London to be the ablest body to undertake so important a work, directed the Earl of Salisbury to write a letter to Sir Clement Edmonds, the City Remembrancer, desiring him to acquaint the Lord Mayor (Humphrey Weld) that the Earl wished a conference should be had with him on the subject. Accordingly, on or about the 30th July, 1609, the Lord Mayor sent to Sir John Jolles and Sir William Cockaine, who were well acquainted with Irish affairs, and thereupon a meeting was

appointed to be held at Sir John Jolles's house, where the propositions, made by His Majesty to the City, were considered.

The Society on the 29th March, 1613, as I have stated, was incorporated by Charter, wherein the Irish Society were styled "The Society of the Governor and Assistants of London, of the New Plantation in Ulster within the Realm of Ireland"; and on the 28th June following a charter was granted to the town of Coleraine.

The assessment originally made upon the twelve companies of London towards the plantation in Ireland was £40,000. The said sum being divided into twelve parts gave for each £3,333 6s. 8d.

The lands in Ireland being allotted into twelve parts, it was considered most fitting that the same should be divided under the names of the twelve companies, and divers of them to have inferior companies joined unto them in the following manner—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Mercers	2,680	0	0	Goldsmiths	2,999	0	0
Innholders	200	0	0	Cordwainers	250	0	0
Cooks	200	0	0	Painter Stainers	44	0	0
Embroiderers	153	0	0	Armourers	40	0	0
Masons	100	0	0				
					<u>£3,333</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>£3,333</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>				
Grocers (in part)	£3,333	6	8	Skinners	1,963	0	0
				Stationers	520	0	0
Drapers	3,072	0	0	White Bakers	480	0	0
Tallow Chandlers	260	0	0	Girdlers	370	0	0
					<u>£3,333</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>£3,332</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>				
				Merchant Tailors (in part)	£3,333	6	8
Fishmongers	2,260	0	0				
Leathersellers	950	0	0	Haberdashers	3,124	0	0
Plasterers	40	0	0	Wax Chandlers	80	0	0
Glaziers	32	0	0	Turners	68	0	0
Basket Makers	32	0	0	Founders	60	0	0
Musicians	20	0	0				
					<u>£3,332</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>£3,334</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>				

IRISH ESTATES

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	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Salters	1,954	0	0	Clothworkers	2,260	0	0
Dyers	580	0	0	Overplus from Mer-			
Saddlers	390	0	0	chant Tailors	752	13	4
Cutlers	225	0	0	Butchers	150	0	0
Joiners	164	0	0	Brown Bakers	90	0	0
Woolmen	20	0	0	Upholders	44	0	0
	<u>£3,333</u>	0	0	Bowyers	20	0	0
				Fletchers	20	0	0
Ironmongers	1,514	0	0		<u>£3,336</u>	13	4
Brewers	500	0	0	Total	<u>£40,000</u>	0	0
Scriveners	370	0	0				
Coopers	280	0	0	The following Companies were to			
Pewterers	240	0	0	pay, viz.—			
Barber Surgeons	230	0	0	The Mercers	0	6	8
Carpenters	200	0	0	„ Drapers	1	6	8
	<u>£3,334</u>	0	0	„ Goldsmiths	0	6	8
Vintners	2,080	0	0	„ Skinners	0	6	8
Overplus from				„ Haberdashers	1	6	8
Grocers	540	13	4	„ Salters	0	6	8
Woodmongers	200	0	0	„ Vintners	0	13	4
Weavers	100	0	0		<u>£4</u>	13	4
Plumbers	80	0	0				
Poulterers	80	0	0	And the following to receive—			
Tilers and Bricklayers	80	0	0	The Fishmongers	0	13	4
Blacksmiths	64	0	0	„ Ironmongers	0	13	4
Fruiterers	64	0	0	„ Clothworkers	3	6	8
Curriers	44	0	0		<u>£4</u>	13	4
	<u>£3,332</u>	13	4				

These particulars I have gathered from a book published in 1832, Intituled, *A concise view of the origin, constitution and proceedings of the Hon. Society of the Governor and Assistants of London of the new plantation in Ulster, commonly called the Irish Society.*

There were no less than fifty-five of the Companies concerned in this Irish property under the respective heads of the twelve great City Companies, who had granted to them by the Crown a license to receive and hold in mortmain any possessions of the gift of the Irish Society.

I may here mention that the Inholders, one of the

group associated with the Mercers, appear never to have taken up their privilege, their portion being merged in that of the Mercers, the other four companies, viz. the Mercers, Cooks, Embroiderers and Masons have steadfastly held together and were called the Associated Companies.

Arrangements were made in London soon after the Society were put in possession of the estates, for raising and collecting the above sum of £40,000, to be raised by the City for the purposes of the plantation, and in building towns and fortifications, which was at length determined to be done according to the assessment of the corn rate made on the various companies of the city. This sum, however, was found to be insufficient, and other assessments were from time to time occasionally made, the whole of which eventually exceeded the sum of £60,000.

About this time the hereditary order of Knighthood, with the title of Baronet, was introduced. King James I devised this species of honour, which was purchasable, that from the sale of such titles to all those who chose thus to contribute, the charges of maintaining the English power in the remote province of Ulster might in part be defrayed, and hence it is that the coat of arms borne by baronets is the armorial ensign of Ulster.

It may be interesting to state the prices of provision in Ulster at that time: for a cow or bullock, 15s.; a sheep from 16*d.* to 2s.; a hog, 2s.; barley, 11*d.* a bushel; oats, 4*d.* a bushel; strong beer, 16s. a barrel, but this was considered dear.

On the 8th Sept., 1617, Conveyances were made by the Irish Society, appointing manors and granting demesnes with manorial rights and privileges, to the twelve Chief Companies.

The following are the twelve great companies: Mercers, Grocers, Drapers, Fishmongers, Goldsmiths, Skinners, Merchant Taylors, Haberdashers, Salters, Ironmongers, Vintners and Clothworkers, that formed the Irish Society, and who contributed in equal portions the sum of £60,000

for the new scheme by which it was intended to settle a Protestant colony on the lands forfeited by the Irish, which amounted in the aggregate to some 511,465 acres.

The companies divided the settlement into twelve nearly equal parts, assigning one to each, but the separate estates were always held to be under the paramount jurisdiction of the Irish Society.

To give some idea of the expenses entailed on the Associated Companies (Mercers, Cooks, Broderers and Masons) in the management of their portion of the Irish property I will give an extract from the Minutes of 13th Dec., 1833. "The Court then took into consideration certain resolutions of the Court of Assistants of the Mercers' Company passed at a Court of the said Company on 6 Nov., 1833; stating it to be the opinion of that Court that it was expedient to execute the works recommended by the late Deputation at as early a period as might be practicable with reference to the receipt of the annual income.

"That it would be necessary for 2 or 3 years to come to expend the major part, not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of the net produce of the estate, after deducting the permanent charges, in improving the property.

"That the concurrence in the foregoing opinions be requested of the other Companies interested in this estate.

"This Court thereupon adopted the said resolutions and concurred in the propriety and expedience thereof and directed that the Clerk should announce such their concurrence therein to the Mercers' Company."

The Mercers, Cooks, Broderers and Masons appear to have carried on their business transactions by faith, for the Broderers, and I think I can also speak for the Cooks and Masons, have not a document of any kind showing the advance made to the Mercers' Company; and if any deed ever existed it must have been consumed in the great fire of London; but in face of the want of this legal evidence I cannot find from the Minutes that there has been a single

serious hitch in all their joint transactions during the long period of three hundred years. It has been more like a happy family, the Mercers' Company being the father, and the Cooks, Broderers and Masons his obedient and trustful children; the latter receiving periodically their portion of the rents, asking no questions, which would be superfluous, knowing the integrity of their indulgent parent who took so deep an interest in their welfare.

The three minor companies indeed knew as little about their Irish Estates as the man in the moon, but with their paramount partner it was far different, for the Mercers took upon themselves the entire management of the property; they employed a trusty agent, with whom they had frequent communications, but were not satisfied with that, but made frequent visitations by some of the members of their Company to the property entrusted to their care; and so faithfully did they fulfil their duty that they turned a comparatively worthless estate into a profitable speculation; indeed the companies found Ulster a desert, and by their care and munificence have made it one of the most prosperous parts of the United Kingdom. I may here quote an extract from a Minute dated 30th Aug., 1694, showing the generous way in which the Associated Companies managed their business, which states that "In consideration of the present taxes and of the present discontinuance of the profits out of the lands and fisheries in Ireland, It was ordered, with the consent of the Renters, that they shall be dismissed the holding of the two next quarterly feasts." And to show the confidence the Broderers had in the Mercers' Company, I find that on the 29th Sept., 1749, "A letter from Mr. Crump, the Clerk of the Mercers' Company, was read, together with the Copy of Minutes of the Mercers' Committee appointed to manage the estates in Ireland, in which this Company has a proportion. And after taking the said letter and Minutes into consideration, It is ordered by this Court that the said Company of Mercers have power, and do sett and lett, the said estate upon such terms as

they shall think fitt, and for the most money they can gett for the same." And to show the wisdom of this decision I find, shortly afterwards (28th Sept., 1751), that "Mr. Post, the middle warden, informed the Court that in pursuance of the Company's order of 25 Sept., 1751, Mr. Hicks had received of the Mercers' Company a considerable sum and invested the same."

To mark the consideration shown to their poorer partners by the Mercers' Company, and as an evidence of the good done to the estate by being owned by such beneficent proprietors, I extract a Minute made 24th Feb., 1812, which states: "The Court was summoned to take into consideration an application made to the Company by the Worshipful Company of Mercers relating to the estates in Ireland; and the Clerk now laid before the Court such application, the object of which is to induce the Company to concur with the Mercers, and other Companies in such estates, in granting 2 acres of land in the township of Kilrea, in fee, for the purpose of building a free school thereon:—Pursuant to an application to that effect from the Rev. John Waddy, Rector of Kilrea, to Alexander Stewart, Esq., the Lessee. And also that the sum of £200 to be paid by this company, in case of concurring in such application, will amount to the sum of £9 6s. 6d. Now upon taking such proposal into consideration, and the advantages that may arise from such school, It is resolved and ordered accordingly that this Company do accede to the said application made by the Mercers' Company. And that the Clerk do inform the said Company thereof."

The only time that the Cooks, Masons and Broderers appear to have concerned themselves in the Mercers' Company's management is shown by a Minute of 29th Sept., 1831, when "The Clerk informed the Court that having a short time since received intelligence of the death of Mr. Steward, the last of the lives named in the lease granted by the Mercers' Company of the estates in Ireland, which

that Company held on behalf of themselves and of the Masons, Cooks, and this Company, he had had two interviews with the Clerks of the 3 'latter' companies, and that upon a conference they had deemed it advisable to wait upon the Court of Assistants of the Mercers' Company, to make enquiry as to the state of the property, and that they had accordingly attended a Court of that Company, and requested that they would not take any steps of moment respecting the said estates without communicating with and consulting the other companies interested therein as to the management thereof; and the Clerk of the said Company afterwards informed the Clerk of this Company by letter that the Mercers' Company had appointed a deputation of some members of their Court to proceed to Ireland to view the estates and report as to their state and condition."

On the 17th Dec., 1831, the following letter was received from Mr. James Barnes, the Clerk of the Mercers' Company, viz.—“Sir, I am directed to communicate to you for the information of the Worshipful Company of Broderers, that the Court of Assistants of the Mercers' Company in consequence of the decease of the late Mr. Alexander Stewart had thought fit to send over to Londonderry a deputation consisting of the Master, and two other members of the Court, to visit the estate and receive possession thereof, that those gentlemen had returned and made a report to the Court, a copy of which is herewith submitted.”

“The Court after taking into consideration the said report, and the general improvement which has taken place upon the estates belonging to other companies who have taken the management of them into their own hands, have come to the following resolution, viz.—

“That the Court, with the example before them of what the Drapers and other Companies have done with their estates in Ireland, consider that it will be most advantageous to the Mercers' Company, and the other companies

associated with them, and also the tenantry themselves, for the Company to take the management of their estate, late under lease to Mr. Stewart, into their own hands.

“That it will be necessary to appoint an agent at as early a period as convenient for the purpose of looking after the estate.

“That a Committee of the Mercers’ Company, consisting of the Master and Wardens, with Robert Sutton, George Palmer, and Lestock Peach Wilson, Esqs., be requested to prepare an outline of the duties to be required from, and the instructions to be given to, the Agent; as also a recommendation as to the remuneration proper to be allowed to him for his trouble.

“That the Court (Mercers) considering it absolutely necessary for the welfare of the tenantry upon the estate to make some provision for the payment of the arrears of rent due to the estate of the late Mr. Stewart, without leaving the executors their only alternative of levying distress upon every one, almost, of the tenantry within the short period which is allowed under the laws of Ireland, came to a resolution of purchasing from the executors the rents and arrears of rents to the date of Mr. Stewart’s decease. That no advance of money will be required from the Broderers’ Company on that account, the Mercers’ Company being willing to provide the necessary funds for carrying the arrangement into effect.”

The above letter was followed by a reply from Thos. Gibbard, the Clerk of the Broderers’ Company, which ran as follows—

“I am directed by the Master, Warden, and Court of Assistants of the Worshipful Company of Embroiderers to offer you their thanks for the report you have favoured them with of the proceedings of the Deputation sent by you to take possession of, and examine into, the circumstances and condition of the Estates in Ireland.

“The gentlemen to whom you delegated your authority

appear to have entered upon their task with zeal, and to have accomplished it with great ability.

“Judging from the report itself, much advantage cannot, it is apprehended, be immediately expected, but with skilful and prudent management the hope may be entertained that your worshipful company and the embroiderers, and other associated companies may in time derive a considerable increase of income from so very extensive a property.

“Much will depend upon the choice of a resident Agent, and the Master, Warden, and Court of Assistants of the Embroiderers' Company rely with perfect confidence upon your worshipful company for the exercise of great caution in governing your selection of the gentleman whom you may deem to be competent to fulfil the arduous, numerous, and complicated duties of that office.

“The Embroiderers' Company will hope to be favoured from time to time with further communications from your worshipful company of any circumstances that may be material in relation to the estates.”

The friendly and kindly feeling that permeated every transaction of the four associated Companies, coupled with the extreme confidence reposed by the three minor Companies in their senior partner, did not apparently find tangible expression till the year 1832, when the Master reported that an invitation had been sent by the Mercers' Company to himself, the Warden and the Clerk, to dine at Mercers' Hall; and it was not until exactly two years afterwards that a return invitation was sent to the Mercers' Company for the honour of their Master, Warden and Clerk's society at a Broderers' banquet. It has thus been the practice for many years past for the Mercers, Cooks, Broderers and Masons each to be the guest of the others in turn; so that four times a year they meet in happy conclave, enjoying each other's society, and giving mutual expression to the good-will and fellowship that have marked

all their proceedings during the whole time they have been in partnership.

To show the vigilance of the City Companies in guarding against insidious attacks on their Irish property, I may mention that on the 29th Sept., 1835, the Clerk laid before the Court an account he had received from the Irish society of a trial in Ireland respecting the Fisheries, in which the Society's lessee had obtained a verdict establishing the Society's right to such fisheries.

To substantiate what I have mentioned respecting the business transactions of the four Companies being kept up by faith, I make an extract from the Broderers' Minutes of 29th Sept., 1876. It ran thus: "The Clerk reported that he had made a careful search among the Company's records and title deeds, and could not find anything, original, or other documents, to show the position and rights of this company in the Estates in Ireland in which the company are interested, with the Mercers', Cooks' and Masons' Companies; but that in a Report dated the 9th May, 1650, made by a committee of the Court of Aldermen (and which is referred to in a book containing a report of the litigation between the worshipful Company of Skinners and the Irish Society, which book is in the City Library), it was found that the Corporation 'did convey the lands to the 12 Chief Companies of London to the use of themselves and the rest of the Companies of London, and that all or most of them had the deeds made by the said Corporation unto them in their custody uncanceled.'"

"Resolved. That the Clerk do write to the Clerks of the Cooks' and Masons' Companies, calling the attention of those companies to their position, and the position of this Company with reference to the Mercers' Company and the Irish Estates, and the rights of the associated companies therein."

And now I enter upon the final stage of the Associated Companies, when the happy compact, made 300 years ago,

draws to a close. I feel myself, however, restricted from entering into financial particulars respecting the Companies, in case, as I have said, this little book should fall into the hands of those for whom it was not intended.

On 27th July, 1908, there were assembled at Mercers' Hall the representatives of all the four Companies, to whom were communicated the gratifying intelligence that their Irish Estates, respecting the sale of which negotiations had been going on for some considerable time, had actually been sold, and that practically the whole of the purchase money and bonus had been received from the Irish Estates Commissioners; three-fourths of which sum was immediately distributed, *pro rata*, to each of the four Companies; and one-fourth being left in the Mercers' hands to provide for—

1. The adjustment of all outstanding matters with the Estates Commissioners.

2. The apportionment of Lough Neagh Drainage charges, and the provision of the necessary capital sum for securing the same.

3. The payment of gratuities to Captain Armstrong (the Agent), who had been in the Companies' service for thirteen years eight months, and now sixty-eight years old, and others.

4. The settlement of the claims for commission and costs of Messrs. B. H. Lane & Co., the Solicitors, who, in conjunction with the Agent, have carried through the sale.

That Messrs. Lane (the Associated Companies' Solicitors in Ireland) were instructed to prepare the necessary Trust Deeds for the conveyance of all the schools on the Estate, and to nominate for the approval of the Companies suitable trustees for the purpose. That contributions to the salaries to the school teachers be continued until their retirement. That retiring allowances be continued until the death of the recipients. That a conveyance be made for the transfer of the Kilrea Waterworks to the Coleraine District

Council, as a free gift for the benefit of the town of Kilrea. That annual contributions to Sovatragh Church be still paid. And that the necessary trust deed be made for the conveyance of the Court House, the Markets and House and Cow Fair Hills.

The trustees to be three in number, to be resident in Kilrea, and to be appointed by Messrs. B. H. Lane & Co. and the Agent in the first instance, subject to the approval of the Court.

Nothing seemed to escape the vigilant eye and careful thought of the Mercers' Company when winding up the estate. The stipends paid to the Sustentation Funds of five of the Churches and to seven of the clergy and members of various denominations were continued. A lump sum was granted to Captain Armstrong, the Agent, and various grants were made to subordinates. The schools cost the companies between £400 and £500 a year, and will continue to be a charge of some £250 a year for salaries and allowances. The waterworks were a charge of about £30 a year. Both schools and waterworks were presented as free gifts. A little annuity of £5 was continued. And the various disbursements of the Agent, which amounted to £51 13s. for small payments in the nature of periodical allowances to twenty-three persons, are continued during the lifetime of the recipients. Nothing or no one appears to have been forgotten by the Mercers' Company.

I may here mention that the Mercers' Company made a further and final payment to the Cooks, Broderers and Masons out of the one-fourth of the capital sum remaining in their hands for the gifts, allowances, &c., stated above, thus taking upon themselves the liabilities that in ordinary course would have been shared by the whole of the four Companies.

I have entered thus fully into the matter of the Irish Estate to show the magnanimity of the Mercers' Company in their dealings with their three little friends; and I end

my remarks by quoting the last elegant paragraph in their statement.

“I cannot conclude without expressing to you on behalf of the Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Mercers' Company their fervent hope that in the event of a complete settlement of accounts between us taking place, the traditional friendship of nearly three hundred years of the Associated Companies may in no wise be impaired; and I can assure you that, so far as the Mercers' Company are concerned, they will never cease to look upon The Cooks, The Broderers and The Masons as still associated with them in the ties of everlasting friendship.”

Just one word more on behalf of the Broderers' Company who have had such a good time during the past three hundred years in the agreeable companionship of the Mercers', Cooks' and Masons' Companies. They have done none of the work, but have reaped the abundant fruit of the Mercers' labours, yet have never been too bashful to receive their full proportion of the rents, asking no questions for conscience' sake. It has been, up to this time (now ended), a commercial interest, yet without one note of discord to disturb the universal harmony of their long-standing connection. From first to last there has been a trustful and implicit reliance in each other which has never been abused. Therefore I say—

“The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,
Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel”;

and I am sure that I am but putting in words the thoughts of every member of the Associated Companies when I write: May those “hoops of steel” never be loosened so long as the Mercers', Cooks', Masons' and Broderers' Companies continue to exist.

To mark the close of their long-standing connections the Mercers' Company gave to each of the three minor Companies a handsome silver cup (see Plate III), copies



THE MERCERS' COMPANY'S GIFT (*re* ASSOCIATED COMPANIES).

A plain wrought hammered silver Caudle Cup of antique design, reproduction of temp. Commonwealth, the shape somewhat of an inverted pear standing on rounded collet foot, having two heavy fixed ring handles. Engraved round the foot.

The Arms of the Mercers' Company on one side of the body, and the Arms of the Broderers' Company on the other side of the body.

of one that had been in their possession since 1616; which the Cooks', Mercers' and Broderers' Companies highly appreciated. One of these copies was handed round at a banquet given by the Masons' Company on 13th Jan., 1910, when 121 guests sat down to dinner at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, this being the first public display of the Mercers' generous gift.

The three minor Companies, not slow in following the generous example shown by, and as a mark of their respect and admiration of, their senior partner, presented, as a joint offering to the Mercers' Company, a silver-gilt cup. This was presented at a luncheon given by the last Company at their Hall on 15th April, 1910, as best explained in the following Minute—

MERCERS' HALL

The Court received the Masters, Wardens and Clerks of the Worshipful Companies of Cooks, Broderers and Masons. The following gentlemen attended—

Cooks' Company—

MR. BEAUMONT MORICE, *Master*.

MR. ALFRED BOSE, *Second Master*.

Broderers' Company—

MR. JOHN MANTELL, *Master*.

MR. CHARLES RADFORD FREEMAN, *Warden*.

MR. FREDERICK CLENCH, *Renter*.

MR. G. W. BARBER, *Clerk*.

Masons' Company—

SIR FREDERICK P. ALLISTON, *Master*.

MR. A. L. BLOW, *Upper Warden*.

MR. E. H. BAYLEY, *Renter Warden*.

MR. R. L. HUNTER, *Clerk*.

WALTER SCARBOROUGH, Esq. (Master of the Worshipful Company of Mercers) said: Gentlemen, you were good enough to send us an intimation that you desired an inter-

view with our Court, in order to communicate a matter of some importance, and we are accordingly very glad to welcome you here this morning and we await your pleasure.

BEAUMONT MORICE, Esq., LL.B., Recorder of Hythe (Master of the Worshipful Company of Cooks), then said : I come here with my colleagues of the two other associated Companies, the Broderers and Masons, for the purpose of expressing to you our desire to make a communication at a time which is unique in our experience, and on an occasion which marks a fitting close of the business relations we have had together for so long a period, and on behalf of the three Associated Companies I am desired to make this communication to you : I trust Sir Frederick Alliston will also say a few words. The origin and history of our association is not a matter to which I need refer before your distinguished body. You are aware of that association far better than I can express to you ; the fact, however, remains that that association, originated at a period most important in our national history, commenced under circumstances of a peculiar character, and continued on behalf of your Company and the other Associated Companies, has been carried on with the utmost cordiality accompanied by the greatest harmony. We feel that whatever vicissitudes, whatever storm and stress there may have been during that long period, nevertheless there has been under the guidance of your Company, as the predominant partner, a continuous and steady course of judicious management carried on with an amount of ability which has resulted in manifest advantage to all the parties concerned. We realize, too, that although during this long period there may have been those who, from lack of information as to the facts, may at times have misunderstood our actions, yet those who know best the true work of the Companies are those who realize that in the districts with which we have been connected, the name of the Mercers' Company has been the synonym for what was alike fair and honour-

able, and not merely just but even generous; while the people of that district will always remember your beneficent rule with respect and your withdrawal from among them with great regret. Sir, we feel to-day that on behalf of those Companies that have been in some small degree associated with you in this work, we are glad, and it is befitting that we should take this opportunity, which we also esteem, I assure you, a high privilege, of expressing to you, perhaps in a very small way, by offering to you the Cup, which you see before you, our gratitude for all the efforts you have made during this long period, and the kindness with which our relations have been continued. The time will come, in future years when we shall have passed away, when this Cup, treasured, as I believe it will be, as one of your most valued possessions, will be viewed by our successors as a permanent witness not only of a unique and honourable association in which our forefathers were as proud as we ourselves have been to take part, but also of a cordial feeling which will, we believe, endure in the future as it has endured in the past.

SIR FREDERICK P. ALLISTON (Master of the Worshipful Company of Masons) said: After the admirable manner, Sir, in which my friend, the Master of the Cooks' Company, has expressed the sentiments of the Associated Companies, there remains little for me to say, and yet, Sir, I am charged on behalf of my Company and the Court of the Masons' Company to express to you, Sir, and the Court of the Mercers' Company the great obligation we have long felt to your Company. You have naturally had the leading part in the management of the Ulster Estates, and we feel that it has always been carried on excellently well to our mutual advantage. So much for the past. Then, Sir, we are greatly indebted to you for the admirable way in which you have carried out the liquidation of the Estates. The interests of the four Companies as Landlords have been transferred from the Companies to the

tenants and the purchasers in the most businesslike manner without the least hitch and to the perfect satisfaction of all parties. I have also to acknowledge on behalf of my Company the very handsome silver cup which you presented to us some few weeks ago. The value of it was greatly enhanced by the very kind and gracious letter which you were good enough to send with it. You expressed the hope that although circumstances have put an end to the particular connection that extended over three centuries, yet still the association of friendship and goodwill of the Companies might be long continued. I am here to reciprocate those sentiments and to express our confident assurance that it will remain so for many years to come.

It is now the great privilege of the Cooks', Broderers' and Masons' Companies to ask you to accept this Loving Cup as a slight token that shall not only be a witness of what you have done for us in the past but shall remain a standing pledge of our united friendship for the future.

THE MASTER OF THE MERCERS' COMPANY then replied : I have the honour to accept on behalf of the Mercers' Company this magnificent cup, which we shall henceforth regard as one of our most cherished possessions. We shall prize it, not merely for its intrinsic value, which is great, nor for the exquisite beauty of its design, but as a tangible token of esteem from friends with whom we and our ancestors have been so happily associated during the past three centuries. It has been well said that "Gifts are the beads of memory's rosary." You have this day placed upon the rosary of remembrance of the Mercers' Company a bead that will always carry with it the most pleasing recollections not only for us, but for the generations yet to come. On behalf of the Mercers' Company I tender you our most cordial and grateful thanks for this most generous gift.

Upon the motion of Markland Barnard, Esq., seconded by the Right Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G.,



THE COOKS', BRODERERS' AND MASONS' JOINT GIFT TO THE MERCERS' COMPANY.

A richly water gilt standing Cup and Cover ornamented in the Renaissance style, the body being of upright form with bands of repoussé work, carrying four Elizabethan shields, the body being supported on a tall stem terminating on four bracket pieces of scroll acanthus work, the stem ornamented with festoons of fruit, &c. The tall cover also richly chased and ornamented with mounted scrolls.

The Arms of the Mercers' Company engraved on body of cup; and the Arms of the Cooks', Broderers', and Masons' Companies on the shields on base respectively.

it was resolved: That a record of the proceedings be placed upon the Company's Minutes.

At the luncheon which followed, the cup (see Plate IV) was used for the first time.

Thus ends this business connection of 300 years, but there rises from its ashes, like the Phœnix, a union far more lasting, for its foundation rests on the solid bases of affection and esteem.

STIFFORD ESTATE

BETWEEN the years 1574 and 1631 a Mr. Richard Gournay purchased, during that period, at different times and of different persons, several messuages and tenements, arable lands, meadows, woods, &c., situate at Stifford, together with the Advowson of Stifford; the land being about 400 acres (an overestimated quantity according to the statement below and to the Report of a Committee of Inspection presented at Court held 22nd June, 1835, which stated the average to be only 350).

At Mr. Gournay's decease his executors sold the whole of the property to the Broderers' Company, by deed dated the 25th May, 1631, being a conveyance in Fee from Dame Mary Gournay and others to Simon Yonge, Mark Howse, William Naylor, Peter Hind, Robert Burbage, Edmund Harrison, Matthew Benson, and Francis Lownes, Citizens and Broderers, of lands in the parishes of Stifford and West Thurrock, in Essex, and of the Advowson of the Rectory of Stifford in consideration of £2,200.

And a deed dated the 16th May, 1634, being a confirmation of the same property by the co-heiresses of Gournay to the before-named parties (except Yonge, who had died since the execution of the former conveyance) in consideration of £300.

Therefore the whole purchase money paid for the estate (stated in these deeds to have comprised 380 acres or thereabouts) was £2,500.

These conveyances are not directly to the Company, but to the seven persons before named, who were members

of it, and who, so far as appears by these conveyances, might have purchased on their own account.

Among other documents of the Broderers there are two ancient papers, which appear to bear, one the signature and the other the initials of Edmund Harrison, one of the grantees in the said deeds, and whose gift to the Company of a splendid cup so frequently occasions his memory to be commemorated; which papers lead to a moral certainty, that, at the time of the purchase of this estate, there was an understanding, and shortly afterwards an arrangement made, by which the Company were to be entitled, in some degree, to the beneficial interest in such purchase. These papers comprise lists of former deeds with instructions for new deeds, and they state—

That the premises were purchased to the use of Thomas Latham, Gentleman, in fee. It might be interesting here to give extracts from the monuments in Stifford Church relating to this individual, viz.—

Here vnder lyeth y^e bodyes of William Lathom gent late Lord of Stifford & Svsan his wife which sayd William was y^e sone of Thomas Lathom late of Northokenden Esq deceased who was y^e sone & heire of Rob Lathom deceased who married y^e daughter & heire of John Ardall deceased sometime Lord of Stifford & y^e sayd Will dyed y^e 6th day of Decemb An^o Dni 1622 & y^e sayd Svsan was y^e daughter of Symon Sampson of Carsey in y^e covntie of Svffolk Esquire deceased which y^e sayd Svsan dyed ye 26^t of Aug An^o Dni 1621

Here lyeth the Bodie of Elizabeth Lathom the wife of Thomas Lathom of Stifford Gent who dyed the 14^t day of Septem 1630 in the 37 yeare of her age.

Yet once againe behold and see
 The frayletie of this life in me
 And as 'twas sayd to me before
 Let friends and parents weepe no more
 So I may now the phrase retvrne
 Let children all forbear to movrne
 And let them all in love remaune
 And be prepar'd heaven to attayne

That the Company were to have the inheritance of the lands (except Lovelands) and make a lease to Thomas Latham, at a rent of £60 for 100 years, with a covenant, at the expiration of that term, to make a new lease for 50 or 100 years, at a fine of 20s. for every year; and the said papers expressly mention the Lovelands (part of the property so conveyed to Yonge and others) was not to be included in the conveyance to the Company.

This Thomas Latham was supposed to be the Clerk of the Company, and there must have been some prior dealings between him and the Company as the said papers refer to a general Release from him to the Company.

In accordance with these papers (by deed dated 7th Oct., 1635) Mark Howse and the others (except Yonge) conveyed to the Company the property so purchased by them, except Lovelands (which contained thirty acres), but by an evident mistake the property conveyed, notwithstanding such exception, is described as still containing the original quantity of 380 acres. This latter conveyance does not set forth any express pecuniary consideration, but states it to be as well for performance of a trust reposed in Mark Howse and the others, as in consideration of a competent sum of money paid to them by the Company.

By the deed next mentioned, the sum originally advanced by the Company was £1,450, but Lovelands having been excepted in the conveyance to them, it is reasonable to presume that an adequate deduction, or allow-

ance, was made to the Company by the party who took, or retained, these thirty acres.

In further accordance with the before-mentioned papers, and in completion of their object, the Company, by Indenture dated 20th Oct., 1635, demised to Thomas Latham all the property so conveyed to them, including the Advowson. Which lease more fully explained the original contract, for it recites that the property was conveyed to the Company by Mark Howse and the others, with the consent of Latham, and that £1,050, part of the £2,500 paid to the Gournays by Mark Howse and the others, were the moneys of Latham, and the residue (£1,450) the moneys of the Company.

This lease does not, however, completely accord with the papers above referred to, the term granted being 100 years, renewable for ever, instead of being made renewable for 50 or 100 years only; but, on the other hand, the rent, instead of £60, as in the said papers indicated, is increased to £80 per annum, as an equivalent, it is presumed, for such extension of the tenant's interest.

It was found from some cases which had been subsequently submitted to Counsel by the then Court of Assistants, that it had been considered that the original lease was most improvidently, if not corruptly, granted. It is therefore important to consider whether there were any grounds for such an aspersion on the memory of the persons under whose sanction and authority such lease had been granted.

It is extremely difficult to ascertain what might have been a proper or an adequate rent for the estate in 1635; but there is a certain criterion to refer to, viz. the Interest of Money, which will enable one to form a judgment, with tolerable precision, if not with perfect accuracy.

Smith, in his *Wealth of Nations*, observes that the ordinary market price of land depends everywhere upon the ordinary market value of interest, and that when interest

was at ten per cent. land commonly sold at ten to twelve years' purchase. As interest sunk to six, five and four per cent., the price of land rose to twenty, twenty-five and thirty years' purchase. From the same work it appears that the legal rate of interest in 21 James I was eight per cent., and that shortly after the Restoration it was reduced to six per cent.

It may therefore reasonably be calculated that six per cent. was a fair remuneration for money in the shape of rent in 1635, the time at which the lease in question was granted. Now if the Company had paid the whole of the before-mentioned sum of £1,450, interest upon that amount, at the rate of six per cent., would have been £87, but the odd £7 was probably a deduction from that amount as the proportionate value of Lovelands (the thirty acres excepted as aforesaid in the conveyance to the Company).

With reference to the circumstance of so large a quantity of land having been let for such a sum as £80 a year, it appears from a statement in a case submitted to Counsel in 1736, that the lands were all, or most of them, marsh and unimproved lands.

This lease to Latham (only discovered in 1821) was afterwards cancelled, and is still in the Company's possession; from which it is presumed that the Company entered into some arrangement with Latham that he should give up his lease, and that they should grant one to John Hatt, who shortly afterwards, under the authority of the demise of the Advowson, presented a person of the name of Latham to the Living of Stifford, who was apparently a nominee of the first-named Latham of the original lease, and that the presentation was made in pursuance of some stipulation between the former Latham and John Hatt.

The lease granted by the Company to John Hatt was dated 17th Dec., 1641, and exactly similar to the previous

one granted to Latham, as to the term, the rent, and the covenants. It does not recite or in any way refer to that lease, but is stated to be in consideration of a competent sum of money, probably some compensation in part of a general understanding between the Company and Latham, as already stated. This lease is as follows—

The said Keepers or Wardens, &c., covenant with the said John Hatt, &c., that they will upon reasonable request by Hatt, &c., and at his or their costs at any time during the term thereby demised or at or after the determination of that demise make to Hatt his executors, &c., one other lawful demise of the premises, for any number of years to be accounted from the making of such demise not exceeding 100 years, with the like reservation of £80 per annum, and with the like covenants and agreements, as in that Indenture are contained, so as the said John Hatt his executors, &c., should upon the sealing of such new Lease, pay to the Company, for a fine for the same, 20s. for every one of the years of the said demise as the said new Lease shall comprehend, over and above the years of the term now demised which shall be then unexpired, and the same course to be pursued from time to time *for ever* upon the taking up of any new demise.

In consequence of applications to the Company for a renewal of the lease in 1737, a case was submitted to a Mr. Allington on several heads, and inquiring particularly whether the Company were bound to renew for ever, or whether that covenant was not in itself an unreasonable and void covenant. Mr. Allington's answer was—

“How unreasonable soever this covenant may now be thought, it is probable that the Lessors did not think it so when they submitted to it, for otherwise they had it in their power not to make such Lease, and I conceive that this covenant is not a void but a good covenant in Law, and that altho' it tends to a perpetual Lease at the option of the Lessee, yet I conceive that this covenant will attend the

Land, and bind the inheritance thereof into whose hands soever the same shall come."

There were three other opinions, much to the same effect, given in 1741. And on the 12th May, 1742, a new lease, so dated, was granted by the Company to a Mr. Forster, as the executor of Mr. Shish, who had become entitled, as assignee of the lease which had been granted to Hatt, as before mentioned. The lease to Forster was granted (generally) on the same terms as the one to Hatt, and with the like covenant of perpetual renewal.

Other cases for the opinion of Counsel were again submitted with the like result. I will give one, that of Mr. Fowler Walker, in his own words, viz.—

"I see no reason to induce me to suppose that the Keepers or Wardens of the Society of the Art of Broderers had not a power to demise the premises in question on the terms contained in the original Lease of the 13th Dec., 1641, and if that be so, I think the present Company, their successors, are bound by the covenant to renew as specified in that Lease. It now appears that the original Lease was very incautiously granted, and the Company were very ill advised, and were very inattentive to the duty they owed their successors when they granted so long a Lease, on what must then have appeared very inadequate terms, especially as it was clogged with the covenant for renewal, but I cannot suggest any means by which the present persons who compose the Company can get rid of it. Whether the Company is or is not bound by the covenant in question is a matter of consequence. Should they refuse to comply with the present application, in all probability a Bill will be filed against them for a specific performance. They will then have an opportunity of taking the opinion of the Court on the validity of the covenant, and if the Court shall decree against them it will, as much as is in its power, compel the Plaintiff, who comes for equity, to do equity to the Defendants, but this is a matter of

prudence which must be left to the consideration of the Court.”

The latter portion of this opinion applies to the question of compelling the tenant to point out the Company's lands, which he had blended with lands of his own, and respecting which questions are also put in these cases.

These opinions were taken by direction of a committee appointed on the subject, who, in their report to the Court of Assistants, after setting forth the cases and opinions, refer to the before-mentioned by-law of the Company made in 1610, which directs that no leases should be made for more than twenty-one years in possession, and not in reversion, nor without impeachment of waste, &c. And that committee expressed their opinion that as the lease was granted contrary to such by-law, the Company should not grant any new lease, but leave the persons requesting the same to their remedy in equity; and the then Court agreed with such committee.

In 1821 it was deemed advisable to take another opinion, and the case was laid before a Mr. Bell, who said that—

“The Corporation had full power to alien the lands, as they were not given to them on any specific trust, and therefore I conceive to bind their successors by the covenant for renewal, however inadequate it now seems; and a Court of Equity would not at this time enter into an enquiry as to the inadequacy of the consideration, or apparent improvidence of the bargain.”

Again, referring to the by-law above stated, he said—

“After such long acquiescence in the Lease, I think a Jury would be told they must presume the Seal was affixed in due form whatever apparent evidence there might be to the contrary (which would now only be of a presumptive nature), and, as far as the bye-law restraint granting Leases for longer than 21 years, I think it would, for

the same reason, be presumed to have been repealed or at least its operation in some legal manner suspended, or dispensed with on this occasion if it was necessary. But as a right of alienation is incident to all Corporations of this kind, unless the property is subject to a trust, if the seal was duly affixed to the Lease, I think this bye-law would not be held to affect the rights of strangers taking under such a Lease and without notice of it."

It appears that no less than seven eminent Counsel all concurred in the opinion that the Company were bound to renew the lease.

The Company were very unfortunate in their leases respecting this estate. Each of the three leases granted by previous Broderers did not meet with the approval of their successors in office, and yet no wisdom was gained from such previous experience, as I will now endeavour to show.

In the year 1833 some negotiations took place with a Mr. Freeman, who was at that time in treaty with Dr. Hogarth (who had become the proprietor of the lease to Hatt) for the purchase of the residue of the term thereby granted which were eventually abandoned by him. At the same time Dr. Hogarth's solicitor applied to the Court for liberty to inspect the Company's plan of the estate, and on the 23rd April, 1834, an incomplete one was shown to Mr. Henderson, the doctor's solicitor.

The subject of the Stifford Estate being thus brought into the consideration of the Company, a special Court of Assistants was appointed for Tuesday, 12th May, 1835, at which Court, after considerable discussion and reviewing the several opinions of Counsel before adverted to, it was resolved that it was advisable to negotiate for the renewal of the lease upon the best terms that could be obtained, due regard being had to the interest of the Company, and Dr. Hogarth, having offered to waive the covenant for perpetual renewal, to which it was then presumed he was



STIFFORD CHURCH.



THE RECTORY LAWN.

induced from knowing that the relinquishment of that covenant had been made the basis of the contemplated treaty with Mr. Freeman; the Court determined that such offer should be accepted, and appointed a committee to conduct the negotiation. It, however, appeared that Dr. Hogarth claimed a considerable portion of the land which the Company considered to be comprised in the lease, as his freehold, and it was evident that his offer to waive the covenant for renewal was connected with or influenced by his desire to settle the question as to boundaries. It was proposed by the doctor's solicitor to leave that question to arbitration. But the committee could not assent to the clauses contained in the agreement which had been prepared by the doctor's solicitor for that purpose. It was found that it had been debated in the year 1739 whether a survey should be made of this estate, and a committee appointed to view it, but a motion to that effect was negatived, and it does not appear that any view was taken, or survey made, at that period; for the lease to Forster in 1742 contains precisely the same description of the premises as the one in the lease to Latham in 1635 and that to Hatt of 1641.

In 1778 Mr. Pratt, a member of the Court, was desired to get a plan made of the estate, and it is stated that in 1780 a Mr. Scales had surveyed it, and a committee was appointed to view it, who in the same year reported that much uncertainty existed as to the premises belonging to the Company, but that in going over the lands they conceived they had discovered the lands with certainty, yet they say that the lands called Barbers, Forgers or Mayes could not be discovered, either their number or situation; that they had not discovered other portions also, and stated that buildings formerly standing on the premises were no longer there.

In consequence of these dilapidations and the confusion of the premises, the then Court seem to have enter-

tained hopes of succeeding in ejection, as it is stated that the tenants had greatly altered the face of the premises, changed their names, and blended them with other premises, and that a number of houses had been suffered to run to ruin to such a degree that their situations could not be discovered, and questions are raised thereon; the effect of the answers to which was, that upon a Bill in Equity, the tenant would be compelled to point out the lands demised to him, and, if on his answer there should be any doubts, the Court would direct a commission to ascertain the lands; and that as no evidence could be produced whether the dilapidations were voluntary or permissive, the tenant was not bound to replace them, and if he was, yet, as there was no proviso for re-entry on a breach of covenant, ejection would not lie; that the tenant had, by the covenant for renewal, a larger and better interest than the Company, and consequently that in any case only nominal damages could be recovered.

In 1795 another committee was appointed, which viewed the lands and reported that they found them to agree correctly with the map, and did not find any material alterations since the last survey, with certain exceptions, which they particularized.

