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The Early English Text Society was started by the late Dr. Furnivall in 1864 for the purpose of bringing the mass of Old English Literature within the reach of the ordinary student, and of wiping away the reproach under which England had long rested, of having felt little interest in the monuments of her early language and life.

On the starting of the Society, so many Texts of importance were at once taken in hand by its Editors, that it became necessary in 1867 to open, besides the Original Series with which the Society began, an Extra Series which should be mainly devoted to fresh editions of all that is most valuable in printed MSS. and Caxton's and other black-letter books, though first editions of MSS. will not be excluded when the convenience of issuing them demands their inclusion in the Extra Series. From 1921 there will be but one series of publications, merging the Original and Extra Series.

During the fifty years of the Society's existence, it has produced, with whatever shortcomings, and at a cost of over £35,000, an amount of good solid work for which all students of our Language, and some of our Literature, must be grateful, and which has rendered possible the beginnings (at least) of proper Histories and Dictionaries of that Language and Literature, and has illustrated the thoughts, the life, the manners and customs of our forefathers and foremothers.

But the Society's experience has shown the very small number of those inheritors of the speech of Cynewulf, Chaucer, and Shakspere, who care two guineas a year for the records of that speech. The Society has never had money enough to produce the Texts that could easily have been got ready for it; and Editors are now anxious to send to press the work they have prepared. The necessity has therefore arisen for trying to increase the number of the Society's members, and to induce its well-wishers to help it by gifts of money, either in one sum or by instalments. The Committee trust that every Member will bring before his or her friends and acquaintances the Society's claims for liberal support. Until all Early English MSS. are printed, no proper History of our Language or Social Life is possible.
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The Owl and Nightingale, 2 Texts parallel, ed. by the late G. F. H. Sykes and J. H. G. Grattan. [At Press.

The Gild of St. Mary, Lichfield, ed. by the late Dr. Furnivall.


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Other texts are in preparation.

December 1920.
The Gild of St. Mary, Lichfield

Early English Text Society.

Extra Series, No. CXLIV.

1920 (for 1914).

Price 15s.
The Gild of St. Mary, Lichfield

Being Ordinances of the Gild of St. Mary, and other documents

EDITED BY THE LATE
DR. F. J. FURNIVALL

LONDON:
PUBLISHED FOR THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY
By KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & CO., LTD.,
BROADWAY HOUSE, LUDGATE HILL, E.C.
AND BY HUMPHREY MILFORD, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS,
AMEN CORNER, E.C., AND IN NEW YORK.
1920.
Gild of St. Mary, Lichfield.

I. Richard II's Ordinances (A.D. 1387), englisht A.D. 1538.

II. Sir Humfrey Stanley's Ordinances, A.D. 1486.

III. Dean Heywood's Reform of 'Our Lady's Alms-chest,' A.D. 1486.
ORDINANCES OF THE GILD OF ST. MARY, LICHFIELD.¹

[Liçfield Gild Register, vellum, leaf 5. back.]

[Leaves 1—5 contain the Latin Charter of Rich. II, A.D. 1387.]

[A.D. 1538.]

Thys ordinancia, taken owt of laten in-to englysshe the xiiij day of Januarye, the xxix yere of our sonerayne Lord king henry the viiijth, by Rycharde Watwode, then being Master of the gild of our lady and seint Iohn baptist, withe the Consent of master Colyns, m'r Langton, m'r awsten, m'r hyll (dyer), m'r Weston, m'r orchard, m'r godfray, m'r Iordane, m'r marshaH, m'r strynger, m'r byrd, m'r potte, m'r bowde, master bremecham,² m'r hopwoold, m'r hyll (mercer), m'r genynges, m'r stonyng, m'r EndesdaH, wythe all the other of the xlviij, as here after folowetbe, according to the othe whyche we hau taken. /

¹ These Ordinances, and those of 1486-7 that follow, have been printed in Harwood's History of Lichfield, 1807: but as that book is scarce, and probably not in the library of three Members of the Society, Dr. Furnivall took the opportunity of his stay in Lichfield, Aug.—Sept. 1889, to copy the Ordinances from the MS. Gild-Register. Canon Curteis has kindly completed the collation of the 1538 englishing with its Latin, as Dr. F. could not quite finish it.

² No doubt he or one of his forefathers came from Bromwicham or Birmingham.
Richard II's Gild-Ordinances
of 1387,

Englisht in 1538.

[Lichfield Gild Registry, leaf 6.]

Noble kyng Rychard, Second of that name, King of England, in the yere of our Lord M.CCC. lxxxvij, being dysposed and always wyllig that the honour of godde and the deuocyon of true Chrystyanes shuld encrease and go forward, hath the graunted and gienen lycence to Adamare Lychefeld, Thomas Tauerner, Symon Lychefeld, Henry Browne, Robert Tayntre, Rychard Mortymer, and Davy Brydd, to make a gilde and fraternytie in the towne of Lychefeld, in the honour of godde and the glorious vyrgin our lady sent Mary, as it appereth more playnly in the seid kinges chartowr made for the lycence therof. And so whan the above namedd had opteyned lycence of the said king, and lycence of the Reuerend fader in god, Lord Rychard, bisshop of Couentre and Lichefeld, the gild began, and was fownded for ever. And they, honorable men, worshipful men, gentylmen, and many other well disposed people, began to make them broders and sisters of the said gild; and so thei did choose amongeth themself a Master and iiiij Wardens for the seyld gild, according to the strength and vertue of the licence of the seid king. And also they made by ther generaht consent diuerse

1 Lat. vim.
Richard II's Gild-Ordinances of 1387; englisht in 1538.

and made their Ordinances;

Yearly, on Lady Day,

the Gild shall meet and choose its Master and Wardens.

Mode of Election:

the old Master names 6 Electors;

they chose 3 others; [* leaf 6, back] and these 9, with the 4 Wardens, choose the new Master and Wardens,

by the vote of the majority.

ordynaunses, whiche be bothe honest and consonaunte to the law, for the establisshment of the seid gild, as it appereth in fourm folowing:

(1) Fyrst it ys ordenedd that euery yere at the fest of the Concepcion of our Lady, or within the viij dayes folowing, the broders shall mete, and the master and the wardens shallbe chosen, so that no man be chosen master or warden except he be dwelling within the towne of Lichefeld. And if ony man be so chosen master or warden, and they utterly refuse it, then lett his name be cancelled and drawen forth of the Regester, and be cownted no more as broder. And if ony man being master or warden be fownd profytable & fytt for the seid office, they may chose him againe when thei wyH, notwithstanding that thei can not compell him. Except he agree the to the same election. And the election must be made on thys maner:

At the day of the election, when the master and the wardens and the broders of the seid gild that wylbe at the haH, be gathered together, The master that was that yere, shall name vj of hys broders of the gild, which shall take to them other iiij of ther broders, whom they wiH, beside the iiij wardens; and so thei xiij shall chose one man for master, whom thei think most able and conuenyent, and the iiij wardens, for the prosperous state and conservation of the seid gild. And for the final determinacion of the seid election, the greater part in number of the seid xiij shall ratifie and determe the election. Which master and wardens so elect, after that thei hawe done ther office by the space

1 uel infra eiusdem festi octabas.
2 Custodes.
3—3 nisi in dicta uilla Lichefeld conversans pro tempore moram trahat.
4—1 tunc delectar nomen eius de libro fratrum, & amplius pro fratre mimine repitetur.
5—5 Conuenientibus Magistro & custodibus ac fratribus diete gilde qui interesse voluerint in loco communi, de die electionis praeunitis.
of one hooole yere, must make ther accomptes before the broders of the seid gild, of all the commodytes and profyttes to the seid gild belonging for that yere. And if the master or the wardens together, or ony of them by himself, do lend ony mony owt of the comen boxe, Thei shall answer for it at the accomptes, and restore it and repay it to the wardens for the next yere followyng.

