PERTH BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKBINDERS IN THE RECORDS OF THE WRIGHT CALLING. 1538-1864

by R. H. Carne

With one or two exceptions the records of the Incorporated Trades of the towns of Scotland are sources of information neglected by Scottish historians. Perth has been more fortunate in that the records of four of the trades have had their own historians. The manuscript records of the Wright calling have not been examined and published in this way. That they might contain information valuable to a historian of the Scottish booktrade was indicated by D. Crawford Smith, who quotes, in his study of the historians of Perth, a minute-book entry concerning Robert Morison, the famous Perth bookseller and printer. Smith gives no guide to the nature of his source material, and makes no further use of it. The following list of Perth bookbinders and booksellers, in alphabetical order of surnames, was extracted from the records of the Wright Incorporation of Perth. Quotations and listed facts are given by permission of the present officials of the Wright calling.

Penny notes in his Traditions of Perth that there were eight Trade Corporations in that city; the Hammermen, the GLOvers, the Bakers, the Tailors, the Fleshers, the Shoemakers, the Wrights and the Weavers.

The number of their members in 1832, a date later than the heyday of their power and influence, was 454. Penny points out that they had no special chartor, or seals of cause, but relied, for the maintenance of their privileges, on (a) the general charter of the burgh granted by William the Lion in 1210; (b) the charter granted by Queen Mary, 28th May, 1556 to the trades of Perth, reposing them against the act passed in June, 1555 which prohibited them the election of Deacons, and granting them the same rights as merchants in the election of office-bearers within the burgh; and (c) the charter of James VI, 22 July, 1582 in favour of the craftsmen of the Burgh.

The extant minute-books of the Wright Incorporation cover, with one gap, the period 1664-1828, but there is ample evidence that the calling has been in existence from earlier than 1538 to the present day. The following manuscript records of this ancient and respectable Incorporation, contained material relevant to the present purpose.
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tial relevant to the present purpose.

I. A volume containing summaries of the Act and Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the calling, and a list of freemen within the calling. The data in this volume has not all been written down contemporaneously with the events and persons described. It is, in fact, a compilation in several 18th and 19th century hands of information derived from the minute-books of the Wrights. As is indicated below, some of these minute-books cannot now be found. The Acts and Statutes are specifically described as 'copied from old books of the calling'. The first entry under this heading is dated 1538 and is called 'Act anent Football and Banket'.

The list of freemen commences with an entry dated May 12, 1569 and carries on until 1864. This list is of primary importance, for as well as giving date of entry into the calling, it also gives essential information about the particular 'art' or 'science' practised by each freeman. In the majority of cases the right of entry to the calling is also given. Penny lists seven 'sciences' as belonging to the Wright calling—wrights, barbers, cooper, slaters, plasterers, glaziers and masons. But it is obvious from the MS list of freemen that practitioners of allied and ancillary trades to those listed above, also found a place. Amongst the 16th and early 17th century entries, for example, we find several 'bowars' or bowmakers listed. In the 17th century, too, the trade of barber is associated in some cases with those of apothecary and surgeon. Other—more obvious—secondary aspects of barbership, such as wig-making, 'hairbeating', and hairdressing, duly find their place. It is perhaps worth noting that the extension of the wright craft indicated by the name 'cabinet-making' finds a separate place in the list in the 17th century.

Entries concerning the booktrade are found both on their own and associated with one of the seven basic 'sciences'. The Steedman entry of 1587 is the earliest of four in which the arts of bookbinding and parchment-making appear. Each of the other three, Rollock, Dickson and John Watt, is also described as 'bibliopola' or bookseller. There are a number of other entries where barbers list bookbinding and being a stationer as their secondary occupations. Such entries are found to the end of the 17th century. The entry for Patrick Black in 1687 is the first of many in which the trades of glazier and bookbinder, or glazier, stationer and bookbinder are found joined together in one person. All the subsequent entries affecting the booktrade combine these occupations.

The right of entry to the calling, mentioned earlier, requires further consideration. There were two standard methods. One could serve an
apprenticeship with a freeman and such an apprenticeship was registered with the calling and the appropriate dues paid. Or one could be entered as a freeman’s son. In one case, a new freeman had the right of entry by both methods. An Act, dated 21 March, 1714, to the effect that ‘all persons craving to be admitted freemen, except freemen’s sons, shall make an essay before their admission’, indicates that high standards of efficiency were looked for in that period when the calling consisted of active craftsmen practising their respective trades.

There is a gap in the lists of freemen from 1664 to 1882, and when taken up again at the latter date, only the signatures and date of entry are given with no indication of the particular ‘science’ practised. I understand that present members of the calling are descendants of freemen, and are not actively associated with the actual trades.

II. MINUTE-BOOKS. There are extant five bound MS volumes covering 1664-1698; 1734-1756; 1756-1778; 1778-1799; 1799-1828. Thus there are gaps in the minute-book records of the calling from its inception to 1664; from 1669 to 1733, and from 1828 to 1882. In these records we find a great deal of miscellaneous information concerning the income, benefactions and charities of the calling as well as a number of changes in the rules and regulations. The minute-books are important for this study because they give the official record of the ‘compairing’ or formal presentation to the calling of would-be freemen. I quote two entries concerning prominent Perth bookbinders and stationers. Both are described in the actual entry as ‘Glazier and bookbinder or stationer’, and we know in the case of the second of these men that his major occupations were bookselling and being the postmaster of Perth.

Perth. Wrightshall, 16 May, 1752.
Compeared John Bisset and Craved to be admitted a freeman Glazier and Bookbinder or Stationer as having served his full years of apprenticeship with the now deceased Alexander Beck, freeman Glazier Bookbinder or Stationer which desire being considered by the Calling they admitted and received and hereby admit and receive the said John Bissett to be a freeman Glazier for payt of Fifty pounds Scots and to be a freeman Stationer and Bookbinder for payment of Seventy pounds Scots both as his freedom money which he instantly paid in to the Boxmaster with Eight pounds Scots in place of a dinner to the Trade and four pounds Scots for Officer fee. Whereupon the said John Bissett asked and took Instruments in the Clerkes hands.