In the years 1824 and 1830 other committees visited the estate, but no report of their proceedings appears in the Court books.

After various meetings and much discussion the Court came to the conclusion that the existing lease was unquestionably valid, and that as Dr. Hogarth would obtain an amicable and beneficial adjustment of a question, which had long been an inconvenience to him, the Court were justified in requiring a liberal consideration. And therefore came to a conclusion to agree with Dr. Hogarth (and with Mr. Wingfield, a Master in Chancery, and Mr. Richard Baker Wingfield, his son), who had contracted with the doctor for the purchase of all his estate at Stifford; to

renew the lease so far as regarded the undisputed lands for 100 years, but without any covenant for renewal, at the old rent of £80 per annum, and receiving the stipulated fine of £100, and to release to him the disputed lands upon payment to the Company of £450. And the doctor having assented to this proposal that agreement has been carried out by deeds executed at a Court of Assistants on the 13th Jan., 1836.

To these deeds, plans and schedules are affixed, and the boundaries of the lands demised by the new lease are so clearly defined by roads running round them, that no danger need be apprehended that any future difficulty can arise. To make assurance doubly sure the following covenant is inserted in the lease, viz.—

“That the said I. H. Hogarth, his Executors, &c., shall and will from time to time, and at all times during the term suffer the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art and Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London, their successors and assigns, and their and each and every of their several and respective Surveyors, Stewards, Agents, or others, once in every six years of the said term hereby granted, upon giving, or leaving on the premises, one week’s notice of such their intention to enter into all, and every, or any part or portion of the several premises hereby demised, to view, search, and see the state and condition of the abuttals, boundaries, descriptions, and identifications, and to make a plan or plans of the same premises with a view to perpetuate the evidence of such boundaries and identifications.”

There was also a covenant that the tenant should cultivate the land in a husbandlike manner during the last seven years of the term as stated as follows. “That he, the said John Henry Hogarth, his executors, &c., shall and will from time to time and at all times during each and every of the last seven years of the said term hereby granted use farm till and cultivate the several lands and

premises hereby demised and every part and parcel thereof respectively in a good husbandlike manner according to the course usage and practice of husbandry in that part of the County of Essex in which the lands hereby demised lie."

The property thus demised comprised 236 a. 3 r. 21 p. of (undisputed) land, all in the parish of Stifford, and also the Advowson of that Parish.

I may here give a few other particulars concerning this property, viz.—

"On the 9th Nov., 1820, the Clerk laid before the Court, which had been summoned for this special purpose, a letter which he had received from Messrs. Bray & Warren, Solicitors for Mr. Hogarth, the occupier of the land at Stifford the Estate of this Company; proposing to the Company to grant a small piece of land, being 20 perches, part of a field called the 19 acre field, for the purpose of widening and improving a part of the high road, at present narrow and dangerous. Also a letter from Zachariah Button Esq. a resident Magistrate in that part of Essex, stating that he had surveyed the land in question and that he estimated the value of such land at £50 an acre, being £6 5s. for 20 perches the quantity required &c. and ordered that the Clerk do write to the persons concerned to say that this Company would assent to the grant of the piece of land required for the purpose aforesaid upon condition that the consent of the lessee of the Company of the land in question should be previously obtained in writing, and that the money to be paid as the consideration for the purchase of the piece of land should be paid to the Company."

Nor was this the only occasion when alterations had to be made for widening the roads for public convenience, for the Court, in 1908, made a free gift of two small pieces of land for a like purpose to meet the requirements of modern locomotion.

Rent Charge of £30 a year.

In 1667 the Company in consideration of £600, raised towards paying off the Company's debts, granted an annuity of £30 per annum for ever to Roger Lambert, citizen and Broderer, charged upon the Stifford Estate; this annuity appears to have come into the possession of Mr. Herring and allusions are made to its arrears in 1708 and 1711. In 1812 the Company repurchased five-sixths of the annuity for £500 of Mr. Leveson Gower, and in 1878 the remaining one-sixth for £100 of Mr. and Mrs. Verney, upon which the estate was discharged from the annuity.

The grant of this annuity affords evidence that at that time (only about thirty years after the purchase of the estate) five per cent., secured upon land, was deemed to be an adequate rate of interest for money.

Quit Rents.

In 1736 a Mr. Barrett claimed a yearly quit rent of £1 16s. 8d., out of the property, as Lord of the Manor of Stifford Hall, and a case was submitted to Mr. Allington on this point and others, who was of opinion that if Mr. Barrett was entitled to any quit rent it must under the construction of the lease be paid by the Company's tenant. No notice appears whether it ever was paid. The case states that Mr. Barrett had purchased the Manor two or three years before (1736), and that the tenant was said to have paid arrears of quit rent to a Mr. Godwyn.

In Morant's *Essex*, Vol. I, p. 97, it is stated Richard May had this estate (Stifford Hall), and then James Silverlock who sold it to Nathaniel Grantham, whose son was Kenwick. Isaac Thorley, gentleman, next possessor, of him bought by Andrew Goodwin, whose son Henry alienated it about 1738 to Henry Barrett of Southwark for

£5,400, who gave it to his daughter, wife of Richard Cooke of Foster Lane, London. But under a mortgage of Kenwick Grantham, it came to John Archer Shish the present possessor. He has sold Ford House to Captain Dods-worth.

Land Tax.

In 1736 a question arose whether the Company or the tenant was bound to pay the Land Tax, and Mr. Allington, in his opinion on the case last referred to, considered the tenant was liable: and several other opinions were also taken on the subject which were not decisive; but on the renewal of the lease in 1742 to Mr. Forster, the executor of Mr. Shish, he repaid the Company £78, part of a very large allowance to the tenant for Land Tax, which the Company appear to have made in their own wrong, and ever since the tenant has paid the Land Tax.

It is very certain that the lease granted to Dr. Hogarth of the lands at Stifford, and the Advowson of Stifford Rectory, under an Indenture dated 13th Jan., 1836, met with the unqualified approval of the entire Court, with one exception (about which I will afterwards speak), for a Minute of 18th April, 1836, states that "Mr. Vincent moved that the thanks of the Court be given to James Burra, Esq., the Master, for the skill and judgment, and for the urbanity with which he conducted the late negotiation concerning the Stifford Estate, and more particularly for his gratuitous professional exertions which mainly contributed to the final and advantageous settlement of that important business; and such motion being seconded by Mr. Beauchamp, it was resolved accordingly; and it was therefore Ordered that the same be presented to him in a silver box of the value of £10, or such other article as the Committee of the Stifford Estate shall at their next meeting think proper

so that the same may be prepared by, and be presented at, the Court to be holden on Whitmondday next."

I see from a Minute of 5th Dec., 1836, "It was then ordered upon the motion of Mr. Beauchamp, seconded by Mr. Dixon, that the sum of £18 10s., the cost of the box presented by the Court to Mr. Burra, be paid by the Renter Warden."

The granting of this lease was strenuously opposed by Mr. William Nichols, the dissentient mentioned above, who had been Master of the Company on two occasions, viz. in 1820 and 1830, whose protest ran thus—

"I beg most respectfully to say, under the various circumstances and recent transactions, I am compelled, by a true sense of duty I owe to the Members of the Court and also to the Livery, freemen, and our Successors, as well as myself, to protest against the Sale of any land or property belonging to the Broderers' Company, more particularly in the absence of our experienced and worthy Clerk, as also to the mode of paying the money for such sale of the Company's property, viz. 146 acres of freehold land for £450. I have sent my protest to the Warden, to Mr. Henderson, and to Mr. Gibbard, and hereby deliver this. This 13 Jan., 1836. Signed, William Nichols."

In reply to this letter, at a meeting of the Court on 12th March, 1836, it was moved and carried "That the assertion contained in Mr. Nichols' protest of the 13th Jan., 1836, that 146 acres of land had been sold for £450, is not only an erroneous statement of the transaction, but must have been made with a full knowledge of its incorrectness with a view to injure the character of the Court as managers of the Company's property.

"That no Member of the Court hold any intercourse with Mr. Nichols as a gentleman, until such reparation and retraction be made."

No doubt Mr. Nichols started on the assumption that the original quantity of land purchased by the Company

was 380 acres; that the lease granted to Dr. Hogarth was on 236a. 3r. 21p. only; therefore the difference of 143 acres, or, as he states, 146 acres, was the quantity of land in exchange for the £450 that gentleman paid to the Company.

Whether Mr. Nichols or the Court were in the right it is not for me to say, but one thing is quite certain, the lease is nothing to be proud of, as it is very loosely drawn and gives very little protection to the freeholders. The lease, moreover, is very unusual in its terms. It is expressed to be made "without impeachment for any manner of waste, except voluntary waste in houses." No royalties are reserved, and the covenants usual in a lease of agricultural land are for the most part omitted. Its only saving clause is the requirement that of "the last seven years of the said term the several lands and premises hereby demised, and every part and parcel thereof respectively, shall be farmed, tilled and cultivated in a good husbandlike manner."

When the Company's Inspection Committee visited the estate on the 28th July, 1909, they found that the tenant had taken full advantage of the laxity in the wording of the lease and had turned some acres of the property into a brick field, having dug out the clay, made the bricks, and sold them. Whether it was the intention of the tenant after he had entirely worked out the clay to dispose of the chalk also which was underneath, is a matter of conjecture. Anyhow it was entirely beyond his power, after he had made the hole, to cultivate the area "in a good husbandlike manner" (as stated in the lease), in the last seven years of his term (see Appendix, page 261).

This untoward proceeding on behalf of the tenant necessitated speedy action on the part of the Company, who consulted their counsel and surveyor and have held several meetings on the subject. Whether legal proceedings will be taken, or more amicable arrangements made, will depend very much on the future action of the tenant.

Now I should like to say a word or two about this Mr. William Nichols who stood up in such a manly way to protest against an arrangement which he considered unjust to the Company, and got boycotted for his pains by his colleagues.

On perusal of the Minutes and documents in the Company's possession I was very much struck with the interest which that gentleman apparently took in everything appertaining to the Broderers' Company. Not only was he one of the most regular attenders at the Courts, but he collected a variety of information respecting the Company which he embodied in a book, now in the Clerk's office, and which must have been a work of considerable labour, and from which extracts have been made by me for this little chat about the Broderers' Company.

After the meeting, I fear a very stormy one, of the 12th March, 1836, matters did not run smoothly with Mr. Nichols, and although he remained a member of the Court until 1858, or for twenty-two years afterwards, his colleagues were anxious to get rid of him, and lost no opportunity in furthering that object. I will now give an instance of this.

It was always the custom of Mr. Nichols to appear at the Broderers' banquets in everyday dress, and his colleagues thought that they might favourably attack him on this subject; so they passed a resolution that for the future no member of the Company shall attend the dinners unless in evening dress. Mr. Nichols appears to have been equal to the occasion, for at the next banquet he made his appearance in a cast-off waiter's dress suit much the worse for wear and very greasy, and a white tie much frayed, as was also his shirt, but both spotlessly clean, so he broke no law, for he obeyed the order of the Court and gained the victory over his enemies.

The Minutes are silent (except as to his signatures) about Mr. Nichols's movements after the year 1836 until

1858, when his colleagues seem to have got the better of him owing to his impecunious circumstances; for I find by a Minute of 24th June, 1858, that "William Nichols resigns his office as a member of the Court of Assistants, and it was moved that Mr. Nichols having been a member of the Company for 54 years, a Liveryman for 51 years, and one of the Court of Assistants for upwards of 37 years, and having been elected and having served twice as Master, and being now nearly 80 years of age, the annual sum of £40 be henceforth paid by the Clerk to him."

The periodical visits to Stifford are very enjoyable, apart from their business purpose, and there was a gathering at Fenchurch Street Station on Wednesday, 28th July, 1909, at 2.30 p.m., of the Master and two other members of the Court, the Clerk, the Chaplain, and the Beadle, and their ladies. A journey of three-quarters of an hour by rail took us to Grays, where carriages were in waiting to convey us to Stifford, a distance of some two or three miles.

On this visit there were some alterations made in the general arrangements, one being that such members of the Court who chose to go had the privilege of taking their wives also. Hitherto no ladies were permitted, and the members of the Court had a rough-and-ready dinner at Purfleet which they did not greatly enjoy.

To leave smoky, noisy, dangerous London, where trams, buses, motors and bicycles run rampant, and find oneself in the little village of Stifford where quiet reigns supreme, is a pleasure of itself, but when it is accompanied by the hearty reception given by the rustics and the kindly welcome of the rector, his wife and family it leaves nothing to be desired.

The gathering of the villagers was in the rectory grounds, which were made gay by a liberal display of bunting. The grounds covered a large space, and would have well repaid the visitor if his only object was to inspect the well-trimmed lawns, the exquisitely kept parterres and

the productive kitchen gardens; but we had other objects in view, and they were the village rustics who had assembled in their multitude, from the oldest toiler of the soil to the little toddlekins who could hardly run; all had come to give their welcome to the representatives of the Broderers' Company.

The kindly and provident rector (like the good shepherd careful of his sheep), being thoughtful for his visitors, had provided large tents on the occasion, as the weather for some days previously had been anything but propitious; but such precautions were unnecessary, as the day was brilliant and there was nothing to disturb the brightness of the scene.

The proceedings commenced with tea to the visitors in one of the large tents, at which there was a happy gathering of the gentry of the neighbourhood also; and all talked merrily as the sandwiches, cakes and buns disappeared as fast as the tea that accompanied them. When nature was satisfied, then the serious part of the business had to be performed.

The meeting took place on the rectory lawn (see Plate V), where there is a large fir-tree under which the rector stood, supported by his wife and daughter and the Master of the Company (Mr. John Mantell), the rector holding in his hands sundry sheets of paper on which were written the names of those who were to receive the Broderers' gifts; these came up one by one and received from the Master an envelope, on which was engraved the Broderers' crest, containing a little money present, the Master and rector accompanying the gifts with a few kindly words, and so on to the end. When all were satisfied and the funds exhausted, the recipients retired to a tent, where a generous supply of everything necessary for their inward requirements was liberally provided, and to which, as rustics, they did ample justice.

The presentation of these gifts to the villagers occupied

a considerable time, for there were money presents for everybody; gifts to the very aged men, some being over eighty-five years old. This, by the bye, reminds me that on the last occasion a very old man, being questioned by the Master, brought out the statement that he had never worn a pair of socks, and he rather gloried in the fact, and yet he was a clean man and undoubtedly enjoyed redundant health. The next on the list were the aged women. Then came gifts to the women who had the largest families; these I rather demurred to as encouraging a state of things that should not be patronized, but feeling I was in the minority, and recollecting the example shown by pious Edmund Harrison, citizen and Broderer, I collapsed. There was a gift to the schoolmistress; a gift to the organist; gifts to the members of the choir; a gift to the grave-digger; indeed gifts to all, so everybody was pleased, including the members present of the Broderers' Company, who went home with light hearts rejoicing in the knowledge that they had sent a ray of sunshine into every villager's heart. The meeting then dispersed, for there were no more people to give to and no more money to give; moreover there was little time left to catch the train and take a cursory glance round the very interesting old church; the latter, however, did not trouble me very much, for I had had minute inspections of the edifice on my two previous visits.

As the rectory grounds adjoined the churchyard we returned to the rectory, where the carriages were in waiting to take us back to the station; the rector, his wife and family speeding our departure with the same bright smiles that welcomed our coming.

We returned to Fenchurch Street Station at seven o'clock p.m., a little tired, perhaps, all of us wishing that on the next occasion more time might be given to the trip.

I need hardly mention that the whole of the expense was borne by the Broderers' Company.

It seems to be the invariable decree of Providence to mingle with the sweetest cup of our prosperity so much bitterness as may remind us how transitory are its enjoyments and how changeable its ingredients, and this visit was not an exception to the general rule. The Clerk, a few days previous to our visit, had sent the Beadle down to Stifford to inspect the property, and he brought back the unsatisfactory report that the tenant, or his representative, was making bricks from the Company's land and selling them. On the drive to Grays the members of the Court, the Clerk and the Beadle got out at the spot where the waste had been committed and interviewed a man on the brick field, who said that the making of bricks was begun some five or six years ago, therefore soon after the last inspection of the Committee. The Master directed the Clerk to make out a case for the opinion of Counsel, and take such steps as he might consider necessary to protect the Company's rights.

STIFFORD ADVOWSON (see Plate V)

I DO not know whether our predecessors in office, those who purchased the Stifford Estate and Advowson in the year 1635, and those who came after, thought it incumbent on them to keep the two properties always together, but it is very evident that they did so in granting the leases of 1641, 1742 and 1836, but let us hope that our successors in 1935, when the present lease expires, will not be guilty of a like indiscretion, but will retain the Advowson in the hands of the Broderers' Company, who will then be the legalized patrons of the Rectory of Stifford as well as the landlords of the freehold estate of Stifford.

In consequence of this double holding some doubts seem to have arisen as to the right of presentation to the Rectory, for I find by a Minute of 14th April, 1742, that a case was made out and the opinions of counsel obtained on this subject. It is thus stated—

The Company of Broderers of London being seized of the Advowson, right of presentation and patronage to the Rectory and parish church of Stifford, granted a lease of the said Advowson and presentation (together with several lands) dated 13th Dec., 1641, to one Mr. Hatt for 100 years, in which said lease is a covenant from the Company to Hatt, his executors, &c., for a perpetual renewal, and the said term of 100 years expiring on the 13th Dec. last, the lessees in April 1741 demanded a new lease which was ordered by the Company to be prepared and accordingly was drawn, but the incumbent of the said living dying before the execution of the new lease, Whether the Company have a right to the presentation.

Opinion. "I think the Company may be compelled in equity to present such person to the living as the Lessees shall nominate."

I find that at a Court held the 5th Dec., 1836, they approved of the Report of the Committee of Inspection of the Stifford Estate which was then presented to them, and stated that they deem it advisable, and strongly recommend, that special care be taken on the next and any subsequent vacancy of the Rectory of Stifford that the Company's then tenant be required to state in the act of presentation that he claimed to present by virtue of the Company's demise.

At a Court held 13th Dec., 1837, the Rector of Stifford produced a plan and terrier of the glebe lands, from which it appears that the glebe lying amidst the Company's land consisted of 9 a. or. 10 p. and 11 a. 1 r. 13 p., quantities which seem to accord with the map and scale thereto. [By a return made in 1896 by the Rector he stated that the glebe consisted of six acres of pasture land and twenty acres of arable land, of the then letting value of £45.] And at the same Court the Seal of the Company was affixed to an agreement between the landowners of Stifford and the Rev. Wm. Palin, the rector of the parish for the commutation of the tithes of the parish. As to which the Clerk of the Company, on the 14th Feb., 1840, was directed to write to Mr. Wingfield, the tenant of the Company's estate at Stifford, respecting a part of the land marked 87B, and which was erroneously stated in the plan of the Tithe Commissioners to belong to Mr. Wingfield.

The Company made a contribution towards the expense of repairing the chancel of Stifford Church, for I find an entry of £50 being given for that purpose on 24th June, 1861.

On the 23rd July, 1869, the Rev. W. Palin, the then Rector of Stifford, wrote a letter announcing his intention of publishing a book entitled *Stifford and its Neighbourhood*, requesting to know whether the Company would

become subscribers to the work, and at a Court held 12th March, 1870, it was resolved and ordered that the Company be subscribers for 14 copies. One copy on quarto drawing paper for the Company, and 13 copies on ordinary paper, one for presentation to each member of the Court, including the chaplain and the clerk, and that all reasonable facilities be afforded the Rev. W. Palin for inspecting all or any of the Company's deeds or other documents relating to Stifford. And on the 29th May, 1871, the Company became a subscriber for 14 copies of the second volume of the proposed work by the Rev. W. Palin, entitled *More About Stifford and its Neighbourhood*.

The Company's gifts to the Rectory did not end with the £50 for repairing the chancel, for an entry made on 12th March, 1875, shows that a donation of twenty guineas was given towards the cost of the intended new organ for Stifford church. Moreover, every year, at Christmas time, £10 10s. are sent to the Rector for the benefit of the poor at Stifford. And on each visitation of the Committee of Inspection, every sixth year, doles are given to the poor and deserving on the recommendation of the Rector. The Company's gifts may therefore be considered generous when compared with the small rental (£80 a year) they receive for the entire estate, including the nomination to the benefice.

The income of the benefice consists principally of tithes. In 1883 the net income was £424 2s. 6d.; in 1896 £228 15s., and in 1908, according to Crockford, £199.

The tithes in 1883 were of the value of £459 (a similar sum to that stated in the tithes return of 1848), and in 1896 £450. Of these tithes £37 1s. 10d. have been redeemed, and there is now standing to the credit of the benefice, on tithe redemption trust account at Queen Anne's Bounty, the sum of £926 8s. 2d., money which bears an income to the Rector.

In the year 1886 a new rectory house was built which

cost upwards of £2000, towards which the Rector contributed a considerable sum; but £1000 was obtained by loan from Queen Anne's Bounty, and has to be repaid by annual instalments, with interest, by the Rector. When this loan was made the consents of the bishops and patron had to be obtained, and the one who signed, as the latter, was Captain Digby Hanmer Richard Wingfield, of Orsett Hall, Romford, who, as lessee of the property and advowson, should only have nominated, according to the opinion of counsel previously stated, and not presented, which duty devolved on the Broderers' Company. This is another reason, if one were wanted, why the whole matter of the advowson should be in the Broderers' hands. Let this be seen to by our successors in 1935, when a new lease will have to be granted, as I have before stated.

STIFFORD RECTORY

*Extracted from books called "Stifford and its Neighbourhood," compiled by
Rev. W. Palin, the Rector, in 1870-1*

Year.	Rectors.	Patrons.
1300	Pachy, Radulph.	
1322	de Rising, Eustace.	Ferinband, T.
1395	de Lyes, Thomas.	King Richard II.
1453	Pedyoke, John.	Torrell, I.
	German, John	Bruyn, Maurice.
	More, Jacob.	Miles, Maurice Bruyn.
1461	Edmundson, Robert.	
	Oldfield, Robert.	
1485	Guychard, Stephen.	
1518	Newman, Thomas.	Bishop, lapsed to.
1541	Blackhal, Thomas.	Miles, Clement Harleston.
1554	Symonson, Miles.	Benson, John.
1568	Harleston, Antony.	Arm, John Harleston.
1569	Barker, Antony.	Harleston, Robert.
1575	Ware, Thomas, A.M.	Arm, Ben. Josselyn.
1610	Savile, Thomas, A.M.	Arm, Durning John.
1619	Iken, James, A.M.	Ditto.
1645	Lathum, Daniel, A.M.	Hatt, John.
1652	Potkin, Heiron (per resignation of Lathum).	

	Rectors.	Patrons.
1674	Price, Denzill.	Canterbury, Archbishop of, lapsed to.
1678	Robertson, James, A.M.	{ Miles, Twisden T.
1709	Hilliard, Samuel.	{ Wyld, W. Bart.
1742	Talbot, Robert.	Lathum, Elizabeth and Thomas.
1763	Swinden, Samuel Francis.	Shish, John Archer.
1764	Holland, Nicholas.	Ditto.
1772	Cuthbert, Francis.	Sedley, Elizabeth (widow).
1784	Filewood, James.	{ Kingsman, Jasper and Patience.
1821	Hogarth, John Henry (re- signed 1834).	{ Adams, Thomas.
1834	Palin, William.	Hogarth, jun. John,
1883	Allott, Henry Hepworth.	Hogarth, John.
		Hogarth, John Henry, D.C.L.
		Wingfield, Digby Hanmer Richard (Captain Royal Horse Guards).

KNIGHT RIDER AND OLD FISH STREET ESTATE

ALTHOUGH I begin with a Deed Poll dated 13th Feb., 1582, yet this property was not really conveyed to the Company until 4th May, 1655, when a bargain and sale was made of £3 per annum rent from Thomas and John Latham to the Broderers' Company for ever, in consideration of £51.

This Thomas Latham was undoubtedly the same individual (1635-41) to whom the Stifford estate was purchased to the use of, and who was then Clerk of the Broderers' Company.

In dealing with the numbers as to the houses in a street which has been so constantly altered as Knight Rider Street, it is very difficult without a surveyor's eye and experience to determine the situation of a property. For instance, the leases granted in 1823 state the two houses to be numbered 15 and 16; but in the lease dated 1875 of the same property the numbers of the two houses are stated to be 43 and 45 (see plan of the property under that lease, p. 120); but any one seeking these later numbers at the present time would be very disappointed at not finding them, as they do not exist, for huge warehouses bearing no number occupy the whole area of the Company's property including that portion marked "yard" upon the plan.

1582, 13th Feb. A Copy of a Deed Poll by which Richard Pratt of St. Mary Magdalen near Old Fish Street gives (Int al) to his son William Pratt a Lease of Two Tenements in said Parish of Old Fish Street dated the 3rd Dec^r 18 Eliz for 40 years and granted from Queen Elizth to said Richard.

1588, 31st Oct. A Bargain and sale of said Two

Tenements and Lease for the said Term of 40 years from said William Pratt to Richard Ashbye.

1598, 14th Feb. A Deed Poll whereby John Ashbye (as Legatee of said Richard Ashbye) in consideration of £27 convey said Lease and premises to Arthur Ashbye and Richard Ashbye.

1608, 1st June. Copy of Letters patent by which King James the first grants said Two Messuages to Sr W^m Hericke Kn^t and Arthur Ingram Esq^r and their Heirs for ever Under the rent of £3 per annum payable Half yearly at Michaelmas Day and Lady Day to be held of the Manor of Greenwich in Kent in Lorage.

1608, 10th June. A Bargain and Sale Inrolled from said Sir W^m Herrick and Arthur Ingram whereby (Int al) they sell to John Pollard and his Heirs and Assigns for ever the said Two Messuages subject to the said rent of £3 to the Crown.

1654, 25th Sept. A Bargain and Sale of the above £3 per annum rent from Hassel & Lawrence Steel (who purchased the same under the Crown) to Tho^s Latham and Jn^o Latham their Heirs and Assigns for ever in consideration of £50.

1655, 4th May. A Bargain and Sale of said £3 per annum Rent from said Tho^s & John Latham to the Broderers Company for ever in consideration of £51.

1735, 1st Sept. The Counterpart of an Indre of Lease Int the Broderers Company of the one part and Charles Baynton Rob^t Ladbrook & W^m Giles of the other part. The Company Demise to the said Ch^s Baynton Rob^t Ladbrook & W^m Giles the Three Houses in Knight Rider Street and Doe Little Alley for the Term of 21 years from Midsummer 1735. The yearly rent payable quarterly at the Comp^{ys} Hall clear of all Taxes Tenants to repair and Support the

premises and covenant to lay out £40 within 12 months on the said premises Tenants covenant to rebuild the Party Wall on the West side of the Shop of the Messuage wherein Mess^{rs} Baynton Ladbroke & Giles live and shall make good the Party Wall at the North end of the paved yard of said last mentioned Messuage and the Back Front Wall in the said Shop and put there a three light Window a Door and a Door Case and shall alter one of the sash windows in the Front of the Shop next the Street and instead thereof make a Door and Door case two months before the expiration of said Term. If Tenants alienate their estate in said premises to pay the Company 10s. on every alienation and the Clerk of the Company to make the writings. The Company allowed £40 out of the accruing rent towards the repairs and to grant the Tenants a further Term of 7, 14 or 21 years in^d premises to commence from the expiration of this Lease upon Tenants giving 6 months notice to the Company of their desire to have such further Lease.

Note. A plan of the premises and Schedule of the Goods are annexed to the Lease.

1770, Aug. 8th. Lease of Messuage & Tenement in Knight Ryder St^t in the parish of S. Mary Magdalen in Old Fish Street for 14 years.

1780, 25th Dec. Lease to Nicholas Simmonds (Pawnbroker) of Tenement and Yard behind in S. Mary Magdalen parish for 7 years.

1801. Broderers Company to Mr. Robert Peart (Pawnbroker) Lease of house in Knightrider Street at the corner of Doe Little Alley.

21 years from the Feast Day of St^t John the Baptist
1801.

1807. Broderers Company to Mr. Robert Peart Lease of N^o 16 Little Knight Rider Street for 14 years from Lady Day 1821.

1823, Oct. 1st. The Company to Francis Leaver
Lease of 16 Little Knight Rider Street for 14 years
from Xmas 1823.

The Company to John Stewart Miller Lease of
N^o 15 Little Knight Rider Street for 21 years from
Michaelmas 1823.

Note. This Lease was surrendered on the 22nd
Dec. 1828.

1830, Dec. 13th. The Company to G. Alexander
Straiton Lease of N^o 15 Little Knightrider Street
for 21 years from Xmas 1830.

1833, April 23rd. The Company to Mrs. Mary
Elizabeth Douglas Lease of N^o 16 Little Knight
Rider Street for 21 years from Lady Day 1833.

1834, June 24th. Mr. James Faraway to the
Company Surrender & Release of Rent Change of
£3 issuing out of 2 houses in Knight Rider Street.

Consideration £47.

1852, July 29th. The Company to Mr. T. Douglas
Lease of N^o 16 Little Knight Rider Street for 21 years
from Michaelmas 1852.

1852, July 29th. The Company to Mr. Alex^r
Stuton Lease of N^o 15 Little Knight Rider Street
for 21 years from Xmas 1851.

43 & 45 KNIGHTRIDER STREET

Lease dated 12th March, 1875.

Term 85 years and three quarters from Xmas 1874.

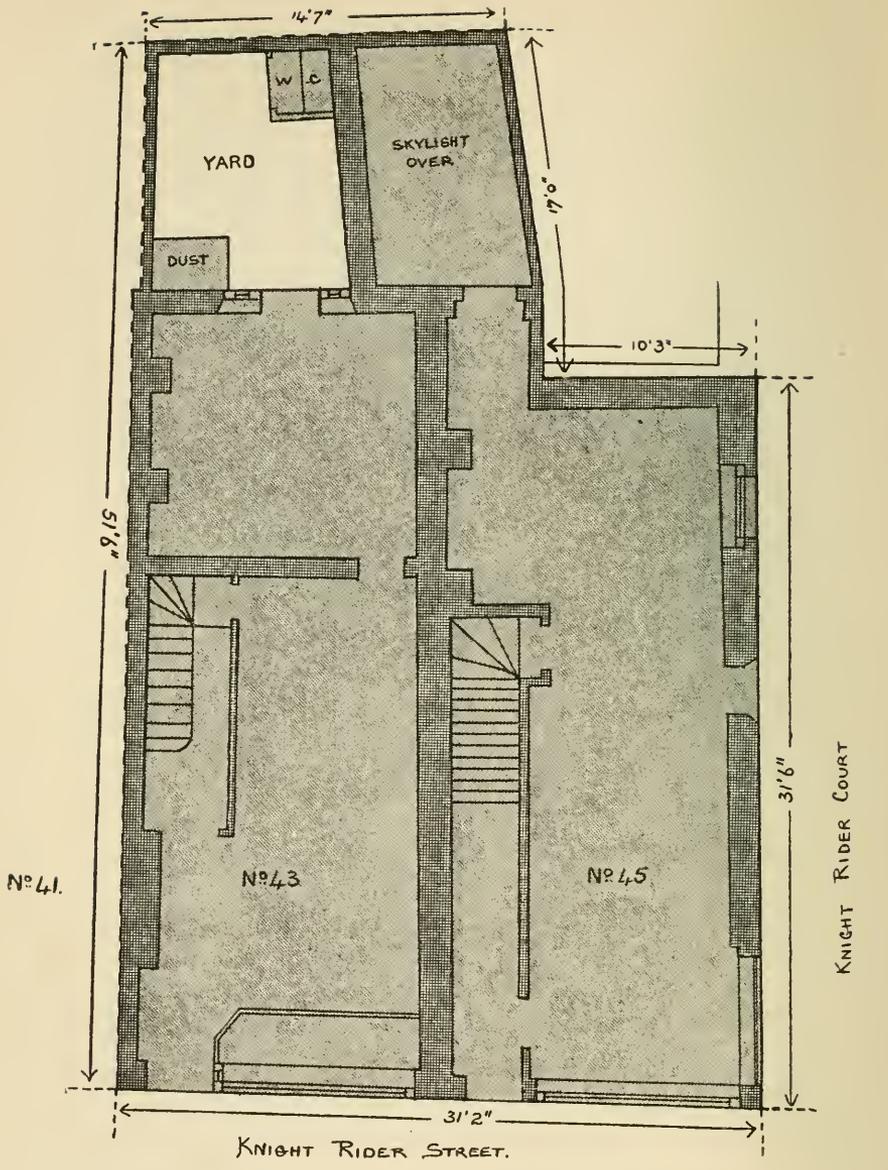
Parties

The Keepers and Wardens and Society of the Art or
Mystery of Broderers of the City of London of the one
part and

Francis Cook of 22 St Paul's Churchyard in the
City of London Warehouseman of the other part.

Parcels.

Firstly All that piece or parcel of ground with the messuage tenement or dwellinghouse erected thereon being N^o 43 Knight Rider Street in the Parish of St. Mary Magdalen in Old Fish Street in the City of London as the same is now in the occupation of Thomas Joseph Douglass. Together with all cellars lights ways drains easements, watercourses profits commodities advantages and appurtenances to the said messuage or tenement and premises belonging or appertaining. And Secondly All that piece or parcel of Ground with the messuage tenement or dwellinghouse erected thereon being N^o 45 Knight Rider Street in the said Parish of Saint Mary Magdalen in Old Fish Street in the City of London as the same is now in the occupation of George Upton. Together with all cellars lights ways drains easements waters, watercourses profits commodities advantages and appurtenances to the said messages or tenement and premises belonging or appertaining. All which said pieces or parcels of ground & premises firstly and secondly hereinbefore described with the abuttals, boundaries & dimensions thereof be the same little more or less are more particularly delineated and described in the plan thereof drawn in the margin of these presents.



No. 41.

No. 43

No. 45

KNIGHT RIDER STREET.

KNIGHT RIDER COURT

YARD

DUST

W.C.

SKYLIGHT OVER

9'15"

14'7"

17'0"

10'3"

31'6"

31'2"

27 SILVER STREET

I DO not think I am incorrect when I state that the Broderers' Company own one of the smallest freehold sites in the City of London. It is situate at 27 Silver Street, Wood Street, E.C. The way they became the proud possessors of this infinitesimal property—for the land is only 13 feet from east to west, and 11 feet from north to south—was in this manner. A Broderer of the name of John Pollard, who appeared to be both a just and good man, or doubtless he would not have been a Broderer, and Anne his wife, by a deed dated 3rd Oct., 1621, conveyed a messuage to the Company for the performance of divers good and charitable uses to be mentioned in the will of the said John Pollard, and he, by his will of the 18th Feb., 1623, gave a messuage in the parish of St. Olave, in Silver Street, to the Company under certain conditions.

The original probate of the last will and testament of the said John Pollard was dated 18th Feb., 1623 (21st James 1st), which recites, "Whereas I the said John Pollard, and Anne my wife, by our Deed indented of bargain and sale bearing date the 3rd Oct^r 1621 have conveyed and assured unto the Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London for the good of the said Company, and for the performance of such good and charitable uses as I shall limit and appoint by my last will and testament, All that my Messuage or tenement in the parish of S. Olave in Silver Street, London, Now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Bond or his assigns as by the said Deed may appear."

The said Testator ratified and confirmed the said assurance and conveyance so made of the said Messuage or Tenement unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery aforesaid, and did thereby give and devise the same unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society and their successors for ever.

This good Testator seems to have been beneficent in his arrangements. One John Bond, the then tenant, was, of course, to enjoy the lease he had then thereof, he paying the rent and performing the covenants and conditions therein expressed. And that the said Company and their successors do not let or demise the same messuage or tenement above the yearly rent of £6 per annum. And also that the Keepers, &c., for the time being should for ever after his (the Testator's) death well and truly pay and distribute the said £6 yearly to be received for the said Messuage in manner and form following, viz.—

“Four pounds 16s. one parcel thereof unto 4 poor men or widows being free of the Company aforesaid or of the Testator's kindred by blood, being free or not free of London, viz. to every of them, yearly for ever, four and twenty shillings to be paid to every of them by 4 payments in the year by even portions at the discretion of the Keepers or Wardens and 6 of the Assistants of the said Company for the time being.”

These appointments to be made annually on Whit Monday, the Testator's kindred having the preference.

“And 20s. another parcel of the said £6 to be yearly spent on the 4 general quarter search days of the said company towards the charge of their search dinners for ever, viz. on every search day 5s.

“And 4s. the residue of the said rent of £6 as aforesaid to be paid unto the Clerk of the said company for the time being, yearly, for ever.” “To the intent that

he should be careful to put the Wardens or Keepers for the time being in remembrance of the performance of that his bequest and devise in manner and form before declared and set forth.”

Desiring further that the said Company at their general meeting to remember to give thanks to Almighty God for their good benefactors, as they then already did.

Provided always that if the Company should for the space of two years together at any time after his decease fail in the performance of the several payments by him thereby appointed to be by them paid, then the said Testator bequeathed the same “to his next heirs.”

It appears that the said messuage was destroyed by the great fire of London in 1666, but it was not before 14th March, 1672, that an indenture of lease was signed between the Company and one William Darvoll (citizen and plasterer) of London, in consideration of £7 and the said Darvoll building a new messuage, according to the Act for rebuilding the city, the Company demise to the said Darvoll all the Toft in Silver Street whereon stood a messuage before the fire of London, containing in front next the street from east to west 13 feet, and in depth from north to south 11 feet. To hold the said Darvoll from Christmas then last past for the term of 99 years. Under the rent of 20s. per annum, payable quarterly. The said Darvoll covenants to rebuild, and keep in repair, and to deliver up the premises at the end of the term. This gift of John Pollard for the first 100 years could hardly be called a boon to the Company, seeing that £6 had to spent, but only £1 received, annually, had it not been that all the bequests were to be paid to either their poor or to members of the Company.

I don't know what members of the London School Board would say, who require the maximum of air space to each individual scholar, at the circumscribed allowance of

air given to the tenant of 27 Silver Street; yet in these premises lived a family of the name of Simpson for nearly thirty years, one of whom, who was born on the premises, petitioned and obtained a renewal of the lease, thus showing he was perfectly satisfied with his surroundings, and was none the worse for being cooped up in a most limited space that would be looked upon with horror by the modern hygienist.

On 6th March, 1828, notice was given by the city solicitor to pull down or repair the said house then late in the occupation of the said George Simpson, the same having been presented by the inquest of the Ward of Cripplegate as dangerous. And four proposals to rebuild the house for £340, £354, £356 and £380 respectively were received. And on 13th Dec., 1828, the seal of the Company was affixed to a lease to Philip Pyle of this house in Silver Street for a term of seven years.

There are several entries in the Minutes respecting leases of this property. It began, as I have stated, very badly, so far as a pecuniary benefit to the Company, but things subsequently changed, so that the rental now obtained is more commensurate with its present value, and apparently to the satisfaction of the tenant who is carrying on a thriving trade as a provision merchant, patent to the eye of every one walking up Silver Street from Wood Street.

In this mundane hemisphere there seem to be only two things certain, viz. death and taxes, and it is therefore not surprising that the lynx-eyed emissaries of the law did not omit to cast their vision on the Company's little freehold of 13 feet \times 11 feet which they assessed with Land Tax of £1 10s. 4d. per annum, which burden, however, the Company redeemed by a payment of £48 14s. 7d. to the Receiver General on 29th Oct., 1830.

I see from a Minute dated 17th Feb., 1860, that "The Court declined to exchange their property in Silver Street

(27 for No. 25), but would sell" at a price then named, which appears not to have been accepted.

On 9th May, 1877, Messrs. Debenham, Tewson & Farmer made an inspection of these premises, when they reported that

On the " 4th floor there was one small room—w.c. on stairs
 3rd " " one room
 2nd " " one room
 1st " " one room
 ground " " a shop
 Basement—cellar and w.c."

They stated that "the premises are situate next door but one to Wood Street." "The basement is at present connected with the basement of the adjoining house, No. 28 Silver Street, and that the remaining floors are let off on a weekly tenancy to a butterman."

The last entry in the Minutes respecting this property is on 26th May, 1899, when "the Clerk reported that the following were the proposed terms of the new lease of 27 Silver Street to be granted to Mr. David Haydon. The Tenant to pay a rent" (then named), "the lease to contain similar covenants by the lessee as to Dilapidations to those contained in expired lease."

CHIPSTEAD

CHRISTOPHER SHAW, by Will dated 15th Oct., 1617, gave to the Company of Embroiderers the yearly rent of £10 issuing out of his lands situated in the parish of Chipstead, and willed that the same should be disposed of by the Company to the following uses, viz.—

- | | | |
|---|---|---------|
| <p>(1) To the Schoolmaster of the Free School of Market Harborough in the County of Leicester and to his Successors for ever for his better maintenance, but in case the said School should at any time be dissolved, and not remain as then it was, he devised the said yearly sum of £3 to the use of the poor of the said parish for ever to be paid by the said Company upon demand thereof, at their Hall in London.</p> | } | £3 0 0 |
| <p>(2) To the poor of S. Benet, Paul's Wharf (40s. to the 6 Widows in David Smith's Almshouses;—20s. to the poor of the parish).</p> | } | £3 0 0 |
| <p>(3) To the poor of Chipstead</p> | } | £1 0 0 |
| <p>(4) To the Clerk of the Broderers' Company 6s., to the Beadle 4s.; and the residue he willed should remain to the Company for ever.</p> | } | £0 10 0 |

In respect of the annuity of £10, the sum of £8 (two pounds being retained for Land Tax) is annually received from the owner of the premises charged.

The Company redeemed the charities (see items No. 1, 2 and 3) by purchasing Government stock (Consols and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents) in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

There appears to have been some difficulty in former days in collecting the above £10, for I find amongst the old papers of the Broderers that there was a petition to Her Majesty, the late Queen Anne, stating, "That ab^t November 1700 Edward Whitaker Sollicitor of the Admiralty purchased the s^d Estate & afterwards being call'd to Acc^t for Publick moneys received The s^d Estate was thereupon seized to your Maj^{ties} use." "That ever since the annuity chargeable on the s^d Estate hath been in arreare." Most likely this petition met with a favourable response; anyhow the annuity is now annually paid as above stated.

I now give an extract from the Will of Christopher Shaw, by which he gave the rent charge of £10 a year out of his estate at Chipstead for certain charities.