(2) Also the ordinaunse is, that the master and wardens shall provyde to make ther accomptes honestly for the yere against the fest of the natinyte of our lady, or within the viij dayes after the same fest; and every man entyng to be broder shall pay for himself; and then a solemnnyte and a fest to be made, in the honour of owr blessed Lady, generally to all broders & sisters of the seid gild, if so be that the master and wardens shall think it so to be most expedyent.

(3) Also the ordinaunse is, that all the names of the broders & sisters must be wrytten in a boke made for the same, with ther rewardes and benefytes that thei haue gien to the seid gild. And when any of the broders or sisters disase, let the time of his departing be noted in the same boke, so that ther may be a perpetuall memory of ther departing.

(4) Also it is ordened that no man shalbe admytt as broder or sister, except it be by the discretion of the master and wardens; nor no man to be admyt, except he be of honest conversaunce and good name and fame; and that he give for the mayntenaunce of the seid gild at his interest or admission, as he can compownd with the master and wardens; and then so being admyt, he schall take an othe vpon the evangelist after this form & facion:

1—provident se ad faciendum liberacionem honorificae de una secta erga festum nativitatis beate marie.
2 Lat. ab hoc luce migraverit.
3 obitus.
4 ad introitum summ.
[For the sake of comparison, the earlier text (a.d. 1387) is set beside the Hen. VIII. one.

[Oath. A.D. 1538.]  

The 1 I wilbe faithful 1 from othe thys time vnto the master & broders of the gild of the glorious Virgin Mary of Lichfeld; and I wyll be obedient to them that hereafter shalbe elect to the same, in all thinges leful 2 and honest to be done; 2 and I wyll neuer shewe the counsel that the masters or [lone] wardens shewthe me, for the hurt or damage of ony of them; and if I chance to know ony thing which shalbe preindyeiaH or hurt[full] to the seid gild, I wilH withhold it to the vtermost of my powre, 2 I will observe and kepe all ordinances that is consonaunte to the lawe, and made by the master and wardens for the time being, or here-after to be made, as a broder of the same: so help me god! and the holy evangeliste. /3

Adulterers and criminals to be admonished, and expellcd unless they amend.

(5) Also the ordinance is, that if ony broder of the seid gild [e]6 conviuct of adultery or any other abomynable cryme, and so openly diffamed, the master and wardens shal monysshe b[im] of the same; and if he wyl not renounse his fawt at the5 monysshon, but perseuer and continew in it, let his nam[e] be cancelled, 8 and that he neuer be admytted after

1—1 Ego, N. ab hoc hora inantea, fidelis ero.
2—3 ad corum damnum scelerent nemini pandam, Si quid neco ad meam noticiae decernere contingat, quod in notabile detrimentum diete gilde erectere posset, seu grane damnum, impediam ut impedire procurabur, viriliter inuxta posse, 3 sancta dei evangilia. 4 Lichfield Gild Register, leaf 15, back.
5 Lat. viriliter.
6 A strip of the margin is torn off all down the page. 7 MS. the the .
8—8 (next page) amplius ad eundem sine noua gratia nullatimus redituris, quia scriptum est: "Deelatur nomen talis malifici," &c.
Richard II's Gild-Ordinances of 1387; englisch in 1538.

againe and taken as broder, according to scripture: 'Let the nam[e] of suche an yll lyuer be styken owt of boke of elect person[es], and not counted amongst the good men.' And if that ony of the broders or sisters be in ony errour, or ony other detestable crime, as sone as the master and wardens know it, thei must monyssh the doer charytably, after the sayying of the gospe[l], 'if thy broder do trespas against the, monyssh him that he leve it,' and so forthe. / (6) Also if it chaunce that ony discord or debate betwyxt any men being broders of the gild, the master and wardens and other of the broders must serche the causes, and so reforme it, if it can be brough so to passe. Nor one of the broders shall sewe an other broder of the gild, other at the spiritual lawe or temporall, if so be that vnyte and peace may be made betwyxt them by the broders of the gild; nor no man shall seeke or make any ayde or help of ony stranger against his broder, which is prejudicial to the gild; for, by that mennes, the gild wyl sone be deprived of the suffrage and profyttes of the same.

(7) Also it is decreed that all possessyons, goodes, and catell that is given to the said gild, to the encrease and sustentacyon of goddes seruyce, shall be bestowed according to the wyl and mynd of them that giueth it, that theye be may be had in perpetua memorye.

(8) Also that all men which have or hold ony tene-
ment of the lettyng of the master and the wardens,

1—1 aliquo erroreuel uicio non notorio irretiti.
2—2 talem delinquendum momentum, iuxta evangelicam veritatem, Si pecca verit in te frater tuus, &c. a tabulis criminibus ut desistant.
3—3 casualiter exoriri discordiam.
4—4 si commodi fieri poterit, emendetur, inspectis qualitate discordic, & natura.
5—5 fratrem suum suum trahat ad curiam .

6 The englischer misunderstood his original: "Nec manutencicam ab aliqua domino extraneo aduersus fratrem suum querat, in preudicialium aliquis fratris eiusdem gilde, sub pena privationis beneficiorum & suffragiorum gilde superdicete."
7—7 caritatem expendantur uixta uim & effectum voluntatis donatorum.
fyrst let him pay & do cheef honour to god,\(^1\) and then after to the master and the wardens, according to scripture\(^2\); "Let thy kyng hane hys servyce, and thy lord god hys due honour."

(9) Also if ony stranger make ony complaynte against a broder of the gild, let then relacyon be made vnto the master and wardens and ther broders; \(^2\) and so when due informacion is had with diligent examinacion, and the truthe knowen, bring the parties together that ther may be made a good end, and discord elene desceede.\(^3\)

(10) Also it is ordered\(^4\) that if ony broder or sister of the seid gild by misfortune\(^4\) faill to suehe pouertie that he hath nothing to help himself, The master and the wardens of the gild must help him\(^5\) as they think best, having respect and consideracion vnto hys old state and cause of hys mysortune, according to that that god\(^6\) hath provyded to multyple the goodes of the seid gild./

(11) Also the ordinance is, that no priest shalbe admytt to do servyce in the seid gild by the desire of ony man, Thowgh the desirer be broder of the seid gild; but that the master and wardensshal admytt the priestes by ther discretion onely; \(^6\) and they shal take as many as shalbe thought necessary by the most avyncent broders of the gild\(^6\); and \(^7\) that euery pryst ought to be admytted by the other priestes of the gild; and that ei theexamyn them surely of ther habylite so

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1. Query, 'do the wonted services due to the chief feudal lord of the land?'
2. *iuxta scripturam evangeli.
3. *tunc se introniitae diligenter, ut fiat in huiusmodi discordia bonus finis.
4. *per infortunum, absque defectu eiusmodem.
5. *subueniat eadem.
7. (next page) capellanus qui recepi debet per alios capellanos eiusmodem gilde, de habilitate sua, insta examinacione probetur antequam admittatur, *ita quod per corum examinacionem eius habilitas approbetur.
that they may be found able by their examination; also that all the priests that be bound to do service in the said guild must be honest and of good conversation, or else to have sufficient warning, and so deprive them of their office, and other put in as shall be thought expedient to the master and wardens; and that the priests of the guild be every day in the church of our lady at the divine service, that by their help the parish priest may the better do divine service to the honour of God.