Compeared Robert Morison Glazier & Bookbinder son to the deceast Fran-
cis Morison late Deacon of the Wright Calling of Perth who Glazier and Bookbinder; and craved to be admitted to the said, which being considered by the calling they have received and said Robert Morison to be a Freeman Glazier and Bookbinder and to the hall Liberties and priviledges thereto belonging for Ten Merks as his freedom money as Glazier and four pounds freedom money as Bookbinder or Stationer with eight pounds dinner and four pounds of Officer fee and he also paid four pounds of his football, he being married all which was instantly paid in the Boxmaster whereupon the said Robert Morison asked and took Instrument in the Clerks hands.

It will be noticed that both men paid separate dues as freemen and as freeman bookbinder and stationer. Bissett was admitted as a servent full apprenticeship while Morison was admitted as a freeman. As there is no mention of the fact in the records, it seems likely that Morison was ever formally registered as an apprentice in the calling. But he would learn the trade in his father’s shop. Bissett paid further fees, one in lieu of the traditional ‘banchor’, and an officer-fee. Morison paid these too, but in the year he was charged four pounds Scots as his football. This refers to the calling, dated March 25, 1538, which said that each year he is married shall give a football and banquet or being 14 shillings Scots and his shut up till payment. The and altered, however, and it was decreed on March 20, 1720 that Scots was to be paid by each freeman as admission money was married or not. All compairing entries are signed by of the calling, usually a senior practicioner on one of the Deacon’s office was always one of distinction. By an Act dated 5, 1670, it was decreed that a Deacon should continue in office two years without election. As far as the Wright calling was concerned a Deacon was usually a practicioner of one of the seven basic on at least two occasions a bookbinder and glazier was sufficiently regarded within the calling to be elected to this office. John and bookbinder, served as Deacon from 1764-6, while Roso’s father, Francis, was also Deacon. But his Deaconship is dated, falling as it does within a period for which no roll survives.

III. INDENTURE BOOKS. These were the third source of information. The following list. They cover a much more limited per-
frieman and such an apprenticeship was registered where appropriate dues paid. Or one could be entered the case, a new frieeman had the right of entry by act, dated 21 March, 1714, to the effect that 'all admitted frieemen, except frieemen's sons, shall heir admission', indicates that high standards of for in that period when the calling consisted of sing their respective trades.

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ers of the calling are descendants of frieemen, sociated with the actual trades as there are extant five bound MS volumes covering 1736-1778; 1778-1799; 1799-1828[12]. Thus there book records of the calling from its inception to 13, and from 1828 to 1882. In these records we cellaneous information concerning the income, es of the calling as well as a number of changes ions. The minute-books are important for this the official record of the 'compairing' or formal g of would-be frieemen. I quote two entries concern-

bookbinders and stationers. Both are described zier and bookbinder or stationer', and we know of these men that his major occupations were postmaster of Perth.

May, 1752.

and Craved to be admitted a frieeman Glazier and as having served his full years of apprenticeship with der Beck, frieeman Glazier Bookbinder or Stationer idered by the Calling they admitted and received crée the said John Bissett to be a frieeman Glazier Scots and to be a frieeman Stationer and Bookbinder pounds Scots both as his freedom money which he Boxmaster with Eight pounds Scots in place of a four pounds Scots for Officer fee. Whereupon the d took instruments in the Clerkes hands.

Dec., 1742.

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cis Morison late Deacon of the Wright Calling of Perth who was a frieeman Glazier and Bookbinder; and craved to be admitted to the said two Sciences which being considered by the calling they have received and admitted the said Robert Morison to be a Frieeeman Glazier and Bookbinder or Stationer and to the half Liberty and prileges thereto belonging for payment of Ten Merks as his freedom money as Glazier and four pounds Scots as his freedom money as Bookbinder or Stationer with eight pounds Scots for a dinner and four pounds of Officer fee and he also paid four pounds Scots as his football, he being married all which was instantly paid into the present Boxmaster whereupon the said Robert Morison asked and took Instruments in the Clerkes hands.

It will be noticed that both men paid separate dues as frieeman glazier and as frieeman bookbinder and stationer. Bissett was admitted as having served a full apprenticeship while Morison was admitted as a frieeman's son. As there is no mention of the fact in the records, it seems very unlikely that Morison was ever formally registered as an apprentice with the calling. But he would learn the trade in his father's shop nevertheless. Bissett paid further fees, one in lieu of the traditional dinner or 'bunker', and an officer-fee. Morison paid these too, but in addition he was charged four pounds Scots as his football. This refers to the Act of the calling, dated March 25, 1538, which said that each frieeman 'the year he is married shall give a football and banquet or be poind for 14 shillings Scots and his shop shut up till payment'. The ancient customs altered, however, and it was decreed on March 20, 1720 that 4 pounds Scots was to be paid by each frieeman as admission money whether he was married or not. All compairing entries are signed by the Deacon of the calling, usually a senior practitioner of one of the trades. The Deacon's office was always one of distinction. By an Act dated October 5, 1670, it was decreed that a Deacon should continue in office for two years without election. As far as the Wright calling was concerned, the Deacon was usually a practitioner of one of the seven basic 'sciences' but at least two occasions a bookbinder and glazier was sufficiently highly regarded within the calling to be elected to this office. John Rae, glazier and bookbinder, served as Deacon from 1764-6, while Robert Morison's father, Francis, was also Deacon. But his deaconship cannot be dated, falling as it does within a period for which no minute-book survives.