"Item I give and bequeath to the Society and Company of the Imbroderers of the City of London and to their Successors for ever an Annuity or yearely Rent of Tenn pounds yearely of lawfull English money to be issueing out of all my said Lands formerly bequeathed to my Sonne Christopher Shaw situate lying and being within the parish of Chipstede aforesaid which yearly Annuity or bequest of Tenn pounds I will shall be disposed of and employed by the said Company of Broderers to those uses following, viz., I will and devise that three pounds thereof yearely shall be paid to the Schoole Master of the ffree Schoole of Markett Harborough in the County of Leicester for the time being and to his Successors for ever for his better meanes and

maintenance soe long as the said Schoole continueth undissolved But in case the said Schoole at any time hereafter be dissolved and not remaine as now it is then my will and purpose And so I devise and bequeath that the said yearly pention of Three pounds shall remaine to the use of the poore of the parish of Markett Harborough for ever the same to be paid by the said Company of Broderers upon demand thereof at the Broderers Hall in London and this to be paid imediately after my decease by quarterly payments at the foure usuall feasts in the yeare And three pounds more of the said yearely annuity of Ten pounds I give and bequeath to the parish and parishioners of Saint Bennetts neare Paules Wharfe London to be distributed by the Churchwardens for the time being in manner following viz. fforty shillings thereof I will shall be paid to the Six poore widows living there in the Almehouse built by Mr. David Smith and twenty shillings more yearly for ever to be bestowed onn the most poore people of the said parish the same to be distributed alwaies unto them on the first day of November in token of thanksgiving to Almighty God for our great and miraculous deliverance from the powder Treason that Gods name may be thereby glorified for ever Amen And this likewise to be paid imediately after my decease Item I doe further give and bequeath out of the same yearely Annuity of Tenn pounds given by me to the Company of the Broderers as aforesaid the sume of Twenty shillings more to be paid yearly by the said Company of Broderers to the poore of the parish of Chipstede for ever And I doe further give and bequeath out of the said yearly pention and Annuity by me given to the Company of Broderers for the time being yearely for ever as aforesaid to the Clerke of the Company of Broderers the sume of six shillings of lawfull English money and to the Beadle of the same Company for the time being foure shillings of like lawfull English money yearly for ever The residue of the foresaid yearely pention of Ten pounds

I will shall remaine and continew to the Company of Imbroderers and their Successors for ever.

And my mind and Will is that the said Annuity or yearely rent of Tenn pounds hereby given to the Company of Broderers shall be by them from time to time demanded at the now dwellinghouse of my said sonne Christopher situate on Audlyn Hill aforesaid.

BEQUESTS

FOSTER'S BEQUEST

See The Hall.

HUMBLE'S BEQUEST

Stephen Humble, by his will, in the year 1537 (29 Henry VIII), gave a capital messuage and tenement in St. Bartholomew the Less to his wife for life; remainder to his nephew and heirs, on condition that they should pay—

	£	s.	d.
To the poor of St. Bartholomew, Royal Exchange	1	10	0
To the Wardens of the Company for their poor	0	8	0
To 13 poor householders of the Company who had been apprenticed to some freeman	0	13	0
and 8 <i>d.</i> apiece to the Wardens, and 4 <i>d.</i> to the Beadle for their trouble in distributing.			

And on failure of issue of Stephen Humble and his heirs, male, the testator devised the property to the Broderers' Company.

Disputes having arisen between Stephen Humble and the Company on this property, by award of the 20th June (10 Elizabeth), made by Sir Robert Catlin, Chief Justice of Common Pleas, and Christopher Wray, one of the Justices, it was awarded that the Keepers and Wardens should hold the property on the consideration of a sum of money to be paid by the Company.

The Company appear to have come into possession of

the property, and to have parted with it, first reserving a rent charge, or Fee Farm Rent, of £12 6s. 8d., and ultimately freed of the charge, for the Company now receive no rent or payment in respect of this gift. The site is now the property of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, a part of the buildings of that establishment being probably erected on the site. The Minute bearing on the subject is as follows—

“1764, Sep. 19. This Court was summoned to affix this Company’s Seal to the Deed of Bargain & Sale from the Company to the Bank of England for the Sale of their Annuity of £12 6s. 8d. per ann. Issuing out of the Ship Tavern and 2 houses adjoining behind the Royal Exchange which Sale is made and the price or sum of £440 the consideration money in the said Bargain and Sale mentioned was awarded and ordered by a Verdict of a Jury Impannelled in the Court of Lord Mayor & Aldermen of London to inquire of the value of the said annuity by virtue of an Act of Parliament passed the last Sessions of Parliament Intituled an Act to enable the Governor & Company of the Bank of England to purchase houses and ground for opening a passage for Carriages from Cornhill to the Bank &c. And the said Deed being now read in this Court It is now Ordered that the Company’s Seal be now affixed to the said Deed of Bargain & Sale and the Company’s Seal was now affixed thereto.”

In respect of this charity the sum of 30s. was annually paid by the Company to the parish of St. Bartholomew, as mentioned above, until the year 1892, when the Company redeemed the payment by purchasing (at forty years) two and three-quarter per cent. consolidated stock in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

It is very certain that our predecessors had not the gift of prescience or they would not have parted with so valuable a bit of property on such, or indeed on any terms. I remember that many years ago a small piece of land,

within a few hundred feet of this site, was sold at the rate of some £1,100,000 per acre. I believe the land sold was where the shop of the well-known biscuit bakers (Le Mann) stood.

HINDMAN'S BEQUEST

House in Bow Lane.

Richard Hindman by will dated 30th June, 1569, gave a messuage with the appurtenances situate in the Parish of St. Thomas the Apostle, after the decease of his wife, to the Keepers, Wardens, and commonalty of the Company of Broderers of London, upon condition that they should yearly from thenceforth between the day of St. Thomas the Apostle and Christmas distribute—

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Amongst the poor people of the said Broderers	0	13	0
To the Beadle	0	0	4
And amongst the poor people of the said parish of St. Thomas the Apostle	0	13	4

and also upon condition that they should never let the said messuage above £4 a year, and if they should, then he gave the said messuage to the parson and Churchwardens of the said parish of St. Thomas the Apostle and their successors to the use of the said Parish Church upon condition that they should pay the said charitable annuities and on the same condition.

This house and certain premises in the rear thereof were, in consideration of £650 (£548 for house and £102 for back premises), sold by the Company to the Corporation of London in the year 1851, pursuant to the provisions of the London Improvement Act, 1850.

The 13s. 4d. for the poor people of the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle was redeemed by the Company by purchasing (at forty years) two and three-quarter per cent.

consolidated stock in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts in 1892. The other bequests, as belonging to the Company, were not redeemed.

POLLARD'S BEQUEST

See 27 Silver Street.

SHAW'S BEQUEST

See Chipstead.

WILLIAM SMITH'S BEQUEST

William Smith by Indenture dated 11th April, 1625, between the Company of the one part and the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of London, Governors of the revenues of the Hospitals of Christ Bridewell and St. Thomas the Apostle, of the other part, reciting that William Smith, eldest son of David Smith, had before the sealing of that Indenture delivered to the Company the sum of £50—to the uses after mentioned; it was witnessed that the Company thereby covenanted with the said Governors that they would thenceforth for ever pay to the Churchwardens of the parish of St. Benet, near Paul's Wharf, the yearly sum of 40s. on the first Sunday next after the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, to be distributed on the same day by the said Churchwardens and Parishioners to and amongst the poor people of the said parish at the discretion of the said Churchwardens and Parishioners where most need should be, and also should for ever pay to and amongst the poor people free of the Company 10s. to be distributed on the said first Sunday before mentioned at the discretion of the Keepers or Wardens and two of the Assistants of the Company.

The first item of 40s. to be paid to the Churchwardens of St. Benet was redeemed by the Company by purchasing

(at forty years) consolidated stock in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts, per order dated 5th Aug., 1892. The second item of 10s. to the poor of the Company, there was no need to redeem.

JANE POPE'S BEQUEST

By another Indenture also dated 11th April, 1625, between the same parties as those of William Smith's Bequest, reciting that Jane Pope, eldest daughter of David Smith, had before the sealing of that Indenture delivered to the Company the sum of £120 to the uses after mentioned.

To pay yearly on the first Sunday next after the Feast of St. Thomas the following sums, viz.—

- (1) To the Churchwardens of the parish of St. Benet, near Paul's Wharf, the sum of . . . £5 0 0
 (whereof £3 should be distributed by them on the same day amongst the 6 Almswomen harboured in the Almshouse within the said parish or in the parish of St. Peter, near Paul's Wharf, called "The Widow's Inn" founded by the said David Smith, her Father, viz. 10s. to each of them; and the remaining 40s. to be distributed among the poor of the said Parish of St. Benet, at Paul's Wharf, at the discretion of the Churchwardens and Parishioners of the said parish for the time being for ever).
- (2) And also that the Company should for ever pay to and amongst the poor people free of the Company the sum of . . . £1 0 0 to be distributed on the day above mentioned at the discretion of the Keepers or Wardens and two of the Assistants of the Company.

The first item of £5 to be paid to the Churchwardens of St. Benet was redeemed by the Company by purchasing (at forty years) consolidated stock in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts, per order dated 5th Aug., 1892. The second item of £1 for the poor of the Company there was no need to redeem.

ANN CHAMBERLAIN'S BEQUEST

By Indenture dated 13th Dec., 1626, between the same parties as those of William Smith's bequest, reciting that Ann Chamberlain, one of the daughters of the said David Smith deceased, had, before the sealing of that Indenture, delivered to the Company the sum of £130 to the uses undermentioned; it was witnessed that the Company thereby covenanted with the said Governors that they would for ever thereafter pay on the first Sunday in every year next after the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle the sums following, viz.—

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
To the Churchwardens of the parish of St. Benet, near Paul's Wharf, the sum of	5	10	0
(whereof £3 should be distributed by the said Churchwardens on the same day among the 6 Almswomen harboured in the Alms-house within the said parish or in the parish of St. Peter, near Paul's Wharf, called "The Widow's Inn" founded by the said David Smith, her Father, viz. to each 10s.; and the remaining 50s. to be distributed, on the same day, among the Poor of the said parish of St. Benet, at the discretion of the Churchwardens and Parishioners of the same).			
To pay amongst the poor people, free of the said Company, the sum of	0	13	4
(to be distributed on the before mentioned			

£ s. d.

Sunday, at the discretion of the Keepers or Wardens and two of the Assistants of the Company).

And to the Clerk of the Company 3*s.* 4*d.* and to the Beadle 3*s.* 4*d.* for their pains . . . o 6 8 to be by them respectively taken at the first Sunday.

The first item £5 10*s.* payable to the Churchwardens was redeemed by the Company by purchasing (at forty years) consolidated stock in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts, per order dated 5th Aug., 1892. The two other items of 13*s.* 4*d.* and 6*s.* 8*d.* as belonging to the Company there was no need to redeem.

MARY PARADINE'S BEQUEST

By Indenture dated 14th January, 1628, between the same parties as those of William Smith's bequest, reciting that Mary Paradine, one of the daughters of the said David Smith deceased, had before the sealing thereof delivered to the Company the sum of £100 to the uses after mentioned; it was witnessed that the Company thereby covenanted with the said Governors that they would pay yearly for ever the sum of £6, viz. every quarter 30*s.* to be distributed one-sixth thereof to the Clerk of the Company for his care to be taken therein, and the rest to and amongst the poor of the Company at their Common Hall according to the discretion of the Keepers or Wardens and two of the Assistants of the Company.

WILLIAM BRODERICK'S BEQUEST

William Broderick, by his will of the 6th March, 1620, gave £100 to the Company to be paid out of the debts

owing to him from his Majesty, provided, and his mind was, that the said £100 should not be paid until the payment of certain legacies to F. Payne and to the five children of his son-in-law John Shipley be paid, and he directed the said Company to put forth the said £100 at six per cent. and pay thereout—

	£	s.	d.
(1) To 40 poor of the Company	2	0	0
(2) To the 6 poor widows in David Smith's Almshouses	1	0	0
(3) To the poor of St. Benet, Paul's Wharf	1	0	0
(4) To the Wardens	0	10	0
(5) To the Clerk and Beadle	0	6	8

and the residue to be disposed of at the discretion of the said Company.

Items Nos. 2 and 3 were redeemed by the Company by purchasing (at forty years) consolidated stock in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Trusts, per order dated 5th Aug., 1892. The three other items concerning the Company it was not thought necessary to redeem.

Extracts from the will of the said William Broderick, citizen and Imbroderer of London, deceased, dated 6th March, 1620, are as follows, viz.—

“Item I give and bequeath to the Company of Imbroderers London whereof I am a Member the some of one hundred pounds lawfull money of England to be paid out of the debts w^{ch} are nowe oweinge to me by the Kings Majestye and the right hono^{ble} Vicount Doncaster provided alwaies and my mynde and will is that the said hundred poundes shall not be paid onto them ontill after the payment of the foresaid Legacies given to the foresaid Francis Payne and to the five Children of my said Sonne in Lawe John Shipley in manner aforesaid And then upon receipte of more of the said debts soe by them to mee oweinge to the value & some of one hundred pounds I will that the

same be paide to the said Master & Wardens of the said Companie of Imbroderers w^{ch} saide some of one hundred pounds my will and mynd is that the said Master and Wardens of the saide Companie from tyme to tyme shall put forth after the rate of sixe pounds per annum And the same to pay and distribute yearly in manner followinge viz. forty shillings thereof to forty people of their Companie on every Sunday nexte before S^t. Thomas Daye in every yeare yearelie for ever there beinge the same daye given the like guift of Mr. Parre deceased twenty shillings more of the said sixe pounds I will be likewise yearly given to the six poore Widdowes dwellinge in Mr. Smithes Almeshouses situate and beinge on S^t. Peters Hill London for ever And other twenty shillings thereof to be distributed to and amongst the poore of the Parische of Saint Bennetts Pauls Wharffe w^{ch} said severall somes of twenty shillings I will shall be paide and distributed to the said sixe Widdowes and the poore of Saint Bennetts aforesaid on the said Sundaye nexte before the said Saint Thomas Daye in every yeare yearely for ever likewise other tenne shillings thereof I give onto the Wardens from tyme to tyme then beinge and to two more of the Assistants amongst them to be equally divided And six shillings eight pence more thereof I give unto the Clarke and Bedle of the said Companie for their paynes And the residue of the saide sixe pounds remayninge I will shall bee from tyme to tyme disposed of at their discrecon. Item I give to the Livery of the foresaid Companie of Imbroderers for a dynner to be made amongst them five pounds And to the youngne men of the said Companie for the like fyfthe shillings."

There was also a memorandum stating that there was "given to Edmund Harrison a gold ring." This is the same Edmund Harrison whose pious memory is always drunk at the Broderers' banquets, when the cup that he gave to the Company is handed round.

On a search at the Record Office I came across the following interesting information respecting this William Broderick. That on 17th May, 1603, there was a grant to William Broderick in reversion, after John Parre, of the office of King's Embroiderer; that on 28th May, 1605, there was a warrant to pay John Parre and William Broderick¹ £124 2s. 6d. for embroidering the livery coats of the guard, &c., and that on the 30th April, 1611, there was a warrant to pay to the sole order of William Broderick for embroidering 248 red coats with roses and crowns imperial for the King, Queen and Princes' servants, showing that this last gentleman was then fully installed as Embroiderer to the King.

I may here mention that there is this item in the will of the late John Parr, which was dated 7th March, 1605: "I give to Maister William Broderick my best Cloth Gown, furred with Marten, and guarded with velvet Imbroiderie."

JOHN PARR'S BEQUEST

In the Will of John Parr late of the parish of S. Benett near Paules Wharfe within the Cittie of London, Broderer, deceased, dated 7th March, 1605, is as follows—

"Item. I give five pounds to the Wardens Assistantes and Lyverie of the Companye of Broderers to be spent at a dynner when they are to accompanye my corps to buryall.

"Item. I give fortie shillings to the younge men of the companye of Broderers to be spent at a Dynner when they are to accompanye my corps to buriall.

"Item. I give and bequeath to the Keepers and Wardens and Society of the Arte or Misterie of Broderers of the Cittie of London, whereof I am now Free, the some of £250 to be paide onto the Wardens of the saide Companie within two yeares after mye

¹ Broderick is so spelt in the books of the Record Office.

decease, if the money due to me by Debenters from the Kinges Maiestie be by that tyme received, or when the money due by his Maiestie shall be received with which £250 My Will is that the saide Corporation or Company of Broderers shall buye or purchase some peece of lande for ever amountinge at the least to £14 10s. by the year. And in the meantyme shall lende the same fourth to honest men of the said Company of Broderers whoe shall stande in neede thereof uppon good securitie whereby to discharge and pay the somes of money hereafter expressed by the saide Company to be paide. And my will and meaninge is that they shall not lende to any one person alone £50 nor take more for the lone or interest thereof than after the rate of sixe pounds in the hundred. And every person soe takinge upp or havinge fifty poundes of the said some of £250 to paie to the Clarke of the said Companye of Broderers for makinge the Bonde 3s. And to the Beadle of the said Companye 2s. And if any person shall borrowe of the saide money under the some of £50 Then he or they soe borrowinge shall paye for makinge of the said Bond unto the saide Clarke twentie pence, and unto the saide Beadle twelve pence. And my will is that of the proffitt of the saide money or the revenewes of the Land therewith purchased there shal be paide yearly for ever these severall somes hereafter expressed. That is to saye at or uppon the Sundaie before the Feast Daie of Sainte Thomas the Apostle to the Churchwardens of the saide Parishe of Sainte Bennett's for the tyme being the some of £3 to be by the saide Churchwardens distributed amongst the moste poore and needie inhabitantes of the same Parishe for their releiff. And to paye at the same tyme unto sixe poore women harbored in the Almes howse called Widdowes Inn, lately built by David Smith somtyme Cittizen and Broderer of London

fortie shillings to be equallie distributed amongst them. And £3 to be likewise equallye distributed amongste 30 of the poore Brothers of the said Companye of Broderers. And to the Wardens of the saide Companie and two or one of the Assistants whoe shall ayde them in the Distributinge the said severall somes to be paide them 10s. yearelie out of the proffitts of the saide £250. And unto the Clarke and Beadle of the saide Companie in attendinge on the Wardens 2s. a piece. And likewise that there be paid yearelie to the Renter of the saide companie for the tyme beinge the some of 40s. by tenn shillings a quarter to be spent for the drinckinge of the younge men of the saide Companie comminge to the Hall to paye their quarteridges. And that there be likewise spent yearelie in my name 40s. by even portions at the fower serch daies at the Wardens and Renters Dinners. And that the remainder shall remaine to the use or stocke of the saide Companie for ever. And if it shall happen the saide Company to omitte any of the saide payments in forme aforesaide appointed to be paide That then my Will is that the saide sum of £250 or the landes soe purchased with the saide money shall goe and remayne to Christes Hospitall for ever. And the Governowes thereof to make the payments before appointed.

“Item. I give to the Clarke and Beadle of the said Companye of Broderers 40s. a piece to be paide them when the Legacyes before mentioned are to be paide.

“And I doe make and ordaine Anne Gough, my daughter, my full and sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament. And I make and ordaine overseers thereof John Bingham, Sadler, and Robert Taylor, Broderer, and I give to eache of them the like ringe of 40s. a piece to be enamiled with deathes heads

thereon as aforesaid and £5 a peice to be paide them for their paines within two yeares nexte after my decease desiringe them and everye of them to see this my laste Will trulie performed as they will answere before God without discention or discord. And I give to the Wives of the saide John Bingham and Robert Taylor the like ringes of 20s. valewe a peice to be paid as aforesaide."

A codicil made 13th July, 1607, recites "that the most part of his money is in the King's hands, and he was not to receive any part until 1609." And there is a direction that no part of his legacies shall be paid until six months after the receipt of all the said moneys from his Majesty.

There is this note also: "There does not appear on the Will any evidence that the Testator was related to 'Old Parr,'" who died in London in 1635, and was reputed to have lived 152 years.

The Company paid annually the £3 to the churchwardens of St. Benet aforesaid, and distributed to the six almswomen in David Smith's almshouses until they redeemed these charities by buying, at forty years' purchase, $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Consolidated Stock (per order dated 5th Aug., 1892), in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

MARK HOWSE'S BEQUEST

By indenture dated 12th March, 1629, between the Broderers' Company of the one part, and William Cooper and fourteen others of the other part, reciting that Mark Howse had delivered to the Company £140 to purchase lands of £7 a year; the Company covenanted to pay to twelve honest needy poor of the said Company (the Beadle being one), on St. Thomas's Day, £3; and on Maunday

Thursday £2 to the Churchwardens of St. Thomas the Apostle; for the poor £2 (the Sexton being one).

By another indenture, dated 12th December, 1633, between the said Company of the first part, and the Governors of Christ's, Bridewell, and St. Thomas's Hospitals of the other part, reciting the foregoing deed, and that the said Mark Howse had paid to the Company the further sum of £400 for the purposes following the Company covenanted within two years to lay out the said sums of £140 and £400 in the purchase of lands of £7 per annum, and £20 per annum, the rents and profits of which lands so to be bought with the said £140 to be bestowed in the manner before mentioned in the said recited Indenture, and the rents and profits of the lands to be bought with the said £400 to be applied as follows—

- | | | | |
|---|----|---|---|
| (1) To be spent by the Company on the 5th
November | £2 | 0 | 0 |
| (2) To the Company on the four search days | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| (3) To the rent gatherer of the Company | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| (4) To the Churchwardens of St. Thomas the
Apostle to the use of the poor of the parish
(to be distributed as follows, viz. 20s.
thereof on every 5th Nov.; and 20s. more on
St. Thomas day in sums of 2s. 6d. at each
distribution amongst 8 of the poorest and
best deserving people of the parish;—such
distribution to be made by the parson,
churchwardens and 2 of the ancientest
vestrymen of the parish) | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| (5) To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty
of the City of London, the Governors of
Bridewell Hospital, towards putting forth
two poor girls as Servants or apprentices,
such as have served with the Matron of the
said Hospital for two years at the least,
without intermission | 2 | 0 | 0 |

	£	s.	d.
(6) To the Beadle and Porter and 13 poor of the said Company; each to have 6s. 8d. within 3 days after 5th November	5	0	0
(7) To the Beadle and Porter and 10 poor of the said Company, each to have 5s. on St. Mark's day	3	0	0
(8) To the Beadle and Porter and 10 poor of the said Company, each to have 3s. 4d. on St. Matthew's day	2	0	0

And by his will dated 30th Jan., 1638, and proved in the prerogative Court of Canterbury in May 1639, reciting that he had paid and delivered into the hands of the Wardens and Assistants of the Company of Embroiderers the sum of £500, to the intent that they should therewith purchase lands of the clear yearly value of £25 per annum, over and above all charges, the rent whereof should, after his decease, remain to the said Company of Embroiderers, to be employed for such charitable uses and intents as he had already limited, and appointed, as by two several deeds under the Common Seal of the said Company made for the sure payment thereof bearing date as follows, viz. First for £400 by a deed bearing date 12th Dec, 1633; and £100 by a deed bearing date 10th Oct., 1635; which in all made the sum of £500; which said £25 per annum, payable in consideration of the said £500, together with £7 per annum which was formally confirmed upon the Company by and with the sum of £140 which he had formerly put into their hands as a free gift for the use of the poor of that Company as by deed under their common seal bearing date 12th Aug., 1629, might appear, would make up the yearly sum of £32 per annum, which sum he willed should be by the said Wardens and Assistants truly paid and faithfully distributed to the use of the poor in such manner as was already limited and agreed upon betwixt him and the said Company and contained in that

his will and by the said three several deeds made betwixt them in that behalf.

He also gave to the Wardens, Assistants, and Society of the Company of Embroiderers the sum of 20 nobles, to the intent that the Wardens of the Company for the time being should yearly for ever have 6s. 8*d.* allowed to them for their painstaking in the distribution of his several gifts to be paid to them upon their general audit days.

It does not appear that any lands were purchased with these funds; the Company are, however, possessed of an estate at Stifford in Essex which they purchased in the year 1631 for the sum of £2,200 (*see* Stifford Estate), and also of certain funded property and other sources of income considerably more than sufficient to answer the several prescribed payments.

But, under an order dated 5th Aug., 1892, they redeemed the payments of the items Nos. 4 and 5; also a payment of £2 per ann. to the poor of St. Saviour's parish, though all documents to prove the same are lost; and £2 paid to the Church Wardens of St. Thomas for the poor, £1 each day on 5th Nov. and St. Thomas's day; indeed all their charitable liabilities under this trust, by purchasing (at forty years) Consolidated $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Stock in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

HUDSON'S BEQUEST

The will of John Hudson is as follows, viz.—

“In the Name of God Amen. The 16th of February Anno Dni 1612 in the tenth yeare of the Reigne of our Sovereige Lord James by the grace of God King of England, Fraunce, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith &c. and of Scotland the sixe and fortith.

“I John Hudson, Citizen and Ymbrodrcr, of London

beinge in good health and of sound memory I give God thanckes therefore Doe make and declare this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following, that is to say, First I comend my soule unto the hands of Almighty God my Creator assuredly trustinge thorough the merites death and passion of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to enioye everlastinge lief in the Kingdome of Heaven amongst the electe and chosen of God. My body I comitt unto the earth from whence it came, to be buried in Christian buriall, in the Parish Church of St. Albans in Wood Streete in London, where I was borne. And as concerninge the orderinge and disposing of all my worldly goodes and chattells w^{ch} it hath pleased God of his mercye to bestowe on me in this present world I doe will, give, devise, and dispose of them all in forme as followeth. First I give and bequeathe unto the Company of Broderers of London, whereof I am free, one bason and ewer of silver wayinge threescore ounces, at the least, with my name to be set thereon (the guifte of John Hudson) the same to be used, for ever, at all meetings, in the Hall of the said Company. And also I give and bequeathe to the said Company the some of £3 6s. 8d. of lawfull money of England to make them a supper on the day of my buriall. Item. I doe give and bequeathe the sum of £30 of lawfull money of England w^{ch} I will my Executrix shall pay over unto the Master and Wardens of the said Company conditionally to be lent by them and their successors, at their discretions, to three younge men of the Company from tyme to tyme upon securitie, and the persons w^{ch} shall have the same money lent them, payinge for the use of the same only 30s. a yeare, to the M^r and Wardens and their Successors, and in lieu thereof, the M^r and Wardens shall every weeke, weekly, for ever, give and bestowe every Sunday 6d. in bread, to sixe poore people of the said parish of S. Albans of w^{ch} poore people, the Sexton of the said parish allwaies to be one of them."

The codicil to the said will is as follows—

Anno 1615 the 12th of June.

Item. I give and bequeath unto Ellynnne Parry and Edward Parry, my Sisters Parry, hir Children, £50 a piece either of them £50 to be payed into Bratherers Hall with in one yeere after my decease, and the Company to employe it for the good of Ellynnne and Edward Parry untill shee marry or be one and twenty yeares ould and so likewise of hir Brother Edward Parry yf either of them dye then the survivor have bothe partes, and if both dye before the tyme above mentioned then I give it unto the Bratherers to leund unto 10 yonge men payinge to the Clarke, at every loan 2s. and the Beadell 1s. Item. I give unto all my Godchildren that are livinge at my decease 20s. a peece to be paid unto them wth in 3 monthes after my decease.

(Signed) John Hudson.

What became of the basin and ewer of silver weighing 60 oz., if the Company ever possessed them, there is no means of knowing; they were certainly not in the Inventory of the Company's belongings in the year 1741, given under the head of "Goods" in this book; nor in the wholesale disposal of the Company's silver in 1770. Had they come into possession then, there was certainly a dereliction of duty on the Company's part in not having the donor's name engraved thereon and not using them at all meetings in the Hall of the Company.

As to the payment of 26s. a year to the churchwardens of St. Alban's, Wood Street, for the poor, in bread, every Sunday, this sum was redeemed by the purchase (per order of 5th Aug., 1892), at forty years, of Consolidated Stock in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

THE PLATE

JOHN PARR'S CUP (see Plate VI)

I WILL begin with the most beautiful, the most valuable, and the most treasured of the Broderers' plate, the John Parr Cup. I say the most beautiful, because of all the cups I have seen (speaking, of course, as a Broderer), it is only surpassed in beauty by two. One is the "Leigh Cup" of the Mercers' Company; the other is a cup which King John gave to the Town of Lynn, in recognition of services rendered by the inhabitants at the time of his dire distress, when the Wash submerged his soldiers and baggage at a sudden influx of the tide, and was shown to me some years ago when I was at Lynn. It makes one grateful to think that even in such a King as John there should have been one spark of generous feeling in such a depraved nature; but

"There is so much bad in the best of us,
And so much good in the worst of us,
That it ill behoves any of us
To find fault with the rest of us."

I now make an extract from the will of the late John Parr as to this cup, viz.: "I give and bequeathe unto the Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of Broderers, One Standing Cuppe with a cover, guilt, of the value of 20 Marks, with my arms and name thereon engraven and what else shall seem best unto my Executrix, the same to remain to the Hall of Broderers for ever. And my Will is that my said Executrix deliver the said Cuppe unto the Hall within one year next after my decease. Item I give unto my Executrix Four pounds to make my picture



THE JOHN PARR CUP
(Given 1606).



THE EDMUND HARRISON CUP
(Given 1628).

in my livery gown and the Cuppe which before I have given to be pictured in my hand, the same to be done in the time before limited.”

As to the value of this Parr's Cup, I may mention that a few years ago (1888) the Broderers were offered for it a sum of money from an eminent firm of silversmiths sufficient to tempt their cupidity, but the members of the Company declined the generous offer, feeling that they were but trustees of this valuable heirloom which had been handed down to them by their predecessors and had to be held by them as a sacred trust for the benefit of future generations of Broderers. It is not a secret that I am forbidden to divulge when I state that this cup is insured against fire and risks for £5000.

Those who have attended the Broderers' banquets know very well that when this loving cup is passed round the toast is, "To the immortal memory of John Parr, Citizen and Broderer." But who this John Parr was, except what might be gathered from his will, and his being embroiderer to the King, is hidden in mystery. All that the Broderers know about that gentleman is from the inscription on the cup which states, "The gift of John Parr, Imbroiderer to our late Queen Elizabeth, deceased, and unto our Sovereign Lord King James, that now is, 1606." I have visited the British Museum, the Record Office (where payments made to him by the King are entered), searched many books, and have written to *Notes and Queries* in the hope of finding out more about John Parr, as he should from his position have been somewhat of a public character, but my efforts have been fruitless; but this I do believe, that he was an honest and generous member of the craft, for he not only presented this cup to the Company, but also gave £250 to purchase land for charitable purposes as fully explained under the heading "Parr's Bequest."

On the 12th March, 1880, "The Clerk reported, that pursuant to the order of the last Court in this behalf, the

cups presented to the Company by John Parr, and Edmund Harrison, respectively, had been lent to the Lords of the Committee of Council of Education for the purpose of making electro-type reproductions thereof for the use of the South Kensington Museum"; and where they can now be seen.

The particulars of the above copy of the cup, as stated in the Museum on a card at its base, are—

"Cup and Cover. The original of silver gilt, the gift of John Parr in 1606, is the property of the Broderers' Company. A baluster stem on hexagonal base supports the rounded base of the bowl, chased with fruit, flowers, strapwork, and masks in high relief. The drum is engraved with scriptural subjects in landscapes. The cover is richly decorated with chased ornament and enamel, the top formed by three alcoves with terminal figures. German 1606. Height 16in., greatest diam. $6\frac{1}{2}$ in."

On the 23rd Nov., 1908, "The Clerk reported that Mr. E. Alfred Jones had requested an inspection of the Company's John Parr and Edmund Harrison cups for the purpose of a book he was writing in reference to the Czar of Russia's Old English Plate, and that he had produced the cups to that gentleman, who had subsequently written him a letter which was read to the Court."

"Resolved that the action of the Clerk be approved, and that Mr. Jones's letter be placed on the Minutes."

The letter runs thus: "The maker of your highly interesting cup was Jacob Fröhlich of Nuremberg, and its date is about 1575. E. Alfred Jones."



WILLIAM LEAF GIFT (20TH MAY, 1839).

A silver Epergne, triangular base, rustic stem with vine leaves and model figures of boys at each corner with bunches of grapes. Victorian.

Engraved Arms of Company, and inscription—"The Gift of William Leaf to the Court of Assistants to the Mystery of Broderers of London, for ever, in testimony of his regards after presiding 2 years as Master—Whit Monday 1839."

London hall-mark. Weight 174 oz.

EDMUND HARRISON'S CUP (see Plate VI)

If I have been unsuccessful in obtaining any account of the life of John Parr, it is far otherwise with reference to Edmund Harrison. I will begin with his cup which he gave to the Company in the year 1628, and make an extract of the particulars stated on the card at the base of the cup which the South Kensington Museum have a copy of, and which is there exhibited.

“Cup and Cover. The original of silver parcel gilt, the gift of Edmund Harrison in 1628, is the property of the Broderers' Company. The stem is in the form of a tree with clipped branches; the bowl and cover of gourd shape, richly engraved and chased with cherubs, fruit, flowers, and strapwork. On the cover a miniature vase holds a spray of flowers. English Hall Mark 1611. Height 20 inches, diam. $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.”

On the outside rim of the lid of the cup is engraved, “The gift of Edmund Harrison, Imbroiderer to our late Sovereigne King James, deceased, and unto O'Sovereigne Lord King Charles, that now is, 24th Jan. 1628; then being Warden of the Company of Broderers.” And on the foot of the cup is engraved, “E. Harrison, ob 9 Jan. 1666, Æ 77, was a parishioner of Cripplegate. At the age of 40 he married Jane the eldest daughter of Tho^s Godfrey, Esq^r, of Hodiford in Kent, by whome he had 12 sons and 9 daughters, of whome 5 only survived him, viz. Godfrey, Edmund, Peter, Sarah, and Jane.”

This Edmund Harrison was buried at St. Giles', Cripplegate. Near the middle of the north of the church is a large marble tablet heavily ornamented, on which is the following lengthy inscription: “Nere this piller lyeth interred ye body of Edmund Harrison late of this parish, who having lived above 40 yeeeres a batchelour, had to wife Jane, ye eldest daughter of Thomas Godfrey, late of Hodiford, in ye county of Kent, Esq^r, by whom he had

issue 12 sonnes and 9 daughters, of w^{ch} at ye time of his death were only living 3 sonnes, Godfrey, Edmund, and Peter, and 2 daughters, Sarah and Jane. He was embroiderer to 3 Kings, viz. K James, K Charles 1st, and K Charles 2nd. left ye troubles of this world ye 9th day of January 1666, in ye 77 yeare of his age, in a Christian assurance of a resurrection unto life eternall, to whos memorie his eldest sonn Godfrey erected this monument."

Let us pause for a while and think; for there is cause for reflection, that when the Broderers and their friends are carousing and are passing around his beautiful cup at the Metropole Hotel, and drinking to the "pious memory" of this Edmund Harrison, citizen and Broderer, that not two miles away, at St. Giles', Cripplegate, lies all that remains of him who is the subject of that toast, resting in peace, perfect peace, unconscious of the honour being done to his memory, and unmindful of the respect that has been shown to him for nearly 300 years, and which, let us hope, will be continued by future generations of Broderers.

Concerning Edmund Harrison's appointment as Embroderer, the following (from the Record Office) may be interesting.

A grant with survivorship was made on 13th Sept., 1621, to John Shepley and Edmund Harrison, on surrender of John Shepley of the office of Embroiderer to the King.

After the Restoration, on 14th Aug., 1660, Harrison petitioned Charles II to be admitted Embroiderer to His Majesty again, an office which he had held under King James, representing that he has £4000 due to him for embroidery from the late King; that he is 70 years of age, and has 21 children. The Company of Embroiderers certify as to his skill, that he is the ablest worker living, and as to his loyalty, that he preserved the King's best cloth of State, and his rich carpet, embroidered with pearl, from being cut in pieces or burnt, and that he restored these and many other goods to His Majesty.

A warrant follows on this to pay Edmund Harrison, the King's embroiderer, £341 yearly for his living, and another to pay him £159 12s. for embroidering 250 coats for the yeomen of the chamber, yeomen waiters of the tower, yeomen of the robes and wardrobes, and 42 messengers of the chamber.

But notwithstanding his skill and loyalty and restoration to office, it would seem that two other embroiderers, by means possibly not unusual in that Court, had unduly obtained a patent for his place. The Attorney and Solicitor General report that Harrison had duly obtained a judgment in chancery against his opponents (execution being delayed on technical points), that the petitioner Harrison would best be relieved by a letter to the Lord Chancellor, with order to see to the speedy execution of judgment.

In November following there follows a grant, with survivorship to William Rutlish and Charles Pinckney (his opponents) on surrender of Edmund Harrison of the office of Embroiderer. It had probably been made worth Harrison's while to surrender.

Edmund Harrison's name frequently appears at Vestry Meetings, and he signs the annual audit of 1663 as one of the auditors.

The Register is as follows: Edmund Harrison, Embroiderer, Apoplexy, Church, 15th Jan., 1666-7.

The above particulars were extracted from that very interesting book called *An Account of the Church and Parish of S. Giles', Cripplegate*, by Deputy Sir John J. Baddeley, J.P.

As I have already stated, one of these two costly cups, included with other silver articles, was pledged in 1686 to Mr. John Lucas for £25. Taking the value of the cups into consideration, such a transaction would seem incredible had it not been corroborated by the Broderers' Minutes.

In handing round these two cups on all festive occasions, it is but natural that they should come to grief some-

times, and I find several entries to that effect, the first being made on 24th June, 1693, when it was stated that the cover of Parr's cup was out of repair, and on 13th Dec., 1804, it was "ordered as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Edmund Harrison and Mr. John Parr, the donors of the two cups belonging to this Company, that the said cups being in bad condition that the same be regilt and repaired as necessary." And this cost the Company £13 3s. I should be very sorry to think that these little accidents should prevent a continuance of this very ancient custom, and evidently our predecessors thought so too, for by a Minute of 13th Dec., 1826, "Upon the motion of Mr. Holah, seconded by Mr. Nichols, it was orderd that the Company's two silver gilt cups, the gifts of Mr. Parr and Mr. Harrison, be introduced after dinner every day upon which the Court of Assistants shall dine together."

There have been many applications to the Company for loans of these two cups both for copying and for exhibition besides what I have already mentioned. The next entry I find was on the 23rd April, 1861, when the Master was empowered to lend the plate to the Ironmongers' Company for exhibition, at the *Conversazione* held at their Hall, on the 8th May of that year. On 9th June, 1873, an application was made by Henry Cole, Esq., and another on behalf of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education, for facsimile copies of the Company's ancient plate, which was granted, and is now exhibited, as I have stated before, in the South Kensington Museum; and on 5th June, 1882, a letter from the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, was read—the same bearing date 18th March, 1882—and asking permission, on behalf of the Corporations of Sheffield, Bradford, and Birmingham, for single reproductions of some of the Company's plate to be made and furnished to the Museums of the above Corporations, and it was resolved that such permission be granted on the understanding that the plate do not go out of the



JOHN ELIN'S GIFT (29TH SEPT, 1880).

A round silver Rose-Water Dish, 20 in. in diameter, raised boss in centre, chased Arms of Broderers' Company, the border chased shells and scrolls.

Engraved—"Presented to the Worshipful Company of Broderers by John Elin, on his admission to the livery 1879. George Reed Mann, Master."

Weight 69 oz. 12 dwt.

Company's possessor. Another application was considered and granted from the Midland Counties Art Museum, at the Castle, Nottingham, on 12th March, 1883. And a like result met a further letter from the Science and Art Department on 29th Sept., 1887, with respect to the Union Central des Arts decoratifs of Paris. Other reproductions have been made which need not here be specified. So from far and wide came solicitations for reproductions of these valuable cups. These requests were invariably granted where the want was a national one, but with this proviso, that an undertaking be given that the copy shall not be reproduced.

On 30th June, 1756, a Minute states that "The plate belonging to the Company was now weighed. And the same amounted in all to 243 oz., and no more, which this Court ordered to be entered by the Clerk of this Company at the Excise Office, London, and the duty thereof paid pursuant to the Act of Parliament in that case made."

With the exception of the Parr and Harrison Cups the Broderers had little to boast of in respect of plate for over two centuries; for it was not until the year 1839 that Mr. William Leaf, who had been Master of the Company on six occasions, presented to the Company an elegant Silver Epergne and Plateau (see Plate VII), which called forth "expressions of their approbation and admiration from his colleagues, not merely for its intrinsic value, but for the admirable fashion and workmanship it displayed."

These expressions were followed by something more substantial, as the following entries from the Company's cash-book will explain—

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1839, June 21. Mess ^{rs} Bishop, writing the vote of thanks ordered by the Court to be presented to Mr. Leaf, the late Master, and emblazoning thereon the Arms of the Company; also the Arms of Mr. Leaf	12	12	0

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Foord making an old oak frame for ditto			
and square of plate glass for same . . .	4	10	6

Doubtless this grateful acknowledgment of his kindly gift is as much treasured by the family of the late Mr. William Leaf as his costly present is valued by the Company who honours his memory.

There was a Committee appointed on the 14th Feb., 1840, to examine the Company's records, and they found among the property belonging to the Company the Staff of the Porter (see Plate I), surmounted by the Company's crest in silver, with the hall mark of 1658. They had the same repaired and burnished, and caused such alterations to be made in the ancient chair belonging to the Company as were necessary to allow the Porter's and Beadle's staffs to be affixed thereto (see also Chair). I see from the Minutes of 30th Aug., 1733, that it was ordered "that Mr. Duharnell do prepare and get a new beadle's staff with a silver head" (see Plate I) "in the best and cheapest manner y^t can be," so that in age this staff may be called modern in comparison with the Porter's staff.

At a meeting held 26th May, 1828, it was represented to the Court that Mr. James Dixon, a worthy Liveryman of this Company, had presented to the Company a beautifully chased silver badge (see Plate I) to be worn upon the beadle's gown, and the same having been inspected by the Court, and generally admired, the thanks of the Court were given to Mr. Dixon. This gentleman was admitted to the Court on the 23rd May, 1831, and elected Master on 19th May, 1834, and again held that honourable position in 1848.

The name of Leaf is a well-known and highly respected one in the Broderers' Company. William Leaf has occupied the Chair oftener than any of his predecessors or successors, and has honoured the Company by the present-

ation of a handsome piece of silver plate, as above stated. Now we have another of the same name, Mr. Charles John Leaf, who gave, on 14th Dec., 1874, a handsome gold and enamel official badge, set with brilliants (see Plate I), to be worn by the Master at the Courts of the Company and on such other occasions as may be determined upon. It is stated in the Minutes that "The Court gratefully accepted Mr. Leaf's munificent gift which was handed by him to, and worn by, the Master, at this Court, and duly acknowledged by him." On the back of this badge is engraved

Presented
to the
Worshipful Company
of Broderers
by
Charles J. Leaf, Esq.,
one of the Court of Assistants,
Dec. 1874,
Gilbert C. Northcote, Esq., Master.