(12) Also it is decreed that one of the priests of the guild shall be made by the master and wardens Clerk of the guild, to write and note all profits and rents belonging to the said guild, and also expenses and charges. And the same priest so elect shall shew to the master and wardens how long he will continue in the said office; and his fellows shall be at his assigning in doing their duty or office in the Church. In consideration whereof the master and wardens shall give him by the year for his pains taking, for 6s. 8d. a year.

(13) Also it is ordained that all the priests of the said guild shall be at our lady's mass, and at antem that is called Salute, in the Chapel of our lady standing in the market place of Lichfield, except they be let by a reasonable cause; and that every of them shall depose for an other, concerning honest conversation and gravity of manners.

(14) Also the ordinance is, that all the priests of the said guild be down-lying and vprising in their Chambers apointed to them by the master and his

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1-1 gloriosus ad hancem dei possint perfecte.
2-2 et scribat.
3-4 ad ejus imitacionem.
4-1 iuxta eius meritum.
5-5 que dicitur Salute regina.
6-6 This clause belongs, in the Latin, to the subsequent ordinance, and runs thus: Item cum solitarius ecciderit, non habeat subventam; et ut qui libet eorum sit alterius testis idoneus super conversatione honesta morumque grauitate, ordinatum est quod omnes capellani., sint incentes et lenantes in cameris iuxta capellan.
brothers, that be buylded beside the chapel of our lady in Lichfeld within a certaine hows, called the priestes hall, a-pointed for them. And that they bored together, except a reasonable cause or bodely infirmyte which ther felows knoweth, do let them; and if any of the seid preuestes do withdraw him-self from his company, or make mery with any other man within the Cyte of Lichfeld for the space of ij or iiiij or v daies or an hoole weeke, he shall pay the costes of his comens nevertheles. (15) Also it is ordained that the Clark for the time being in the said chapel having the office of a decane, by the voluntary rewardes and goodnes of the townedwellers and brothers & sisters of the sayd gild, shall be every day at our lady masse and antem that we call "Salve," Except he be let with a reasonable cause. (16) Also when Phylip Strethay, master of the gild, and Roger Eidware, Thomas Wyssse, Rychard Chamber and Rychard Cowper, wardens of the same gild, with consent of the other brothers, did admytt William Wylnehale, priest, to be one of the prestes of the gild as to a perpetuety, as it appeareth in his wryting made therof, and sealed with the Comen scale, for the whych admysyon the seid Wyllyam was bownd by the seid master and wardens to wryte and cast ther accomptes yerely, whan the wardens for the time being shuld command him, and to wryte ther names particularley that do take the accomptes, and to make the wardens parfyt in such thinges as belongeth to the seyd gild.
SIR HUMFREY STANLEY'S ORDINANCES
FOR THE GILD.
A.D. 1486-7.

In the fest of sent myche\ H tharcange\ H, The yere of owre souere-
aine Lord, King Henry the viijth, the second, By the hygie con-
sideracion of the right worshipfuH Syr Humfrey Stanley, knight,
the master of the gild, and the worshipfuH his brothers, in eschewing
of grett inconvenyence and malyce, have ordened and constitute
upon certaine articles for the worship of the Citie, vnite, pease, and
welfare of the Cominalte./

(1.) Unity to be kept among the 48 Members.
Fyrst, it is ordened that the master of the gild, with the xlviij,
shal stedfastly abyde together in one as in aH, as they and eche of
them personally made there othe solemnly apon a boke in perform-
ing the same, and to se good rule be kept, and pease to be had, for the
worship of the seid cyte, & welfare of the comminalte.

(2.) Disputes to be settled by the Master and Brothers.
Disobedients to be expeld.

Also it is ordened that if ony vnkindely, or ony caus vnkindely
to be giuen in deling amongst the seid xlviij, that then the know-
lege therof cum to the master, he and his brothers here the mater
and caus es betwixt them; and the parties to abyde the rule, arbi-
tment and award of the seid master and his brothers. And the seid
parties so moved wyl not abide the ordinaunce of the seid master
and his brothers, they to be kept owt of the worshipfuH eleccion and
fraternity of the seid Cyte, and neuer to cum amongst them to non
Councell, but be discharged as a man forsworne openly and audly-
ently vpon a boke./
(3.) Fine for not attending Meetings. Expulsion after three defaults.

Also it is ordened that as ofte as the master of the gild, his brothen and the xlviij, haue mater of communicacion, and assigned to mete at the haH of our lady, or at any other place, the day and how prefixed; and vpon the same, the xlviij so warned, if ony of them withdraw themself, and wy not cum at the instance of the seid master and brotheri (without caus resonable) shal pay and gine iiiij d. to be put in-to the boxe tyl the accompltes, and then it to be devyded after the discretion of the master of the gild and the xlviij. And if the seid person or persons wyl absent them-self from the seid master and his brotheri an-other time, after resonable warning (nexte) shal pay ij pound of wax; and as ofte as ony of them so fawteth after iiij times monysshed, to be discharged and put out, after the forme a-fore rehearsedd. /

(4.) 24d. Fine for bloodshed in Frays. Surety for keeping the Peace.

Also it is ordened, that as ofte as ony frayes be made, and bloodshed vpon the same, both parties so disposed, The Constables to take them to ward to the gayle haH, and ther to find sufficient suerte for the peace, and vpon ther good abering, or they depart, for ony fauour or love of kynsemen or frendes. And the parties to pay for the seid fraye and bloodshed, to the Comen boxe xx. d., and to the Constable iiiij d., as ofte as ony such frays be made, what person or persons so-uer thei be, the presentment by the xij men, and the furrers1 of the court, vnto my lord reservedd notwithstandinge. /

(5.) 16d. Fine for less Frays, with Surety for Peace thereafter.

Also it is ordened that, as often as ony frays or stryes2 be made, or drawing unlawful weapons in malice, in stirring and fering the people, The Constables to take them to ward, and ther to find sufficient suerte according a-fore rehearsedd, and to pay for the fray xij d. to the boxe, and to the Constable iiiij d, The presentment to my Lord reservedd. /

1 'Fourreur, a Forager,' or 'Fourier; n. An Harbinger.'—1611. Cotgr.; or 'Fourer, An officer whose duty it was to burn false measures.'—Dean Millers' MS. in Halliwell's Gloss.

2 ' for stryes.
Sir Humphrey Stanley's Ordinances for the Gild.

(6.) Night-walkers and Rioters to be arrested, admonished, expelled, or put in Prison.

Also it is ordered that, if there be any misruled and ill-disposed person or persons within the City, that suspiciously walketh by night, out of due time, keeping alehouse in riot and mysoying in trobuling their neighbours, the Constables to take them to ward, vntyll the master of the gild and his brothers take them out, and so monysshie them to leve suche rule and mysoyding, or elles to voyd the Citie, or elles to be taken to pryson.

(7.) Harlots to be set on the Cuckstool, and expelled the City.

Also it is ordered, if ther be any misruled woman of her body, that is called a comen synner with every person that will dispose himself to medle with such, — whereby may grow, & doth growe, in diverse parties, greate mischief, as well by (rest a, back) murder of men, as to the greate displeasure of god, and greate icoperdy of everlastinge paine, — Such openly knowne (the piousishment of the Church reserved), that they, the Constables, to take them and set them vpon the Cookstole, ther openly schamed, and to voide the towne, vpon paine of prysonment.

(8.) Scolds to be warned; and on their 3rd default, set on the Cuckstool.

Also it is ordered, that, if ther be any woman that is a comen scold, that by her euyl tong and selaunder may grow myscheif and troble amongst their neighbours, the Constable shall cum to that person or persons, charging them, in the name of the master of the gild and his brethren, to leve ther malice & euyl tongues; ij times so monished; and if she wil not be ruled, she to be had to the cookestole, ther to be knowne in the example of other.