III. INDENTURE BOOKS. These were the third source of information for the following list. They cover a much more limited period than the
minute-books. There are three bound indenture books dated 1750-66; 1766-1814; and 1814-1836. It should be noticed that some apprentice-indentures are also to be found scattered through the minute-books. I quote a typical indenture entry:

Perth, Wright's Hall, 2nd March, 1769.
There was produced Indenture betwixt Alexander Mitchell, Bookbinder and Glazier in Perth as Master and Richard Chalmers Youngest son to William Chalmers in Allyx as Apprentice of this date whereby the Apprentice is bound six years from and after Whitsunday next of which Indenture the Calling approve, and there was paid in for the said Indenture fourteen shillings and fourpence sterling as the Trades dues.

Another entry reads:

Perth, Wrightshall, 31st October, 1752.
Which day there were Indentures produced betwixt John Bisset Bookbinder and Donald Mcfarlane lawfull Son to the Deceased Donald Mcfarlane in Fascallie as Apprentice. Whereby the Apprentice stands bound five years from and after the 16th of September last when the Master and Apprentice signed the same and there was paid into the Boxmaster Sixteen pounds twelve shillings Scots money as the Trades dues of the said Indenture.

All such entries were signed by the Deacon. It will be noticed that the date of registry with the trade could be the same on different from that of the actual agreement between the master and the apprentice's parents but that the length of the apprenticeship was calculated from the latter date. The length of apprenticeship was not always the same and altered considerably throughout the centuries. It was laid down as three years by an Act dated 1577, and as five years by an Act of the calling, dated October 6, 1677. This was altered to four years by an Act dated January 13, 1711, while it was decreed on June 30, 1724 that no apprentice should be entered freeman until seven years after commencement of his apprenticeship unless he marry a freeman's daughter or pay 200 merks of freedom money with the other dues. But despite these rules the length of apprenticeship fluctuated in the period 1750-1836 from three and a half years to seven, and the calling seems to have had difficulty in enforcing on the masters any standard length of time. It was also decreed on 10 December, 1708 that each apprentice should be maintained in his master's house. The trades dues also varied throughout the years. In the period for which we have records they are calculated in Pounds Scots from 1750 to 1758; single dues being £8 12s. Scots and double dues being £16 12s. Scots. From 1759 onwards they were stated in sterling; single dues being £4 1s. 4d. and double dues £8 2s. In 1790 they were still the same, but in 1795 £1 10s. was the single, £2 2s. and in 1818 £2 12s. The number of apprentices by some masters was very considerable—John Bisset, for example, indentured seven boys from 1732 to 1762. Many of the apprentices for themselves and in return trained a new race of apprentices, who did not settle in business on their own in Perth, but stayed with their master as journeymen, or went to practice elsewhere than in the city.

IV. JOU RNEYMAN BOOK. The extant records concerning journeymen are very thin. I could trace one Book of Journeymen only, that for the period 1735-1735. In this book one entry affected the bookman William Cant as his journeyman. This book apparently related to a tradesman with the calling. As William Cant had not served an apprenticeship within Perth, this registration was presumably needed by him to work there.

In the following list, each entry contains as many of these points as the MS records show in each individual case.
(1) Name and parentage of freeman; (2) Description of trades or combined trades; (3) Date of entry into calling; (4) Right of entry; (5) List of apprentices indentured to each freeman in chronological order, with name, parentage and date of entry in indenture book in each case.

I have given page references to the appropriate Dictionary sellers and Bookbinders in those cases where the freemen are previously recorded. Where the tradesman has not been previously recorded, I have marked the entry with an asterisk. There are 19 entries. Apprentices have not been marked in this way. In other cases, additional scraps of information derived from sources other than the Wright MSS are given. The source of such additional information is indicated.

The following abbreviations are used in the list:

three bound indenture books dated 1750-66; it should be noticed that some apprentice-found scattered through the minute-books. I entry:

I March, 1768.

nutes betwixt Alexander Mitchell, Bookbinder and Mr and Richard Chalmers Youngest son to William apprentice of this date whereby the Apprentice is id after WhitSunday next of which Indenture the re was paid in for the said Indenture fourteen shilling as the Trades dues.

October, 1752.
dentures produced betwixt John Bisset Bookbinder aster and James Mcfarlane lawfull Son to the Deceaset sallie as Apprentice. Whereby the Apprentice stands id after the 16th of September last when the Master he same and there was paid into the Boxmaster hillings Scots money as the Trades dues of the said ed by the Deacon. It will be noticed that the trade could be the same as or different from sent between the master and the apprentice's of the apprenticeship was calculated from the apprentice's not always the same and ghou the centuries. It was laid down as three 77, and as five years by an Act of the calling, his was altered to four years by an Act dated was decree on June 30, 1724 that no apprenman until seven years after commencement of he marry a freeman's daughter or pay 200 with the other dues. But despite these ruleship fluctuated in the period 1750-1836 from seven, and the calling seems to have had diffi- masters any standard length of time. It wa, 1708 that each apprentice should be mainse. The trades dues also varied throughout the which we have records they are calculated in to 1758; single dues being £8 12s. Scots and double dues being £16 12s. Scots. From 1759 onwards they are calculated in sterling; single dues being £1 7s. 8d. and double dues £1 17s. 8d. In 1790 they were still the same, but in 1795 £1 10s. was the figure, in 1812 £2 2s. and in 1818 £2 12s. The number of apprentices engaged by some masters was very considerable—John Bissett, for example, indentured eight boys from 1752 to 1762. Many of the apprentices became freemen themselves and in turn trained a new race of apprentices. The others who did not set up in business on their own in Perth, presumably stayed with their master as journeymen, or went to practise their craft elsewhere than in the city.

IV. JOURNEYMAN BOOK. The extant records concerning journeymen are very thin. I could trace one Book of Journeymen only, that covering the period 1735-1755. In this book one entry affected the booktrade. On 23rd September, 1738 Alexander Mitchell, Bookbinder, booked one William Cant as his journeyman. This booking apparently registers this tradesman with the calling. As William Cant had not served his apprenticeship within Perth, this registration was presumably needed to permit him to work there.