A Liveryman, Mr. John Elin, also showed his appreciation of the Broderers' Company by giving a handsome present, as is announced in a Minute of 29th Sept, 1880, which states that "Mr. George Mann, on behalf of Mr. John Elin, one of the Liverymen of this Company, presented to the Company a very beautiful silver rose water dish" (see Plate VIII) "for use at the Company's banquets, which was much admired by all present at the Court." This worthy Broderer lived but a short time after making his kindly gift.

The most unique piece of plate belonging to the Company is the medal tankard (see Plate IX). I say unique, because I doubt whether any other City Company has dealt with the medal in a similar way.

When the City Imperial Volunteers went on active

service to South Africa, the Broderers was one of the Companies who subscribed for their equipment, and at the end of the war our late good King Edward VII, who appeared to think of everything, directed his Secretary of State to transmit to each of the subscribing Companies a medal with 7 clasps (viz. Belfast, Wittelergan, Diamond Hill, Johannesburg, Drieffontein, Paardeberg and Cape Colony).

When the Broderers received this gift, they doubted what to do with it, for it would hardly be correct for the Master to wear it on state occasions, as he might be questioned as to his right to such a decoration; moreover the Broderers are a very peaceful community, and are therefore not given to sanguinary battles for which such medals are generally given. The other City Companies were also at a loss as to its disposal. I did hear that several of them had framed their medals like a picture; others kept them in a drawer, perhaps afterwards to be forgotten or lost; not so the Broderers, who, at a Court held 22nd Oct., 1901, ordered the medal and its attachments to be inserted in crystal in the lid of a silver tankard, so that both sides would be exposed to view, and that it might be kept as an heirloom of the Company for the edification of countless generations of Broderers. And this tankard is one of the most interesting decorations on the Broderers' table.

Perhaps I may be pardoned for now bringing my own name so prominently into this talk about the Broderers' Company, but I have a little confession to make, and that is, when I became Master of the Company for the second time, it came into my head that the plate of the Company might be very much increased if an example were shown by the Master; so at a Court held 23rd May, 1902, I presented a silver cup and cover (see Plate X) to the Company, designed from a loving cup in the possession of Wadham College, Oxford, that was made in the

... to South Africa... Broderers was one of the Com-
 pany who... and at the end
 of the war... VII, who appeared
 to think... Secretary of State to
 ... a medal
 ... Thamoud Hill,
 ... and Cape

Plate IX

A LARGE SIZE SILVER-GILT TAPERED SIDE, FLAT TOP TANKARD, COPY ANTIQUE. SOUTH AFRICAN WAR
 MEDAL WITH RIBBON AND SEVEN BARS INSET IN CRYSTAL COVER.

Inscriptions.

Broderers' Arms in front.

On one Side.

The Medal Clasp and Ribbon
 inserted in the lid of this Tankard
 were presented to
 the Broderers' Company
 by His Majesty King Edward 7
 on the 30 Aug. 1901
 on the recommendation of

Field-Marshal Rt. Honble. Earl Roberts
 of Kandahar, V.C. K.G. K.P. G.C.B. G.C.S.I. G.C.I.E.
 (Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces)
 in commemoration of the spontaneous & patriotic
 liberality shown by the Broderers & other City Companies
 in assisting to raise and equip the
 City of London Imperial Volunteers
 for active service in South Africa
 in the year 1900.

On the other Side.

Master

Christopher Holford Esq.

Warden

Frederick Gordon Esq.

Keeper Warden

Edwin John Dixon Esq.

Auditors

Sir David Evans K.C.M.G. Alderman (late Lord Mayor).
 Sir Walter Henry Wilkin K.C.M.G. Alderman (late Lord Mayor).

Assistants

Stafford Charles Northcote Esq.
 George Thomas Robinson Esq.
 Frederick Clench Esq.
 Robert Nevill Esq.
 John Chapple Esq.
 Colonel Charles Allen.

Clerk

George William Barber Esq. J.P.

Chaplain

The Rev. Silvanus Saunders M.A.

On lid in Crystal

Belfast.

Wittebergen.

Diamond Hill.

Johannesburg.

Driefontein.

Paardeberg.

Cape Colony.

Medal

Clasp

Weight 64 oz.

PLATE IX



year 1671, or just eight years older than the first existing Minutes of the Broderers. This example was speedily followed by the presentation of two silver porringers (see Plate XI), reproductions of old caudle cups of the Charles II period, given by the then 8th Viscount Middleton and his son the Rt. Hon. W. S. John F. Brodrick, M.P., then Secretary of State for War, the present Viscount. My successor in office, Mr. Edwin J. Dixon, on his resignation of the Chair, presented the Company with a cup exactly similar to my own (see Plate XII); and when Mr. Robert Nevill vacated the Chair in 1906, he also gave a silver gilt cup to the Broderers (see Plate XIV); and after him, in 1907, the then Master, Colonel (now Sir Charles) Allen's donation was a pair of silver gilt water ewers (see Plate XVII). The last past Master, Mr. John Mantell, has given to the Company an antique salt (see Plate XVIII). And I have reason to hope there will be other presents from succeeding Masters, and so on, I trust, till the Broderers' Company will hold no mean place respecting plate with other City Companies of much greater repute.

To show the affection of Broderers to their little Company I now make an extract of a letter submitted to the Court of 14th April, 1905, written by Mr. C. G. Gordon to the Clerk of the Company.

“As you are doubtless aware, it had been the intention of my Father Mr. Frederick Gordon to present to the Broderers' Company a loving cup (see Plate XIII), in commemoration of his year of office as Master, and in recognition of the many pleasant evenings he had spent with the Members of the Company. The Cup was ordered by my Father, but delivered only some time after his death. Perhaps I may be permitted, as a Broderer, to present, as from him, the Cup which he had intended himself to give.”

“Resolved unanimously That the Clerk do write to Mr. Claude George Gordon stating that the Court highly appreciated the gift, which would ever be treasured by the Company as a memento of the cordial relationship existing between the late Mr. Frederick Gordon and the members of the Company.”

In the Hall

2 Pictures and Frames.	3 Vinegar Cruets.
5 Leaves for Tables with Trusses.	5 Wooden Pepper Boxes.
1 Square Sideboard Table.	*2 Beadles Staves with Silver heads.
7 Forms.	2 Beadles Gowns.
1 Pipe Box.	2 Hatt Rings or Coronetts Embroidered.
Lord Mayor's Speech in a Frame.	*The Poors Box.
20 Muggs.	Wooden Hammer.
A Pitcher.	*The New Testament with Embroidered Covers.
8 Salts.	
6 dozen of Glasses.	
8 Water Beakers.	

In the Kitchen

2 Copper Dripping Pans.	4 Forms.
4 Iron Spitts.	1 Copper Block.
Tongs, Shovel and Poker.	and about 5 dozen of Knives and Forks.
1 Grate and 1 Fender.	
A pair of Racks.	

Of all the above belongings of the Broderers' Company in 1741 there are only, I believe, 6 articles (including the 2 beadle's staves and the poor box, otherwise mentioned) still in their possession, viz. the 2 cups given by John Parr and Edmund Harrison, the New Testament with embroidered covers, and the seal of the Company, which last, by the bye, was a substituted one, for on 9th Nov., 1838, a statement was made by the Clerk "that he had been unfortunate enough to lose the Company's seal," when it was "ordered that a new seal be made and a box to contain it." This cost the Company £12 16s. This included "10s. gift to a man finding the seal," so I presume after the new seal was made that the old one was found. The Company were evidently determined that no such mishap should occur again, as is shown by the following Minute of 12th March, 1872. "The box containing the corporate seal of the Company was laid on the table and locked with three different keys, and one of such keys was handed to the Master, and another (in duplicate) with five other keys belonging to the Company's deed boxes and poor



CHRISTOPHER HOLFORD'S GIFT (23RD MAY, 1902).

A silver-gilt two-handled plain copy antique Stirrup Cup and Cover with strappings on body and 3 feet to the cover, which also forms a stand for the cup.

Engraved Arms of the Company, and Arms of Christopher Holford, Master of the Company 1893-4 and 1901-2.

And Engraved Inscription—"This Cup is the gift of Christopher Holford at the termination of his second happy year of office as Master of the Broderers' Company 1901-2. Made bright by the hearty co-operation of his colleagues on the Court, who have been indulgent to his caprices and lenient to his faults. Friday 23rd May, 1902."

Weight 52 oz.

box were handed to the renter warden, the remaining keys of the seal box and other keys being left in the Clerk's custody."

There is one thing about the two cups I cannot understand, and that is, why in the inventory they are called 1 gilt cup and cover, and 1 goblett, instead of 2 gilt cups and covers, or 2 goblets. That they mean the same is evident from the fact that the Company only possessed the Parr and Harrison's Cups after the wicked sale of the remainder of the silver in 1770, which I will now relate.

What we do in these days when every ancient article is highly prized is evidently not in accord with the doings of our predecessors, for by a Minute of the 12th March, 1770, it was "Ordered nem. con. That the Keepers and Wardens do sell the Company's Salt cellar and cover, the 2 Silver Beakers, and 37 Silver Spoons; as being old and useless." It was also "Ordered nem. con. That the Keepers and Wardens do sell the Pewter Dishes and Plates, and other Pewter Utensils; as being useless. Two Copper Dressing pans, the Table linen, Knives, Forks, Glasses, and other useless things belonging to the Companye, but not the 2 potts, or other things that the Wardens shall think fit to reserve." (The Master was John Brooker, and Under Warden Gideon Maynard.)

The light and careless way in which the Company's possessions were so disposed of reminds one of the doings of Charles Surface in *The School for Scandal*, by the sale of the pictures of his ancestors.

I may mention that the silver salt and cover, 2 silver beakers and the 37 spoons, weighing altogether 132 oz. 13 dwts., sold at 5s. 6d. per oz., brought into the Broderers' exchequer the paltry sum of £36 9s. 6d. Whether the trifling sum realized by this reckless sale of the Company's silver broke the Master's heart there is no Minute to certify, but this is stated, that shortly after the event he

died, and was succeeded by his under warden, who seemed to me, however, equally culpable.

And at a Court held 13th Dec., 1770, "The Clerk informed the Court that he had received of Mr. Townsend the sum of £16 16s. 5d. for the following goods belonging to this Company sold to the said Mr. Townsend, viz.—

	£	s.	d.
To Pewter Plates, Dishes, Butter Bouts, and Potts, 3 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. @ 65/- p. Cwt.	12	15	6
To Brass Candle Sticks, &c., &c., 65/4 p. Cwt.	2	9	0
To Shovel, Tongs, &c.	0	12	9
To Copper Pans, &c.	0	19	2
	£16 16 5		

So that this indiscriminate sale, &c., of the Broderers' property only produced the insignificant sum of £53 5s. 11d.

As to the New Testament, still in the Company's hands, the frontispiece bears this inscription, viz.—

The Newe
Testament of our Sa-
viour Jesus Christ
Diligently overseene and faith-
fully translated out of the
Greeke

The pearle which Christ commanded
to be bought
Is here to be founde, not els to be
sought.

Imprinted at London
By Richard V. Watkins
1565.
Cum privilegio ad imprimen-
dum solum.

Inside the Testament is the following, viz. : "The cover of this book was Imbroidered A.D. 1577." And on the cover it states that it "was new bound and embroydered

in the year of our Lord 1704." [John Brookes and Henry Hale, wardens.]

The Minutes for 1703-4 and 1704-5 have been mislaid, so there is no means of ascertaining the particulars respecting this re-binding, which would have been very interesting.

As to the remainder of the goods mentioned in the inventory, they seem to have been either sold, lost, stolen or strayed.

I may here mention that by a Minute of 18th June, 1747, "Mr. Thomas Grainger informed the Court that on inspecting the Company's goods in the custody of the beadle, he found a deficiency of 2 doz. & 8 plates, 2 dishes & 2 saucers—all pewter—and four napkins, according to the inventory taken in the year 1741."

And on 5th April, 1758, "The Court was summoned to inspect into the Company's goods in the Hall, which they did, and found divers things wanting, insomuch that it was concluded that Mr. Arnold, the Middle Warden, should take an opportunity himself and take an account of all deficiencies." But Mr. Arnold seems to have shelved the matter, for no account appears to have been rendered by him.

There are two pictures missing that particularly claimed attention when looking through the Broderers' books, the first, stated in the Minute of 24th June, 1687, that "Several of the working Imbroiderers having contributed towards a picture of Mr. W. Rutlish, late Master, and now presented the same, it was agreed to be placed in the Hall and inserted in the Company's Inventory." The second, as stated in a Minute of 15th Sept., 1687, "Mr. William Rutlish, having at his own charge provided and presented to the Company the picture (by Longly) of King Charles II, in a frame, now set up in the parlour, the Court return their thanks to him." With regard to this latter picture I find by a Minute dated 13th Jan., 1744, that "the picture of King Charles, and the frame thereof, in the said

Court room, be cleaned and repaired by Mr. Bakewell." After this last entry I find no further mention made of either of these two pictures in the Minutes of the Company.

On Whit Monday, 1695, there is this entry in the Minutes, "This day Mr. James Pooley, who had for the year last past served Upper Warden of this Company, being of the very art as well as Company of Broderers, and having a due respect for the said Company and art did (to the good example of others) present unto this Company the picture or figure of S. Peter, in Brodery, with a glass over it, in a gilded frame, which was well received and appointed, to be preserved to posterity, and seen in the Hall with the other masterpieces upon the several days when the Livery shall meet."

And on 24th June, 1698, the same gentleman (Mr. James Pooley) "having at the charge of the Company renewed the scrol of Mr. Toler's gift, and made several pieces of Embroidery in the carpet of the Court room, Did add thereto the embroidered Arms of the City and Company which together with the figure of S. Peter imbroidered in a gilt frame by him before presented to the Company, are thankfully received, and ordered to be preserved for the honour of the Company in memory of their benefactor, and for the good examples of others."

On 20th Dec., 1738, I find that "Mr. Hangood this day made a present to the Company of the King's Arms, City Arms, and the Company's Arms, finely embroidered upon a Green Cloth bought for the long table in the Court Room."

If all these embroideries, now lost to the Company, had been preserved, how they would have gladdened the sight of the modern connoisseur. There are, however, exceptions to this wanton waste of the Broderers' property in the case of the two following banners, which are still carefully preserved. On 1st Oct., 1877, "The Clerk reported that Mr. Alderman Hadley, the Master, had



The figure is a bust of a man, possibly a historical figure, with a beard and curly hair. The text overlaid on the image reads:

The figure is a bust of a man, possibly a historical figure, with a beard and curly hair. The text overlaid on the image reads:



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Court room, as above, and repaired by Mr. Balwell.¹¹ After the late repairs and the former mention made of rolls in the Museum of the Company.

The first roll was seen in the entry in the *Plate XI* *Company*, who had for the

VISCOUNT MIDDLETON'S GIFT (OCT. 1902).

A silver Porringer and Cover, reproduction of antique, chased animals and flowers; two figure handles. *Company*

Engraved Arms of Middleton and Arms of the Company. *Court of Broderers*
Engraved on bottom—"The Gift of William 8th Viscount Middleton Citizen and Broderer 1902."

Weight 20 oz. 12 dwt.

... into the Company ... with a glass ... well received and ... and sent to the ... several days ...

... (Mr. ... renewed the act of ... pieces of embroidery to ... and thereby the ... Company which together with the figure of St. Peter ... in a gilt frame by him before presented to the Company, are thankfully received, and ordered to be preserved for the honour of the Company in memory of their benefactor, and for the good examples of others."

On 20th Dec., 1718, I find that 'Mr. Hammond this day ... to the Company of the King's Arms City ST. JOHN BRODRICK'S (NOW 9TH VISCOUNT MIDDLETON) GIFT, OCT. 1902.

A silver Porringer and Cover, reproduction of antique, chased cherubs' heads and floral scrolls; two handles with chased figures, twist wire ring handle to cover. *Court*

Engraved on bottom—"The Gift of Rt. Honble S. John Brodrick, M.P., Secretary of State for War, Citizen and Broderer, 1902."

Weight 18 oz.

... Company, ... considered the ... however, ... Broderers' property ... which are still ... 1877." The Clerk reported that ... had



recently presented the Company with a handsome banner of the Master's Arms." This Alderman, who was also Sheriff, was elected by the Livery for Lord Mayor, but the Court of Aldermen would not confirm such election, so that he never occupied the Civic Chair. Sad to relate, this gentleman, who was of a kindly and genial nature, died some little time afterwards in very needy circumstances, as the following extract from a morning paper will show.

"This morning Mr. Simeon Charles Hadley, formerly an Alderman of London, died from cancer at his lodgings in Kennington. Mr. Hadley, who was formerly a miller at Blackfriars, was many years a Common Councilman for Castle Baynard Ward, and in 1875 he succeeded Sir Sills John Gibbons as Alderman, defeating the late Mr. G. J. Cockerell. In 1876, in conjunction with Mr. Quartermaine East, he served the office of Sheriff of London and Middlesex. In 1883 it was his turn to be elected Lord Mayor; but, though chosen by the Livery, he was vetoed by his brother Aldermen, there being then rumours as to his solvency. Mr. Alderman (now Sir Robert) Fowler, M.P., was chosen in his place. The unusual course taken by the Aldermen was justified in the next year, when he became a bankrupt, and resigned his aldermanic gown. It is sad to state that his last weeks were spent in considerable distress, relieved only by the help of the Bakers' Company, of which he was recently Master, and his former colleagues among the Aldermanic and Freemasonry body." [*Standard*, 15/5/90.]

The other banner was given 29th Sept., 1890. The Minute states that "A Banner was presented by the Wimbledon Art School through Miss Bennett, the Principal." Resolved "that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded for the gift, and that a notice of the presentation be prepared for insertion in the press." I cannot help mentioning here how much I was indebted to this Miss Bennett for her most kind and welcome help she gave me

when I was arranging the first Exhibition of Embroidery in 1904, for without that lady's help and practical knowledge, it would have been almost impossible to formulate the rules necessary for such an exhibition. I much regret to have to state that the Wimbledon Art College is now no more. What has become of the kind Principal is unknown to me.

Besides these two handsome banners the Company own four others of an inferior description, formerly used, no doubt, to decorate the Broderers' stand on Lord Mayor's Day; three of them are hanging banners, beautifully worked, but sadly out of repair, and might be very profitably handed over to the Royal School of Art Needlework for recuperation. The fourth is of a much more tawdry nature, many feet in length with a double pointed termination, very similar, but much more magnificent, to the little flags decorating the soldiers' lances. At a distance this long, narrow flag looks like a fine piece of embroidery, but on closer inspection it is found to be made apparently of linen, very much embellished with gorgeous colouring and tinsel. This last flag is never used now, but the three former flags come out on state occasions when the Broderers wish to make an additional show.

One more instance I will now give to show how the Broderers' Company have been mulcted of their goods. On 13th Dec., 1783, "Mr. Robert Hudson, one of the gentlemen of the Choir of S. Paul's Cathedral, presented to the Court a Collection of Catches, Glees and Songs, in 3 books, and beg'd the Court to accept the same as the only mark of respect in his power for the many civilities the Court had favoured him with. Ordered that the Books be accepted and the thanks of the Company given to Mr. Hudson for his present." Where are these books now?

One of our partners in the Irish Estate, the Cooks' Company, forwarded a letter which was submitted to the Court on 13th Dec., 1883, "from Robert Miller, Esq^{re},

requesting that the Company would accept a Plaque of the Arms of the Cooks' Company, of which he was past Master, to commemorate the occasion of the 4th centenary of the granting of that Company's Charter, was read, and it was Resolved that the Court do accept the said Plaque, and that the Clerk be requested to acknowledge with thanks the due receipt thereof, and of Mr. Miller's letter accompanying the same." This Plaque is not now, I believe, in the possession of the Company.

RELIGION

RELIGION has always been considered the paramount virtue of the Broderers, as it has been with the other Companies of London; indeed, religious observances and the common feasts were characteristic features of those institutions. I know nothing of the Company's religious proceedings before the Great Fire of London, but this I do know that one of the first entries in the existing Minutes states, that a sermon was preached on Whit Monday in the year 1680. This was only the year after the first written minute was made.

When the New Charter was read at the Court on 23rd April, 1686, "It was agreed that such of those named in the Charter as will be qualified according to the direction therein contained shall, before Monday the 3rd of May receive the sacrament, and on the same day a Court is to be held"; consequently the several persons named produced their certificates of having received the sacrament according to the usage of the Church of England; and Mr. Harris being named Master in the New Charter, having first made and subscribed the declaration, took the oath mentioned in the Statute relating to Corporations, 13th Charles II, and the oath of allegiance and supremacy, as I have already stated.

The taking of the sacrament was a religious duty always performed on the Whit Monday, when the annual sermon was also preached, respecting which the Broderers were a little particular about their pastor, for I find the following entry, "Ordered that Dr. Pratt have notice given for the preaching the Whit Monday sermon *in person*."

Religion also followed the Broderers at their meals, for on the 24th June, 1714, "The Upper Warden moved this Court that an order should be made that upon publick state daies of this company noe persons be suffered to smoke tobacco in the Hall or Court of Assistants room, before dinner, and not untill Grace shall be said, and the cloths taken off the tables. Whereupon it was this day put to the question in this Court and thereupon it was ordered accordingly."

There is an entry made 30th June, 1756, which shows that the Broderers had a due regard to ways and means in exercising their religion, for it was then ordered that the reader or curate who shall for the future read prayers on Whit Monday (when the annual sermon is preached before the Company) be paid 10s. 6d. and the Clerk and Sexton 2s. 6d. each.

There are many entries in the Minutes where it is stated that after a sermon, as usual, the Company proceeded to an election. This sermon was not always preached in the same church, for on one occasion it was given in the parish church of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, at another time in St. Anne's Church, and so on; the clergyman officiating being specially desired by the Company to preach. When these religious observances were discontinued I have no means of knowing, but evidently the original religious element in the Company gradually disappeared.

Excuses were made in those days as in ours for neglecting religious observances, as the following Minute dated 14th May, 1801, will show. "The Court in consideration of their Hall being pulled down declined the formal procession of proceeding to Church on Whitmonday next."

If we have fallen away from certain religious customs of our predecessors, we have at least one in which we show them an example. On the 27th April, 1891, "It was resolved that the services of an honorary chaplain be secured for the Company. That such chaplain be a mem-

ber of the communion of the Church of England, and to hold office for one year only, but to be eligible for re-appointment, to attend all banquets, when visitors are invited, and upon all state occasions. That the appointment be made by the Master, upon his election, in each year. On the 25th May the Rev. Silvanus Saunders, Head Mathematical Master at the Merchant Taylors' School, was appointed the chaplain of the Company for the year ensuing, on the nomination of Dr. William Sedgwick Saunders, the Medical Officer of Health of the City of London, the then Master, and the Rev. gentleman has continued to hold that position ever since, except in the year 1892, when Dr. Langdon Down appointed his own chaplain. The Rev. Silvanus Saunders is now the permanent chaplain to the Company, much to the gratification of every member of the Court. He is the present Rector of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, one of the oldest and most interesting churches in the City of London.

To show how religion permeated everything belonging to the Broderers' Company, I may mention that a wood carving of the Holy Dove surmounts the fabric of the old chair, is one of the prominent objects of the Company's arms, and stands alone, and above, but in conjunction with, the badges worn by the Master on state occasions, and by the members of the Court who have passed the Chair. Scriptural subjects adorn, and are richly chased, on the bowl of the old Parr cup; but, alas, the subjects they represent are hidden in mystery owing to the particulars being destroyed in the Great Fire of London.

CHARITY

It is a great pity that the only thing known of the City Companies by the people at large are their banquets; in consequence it is generally believed that they spend all their substance in riotous living. The Broderers, like all other City Companies, keep their good deeds in the dark, not letting their left hand know what their right hand doeth. Whether that is a wise course is another matter, for the public know nothing of the immense amount of good these Companies do, and consequently do not give them credit for being what they really are, Charitable Institutions. *Haydn's Dictionary of Dates* states "that in the year 1884 there were 7,319 Liverymen, and about 10,000 Freemen." That the estimated annual income of the City Companies was £750,000, nine-tenths of which is expended in maintenance, education and charities, and only one-tenth or £75,000 in entertainments.

The Broderers out of a small income make annual gifts to several societies of Art Needlework; look well after their poor, who are never sent empty away; are patrons of education, having established a scholarship; annually subscribe to numerous charities; give donations to London hospitals; and when necessity or duty requires assist in such patriotic objects as the City Imperial Volunteers (at the time of the South African War), and latterly they paid for, and presented, the Colours to the 1st City Territorial Regiment of Royal Fusiliers.

All City Companies, as I have stated, are charitable, and the Broderers never fail to give liberally of their substance in the manner mentioned above, and when suffi-

cient funds were not forthcoming in the ordinary way, they looked about for other means to meet their requirements, for I find, so early as the year 1686, that a "Poors box" was instituted for the further relief of the poor of the Company, "and being made, and a Charity begun, It is ordered that the same shall be carried on and advanced upon all businesses as opportunity offers, and that the key thereof be kept by the Master for the time being, and the box locked and committed to the custody of the Clerk, in the closet of the parlour, to be kept and opened, and the Charity distributed from time to time at a Court of Assistants, and not otherwise, and that every (such) Court day it be told over and a piece of paper importing the same left in the box." The first subscription to this box, according to the Minutes, amounted to 15*s.* 1½*d.*; how the 1½*d.* came in there is nothing to show.

Various means were employed for replenishing this box, and were very soon applied, for on 12th July, 1687, "Four of the Court gave 1*s.* to the box for being late."

On 1st Sept., 1696, "Consultation being had of the frequent absence of the major part of the Assistants, notwithstanding divers good ordinances obliging them thereto, whereby the business of divers Courts have been retarded and the expense of the Company much increased, It is Ordered that the said ordinances be put in execution and that for the time to come any Assistant who shall be duly summoned to appear at any Court to be held at any certain hour in the summons to be mentioned, and shall not then, or within an hour after, appear and stay till the rising of the Court shall pay to the use of the poor of the Company 12 pence, and in case he shall not appear but wholly absent himself from any Court, being duly summoned as aforesaid shall pay to the use of the said Poor 2*s.* and that the 2*s.* and 12 pence shall be paid for every offence unless such cause be shown for his absence as by that or the next Court shall be allowed."



EDWIN JOHN DIXON'S GIFT (20TH MAY, 1904).

A silver-gilt two-handled plain copy antique Stirrup Cup and Cover with strappings on body and 3 feet to the cover, which also forms a stand to the cup.

Engraved Arms of the Company and Arms of Edwin John Dixon, Master of the Company 1903-4.

And Inscription—"This Cup, the gift of Edwin John Dixon, Master 1903-4, is presented to Broderers' Company of the City of London, on the termination of his year of office, in grateful commemoration of his 30 years membership and 60 years intimate connexion with the Company, of which each year has been a record of kindness from his brother broderers."

London hall-mark. Weight 56 oz. 6 dwts.

That there was every desire to spare the contents of the box from being used for other than its legitimate purpose is shown by an entry of 13th Dec., 1701, when it was "ordered that the present day, and also on the 13th Dec. yearly, the Beadle and Porter have 4s. a piece, in lieu of what they usually had out of the Poors box."

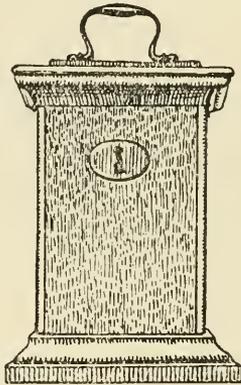
It is very certain that the doles from the "Poors box" were very economically distributed if one may judge from a memorandum made on 21st Sept., 1716, which stated, "Paid the poor as usual and gave seaven of them 6*d.* a piece more than their pensions, and likewise gave them all 1*s.* a piece out of the poors box and 6*d.* to Elizabeth Sumpter."

On 29th Oct., 1716, was this entry, "Mr. George Tillott preferred a Petition (being in Marshalsea Prison) for some relief. And after some debate the question was put whether it should be referred to the Wardens to examine, and also whether £5 will discharge the petitioner from all debts and incumbrances, and if it will, that the Clerk doe pay the said £5 to discharge him."

The Court took every opportunity to replenish the Poors box, for I found that on 29th March, 1728, a Mr. Penny was only allowed his discharge from the Company by a payment of £10 and a contribution of one guinea to the Poors box. And in the following year a Schoolmistress who desired to rent the Hall had to pay a guinea into the box before she was taken as a tenant. Nor was it only by the outsiders that the funds in the box were replenished, as on 3rd June, 1811, the following Minute was entered: "Upon taking into consideration the amount of the fine to be paid into the Poors box by such Members as do not attend the same upon summons, or notice so to do;—It was ordered that from this day forward every member so neglecting to attend shall forfeit and pay to the poor of this Company the sum of 5*s.* unless he shall, at the next Court, after such nonattendance, give to the Court satis-

factory reason for such." On another occasion it was "ordered that no person smook tobacco in the parlour or Courtroom from Lady day to Michaelmas during the sitting of the Court of Assistants on forfeiture of 1s. to the Poores box."

These efforts were fairly successful, I suppose, for on one occasion, 30th May, 1814, when the Court ordered the box to be opened, it was found to contain the substantial sum of £7 17s. 6d., and at a subsequent meeting on 13th Dec., 1826, the Court made a similar order, when £7



17s. 7d. was found therein, including the nominal value of some silver tokens, now no longer current. This latter statement would recall to many a Churchwarden's mind instances of similar donations in church collections.

Of course I have only given a few instances of the outgoings and incomings of the Broderers' Poores box, but they are sufficient, I think, to illustrate how this additional charity has been worked.

This useful old wooden Poores box is about as ugly as man could make it and about as substantial; manufactured evidently by a 'prentice hand, for there is not the least ornamentation about it, but it is revered by the Broderers on account of its antiquity. This Poores box is still kept by the Clerk, and the Master holds the key during his year

of office. It is occasionally opened and its funds distributed to the poor (see Appendix, p. 305). When a new member of the Court holds office this box is presented to him, into which he drops a donation in honour of the auspicious event.

The two hundred and twenty odd years, unlike humanity, has made no appreciable impression on its wear and tear, and the box now looks as it ever did, and will continue to do for all time, ugly and substantial.

To show that I have not maligned the character of the Money box for beauty, I give a sketch of it opposite.

Nor was charity confined to the Company, for I found several entries where an individual member (Mr. Morley) gave Christmas gifts of £5 to the poor of the Company.

Funds apparently were more plentiful in 1822. On the 24th June of that year I read that "It was then moved and seconded and unanimously ordered that 10s. be given to each of the pensioners of this Company, beyond, or in addition to, the usual quarterly allowance, such addition to commence this day, and be continued till further order, and the pensioners were afterward paid their allowance with such addition accordingly."

To show how anxious the Broderers were that none of their poor should miss the opportunity of their benevolence, I will extract a Minute of 23rd April, 1852, when "It was announced that the following Advertisement had been inserted in papers (3 times in the *Times* and *Morning Advertiser*, and twice in *Sunday Times* and *Weekly Dispatch*)—

"Broderers' Company. The Court of the Worshipful Company of Broderers of the City of London are prepared to receive the applications and relieve the necessities of the poor freemen of the Company. For further particulars apply to the Clerk of the Company, Mr. George G. Vincent, 8 Staple Inn, Holborn." No applications were, however, received.

The Broderers never seem to have lost any opportunity of doing good, as is shown by a Minute of 12th March, 1867. "That the Company's Court dinner usually had on S. Gregory's day should this year be entirely dispensed with, and, that a further tribute of respect to the Memory of the late Master (Mr. Wheeler), the sum of thirty guineas, the estimated expense of that dinner, should be expended in the following donations for charitable purposes," viz.—

£ s. d.

10 10 0 for special bed fund for Men and Ladies
Dispensary, Bethnal Green.
10 10 0 to the Provident Row Night Refuge.
10 10 0 for the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

There was a stereotyped order given by the Court on 24th June, 1875, respecting charities. "That the sum of Sixty guineas be annually, on Midsummer day in each year, set aside for Charitable purposes and that the same be distributed in the name, and as the free gift, of this Company, in the following manner, viz.—

"Each member of the Court, in rotation, shall have the privilege (subject to the approval of the Court) of nominating a Charitable or Benevolent Institution within the Metropolitan Postal District, to which the sum of Ten guineas shall be presented in the name, and as the free gift, of this Company, to be charged to the Company's Charity accounts."

"If any vote or other privilege be attached to any such donation the same shall belong to, and may be exercised by, the Master of this Company for the time being."

A further order of 1st Oct., 1877, "conferred the power of nominating not only a Charitable or Benevolent Institution situate in the Metropolitan Postal District but also such an Institution having an office within that district."



FREDERICK GORDON GIFT (14TH APRIL, 1905)

A silver large size chased Porringer and Cover with two handles; the swell of the cup chased animals and flowers, the cover chased with bold foliage, and having a coiled serpent handle; reproduction of Charles II; made in old standard silver having Britannia hall-mark.

Engraved Arms of the Company and Inscription—"Presented to the Worshipful Company of Broderers of the City of London by Frederick Gordon, after the termination of his 2nd year of office as Master of the Company, 1894-5, 1902-3, to commemorate his pleasant and long connexion with the Company."

Weight 58 oz. 6 dwts.

Since the above date each of the members of the Court have had the privilege of nominating a Charitable Institution and the mastery over the vote attached thereto; and as there are at present ten members of the Court, there is consequently an ear-marked sum of one hundred guineas laid aside annually for such charitable purposes.

The Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants, after very careful consideration, thought it would be a very desirable thing if all the Company's Trust Charities, outside the Broderers, were liquidated, thus keeping in hand only property which actually belonged to the Company over which they had entire control.

On 29th Sept., 1893, there was a report made of the various Charities so redeemed. They were as follows, viz. The Gifts of Howse, Parr, Foster, Hudson, Broderick, Smith, Pope, Chamberlain, Shaw, Humble and Hyndman. The whole aggregating an annual payment of £29 14s., which, by an order dated 5th August, 1892, the Company redeemed by purchasing £1,188 two and three-quarter per cent. consolidated stock in the name of the official Trustees of Charitable Funds.

There were also some Miscellaneous Charities also redeemed, which were the Gifts of Howse, Foster, and Shaw, and Gifts to the poor of Chipstead, the whole aggregating an annual payment of £8 os. 3½d., which were redeemed in a similar manner by purchasing, at various dates, £173 15s. two and three-quarter per cents and £143 6s. 8d. two and a half per cents.

These redemptions, at forty years' purchase, were a considerable loss to the Company, but the Broderers have the satisfaction of knowing that the property they now possess, and have the control over, is actually their own.

EDUCATION

THE Broderers, always willing in their own little way to follow as far as possible the noble examples of larger companies, turned their attention to the subject of education, and at a meeting held 27th April, 1874 (passed in the subsequent June), they agreed to appropriate the sum of £50 per annum to be paid, at the direction of the Court, to such person or persons as may be determined upon, for the purposes of a scholarship for boys at the City of London School. On the 29th Sept., 1874, a letter was written "stating that the Company had placed at the disposal of the Corporation an University Scholarship of the value of £50 per ann., to be held by a pupil of the City of London School, at either Oxford or Cambridge."

The full text of the proceedings was given at a Court meeting held on 11th Dec., 1907, when it was "Resolved unanimously—That for the future, in lieu of the existing regulations and conditions governing the Scholarship passed by the Court on the 1st June, 1874, the following be the Regulations and conditions attaching to the Broderers' Scholarship for boys at the City of London School.

"First—The Scholarship shall be called the Broderers' Scholarship.

"Second—The Scholarship shall be tenable at Oxford or Cambridge.

"Third—The Scholarship shall be tenable for 3 years, but an additional year may be granted at the discretion of the Court.

"Fourth—The Scholarship shall be awarded on the joint report of the Hon. Examiners and the Head

Master, but subject to the final approval of the Company.

“Fifth—The Scholarship shall be awarded alternately for excellence in

“(1) Mathematics and General Science.

“(2) Classical subjects, including French, German, and English.

“Sixth—That on the termination of the tenure of the Scholarship by the present, or any future holder, its renewal be in the discretion of the Court, on proper application being made by the authorities of the City of London School.

“The Clerk was further instructed to inform the School authorities that the Court approved of the following words being inserted in the ‘Table of particulars of Scholarships and Exhibitions,’ viz. ‘Subject to renewal by the Court of Broderers’ Company.’”

The Broderers’ first pupil was Mr. Cecil Bendall (19 years of age), who attained their scholarship in 1875. The prizes gained by him at the City of London School were Innes Prize, Political Economy—Sassoon Sanskrit Prize—Carpenter Scholarship—Broderers’ Scholarship, Classics. At Trinity College, Cambridge, he obtained the following scholarships and prizes, viz. Dealtry Prize for Greek Testament—Brotherton Prize for Sanskrit, given by Corpus Christi College (open to University); and in 1877 he migrated to Caius College as Minor Scholar and Sanskrit Exhibitioner. The degrees taken by him were B.A. 1st Class Tripos—1st Class Indian—Language Tripos—M.A. 1882—Fellow of Caius 1879. His subsequent appointments were: Schuldane Plate at Caius for highest degree of the year—First Class Assistant in Department of Printed Books (Oriental Section) British Museum—1880–3 Prepared at request of University Library Syndicate, Catalogue of Buddhist MSS. in the library; Professor of Sanskrit, University College, London; Examiner in City of London

School; proceeded to India 1884-5 as holder of Worts Fund (£200), Cambridge, for scientific travel; Member of Council, Royal Asiatic Society; Professor of Sanskrit, Cambridge University, March 1903.

I have written thus fully of our first scholar to show the class of students who have been helped by the Broderers in their educational scheme; yet I am free to admit that doubtless Mr. Bendall would have succeeded equally well without the Company's aid, for one so gifted was bound to be successful; yet it is gratifying to know that the Broderers gave him his first start, although his great abilities did the rest. It is melancholy to relate that this gentleman of many accomplishments died about two years ago at the early age of 42.

All are, of course, not blessed with the exceptional ability of Mr. Bendall; yet I cannot remember a single instance where an appointment has not redounded to the credit of both scholar and the Company; therefore where all have done so well it would be invidious to draw comparison between any of those pupils who subsequently benefited by the Broderers' Scholarship.

FINANCES

I WILL now write a word or two about finance, not a very interesting subject, but a very necessary one. I have already mentioned about the difficulty in raising the necessary sum to meet the bill of charge in passing the Company's charter in 1686. But financial matters became worse in 1712 (March 12), when "The Master proposed an Instrument for a voluntary Subscription by the Members of this Company towards raising a sum of money in order to pay off their debts, and the question in debate thereupon was, what sum should be inserted to the said Instrument, and it was, after some debate, ordered to be £300, and that 6 months be taken to procure subscriptions." Plethora could at no time be applied to the condition of the Broderers' funds.

There were times when the Company were not a little niggardly, as shown by this Minute: "4th June, 1729. Mrs. Lucas now presented her bill for last Whit Monday and a debate arising upon the same whether pipes and tobacco should be charged to the Company, or not; The question was thereupon put and It was carryed in the negative, and Ordered that no pipes or tobacco had at the Hall on Feast days shall for y^e future be charged in y^e Beadle's bills to the Company, but the severall wardens for y^e time being shall pay the same."

Money matters were not very flourishing many years after, when the Company had to dig into their capital to show a better balance at their bankers, as a Minute of 25th June, 1877, states that "The Banker's Pass book and rough Cash Book were laid on the table showing a

balance of £44 14s. 2d. in favour of the Company. Attention was called to the insufficiency of the balance, and it was Resolved that so much of the £3 per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities standing in the name of the Trustees of this Company as would raise the sum of £200 in cash be sold out."

If the Company had but a small balance at their bankers they did not neglect the usual precautions for its security, as the following Minute will show—

"24th June, 1873. That the Company's bankers, the Bank of England, be requested for the future, until the further order of the Court, to honour Cheques against the Company's account, jointly signed by one member of this Court, whose signature appears at the back hereof, and by Mr. Charles Edwards Freeman, the present Clerk, whose signature is also at the back hereof."

At some other periods the Company were pardonably prodigal; when, in providing badges for the past masters in 1879, and on the Jubilee of our late revered and good Queen Victoria, as expressed in a Minute dated 24th June, 1887, "That in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee each Member of the Court, and the Clerk, be presented with one of the new Five pound gold pieces, in a morocco case, at the expense of the Company." "And that each Liveryman who may be present at this evening's dinner (including Vincent, Robinson, and Freeman—Absentees) be presented with one of the new £2 gold pieces; and that each Pensioner, including Mr. H. D. Vincent, be presented with one pound."

Better managed now-a-days are all the Company's financial matters. The Broderers are living well within their means; are contributors to the schools representing their craft, generous in their charities, to their own poor in particular; assist education; and have a fair balance at their bankers.



ROBERT NEVILL'S GIFT (31ST MAY, 1907).

A silver-gilt Cup and Cover, reproduction of fifteenth century, standing 14 in. high: the upper portion of the cup and cover shaped in six bulbs, and having a pierced and chased gallery mount. The body of cup chased in pineapple scales, and the round foot supported on 3 feet formed each of a chased figure of a gnome. The cover surmounted by a figure with sword and drinking cup.

The Arms of the Company engraved on the cover and Inscription on body—"This Cup is the gift of Robert Nevill, in commemoration of his Mastership of the Worshipful Company of Broderers, City of London, 1906-7."

And engraved underneath—"This Cup is a replica of the Cup in possession of New College, Oxford, made in the fifteenth century."

London hall-mark. Weight 43 oz.

THE CHAIR (see Plate XV)

ONE of the oldest and most interesting of the Company's possessions is the Broderers' Chair. From the very first I had a most respectful veneration for this object of antiquity. It seemed to claim my respect even as I viewed it in the distance at the Broderers' banquets, for is it not the seat of the Master on all festive occasions? The Chair seems to impart grandeur to the Master who occupies it, and so enthroned he commands additional respect from the assembled guests. When away from its jovial surroundings there is still a dignity about the Chair that influences the beholder, and to an old member of the Company like myself it demands additional respect, and I am often inclined to do obeisance to the Chair on passing or inspecting it.