(9.) Disputes between Members' servants to be settled by the Master, &c.

Also it is ordered, that, if it happen, and as ofte as it happeneth, ony vnkindness or frays made betwene ony servaunte or servauntes of the xlviiij, the mater & cawses shalbe reserved to the master of the gild and his brethren: the masters of the parties notwithstanding to be ruled by the seid master and his brethren.

[Three more Articles follow, in a rather later 16th-cent. hand, and different ink.]

1 MS. by murder.
14 Gild-Ordinances added to Sir Humfrey Stanley's, ab. 1500.

(10.) Gild tenants to pay rent duly. No tenant-at-will to underlet.

Also it is orderyd that every tenand that holdythe any landis or tenymentis of the Gild, to paye ther Rentis at ther acustomedyd days, or within one monythe the nexte foloynge; and that no tenaind at wyH shaH make a tenand.

(11.) Masters to keep the Ordinances, or be fined.

Item, it ys a-greyde by Richarde Wetwode, then beyng Master of our ladys gylde, with the consent of aH the haH, that the seyd Master and his successouris, and the xlviij, shaH weH and trally ffolowe and kepe aH & singullare ordinancis conteynyde in thys Regester; and for ery defalt, to paye ther mercyment.

(12.) All Deeds to be registerd in English.

Item, it ys a-greyde that aH Indenturis of our ladys landys shalbe sene, & the same to be registerd in Englishe.

Item, the Taske of Lichfelde ys ... ... xij li yjs viij d

(13.) The Priests' Hall Statutes to be in English.

Item, it ys a-greyde that the Statutis be-longyng to the prestis haH shalbe draue owt in-to Englyslie, and to be delyuerde to the Comenanis ther.

(14.) Date for St. Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts.

Item, it ys a-greyde that the churche-wardens of Seint Michaelis shaH make ther accompt the sondaye next aftyr the fest of the purificacion of our blessed lady nex[ti] aftyr theye be owt of ther off[ecis], vppon payn of forfettiynge xx s. to be payd to the Reparacion of the same churche.

(15.) Date for Stowe Churchwardens' Accounts.

Item, that the Churche-wardens of Stowe,3 shaH make ther a-compt the secunde sondaye next foloynge the seyd fest of purificacion next aftyr ther[ey] be owt of of[ecis], vppon lyke payne.

(16.) Date for St. Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts.

Item, the churche-wardens of our ladys, that they shaH make ther a-compt the thryde sondaye next aftyr the seyd fest of purificacion next aftyr they be owt of office, vppon lyke payne.

1 See p. 10, art. 14, above. 2 Feb. 2. 3 A parish close to and N.E. of Lichfield.
1538. Expulsion of Wm. Stondenoght, a refusing Master. 15

(17.) Gild-Masters to wear Scarlet Gowns when warned so to do.

Item, it ys a-Greyde that the Master of the Gilde, and all other that have byw Masteris of the same Gilde, shall were ther scarlett Gownys the days next following that they have monishment by the beff-man ouer Evyn, vppon payn of every offender for every defect ... ... ... ... xijd to be payd to the comyn box of the hal.

And yff the Master of the Gilde for that tyme beyng Gyff them not warnynge accordyng as ys a-boue seyd, that then the seyd Master shall forfeit to the seyd boxe, for every defect ... ... ... ij s

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[leaf 10, back, in another hand.]

A.D. 1538.

EXPULSION FROM THE GILD, OF WILLIAM STONDE-NOGHT, FOR REFUSING TO SERVE AS MASTER.

For so Muckle as it ys enactyde of olde tyme, as playnly doythe apere [by] the ordinances Establysbye by the graunt of the Nobyl kyng Richarde, the secunde of that name, that every yere, at the Fest of the Concepcion of our blessyd lady / or within viij dayes then nexte following, the Masteris and bretherne shall mett in the Comyn hal / and ther a Newe Master and wardens shalbe chosyn / and yff any Man be so Chosyn Master or warden / and that he or they vtttyrly refuse it / then his Name to be canselfly, and drawne Forthe of the Register, and to be acomptyde No more as a brother / accordyng to whiche ordinance, the Master and bretherne in the Fest of the seyd concepcion of our lady in the xxxth yere of the Reyng of our suffaryng lorde kyng henry the viijth, to thentent that a Newe Master to be made, accordyng to ther olde Custum / dyde assemblyH ther selfis in the seyd place / and aH thyngis requisyde to that eleccion observyde, dyde Elect, nominate and chuse Wylyliam Stondenoght, a brother of the seyd Gilde, to be Master of the same / whiche Wilh'am so electe, namyde & chossyn, hath Contemptunsly and vttterly refusyde the same / Contrary to the ordinance afore-
The Gild-Master's Accounts, 1539. Lichfield City Tax, 1558.

seyde / and hys othe here-to-fore in that behahalf made / ther-fore the olde Master for that tyme beyng; with the consent of aH hys seyde Bretheris, the xvth daye of December then nexte ensuyng the seyde Fest [leaf 11] of Concepcion the yere a-bone wryttyn, accordyngly to ther seyde statutis, dyde CanseH and drawe Forthe owt of the Regester Booke, and by the3 presentis do CanseH and drawe Forthe the Name of the seyde William, and neuer here-aftyr to be reputedye and takyn for a brother of the seyde Gilde, No to enjoye any pryvy-lege, emolumentis or profettis, apertenynge or in any wyse belongingy to the same.

[? In another 16th-century hand.]

A.D. 1539.

FOR THE A-COMPT OF THE MASTER OF THE GILDE.

Memorandum, that hit ys a-Greyde by the Master of the Gildes1 and his bretherne, that the seyde Master & his iiij wardens, and ther Successouris, ShaH make ther a-Compte vppon Mydlent Sondaye next aftar that they shalbe owte of ther office, vppon payn of for-fetyng xls, the whiche xls to be levyde, xiijs iiiijd of the seyde Master, and xxvjs viijd of the seyde iiij warde[ns], that ys to wyt, evry one of the seyde wardens, vjs viijd; and the seyde forfet to be a-pleyde to the commyn Taxe of Gilde haH. anno Rengui Regis henrici octani xxx°. (22 April 1538 to 21 April 1539.)

[leaf 12, back, in another hand, of Philip and Mary's reign.]

LEVY OF A FIFTEENTH FROM LICHFIELD.

(A.D. 1558) The taske2 of the Citie of Lichfield is xij li.

In primis, Bore Strete3 ... ... ... xx s ij d
Item, Sadlers Strete4 ... ... ... xlix s

1 ? MS. Gilded.
2 Tax.
3 parallel with Market St. The post-office and police-court are in it.
4 now Market Street, at right angles to Bird Street.
1558. Levy of a Fifteenth from Lichfield.