In the following list, each entry contains as many of the following points as the MS records show in each individual case:

1. Name and parentage of freeman;
2. Description of trade or combination;
3. Date of entry into calling;
4. Right of entry into calling;
5. List of apprentices indentured to each freeman in chronological order, with name, parentage and date of entry in indenture-book given in each case.

I have given page references to the appropriate Dictionary of Booksellers and Bookbinder in those cases where the freemen have been previously recorded. Where the tradesman has not been previously recorded, I have marked the entry with an asterisk. There are 17 such entries. Apprentices have not been marked in this way. In one or two cases, additional scraps of information derived from sources other than the Wright MSS are given. The source of such additional information is indicated. The following abbreviations are used in the list:

Aldis H. G. Aldis, A List of Books Printed in Scotland before 1700... with brief notes on the printers and stationers. Edinburgh, 1904.


IB1 MS indenture-book of apprentices, 1750-1766.
IB2 MS indenture-book of apprentices, 1766-1814.
IB3 MS indenture-book of apprentices, 1814-1836.
JB MS journeymen book, 1735-1755.
MB1 MS minute-book, 1664-1698.
MB2 MS minute-book, 1734-1736.
MB3 MS minute-book, 1756-1778.
MB4 MS minute-book, 1778-1799.
MB5 MS minute-book, 1799-1828.
MLB MS membership-list book.

Plomer 1. H. R. Plomer, A Dictionary of the Printers and Booksellers who were at work in England, Scotland and Ireland from 1641 to 1667. London, 1907.

Plomer 2. H. R. Plomer, A Dictionary of the Printers and Booksellers who were at work in England, Scotland and Ireland from 1668 to 1725. Oxford, 1922.


ALPHABETICAL LIST OF PERTH BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKBINDERS

Beck (Alexander), Glazier and stationer. Beck was admitted freeman on 29 July, 1723. His right of entry was that he had served a full apprenticeship. (MLB) He employed the following apprentices.

Corrie (Samuel), son to the deceased Robert Corrie, merchant in Perth. Entered as apprentice 12 July, 1738. (MB2)

Rae (John), lawful son to David Rae late Deacon and Convener of the Wight calling. Entered apprentice 12 July, 1738. (MB2) Cf. Rae entry.


Alexander Beck is to be found in Bushnell 1 p. 282. We can now extend his period of known activity to 1723-1746.

Bisset (John), Glazier and bookbinder, or stationer, son to Patrick

Bisset in Logie Rait. Bisset was admitted Freeman on 16 July, 1760. (MB2) His right of entry was the fact that he had served a full apprenticeship with Alexander Beck. (MLB) He employed the following apprentices.

Morrison (John), lawful son to the deceased David Morrison, man in Perth. Entered apprentice 23 July, 1752. (IB1) Son (John) entry.

Mcfarlane (James), lawful son to the deceased Donald Macfarlane, Falconer. Entered apprentice 31 October, 1752. (IB1)

Stewart (William), son to James Stewart in Pitlochie. Enter- prise March, 1753. His actual indentures had been signed February, 1755 but the entry concerning James Taylor, said apprentice William Stewart only stayed about 2 or 3 years with his master, therefore the calling agree that there shall only £8 12s. Scots which was accordingly done.

Taylor (James), son of Joseph Taylor, hammerman in Perth. Entered apprentice 9 July, 1756. Single dues were accepted in the cause of the defection of Stewart. This is possibly the same James Taylor, who was printing in Perth 1759-1785, and in 1781 a work by Robert Craighead called Advice to the Trades. It was printed for Hugh Muncieff, bookseller in Edinburgh.

Young (Thomas), son to John Young, senior, merchant. Entered apprentice 26 April, 1757. (IB1)

Hall(e)y (William), son to the deceased Patrick Hall(e)y, of the Hammermen in Perth. Entered apprentice 18 April, 1758. (IB1) Cf. Hall(e)y entry.

Laurie (William), son to deceased Henry Laurie in Gospetrick. Entered apprentice 28 May, 1760. (IB1)

Barclay (William), son to the deceased Ludovick Barclay, arth. Entered apprentice 22 April, 1762. (IB1)

Laurie (Thomas) son to Edward Laurie in Gospetrick. Entered apprentice 5 October, 1762. (IB1)

McGill (Robert), son to the deceased Robert McGill in Stirling Castle, man of war. Entered apprentice 15 December, 1763. (IB1)

Forbes (John), son to the deceased John Forbes at Ballinclack. Entered apprentice 27 September, 1765. (IB1)

Bisset (Thomas), son to the deceased Thomas Bisset, man of war. Entered apprentice 20 January, 1766. (IB2)
Bisset in LogieRait. Bisset was admitted freeman on 16 May, 1752. (MB2) His right of entry was the fact that he had served a full apprenticeship with Alexander Beck. (MBL) He employed the following apprentices.


Mcfarlane (James), lawful son to the deceased Donald Mcfarlane in Falla. Entered apprentice 31 October, 1752. (IB1)

Stewart (William), son to James Stewart in Pitlochrie. Entered apprentice March, 1753. His actual indentures had been signed 17/18 February, 1755 but the entry concerning James Taylor notes 'the said apprentice William Stewart only stayed about 2 or 3 days with his master, therefore the calling agree that there shall only be paid (for Taylor) £8 12s. Scots which was accordingly done'. (IB1)

Taylor (James), son of Joseph Taylor, hammerman in Perth. Entered apprentice 9 July, 1756. Single dues were accepted in this case because of the defection of Stewart. This is possibly the same man as the printer J. Taylor, who was printing in Perth 1779-1781. He printed in 1781 a work by Robert Craighead called Advice to Communicants. It was printed for Hugh Muncieff, bookseller in Methven.