Although I had little or no doubt as to the great age of the Chair, for it bears the imprint of its own longevity, I took the trouble to search the Broderers' Minutes as to its origin, from their earliest existing record in 1679 to the present time, as I have previously stated, with the object of setting my mind entirely at rest, and was therefore not disappointed when I found my search fruitless, for doubtless the Chair was made many years before the Great Fire in 1666, and how it was preserved to be handed down to us is still, and will remain, in obscurity. A friend of mine suggested that the carving of the woodwork of the Chair was the production of Grinling Gibbons. This might very probably be the case, seeing that that worthy was born in 1648, and our first existing Minute was dated 1679. There

is one thing quite certain, and that is that its preservation was not due to the care bestowed on it by our predecessors.

The first mention of the Chair in the Minutes was in the year 1836 (29th Sept.), when a Mr. John Beauchamp, who had been three times Master, "informed the Court that he had found among a variety of articles at the Beadle's house, belonging to the Company, an ancient chair which he had no doubt had formerly been used as the seat of the Master when presiding at the Courts of the Company, that although it had been mutilated, and much decayed by age, he had thought it capable of being repaired, and sufficiently renovated, to serve again for the same purpose, and that conceiving it would be agreeable to the Court he had taken upon himself to cause the chair to be restored, as nearly as he could judge, to its original state, that it was true the expense of repairing and beautifying it had been rather considerable, but, that if the Court should be displeased with what he had done, he would bear the expense himself.

"The Chair was then brought into the Court room and was inspected by the several members present and being highly approved of the thanks of the Court was voted to Mr. Beauchamp for the pains he had taken, and the taste he had displayed in effecting its restoration and that the Court directed that an engraved plate should be affixed to some conspicuous part of the Chair with a short account of the circumstance.

"The Court also ordered that the expense incurred by Mr. Beauchamp should be repaid to him by the Renter-Warden." The Item in the Cash Book on 30th Sept., 1836, being, "By Geo. Sayffort for repairing the Old Oak Chair, stuffing and Covering with Morocco &c. &c. £10 7s."

The Committee appointed on the 14th Feb., 1840, to examine the Company's records found the old Staff of the Porter surmounted by the Company's crest in silver (the office of Porter was united to that of Beadle on 8th June,



THE MASTER'S CHAIR.

On the 25th Nov., 1836, there is an entry in the Cash Book that 14s. was paid for an "Oak Stool for Master's Chair." This stool does not now exist: it has doubtless followed in the wake of other articles missing, as stated under the heading "Goods."

1772). Mr. Read, at the request of the Committee, had caused the same to be repaired and burnished; and also caused such alterations to be made in the ancient chair belonging to the Company as were necessary to allow both the Porter's and the Beadle's staffs to be affixed thereto.

There are several brass plates attached to the Chair which I will now describe.

1st. That on the left arm on which is engraved "Removed from Broderers' Hall 1801."

2nd. On the centre of the front of the chair immediately under the coat of arms of the Company, is written, "Restored to its original splendour and reappropriated to its ancient use through the zeal and under direction of John Beauchamp, Esq., 1836."

3rd. On the right arm of the Chair the plate has, "Repaired Samuel Reed, Esq., William Leaf, Esq., Wardens 1836."

4th. In the centre, and over the Broderers' arms in front of the Chair, is, "This chair was occupied by the Princess Christian of Schleswig Holstein when H.R.H. opened the Broderers' Exhibition of Embroidery at the Royal School of Art Needlework 30th April, 1903.

"FREDERICK GORDON,
"Master."

There is one peculiarity in this chair which lays it open to the censorious to imagine that in former days sobriety was not conspicuous by its absence, for the right arm of the Chair has a hinge which enables it to be raised, so that the occupant would find no difficulty in vacating his position, either by his own free-will or by the help of the attendants.

At the Broderers' banquets, when speeches were uninteresting, wine very good, and when inhaling the aroma of an excellent cigar I have often gone into dreamland, and

on looking back through the vista of many years have pictured to my mind the banquets at which the old chair has always been a prominent object, and of the old Masters who have occupied that chair, many of whom, by their kindly ways, we hold in happy memory.

There is little more known than what I have stated respecting the Broderers' Chair, and however much it may have been ill used and neglected by our predecessors, I am sure that the present generation of Broderers will endorse what Eliza Cook wrote,

"I love it, I love it ; and who shall dare
To chide me for loving the old arm-chair ?"

THE SONG (see Plate XVI)

THE Broderers are, I believe, unique in one particular, and that is they have a national song. I have never heard of any other City Company possessing one, certainly none where it is taken so seriously to heart, if I may use such an expression to a song which produces more hilarity at Broderers' banquets than any other of the entertainments which are introduced on such festive occasions. The song, as you will see, has four verses, and is sung by the Master; there is a very vigorous chorus after each verse, sung by the whole party assembled around the tables, in which the first verse, as a refrain, is always repeated; and another verse of "Ri tol de rol," &c. Altogether it is a very lively affair—to all but the Master, who looks upon it as a very serious business. I will now give this song, which has been stated as singularly quaint, and at the same time contains the quintessence of commercial morality and honour, and is as follows—

“ Oh, give us your plain dealing fellows,
Who never from honesty shrink,
Not thinking of all they should tell us,
But telling us all that they think.
Truth from man flows like wine from a bottle,
His free spoken heart a full cup,
But when words stick half-way in the throttle,
Man is worse than a bottle corked up.
Complaisance is a gingerbread creature,
Used for show like a watch by each spark,
But truth is a golden Repeater,¹
Which sets a man right in the dark.
Half words, shrugs, and nods, a deceiver,
The cunning man's art to seem wise,
But Truth in plain dealers will ever
Such paltry practice despise.”

¹ Repeating watches were invented by Barlowe in 1676.

This song is a *bête noire* to all coming masters, the singing of which, without any knowledge of music, before a numerous company, is, to say the least, very distressing. I will now give an illustration of how some people dread this ordeal.

I was passing down Northumberland Avenue, Charing Cross, one day, when I heard my name called; the sound came from a carriage drawn up to the curb, from whence also issued a hand that beckoned me in. The voice and the hand belonged to the coming Master. On taking my seat in the carriage to have a *tête-à-tête* with my friend, my comfort was a little disturbed by something I was sitting on; it turned out to be the original bound copy of the Broderers' song, used by the Master at the Company's banquets. Evidently my friend, who was a London physician, was in fear and trembling respecting his ability to sing this song with any credit to himself or amusement to his audience, and probably thought it a good opportunity when driving through town to profitably combine both pleasure (or I ought rather to have said agony) and business by practising the song and diagnosing the ailments of his patients.

The reception given to the Broderers' song is very unlike that given to most other songs that have been badly executed, for the more out of tune the Master is—and perhaps he has never attempted to sing before—the greater the delight of the audience. I do not know whether the Broderers, as a body, are deficient in musical talent, but true it is that few Masters come out of the ordeal with any *éclat*. The best songster in my time was, I think, the late Sir David Evans, but that might be owing to his being a hunter and was used to exercising his voice by many a tally-ho. One Master whom I have in my mind had naturally a very high voice, and he usually began the song with his highest note, and when the few high notes in the

song had to be reached, and as the Master had already reached his highest note and could get no higher, he had to content himself with kicking out instead.

There were, of course, exceptions, which 'tis said prove the rule, but generally speaking the Master and the instrumentalist act independently, each going his own sweet way; the consequence is that at the end of each verse they are a long way apart, but are brought together again by the chorus, and so on to the end of the four verses.

I may mention that the Master has the option of either reading or singing the song, but ever since I have been a member of the Company it has always been sung, and I believe that no Master up to the present time has had the temerity to deviate from the invariable custom of his predecessors in office, however much it may have been repugnant to his feelings to follow in their wake.

After the song there is always vociferous applause and demand for an encore, when the Master rises and states that to give an encore is more than he dare do, for by acceding to the request the Broderers' Company would forfeit valuable estates. These estates are, of course, a myth, but such a statement enables the Master to beat a graceful retreat from having again to sing the much-dreaded Broderers' Song.

I now make a statement which I think will surprise many of my Broderer friends, and that is, I don't believe in the great antiquity of the Broderers' song. I have several reasons for saying so, which I will now state. The first is, the spelling of the words, which is most modern, then the little sign of wear and tear on the cover, and inside the book, containing the song, and which must have had hard usage at the tremulous hands of the Master. So anxious was I to have my doubts dispelled that I actually went through the Minutes from 1679 to the present time, on two occasions, as I have stated in the preface, and on

the last occasion I came across the following Minute, dated 14th Dec., 1863, which struck a chord in my memory : "That a sum not exceeding £21 be given for a Testimonial to Mr. Jacob Cole as a memorial of many agreeable hours passed in his society." Now Jacob Cole is not a common name, and it recalled to my mind an incident of many years ago. I went when a lad with my father to his hatters, Messrs. Jacob Cole & Son, of 23 Bridge Street, Westminster, to order a hat, and was very much struck with the comical expression of the person who received the order, who my father told me was Jacob Cole the comic song writer; perhaps his name and his *ex officio* calling would have not been so indelibly impressed on my memory if it had not been for the fact that my hat, when sent home, was addressed Master Christopher Holford, which I thought was such a slur on my budding manhood that I have never forgotten it. The fact is that the Jacob Cole mentioned in the Minute and Jacob Cole the hatter were one and the same person, and that he was, I conceived, the composer of the Broderers' song. To substantiate my belief I visited the British Museum, the Record Office, the Guildhall Library, and made other references, and the only reward I obtained from my labours was a letter written by one signing himself "Middle Temple Gate," and inserted in *Notes and Queries*, under date of 12th April, 1856. Passing over the first part of the letter, which does not apply to the Broderers' Company, it states, "I am induced therefore to renew the subject, and to submit the following song, which I recently heard sung at a Court dinner of the Broderers' (Embroiderers') Company. The legend in the Company is, that an estate was inherited, and would be forfeited if the song, which is styled 'The Broderers' Song,' is not sung or said by the Master of the Company at every Court dinner. It appears that this custom has now prevailed in

the Company for above 100 years, and has always been punctually observed; although the estate said to depend upon it is now only mythical, if indeed it has ever been otherwise. The song, which is in antique MS., is handed with much formality by the Clerk of the Company to the Master, who introduces it immediately after the usual toasts, the whole company present joining in chorus—

‘ Here comes the Broderers’ song,’

Air ¹—How happy could I be with either.

“The sentiments embodied in the song are superior to its versification, although there is a quaint oddity about the whole thing which gives a raciness to it; and of this there can be little doubt that such sentiments so persistently uttered before the worshipful Company of Broderers for more than 100 years, are likely in no little degree to have tended to the truth, honesty and plain dealing of its members.” (Signed) Middle Temple Gate.

The writer of this letter would naturally take for gospel any haphazard reply to his question respecting the age of the song when asked of the guest who was next to him at the banquet, and who might have been as ignorant as himself of the subject, so that I am not the least surprised at his statement respecting the supposed antiquity of the song.

As I could not obtain the information sought from the libraries mentioned above, I wrote several letters to the Editor of *Notes and Queries*, in consequence of which I was put in communication with relatives of the late Jacob Cole, whose son-in-law (married to the eldest daughter) is in possession of the clock given to Jacob Cole by the Broderers’ Company, on which is the following inscription—

¹ John Gay, *The Beggar’s Opera*, Act I (1728).

PRESENTED TO
 JACOB COLE, ESQ.
 BY THE
 WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BRODERERS
 AS A MARK OF THEIR ESTEEM AND RESPECT
 1864

This clock is the Testimonial given by the Broderers, according to their Minutes, but the cost thereof, instead of being, as allowed, £21, only amounted to the sum of £14 5s. 6d.

Another of the reasons why I think that Jacob Cole wrote the Broderers' song is that the Company would never, I think, have given a Testimonial to a guest for eating their dinners; they must have had some *quid pro quo*, and I believe that something was music.

I have in my possession an old copy of a song known to have been written and sung by the above Jacob Cole, at a dinner given by the Company on St. Gregory's day, 1864, and printed by desire of the Court of Assistants. It is worded thus—

THE TWO BRODERERS

No doubt a social dinner is a very pleasant thing,
 It tones us all to harmony and leads us on to sing;
 Some sing of love in raptured strains and verses superfine,
 Some sing of hunting, some of war, and some of rosy wine.

I'm asked to sing, and I shall sing of something different far,
 I shall sing of Edmund Harrison and glorious Old Parr.

Those names are well remembered here and by the Court held dear,

Though centuries have glided by since they themselves were here,
 I can't describe their characters, but common sense infers
 They must have been good fellows for they both were Broderers.

Their honour in life's battlings escaped without a scar,
 And such were Edmund Harrison and glorious Old Parr.

As Broderers, of course, they often met thus socially,
 Relaxing from their business toil,—whatever that might be.

'Tis thought they studied surgery,—we're led to thinking thus,
For their skill and fame in cupping has been handed down to us.

Their cuppings were unique, and here in frequent practice are,
In memory of Harrison and glorious Old Parr.

You've seen those 'Cupping Cups' employed, we pass them down
and up,

Whilst Parr and Harrison are named alternate in each cup;
Thus passing round to every guest their mem'ry we recall,
And thus in spirit still they meet at every Festival.

And no two names with kinder spirit ever toasted are
Than those of Edmund Harrison and glorious Old Parr.

I wonder if in days of old when they the Masters were,
Did either such a Master make as now sits in our chair,
And from the men who formed their Court, had they the means
to fix on

Such officers as Leaf, and Hislop, Freeman, Mann, and Dixon.

We share the Broderers' feasting now, but they were similar
In the days of Edmund Harrison and glorious Old Parr.

Thus we in those old Broderers a fine example see,
Who handed such a lesson down to their posterity,
And to prove that lesson bears good fruit, just on the table look,
Where Leaf has taken leave to take a leaf out of their book.

That Leaf to future Broderers will be a guiding star,
Will shine like Edmund Harrison and be quite up to Parr.

This song was again sung at a Broderers' banquet held on the 25th April, 1904, being the last dinner at which the then Master of the Company (Edwin J. Dixon, nephew of James Dixon, who was twice Master, in 1834 and 1848), a kind old gentleman of eighty years of age, presided. He had the misfortune to break his leg during his year of office, but quickly got well again, so the following verse to meet his case was added to the song, viz.—

One more verse for the Master who now sits in the chair,
Dispensing hospitality with such a kindly air,
His hand and heart are open, he is healthy to the core,
For few like him can break a leg and mend at four score,

So if I may be pardoned for trespassing thus far,
I will couple Edwin Dixon with Harrison and Parr.

Since this song was sung more than six years have passed away, yet Mr. Dixon is still hale and hearty; let us hope that he may still be spared and be our colleague for a few years longer.

Another cause of my disbelief in the antiquity of the Broderers' song is, that the above song, known to have been written and sung by Jacob Cole at a Broderers' banquet, was unknown to the late Jacob Cole's belongings, owing probably to the fact that it was composed for the Broderers' Company only, and therefore not published, as were his other compositions, in *Notes and Queries* of 8th Oct., 1904, and if that be the case the same would apply to the Broderers' song.

There is yet still another thing that favours my misbelief, fully explained by the two following Minutes, viz.—

“1836, June 24. The thanks of the Court were then voted to Mr. Burra for his having invited and introduced at the dinner on Whit Monday some professional singers who had greatly contributed to the amusement and pleasure of the day, and the Renter Warden was directed to repay Mr. Burra a guinea which he had expended for the hire of a grand piano forte on that occasion.”

“1838, March 12. The Master having been kind enough to direct that a Piano forte should be hired for the entertainment of the Company this day; it was Ordered that the expense of the same should be borne and paid by the Company.”

These two entries show that music did not at that time always enliven the Broderers' banquets, and that piano-fortes hired on those occasions were then exceptions to the general rule, although subsequently in the 'forties and 'fifties there are several entries in the Cash Book of music being introduced at the dinners.

I have now stated my reasons for thinking the Broderers' song not so ancient as is generally believed. I

may be wrong, and am open to correction; but I fear no contradiction when I state that the song has been sung at every Broderers' banquet by every Master in succession for the past, say, seventy years; is appreciated by every one who hears it; raises much merriment on every occasion; drives dull care away, and is the one thing most appreciated at every festival of the Company.

Let moralists preach, and dyspeptics declare,
That the good things of life are but grief, and a snare;
Let them look at their Bible and they will find there
That no joy is denied us, if tempered with care.

At a Broderers' feast, let the sceptic look round
Where nothing but smiles and kind words can be found;
He will very soon see that the demon of strife
Is held well in check by the angel of life.

There are hours of contentment when life seems too short,
At a Banquet for instance, whilst sipping the port,
But the time which the guests would most wish to prolong
Is the time when the Master is singing the song.

HOSPITALITY

“Will fortune never come with both hands full,
But write her fair words still in foulest letters?
She either gives a stomach, and no food—
Such are the poor, in health; or else a feast,
And takes away the stomach—such are the rich,
That have abundance, and enjoy it not.”

I HAVE separately dealt with charity, yet I am bound to say that hospitality and charity are so near akin that the former cannot be indulged in without benefiting the other. Nor is it only charity that benefits by hospitality; for many a cottage is made bright by the employment of labour in exercising that kindness, as I will endeavour to show.

How few of those who take their places at the Lord Mayor's banquet on the 9th Nov. ever think of the immense number of persons who are employed directly and indirectly in administering to the wants of the guests. Even the bread put upon the table engages the services of the ploughman who prepares the ground, the man that sows the seed, the farmer who grows the corn, the carter who carries the corn, the miller who grinds the wheat, and the baker who makes the bread; then there is the meat which for its production gives employment in a like manner; and the poultry requires similar services. Even our sailors are requisitioned by bringing to England the turtle, the ice and the wine. Then there are the army of cooks, and those who make the pastry, and the fruit growers, to say nothing of the innumerable waiters and other subordinates. There must be some hundreds of persons who are provided with work for such a festivity. But the true feast is not

on the Lord Mayor's day, but the morning after, when all that remains is given to the poor, and many a heart is made glad with the remnants of the feast of the evening before.

What remained after that feast could not be relied upon; a former Lord Mayor told me that sometimes there was such an abundance that the contractor would willingly have given £20 for only the soup that was left; while at other times what remained was insufficient for the wants of the needy, and the Corporation had to send to the butchers for meat to appease their hunger, and to supplement the viands with a half-crown piece to each recipient, in order that the poor applicants might not be disappointed of their annual feast.

But the Lord Mayor's banquet is not the only charitable annual feast that holds high festival at Guildhall. At Christmas-time some 1,400 poor children are not only entertained there, but distribution is made of suitable clothing and food for little cripples, which are packed in hampers and sent away from that historic building, thus sending rays of sunshine into many darkened homes. Who can analyze the happy thoughts of the little incurables on the receipt of those hampers; or who can gauge the thankful feeling of gratitude that must enter the kind heart of the good alderman on witnessing the happy result of his philanthropic project of brightening the lives of those who are so helpless! May Sir William Treloar live long to continue to see the happy result of his earnest and kindly labours on behalf of the poor and afflicted; and when he takes that long journey from whence no traveller returns, his memory will be kept ever green by the Country Homes for little cripples at Alton.

“Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.”

I should be digressing from this chat about the Broderers' Company by giving these illustrations of hospitality and charity, but for the fact that the great City Corporation is in reality the titular head, not only of the Broderers, but of all the City Companies, and who are obedient to any call that may be made upon them in any time of national distress. The glory that the Companies receive from the City Corporation is somewhat similar to the brightness that the planets receive from their great luminary the sun. The examples of hospitality and charity I have shown have been as far as possible followed by the seventy-seven Companies now existent, and are evidence of the fact which one cannot too deeply imprint on the minds of those not better informed, that the sound of revelry of the rich does not drown the wailing of the poor, but whose bitter anguish it often actually alleviates.

The Broderers have never been backward in dispensing hospitality, that is, commensurate with their means, but as those means are very limited the Company have now to content themselves by giving only three banquets in the year, at each of which the guests assembled amount to some thirty to fifty persons, a number sufficient for enjoyment, but not too numerous for the visitors to feel that they are lost in the multitude.

Bands and gastronomy appear ever to have been coupled together when the Company went out, yet no one could say that the Broderers, as a rule, were musical; see what I have stated about the song. The music provided on all such state occasions seems to have been rather of a noisy kind, if one can judge from a Minute of 22nd Oct., 1687, when it was ordered "that excepting the drums, all the usual appearances be made on Lord Mayor's day." They certainly never forgot to provide the viands and wines, as the following statements will show.

There are many entries in the Minutes respecting the eatables and drinkables provided at the periodical gather-

ings of the Company on Lord Mayor's, St. Gregory's and other days honoured by the Broderers, the relation of which would make envious the modern dyspeptic. What the inward anatomy of our forefathers was composed of must ever remain a wonder to their degenerate successors.

I cannot, as I would like to do, give lists of the many entries in the Minutes, but I will pick out two as specimens of the rest.

“ 1705, Feb. 27. Provision to be made for the Company's Quarter dinner on S. Gregory's day next (12 March)—

“ 5 Dishes of Salt Fish and Eggs.

“ 4 Sir Loyns of Beef.

“ 4 legs Veal & 12 lbs. Bacon.

“ 4 Lamb Pasties.

“ 4 Dishes of Fowls—3 in a dish.

“ 4 Apple Boys.

“ 4 Dishes of Custard.

“ 3 Ribs of Beef for breakfast.

“ Wine 6 gallons—red.

“ „ 4 „ White Lisbon.

“ „ 2 „ Canary.”

“ 1706, Feb. 27. Bill of Fare for the Renters for S. Gregory's ” (12 March)—

“ 2 Whole Salt Fishes in 4 dishes, with eggs.

“ 4 dishes of Tounques and Udders, boiled, with spinnage.

“ 3 Sir Loynes of Beef.

“ 4 Loynes of Veal.

“ 4 Dishes of Fowl, 3 in a dish.

“ 4 Quarters of Lamb and oranges.

“ 4 Apple Tarts.

“ 5 gallons of Claret.

“ 3 gallons of White.

“ 3 gallons of Canary.

“ Ale beer &c according to custom.”

What the number of the assembled guests was, I have no means of knowing, but let us hope it was a goodly company, for digestion's sake.

The liberality displayed towards the guests appears not to have been forgotten in the case of the principal factor, the cook, for I read under Minute of 16th Oct., 1713, that "a dispute arising between the Cook to the Company, and the Renter Wardens, about the dressing of the next Lord Mayor's day dinner. It was settled by this Committee that the Renters shall pay him for the future £5 10s. for his bill for dressing &c."

Against this prodigality there were times of discretion, if one may judge from a Minute of 13th Dec., 1839, when "The Court took into consideration the increased expense of the Company's dinners, which was occasioned by the quantity of champagne drank, when with a view to limit such expense" the Court ordered that "in future 6 bottles of champagne should be allowed at every Court dinner, but that at the dinners when the Livery were invited, 9 bottles should be allowed." I cannot say that their successors have followed out so excellent an example.

The periodical entertainments of the Broderers were given in various localities, sometimes in town, at other times in the country, at Richmond, Gravesend, &c. When given at the last-named place the members of the Company evidently made a night of it. It is not mentioned in the Minutes whether there were other entertainments indulged in besides the dinner on such outings, such as Rosherville Gardens (if then in existence), or if the attractions of the table were carried on to such an unseemly length that it was too late to return to town, or if not too late whether the members were disinclined or unable to do so, for the two following Minutes are silent on the subject—

"1831, June 24. The Court then appointed the Audit dinner to be on Tuesday the 2nd August next, at the Falcon



CHARLES ALLEN'S GIFT (29TH JUNE, 1908).

A pair of tall silver-gilt Ewers, richly ornamented with raised strappings and chasings, the handles formed by finely modelled figures terminating in grotesque mask ends. The original of which these ewers are reproductions was of the manufacture of Paul Lamere: time, George II.

Each ewer is engraved with the Arms of the Company, and inscribed—"Colonel Sir Charles Allen, on vacating the Chair 29th June, 1908, makes an inalienable gift of these two jugs unto the Mystery and Company of Broderers for ever."

Tavern, Gravesend, and the Clerk was directed to go thither a week before to give the requisite orders for the dinner, and to provide beds."

"1839, June 24. It was then ordered that the Audit dinner should be at Gravesend at Pallister's New Tavern, the Clifton Hotel, on Thursday 1st August next, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 for 5 o'clock precisely.

"It was then agreed that the Company leave by the steam packet at 2 o'clock on that day, and that 5s. should be allowed by the Company to every gentleman who should ask such allowance, to pay the expenses of his own passage.

"And the Master was requested to go privately to Gravesend, accompanied by the Clerk, to give the necessary orders for the dinner and beds; and also to order a dinner at Greenwich on the following day on the Court's returning to London."

These Minutes are also silent as to the individuals who indulged in these jollifications, whether they were the bachelors of the Company, or whether their absence had to be mourned by their disconsolate spouses whose sole comfort was a present of sweetmeats by the Company at Christmas (which, by the bye, I have made no mention of in writing this little chat about the Broderers' Company), and who doubtless gave a warm, if not a loving, reception to their lords on their return.

For a great many years the Broderers held their happy gatherings at the Albion Hotel in Aldersgate Street, now, alas, no more, for the furniture, fittings and everything connected with it were sold by public auction in 1909. The Broderers' plate was there (save the two old cups), their old chair was there, the Albion was, therefore, their adopted home. The first notice of the hotel in the Minutes was, I believe, on 8th Oct., 1834, when "the Master, Mr. Dixon, moved, that the Company should dine on Lord Mayor's day next at the Albion Tavern." Things went

very merrily for a time, but eventually the Broderers got a little dissatisfied with their entertainments, thinking them a little too substantial and wanting in elegance. A Minute of 18th July, 1902, states that "the Master had removed from the Albion, to Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole (1) The Master's Chair; (2) 4 Banners in box; (3) 1 Plateau."

The Broderers have now taken up their abode at the Hotel Metropole, and will in all probability remain there, so long as their requirements are bountifully and elegantly supplied, and they meet with the same kindness and courtesy which have hitherto marked all proceedings connected with the hotel.

I may mention that the whole of the plate of the Company (except the two Parr and Harrison's cups, which are deposited after every banquet, in the Broderers' Iron Safe in the Clerk's Office) is lodged in the fire-proof cellars of the Hotel Metropole, thus being handy for use and exhibition at every dinner given there by the Company.

In the year 1908 the Broderers had another scruple of conscience respecting extravagance, and curtailed their expenditure on entertainments. They now have only five Court Meetings in the year instead of six, as formerly; three large banquets instead of five; and two social dinners instead of three, so that they might increase their charities at the expense of their luxuries, a most desirable proceeding in which, I believe, most of the City Companies follow suit. The Court Meetings were held in March (St. Gregory's day), April (Nomination day), May (Election day), June (Midsummer day), September (Michaelmas day), and December (St. Lucy's day). Now they are held in February, April, May, November, and December.

There are certain privileges attendant on the three banquets. The Master can invite three guests, the members of the Court and the Clerk two, and at the

banquets given in May and November the Livery are invited; at the former they can each take a friend. As the Company is such a little one, no inconvenience is experienced on account of numbers, for the guests assembled rarely, if ever, exceed, as I have stated, fifty in number.

I don't know what our predecessors would think of us if they could rise and give us a look up, seeing us eating our dinners as late as seven o'clock, or later, at night. We in our generation wonder how in the time of the Tudors a hearty dinner could be devoured at twelve o'clock in the day, and if so, where would the business come in? On 30th April, 1827, "It was moved by Mr. Nichols, and seconded by Mr. Holah that the late hour of 5 o'clock at which the Court had for some time past been accustomed to dine was a very inconvenient hour for many gentlemen of the Court, and it was therefore ordered that the Company do, in future, dine at 4 o'clock precisely; and that the Court be summoned for 3 o'clock precisely instead of 4."

An extract from the Minute of the 24th May, 1790, will not come amiss as showing that stinginess and sarcasm were not unknown in our peaceful little community. "The Clerk read to the Common Hall of the Livery the letter he had received from Mr. Robert Lloyd, the late Upper Warden.

"A motion was then made to return thanks to Robert Lloyd, the late Upper Warden, for his care in preserving the health of the Company by refusing to provide and pay for the usual annual dinner, and his having sent a very scurrilous letter of Invitation to them to dine at an Ale house. Resolved that the behaviour of the said Robert Lloyd on this occasion, and during the whole time of his being in office, has been mean, rude, troublesome, and contemptible."

The Broderers' Company seem to have been rather punctilious respecting the position of their guests at the

banquets as is shown by the following Minute: "10th Nov., 1834. Some questions having arisen of late as to the Order in which visitors should take their seats on their being invited to dine with the Company; It was resolved that upon all occasions the Master's visitors should be seated on his left hand, and that the visitors of other members of the Court should sit next to the members by whom they should be invited.

"Subject to this regulation it was agreed and resolved that the Auditors should sit on the left of the Master, and the Renter Warden should sit next to the Warden for the time being; and that all other members of the Court should take their seats according to seniority, or the time of their coming on the Court respectively."

'Tis said there are exceptions to every rule, and the Minute which I now transcribe shows this to be one of them. 15th Feb., 1841. Mr. Vincent then moved that "in consideration of the munificent present lately made by Mr. Leaf (Silver Epergne and Plateau) to the Court, that gentleman be requested to take his seat, upon all banquets of the Company, next to, or immediately after, the Warden of the Company for the time being." This motion was seconded by Mr. Burra, and ordered accordingly.

I often wonder, if by some stroke of wickedness and dishonesty, the Great City Corporation and the City Companies were abolished, what would become of the hundreds of thousands of pounds now annually spent by them in relieving the sick, the poor, and the afflicted; advancing education; giving princely welcome to the foreign potentates who occasionally visit our shores; and in giving honour to whom honour is justly due, to those of our countrymen who have exalted their country by their noble deeds! Why, they would be frittered away in the same reckless and prodigal manner that the late City coal dues were, the remission of which cost the City Corporation and Metropolitan Board some £500,000 a year, actually

raised the price of coal to the consumer, and took away from the Corporation and the Board money which was expended in such city improvements as the widening of streets and roadways, making the Thames Embankment, and numberless other grand undertakings.

And what would become of the happy gatherings in the City halls; the cheery talk, the innocent laughter, the exchange of courtesies, and the friendships begun and continued on such occasions? Why, they would be but memories, and we would have to bid farewell, a long farewell, to hospitality and charity.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY

THE Lord Mayor's Show is a very ancient institution. Started by Sir John Norman, the then Lord Mayor, in 1453, it was evidently an intermittent show, having been discontinued for some years before 1609, when King James I ordered its revival.

In former days, the Lord Mayor's Coach with its gorgeous decorations, accompanied by chariots drawn by horses half hidden in trappings bedizened with colours and gold, and led by footmen in sumptuous liveries, was in itself sufficient to please the people. Now, although there is no need for special contrivances to keep up the city's reputation, whose good works are palpable to the meanest observer, yet let us hope that the Lord Mayor's Show will continue to be held as an annual exhibition, not only for the edification of the populace, but in order to keep intact the links that bind past ages with the present.

Former Lord Mayors spent enormous sums on their inaugural processions. In the print-room of the British Museum there is a portfolio of designs for cars for a Lord Mayor's Show of Charles II's time which must have been quite magnificent, and were evidently the work of good artists.

In the last 150 years there have been only three occasions when the Lord Mayor's procession was omitted, viz. in 1765, in consequence of the death of the King's uncle, the Duke of Cumberland; in 1810, owing to that of Princess Amelia, the youngest child of George III; and in 1817, on account of the death of Princess Charlotte.

It will not be out of place here if I give copies of the

three following documents: (1) the Lord Mayor's order respecting the erection of the Broderers' stand; (2) the summons sent to the Company as to the election of the Lord Mayor; (3) as to the procession on Lord Mayor's day.

These two last (Nos. 2 and 3) will show that the ancient Londoners knew better how to make use of the splendid river with which London is blessed than the moderns do. This water procession was discontinued in 1857.

THE STAND

To the Master & Wardens
of the Company of Embroiderers

By the Mayor

It being resolved by the Com^{tee} for his Mat^{ies} recepcon That ye severall Comp^{nies} of this Cite shall stand double instead of single as was once proposed unto you You are therefore forthwith to prepare your standings to receive your Company double accordingly And you are hereby further required to send your Carpenters & other Workmen to meet the Cities Workmen tomorrow morning in the Poultry or Cheapside for the setting out your porcon of ground who will be in one of these places for that purpose And hereof you are not to faile Dated this first day of November 1697

GOODFELLOW.

ELECTION OF LORD MAYOR

To the Master & Wardens
of the Company of Embroiderers

By the Mayor

These are to require you to cause notice to be given to all the Liverymen of your Company that on Tuesday the 29th Inst being Michealmas day they

come habited in their Livery Gowns and Hoods together in Company from their Common Hall to the Guildhall by 8 o'Clock in the morning & thence to the parish Church of St. Laurence Jewry there to hear Divine Service & a Sermon & afterwards to return to the Guildhall for the Election of a Lord Mayor for the year ensuing And that you are to take especial care that all the usual ornaments of your Company both by Land & Water be provided against the next Lord Mayors day being appointed by Act of Parliament to be on the 9th day of November next & hereof fail not

Dated 15th Sept^r 1767

HODGES.

ORDER OF PROCESSION ON THE RIVER ON LORD MAYOR'S DAY

To the Master & Wardens
of the Company of Embroiderers

By the Mayor

Whereas the Right Honorable the Lord Mayor Elect and Court of Aldermen have appointed at their Return from Westminster on Tuesday the 9th of November next to land at Blackfriars Stairs and pass from thence to Fleet Bridge thro' Ludgate Street Saint Pauls Churchyard Cheapside and down King Street to Guildhall to Dinner

These are therefore to require you to be in your Barge by eleven o'clock in the Forenoon His Lordship being resolved to be going by that Time And that as well in your going as Return you cause your Barge to go in Order according to your Precedency And that such of your Company as walk in the streets land at Blackfriars Stairs aforesaid and that you be early and regular in taking & keeping your standings
Dated 19th October 1784

Rix.



N.B. Particular Notice will be taken of such Companies as do not attend and of such who depart from their Stands before His Lordship returns to Guildhall.

It is interesting to find in the Minutes full particulars about the stands erected by the Company on Lord Mayor's Day.

I will begin with the cost, which is entered in a Minute dated 16th Oct., 1701. The items are—

	£.	s.	d.
For Fixing the Stands	1	10	0
Trumpets	1	0	0
Ribbons	2	0	0
Standard Bearers	0	12	6
Staves	0	6	0
Beer and Ale	1	0	0
16 Barrels of Oysters	2	8	0
3 Sir Loynes of Beef	1	5	0
Bread	0	6	0
Wine	6	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£16	7	6
	<hr/>		

There is also a very interesting Minute of 10th Oct., 1727, giving full particulars of such stands, which I will give in full, viz.—

“The Master now moved that the matter about a Stand might be now taken into consideration and alledged that the old stand was so decayed and out of order that it would not serve, and that he was informed a new Stand was necessary to be made; and It was now ordered that Mr. Joseph Compton, a Carpenter be employed to do the same; and he being called in proposed to make it for £32 of the following dimensions, and in the following manner, viz.—

“The back posts to be 9 foot high 5 in. × 4 in.

“The fore posts the same with turnd collums.

“The floor to be of good yellow deal 2 foot wide and ledged together the deal to be $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick.

“All the rails to be of furr $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. × 4 in.

“The plates to be the same size with the posts.

“To have a Compass covering to rise 9 in.

“To find all the Iron work.

“The whole length to be 90 foot, from out to out, and 3 foot 8 in. in breadth and hoops at top to be either wainscoat or elm.

“Which proposal was now agreed to by the Committee, and that he make it against Lord Mayor's day, and he further agreed to put it up, and take it down, and also to bring it to the Hall afterwards for 20s.; which was agreed to by the Committee.

“It was now Ordered that Mr. Willins do buy so much cloth as will be sufficient for a new cloth for the Stand, and also for the covering of it. And that Mr. Hayes do also amend the embroidery, and do provide a quantity of Lace, and such other things as are proper for the said cloth.”

“The Master informed the Committee that Mr. Coombs proposed to give 20s. for the old materialls of the old Stand, and thereupon It was Ordered, that he should have the same at that price, and that he should be acquitted from his quarteridge due to the Company in lieu of the trouble he has had about the new stand.”

Only two years afterwards (21st Oct., 1729) the Company paid 40s. for putting up and taking down the Stand; and on 14th Oct., 1741, it was “Ordered that Mr. Cherry do put up the Stand on next Lord Mayor's day, at the usual price of £3,” this, however, being a very considerable addition to the prices paid for the same work in 1727 and 1729.

The Lord Mayor appears to have been a little arbitrary respecting the observance of 9th November, for I find this entry in a Minute of 22nd Nov., 1726: “Mr. Clemson acquainted the Committee that he and the Master were summoned to attend the Lord Mayor for neglect in not putting up stands on last Lord Mayor's day. Whereupon It was now debated and Ordered that the Master and

Warden do attend the Lord Mayor and acquaint him with the occasion of it, and that such of the Committee as shall think fit do attend along with them." What the excuse was I have no means of knowing, finding nothing in the Minutes.

Nor was it only on the 9th November that the Company had to obey the Lord Mayor's mandate. On the 6th Sept., 1714, I read that "Mr. Watson acquainted the Court that he had received a precept from the Lord Mayor for the Company to attend his Majesty's procession through this City; and therefore moved that this Court would consider what was proper to be done upon that occasion by this Company. Whereupon, and after some debate and consideration had upon the matter; It is Ordered by this court that Mr. Watson &c. doe agree with the Carpenter for the charge of the Stands for that day, and that 2 surloins and 2 fore ribs of roast beef be provided as a breakfast for the Company on that day, and 60 quarts of Wine, and also musick, and other things as usuall on the Lord Mayor's daies; and that no child, servant, or other person, but the Livery in their gowns shall be admitted into the Hall, or Stands, on that day."

Apropos of the gowns, which up to this date were borrowed ones, I will extract another Minute dated 13th Dec., 1844, when "The Clerk reported that having received a communication from the Town Clerk of this City that the footways of the Poultry would be set apart as standings for the livery of the several companies on the occasion of the visit of her Majesty to open the Royal Exchange on the 28th October last, and that places would be reserved for such of the livery of this company as should signify their attention of appearing in their livery gowns, he had applied to the Court of Aldermen, who had consented that the livery might appear without gowns provided they wore a distinctive badge; and that he had caused rosettes to be made."

I came across a very interesting document amongst the old papers of the Company, which I will here give verbatim, viz.—

*“The particulars of y^e posseson on
Lord Mayor’s Day Nov. y^e 9th 1790.*

First

Two Wiffers, with Rose Sashes Cockeades and Staffs each.
The Streamer with two Tale Bearers, all 3 Only Cockeades.
The City Armes on the left.

The English Standard on y^e Right.

These 2 Cockeades only,

The 4 Embroidered Flaggs.

to follow two and two

The 4 Carriers Cockeades only,

Four Wiffers two and two with Rose Sashes Cockeades
and Staffs each.

The two Beadles, with Double Cockeades, and Rose
Sashes each with their Gowns and Staffs.

The Clerk.

Master and Warden.

The Court of Assistance. Two and Two.

The Livery.

Ditto.

Two Wiffers to follow to Bring up the rear, with Cockeades
and Staffs only.

Two Ditto with Ditto to look after the Stand till the
Company came.

N.B. I had Two Youths to Hold up y^e Streamer, they
had a Cockeade Each.”

There were eighteen people hired on the occasion, who were paid 5s. each; hire of gown was also 5s., &c.; entire cost £8 9s. 8d.

Additional Mem.

“N.B. its always customary to pay those whom Carry
the Colours 5 shillings Each, and the Wiffers some-

thing less, and all do have one pott of porter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ of Bread and Cheese before they go to the Stand, and on their Return when Dine, Each to have the Dinner and 3 pints of porter."

This chapter on Lord Mayor's Day would not be complete if I did not give a specimen menu issued on such occasions.

"1702, Oct. 17. Ordered that there be 4 dishes of fowls, bacon, and sprouts boiled; and 4 large Sir Loynes of Beef, roasted, and to be on the table at 12 o'clock at noon; and 7 gallons of Claret, 5 gallons of Canary, and 2 gallons of White Wine. A large leg of Mutton for the Standard Bearers.

"In all other things the going out according to custom."

"Ordered 2 more gallons of Canary and 1 of Claret."

OFFICERS

THE MASTER

ON the 5th Feb., 1828, it was ordered "That in future no person shall be put in nomination and returned to the livery, to be elected Master, or Warden of this Company who shall not at the time of such nomination be a Member of this Court."

The regulations respecting the election of a Master have been altered from time to time, culminating in the edict issued by the Court on 28th April, 1873, and now in force, when it was ordered "That before any Member of the Court is elected as Master or Warden he shall have first served the office of Auditor for at least one year, and Renter Warden for one year, and they therefore recommend that after the expiration of three years, from Midsummer day next, no person, unless by special Resolution of the Court, shall be elected Master or Warden of this Company until he shall have served the offices of Auditor for 2 years and of Renter Warden for one year.

"That in summonses for Election the names of all persons nominated for election of officers should be added. And that the Court should recommend for election such persons as they think fit; and that the names of persons so recommended should be indicated by an asterisk, or other distinguishing mark. And that the office for which they are respectively recommended shall be also stated in the summons."

Further directions as to the Election of Keepers, or Wardens, state: "Be it ordained and established that the Keepers or Wardens of the Fellowship Mystery and Craft

of the Broderers of the City of London that now or hereafter shall be, shall, every year, upon the Monday after Whitsunday in their Common hall, most godly wise make your general assembly of the whole livery of the said Mystery for the nomination electing and choosing of them new Keepers or Wardens for the year ensuing, and that after such time the Company are so assembled the Keepers or Wardens and the Assistants with godly advice and good deliberation shall nominate and put into their election six honest and credible persons of good name and fame of the livery of the same Craft, and inhabiting within the City of London or the liberties thereof; and then the Keepers or Wardens shall require every other person of the livery to come in comely manner, and quiet order, into the said place wherein the said Keepers or Wardens and Assistants are assembled, and every man then to take his room and place according to his calling; and then immediately the Keepers or Wardens shall declare with them the names and surnames of every of the said six persons put in the election for the choice of the Keepers or Wardens for the year ensuing; and then the Keepers or Wardens and the whole livery shall take care and choose out of the said six persons, two persons as God shall put in their minds according to the old accustomed manner to be their Keepers or Wardens for the year ensuing."

It is further ordered "that any Member or Members of the Company whether an artificial working Imbroiderer or not may be put up and chosen Keeper or Warden of the said Company by a majority of votes of the Warden Assistants and being assembled for that purpose according to the customary way used for elections in the said company, and such putting up and election shall be a good valid and due election and so esteemed; any former byelaw, ordinance, or order of the said company to the contrary notwithstanding; and that any clause in any byelaw or ordinance heretofore made to the contrary shall be and is

hereby repealed and made void. And if any person so elected and chosen shall refuse or neglect to take upon him the said office, not having a reasonable excuse for so doing, such person shall forfeit and pay to the use of the said company the sum of Ten pounds of lawful money of this realm."