Item, Birde Strete\(^1\) and Sandforde Strete \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xxxixs
Item, Bekoň Strete\(^2\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xxvijjs
Item, Tamworth Strete\(^3\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xxvjs
Item, grene hil\(^4\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xvs
Item, Stowe Strete\(^5\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xxijs iiijd
Item, Cundith Strete\(^6\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xxxiijs iiijd
Item, Wade Strete\(^7\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) ixjs
Item, saint Johns Strete\(^8\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) \(\ldots\) xviijs vjd

12 li 15 s' 6 d The tenor of the billettes Directed\(^9\) to the Dussiners\(^9\) in euer seueral ward for the collection off the sommes abowe written //

To the Dussiners of Sadlers strete.\(^{10}\)

We will and commande you, in the King and Quenes magessties names, for to levy and Gather in your ward, the xvth graunted\(^{11}\) to their gracis Vse, with all spede.

\[\text{Edmuntz Barde}^{\{\text{Bayliffes}\}}\]
\[\text{John Dyott}\]

[These men are enterd as Bailiffs in 1558, in a later leaf of the MS, in the George Bagshawes' 'Catalogue of all the Baylyffes and Sheriffes that haue bene in ye cytty of Lichfeld sythynce the Incorporation thereof.' Harwood, in his History of Lichfeld, 1807, p. 220, in his print of this Catalog, claims this John Dyott, or his namesake, nephew of Sir —— Dyott, as Shallow's 'little John Doit of Staffordshire,' in 2 Henry IV, III. iii.—F.]

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1 leading to Stafford. Sandford St. runs out of it on the West.
2 Beacon St. continues Bird St., runs up Beacon Hill, and is part of the Stafford Road.
3 runs from Bore St. to Green Hill.
4 A street leading up to St. Michael's Church (on the hill), and down to the Trent Valley station.
5 runs N.E. out of Tamworth St. to Stowe.
6 runs from Bore St. to the east end of the Cathedral.
7 runs out of St. John's St, parallel to Market St. and Bore St. farther south.
8 Continues Bird St., and runs into the Tamworth and London Road.
9 the 12 Reserve-constables.
10 now Market Street.

GILDS.
[No break in the MS.]

(The last document in the Lichfield Gild Registry, leaves not numbered.)

A.D. 1486. Dean Heywood's Reform of the administration of "Our Lady's Alms-Chest," or "Herwood's & Radclyf's Coffers": £40 for Loans to the Poor of Lichfield (£7 now given by Dean Heywood).

Ihesus.

To all christen people that this present writing shall see or here, Thomas Heywood, bachiler of both lawes,1 Dean of the cathedral churche off Lichfeld, sendeth helth in our lord everlasting!

Be it known unto yowe, that we, in owr ordinary visitacion had and exercised in the chapell of owr lady beside the market place of Lichfeld, the xxij day of NOUember, the yere of owr lord MCCCC lxxxv, among other crymes and defawtes then shewed and detected to vs, We found that, wher the worshipfull men, master Joan Herwood and master George Radcliff, somtime chanons residencyeres in the seid cathedral church of Lichfield, ordeyned too chestes in the forseyd chapell of owr lady, in one of the which chestes the seyd master Joan Herwood put xx ti, and in the other chest the seid master George Radclyf put other xx ti of lawfull money of England, to be converted to the behoefe, profytte, and releving of poore people of the seid citie

1 Canon and civil.
of lichfeld, and thervpon disposed and ordeyned in ther last willes vnder certayne maners, fourmes, and condicions, as in ther writings thervpon made, more plainly apperyth, the tenour wherof folowethe in these wordes:

[Canon Radclyf's Regulations for administering his Gift of £20 to "Our Lady's Alms-Chest," or "Herwood's Coffer." Febr. 1457.]

In the name of god, amen! For as much as Ioan Herwood, late chanon of the cathedrall church of lichfeld, haue fownded a certayne almes chest in owre lady chapell, called the chapell church, beside the market place of the citie of lichfeld, vnto the releef of pooremen in the seid citie, and in V. prebendes of the same, which chest is called "owr ladies almes chest," or otherwise "Herwodes cofre," In the which he put xx ti of lawfull money of england, and set forth and ordeyned diners ordinances\(^1\) for the conservacion, as well of the money as of the cawcyons and pledges leyd in the seyd chest, I, George Radclyf, chanon of the cathedrall church aforeseyd, and late archedecane of Chestre, hane ordeyned an other cofre, and haue put in hyt xx ti sterling, for thentent that poore men dwelling within the citie aboue seid, and the subarbes of the same, (and not without the citie or subarbes,) may be releevd by a sufficient gage or pledge leyd in-t0 the seyd cofre for borrowing mony of the same; which cofre shalbe calledde "Radclyffes cofre," by this provision:

(1) That the master of the gilde in the citie above seid, the Sacristan of the mynester, the warden of the chapeH church, and our priest which the master of the gild and his bretherne do trust most sure, may be kepers of the kayes of the seid cofre, for the conservacion, as well of the money, as of the gages or pledges to be leyd in the same. And that euery of them haue a kaye by themself, that the money and pledges of the seyd cofre may be well kept, oneles that ony hurt or hinderaunce maye chaunce to the cofre for defawt of safe custody.

(2) Farthermore I haue ordeyned and apoynted that no man shaH borowe above xx s at one time, and the kepers of the kayes are the Gild-Master and 3 other men, to keep the money and the securities for loans.

\(^1\) Not now known to be.
that but for one half yere; and that he lay in a gage or pledge better then the money so borowed by iiij's iiij d. And that the gage or pledge must be gold, syluer, tyn, brasse, [new leaf] lead, pewter or yron, and that it be taken by wyght, in no wyse regarding the fourme or facion of the gage or pledge.

(3) Also if the gage or pledge so leyd in the seyd cofre be not redeemed at the half yeres end, and the hole som of the money borowed owt of the cofre be not repayed, then the gage or pledge must be sold; and the one half off the mony passing the valour of the gage, must be delyuered to the owner, the other half to be put to the augmentacion of the sayd cofre; So that in no wyse the seyd cofre, with money aforseid, can cum to decaye or hinderance.

(4) And if any man borow money vpon a gage or pledg for one half yere, he shall borow no more vnto that seid yere be fully ended and past, oneles that an other man having as moch nede as he, can not be eased and helped with so moch mony vpon a gage as the other had before.

(5) And that the seid master of the gild, and his successors being masters of the gild, and the warden of the chapell church, being too keepers of the cofre, shall delyuer the other too keepers (being present) at the end of ther accomptes, the kayes of the cofre, and goodes being in the same, with the money, the gages and pledges, and the names of them that hath borowed, and the day of rescyving the money by Indentures made to the master of the gild and the warden of the church for the time being, the other too keepers also being present. And that the gages or pledges so delyuereched to the keepers of the kayes may be alwayes kept within the foresaid cofre.

(6) And so every master of the gild, and the warden of the chapell church for the time being, shall alwayes rescyve of ther precessors the kayes, with the Indentures, of the seid cofre, and syxe honest, discrete, and most sufficient burgeoes, bretherne of the gild, be present at the sight of the seid cofre, and delyueraunce of the seyd kayes, oneles that by covyne or cuyll disposicion (which god forbeed!) the cofre, with money and gages or pledges in the same, be conveyed away or dispoyled by any other meanes; but that the seyd cofre with money may be ordered and disposed into the reliefe and ayde of poore folkes, according to the ordinannce above specyfied.
Provided alway that the Sacristen of the mynster for the time being may kepe alway one kaye of the cofre, and all other ordinaunces that the seyd master Ioan Herwood haue made discretely and wysely at the day of the ordinaunce of the seid cofre, which do not repunge to this ordinaunce. I wille that my ordinaunces be referred to those, except the provysions and ordinaunces abovesaid. Dated and delivcred by my executours, at the gild hall, the saturday next after the purificacyone of our lady, the xxxv yere of the reigne of king Henry the syxte after the conquest.