Young (Thomas), son to John Young, senior, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 26 April, 1757. (IB1)


Laurie (William), son to deceased Henry Laurie in Gospetric. Entered apprentice 28 May, 1760. (IB1)

Barclay (William), son to the deceased Ludovic Barclay in Stragart. Entered apprentice 22 April, 1762. (IB1)

Laurie (Thomas) son to Edward Laurie in Gospetric. Entered apprentice 5 October, 1762. (IB1)

McGill (Robert), son to the deceased Robert McGill in Auldchire. Entered apprentice 15 December, 1763. (IB1)

Forbes (John), son to the deceased John Forbes at Ballinlochian. Entered apprentice 27 September, 1765. (IB1)

Bisset (Thomas), son to the deceased Thomas Bisset, master of the Stirling Castle, man of war. Entered apprentice 20 January, 1767. (IB2)
Shathie (James), son to deceased John Shathie, late merchant in Och-terarder. Entered apprentice 16 May, 1769. (IB2)
Robertson (John), son to Angus Robertson at Miln of Kincraigie. Entered apprentice 8 September, 1769. (IB2)
Graeme (Thomas), at Ecclesiagirdle. Entered apprentice 12 De-
cember, 1771. (IB2)
Campbell or Mactavish (Alexander), son to Archibald Campbell or
Mactavish in Borlick, Murthly. Entered apprentice 18 November
1774. (IB2)
Scott (James), son to Patrick Scott at Eastmiln of Grantully. Entered
Spence (Alexander), son to John Spence of Landwater at Port of
Perth. 4 December, 1775. (IB2)
McDougal (James), son to Alexander McDougal, oilmilner at Hun-
ingtower. Entered apprentice 16 May, 1777. (IB2)
Lauder (John), son to deceased William Lauder in Glencarse. Entered
apprentice 6 April, 1778. (IB2)
Bisset is to be found in Bushnell 1. p. 284. He is not described as
bookbinder either there, or in Bushnell 2. We can now extend his range
of activity to the period 1752-1794. Not in Ramsden.

*Black (James), Glazier and stationer, lawful son to Thomas Black,
wright. Black was admitted as freeman on 8 February, 1696. (MB1)
His right of entry was as a freeman's son. (MLB) James Black does not
appear either in Aldis or Plomer 2.

*Black (Patrick), Glazier and stationer, lawful son to Thomas Black,
wright. He was admitted freeman 31 December, 1687. (MB1) His
right of entry was as a freeman's son. (MLB) Patrick Black was prob-
ably an elder brother of James Black. Patrick Black does not appear
either in Aldis or in Plomer 2.

Dickson (George), Dickson is described as 'Bibliopola and to make
parchment and bind books'. (MLB) The date of entry is given as 20
September, 1653. No right of entry given. He does not appear in
either Aldis, or Plomer 1, or Bushnell 2.

*Duncan (John), Glazier and bookbinder. Son to deceased James Dun-
can at 5 Milnhousie. He had served apprenticeship with Robert Mor-
son. (IB2), and was admitted freeman on 5 December, 1684. (IB2)
Listed in MLB. This John Duncan would seem to be a different
one from the Edinburgh bookbinder of that name listed in Bushnell
84. Not in Ramsden.

*Fenneder (John). Described as 'Barber, Parchment-maker and
bookbinder'. (MLB) The date of entry is given as 9 April, 1681.
No right of entry given. (MLB) Fenneder does not appear in Aldis,
Plomer, or Mitchell.

*Hally (William), Glazier and bookbinder, son to the de-
creed Hally, late Deacon of the Hammermen, Perth. Hally was
freeman 6 January, 1769. (MB3) He had served full appren-
tice with John Bisset which was his right of entry. (MLB) Hally
appears in Bushnell 1 or 2. Further information about Hally is
found in the record-room of Perth Town Council, where he
served a parcel of writs belonging to his family. In these
records, Patrick, is described as a coppersmith, and his mother's name
is Isobel Gig. There is a bond of £20 from John Halket, al-
of the Wright's Incorporation, dated 16 June, 1786. William
Hally is said to have died in September 1802. Therefore his years of
apprenticeship as a bookseller span the period 1769-1802. He employed as
his assistant
Macewen (William), son to William Macewen, burgess of
Perth, 16 June, 1774. (IB2)
Not in Ramsden.

*Hill (Thomas), Glazier and bookbinder. Son to deceased
Hill. Hill was admitted as freeman on 17 November, 1804.
No right of entry is given as having served an apprenticeship with James
Don. (MLB) This apprenticeship was commenced on 3 September,
1798. Presumably Hill spent a number of years as a journey-
man, becoming a Freeman of the calling. Hill employed the fol-
lowing apprentices.

Duncan (William), son to William Duncan deceased. Appren-
tice 30 June, 1815. (IB3)
Morris (George), son to John Morris, residenter in Perth. Appren-
tice 26 August, 1819. (IB3)
Not in Ramsden.
to deceased John Shathie, late merchant in Ochprentice 16 May, 1769. (IB2) on to Angus Robertson at Miln of Kincaigie. 3 September, 1769. (IB2) at Ecclesiemagirdle. Entered apprentice 12 De-

vish (Alexander), son to Archibald Campbell or k, Murthly. Entered apprentice 18 November

Patrick Scott at Eastmiln of Grantully. Entered 

ber, 1774. (IB2) Cf. SCOTT entry. 

son to John Spence of Landwater at Port of 1775. (IB2) 

son to Alexander McDougall, oilmilner at Hun-

apprentice 16 May, 1777. (IB2) 

deceased William Lauder in Glencarse. Entered 778. (IB2) 

in Bushnell 1. p. 284. He is not described as , or in Bushnell 2. We can now extend his range to 1752-1794. Not in Ramsden.

er and stationer, lawful son to Thomas Black, 

matted as freeman on 8 February, 1696. (MB1) 
as a freeman’s son. (MLB) James Black does not 
or Plomer 2.

ter and stationer, lawful son to Thomas Black, 

ted freeman 31 December, 1687. (MB1) His 

freeman’s son. (MLB) Patrick Black was prob-
of James Black. Patrick Black does not appear 

or 2.

ickson is described as ‘Bibliopola and to make 

ooks’. (MLB) The date of entry is given as 20 

right of entry given. He does not appear in 
r 1, or Bushnell 2.

ier and bookbinder. Son to deceased James Dun-

! had served apprenticeship with Robert Mori-

son. (IB2), and was admitted freeman on 5 December, 1794. (MB4) 

Listed in MLB. This John Duncan would seem to be a different man 

from the Edinburgh bookbinder of that name listed in Bushnell 2. p. 