The Master of the Broderers' Company is a little king in his way. All matters of any importance, and many insignificant ones also, are submitted for his approval by his prime minister, the Clerk. The Master presides at all banquets, and takes the chair at all meetings, at which he has a casting vote. At the latter there is placed before him "a paper containing heads of the business which will probably be transacted at each Court." He has also to sign the Minutes of the previous Court, which are then countersigned by the Clerk. There is no emolument attached to the Master's office, and he has to pay a fine of £4 to the Company on his election as Master for the first time. The only other advantages than those I have mentioned in being Master is the honour, and also the privilege of inviting an additional private friend at each of the three public dinners, besides invitations to distinguished personages. As a set-off against what I have stated, he has to make speeches, which is distasteful to a bashful man, and above all he has to sing (or read) the Broderers' national song at each banquet, with probably not a single musical note in his whole composition.

By a by-law of 1562 it is allowed that the same keepers or wardens may remain for two years "for the better finishing and ending of such matters as they have begun in their time"; but this has not been frequently done. The last occasion was in 1887 and 1888, when Dr. Sedgwick Saunders occupied the chair; then previously when Mr. Alderman Hadley was Master in 1877 and 1878; and before him Mr. Charles John Leaf in 1870 and 1871—this last was the donor of the Master's badge; there have been very

few others since 1679. We cannot speak of the Broderers' Master in the words of Shakspeare, that he is like a poor player

"That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more,"

for our Masters come again and again to be Masters, and one of them occupied the chair six times and two others five times.

On 17th July, 1780, it was "Ordered for the future that all minutes made by the Court be signed by the Master. Signed, W^m. Read." And another Minute, dated 12th March, 1842, was to a similar effect, viz. "The Minutes of all future proceedings of the Company be authenticated, when confirmed, by the signature of the Master, or other the Chairman in his absence, and by the attestation of the Clerk."

If from inability a Master is unable to attend to his duties, then the Upper Warden takes his place. And when on the first occasion he resigns the chair at the termination of his year of office, the Broderers' Company make him a present of a gold badge in accordance with a Minute of 13th Dec., 1878, "That each past Master of this company be provided with a badge, in gold, to be worn by him at the Courts of this Company and on all other occasions when representing the Company." There were ten members of the Court who had first this honour conferred on them.

Nor is the Master at the end of his year of office entirely forgotten, for by a Minute of 29th Sept., 1876, I see written: "That the retiring Master on each election day and during the next year, be invited to take his seat on all festive occasions on the right hand side of the Warden, next below the Warden's friend." But this privilege is now never taken advantage of.

UPPER WARDEN

This officer of the Court occupies quite an unique position. I cannot see from the Minutes that he has any personal duties to perform. He is a kind of understudy only, acting as the Master's deputy in his absence, which very rarely occurs; therefore his position is only an ornamental one, he seems like one resting after one leap before taking another: he had plenty of work to do as Renter Warden, and will have a sufficiency of work and of glory when he is Master. So he has to be contented for a time to occupy the position of an ordinary member of the Court.

The election of the Upper Warden, and the fees payable by him on his election for the first time, are on all fours with those of the Master.

RENTER WARDEN

Whatever I have said about the Upper Warden is certainly not applicable to the Renter Warden, whose duties are multifarious. No wonder that members elected to a position so onerous sometimes fought shy of occupying it. The following Minutes will show cases of this kind, viz.—

“10th July, 1686. Consideration had concerning Mr. Stephen Tory who being duly elected to the office of the Renters refused to hold the said office, and the Wardens having had Mr. Pollenfax's Opinion, the same was read and resolved that a warrant obtained from the Lord Mayor against the said Stephen Tory shall be put in execution.”

“25th May, 1715. Mr. Russ appeared and desired to be admitted to a fine to be excused from the office of Renter Warden for the year ensuing, which was ordered accord-

ingly, and that he pay the sum of £20 to the Clerk, and the fees."

Several cases of a similar nature I noticed as I glanced through the Minutes. Nor were these cases all as amicably settled as the last, as the following Minute will show: "13th Dec., 1726. Ordered that 3 Charters and 1 Sett of Bylaws be delivered to Mr. Dandy (the Clerk) in order to be made use of in the action brought against Mr. Roe for not serving his office of Renter Warden." This action was not concluded till 3 months afterwards, when the documents above named were returned by the Clerk and put into the great chest, at a Court holden 27th March, 1727.

The position of Renter Warden is no sinecure: next to the Clerk he is the heaviest worked man in the Company. His principal duties are to receive the dividends of the Company's stock in the Court of Chancery; to order all dinners; keep an account of the wines; examine the bills; and once a year to visit the Company's premises in London. He also, in conjunction with the Clerk, signs cheques against the Company's banking account. There is no emolument attached to this office.

There was a long report made on 12th March, 1873, by a Committee appointed for the purpose of examining into and reporting upon the duties of the several officers of the Court of which the following is an extract: "That the Renter Warden and Auditors although annually elected have usually been re-elected from year to year and that the same persons have filled those offices respectively for many years and generally during their lives.

"That the offices of Renter Warden and Auditors are calculated to afford to Members of the Court an insight into and knowledge of the Company's affairs, which it is desirable that each member of the Court should possess, and that the practice of re-appointing the same persons to these offices is an inexpedient practice, and should be

discontinued, and that different persons should, unless in case of a special resolution of the Court to the contrary, be annually nominated, and elected, to those offices."

I may here mention that for many years past the above recommendations have been carried out, and that the persons occupying the positions of Master, Warden, Renter Warden and Auditors are changed every year.

COURT OF ASSISTANTS

FROM the very first there seems to have been much difficulty in assembling a sufficiency of Assistants at the Court Meetings, and fines and bribes were alternately called into requisition to remedy the defect. The first Minute I will quote is dated 5th Aug., 1686, when a "Notice was taken of the remissions and slender appearance of the Assistants; and Resolved that the ordinance be put in execution, and the Beadle being first examined concerning the delivery of the summonses, several were fined 2s."

Ten years after (1st Sept., 1696) a similar complaint was made, "Consultation being had of the frequent absence of the major part of the Assistants notwithstanding divers good ordinances obliging them thereto, whereby the business of divers Courts have been retarded and the expence of the Company much increased. It is ordered that the said ordinances be put in execution, and that for the time to come any Assistant who shall be duly summoned to appear at any Court to be held at any certain hour in the summons to be mentioned and shall not then, or within an hour after appear and stay till the rising of the Court, shall pay to the use of the poor of the Company 12 pence, and in case he shall not appear, but wholly absent himself from any Court, being duly summoned as aforesaid, shall pay to the use of the said Poor 2s., and that the 2s. and 12 pence shall be paid for every offence, unless such cause be shown for his absence as by that, or the next Court, shall be allowed."

On the 25th May, 1713, "It was ordered that noe person shall be admitted, or called upon the Court of

Assistants of this Company, but such as shall have served or fyned for Renter Warden."

"The Court now (25th June, 1739) took into their consideration the great inconvenience as well as difficulty which often happened in getting 7 Assistants to meet for the dispatch of the Company's business That being the number required to make a Court of Assistants. In order, therefore, for the better dispatch of the said business for the future and for prevention of the like difficulties It is ordered that from henceforth 5 of the Assistants shall make a Court in like manner as 7 used to do; and their orders and acts shall have the same force and effect as if the whole Court of Assistants had been present at the making thereof." "It is likewise ordered that any 3 of the Committee this day appointed for the dispatch of the affairs of this Company shall from henceforth have the like power to act as 5 used to have."

At a Court held 24th June, 1745, it was "Ordered that the number of the Court of Assistants for the future be only 26; and that previous to any election of any person on the Court of Assistants for the future, a notice shall be given to the Court of Assistants' men in their summonses before the election of such future person, that the Court will fill up such vacancy or vacancies as shall happen for the future."

It was not altogether an unusual thing for a Liveryman to be disfranchised, at his own request, and his fine returned to him, as explained in the following Minute, viz.—

"29th Sept., 1756. Mr. Richard Hayward, one of the livery, and also of the Court of Assistants of this Company, now petitioned this Court a return of his livery and Court of Assistants fines. Ordered that the Clerk do pay back to the said Richard Hayward the sum of £7, being his livery and Court of Assistants fines; and that from henceforth the said Richard Hayward be discharged from being one of the Court of Assistants of this Company."

On the 3rd April, 1766, it was ordered "For the future the number of the Court of Assistants shall remain indefinite."

And on the 29th Sept., 1791, "The Court took into consideration the number of the present Livery and came to the conclusion not to increase the same until further orders."

Even the Broderers' Company were guilty of a little supererogation occasionally, as this Minute of 29th Sept., 1797, will show: "The Court took into consideration the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number to make a Court of Assistants, and the great delay and inconvenience arising therefrom; Ordered that in future 3 shall make a quorum and shall and may and dare hereby authorized to transact the usual business of the Court." This Minute is similar, as to a quorum, to that dated 25th June, 1739.

A little bribery now comes in to induce the Assistants to attend, as is shown by the following Minute: "20th May, 1821. It having been found difficult to insure the presence of a sufficient number of Assistants to constitute a Court, it was ordered, with a view to remedy such difficulty and inconvenience in future, that at every Court of Assistants to be holden after this day, the sum of £2 should be divided equally between all and every such members of the Court as should assemble and be present at the hour appointed by the summonses for meeting on the business of the Company, that the names of the Members should be written down as they respectively entered the Court room, that upon the clock striking the hour to be as aforesaid named and appointed in and by the summonses, a line should be drawn under the names of the persons who should have entered previously to, or upon the clock striking the hour as aforesaid, and that no person should participate on the divisions of the said sum of £2 whose name should not be written down previously to the drawing of such line as aforesaid."

And on 29th Sept., 1827, "Mr. Holah moved that in

future each member of the Court who attended by the time appointed in the summonses for holding a Court should be paid 10s., instead of the sum of 40s. being divided among the several members of the Court who should attend by that hour as heretofore; and such motion being seconded by Mr. Vincent, and being put to the vote, was carried in the affirmative unanimously."

"It was also moved by Mr. Holah that the custom hitherto pursued of bringing every person on the Court of Assistants who had served the offices of Warden and Master should hereafter (with the exception of Mr. Nicholas Morrilt) be abandoned, and that no person should be brought on the court till the persons now composing it should be reduced to 15, so that the Court should not in future exceed 16 in number. When such motion being seconded by Mr. Nichols and put to the vote was also unanimously carried in the affirmative."

Further inducement to attend the meetings was given on 14th Feb., 1840, when "Mr. Burra moved that the practice hitherto pursued of paying half a sovereign to each member of the Court of Assistants at every Court be discontinued, and that from henceforth a guinea shall be paid to each member of the Court who shall be in attendance at the hour indicated in the summons on every quarter day, but no further or other sum, nor at any other time or occasion: " When an order was made to that effect.

The above was substantiated by a further Minute dated 16th May, 1842. "That each member of the Court present at the time of attendance indicated in the summons, and not departing until the adjournment of the Court, be paid one guinea on the following days—

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. S. George's day. | 4. Midsummer day. |
| 2. Nomination day. | 5. Michaelmas day. |
| 3. Whit Monday. | 6. S. Lucy's day. |

And no fee or payment on any other day or occasion."

By subsequent Minutes of the 25th June, 1860, and 12th March, 1863, the above arrangement was altered; and on the 24th June, 1884, and 12th March, 1885, the Court made final settlements as to the fees.

Irresolution as to the number of the Assistants was continued by a Minute of 29th Sept., 1851, when it was "resolved that in future the number of persons on the Court of Assistants of this Company shall not be less than 12." This number was evidently not subsequently adhered to, for the next entry I noticed was dated 2nd April, 1901, when it was resolved "that the number of the Members of the Court be increased to 10"; its present number.

A small extension to the privileges of Court members was made 14th Dec., 1874 (the same Court at which Mr. C. J. Leaf gave the Company the Master's badge), when it was ordered "That for the future each member of the Court have the privilege of Inviting one friend to each dinner of the Court at which visitors have hitherto been Invited by the members of the Court alternately."

And a further extension was made on 29th April, 1889, when at the three principal banquets of the year, in April, September and December, the Master was entitled to ask three guests; and the Assistants and Clerks to ask two guests instead of one as formerly.

There was a very stringent order made at Court of 15th Dec., 1884, respecting members who may become bankrupt. It ran thus: "That in case any person who may hereafter be admitted a member of the Court of Assistants of this Company shall, after such admission, be adjudged a bankrupt, or make any assignment or composition to, with, or for the benefit of, his creditors or any of them, such person shall upon the happening of any or either of the said events, cease to be a member of such Court of Assistants, and shall accordingly forfeit all his rights, emoluments, privileges and powers as such. And that no person

shall hereafter be admitted a member of the said court, unless and until he shall by some writing signed by him, have expressly acknowledged the propriety and justice of this order, and agreed to be bound thereby as well as by the other by-laws, orders and ordinances of this Company."

LIVERY

The Livery have been called the backbone of a Company; and so they are. They are superior in number to both freemen and Court members, and have within their fold representatives of nearly every class of business men; those following the trade of embroidery, and other works of the needle, are fairly represented in the Broderers' Company.

Our Livery is a small one, only eighteen in number, but we do not now live in troublous times, and therefore are not so dependent on the numerical strength of the Livery; whose physical prowess, in former days, was constantly being called into requisition to protect the craft they represented; but now we live in peaceful days when charity, education and hospitality hold sway.

The practical advantages of being a Liveryman are—(1) the right to vote in the election of Lord Mayor and Sheriffs for the city, and in the election of members of Parliament for the city; (2) the right of voting at election of the Company's officers; (3) the right to be present at the Company's livery dinners, now two in number in each year, at one of which each Liveryman is entitled to ask a friend.

Every Liveryman of the Company has, in the event of misfortune or poverty, a claim upon the benevolence of the Company according to his needs or merits, in addition to his claim upon the charitable funds administered by the Company.

The first Minute I noticed respecting Liverymen was dated 12th March, 1712, when it was "Ordered that all persons of the livery of this company shall give their vote for the choice of a Clerk doe first pay all their Quarteridge that shall be due, or else their vote shall not be allowed in such a choice."

On "29th Sept., 1781, The Court took into consideration the number of the present livery, and came to the conclusion not to increase the same until further orders."

It is now, and has been the custom for many generations, for a candidate for the Livery, after his election, to present himself to the Court and be clothed with the livery of the Company, and after being so robed, to shake hands with, and receive a few congratulatory remarks from every member assembled at that Court. The wear and tear of such a gown was consequently not very great, for it was only worn very occasionally, and then only for some five or ten minutes at a time. The first mention of this gown in the Minutes was on 29th Sept., 1810; and on the 9th May, 1822, there was another Minute which stated that "The livery gown belonging to the Company being worn out, it was moved that a new gown be purchased, and Mr. Corrock, a robe maker, attending this court, and proposing to make a handsome new gown of second cloth, trimmed with fitch, agreeably to a pattern produced for £6 16s. 6d. The Court agreed thereto." What became of this purchase I have no means of knowing; my belief is that it was not renewed, for present newly-fledged Liverymen are now enveloped in a gown provided for the occasion.

The members of the Court have ever been thoughtful about the Livery. It was formerly the custom to entertain the Livery at two banquets in the year, but on "12th March, 1836, Mr. Auditor Dixon gave notice that he would, at the next Court, move that the Livery at large be invited to a third dinner annually, in addition to the 2 already given

them by the Company on Whit Monday and Lord Mayor's day." This motion was made and carried at a Court held 18th April, 1836.

The Court hold only three banquets in the year, at two of which the Livery receive invitations, taking a friend with them on one of those occasions, in lieu of the three dinners mentioned above.

A little gift to the Livery is notified in a Minute of 24th June, 1880, where it is stated "That a photograph of the Company's Grant of Arms be presented to each member of the Livery." I was the recipient of one of these copies, which is much treasured by me. It is now framed, and holds a conspicuous position on the wall of my billiard-room.

On another occasion—on the Jubilee of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria—a new two-pound piece was given to each member of the Livery who was present at the banquet of the 24th June, 1887. I also possess this coin and keep it as a memento of the occasion.

AUDITORS

Who are two in number, meet annually at the Clerk's office, in February, to audit the Company's accounts. Their duties are rendered comparatively light by the efficient help given by the Clerk and his subordinates, who have carefully put in order, beforehand, the necessary papers for their inspection. The Auditors check the accounts, see that bills are receipted, and that there are vouchers for every item paid, comparing the balance sheet to be presented to the Court with the books. Nor do their duties end until they have visited the Hotel Metropole and seen that every article of plate belonging to the Company is in possession. At the next Court the Auditors submit their statement, orally, or in writing. On the 12th March, 1885, the Court made final arrangements as to their fees.

CLERK

The Clerk's duties are to collect the Company's income, sign cheques in conjunction with the Renter Warden, keep the Company's accounts, pay all pensions and donations, charitable or otherwise, draw Minutes of proceedings at Court, issue all summonses to Court and Livery, receive on the Company's account all fees on admission of any member to freedom, livery, court, or office of master or warden. The Clerk is also custodian of all the Company's records and title deeds. He receives an inclusive salary in lieu of all payments directed to be made to him by the founder of any charity or by any ancient custom. The Clerk is appointed by the Court, and holds his office, during good behaviour, for life.

The Clerk is the most important of all the officers of the Company. He is invariably a solicitor, and his legal knowledge is continually being brought into play. His duties are multifarious. He is the hub round which the whole machinery of the Company moves. He knows more about the Company than any of its members, because he is a permanent official and is never absent from his work.

The Clerk was not forgotten on the demise of a member of the Company, as a Minute of 24th June, 1710, "Ordered that out of the two last ffuneralls, viz. Mr. Dusand and Mr. Carpenter, which was received, viz. as follows, for Mr. Durant's £1 5*s.* and for Mr. Carpenter's £1; the Clerk shall have 2*s.* 6*d.* for each funerall."

There was a quaint arrangement made respecting the appointment of a Clerk at a Court meeting held 12th March, 1712, viz. "The matters concerning the choice of a Clark being debated in the court It was put to the vote whether to proceed in the old way or by the Court of Assistants only, and was carried by the majority to proceed to a choice by the whole livery as formerly. Ordered

and decreed that such Clark as shall happen to be next chosen for the Company shall pay £40 for the use of the Company, to be sunk by £10 per ann. (that is to say) that if he shall continue 4 years Clark, the whole money shall be the Company's. And if he dye, or be removed sooner the Company shall pay back £10 per ann. for every year that he shall enjoy it less than the four years."

"Ordered that all persons of the livery of this Company shall give their vote for the choice of a Clark doe first pay all their Quarteridge that shall be due or else their vote shall not be allowed in such a choice."

The Clerk, in early times, held his office for the year only. A Minute of 2nd June, 1718, states, "And then it was put to the vote, whether the Clerk should be continued for another year, and it was determined in the affirmative."

The Broderers were particular respecting sureties of their officers. On the 21st March, 1738, there was a Minute "that whosoever shall be chosen Clerk of this Company must give Security by a bond with two sufficient Securities in the penalty of £500 for the due performance of his office."

On 25th June, 1739, "Ordered that a New Gown for the Clerk be provided by next Lord Mayor's day." So it was evident that the Company took an interest in their Clerk's personal appearance and bedizened his person for the great City pageant.

There are many Minutes respecting the fees to be paid to the Clerk for his official duties, but as his salary now includes all such payments, it is unnecessary to state them. I will, however, make one exception, by quoting a Minute of 29th Sept., 1814, which does not bear out the statements made in Minutes which I will subsequently give, viz. : "The Company is to pay to their Clerk instead of the salary charges heretofore paid to him. Ordered that from this day forth all such bills, claims, charges or gifts, be dis-

continued, and in lieu thereof, the Clerk be paid the yearly salary of £40."

Modesty was not an unknown virtue with the Clerks of the Broderers' Company, an instance of which I will give by extracting the following Minute—

"1781, Dec. 13. The Court was informed that Mr. Moses Sierra, the Clerk of this Company, begged leave to decline the honour this Company intended him by the polite request made to him by their order at the last Court to sit for his picture." I may mention that Mr. Sierra resigned 16th May, 1785, after fifty years' service as Clerk.

I will now give another instance of longevity of the Company's clerks. On "29 Sept., 1802, Mr. Abraham Greenwood, the present clerk of this Company, after most respectfully thanking the Court for the many kindnesses and indulgences he had constantly received from the Court, and from every member of the Company during the course of forty-three years which he had had the honour of being concerned with the Company as assistant clerk to Mr. Sierra deceased, and as Clerk, stated his inability to continue his present situation as Clerk from his present indisposition, and growing years, and humbly prayed the Court to accept his resignation on the next annual day of election. Which the Court were pleased to comply with, and ordered that candidates for that office do deliver in petitions at the Company's office in Silver Street on or before the 13th December next."

Among the many good men and true who were Clerks of the Broderers' Company, it is but natural that there should be an exception to the general rule, as is shown by a Minute of 16th June, 1813, when the Clerk, "Mr. Gibbard, stated to the Court that from severe and unforeseen misfortunes he was unable to raise or reimburse to the Company the £500 placed in his hands for the repurchase of an annuity granted on their estate at Stifford in the County of Essex. He therefore requested the Court to

grant him time; and proposed to liquidate the said sum in three years by yearly or half yearly payments.

“Mr. Gibbard having withdrawn the Court took the same into consideration and having weighed all the circumstances of the case Resolved that Mr. Gibbard’s proposals as above stated be accepted, and that he do give the Court his security by Bond for the performance of the same, together with interest thereon, and that the same commence on Midsummer next.”

This kind and merciful decision of the Court, a reflex of the lines of Pope—

“Teach me to feel another’s woe,
To hide the fault I see;
That mercy I to others show,
That mercy show to me”—

was not thrown away on an undeserving object, and found a touching response from Mr. Gibbard’s successor many years afterwards, as the following Minute will show: “11 Feb., 1842. It was moved seconded and resolved in consideration of the services of Mr. Gibbard, as Clerk, during 39 years past, the sum of £1 per week be paid to him during the pleasure of this Court (to commence on 22 Jan. last, the date of his resignation).

“Mr. Burra (the new Clerk) then stated that as he conceived the funds of the Company could not well bear the additional charge which would be thus occasioned, it was his wish that the salary of £6 5s. per quarter, payable to the Clerk, should be appropriated towards the proposed annual payment to Mr. Gibbard.”

I may here mention that this Mr. Burra was a solicitor, he died in Jan. 1851 at 18 Bread Street, Cheapside, and was buried at Carshalton Church, Surrey. He married about the year 1847, a daughter of a Past Master of the Company, Mr. Samuel Reed, a gouty old gentleman, who was exceedingly kind when not so afflicted. Mr. Burra

was a partner in the Ashford Bank, and his father and brother were merchants in linen, flax, &c., in Bread Street. I give these full particulars as I found in my search several books containing extracts from the Broderers' Minutes showing how industrious he was in the Company's service.

To show how much he was appreciated by his brethren of the Broderers' Company, I now give an extract from the Minutes of 20th Feb., 1851, when "It was moved by Mr. Beauchamp, seconded by Mr. Dixon, and unanimously Resolved, that this Court collectively and individually deeply deplore the loss they have sustained in the death of their late excellent Clerk, James Burra.

"They wish to record their approbation of the great ability, the manly integrity, and high honour he ever evinced in his official duties. As their companion of many years: To his invariable urbanity, to his social cheerfulness, to his range of general knowledge, to his practical good sense, and to his ever gentlemanly deportment, they can now only subscribe this their melancholy testimony.

"It was ordered that the foregoing resolution be specially recorded on the Minutes of this Court, and that a copy thereof be subscribed by every member of the Court and transmitted to the widow of the late Mr. Burra."

The Broderers' Company do not appear to have behaved very liberally to their Clerks in the days gone by. A Minute of 16th May, 1842, states that they only made him an allowance of £25 per annum; there were, however, certain perquisites that were his due which swelled his emoluments, such as fees on all apprenticeships, Freedoms, Liveries; on the appointments of Master, Wardens, and on to the Court. The largest fee he was entitled to was £8 on taking up a Freedom by redemption, and the lowest £2 2s. on an introduction to the Livery. Many of the fees only came occasionally, but there was a settled annual fee of £2 2s. "for preparing the lists of the Livery

entitled to vote for Members of Parliament, and attending the revising Barrister therewith and thereon."

On the death of Mr. Burra, Mr. Charles Edwards Freeman was elected Clerk, and was appointed at Court of 5th June, 1854; he continued to hold that office to the time of his death in 1889.

There seems to have been a more liberal spirit displayed by the Company towards their Clerk, according to the statement made in a Minute of 12th March, 1872. "That the Salary of the Clerk of this Company be and it is hereby increased, as from S. Lucy's day past."

In the year 1881 (19th July) there was some discussion as to the status of the Clerk in the Broderers' Company, when it was decided, "That in the opinion of the Court the Clerk of this Company is not, *ex officio*, a member of the Court of this Company.

"Resolved, That notwithstanding the foregoing resolution, Mr. Charles Edwards Freeman, the present Clerk, be invited to exercise the same privileges as the members of the Court of this Company in regard to charitable donations, and the inviting of visitors, at the Company's dinners."

On the demise of Mr. Freeman, the duties of Clerk fortunately devolved on Mr. George William Barber. I say fortunately, because I do not think that the Company could have chosen one more fitted for the appointment. Not only does Mr. Barber execute the multifarious duties of his office with ability and urbanity, but he takes a personal interest in all things appertaining to the Broderers' Company. Under these circumstances it is gratifying to be enabled to transcribe the following Minutes, viz.—

"6th Dec., 1889. (1) George William Barber elected Clerk of this Company during the pleasure of the Court.

"(2) That his emoluments shall be at a fixed sum

per ann., with the right to make such charges as a Solicitor for professional work, which does not come within the province of his duties as Clerk.

“(3) That he shall attend all Courts and Committees of the Company.

“(4) That he shall attend all dinners of the Company and have the privilege of introducing friends.

“(5) That he shall be allowed to participate in the amount granted annually, by the Court, for the Ladies gift.”

If I may say anything more about our present worthy Clerk, I will follow the example given by those who make out the List of the Sovereigns of England for Whitaker, and other periodicals, when they come to the reigning monarch, and say “Whom God preserve.”

BEADLE AND PORTER

In running through the Minutes of the Broderers' Company, I cannot but come to the conclusion that their Beadle was a very well-looked-after man, that he had his wants supplied, and on his demise his belongings were not forgotten, and that he knew very well how to take care of himself will be told by me presently. The existing Minutes only commenced in 1679, and in the same year the Court and Livery proceeded not only to elect a Beadle, but added a dignity to that office by electing a Porter to serve under the Beadle. Why two men should have been employed in work that was scarcely enough for one is a mystery; our predecessors found this out, as I will afterwards show.

The duties of a Beadle are to deliver all summonses to members of Court and Livery. To attend all the Courts of the Company; to attend at Guildhall on the days appointed for the election of Members of Parliament, and Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London, there to admit

only the Liverymen of the Company; to collect quarter-age fees from members of the Company, &c., &c., &c.

Although the Beadle was elected 29th Sept., 1679, it was not until 11th July, 1681, that he "gave security to indemnify the Company in all things concerning his place, and coming into the Hall, by bond in £500; and ordered that the Beadle should have a conveniency of dwelling in some of the rooms in the Hall, and an order lately made allowing 40s. towards his rent elsewhere was reversed."

I give another instance of the strictness of the Company in requiring security from their Beadle, when on the "24 June, 1708, John Greene, the Beadle, gave Bond with his Sureties, viz. Richard Palmer of S. Clement Danes, Middlesex, Taylor, and Robert Read of the same parish, Sadler, in £500 to the Company for his fidelity as Beadle of the said Company."

The Beadle and Porter soon put their heads together to stand up for their rights. Four years after their election, the following Minute was written: "8 Feb., 1683. Read the petition of the Beadle and Porter and Attendants of the Company setting forth that contrary to the usage of the Company, and all other Companys, the Renter Wardens have deprived the petitioners of the broken victuals coming from the Company's table which are perquisites of the petitioners, and have carried the same to their houses, or otherwise disposed thereof; the Court took the petition into consideration, and besides the dishonour done to the Company thereby it was observed that by reason thereof great disorders were in the Hall during dinner, for that whilst the petitioners should give their due attendance, they were carrying provisions from the table before the Company had dined; for remedy of which inconvenience it was ordered that none of the petitioners do seek for, or carry from the Company's table any victuals until the Company shall have done therewith and that the Renter Wardens shall not carry away any victuals that

shall remain after dinner, or dispose thereof, from the petitioners but shall share and distribute the same among them."

Although I have shown how the Beadle and the Porter can coalesce where their mutual interest was concerned, I will now state where a little jealousy crept in between them, for had not the Beadle been provided with a residence in the Hall? and was not the Porter without such accommodation? The following Minute showed how this anomaly was removed: "16th Sept., 1692. Mr. Pollard, the porter of the Company, made it his humble request to be admitted, with his wife, to dwell in the Hall, in such rooms as the Wardens shall appoint; Resolved accordingly, during the pleasure of the Company."

The Beadle and Porter were not above receiving little perquisites, even the Poor box was not omitted from their doles, as the following Minute will show: "13th Dec., 1701. Ordered that the present day, and also on the 13 December yearly, the Beadle and Porter have 4s. a piece, in lieu of what they usually had out of the Poors box." This I have previously stated under "Charity."

The Beadle was generally more fortunate than his companion in the matter of fees, as I find only the former mentioned in a Minute of 26th Nov., 1708, when it was "Ordered that such part of the hall as is usuall be lett for Sabboth dayes, and publick dayes, and thanksgivings by authority, at £12 annually to the company, and £2 annually to the Beadle; for a yeare certain, and a quarter's warning." Also when on the 24th June, 1710, it was ordered that out of each funeral the Beadle should have 7s. 6d.

That the Beadle's belongings were not forgotten when he died is shown by the following Minute dated 13th Dec., 1709: "And also Mrs. I. Pollard, the late Beadle's widow, was admitted a pensioner."

That the Broderers' Company had a due regard to economy will be seen by the following Minute, 30th Aug.,

1733, when it was "ordered y^t Mr. Duhamell do prepare and get a new Beadle's Staff with a silver head in y^e best and cheapest manner y^t can be." (See Plate I.)

The Beadle was sometimes an Almoner of the Company, for on 12th March, 1739, it was "ordered that the Beadle do provide on S. Gregory's day, yearly, a dinner for the Pensioners of this Company so that the same shall not exceed the sum of 5s. at any one dinner."

Nor was the Beadle forgotten when household goods were to be disposed of: "29th Sept., 1770. Mr. White (Under Warden) moved that the old table linen and glasses, which by an order of the Court of Assistants of the 12 March last, was directed to be sold, might, in consideration of the linen being old and rotten, and many of the glasses broke, be given to the Beadle, which was now ordered accordingly."

It took just a hundred years before the Company came to realize the fact that the offices of Beadle and Porter could be better administered by the blending of the two offices, which took place on 8th June, 1772, when Mr. Robert Seagrave (Porter) was chosen the Company's Beadle and Porter for the year ensuing, on the death of the late Beadle, Mr. William Seagrave.

To enable Mr. Robert Seagrave to keep up the dignity of his position as Beadle and Porter, I see by a Minute of 29th Sept., 1774, that it was "ordered that the Clerk do pay to Mr. Seagrave, this Company's Beadle, the sum of Five guineas to buy him a new suit of cloaths." One cannot but think that the clothes were wanted by that time, as it was then two years ago that he held the joint dignity of Beadle and Porter.

Clothes seem to have worn longer in those days than they do at the present time, for it was not until nearly four years afterwards that another suit was provided, as per Minute dated 14th May, 1778, when "A motion was made by the Master that the clerk do pay five guineas to Mr.

Seagrave, the Company's Beadle, to buy him a suit of cloaths as an acknowledgment of his faithfull service." And on 24th June, 1782, or after another four years, there was a similar Minute—showing that the Beadle was expected to be careful in the matter of dress.

This worthy Robert Seagrave was doubtless the happy recipient of many suits of clothes from his masters, for his decease (which was sudden while on business in the service of the Company) was not notified to the Court till 14th Jan., 1811, after being thirty-nine years in their service; when Mr. Joseph Lea was appointed in his place.

On the 13th Dec., 1800, "The Clerk informed the Court that from the ruinous state of the Hall it had been necessary to provide an habitation for the Beadle and for the preservation of the Company's effects, and that a small house for that purpose was taken in Silver Street (No. 8) for 1 year certain from Christmas 1800 at £16 16s. per ann., which the Court approved."

To show the confidence reposed in their Beadle by the members of the Court I transcribe a Minute of the 13th Dec., 1824. "Mr. Ward, the Treasurer, stated to the Court that the Beadle had had the misfortune to be robbed in the street (21 Nov., 1823) of the sum of £14 and some shillings which he had received on account of the Company; when the Court, taking the matter into consideration, and being satisfied of the honesty of the Beadle" (Mr. Joseph Lea), "agreed and resolved unanimously that the Company would bear the Beadle harmless on account of such loss and take it upon themselves, and it was ordered accordingly."

Gowns were worn by the Beadles of the Company many years ago. They seemed to last an incredible number of years for the wear and tear was nominal, hence it is they are only occasionally mentioned in the Minutes. There is one insertion which I now give, 13th Dec., 1827. "It being represented that the Beadle's gown was generally

decayed and unfit for use, it was Ordered, on the motion of Mr. Holah, that a new gown be purchased for him, of a good quality, but not exceeding the price of £10 10s."

£20 was the salary of the Beadle in 1814 (exclusive of fees), and this was still the sum paid in 1842 according to a Minute of 16th May of that year, but there were other emoluments, such as a little present on 24th June, 1788, when it was "ordered that Robert Ingram, the Company's Beadle and Porter, be presented with one guinea, as a gratuity for the trouble he had in assisting in the search after sundry deeds, wanted to enable the Court to give money to the several parish officers respecting their charitable donations."

On the 12th March, 1807, it was "Ordered that a gratuity of two guineas be given to the Beadle in consideration of his ill state of health."

And in April, 1813, "Ordered that the Beadle be allowed a gratuity of Twenty four pounds for the use of the room in his house for the Company's affairs, and that he be also allowed twelve guineas annually for the same in future."

"On the 30th April, 1827, Mr. John Lea, the son of the late Beadle and Porter, was nominated as Beadle and Porter of this Company. When it was suggested by Mr. Nichols that it would be desirable that the office should be filled by a freeman of the Company; it was ordered that Mr. John Lea should be applied to to take up his freedom by purchase before he should be put in nomination for the Office of Beadle." And on the 4th June, 1827, "It having been resolved at the last Court that Mr. John Lea, son of the late Beadle, should be proposed to fill the office of Beadle and Porter of this Company, but that he should, in order that he might be deemed more eligible to these offices, take up his freedom of the Company, It was now moved by Mr. Beauchamp and seconded by Mr. Nichols that such freedom should be presented by the

Company to the said John Lea; which was therefore ordered accordingly.”

I have stated at page 156 that Mr. James Dixon on 26th May, 1828, presented a chased silver badge to be worn on the Beadle's gown (see Plate I), which decoration is always used on festive occasions.

The Porter's staff, with the silver top, stamped 1658, representing the Company's Crest, is now used, together with the Beadle's staff, at the meetings of the Company.

There is just one more Minute I should like to quote respecting the Beadles and Porters of the years long ago. I have already stated about certain restrictions respecting the quantity of wine at the Company's banquets; I will now give an instance where the Beadle and Porter were restricted from taking any nourishment on such occasions. “14th Dec., 1885. That in lieu of the dinner and wine usually supplied at the Company's expense to the Beadle and Porter of this Company, such Beadle and Porter be allowed a fee of 10s. 6d. on the occasion of each dinner of the Company.”

There is in the Appendix, on page 304, a list of the Beadles and Porters of the Company, ending with our present officer Mr. John Kidd, one who has given me considerable help in making out this little history; his aptitude in copying old documents and papers, general intelligence, knowledge of the Company's affairs after nine years' service, and his general readiness to assist in all manner of work, have materially lightened my labours in compiling this book.

THE LAST PAGE

To the kind reader who has borne with me to this the "last page" of *A Chat About The Broderers' Company*, I may be pardoned for stating that I have tried my little best in gathering together from the Minutes, old papers and books of the Broderers' Company and elsewhere all that I thought most interesting and instructive; and having come to the end of my labour of love in writing this book, I ask forgiveness for trespassing yet further on his patience; because, after what I have written about the pious proclivities of the ancient Broderers, and how religion permeated many of their business transactions, I should indeed be guilty of dereliction of duty, as a true Broderer, if I did not conclude with a few thoughtful words by saying—

"Keep the last page for ever in thy sight,
In the gay morning think upon the night:
In all thy ways, consider where they tend,
In everything ask, what will be its end?
In fairest flowers, remember they must fade;—
In brightest skies, that clouds may overshadow;
In thoughts indulged, think well on afterthought;
In all thou seekest, at what price 'tis bought;
In maddest hours, remember thought must come;
In strongest youth, bethink thee of the tomb:
And chasing thought, be sure it is in vain,
For though thou diest, thou must rise again."

APPENDIX



CHARTERS

THE CHARTER OF ELIZABETH

1561

ELIZABETH by the Grace of God of England ffraunce and Ireland Queene Defender of the faith &c To all To whom these presents shall come Greeting Know Ye That We of our Especial Grace certain knowledge meer motion Doe for ourselves our heires and successors Grant and Give power Unto our loving and faithfull subjects freemen of the Mistery or arte of Broderers of our City of London and suburbs of the same That they from henceforth are and be one Body Corporate and Politick of themselves in matter deed and name And one Perpetuall Company Corporate of Two Keepers or Wardens and Company of the same Arte or Mistery And them by the Name of Keepers or Wardens and Company of the Arte or Mistery of the Broderers London We doe for ourselves and our successors—Really and fully in all things As in other Bodyes Corporate within the said City of London Erect Ordaine Make Constitute and Establish by these presents One Body Corporate and Politick And that the said Keepers or Wardens and fellowship and their successors Shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seale for doing the business of the said Arte or Mistery and Company And that they and their successors shall be named called and known by the name of *The Keepers or Wardens and Company of the said Arte or Mistery of the Broderers of the City of London* And by that Name shall and may Plead and be Impleaded Prosecute Defend and be Defended Answer and be Answered in all and singular Causes, Complaints Actions Reall Personall and Mixt of what Kind or Nature soever they shall be in whatsoever places and Courts before whatsoever Judges or Justices as well Ecclesiastical as Secular And We Also Doe by these Presents for Us our heires and Successors of our aforesaid Grace Grant that the said Keepers or Wardens and Company and their Successors for ever Be persons fitt and Capable in Law to Purchase and possesse in ffee and forever Lands Tenements Rents and other possions whatsoever of any person or persons whatsoever And in plain That they may purchase Lands and Tenements and Rents As well in Demand as in Revercion in our City of London which are held of Us in Capite So as they exceed not the Clear Yearly Value of Thirty Pounds p annum To have and To hold unto them and their Successors ffor ever ffor the help and maintenance of poor Men and Women of the said Arte or Mistery and Company aforesaid for ever The Statute of Lands and Tenements not to be put in Mortmaine or any other Statute Art Ordinance Restraint or Provisoe had made Done Ordained or Provided to the Contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding And Further of our Especiall Grace Certaine Knowledge and Meer Motion

Name

We will and by these presents for Us our Heirs and Successors Grant That the said Keepers or Wardens of the said Arte or Mistery and Company aforesaid Make ^{Make} Lawes and Ordinances ^{Lawes and Ordinances} May make from time to time fitt and wholesome Lawes and Ordinances ffor the good rule and government of the said Arte or Mistery and ffreemen of the same Arte or Mistery All which Statutes and Ordinances so to be made We will by these presents Command Inviolably to be observed from time to time forever And that the said Keepers or Wardens of the said Arte or Mistery for the time being have and shall have power and Authority to View Rule and Governe the said Arte or Mistery and all men and workers of the same Arte And as well that they shall Have Doe and Exercise within the City aforesaid and Suburbs of the same And in our City of Westminster And in S^t Katherines in our County of Midd^x And in our Burrough of Southwarke in our County of Surrey Ffull and Intire View and Search Government and Correction of all and singular the Men Useing or that shall use the Arte or Mistery aforesaid from time to time as they shall see expedient And ^{And to} that they shall punish all persons for their not true working Doing making ^{punish, etc.} and Useing in their Businesse of Buying and Selling Do any other thing concerning the said Arte or Mistery as often and when occasion shall be for the good and use of all our Leige Subjects although expresse mention of the true yearly value or any other value or certainty of the premisses Or of any of them Or of any other Gifts or Grants by us or any of our progenitors to the said Keepers or Wardens and Company of the said Arte or Mistery of Broderers before these times made In these presents is not made or any other Statute Art Ordinance provisoe proclamation or restraint heretofore had made sett forth ordained or provided or any other matter cause or thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made pattendes Witnesse Our Self att Westminster the ffive and twentyeth day of October in the third year of our Raigne

By Writt and the privy seale of
the date aforesaid &c

P. CORDELL

SURRENDER OF CHARTER TO KING CHARLES II

TO ALL TO WHOME these presents shall come The Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mistery of BRODERERS of the City of London send greeting KNOW YE That considering how much imports the Government of this City and the Companies thereof to have persons of knowne Loyalty and approved integrity to beare Offices of trust therein WE THE SAID Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mistery of Broderers of the City of London HAVE granted surrendered and yielded up And by these presents Doe grant surrender and yeild up unto our most Gracious Sovereigne Lord King CHARLES THE SECOND of England &c ALL AND SINGULAR the powers Franchises Libertyes priviledges and Authorityes whatsoever and howsoever granted or to be used or exercised by the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Arts

or Mistery of Broderers by virtue of any right title or interest vested in us by Letters Patent Custome or Prescription in for or concerning the Electing nominating constituting being or appointing of any person or persons in to or for the severall and respective Offices of Master Wardens Assistants and Clerk of the said Company AND LIKEWISE wee doe surrender unto his said Ma^{tie} all our right of having or holding a Court of Assistants AND WEE THE SAID Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mistery of Broderers doe hereby most humbly beseech his Ma^{tie} to accept of this our surrender And doe with all Submission to his Ma^{ties} good pleasure Implore his grace and favour to regrant unto us the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mistery of Broderers the nameing and choosing of such Officers who shall manage the Governing part of the said Company UNDER such Restrictions Qualifications and Reservacons as your Ma^{tie} in your great Wisdome shall think fitt IN WITNESS WHEREOF wee the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mistery of BRODERERS have hereunto putt our Common Seal the Two and twentyeth Day of October Anno Dm. 1684.