But for as moche as we have lerned and found, not onely of faythfuH relation, but also by the openes off the dede, that the seid summe of xiij ti put in the seid chestes as ys aforesaid, by vnhedynes, blame, and neglygens of kepers of the kayes of the seid chestes before times passed, ys now diminyshed and wel nygh wasted and peyred, So that at the time of owr seid visitacion ther was no money found in the seid chestes, nor Iuelles or weddes ouer the summe of xijj ti, vnto great hinderaunce, hurt, and prejudyce of the poore people of the seid citie, sclaunder and perHy of the sowles of the seid kepers of the kayes, breking the ordinaunces and last willes of the seid worshipfull men, master Ioan and master George, and also shrewd example to all other Christen people,

Wherupon, we, considering that1 apperteyneth to owr ordinary cure, to fauaer and norysshe the thinges that be righftuH,—and the thinges that letten the profyt of vertues, to correct and amend,—as moche as in ys ; We therfore, countinge due reformacion to owr powr to be had in the premisses, by lawful processe and by laborous and diligent inquisicion and examina- cion, haue found and geten xxj ti, being in diuers meanes handes, not lykely to haue ben recouered; the which summe of xxj ti, with the forseid summe of xijj ti, making the summe of xxxiiij ti, We, be owr

1 That it.
ordinary power and auctorite, and also by the will, consent and assent of William Rokeley, now being master of owr Lady of Lichefeld, and of other worthy, good and honest men, accustomed to have rule of the seid gild, haue made and ordeyned to be put and keped from hensforth, in one chest, vnder the maner and fourme in the ordinaunce of the seid master George above expressed.

But for as moch as, of the seid summe of xl li giuen and graunted by the seid master Ioan and master George (as it is before rehersed), the summe of vij li ys utterly wasted and loste by the negligence of kepers of the kayes beforetime, So that now it can not be knowen nor found in ony wyse in whose handes yt restythe, We therfore, the Deane of the seyd cathedrall churche, —for the helth of owr soule, and for the wele and profit of the pore people of Lichfeld aforesaid, and also that the last willes and ordinaunces of the forseid master Ioan and George hereafter may be duly observed and kept, coueting and willing to fulfill, renew, and make hoole the seid summe off xl li,—We haue yeuen, graunted and delyuered the summe of vij li of lawfull money of Englund, of owr owne proper goodes, to be disposed in all maner wise after the fourme, strength and effecte of the ordinaunces of the seid master George; and haue made and ordeyned the seid vij li to be put and kept in the seid chest with the seid summe of xxxij li, for the which thing the master, the wardens, and the most worthy and worshipfull brether of the seyd gild, in ther name, and of other ther bretherne of the same,—moved of veray charite, and coueting spirittuall giftes to be yelded for the seid temporall goodes yeuen and graunted by the seid master Ioan and master George, and also by vs, as ys before rehersed,—wyl, ordeynu and graunt that, as oftimes as the foure kayberers or ther deputys, and the seid borowers and
refoorers, and eneryche of them, shall deuoutly say before the highe auter, or som other auter next to the seid chest, a pater noster and aue maria [next tear] For the helthe of the soules of the seid master Ioan and master George, and of oure soule, the Deane aforesaid, and that all the ordinaunces, wille and grauntes of the seid master Ioan and master George, owres, and other as above, ben had and made hereafter, more straitly, more diligently and effectually be obserued and kepe, We,—bi oure ordinary powre and auctoryte, and with and of the will, consent and assent of the most worthy, worshipfull and honest men of the seid Citie, brethern of the seid gild,—make and ordeyne, that from hens-forth enery keper of the kayes of the seid chest, in the beginning of his office shal swere vpon a boke,—before the Deane of the seid cathedrall churche for the time being (or suche as shalbe in his steade), and also before the wardens and other vj worshipfull and honest men, brother of the seide gild,—that he shall truely observe and kepe, for his time, all and singuler ordinaunces, wille and grauntes aboue said, in all maner of thinges after his powre; as in lykewise William Rokeley, now being master of the seide Gilde, Syr Ioan Paxon, Sacristen of the seid cathedrall church, Syr Nycolas Appulton, pryst of the seid gild, and Robert worth, otherwise called Buggyn, warden of the seyd chapell, now kepers of the seyd kayes, haue sworne, and enery of them haue sworne, vpon a boke before vs, Deane aforesaid, and a great multitude of people being present in the seid chapell, and haue taken vpon them wilfully the charge of such maner keping.

Moreover we will and ordeyne that in enery visitation to be had and exercysed herafter in the seid chapell of our ladye, in oure time, or in time of Deanes

1 The scribe first wrote "wortherwise," and then "worth" over the line.
oure successors for time being, amonge other, speciall and diligent inquisicion to be made of observning and keping of all the forseid statutes, willes and ordinancaees. And yt ther be ony thing therof omytted or lost, or not performed or fulfilled, then we will and ordeyne that due reformacion be made in that behalf, by the deane of the seid cathedrall church for the time being, to the pleasure of almyghtie god, and to the beho[e] and profyf of the pore people dwelling in Lichfeld aforeseid.

Furthermore we will and ordeyne that the one parte of the Indentures hereoff made, remayne in the forseid chest, and the other parte remayne in the treasure-house of the seid cathedrall church, for the more suretie, that in case doutfull or opinable [? questiones aryse], (which, god forbede!) recourse may be had thither for a ceryante to be had in the same. In faith and witnes of the which all singuler forseid thinges, at the request and instance of the master and wardens of the seid gild, and of many other moste worthy and worshipfull of comynalte of the seid cite, as well the seale of the office of owr Deanry which we vse in this behalf, as the comen seale of the seid gild, ben put to the seid indentures. Yowen, as to sealing of the same, the first day of the moneth of Iune, the yere of oure lord M.CCCC. lxxvj./

Seald, 1 June, 1486.
FIRST EXTANT CHARTER OF THE LICHFIELD TAILORS.

6 April. 18 Elizabeth. A.D. 1570.

To all Chrystian people to whome this present wrytinge shaft come, gretyng in our' lord god everlastinge! Knowe ye, that whereas in the Parlyament holden at Westmynster the xxvth day of Januarie in the nynetenthe yere of the Reignge of our' late soveraigne lorde of famous memorye, Kynge Henry the seventh [A.D. 1504], it was inacted, ordeyned, and established by our' saide soveraigne lorde, by the advise and consent of the lordes Spyrtytuatt and Temporall, and the Commons of the saide Parlyament assembled, and by the authoritee of the same, that no masters, wardens and Fellowshippes, craftes or mysteries, or any of them, nor any Rulers of Guyldes or Fraternyties, should from thereforthe take vppon them to make any actes or ordynaunces, nor to execute any actes or ordynaunces by them afore that tyme made, or att any tyme then to come to be made, in disherytaunce or dymynuc/on of the kinge his prerogatyve, or of any other, nor against the common proffyte of the people, but if the same actes or ordynaunces were examyned or approved by the Chaunceller Tresorer of England, or Cheeffe Justices of either Benche, or three of them, of beflore bothe the Justices of Assise in theyr circuyte and progresse in

1 The Act 'against making private and unlawful Statutes by Corporations' recites as its cause the expired Statute, 15 Hen. VI, c. 6, against Gilds &c. making 'many and unreasonable Ordinances, as well in Prices of Wares as other Things, for their own singular Profit, and to the common Hurt and Damage of the People,' 2 nor any.
Lichfield Tailors. First Ordinances, 1576.

The Citizens and Tailors of Lichfield have now petitioned us, the Lord Chief Baron and Justice Lovelace (2 Judges of Assize), and shown us a new Book of Ordinances for the Lichfield Tailors, and have asked us to examine it.