84. Not in Ramsden.

*FENNEDER (John). Described as ‘Barber, Parchment-maker and Book-

binder’. (MLB) The date of entry is given as 9 April, 1619. No right of entry given. (MLB) Fenneder does not appear in Aldis, Bushnell 2, 
or Mitchell.

*HALLY (William), Glazier and bookbinder, son to the deceased Pat-

rick Hally, late Deacon of the Hammermen, Perth. Hally was admitted 

freeman 6 January, 1769. (MB3) He had served full apprenticeship 

with John Bisset which was his right of entry. (MLB) Hally does not appear 

in Bushnell 1 or 2. Further information about Hally is to be found in the record-room of Perth Town Council, where there is preserved a parcel of writs belonging to his family. In these, his father, 

Patrick, is described as a coppersmith, and his mother’s name is given 
as Isobell Gibb. There is a bond of £20 from John Halket, Boxmaster 

of the Wright’s Incorporation, dated 16 June, 1786. William Hally is 
said to have died in September 1802. Therefore his years of activity as a bookbinder span the period 1769-1802. He employed as apprentice 

Macewen (William), son to William Macewen, burgess in Perth. 17 

June, 1774. (IB2) 

Not in Ramsden.

*HILL (Thomas), Glazier and bookbinder. Son to deceased Leonard 

Hill. Hill was admitted as freeman on 17 November, 1809. His right 
of entry is given as having served an apprenticeship with James McLa-

ren. (MLB) This apprenticeship was commenced on 3 September, 1773. 

Presumably Hill spent a number of years as a journeyman before 

becoming a freeman of the calling. Hill employed the following ap-

prentices.

Duncan (William), son to William Duncan deceased. Entered 

apprentice 30 June, 1815. (IB3) 

Morris (George), son to John Morris, resident in Perth. Entered 

apprentice 26 August, 1819. (IB3) 

Not in Ramsden.
McLaren (James), Glazier and bookbinder. Son to Donald McLaren in Claggan. He was admitted freeman 10 April, 1770. (MB3) His right of entry was that he had served a full apprenticeship with Alexander Mitchell. (MLB) McLaren employed the following apprentices.

Douglas (John), son to deceased John Douglas, residenter in Perth. Entered apprentice 17 April, 1771. (IB2)

Hill (Thomas), son to deceased Leonard Hill, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 3 September, 1773. (IB2) Cf. Hill McLaren is not in Bushnell 1 or 2.

Mitchell (Alexander), Glazier and stationer or bookbinder. Mitchell was admitted freeman on 24 September, 1729. His right of entry was that he had been apprentice, but no indenture-book survives for the pre-1750 period. He employed the following apprentices.

Mills (Thomas), son to James Mills, Slater. Entered apprentice 9 March, 1749. (MB2)

Stewart (William), son to David Stewart, flesher in Perth. Entered apprentice 5 April, 1736. (IB1)


Grant (David), son to the deceased James Grant, Journeyman wright. Entered apprentice 22 April, 1762. (IB1)


Chalmers (Richard), youngest son to William Chalmers, writer in Allyth. Entered apprentice 2 March, 1769. (IB2)

Davidson (Thomas), son to Patrick Davidson, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 4 March, 1771. (IB2) Mitchell does not appear in Bushnell 1 or 2. His period of known activity was from 1729-1771.

Morison (David), Glazier and bookbinder, lawful son to the deceased James Morison. David Morison was admitted freeman 31 December, 1813. His entry was by hereditary right. (MB3 and MLB) David Morison employed the following apprentices.

Wood (David), son of David Wood, Broughty Ferry by Dundee.
er and bookbinder. Son to Donald McLaren cited from 10 April, 1770. (MB3) His right served a full apprenticeship with Alexander mith, deceased John Douglas, residenter in Perth. April, 1771. (IB2)

Hill, merchant in Perth. Entered 1773. (IB2) Cf. HILL

1 or 2.

Glazier and stationer or bookbinder. Mitchell on 24 September, 1729. His right of entry prentice, but no indenture-book survives for employed the following apprentices.

1 to James Miln, slater. Entered apprentice 9

to David Stewart, flesher in Perth. Entered 56. (IB1)

to the deceased Patrick Herdman, Mason in


the deceased James Grant, Journeyman wright. April, 1762. (IB1)

a Donald McLaren in Claggan. Entered app-

B. (IB1) Cf. MCCLURE entry.

youngest son to William Chalmers, writer in

nise 2 March, 1769. (IB2)

son to Patrick Davidson, merchant in Perth. March, 1771. (IB2)

ar in Bushnell 1. or 2. His period of known

1771.

er and bookbinder, lawful son to the deceased Morison was admitted freeman 31 December, hereditary right. (MB5 and MLB) David Moris-

wing apprentices.

of David Wood, Broughty Ferry by Dundee.

Entered apprentice 23 May, 1818. (IB3) This is probably the same man as the David Wood who had a bookseller's shop on the North side of the High Street, Perth in 1817. Address given in List of Voters in the Election of Members of the Town Council, Perth, 1837. Cf. RAMESDEN p. 211

Stewart (Peter), son to Niel Stewart, residenter in Perth. Entered apprentice 15 June, 1819. (IB3)

This very well-known member of the Morison publishing family had a many-sided career. Cf. RAMESDEN p. 211

Morison (Francis), Glazier and stationer. Francis Morison was admitted freeman on 20 August, 1706. (MLB) His right of entry to the calling is not given in MLB, and no minute or indenture book survives for this period. It is also known from the record of his son's admission, that Francis Morison was at one time Deacon of the calling. (MB2)

He appears in Bushnell 1. p. 335. and Bushnell 2. p. 82. As Francis Morison was made a freeman in 1706, he really belongs to the 18th century list of Scottish bookbinders.