TO THE KINGS MOST EXCELLENT MA^{tie}

The humble petition of the Keepers or Wardens of the Society of the Art or Mistery of the Broderers of the City of London.

Wee the said poore Society (with the utmost shame & contrition) acknowledging our great errors doe in most humble manner beseech yo^r pardon & gracious acceptance of our hearty & intire resignacon of our Charters immunityes and priviledges granted by yo^r Ma^{ties} progenitors and predecessors Kings & Queenes of England which wee have justly forfeited And may we never have more but with the strictest condicōns of Loyalty & Obedience for the tyme to come

And yo^r petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

PROPOSITIONS ON SURRENDER OF CHARTER

The Broderers of London & Suburbs thereof Anno 3rd Elizabeth were by her Charter incorporated by the name of the Keepers or Wardens & Society of the Art or Mistery of the Broderers London which Charter (Anno 25 October 1561) was confirmed

And having made a full & free surrender of their sayd Charter, Doe humbly pray that in their new Charter to bee granted consideracon may be had of the particulars following

1. That there haveing noo Master but two Keepers divers disputes have happened touching their precedency & Authority whether for the avoiding thereof It may not be convenient that they hold by the name of Master, Wardens & Society &c

And that the Master doe of the Keepers formerly of their office have done

2. That before and since their being incorporated they were called & known by the name of Imbroderers & the sillable "Im" seemes to bee an

omission & if they bee now styled Imbroderers It is conceived they may better enjoy any gift or grant by that name & will bee sooner found in any table or Index where they shall be so written

3. That by the old Charter they were to search correct & punish all offenders concerning their working buying or selling in the Art aforesayd within the city of London suburbs thereof City of Westminster & in St. Katherine's & Borough of Southwark but the offenders have avoyded the Government of the Company by keeping in particular libertyes in or neare those limits whether for the more perfect regulating of the trade the Company may not have leave to act as well within Libertyes as without through a certain compasse of Miles

4. As they doe administer the oath of every ffreeman & person who beares office at their admission soo whether for the better searching & correcting & punishing of offenders & other trespassers of the ordinances of the Company heretofore or hereafter to bee examined & approved according to the Statute in that case made may not have power to examine the sayd offenders upon Oath.

5. That the Company in their due search & government have binne often resisted & abused for want of Assistants whether it may not be convenient That by the Charter it bee directed that all persons under such a degree shall admitt of such search to bee made & that all Constables and other peace officers may be aiding and assisting to the Company therein

6. That least by the surrender made any doubt hereafter should arise of the Companies title to any estate they before had whether it may not bee convenient by some words in the new Charter to avoyd the same

7. That the Company being much indebted & paying more p cent for interest then they have in cleare rents p Anum for the vallue of their estate & being in danger of having their lands seized for those debts whether as they had power to hold lands to a certaine vallue see it may not bee granted to sell not exceeding the vallue of their debts for payment of debts only

8. Whether it may not be necessary That the Company have power not only to make Ordinances soe as aforesayd to bee examined & approved but alsoe in parte or in all to repeale & abolish any already made which have binne found inconvenient

9. Whether a clause may not bee necessary that those orders heretofore made may stand in force other than such or such parte of those as shall bee hereafter repealed & abolished

10. ffor that the Master may happen to bee sick or out of Towne whether it be not convenient that hee bee impowered to appoynt a deputy

11. ffor that by the former Ordinances of the Company none were to bee admitted into the Assistants but such who had served the place of Renter Warden or fined for the same therefore that there may be a clause for those who are now taken into the Assistants & have not soe served or fined may be charged with the sayd office the sayd ordinance notwithstanding

12. In regard the number of those quallified for the Assistants is small that therefore 7 whereof the Master or his Deputy to bee one may be deemed a sufficient Court of Assistants

13. ffor that divers persons being free of other Companies presume to

exercise this Art & because not free of this Company refuse to bee under the Government of it for remedy hereof that it may bee declared that none shall exercise the Art but those who are or shall become free of the Company

14. That the fees of officers belonging to the Company bee sett & from tyme to tyme regulated by a Court of Assistants

15. That in the old Charter there is a Licence of Mortmaine granted to the vullue of 30^l p Ann and the Company having another Licence of Mortmaine granted Anno 10^o C^a prim to the vullue of 100^l p Ann It is hoped the like licence may bee in the new Charter

16. There is a clause in the last menconed licence of King Charles the first to this effect o——o Of our more plentifull grace wee grante to the sayd Society &c. that those our Letters patents under our greate seale of England shall bee to them had & delivered without fine & fee greate or small or any other thing to thouse of us our heyres or successors for the same to bee payd or made which in regard to the Companyes poverty is humbly prayed may bee alsoe under consideracon in their suing forth their new Charter

The foregoing sixteen clauses being read & the matter thorough debated & considered by us who have subscribed our names—Wee doe approve thereof and desire that endeavour may be used for the obtayning their allowance in our New Charter In testimony whereof we have set our hands the seaventh day of April An Dñ 1685

Signed Robt Blagden Warden
Tho Harris

The marke  of
John  Lucas

Richard Ffawley

ffrancis Greene

Henry Stevens

J Keling

Jn^o Johnson

Robert fford

Robert Grew

Will Rest

Edward Jones

Mathew Husfeld

Peter Ashton

James Pooley

Isaac Godar

Owen Morris

The  P marke of

Tho Parkins

REMOVAL OF THREE ASSISTANTS (JAMES II)

At the Court at Whitehall the 10th of february 1687

By the kings most Excellent Ma^y & the Lords of his Ma^s most hon^{ble} privy Councell

Whereas by the late charters granted to the severall Companies of London It is provided that his Ma^y his heirs & successors may by order in Councill from time to time displace & remove the Master Wardens & Assistants of the said severall Companies or any of them And thereupon the place or places of such person or persons so removed shall be void And whereas his Ma^y hath thought fitt that severall Members of the said severall Companies should be removed His Ma^y in Councill is pleased this day to order And it is hereby ordered that Edward Mitton Warder George Ogilby and Henry Doble Assistants of the Company of Embroiderers be & they are hereby removed & displaced from being any longer Warden or Assistants of the said Company And his Ma^y is further pleased to order that the Lord Maior & Court of Aldermen do forthwith signify his Ma^s pleasure herein to the said Company

JOHN NICHOLAS

REMOVAL OF MASTER WARDEN AND ASSISTANTS

At the Court at Windsor the 25th of September 1687

By the Kings most excellent Ma^{tie} and the Lords of his Ma^s most hon^{ble} Privy Councell

Whereas by the late Charters granted to the severall Companies of London It is provided that his Ma^{tie} his heirs and successors may by order in Councell from time to time displace or remove the Master Wardens and Assistants of the said severall Companies or any of them and thereupon the place or places of such person or persons so removed shall be void And whereas his Ma^{tie} hath thought fit That severall members of the said severall Companies should be removed His Ma^{tie} in Councell is pleased to order And it is hereby ordered accordingly that John Lucas, Master, Josiah Kerling Warden, Tho: Harris, W Rutligh, John Marriott, John Norton, John Barber, James Pooley, W^m West, Robert Queshad, Ezekieil Fuller, Peter Ashton, Edward Jones, John Springwell, W^m Sherrard, & Tho Parkins Assistants of the Company of Imbroiderers Be and they are hereby removed & displaced from being any longer Master Warden or Assistants of the s^d company And his Ma^y is further pleased to order That the Lord Maior & Court of Aldermen do forthwith signify his Ma^s pleasure herein to the s^d Company.

W^M BRIDGEMAN

RESTORATION OF ASSISTANTS (JAMES II)

October 1687 Peake Maior, &c.

Whereas his Ma^{tie} hath lately by his Royall Letter under his Signe Manuall directed to this Court bin pleased to signify that his Ma^{tie} having thought

it necessary for his Service to cause severall of the Masters Wardens and Assistants of severall of the Companies within this City by Order in Councell to be removed And that his Ma^{tie} having been given to understand that divers of his Subjects upon the surrenders of the severall Charters of the Companies of the said City to his Ma^{tie} or his late dearest Brother were displaced and removed from being Assistants in the respective Companies and have ever since bin deprived and debarred from their stations and precedencies in their respective Companies And that his Ma^{tie} being resolved to encourage and countenance all his subjects of dutifull behaviour towards his Ma^{tie} and his Governm^t so long as they continue to act accordingly His Ma^{tie} is pleased thereby to declare his Royall will and pleasure that this Court should cause so many of the said several persons who at the respective times of the surrenders of the said Charters were of the Assistants of the s^d respective Companies as will compleat and fill up the numbers reserved and appointed by the said several Charters to be again restorred and forthwith admitted according to their seniorities in their respective Companies Except only such whom his Ma^{tie} by the said Order in Councell had removed. And his Ma^{tie} does thereby also expressly require that they shall be forthwith readmitted and restored to the enjoyment of their former privileges and precedencies of being of the Assistants of the said respective Companies as fully and effectually as they were at the time of the said late Surrenders. And also that this Court do cause and require the said severall Companies forthwith to proceed to make choice of Master Wardens and other officers now vacant Anything to the contrary thereof notwithstanding. In obedience to which comand from his Ma^{tie} It is ordered by this Court that the Master Wardens or Assistants (or such of them as not being removed by his Ma^{tie} as aforesaid are now remaining in the said places) of all the Companies of this City whose Charters have been surrendered as aforesaid do forthwith sumon restore and readmit soe many of the members of their respective Companies as were Assistants att the time of the Surrender of their said Charters (except those removed by his Ma^{tie} by Order of Councell as aforesaid) to their former places of Assistants as will compleate and fill up the numbers of their respective Assistants directed and appointed to their Charters And that all the said persons so to be restored have and enjoy the same places precedencies and priviledges among the Assistants of their respective Companies as they held att the time of the said Surrenders And in further pursuance of his Ma^{ties} pleasure signified as aforesaid It is likewise ordered that in any of the said Companies where the place or places of Master or Wardens or any of them are vacant by the removall aforesaid The said Company do forthwith proceed to choose and admitt other persons into the said places of Master or Wardens so vacant And it is further ordered That the Clerks of all the said Companies doe bring to this Court in writing an account of their proceedings herein together with the names of their Masters or Wardens when chosen and their Court of Assistants when compleated as aforesaid

WAGSTAFFE

[Re^d from Mr. Towne Clerke 13 Oct. 87.]

CONTINUED AS ASSISTANTS & DISPLACED FR LIVERY

An Account of such members of y^e Comp^y of Imbroderers London who are continued in the place of Assistant & displaced from being of y^e Livery of the said Comp^y.

Vic^t.

Edward Mytton
Francis Greene
John Johnson

RESTORATION OF LIVERYMEN

October 1687

Peake Maior, &c.

Whereas his Ma^{ty} by Letters Patente under y^e great Seal of England hath granted Ordained & Established that all the Misteries & Companies of or belonging to this City and all their Members should be under the Governm^t of this Court And that this Court should appoint & order which of the said Companies should have Liveries And that all Members of the said Companies chosen or to be chosen into the livery should before admission to that place be approved or might be rejected by this Court And also that this Court should or might from time to time at their discretion dismiss remove & discharge any pson or psons now being or that hereafter shall be of the Livery of the said Companies from the said place And whereas his Ma^{ty} by his Letter under his sign manuell directed to this Court hath signified his Royall Will & pleasure That y^e severall persons hereunder named should by this Court be forthwith removed & discharged from being of y^e Livery or liverymen of their respective companies within this City And his Ma^{ty} therein taking notice That at the times of the late surrenders of severall of the charters powers or privileges of divers Companies within this City in the reigne of his Ma^{ty} or his late dearest Brother Many members then of the livery or liverymen of their respective Companies were thereby displaced & have ever since bin deprived & debarred of their former privileges of being of the livery of their respective Companies And his Ma^{ty} thereby further signifying that being well persuaded of their loyalty & duty & fully resolved to encourage & countenance all his subjects of dutifull behaviour towards his Ma^{ty} & his Governm^t so long as they continue to act accordingly His Ma^{ty} declares his further will & pleasure That this Court should cause the said severall persons who at the times of the said late surrenders of their severall charters were of the livery of their respective Companies & by the means aforesaid now thereof deprived to be again restored (except such only as are hereunder named) to their said former privileges of being of the Livery of their said respective Companies as fully & effectually as they were at the time of the said late surrenders anything to the contrary thereof notwithstanding & this Court doth therefore pursuant to the power granted by the Letters Patente aforesaid & in obedience to his Ma^{ties} comand

signified by his Royall Letter aforesaid remove and discharge the several persons hereunder named from being of the Livery or Liverymen of their respective Companies of this City hereafter menconed And it is ordered by this Court that all the members of the said respective Companies (except such as are hereby removed) who at the times of the late surrenders of their severall charters were of the livery of the said respective Companies & by that means deprived thereof be again restored & readmitted to their said former privilege of being of the Livery of the said respective Companies as fully and effectually as they were at the times of the said surrenders And that they hold & enjoy the same place & precedence in their said Companies that they held at the time of the said Surrenders And it is ordered by this Court that the names of all such members of the said respective Companies as are to be restored to the Livery in pursuance of his Ma^{ties} comand & this order be presented to this Court in writing in one column And that the names of all other their respective Liverymen now remaying and not hereby displaced be presented in another column at the same time

Liverymen of the Company of Imbroderers removed by the atores^d order that is to say

Tho Harris,	John Lucas,	John Norton,
Phillip Holmes,	Rich Pawley,	Hugh Johnson,
John Barber,	W ^m West,	Rob Questead,
James Pooley,	Peter Aston,	Edw Jones,
W ^m Rutlish,	Jno Marriott,	Jos Keeling,
Isaac Godar,	Ezekiel Fuller,	W ^m Franklin,
Tho Webb,	Tho Rockey,	Jn ^o Springwell,
W ^m Sherrard,	Tho Parkins	

WAGSTAFFE

RESTORATION OF LIVERYMEN (Oct^r 1688)

His Ma^{tie} having bin graciously pleased to restore to this city its ancient franchises And required by his Charter lately given for y^e purpose That this Court should cause to be restored to their respective places all such Liverymen of the severall Companies of this city as were of the Livery of the s^d Companies at the time of the late Judgm^t given ag^t this city upon the quo warr^o It is therefore ordered by this Court That all such members of the respective Livery Companies now living as were of the Livery at the time of the said Judgm^t be forthwth restored to their s^d places in their respective Companies accordingly And it is ordered that the M^r Wardens and Assistants of all the said Companies doe forthwith see the same p^rformed & executed & that the Clerke of every Company have notice imediately to repaire to M^r Townclerke & take a copy of this Order to be entred in their books & presently communicated to the M^r & Wardens of their respective Companies

WAGSTAFFE

SUMMONS TO ATTEND AT HALL FOR THE RESTORING OF DIVERS
OF THE LIVERY

(Arms of the Company)

SIR

You are desired by the Master and Wardens of the Company of Imbroderers als Broderers London to be and appeare at their Hall on Wednesday next being the 10th day of October instant at 7 of the clocke precisely in y^e forenoone for the restoring of divers of the Livery according to an Order of the Lord Mayor & Co^{rs} of Aldren And that you faile not as you regard your oath and y^e ordinances of the Company Dated the 8th day of Octob^r 1868

WM SYMPSON
Beadle

SUBSCRIPTIONS OF MEMBERS OF BRODERERS COMPANY FOR THE
NEW CHARTER (JAMES II)

BRODERERS

We whose names are hereunder subscribed doe severally undertake forthwith to pay into the hands of John Pratt y^e Clerke of the Comp^y of Broderers of y^e City of Lond whereof we are members y^e severall sumes by us respectively subscribed for y^e obtayning of a New Charter if his Ma^{tie} shall please to grant the same or for such other publicke use of y^e Comp^y as the major part of us shall hereafter agree upon

			£	s.	d.
Mr. Harris being 'Treasurer it is in his own hands	Tho: Harris	×	10	0	0
p ^d	The mark				
	John Lucas	I L of	×	02	0 0
	William Yarway			5	0 0
p ^d	William Rutlish	×	10	0 0	
p ^d	John Marriott	×	01	0 0	
p ^d	John Norton	×	0	5 0	
p ^d	Richard Pawley	×	02	00 00	
p ^d	Edward Mytton	×	03	00 00	
p ^d	ffrancis Greene	×	5	00 00	
p ^d	Henry Stevens	×	05	00 00	
	Jno Johnson	2 guinneys	×	02	03 00
Dead	Methew Holder			02	00 00
p ^d	Robert Listyard	×	02	0 0	
p ^d	George Ogilby	×	01	00 0	
p ^d	John Barber	×	02	0 0	
p ^d	James Pooley	×	02	0 0	
p ^d	Robert Grew	×	02	0 0	

	£	s.	d.				
rec in a/c	2	3	0	Will Rest	×	04	10 0
rec in full	2	7	0	Robert Quedest		02	0 0
				Abraham Austen		01	0 0
p ^d				Isaac Godar	×	02	00 00
p ^d				J. Keeling	×	06	0 0

Wee hereunder subscribed doe alsoe undertake to pay into ye hands of M^r Tho Harris Treasurer ye sumes hereunder subscribed for ye purposes hereunder mentioned

p ^d	The mark T P of						
	Thomas Parkins	×	1	0	0		
p ^d	Edward Jones	×	01	00	00		
p ^d	Will Sherard	×	02	00	00		
p ^d	Peter Ashton	×	1	0	0		
p ^d	Robert Petyt	×	1	1	6		
p ^d	Owen Morris	×	0	10	0		
p ^d	John Springwell	×	02	00	00		
	Roger Bradley		01	00	00		

Wee hereunder subscribed doe alsoe undertake to pay into the hands of y^e treasurer the sumes by us respectively subscribed for y^e purposes afores^d

y		×	01	0	0		
y	subscribed	×	2	0	0		
	Joseph Bennett B his mark		0	10	0		
	Robert Mandsley		00	10	00		
	John Elleson		00	10	00		

NAMES OF MEMBERS OF THE BRODERERS' COMPANY
UNDER NEW CHARTER OF JAMES II

The Returne of the Company of Imbroderers als Broderers London of their proceedings in pursuance of & obedience to an Order of the right hon^{ble} the Lord Mayor & Court of Aldren of the City of London dated the 11th of October instant for the eleccion of Master & Underwarden of the said Company those places being vacant by the Order of his Ma^{tie} in Councell Dated the 25th of Septemb^r last

The said Company by their new Charter of his Ma^{tie} being appointed to have a Master, Two Wardens & 28 Assistants the Upper Warden & such of the Assistants reserved & appointed by the said Charter (who were removed by his Ma^{ties} said Order) together with such who were Assistants att the tyme of the Companyes surrender to his late Ma^{tie} & such of the Livery (who were not displaced by the Order of the said Lord Mayor & Court of Aldren dated the said 11th of October instant) together with such who were of the Livery att the tyme of the said surrender being sumoned diverse of them mett & have restored & readmitted such persons (who were formerly Assistants & upon the said surrender displaced & removed according to their seniorities & have reinstated & filled up their said number of Assistants & chosen & admitted a Master & Underwarden as

by the said Order of the 11th of October for that purpose was directed The names of the Upper Warden & Assistants not removed & of the Master and Underwarden chosen & admitted & of the Assistants restored admitted compleated and filled up according to their seniorities & precedences are as followeth

An Exact List of the Master Wardens Assistants & Livery of the Company of Imbroiderers London Returned in obedience to an Order of the right hono the Lord Mayor & Court of Aldren dated fourteenth of February 1687

		Benjamin Henshaw	}			
		Zephaniah Hilton				
		Ezekiel Samford				
Chosen Master	———	Thomas Pearson				
		Richard Tildon				
		Henry Dobbe				
		ffrancis Hardy				
		William Yarway				
		Robert Blagdon				
		Richard Clement				
		Richard ffountaine				
Chosen Underwarden	———	Mathew Husfield				
		Henry Davis				
		William Vaston				
		Andrew Woodney				
		Robert Whitfield				
Upper Warden before & not removed	———	Edward Mytton	}	Assistants & Livery		
	{	James Ludlow				
		ffrancis Greene				
		Robert Pettitt				
		John Johnson				
Continued					George Ogilby	
					Geo West	
					Robert Grew	
					Owen Morris	
					Abraham Austin	
					Robert fford	
					Stephen Tory	
					Peter Eyres	
					John Murry	
					William Norinanvall	
			Thomas Bonvile	}	Livery	
		John Best				
		Isaac Day				
		John Woodfall				
		Thomas Seele				
		John Eales				
		Daniell Ashton				

	John Candy	}	Livery
	John Clinth		
	Henry Bolton		
	William Marner		
	Robert Marner		
	Nathaniell Ballard		
	Daniell Kingstone		
	John Gibbons		
	Benjamin Leath		
	John Coates		
	Peter Geery		
	Nicholas Smyth		
	Edward Lee		
	John Wilshire		
	Richard Newnham		
	Joshua Marlow		
<i>qy</i>	Browne Hem		
<i>qy</i>	John Stretchley		
	John Greene		
	Martyn Watson		
	Roger Bradley		
	John Creig		
	James Gillum		
	Jeremy Thomas		

The copy of this was signed by

M^r THOMAS PEARSON Master
M^r MATH HUSFEILD Warden

AN ACT RESTORING THE CITY OF LONDON TO ITS
ANCIENT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

2nd W^m & Mary Session 1. Cap 8

An Act for reversing the Judgment in a Quo Warranto against the City of London and for restoring the City of London to its antient rights and privileges

XIV And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid That all and every of the severall Companies and Corporations of the said City shall from henceforth stand and be incorporated by such name and names and in such sort and manner as they respectively were at the time of the said Judgment given and every of them are hereby restored to all and every the lands tenements hereditaments rights titles estates liberties powers privileges precedences and immunities which they lawfully had and enjoyed at the time of giving the said Judgment; And that as well all surrenders as Charters, Letters Patents and Grants for new incorporating any of the said Companies or touching or concerning any of their liberties privileges or franchises made or granted by the said late King James or by the said King Charles the second since the giving of the said Judgment shall be

void And are hereby declared null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever Provided nevertheless That no person or persons shall be in any wise prosecuted sued impeached or molested for any cause or thing by him or them lawfully acted or done in pursuance of any such Charters, letters patents or grants

SWEARING IN OF LORD MAYOR UNDER ACT FOR
RESTORING TO THE CITY OF LONDON ITS
ANCIENT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

To y^e M^r & Wardens of y^e
Company of Embroidorers

By the May^r

Whereas I was elected Lord May^r of y^e City of London on y^e 26 day of May instant being the time appointed by y^e late Act of Plim^t entitled an Act for reversing y^e Judgm^t upon y^e Quo War^{to} ag^t y^e City of London & for restoreing y^e City of London to its antient rights & privileges & it being appointed by y^e Court of Aldmen that I shall be sworne at y^e Exchequer Barr early on monday morning next These are therefore to require you that you cause the livery of your Company in their hoods and Livery Gowns to attend me & my brethren y^e Aldmen in you^r Barge at y^e 3 Craines by 8 of y^e clock in y^e morning with Streamers & banners & other usuall ornam^{ts} & from thence to Wstm^r & to reterne back & land at Blackfryers & to take your standing in y^e streets in my passage to my house at Skinners Hall And hereof you are not to faile dated this 30th day of May 1690

WAGSTAFFE

August 25th 1686
Rec^d then of M^r John Pratt
Clerk to the Company of Embroiderers
the sume of three pounds being the fees
for Inrolling the Companies Charter for
the use of M^r Town Clerk

by me

fr SPARLINGE

Dated 13th January 1836

THE BRODERERS' COMPANY
to
THE REVD. DR. HOGARTH

L E A S E

of

Lands at Stifford in the County of Essex and
of the Advowson or Patronage of the Rectory
of Stifford for a term of 100 years commencing
at Michaelmas 1835

Rent £80 per annum

G. H. Barber & Son,
13 St. Swithins Lane
E.C.

STIFFORD

LEASE TO DR. HOGARTH 13th JAN. 1836.

THIS INDENTURE made the 13th day of January 1836 BETWEEN THE KEEPERS OR WARDENS AND SOCIETY OF THE ART OR MYSTERY OF THE BRODERERS OF THE CITY OF LONDON of the one part and THE REVEREND JOHN HENRY HOGARTH late of Stifford in the County of Essex and now of Hans Place Sloane Street in the County of Middlesex Doctor of Civil Law of the other part WITNESSETH that in consideration of a Surrender of a former lease of (amongst other hereditaments the hereditaments hereinafter demised by an Indenture bearing date and executed the day before the day of the date of these presents And in consideration of the sum of ONE HUNDRED POUNDS of lawful money of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London in hand paid by the said John Henry Hogarth at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents The receipt whereof the said Keepers or Wardens and Society do hereby acknowledge and thereof and therefrom do acquit release and discharge the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns and every of them by these presents and for and in consideration of the rent and covenants hereinafter reserved and contained on the part and behalf of the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns to be paid done and performed and for divers and other good causes and considerations them thereunto especially moving, THEY the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London HAVE demised leased set and to farm let and by these presents DO demise Lease set and to farm let unto the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns, ALL THOSE the several pieces or parcels of Arable and Woodland situate lying and being at Stifford in the Parish of Stifford in the County of Essex now in the occupation of the said John Henry Hogarth or of Ingram Sturgeon and Holt as his Undertenants specified in the Schedule hereunder written and therein described by the names by which the same are now commonly known and by the estimated contents thereof And also more particularly delineated and described as to their abuttals and boundaries in the map or plan hereunto annexed be the dimensions and contents of such several pieces or parcels of land more or less and by whatsoever other names the same or any of them may heretofore have been or may be now known or distinguished and all other the hereditaments shewn and delineated in the said map or plan and thereon coloured yellow TOGETHER with the several messuages or tenements cottages barns buildings copses gardens and premises thereunto belonging or therewith held and enjoyed AND ALSO the Advowson or right of Patronage of or to the Church Rectory or Parsonage of Stifford in the said County of Essex and the glebe and all other lands to the same Rectory or Parsonage belonging or appertaining with their and every of their appurtenances TOGETHER with all and

singular profits commons ways commodities easements advantages hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the messuages or Tenements Advowson lands tenements hereditaments and other the premises hereby demised or to any of them or to any part of them belonging or in anywise appertaining or with the same or any part thereof respectively used occupied possessed or enjoyed AND ALSO all and singular the said messuages cottages tenements advowson right of Patronage presentation and hereditaments and all timber trees and other trees hedges bushes woods and underwoods and the ground and soil thereof and all other profits benefits and advantages whatsoever and all and singular other the premises hereinbefore mentioned and expressed with their and every of their appurtenances And all other the messuages advowsons right of Patronage and presentation lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever of the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London in the said Parish of Stifford *without impeachment of or for any manner of waste in any of the said premises (except voluntary waste in houses)* And the reversion and reversions remainder and remainders of all and singular the said premises together with all rents and other yearly profits reserved due or payable upon any Lease demise or grant made of the said premises or any part thereof TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same messuages lands tenements advowson and right of Patronage and all other the premises with all and singular their several and respective appurtenances unto the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns without impeachment of or for any manner of waste (except voluntary waste in houses as aforesaid) from the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel now last past before the day of the date of these presents for and during and unto the full end and term of ONE HUNDRED YEARS from thence next ensuing and fully to be complete and ended YIELDING AND PAYING therefor yearly and every year during the said term of One hundred years hereby granted unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Borderers of the City of London their successors and assigns the clear yearly rent or sum of EIGHTY POUNDS of lawful money of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland free and clear of and from the *Land Tax* and all other taxes aids scots lots tythes impositions quitrents and rates and all other charges and incumbrances whatsoever now charged or chargeable or which shall be hereafter charged or chargeable upon the said hereby demised premises or any part thereof or upon the landlord thereof by authority of Parliament or otherwise howsoever at or upon two of the most usual feast days or days of payment of rent in the year that is to say the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Michael the Archangel by equal and even portions at or in the Hall or other usual place of Meeting of the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London AND the said John Henry Hogarth for himself his heirs executors administrators and assigns Doth Covenant promise and agree to and with the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns That he the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns shall and will well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City

of London their successors and assigns the said clear yearly rent of eighty pounds of lawful money as aforesaid on such days and times and in such proportions and at such place as the same is hereinbefore reserved and made payable AND ALSO that he the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns shall and will from time to time and at all times hereafter *during the term hereby granted well and sufficiently repair sustain support amend and maintain the said premises hereby demised* as well in housing as in hedging ditching and fencing the same with posts pales rails and gates and all other manner of fencing whatsoever And shall and will well and sufficiently scour the ditches of or belonging to the said premises when and as often as need or occasion shall be or require and shall and will from time to time and at all times during the term hereby granted permit and suffer the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns and their and each and every of their several and respective Surveyors Stewards Agents or others once in every six years of the said term hereby granted upon giving or leaving on the premises one week's notice of such their intention to enter into all and every or any part parcel or portion of the several premises hereby demised *to view search and see the state and condition of the abuttals boundaries descriptions and identifications and to make a plan or plans of the said premises with a view to perpetuate the evidence of such boundaries and identifications* and that he the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns shall and will at the end expiration or other sooner determination of this present demise which shall first happen leave surrender and *yield up the same premises and all and singular the houses buildings hedges fences and ditches in and upon the same unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns well and sufficiently repaired hedged fenced scoured and in good and sufficient state and condition and free from all aids scots lots tythes land tax and all other taxes impositions quit rents rates and all other charges and incumbrances whatsoever* AND the said John Henry Hogarth for himself his heirs executors and administrators Doth hereby further covenant promise and agree to and with the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns That he the said *John Henry Hogarth* his executors administrators and assigns shall and will from time to time and at all times during each and every of the last seven years of the said term hereby granted *use farm till and cultivate the several lands and premises hereby demised and every part and parcel thereof respectively in a good and husbandlike manner, according to the course usage and practice of husbandry in that part of the County of Essex in which the lands hereby demised lie* AND MOREOVER the said John Henry Hogarth for himself his heirs executors and administrators doth hereby covenant promise and agree to and with the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns That they the said Keepers or Wardens and Society their successors or assigns shall not at any time during the term hereby granted or at any time after the end and expiration or other sooner determination thereof be troubled molested impeached fined or amerced for or concerning the ploughing manuring tilling inclosing free

using *disposing* or building of or upon the premises hereby demised or any part or parcel thereof or for the felling eradicating or grubbing up of any trees woods or bushes now growing or hereafter to be growing upon the premises or any part thereof or for or by reason of any nuisance assart or pourpresture by them or any of them hereafter to be done or committed in the said premises or any part or parcel thereof as being parcel of or within the limits precincts or perambulation of any of the forests or chases of our Sovereign Lord the King his heirs or successors And that the said John Henry Hogarth his successors administrators and assigns shall and will from time to time and at all times hereafter upon reasonable request to him or them to be made *satisfy and pay unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors or assigns of and for all such damages and losses as they or any of them shall sustain for or by reason of any such fine amerceiament trouble or molestation* PROVIDED ALWAYS and it is covenanted concluded declared and agreed by and between the said parties to these presents for themselves their successors executors administrators and assigns AND the said John Henry Hogarth doth for himself his heirs executors administrators and assigns covenant promise and grant by these presents to and with the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns that if it shall happen the said yearly rent of eighty pounds shall be behind and unpaid in part or in all in any year after forty days be expired after either of the said feast days on which the same is before limited to be paid that then and from thenceforth the said John Henry Hogarth his executors administrators and assigns shall forfeit and pay unto the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art and Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns the sum of twenty shillings of lawful money of Great Britain (nomine poenae) for every day wherein such default of payment shall be made within the space of thirty days after either of the said forty days for which sum or sums of twenty shillings (nomine poenae) to be perfected as aforesaid it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns from time to time without any demand thereof to be made into the messuages lands and premises before mentioned to be demised and every or any part and parcel thereof to enter and distrain and the distress and distresses then and there found to lead drive chase carry away and in pound and in pound to detain and keep until such time as they the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Arts or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London shall be fully satisfied and paid for all and every such forfeit penalty or penalties and the arrearages thereof But if it shall happen the said annual rent or any parcel thereof or the said sums or penalties of twenty shillings or any of them so to be forfeited (nomine poenae) shall be in arrear and unpaid by the space of seventy days after either of the said feast days whereat the said annual rent is before limited to be paid and no sufficient distress can be found had or taken in or upon the premises or if it shall happen that any rescue or pound breath shall be made or any repleving be sued or obtained of or for or by reason of any distress or distresses to be taken by virtue of these presents then

and from thenceforth it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London their successors and assigns into all and singular the premises hereby demised with their appurtenances to enter and the same and every part and parcel thereof to have again retain repossess and freely and absolutely to have hold and enjoy these presents or anything herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding IN WITNESS whereof the said Keepers or Wardens and Society of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers of the City of London, to one part of these presents have caused their common seal to be affixed and to one other part thereof the said John Henry Hogarth hath subscribed and set his hand and seal the day and year first above written.

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

No. on plan.	Names of Fields.	Estimated contents.	Occupiers.
1.	Hither Brick Kiln Field.	10. 2. 8.	Mr. Ingram.
2.	23 Acre piece.	24. 0. 18.	Thomas Barnett Sturgeon.
3.	12 Acre Piece.	12. 3. 32.	do.
4.	Further Eight Acres.	10. 0. 9.	do.
5.	Further Kiln Field 2 Parts. 19. 2. 7.		
	With Coachhouse and 2 stables. 0. 0. 35.		
	2 Cottages in one 0. 1. 0.		
	2 other Cottages in one 0. 0. 36.	20. 0. 38.	Mr. Ingram.
6.	12 Acre Piece.	13. 1. 21.	Mr. Sturgeon.
7.	Eight Acre Piece.	10. 0. 21	do.
8.	Upper Acres.	9. 2. 3	do.
9.	Clapper Field.	18. 1. 35.	James Holt.
9x	Bowling Green.	1. 1. 9.	Mr. Ingram.
10.	Long ten acres.	10. 1. 25.	Mr. Sturgeon.
11.	14 Acre piece 15. 1. 0. cops 2 3. 31.	18. 0. 31	do. and Dr. Hogarth.
12.	Chalk pit, & dell. 12. 3. 20 House yard barn Stables, &c., 1. 1. 20	14. 1. 0	Mr. Sturgeon.
13.	Eight acres above the pit	9. 0. 19	do.
14.	Five acre piece	5. 2. 39	do.
15.	Long eighteen acres	18. 2. 18	do.
16.	Great Nutberrys.	20. 2. 25	do.
17.	Little Nutberrys.	9. 0. 30	do.
		236. 3. 21	

JOHN HENRY HOGARTH (L.S.).

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by the within named John Henry Hogarth in the presence of

B. AUSTIN,
Grays Inn.

WM. HENDERSON,
Lancaster Place, Strand.

BY-LAWS

The Company have four sets of by-laws dated respectively 1562, 1582, 1609 and 1710. The first set dated 1562 was approved by William, Marquis of Winchester, Lord Chief Justice Cattlyn (Queen's Bench) and Lord Chief Justice Dyer (Common Pleas). These by-laws are 35 in number and to the following effect—

1. As to the election of new keepers or wardens, court of assistants to select six honest and credible persons and declare their names to the livery for election. Proviso that the same keepers or wardens may remain for two years "for the better finishing and ending of such matters as they have begun in their time."
2. The new keepers or wardens to be sworn at the hall the next day after their election.
3. Form of the oath of keepers or wardens.
4. Power for any keeper or warden if he shall be sick to choose a deputy.
5. Old keepers or wardens to bring in their accounts seven days after the election of new keepers or wardens.
6. Imposition of a penalty upon keepers or wardens who are found not to have done their duty, but to have connived at any offence for "need, favour, affection, or dread."
7. Provision as to time for admission to the livery. Penalty upon any liveryman who being called upon refuses to come.
8. No person to leave the company (except to be alderman or sheriff) without the consent of the court of assistants.
9. No keeper or warden to grant or demise the company's lands without the express authority of the court.
10. Power for the keeper or warden and two or more discreet persons of the court to search all workshöps in the city of London or Westminster, borough of Southwark, and parish of S. Katharine, and see whether the work be good or bad. If the latter to bring same to the hall. Expose on the next court day and burn same. Proviso exempting embroidery works not for sale.
11. Provision for taking and disposal of fines. Powers for the wardens and court to "mitigate demynyshe or defalke" the same. Power for the court to distrain for the amount of fees, and if they can find no distress to imprison.
12. All embroidery work to be brought to the hall and sealed before sale.
13. The auditors to examine the accounts and make a list of all defaults, and present same to court and livery. Upon payment by the old wardens of all defaults The new wardens to release them and the old wardens to hand over the company's property in their possession. Provision as to keeping of valuables in "iron chest, &c." Auditors to hand over the books to the new wardens within eight days.
14. Form of the oath of the clarke.

15. Provision for assembly of freemen and liverymen every quarter day, and reading of the ordinances and payment of quarterage.
16. Power to the wardens to summon all persons exercising the embroidery trade in London or Westminster before them and require an oath to observe the ordinances.
17. All persons exercising the trade to come to the hall, and hear the ordinances and pay quarterage.
18. All persons exercising the trade in the parish of S. Katharine and borough of Southwark to come and be sworn.
19. Form of the oath of freemen and foreigners.
20. All persons exercising the trade in the places aforesaid to be obedient to summonses and in default to pay various fines according to degree of offence.
21. No man to despise the keepers or wardens in doing offices, or any of their assistants.
22. No man to rebuke, revile, or curse another in the presence of the keepers or wardens.
23. No man to entice any apprentice away from his master under pain of a penalty.
24. No man to keep any apprentice absent from his master more than 24 hours.
25. No man by colour of any commission from the King or Queen, &c. to compel any person to do other work by virtue of such commission than the work specified in the same commission.
26. Regulations as to journeymen, their behaviour, wages, &c.
27. No journeymen to set up in trade on his own account without license.
28. No person to make work or set up any workhouse or shop before his master appear before the court, and be examined as to his character and ability, and such persons have made a piece of work to the satisfaction of the court.
29. No person to employ any foreigner until such foreigner be sworn and pay a fee.
30. No person to teach the art to any except his children before apprenticeship.
31. Regulation as to number of apprentices to be taken.
32. No person to sell his apprentice except to a freeman and a licensed working housekeeper.
33. Provision as to power of the company in case of the death of master of any apprentice during the apprenticeship term.
34. Every man not free of the Company having any apprentice shall bind him to some person free of the Company.
35. No foreigner to take work without license.

The second set of the Company's by-laws are 12 in number, and are signed and approved by Sir Thomas Bromeley, Lord Chancellor, Christopher Wray, Esquire, and Sir Edward Anderson, Knight, Justices of both Benches. They are dated 9th October, 1582, and are to the following effect—

1. Provides that in the selection by the court of six honest and

credible persons for election by the livery to the offices of master or warden, four of such honest and credible persons shall be working broderers. That one of the wardens shall always be a working broderer. If any warden die in office the livery to choose another.

2. All apprentices to serve one year with such a master as the court appoint for one year after the expiration of their apprenticeship.
3. Every apprentice to give a spoon to the Company before he be made free
4. No journeyman working by the day shall absent himself more than one hour in the day.
5. If any journeyman absent himself for two days, notice to be given to the wardens.
6. None to set over his apprentice without license. All apprentices to sleep in their master's home.
7. No person of the Company shall arrest another without license from the wardens.
8. All apprentices to be enrolled within two months after binding.
9. No warden or other person to make any copy of the roll or book of ordnance.
10. If such be made and be not brought back on warning penalty imposed. In default of payment of penalty power to Company to dismiss.
11. If upon the expiration of apprenticeship, the apprentice is incompetent, he is to take work by the day or week until he has become competent.
12. Mode of elections of renter wardens and their duties mainly in relation to livery dinners. Power to Company to dismiss him if the renter warden refuse to take office or pay the penalty.

The third set of the Company's by-laws are 13 in number, and are signed by the Earl of Salisbury (Lord High Treasurer), Sir Thomas Fleming, and Sir Edward Coke, Justices of both Benches. They are dated the 20th May, 1609, and are to the following effect—

1. The keepers or wardens may not grant leases for more than 21 years in possession, nor without the consent of eight of the court of assistants.
2. Specification of the covenants to be contained in such lease.
3. Lessee to enter into a bond with a surety to perform covenants.
4. No member of the Court to divulge any secret or disclose any speech uttered by any member of the Court in court.
5. As to the election and duties of renter warden providing for five dinners a year to the livery. If renter warden refuse to take office, penalty imposed, after payment of which he shall be free.
6. No apprentice to set up on his own account till he has worked as a journeyman for three years after the expiration of his apprenticeship.
7. After such three years the apprentice may apply to make the piece (of embroidery), and shall be permitted to do so when it is

- certified that he is a householder and of good character and worth 40 marks.
8. The piece once made, to be adjudged upon, and if accepted, presented to the court, and the apprentice admitted a working housekeeper. No woman to be taken as an apprentice.
 9. Forfeit imposed upon an apprentice who, when working as a journeyman, shall accept work on his own account.
 10. Increases the fee on admission as a working housekeeper from 3s. 4d. to 4s.
 11. If any young working housekeeper have not enough work he could work for some one else.
 12. No person to set over any apprentice without special license of the keepers or wardens, whereof five to be working broderers.
 13. No journeyman to work for any save approved workhouse keepers.

The fourth set of the Company's by-laws are three in number. They are signed by Lord Chancellor Cooper, and Parker and Trevor justices. They are dated 20th May, 1710, and are to the following effect—

1. Any members of the Court, whether working broderers or not, may be made wardens.
2. The Court may choose out of the freemen, at such times as they think fit, any such persons to be the livery as shall seem meet and be convenient for the honour of the city and the worship of the Company. If any liveryman declares he is not worth £100, he may be excused.
3. Renter warden to provide three good and sufficient dinners for the livery each year and no more.

FEES AND FINES

	<i>Servitude</i>	<i>Patrimony</i>	<i>Redemption</i>
Apprenticeship and Government Duty	£10 10s.		
Freedom and Government Duty	£21	£5 5s.	£52 10s.
Livery	£36 15s.	£26 5s.	£36 15s.
Admission to Court	.	.	£84
Master (First time)	.	.	£4
Warden (Do.)	.	.	£4

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BRODERERS, LONDON

LIST OF THE COURT OF ASSISTANTS, LIVERY,
AND FREEMEN, 1910-1911

COURT OF ASSISTANTS.

Keepers or Wardens.