The Shere where suche actes & ordynaunces be made, vppon the payne of forfeyture of Fortie pounde for every tyrne that they doe the Contrarye, as in the saide acte more playnely dothe and may appeare, Nowe the Baylieffes and Cytizens, and the Master, Wardens and Combretheren of the mystery, crafte, and Scyence of the Taylers of the Citie of Lichfeld, willyng and desyringe the saide acte in everye behalfe to be observed and kept, and the aunceynet and lawdable customes vsed in the foresaide Cittie, tyme out of mynde, to be revyved, exercysed and put in use, the sixthe day of ApryH, in the eigntethe yere of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Ladie Elizabethe, by the grace of god, of England, Fraunce and Irelande, quene, defender of the Faithe, &c., haue exhbyted and presented there humble petyc/on and request vnto vs, Edward Saunders Knuyght, Lorde Cheefe Baron, and William Lovelace, Sercante att Lawe, Justices of Assize, within the country of Stafford, with a booke conteynynge dyverse statutes, actes, and Ordynaunces devysed,ordeyned and made for the felowshippe of Taylers and there successors in the said Cittie, and for the common wealth and conservacion (?) of the good and prosperous estate of the same misterye, and for the Better Rules, constytucions and ordynaunces of the same Felowshippe establysshed, ordeyned and vsed for the foresaide felowshippe of Taylers within the said Cittie of lichfelde, the libertyes, subburbes, and precynte of the same; And therevppon, hime instant, he desyred vs that we, all and everie the saide statutes, ordynaunces and Rules by the foresaid Bayliiffes, Cytizens, Masters, Wardens, Combretheren and Felowshippe aforesaid and there predecessors, to the foresaide intent made, ordeyned and establyssed, would oversee, examyne, correcte and amend after suche manner and forme as the saide acte of Parlyamente reheersethe,
Lichfield Tailors. First Ordinances, 1576.

We, well proeeyvinge the saide supplyacion, and wayinge the petycion and desyeres in the same to vs given by the saide acte of Parlyament, Doe approve, ratifie, and allow all and singuler the actes, ordynances, statutes and Rules by the foresaide Baylieffes, Citezens, Master, Wardens, Combretheren and Felowshippe of the Taylers made, ordeyned and appoynted, the Tenor whereof ensueth in form folowinge, that is to say:

Fyrste, that the Taylors within the Cittie of Lichfelde may be allowed for a companye and Brotherhoode of the occupacion of Tailors; and also that none that hathe not bynne Apprentyce within the saide Cittie, be admytted to the saide occupacion to occupie as a master, Iourney-man, or servaunte within the said Cittie, excepte he be sworne vpon the Holie Evangeliste before the wardens of the saide company, to be obedient to the Master and Wardens of the saide occupacion, for the tyme beynge, in all thynges lawfull concerninge the saide occupacion, and the statutes, rules, and ordynances towchynge or concerninge the same, and also dulie and trulie to observe and kepe all these statutes and ordynances and euerye of them, vpon payne of forfeutynge for every tyme offendynge the contrarye, iij s iiiij d, the one halff thereof to be to the Baylieffes of the saide Cittie, and the other halff thereof to be to the vs of, and mayntenaunce of, the saide companye /

[2] Item, It is ordeyned & agreed by the Master, Warden, and Combretheren of the saide occupacion within the saide Cittie, that no Person or persons shall sette vppe and occupie as a master of the saide occupacion within the said Cittie, that hathe not bynne apprentices to the same within the saide Cittie, except he ffirste pay, before he open his shoppe-wyndowes, or occupie, or doe openlie any thinge or things towching
unless he pays 3s. 4d. to the Wardens at once, and in a month joins the Brotherhood and pays £4, under a Penalty of 3s. 4d.

3. No Apprentice shall set up as a Master till he pays

3s. 4d. at once, and 3s. 4d. more in 2 months.

4. No Stranger shall work in the City unless he takes a shop, as required by 28 Hen. VIII, c. 5.

or concerning the saide mysterie or crafte, iij s iiiij d to the wardens of the said occupacion; and if he occupy there by the space of one monethe, that then he to be sworn Brother to the saide occupacion, and then to paye to the wardens of the saide occupacion iij li for his Brotherhode; the one halff thereof to be to the Baylies and Citezens of the saide Cittie, and the other halff thereof to be to the use and mayntenaunce of the said occupacion; and if he or they will not obey thes statutes and ordynaunces, that then he to paye and forfeyte for every day he occupyethe after havingwarnynge by the wardens of the saide occupacion, iijs iiiijd, to the vses aforesaide.

[3] Item, it is ordeyned and agreed by the fellowship of the saide occupacion, that no person or persons shall sette vppe and occupy as a master of the saide occupacion within the saide Cittie, that hath byrne apprentice there to the same, but that he pay before he open his shoppe-windowes, or occupye or do anythinge or thinges openlye touychinge or concernynge the saide mysterie or crafte, to the master or wardyns of the saide occupacion, iij s iiiij d; and if [he]1 occupy by the space of two moneths, then he to paye for his brotherhode iij s iiiijd; the one halff thereof to be to the Baylies and Citezens of the same Cittie, and the other halff thereof to the use of the foresaid occupacion.

[4] Item, it is ordeyned that no foreigner beinge of the saide occupacion shall worke in any house or houses within the saide Cittie, wherebie the saide Masters and Bretheren of the saide occupacion shal or may be hyndered of there lyvyng, profite or commodities, except he take a shoppe and worke openlie, accordyng to the statutes made in the tyme of kyngge Henrie the

1 The omission of the article is regular. See Dr. Kellner's Introduction to Blanchardyn.
Lichfield Tailors. First Ordinances, 1576.

Eight,\(^1\) upon payne of forfeytinge for every day offendynge the contrarye, vjs viij d to the vses aforesaide / 

[5] Item, it is ordeyned and agreed that noe Combrother of the saide occupacion shall take any servaunte to teache hym his occupacion, vnder the Term of Seven yeres, bounde by Indenture; and that they haue but twoe apprenstyes at any one tyme; but that he att any tyme within two yeres, att thend of the last yeres of his former apprenstyes, maye take one other to be bounde in forme aforesaide, vppon payne of forfeytinge, every one offendinge the contrarye, xⅣs, the one halffe thereof to be to the Baylieffes and Cytzenes of the same Cittie, and the other halffe thereof to the uses of the saide occupacion.

[6] Item, it is ordeyned and agreed that if any of the saide occupacion, by the Judgement of the Wardens of the saide C ompanye, shall be auidged to destroy or marre any garment put to hym or them to be made, that then he or they to make recompence for the same to the Owner thereof, at the oversight of the Wardens of the saide occupacion for the tyme beinge, or eell he or they, for offendinge, to forfeyte and pay xⅣs to the vses aforesaide.

[7] Item, it is ordeyned and agreed that no Master or Combrother of the saide occupacion shall entise, mayntayne, or sette on worke any servaunt or apprenstye that is in Covenant with any of his Combretheren without lycense of his saide master, vppon payne of forfaytinge every day, after he hath knowledge or warnynge thereof by his othere master or wardens of the saide occupacion, vi viij d, the one

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\(^1\) See 21 Hen. VIII. c. 16, and 32 Hen. VIII. c. 16, also 5 Eliz. c. 4. See also the Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII. c. 2, limiting Aliens' Apprentices to two, and putting alien handicraftsmen within two miles of London City under the Gild-Warden of their Handicrafts. This was made perpetual by 21 Hen. VIII. c. 16. See 28 Hen. VIII. c. 5.
8. Brethren shall not be absent from Meetings.

Penalty 12d.

9. Apprentices claiming the Freedom of the Brotherhood shall, in their last year, be sworn to keep the Ordinances.

10. Yearly, within a month of June 24, Midsummer Day, a Master and 2 Wardens shall be chosen.

Lichfield Tailors. First Ordinances, 1576.

halfe thereof to be to the Baylieffes and Cytezens of the saide Cittye, and the other halfe thereof to be to the vse of the saide occupacion.