Morison (James), Glazier and bookbinder. Son of Robert Morison, deceased, freeman glazier and bookbinder. (MB4) He was admitted freeman 26 August, 1794, and his right of entry was as freeman's son. (MLB) He employed the following apprentice.

Peat (David), son to Thomas Peat, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 10 June, 1795. (IB2) This probably the same man as the David Peat who had in 1837 a bookseller's shop at 24 High Street, Perth. Address given in List of Voters in the Election of Members of the Town Council, Perth, 1837.

This James Morison, who was a son of Robert Morison, senior, is to be found in Bushnell 1. p. 336. He seems to have joined the calling as freeman at a later date than one might expect. Bushnell 2. does not list him in his capacity as freeman bookbinder. Cf. RAMESDEN p. 211.

Morison (John), Glazier and bookbinder. Lawful son to the deceased David Morison, Maltman in Perth. He was admitted freeman 5 October, 1762. His right of entry was that he had served a full apprenticeship with John Bisset. (MLB). He employed the following apprentices.

Wilson (John), son to William Wilson in Stanley. Entered apprentice

35
3 February, 1763. (IB1)
MacDuff (John), son to James MacDuff, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 3 February, 1763. (IB2)
Shiel (John), son to the deceased John Shiel, Doctor of the Grammar school of Perth. Entered apprentice 3 February, 1763. (IB1)
It should be noted that in Wilson’s indentures, John Morison is also described as ‘bookseller’. This man is not listed in Bushnell 2. as a bookbinder, but may be the same man as the John Morison in Bushnell 1. p. 336. He is there described as ‘a member of the well-known family of printers and booksellers’. As this John Morison served his apprenticeship with Bissett, I would have thought this unlikely. The name is spelt indiscriminately in various MS entries with one or two ‘R’s.

Morison (Robert), Glazier and bookbinder, or stationer, son to the deceased Francis Morison. (MB2) Robert Morison was admitted freeman on 31 December, 1742, and his right of entry was as Freeman’s son. (MBL) We have records of his employment of the following apprentices.

Miller (Ebenezer), son to John Miller in Kinneswood. Entered apprentice 7 September, 1751. (IB1)
Cock (William), lawful son to the deceased William Cock, grocer in Perth. Entered apprentice, 17 November, 1752. (IB1)
Beveridge (James), lawful son to Michaud Beverhead in Kinross. Entered apprentice 22 August, 1757. (IB1)
Scott (James), son to deceased David Scott, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 24 December, 1759. (IB1) Not to be confused with the James Scott who was an apprentice with Bissett.

Murray (Donald), son to John Murray in Miltown of Logicalmond. Entered apprentice 30 November, 1764. (IB1)
Peddie (John), son to John Peddie at Craige. Entered apprentice 20 March, 1769. (IB2) There is in the Record-room of Perth Town Council a MS census of the inhabitants of Perth in 1773 on the original slips. One of these reads, ‘Account of Tenants in Mr. Mercer of Aldie’s Land, South side of the North Street and West side of the Watergate. Robert Morison Bookseller, who has a prentice John Peddie from Craige in the Parish of Perth. Robert Burn, subtenant to the said Robert Morison. Perth 1st Feb. 1773.’

Moncrieff (Alexander), son to Alexander Moncrieff, weaver in Perth.

Entered apprentice 2 February, 1785.
Robertson (Robert), son to Patrick Robertson, merchant. Entered apprentice 1 February, 1787. (IB2)
Robertson (James), son to Patrick Robertson, merchant. Entered apprentice 1 February, 1787. (IB2)
Bennet (John), son to James Bennet, innkeeper in Perth. Entered apprentice 22 October, 1789.

*Paterson (William). Paterson is entered as ‘Barber, to Parchment and to bind books.’ His date of entry in 1766, calling was July, 1602. (MLB) No minute-book for this period, right of entry given. Not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or Mitchell. Likely to be the same man as the Edinburgh William Paterson listed in Bushnell 2. p. 82.

*Rae (John), Wright, glazier, bookbinder or stationer. Last name used in the deceased David Rae, wright and late Deacon of the craft was admitted freeman on 16 January, 1745. (MB2) He was admitted as a freeman wright by hereditary right from his father, and bookbinder by having served a full apprenticeship with Walter Beck. (MLB and MB2) John Rae served as Deacon of the craft from 1764 to 1766. (MB3) We have records of his employment of the following apprentices.

Graeme (Patrick), son to Thomas Graeme, merchant. Entered apprentice 14 June, 1745. (MB2)
Wood (George), son to William Wood, merchant. Entered apprentice 1 December, 1749. (MB2)
It is not obvious whether being a wright or a glazier-bookbinder was Rae’s primary occupation. He is not in Bushnell 1. or 2. His known activity is from 1745 to 1766.

*Rollock (John). Entered as ‘bibliopolist and to make Parchment and to bind books.’ Date of entry into calling, 2 May, 1639. (MLB) No minute-book for this period and no right of entry given. Not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or Mitchell. This Rollock may possibly...
Glazier and bookbinder, or stationer, son to the
son. (MB2) Robert Morison was admitted free-
mer of the Gram-
re, 1742, and his right of entry was as freeman's
freedom of the following
on to John Miller in Kinnearwood. Entered ap-
son, to the deceased William Cock, glover in
entry, 17 November, 1732. (IB1)
on December, 1739. (IB1) Not to be confused with
o deceased David Scott, merchant in Perth. En-
August, 1757. (IB1)
20 November, 1764. (IB1)
20 John Peddie at Craigie. Entered apprentice 20
rae's primary occupation. He is not in Bushnell 1. or 2. His period of
not obvious whether being a wright or a glazier-bookbinder was
'bibliopola and to make Parchment and
to bind books.' Date of entry into calling, 2 May, 1639. (MLB) No
not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or Mitchell. This Rollock may possibly have
*Paterson (William). Paterson is entered as 'Barber, to Poll, to shave, to make Parchment and to bind books.' His date of entry into the calling was July, 1602. (MLB) No minute-book for this period and no right of entry given. Not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or Mitchell. It seems unlikely to be the same man as the Edinburgh William Paterson, 1654, listed in Bushnell 2. p. 82.