Charles Radford Freeman, 17, Grove Park, Denmark Hill, S.E.
Frederick Clench, 3, Independent Buildings, Fargate, Sheffield.

Renter Warden.

Christopher Holford, 5, Northumberland Avenue, Putney, S.W.

Auditors.

Charles Farmer, 35 & 37, Bartholomew Close, E.C.
Sir Walter Henry Wilkin, K.C.M.G., Alderman, Appold Street, Finsbury,
E.C.

Assistants.

Edwin John Dixon, 10, St. Alban's Villas, Highgate Road, N.W.
Robert Nevill, 64, South Audley Street, W.
Sir Charles Allen, Colonel, Bents Green, Ecclesall, Sheffield.
John Mantell, Howell Hill Lodge, Ewell, Surrey.
The Right Hon. Viscount Midleton, P.C., 34, Portland Place, W.

Clerk.

George William Barber, 13, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.

Chaplain.

The Reverend Silvanus Saunders, M.A., 7, Exeter Road, Brondesbury,
N.W.

LIVERY.

Cecil Allen, Bents Green, Ecclesall, Sheffield.
Clement Alliston, 45, Friday Street, E.C.
Walter Edwin Allum, 14, Chesham Place, Kemp Town, Brighton.
The Hon. Arthur Grenville Brodrick, 18, Eaton Square, S.W.
Thomas Harry Dicker.
Claude George Gordon, 88, St. James's Street, S.W.
Fredric Thomas Hislop.
Christopher Tredwell Holford, F.R.C.S., 178, Horninglow Street, Burton-
on-Trent.
Frank Nevill Jennings, 14, Pembroke Road, Kensington, W.
Horace Northcote, 28, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C.

Stafford Henry Northcote, 20, Charleville Mansions, Kensington, W.
Julius Charles Prince, 8, York House, Church Street, Kensington, W.
William McKay Tait, 28, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C.
Henry Davis Vincent, Pemba Cottage, Adelaide Road, Surbiton, Surrey.
William Layton Vincent, 19, Hamilton Road, Ealing, W.
John Wells, 20, Somerset Street, Portman Square, W.
William MacWhirter, 28, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C.

Leadle.

John Kidd, Clerk's Office, 13, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.

COMPLETE LIST OF THE BRODERERS' COMPANY
1820

*The Worshipful Company of
Embroiderers, London,
Incorporated 1571.*

Master.

William Nicholls, Esq., Brentford, 1820.

Warden.

Mr. James Morrell, Richmond.

Court.

- Mr. Richard Cooper, Savage Gardens, Corn Factor.
 „ Edward Collyer, London, Merchant.
 „ Thomas Holah, Nicholas Lane, Merchant.
 „ Jacob Godfrey Hippius, Clement's Lane, Broker.
 „ Samuel Ward, No. 174, Aldersgate Street, Oil Merchant.
 „ Thomas Husband, Newgate Street, Warehouseman.
 „ William Hubbard, Merchant.
 „ George Holah, Great Smith Street, Westminster, Vinegar Merchant.
 „ John Cooper, Reading, Gentleman.
 „ John Beauchamp, No. 14, Holborn, Goldsmith.
 „ Thomas Horncastle, Church Passage, Aldgate, Soap Merchant.
 „ James Thompson, Colebrook Row, Islington, Broker.
 „ George Lyall, Royal Exchange, Insurance Broker.
 „ John Morritt, 93, Holborn, Silversmith.
 „ George Lea, ditto ditto.
 „ John Wadmore, Tottenham Court Road, Silversmith.

Mr. Samuel Ward, *Treasurer.*

Mr. Thomas Holah } *Auditors.*
 „ Jacob Hippius }

Livery.

- Mr. Shirley, Bladsworth, Gentleman.
 „ Robert Doubleday.
 „ John Greenfield.
 „ Samuel Cooper.
 „ George White, Mile End.
 „ John William Meadows.
 „ Thomas Hammond.
 „ James Davison.
 „ Thomas Gibbard, Millbank Street, Solicitor.
 „ William Rowe, Newcastle.

- Mr. John Read, Lamb's Conduit Street, Solicitor.
 „ Anthony Easterby, Newcastle, Merchant.
 „ William Leaf, Old Change, Warehouseman.
 „ William Moore, 24, Oxford Street, Undertaker.
 „ Thomas Williams, Stationer's Court, Bookseller.
 „ Henry D. Vincent, No. 83, Wardour Street, Silversmith.
 „ Thomas Devas, Newgate Street, Warehouseman.
 „ Henry Tombs Dewey, ditto ditto.
 „ Charles James Hippius, Clement's Lane, Merchant.
 „ Charles Barnard, No. 440, Oxford Street.
 „ Harry Widnell, No. 13, Holborn, Carpet Manufacturer.
 „ Thomas Young, No. 26, Wellclose Square, Sugar Broker.
- Mr. T. Gibbard, Millbank Street, *Clerk*.
 „ J. Lea, 20, Silver Street, Falcon Square, *Beadle*.

Baptist's Head, Aldermanbury, March 12, 1821.

PAST MASTERS

PAST MASTERS

(Alphabetically arranged)

A

- Ainsley, Joseph. 1797.
 Allen, Sir Charles, Knight and
 Colonel. 1907.
 (Who gave pair of silver-gilt water
 ewers.)
 Arnold, Aldous. 1783.
 Arnold, Matthew. 1758.

B

- Babb, John. 1784.
 Bannister, Gilbert. 1727.
 Barber, George Henley. 1881, 1889.
 Barber, John. 1690.
 Barnes, Thomas. 1744.
 Beach, Richard. 1750.
 Beauchamp, Edward. 1795.
 Beauchamp, John. 1812, 1828,
 1829.
 Biffin, Joseph. 1773.
 Bladworth, Sherlie. 1786.
 Blagdon, Robert. 1684, 1691.
 Boddington, Walter. 1730.
 Brodrick, The Right Honourable
 W. St. John F. (See Midleton,
 9th Viscount.)
 Brooker, John. 1769.
 Brookes, John. 1704.
 Bruckshaw, John. 1792.
 Burch, Joseph. 1770.
 Burch, Samuel. 1745.
 Burder, John. 1843, 1849.
 Burra, James. 1835.
 Byfield, George. 1785.

C

- Clark, John. 1776.
 Clarke, Thomas. 1766.

- Clemson, Edward. 1728.
 Clench, Frederick. 1900.
 Cliffe, Robert. 1761.
 Collyer, Jun., Edward. 1798.
 Colvill, John. 1731.
 Cooper, Richard. 1791.
 Coutris, Jacob. 1724.
 Cowley, Robert. 1702.
 Creed, George Ebenezer. 1796.
 Cressener, Edward. 1716.
 Crisp, Thomas. 1839, 1850.
 Crofton, John. 1774.
 Crofts, James. 1841.
 Crouch, John Baxter. 1868.

D

- Damsell, Daniel. 1763.
 Deane, William. 1747.
 Devas, Thomas. 1822.
 Dewe, Henry Tombs. 1823.
 Dixon, Edwin John. 1903.
 (Who gave silver-gilt cup.)
 Dixon, James. 1834, 1848.
 Down, J. L. H. (See Langdon-
 Down.)
 Duhamel, Jacob. 1739.

E

- Edwards, John. 1762.
 Eeles, John. 1700.
 Evans (Alderman), Sir David,
 K.C.M.G. 1896, 1905; Lord
 Mayor, 1891.
 Everett, John. 1723.

F

- Flower, William. 1732.
 Ford, Robert. 1693.

Foulds, James. 1715.
 Freeman, Samuel Flower. 1781.
 Fuller, Ezekiel. 1709.
 Fuson, William. 1734, 1737.

G

Gardner, John. 1741.
 Gearey, Peter. 1707.
 Gibbard, Samuel. 1793.
 Gibbons, John. 1706.
 Gisborne, John. 1782.
 Gordon, Frederick. 1894, 1902.
 (Who gave silver cup.)
 Grainger, Thomas. 1722, 1746.
 Green, Francis. 1692, 1721.
 Greene, Francis. 1753.
 Greenfield, John. 1779.
 Greenwood, Abraham. 1803.
 Gresham, John Heigham. 1755.
 Grew, Robert. 1701.
 Guillam, James. 1711.

H

Hadley, Simeon Charles. Alderman. 1877, 1878, 1883.
 (Who gave banner.)
 Haines, Richard. 1760.
 Hale, Henry. 1705.
 Harries, John. 1778.
 Harris, Thomas. 1681, 1686.
 Harvey, Benjamin. 1683, 1684.
 Hawgood, Thomas. 1714.
 Hayward, Richard. 1729, 1749.
 Hicks, Henry. 1751.
 Hilton, Zephaniah. 1679.
 Hippines, Charles James. 1825.
 Hippines, Jacob Gotfrid. 1805.
 Hislop, Thomas. 1845, 1846, 1854, 1855, 1862.
 Holah, George. 1811.
 Holah, Thomas. 1802.
 Holford, Christopher. 1893, 1901, 1904.
 (Who gave silver-gilt cup.)
 Horncastle, Thomas. 1813, 1829.
 Hubbard, William. 1808.
 Husband, Thomas. 1807.

J

Jack, Robert. 1742.
 Johnson, John. 1697.

K

Kendall, James. 1753.
 King, William. 1713.
 Kirkall, Elisha. 1736.
 Knewstub, Paul. 1718.

L

Langdon-Down, John Langdon Haydon. 1892.
 Leaf, Charles John. 1870, 1871.
 (Who gave Master's Badge.)
 Leaf, William. 1817, 1837, 1838, 1847, 1852, 1853.
 (Who gave silver épergne and plateau.)
 Leaf, William Ladler. 1858, 1864, 1865.

Lee, George. 1818.
 Lloyd, Robert. 1789.
 Lucas, John. 1685, 1687, 1689.
 Lyall, George. 1815.
 Lyall, John. 1804.

M

Macrabie, Alexander. 1759.
 Mann, George. 1860, 1869, 1882.
 Mann, George Reed. 1879, 1890.
 Mantell, John. 1909.
 Marlowe, John. 1735.
 Masters, William. 1794.
 Maunder, Charles Frederick, M.D. 1873.
 Maynard, Gideon. 1769.
 Mellor, Joseph. 1765.
 Middleton, The Right Honourable (9th) Viscount (W. St. John F. Brodrick). 1908.
 (Who as W. St. John F. Brodrick gave silver porringer.)
 Moore, Edward. 1757.
 Morley, Francis. 1772.
 Morrill, James. 1801.
 Morritt, John. 1816.

Morritt, Nicholas. 1827.
Morton, John. 1746.

N

Nevill, Robert. 1906.
(Who gave silver-gilt cup.)
Newnham, Richard. 1682.
Nichols, William. 1820, 1830.
Noon, John. 1740.
Northcote, Gilbert Charles. 1874,
1885.
Northcote, Stafford. 1831.
Northcote, Stafford Charles. 1880,
1888, 1897.
Northcote, Stafford Henry. 1842,
1851, 1859, 1866, 1867.

O

Ongley, Samuel. 1717.
Overton, Henry. 1725.

P

Patrickson, John. 1720.
Plumbe, Charles. 1768.
Pooley, James. 1694.
Porter, William. 1719.
Post, William. 1752.
Pratt, John. 1775.

R

Read, James. 1754.
Read, John. 1809.
Read, William. 1780.
Reed, Samuel. 1799, 1836, 1844,
1857.
Rivett, William. 1856, 1863.
Robinson, George Thomas. 1899.
Rock, Thomas. 1790.
Roe, Nathaniel. 1743.
Rutlish, William. 1686.

S

Saunders, William Sedgwick, M.D.
1876, 1886, 1887, 1891, 1898.
Scarlett, William. 1726.

Shakespear, John, Alderman. 1767.
Shipman, Thomas. 1788.
Smith, Roger. 1810.
Southgate, Tufnell Samuel. 1875.
Spackman, William. 1741.
Springthorp, Henry. 1738.
Springwell, John. 1708.

T

Tarrant, Thomas. 1712.
Thompson, James. 1814.
Thompson, John. 1800.
Tiffin, William. 1787.
Tilden, Richard. 1688.
Townsend, John. 1764.

V

Vaston, James. 1748.
Vincent, Henry David. 1821, 1832.

W

Wadmore, John. 1819.
Walter, John. 1840.
Ward, Samuel. 1777.
Ward, Jun., Samuel. 1806, 1833.
Watson, James Harrison, Rev.
1861, 1872, 1884.
Watson, Martin. 1710.
West, George. 1699.
West, William. 1696.
Wheeler, Henry. 1866.
White, Edmund. 1771.
Widnell, Harry. 1824.
Wilkin, Sir Walter Henry, K.C.M.G.,
Alderman and Colonel, 1895;
Lord Mayor, 1895.
Wilkins, John. 1733.
Wilton, Samuel. 1756.
Wood, Samuel. 1766.
Woodfall, John. 1698.

Y

Young, Thomas. 1826.

PAST MASTERS

(Chronologically arranged)

1679-80.	Hilton, Zephaniah.	1710-1.	Watson, Martin.
1680-1.	<i>Minutes lost.</i>	1711-2.	Guillam, James.
1681-2.	Harris, Thomas.	1712-3.	Tarrant, Thomas.
1682-3.	Newnham, Richard.	1713-4.	King, William.
1683-4.	Harvey, Benjamin.	1714-5.	Hawgood, Thomas.
1684-5.	Harvey, Benjamin (2nd time, died).	1715-6.	Foulds, James.
	Blagdon, Robert.	1716-7.	Cressener, Edward.
1685-6.	Lucas, John.	1717-8.	Ongley, Samuel.
1686-7.	Harris, Thomas (named Master in the New Charter).	1718-9.	Knewstub, Paul.
	Rutlish, William.	1719-20.	Porter, William.
1687-8.	Lucas, John (2nd time).	1720-1.	Patrickson, John.
1688-9.	Tilden, Richard.	1721-2.	Green, Francis (2nd time).
1689-90.	Lucas, John (3rd time).	1722-3.	Grainger, Thomas.
1690-1.	Barber, John.	1723-4.	Everett, John.
1691-2.	Blagdon, Robert (2nd time).	1724-5.	Coutris, Jacob.
	Green, Francis.	1725-6.	Overton, Henry.
1692-3.	Freud, Robert.	1726-7.	Scarlett, William.
1693-4.	Pooley, James.	1727-8.	Bannister, Gilbert.
1694-5.	<i>Minutes lost.</i>	1728-9.	Clemson, Edward.
1695-6.	West, William.	1729-30.	Hayward, Richard.
1696-7.	Johnson, John.	1730-1.	Boddington, Walter.
1697-8.	Woodfall, John.	1731-2.	Colvill, John.
1698-9.	West, George.	1732-3.	Flower, William.
1699-1700.	Eeles, John.	1733-4.	Wilkins, John.
1700-1.	Grew, Robert.	1734-5.	Fuson, William.
1701-2.	Cowley, Robert.	1735-6.	Marlowe, John.
1702-3.	<i>Minutes lost.</i>	1736-7.	Kirkall, Elisha.
1703-4.	Brookes, John (see cover of Old Testa- ment). <i>Minutes lost.</i>	1737-8.	Fuson, William (2nd time).
1704-5.	Hale, Henry.	1738-9.	Springthorp, Henry.
1705-6.	Gibbons, John.	1739-40.	Duhamel, Jacob.
1706-7.	Gearey, Peter.	1740-1.	Noon, John.
1707-8.	Springwell, John.	1741-2.	Spackman William (died).
1708-9.	Fuller, Ezekiel.		Gardner, John.
1709-10.		1742-3.	Jack, Robert.
		1743-4.	Roe, Nathaniel.
		1744-5.	Barnes, Thomas.

- 1745-6. Burch, Samuel.
 1746-7. Morton, John (died).
 Grainger, Thomas (2nd time).
 1747-8. Deane, William.
 1748-9. Vaston, James.
 1749-50. Hayward, Richard (2nd time).
 1750-1. Beach, Richard.
 1751-2. Hicks, Henry.
 1752-3. Post, William.
 1753-4. Greene, Francis (died).
 Kendal, James.
 1754-5. Read, James.
 1755-6. Gresham, John
 Heigham.
 1756-7. Wilton, Samuel.
 1757-8. Moore, Edward.
 1758-9. Arnold, Matthew.
 1759-60. Macrabie, Alexander.
 1760-1. Haines, Richard.
 1761-2. Cliffe, Robert.
 1762-3. Edwards, John.
 1763-4. Damsell, Daniel.
 1764-5. Townsend, John.
 1765-6. Mellor, Joseph.
 1766-7. Clarke, Thomas (died).
 Wood, Samuel.
 1767-8. Shakespear, John.
 1768-9. Plumbe, Charles.
 1769-70. Brooker, John (died).
 Maynard, Gideon.
 1770-1. Burch, Joseph.
 1771-2. White, Edmund.
 1772-3. Morley, Francis.
 1773-4. Biffin, Joseph.
 1774-5. Crofton, John.
 1775-6. Pratt, John.
 1776-7. Clark, John.
 1777-8. Ward, Samuel.
 1778-9. Harries, John.
 1779-80. Greenfield, John.
 1780-1. Read, William.
 1781-2. Freeman, Samuel
 Flower.
 1782-3. Gisborne, John.
 1783-4. Arnold, Aldous.
 1784-5. Babb, John.
 1785-6. Byfield, George.
 1786-7. Bladworth, Sherlie.
 1787-8. Tiffin, William.
 1788-9. Shipman, Thomas.
 1789-90. Lloyd, Robert.
 1790-1. Rock, Thomas.
 1791-2. Cooper, Richard.
 1792-3. Bruckshaw, John.
 1793-4. Gibbard, Samuel.
 1794-5. Masters, William.
 1795-6. Beauchamp, Edward.
 1796-7. Creed, George
 Ebenezer.
 1797-8. Ainsley, Joseph.
 1798-9. Collyer, Jun., Edward.
 1799-1800. Reed, Samuel.
 1800-1. Thompson, John.
 1801-2. Morrill, James.
 1802-3. Holah, Thomas.
 1803-4. Greenwood, Abraham.
 1804-5. Lyall, John.
 1805-6. Hippins, Jacob Got-
 frid.
 1806-7. Ward, Jun., Samuel.
 1807-8. Husband, Thomas.
 1808-9. Hubbard, William.
 1809-10. Read, John.
 1810-1. Smith, Roger.
 1811-2. Holah, George.
 1812-3. Beauchamp, John.
 1813-4. Horncastle, Thomas.
 1814-5. Thompson, James.
 1815-6. Lyall, George.
 1816-7. Morrill, John.
 1817-8. Leaf, William.
 1818-9. Lee, George.
 1819-20. Wadmore, John.
 1820-1. Nichols, William.
 1821-2. Vincent, Henry David.
 1822-3. Devas, Thomas.
 1823-4. Dewe, Henry Tombs.
 1824-5. Widnell, Harry.
 1825-6. Hippins, Charles
 James.
 1826-7. Young, Thomas.
 1827-8. Morrill, Nicholas.
 1828-9. Beauchamp, John (2nd
 time).
 1829-30. Horncastle, Thomas
 (2nd time, died).
 Beauchamp, John (3rd
 time).

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|----------|--|----------|--|
| 1830-1. | Nichols, William (2nd time). | 1859-60. | Northcote, Stafford
Henry (3rd time). |
| 1831-2. | Northcote, Stafford. | 1860-1. | Mann, George. |
| 1832-3. | Vincent, Henry David
(2nd time). | 1861-2. | Watson, James
Harrison, Rev. |
| 1833-4. | Ward, Samuel (2nd time). | 1862-3. | Hislop, Thomas (5th time). |
| 1834-5. | Dixon, James. | 1863-4. | Rivett, William (2nd time). |
| 1835-6. | Burra, James. | 1864-5. | Leaf, William Ladler
(2nd time). |
| 1836-7. | Reed, Samuel (2nd time). | 1865-6. | Leaf, William Ladler
(3rd time). |
| 1837-8. | Leaf, William (2nd time). | 1866-7. | Wheeler, Henry (died).
Northcote, Stafford
Henry (4th time). |
| 1838-9. | Leaf, William (3rd time).
(Who gave silver épergne
and plateau.) | 1867-8. | Northcote, Stafford
Henry (5th time). |
| 1839-40. | Crisp, Thomas. | 1868-9. | Crouch, John Baxter. |
| 1840-1. | Walter, John. | 1869-70. | Mann, George (2nd time). |
| 1841-2. | Crofts, James. | 1870-1. | Leaf, Charles John.
(Who gave Master's
Badge.) |
| 1842-3. | Northcote, Stafford
Henry. | 1871-2. | Leaf, Charles John (2nd time). |
| 1843-4. | Burder, John. | 1872-3. | Watson, James
Harrison, Rev. (2nd time). |
| 1844-5. | Reed, Samuel (3rd time). | 1873-4. | Mauder, Charles
Frederick, M.D. |
| 1845-6. | Hislop, Thomas. | 1874-5. | Northcote, Gilbert
Charles. |
| 1846-7. | Hislop, Thomas (2nd time). | 1875-6. | Southgate, Tufnell
Samuel. |
| 1847-8. | Leaf, William (4th time). | 1876-7. | Saunders, William
Sedgwick, M.D. |
| 1848-9. | Dixon, James (2nd time). | 1877-8. | Hadley, Simeon
Charles (Alderman
and Sheriff). |
| 1849-50. | Burder, John (2nd time). | 1878-9. | Hadley, Simeon
Charles (Alderman
and Sheriff), 2nd
time. |
| 1850-1. | Crisp, Thomas (2nd time). | 1879-80. | Mann, George Reed. |
| 1851-2. | Northcote, Stafford
Henry (2nd time). | 1880-1. | Northcote, Stafford
Charles. |
| 1852-3. | Leaf, William (5th time). | 1881-2. | Barber, George Henley. |
| 1853-4. | Leaf, William (6th time). | 1882-3. | Mann, George (3rd time). |
| 1854-5. | Hislop, Thomas (3rd time). | | |
| 1855-6. | Hislop, Thomas (4th time). | | |
| 1856-7. | Rivett, William. | | |
| 1857-8. | Reed, Samuel (4th time). | | |
| 1858-9. | Leaf, William Ladler. | | |

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|----------|---|-----------|--|
| 1883-4. | Hadley, Simeon
Charles (3rd time). | 1897-8. | Northcote, Stafford
Charles (3rd time). |
| 1884-5. | Watson, James
Harrison, Rev. (3rd
time). | 1898-9. | Saunders, William
Sedgwick, M.D. (5th
time). |
| 1885-6. | Northcote, Gilbert
Charles (2nd time). | 1899-1900 | Robinson, George
Thomas. |
| 1886-7. | Saunders, William
Sedgwick, M.D. (2nd
time). | 1900-1. | Clench, Frederick. |
| 1887-8. | Saunders, William
Sedgwick, M.D. (3rd
time). | 1901-2. | Holford, Christopher
(2nd time).
(Who gave silver-gilt
cup.) |
| 1888-9. | Northcote, Stafford
Charles (2nd time). | 1902-3. | Gordon, Frederick (2nd
time).
(Who gave silver cup.) |
| 1889-90. | Barber, George Henley
(2nd time). | 1903-4. | Dixon, Edwin John.
(Who gave silver-gilt
cup.) |
| 1890-1. | Mann, George Reed
(2nd time). | 1904-5. | Holford, Christopher
(3rd time). |
| 1891-2. | Saunders, William
Sedgwick, M.D. (4th
time). | 1905-6. | Evans, Sir David,
K.C.M.G., Alder-
man (2nd time). |
| 1892-3. | Langdon-Down, John
Langdon Haydon,
M.D. | 1906-7. | Nevill, Robert.
(Who gave silver-gilt
cup.) |
| 1893-4. | Holford, Christopher. | 1907-8. | Allen, Sir Charles,
Colonel.
(Who gave pair of silver-
gilt water ewers.) |
| 1894-5. | Gordon, Frederick. | 1908-9. | Midleton, The Right
Honourable (9th)
Viscount (W. St.
John F. Brodrick).
(Who as W. St. John
F. Brodrick gave silver
porringer.) |
| 1895-6. | Wilkin, Sir Walter
Henry, K.C.M.G.,
Alderman and Colo-
nel; Lord Mayor,
1895. | 1909-10. | Mantell, John. |
| 1896-7. | Evans, Sir David,
K.C.M.G., Alder-
man; Lord Mayor,
1891. | | |

FREEMEN OF THE BRODERERS'
COMPANY

FROM 1694 TO 1910

FREEMEN OF THE BRODERERS' COMPANY

FROM 1694 TO PRESENT TIME

(Alphabetically arranged)

(There are two books in the Clerks' Office containing the names of the Freemen. The numbers marked with an asterisk show that they are entered in the second book)

A

ACTON, Wm., 1739, Journeyman Haberdasher, 29*
 Adderley, Samuel, 1709, by Indenture, 53
 Addy, Henry, 1719, Apprentice, 78
 Adnam, Joseph, 1823, Apprentice, 93*
 Adsand, William, 1721, Apprentice, 86
 Ainsley, Joseph, 1780, Coal Factor, 67*
 Aldridge, John, 1710, by Indenture, 54
 Allen, Cecil, 1908, Gentleman, 129*
 Allen, Charles, 1897, Gentleman, 123*
 Allen, Thomas, 1710, Apprentice, 79
 Alliston, Clement, 1904, Gentleman, 128*
 Allum, Walter, 1868, Ship Broker's Clerk, 112*
 Andrews, Gyles; he kept an alehouse at the signe of the Gate in Chancery Lane, 1694
 Andrews, John, 1723, Victualler, 92
 Anthill, William, 1722, Woollen draper, 88
 Armstrong, John, 1712, Linen draper, 60
 Arnold, Aldous, 1771, Patrimony, 61*

Arnold, John, 1761, Linen draper, 53*
 Arnold, Mathew, 1735, Lighterman, 19*
 Arrowsmith, Wm., 1781, Tallow Chandler, 68*
 Atkinson, Chrstr., 1761, Cornfactor, 54*
 Atkinson, Mathew, 1783, Linen Draper, 69*
 Atkinson, Robert, 1722, Apprentice, 87
 Atkinson, William, 1696, by Redemption, 7
 Avery, John, 1825, Redemption, 95*

B

Babb, John, 1765, Apprentice, 57*
 Babswell, Thomas, 1726, Apprentice, 98
 Baden, Thomas, 1728, Saleman, 2*
 Bailes, John, 1801, Apprentice, 87*
 Baily, Richard, 1697, Haberdasher of small ware, 15
 Baker, John, 1696, by Patrimony, 7
 Baker, Richard, 1738, Factor, 27*
 Baldock, Ambrose, 1747, Patrimony, 39*
 Baldock, Richd., 1721, Mathematical Instrument Maker, 85
 Bancks, Richard, 1765, Victualler, 57*

- Barber, G. H., 1868, Solicitor, 112*
 Barber, John, 1736, Sadler, 20*
 Barber, Wm., 1714, Bricklayer, 66
 Barlow, Edwd., 1751, Wine Cooper, 44*
 Barlow, Mattw., 1751, Apprentice, 44*
 Barlow, Tho., 1718, Serjeant at Ward of the Poultry Counter, 6
 Barnard, Charles, 1817, Salter, 91*
 Barnard, Wm., 1719, Tallowchandler, 9
 Barnes, Thos., 1716, Winecooper, 70
 Bartley, Thos., 1701, Tailor, 34
 Barton, John, 1737, Grocer, 26*
 Barwick, Wm., 1695, by Redemption, 4
 Batchelor, Gyles, 1709, by Indenture, 52
 Bateman, Hugh, 1696, Threadmaker, 8
 Bates, Edwd., 1705, Tallowchandler, 44
 Batson, John, 1771, Shipwright, 61*
 Battole, Affabell, 1737, Mathematical Instrument Maker, 25*
 Baxter, Isrom, 1723, Grocer, 93
 Bayly, Ann, 1748, Fan Maker, 41*
 Beale, James, 1710, Servitude, 55
 Bealsy, James, 1712, Redemption, 60
 Beamish, Thos., 1699, Mariner, 24
 Beauchamp, Edward, 1777, Pawnbroker, 66*
 Beauchamp, John, 1802, Silversmith and Pawnbroker, 85*
 Beauchamp, Saml., 1843, Patrimony, 103*
 Bedoes, Thos., 1698, Mealman, 20
 Bell, Joseph, 1785, Broker, 72*
 Belsey, John William, 1910, Solicitor, 130
 Bendall, Cecil, 1879, Presentation, 118*
 Bernards, Nathl., 1724, Yarn Seller, 95
 Bickerdyke, Tho., 1708, Servitude, 52
 Biffin, Joseph, 1753, Apprentice, 45*
 Birch, Saml., 1715, Cornfactor, 68
 Bird, Jonathan, 1697, Apprentice, 11
 Blackall, John, 1732, Apprentice, 13*
 Bladworth, Sheerley, 1773, Shipwright, 63*
 Blanchard, Isaac, 1750, Apprentice, 43*
 Blundell, James, 1731, Watchmaker, 11*
 Boath, Richd., 1724, Apprentice, 94
 Boddington, Walter, 1700, Grocer, 27
 Boding, Richard, 1716, Apprentice, 72
 Borisford, Poole, 1697, Apprentice, 14
 Boyd, Bartholomew, 1730, Hosier, 6*
 Bradford, John, 1703, Chandler, 40
 Braine, Thos., 1736, Apprentice, 22*
 Branch, John, 1713, by Servitude, 62
 Brand, Peter, 1742, Apprentice, 31*
 Branth, Isaac, 1716, Coffeeman, 70
 Bray, Joshua, 1721, Apprentice, 83
 Brewin, Robt., 1795, Hosier, 81*
 Bristow, Tho., 1719, Haberdasher, 78
 Brockett, Ralph, 1697, Butcher, 12
 Brocklesby, Maskall, 1723, Apprentice, 91
 Brodrick, Honourable Arthur Grenville, 1908, 129*
 Brodrick, Rt. Hon. William St. John Fremantle, 1902, Presentation, 126*
 Brooker, John, 1749, Apprentice, 42*
 Brookes, John, 1738, Patrimony, 26*
 Brookes, Richard, 1698, Victualler, 18
 Brookes, Tho., 1704, Grocer, 41
 Brooks, John, 1695, by Redemption, 5
 Brooks, Joseph, 1716, Cornchandler, 70
 Brooks, Thomas, 1728, Hop Merchant, 2*
 Broole, Richd., 1724, by Patrimony, 94
 Brown, Hugh, 1748, Apprentice, 40*
 Browne, John, 1707, by Servitude, 49

Brownsword, John, 1744, Apprentice, 34*
 Bruckshaw, John, 1777, Stock Broker, 65*
 Bruckshaw, John, 1794, Broker, 79*
 Bryan, Geo., 1740, Apprentice, 31*
 Bucknall, Benjn., 1739, Apprentice, 30*
 Bubb, Tho., 1714, Clothworker, 66
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 Bullymore, W. J., 1892, Warehouseman, 122*
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CLERKS OF THE COMPANY

- 1681 Pratt, John—died 1700.
& before
- 1700 Odingsells, John—acting as Clerk 1700-1.
- 1702 Gater, Joseph—died 1711.
- 1712 Dandy, William—died 1738.
- 1739 Sierra, Moses. Resigned 1785, after near 50 years' service. Declined the honour to sit for his portrait 13th Dec. 1781.
- 1785 Greenwood, Abraham. As Assistant Clerk to Mr. Sierra and as Clerk, for 43 years—resigned 29 Sept. 1802. Was Master 1803.
- 1803 Gibbard, Thomas, Clerk for 39 years, formerly Warden. Pension of £1 per week awarded to him 11th Feb. 1842.
- 1842 Burra, James, formerly Master—His salary of £25 per ann. he kindly gave as part of Mr. Gibbard's pension, 11th Dec. 1842. Was Master 1835—died 1851.
- 1851 Dixon, Edwin I. Acted as Clerk during vacancy. Was Master in 1903.
- 1851 Vincent, George Godby—died 5th Feb. 1854.
- 1854 Freeman, Charles Edwardes—died 1889.
- 1889 Barber, George William—present Clerk.

BEADLE

- 1669 Platt, John
signed Lease Gutter Lane.
- 1679 }
29th Sept^r } Simpson, William
1691. March 16th Candy, John
- 1692 Pollard, Charles
temporarily appointed
& continued to the time
of his death in 1707
- 1708 }
24th May } Green, John
(a member of the Coy of
whom 7 members were put
in nomination)
- 1726 }
13 March } Lucas, Charles
- 1732 }
12 March } Clarke, Henry
died 1765
- 1765 }
27th May } Seagrave, William
died 1772

PORTER

- 1669 Gibson, Jeffery
signed Lease Gutter Lane.
- Simpson, William
afterwards Beadle
- 1679 }
29 Sept^r } Palmer, John
- 1692 } Pollard, Charles
died 1708
- Lucas, Charles (resigned 23/3/1714
M^r Green the Beadle officiating)
- 1715 }
6th August } Lucas, Charles
reappointed
- 1727 }
6th April } Clarke, Henry
- 1733 }
May 14th } Whaley, William
died 1756
- 1756 }
7th June } Seagrave, William
- 1765 }
27 May } Seagrave, Robert

JOINT OFFICE OF BEADLE AND PORTER

- 1772
June 8th Seagrave, Robert died 14 January 1811 after 39 years of service
- 1811
14th Jan^y Lea, Joseph (Father)
- 1827
4th June Lea, John (Son) died 31st Aug. 1885
(made free of the Company)
- 1885
29th Sept^r Allsop, William Britton (pensioned)
- 1901
27th June Kidd, John

POORS BOX

The Poors Box of the Company is generally presented for Donations on Bindings—Freedoms—and when Liverymen are made. The said Box has been opened at various times and contained as follows :—

29 th Sept ^r	1773	Joseph Biffin	Master	3	9	0
24 June	1774	John Crofton	D ^o	2	6	0
12 March	1776	John Pratt	D ^o	3	2	6
12 March	1779	John Harries	D ^o	5	13	0
24 June	1783	Aldous Arnold	D ^o	8	2	9
13 Dec ^r	1784	John Babb	D ^o	6	9	3
5 Feb ^y	1789	Thomas Shipman	D ^o	13	1	3
12 March	1789	D ^o	D ^o	4	4	0
26 May	1806	Jacob Godfrid Hippins	D ^o	11	11	6
13 May	1814	Tho ^s Horncastle	D ^o	7	17	6
13 Dec ^r	1826	Tho ^s Goring	D ^o	7	17	7
13 Dec	1837	W ^m Leaf	D ^o	8	10	6
24 June	1851	Staff Hen ^y Northcote	D ^o	9	8	4

EMBROIDERING THE CLOTH FOR THE STANDS

PRIVATELY SUBSCRIBED FOR BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY

An Account of w^t is charged to the Worship^l Company of Embroyder^{ers} of Work done ffor their Cloth as ffolthth viz—

		£ s. d.
M ^r Rutlishe accmpt	ffor 6 y ^d @ a $\frac{1}{2}$ of yellow Kersey	00 : 13 : 00
	ffor 4 y ^d @ a $\frac{1}{2}$ of white Kersey	00 : 09 : 00
	ffor 3 ^{lb} 4 ^{oz} of yellow Crewell	00 : 12 : 00
	ffor 30 y ^d of Canwas to line y ^e Cloth	00 : 14 : 00
	ffor Cutting out y ^e Bordering	00 : 10 : 00
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	02 : 18 : 00
M ^r Barber accmpt	ffor Imbroydering our City Armes	02 : 10 : 00
	ffor y ^t 2 Crests	00 : 10 : 00
	ffor y ^t 2 Scrowles	00 : 10 : 00
	ffor 8 y ^{ds} of Bordering	00 : 14 : 00
	ffor 3 dayes worke in y ^e Hall	00 : 09 : 00
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	04 : 13 : 00
M ^r Pulleys accmpt	ffor the Imbroyder ^e Coat of Armes	03 : 00 : 00
	ffor y ^t 2 Crests	00 : 10 : 00
	ffor 2 days worke in y ^e Hall	00 : 06 : 00
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	03 : 16 : 00
M ^r Godards accmpt	ffor Embroydering our City Armes	02 : 10 : 00
	ffor y ^e 2 Crests	00 : 10 : 00
	ffor 7 y ^{ds} of Bordering	00 : 12 : 00
	ffor 3 days worke in y ^e Hall	00 : 09 : 00
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	04 : 01 : 00
M ^r Springwell accmpt	ffor 12 y ^{ds} of Bordering	01 : 01 : 00
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	01 : 01 : 00
	Sum Totall	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> <u>16 : 09 : 00</u>

I have perused the Bill & examined the work and I find all things so well in itt that if itt had bin to doe on my Account I beleve itt would a cost me More.

WILLIAM RUTLISH

Sir,

I have viewed the Cloth and find itt well done and very resonable.

JO HELHAM

Each Exhibit, where practicable, should be backed, and framed with stiff brown paper, in order to protect the work and facilitate the hanging.

THE BRODERERS' COMPANY will take all reasonable care of the Exhibits, but cannot hold themselves responsible for their loss or injury.

The Company cannot undertake to Insure Exhibits against Fire, Larceny, etc.; that will be the duty of the Exhibitor.

There will be four Judges and an Arbitrator. The Judges will award the Prizes on the 27th and 28th of April, and they shall have power to sub-divide the prizes in case there should be none of superior merit. No information will be given to Exhibitors until the opening day of the Exhibition, viz. 30th of April.

The Exhibits will be on view, to the Press only, on the day preceding the opening of the Exhibition, viz. 29th of April, between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock.

The Exhibition will be open for Three Days, viz. 30th of April and 1st and 2nd of May, between the hours of 10 and 6 o'clock. Seven Tickets are sent herewith. Those without tickets can obtain admission by payment of 2s. 6d. the first day, and 1s. on the two subsequent days.

Exhibits not sold will be returned to Exhibitors, on their personal application, at the ROYAL SCHOOL OF ART NEEDLEWORK, on the Monday and Tuesday after the Exhibition, viz. 4th and 5th May, between the hours of 10 and 6 o'clock, or will be sent, free of cost, but at the risk of the Exhibitor, by Parcel Post, etc., on written application from Exhibitor, enclosing addressed luggage label.

G. W. BARBER, *Clerk to the Broderers' Company,*

13, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.

OATHS

OATH OF KEEPERS OR WARDENS

YE shall sweare that ye shall be trew to our Souvraign Ladie the Queene and to her heirs and Successors kinges and Queenes of this Realme of Englonde and that you and every of you effectually and diligentlie duringe the tyme and season you shal be in office of the Keaps or Wardeyns of the Mystery or Craft of Broderers ye shall as moche as in you is see and keep the ffellowshipp of the saied Mistery of Broderers in good order and rewle and execute your Office Justlie trewlie and indifferentlie unto every person and also betwene partie and partie accordinge to Justice good reason and conscience and also dewly searche all suche persons of the saied Mistery of Broderers and all other persons as shall or doe occupie the same Arte or Mistery within the Precinct lymyed unto you that they use and doo their busynes and occupaton dewlie and trewlie to the Comon proffit of the Queenes Ma^{te} subjecte and woshipp of the same Mystery and moreover that ye shall well and trewly to your power in all thinge and to all persons execute all the Acte and Ordynnce ordeyned and made and to be made accordinge to the Lawes and Statutes of this Realme for the contynuance weal and good gouvernement of the ffellowship of the said Mistery or Arte and punyshe correcte and reforme the Offenders and all maner of dewties, forfeitures fynes and peynes comprised in the same Ordynnce taxed upon any of the company diligentlie as much as in you is : ye shall gather and Levie or doo to be gathered and levied accordinge to the tenor and trewe meaning of the same Acte and Ordynnce duringe the tyme ye shal be in Office of keapshipp or Wardeyns and fynallie if all and everie some and somes of money which by reason of your saide Office of keapshipp or Wardeyn shall come to your handes or to the handes of any of you as well by meanes of Penalties ffynes amercyamente or forfeitures as otherwise duringe your said Office ye shall give a good trewe, juste and playne Accompt to your persons as shal be assnyed to take the same Accompte of you and every of you and ye shall not requyer any Allowannce but for that thinge the which is trewe So helpe you God and all Saintes and by the contente of this Booke.

THE OATH OF A FREEMAN OF THE BRODERERS COMPANY OF LONDON

You shall swear that you shall be faithfull and true to our Sovereign Lord King George and his Successors Kings and Queens of Great Britain ; you shall not do or consent to be done any treasons or felonies but all such as you shall know, you shall duly to your power reveal and make known to his Majesty or to his Council, Also that you, so long as you shall remain within the Limits or Freedom thereof, shall be obedient to the Keepers or Wardens of the Art or Mystery of Broderers of the City of London for the time being in all Things concerning the same ;

being agreeable to the Ordinances of the said Mystery and Customs of the City of London And also shall come duly and truly upon every lawful Summons to any Assembly to be made for any Matter or Cause to be treated or communed upon by the Keepers or Wardens and Assistants of the said Art or Mystery unless you be reasonably or lawfully hindred, or else to pay such penalties and fines as you shall forfeit by reason of your default And also you shall be contributory to all manner of Charges done and to be done by them, in and about the Weal and Continuance of the said Art or Mystery to your power Also well and truly after your power, you shall in all things obey, keep and observe, all the Arts and Ordinances made, or hereafter to be made, for the Governance, good Rule and Orders of the same Art or Mystery, and confirmed according to the Laws and Statutes of this Realm, in that Case provided

So help you God.

OATH OF CLERK

Ye shall be good and trewe to our Souveraign Ladie the Queenes Ma^{tie} and her heirs and Successors Kinges and Queenes of Englonde Ye shall be obedient to the Keaps or Wardeyns of the same Crafte or Mysterie of Broderers for the tyme beinge in all Lawfull thinges touchinge your Office of Clerk of this Company and ready at all tymes to come and go at their comandmente for the busynes of the saied Company If ye be not otherwise Lawfully Lett and from tyme to tyme when ye shall be by theym or any of theym requyered ye shall reade or in as moche as in you is cause to be redde all the Articles Ordynances and Oathes made and Ordayned for the good gouernance of the same fellowshippe and no Entreys ye shall make into the Booke of the Keaps or Wardens for the tyme beinge but suche as shall be good and trewe and ye shall not willinglie deliver the Copies of any of the particler Articles in the Booke concernyng the same ffellowshippe nor any other matter whereby the same ffellowshippe maie take any hurte or hyndranne nor shall disclose any mattier within the saied bookes conteyned to any Strangier without the comandment assent and License of the saied Keaps or Wardeyns for the tyme beinge and the secreatte of the saied ffellowshippe ye shall not disclose publyshe nor show abroade to the hyndrannces of the saied ffellowshippe So helpe you God and by that Booke.

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