*Rae (John), Wright, glazier, bookbinder or stationer. Lawful son of the deceased David Rae, wright and late Deacon of the calling. Rae was admitted freeman on 16 January, 1745. (MB2) He was admitted as a freeman wright by hereditary right from his father, and as glazier and bookbinder by having served a full apprenticeship with Alexander Beck. (MLB and MB2) John Rae served as Deacon of the calling from 1764 to 1766. (MB3) We have records of his employment of the following apprentices.

Graeme (Patrick), son to Thomas Graeme, merchant in Perth. Entered apprentice 14 June, 1745. (MB2)

Wood (George), son to William Wood, cook at Balgowan. Entered apprentice 1 December, 1749. (MB2)

It is not obvious whether being a wright or a glazier-bookbinder was Rae's primary occupation. He is not in Bushnell 1. or 2. His period of known activity is from 1745 to 1766.

*Rollock (John). Entered as 'bibliopola and to make Parchment and
to bind books.' Date of entry into calling, 2 May, 1639. (MLB) No
not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or Mitchell. This Rollock may possibly have
been a relation of Peter Rollock, Bishop of Dunkeld (died 1626).

*Scott (James) Glazier, bookbinder and stationer. Scott was admitted freeman on 25 September, 1792. (MB4). His right of entry was that he had served his full years of apprenticeship with John Bissett. As that apprenticeship commenced in 1774, it must be assumed that he spent a considerable number of years as journeyman before becoming a freeman.
Not in Bushnell 2., which lists p. 86 a James Scott, Edinburgh, 1773-4.
Not in Ramsden.

*Steedman (Archibald), Parchment-maker and bookbinder. Date of entry into calling 15 February, 1587. (MLB) No minute-book for this period and no right of entry given. Not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or Mitchell.

*Swellis (James), Barber and stationer, lawful son to the deceased John Swells, barber. Date of entry into calling given as 23 September, 1697. (MLB and MB1) His right of entry was that he was a freeman's son (MLB) His father entered the calling on 29 June, 1689. (MLB)
Not in Aldis, Plomer 2. or Bushnell 2.

*Watt (Andrew), Barber, bookbinder and stationer. Date of entry into calling given as 25 December, 1676. (MB1) His right of entry to the calling was that he had served an apprenticeship. (MLB)
Not in Aldis, Plomer 2. or Bushnell 2.

*Watt (John), Described as 'bibliopoler, parchment-maker and bookbinder', in MBL. Date of entry to calling given as 25 December, 1676. Described as Stationer and bookbinder in MB1. No right of entry given.
Not in Aldis, Plomer 2. or Bushnell 2.


4. I am indebted to A. M. Lamond, Esq., Clerk to the Wrights Hall, for arranging permission and granting access to the calling's records.


6. The number of Trade Corporations is sometimes given as if the 'waukers' or fullers were very closely associated with the weaving, forming one group.


8. This volume is not kept in the safe in the Wrights Hall, but is in the personal custody of A. M. Lamond, Esq., at his Surveyor's office.


10. Cf. MBL entry in list.


12. There are extant also a large collection of account books, and minute-books. Neither gave further information relevant to this purpose.

13. I am indebted to A. H. Martin, Esq., Town Clerk of Perth for help in tracing relevant material.

14. The MS spelling of place-names has been retained throughout.
Peter Rollock, Bishop of Dunkeld (died 1626).

Azier, bookbinder and stationer. Scott was admitted master, 1792. (MB4). His right of entry was that of years of apprenticeship with John Bissett. As that commenced in 1774, it must be assumed that he spent 30 years as journeyman before becoming a freeman, which lists p. 86 a James Scott, Edinburgh, 1773-4.

ibid), Parchment-maker and bookbinder. Date of 15 February, 1587. (MLB) No minute-book for this year of entry given. Not in Aldis, Bushnell 2. or

Barber and stationer, lawful son to the deceased. Date of entry into calling given as 23 September, 1671. His right of entry was that he was a freeman's ther entered the calling on 29 June, 1689. (MLB) net 2. or Bushnell 2.

Barber, bookbinder and stationer. Date of entry into calling given as 23 September, 1671. His right of entry was that he served an apprenticeship. (MLB) net 2. or Bushnell 2.

scribed as 'bibliopolier, parchment-maker and bookseller'. Date of entry to calling given as 24 December, 1670. No right of entry for. or Bushnell 2.

FOOTNOTES


4. I am indebted to A. M. Lamond, Esq., Clerk to the Wright Incorporation for arranging permission and granting access to the calling's records.


6. The number of Trade Corporations is sometimes given as nine. But the 'waisters' or fullers were very closely associated with the weavers and really form one group.

7. Penny, p. 203.

8. This volume is not kept in the safe in the Wright's Hall, Watergate, Perth, but is in the personal custody of A. M. Lamond, Esq., at his St. John Street office.


10. Cf. RAE entry in list.


12. There are extant also a large collection of account books, and some scroll minute-books. Neither gave further information relevant to the present purpose.

13. I am indebted to A. H. Martin, Esq., Town Clerk of Perth for permission to examine documents in the Town's record-room, and to Miss Eastman for help in tracing relevant material.

14. The MS spelling of place-names has been retained throughout.