[8] Item, it is ordeyned and agreed that no Master or Combrother of the saide occupacion, shall absent hymselfe from his Combretheren when he is lawffully warned by the Wardens of the saide occupacion or there deputies, except he have a reasonable cause allowed, and approved after by the Master and Wardens of the saide company, vpon payne of forfaytinge for every tyme offending the Contrary, xij d, to the vses afore-saide.

[9] Item, it is ordeynd and agreed that from henceforth all masters havinge any servaunte or apprentice of the saide occupacion that will clayme any frendome or pryvyledge within this Cittie, by reason of his servyce or prentissippe, that they the saide servauntes or apprenytees shall resorte within the last Yere of his Terme, and come before the Baylieffes of the said Cittie, and the Masters and Wardyns of the saide occupacion for the tyme beinge, and then and there to be sworn to obey and Keepe all ordynances and Statutes made or vsed concernynge the saide occupacion, and then and there haue or offer or tender his name entred before the saide Baylieffes, Master, and Wardyns of the saide occupacion, or ells to lose his libertee and Freedom for ever.

[10] Item, it is ordeyned and agreed that yerely, within one monethe after the feast of the Natyvitye of Saynte Iohn Baptiste, there shalbe a Master of the saide occupacion and two Wardyns chosen, the saide Master to be chosen continually by The officers the Yere before, and the Wardyns to be chosen yerely by the consent of the combretheren of the saide occupacion, and they to be officers vntill that day twelve-monethe, and they in there yere shall take payne to
levye and gather all suche Duties and forseytures, as shall happen to be deue in there yere; and also yearelief on the saide day of the saide eleccion shall make a treue account to the saide Baylieffes of all suche money as they shall haue Received, or be charged withe the receipte of in there yere; and also then and there yeke and paye to the saide Baylieffes, the one halfe of suche forseytures and some of money as shall happen to be deue vnto them in that yere past; And also make yereely on the same daye one convenyent and competent Dynner to all the Masters and combretheren of the saide occupation; and euery one of them to pay porcion like towards the charges of theforesaide dynner; And if any Combrother be absent at that tyme, then he or they so bewayne absent, to paye like porcion to the Boxe or common-stoccke as the Masters pay at there Dinner, vppon payne of forfaytinge for euery tyme offendynge the contrary, iij's iiiij'd, to be devyded as before is saied / 

[11] Item, it is ordered and agreed that yt shalbe lawfull for the Master and Wardens of the saide occupacion, by the assistaunce of the Sergeantes of the saide Cittie for the tyme beyrne, for evereye somne of money aforesaide, and due by meanes of these ordynaunces, to distrayne; and the distresse so taken to withholde, vntill suche tyme [as] the sumne so forfeyted be paide.

All whiche Ordynaunces, statutes, Rules and constytucions above mencioned, we the saide Justices, according to the Acte of Parlyament above remembred, and by the auctoryte to vs given by the same, doe approbate, and allowe to be and stande in force and effecte accordynge to the purporte of the same. Provided always, that if any ambiguytie, doubt, or questyon shall hereafter happen to arise vppon the takinge, construccion or meaninge of any article, clause to levy duties and forfeits,
account for all monies,
pay half to the City Bailiffes,
and held a Dinner for the Brethren,
each paying his share.

Penalty 3s. 4d.

11. The Master
and Wardens
may distrain for
penalties.

Provided that all
questions as to
the meaning of
the Ordinances

These Ordinances,
we, the Lord
Chief Baron and
Justice Lovelace,
approve.
or sentence conteyned in this present Booke, or that any person or persons shall at any tyme hereafter com-playne and declare them-selves to the Justices of Assise of this Countie of Stafford for the tyme beinge, that they be vexed or trowbeled in bodie or goodes by reason of these ordynaunces aforsaide, or any of them, otherwise than by the lawes and statutes of this Realme they oughte to be, by the abvsynge, mysinterpretacion or mystakinge of these ordynaunces or any of them, that then, not onely the same ambyguitye, doubt, orques-tyon, to be ffro m tyme to tyme discussed, reformed and revoked by the saide Justices of Assise, but also all the saide ordynaunces or euery of them, by the discretion of the saide Justices of Assise, or any of them for the tyme beinge, to be utterly made frustrate and voyde, as to hym or them shall seeme good. Ye even at the towne of Stafford in the seid county of Stafford, in our Circuit & progress, the day and yere first above written.

[Signed]
Edward Saunders [Lord Chief Baron]
William Lovelace [Sergeant at Law].

[A new Charter for the Lichfield Tailors, dated July 23, 1687, was engrost for execution (and a copy on parchment made of it), but was never executed: it has no seal on the parchment tag prepared for one, and it has no signatures. Nearly ten years later, another Charter, dated May 30, 1697, which is printed below, was duly executed, or sign'd and seal'd. It contains 16 Clauses, including almost all the 12 clauses of the proposed Charter of 1687, but differs in certain particulars which are noted in the footnotes to the print of it which follows here.]
SECOND EXTANT CHARTER OF THE LICHFIELD TAILORS. 1

May 30, 1697.

To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come, George Newell, gentleman, and Roger Wright, Gentleman, the now Bailiffs of the City of Lichfield, and their one and twenty brethren of the corporation of the said City, Citizens of the said City, send Greeting in our Lord God Everlasting: /.

Whereas the Trade of a Taylor within the City and County of the City of Lichfield is, and long hath been, a very laudable and antient trade, and very beneficial for the education of many young persons Inhabiting in and neare the said City; and forasmuch as Strangers & Foreigners not haveing served as apprentices within the said City, and others which have not fully served their apprentishipp to the said Trade, have endeavored to sett up the said Trade in the said City, and after some short time have pretended to the like immunityes, priviledges, and Freedoms, as those that have actually served their apprenttishippe in the said City, or purchased their Freedome, & are Denizens or Freemen thereof, by Reason whereof many deceipts, disorders, and irregularityes have Crept in and bin vsed amongst the said Taylors, to the desperagement of their

1 In the margin is a round denoting stamp mark, 'No 8 at 12d.' The Revenue stamp of '1 Shilling' is below.

2-2 The proposed Charter of 1687 was to be from the Mayor and Aldermen, and has not this first paragraph. I don't note every variation of that Charter, but only the chief ones.

3-3 Not in proposed Charter of 1687.

GILDS.
Lichfield Tailors. Second Ordinances, 1697.

and so harmd the Tailors who were apprentic in the City,

the Lichfield Tailors have askt us to make them a Company,

with a Master and 2 Wardens,

and to grant them fresh Ordinances,

We Bailiffs and Citizens do therefore grant these Lichfield Tailors the Ordinances following:

1. The Tailors of Lichfield are and shall be a Brotherhood or Company.

Trade, discouragement of those who might bee apprentices, and impoverishing of such as have served their apprentishiepe in the said City, and are Freemen thereof; For Remedy whereof the Tailors within the said City have petitioned us, the said Bailiffs and Citizens of the said City, that they may bee made a Company and Society within the said City, Whereof One to bee nominated and called by the name of the "Master," and two others by the name of "Wardens," of the said Company of Tailors, and to Grant unto them several by-laws and Ordinances, for the better managing the said Trade, and Redressing the said Greivances; Now know yee, that wee, the said 1 Bailiffs and Citizens1 of the said City,—considering the said peticon, and being desirous to regulate and Iectifye the said disorders and irregularityes for the future,—

Doc (according to the power and autority given unto us by the Charter of our late Soveraigne Lord King 2 Charles the second, and other his Royall progenitors2), by, and with one assent, consent, and agreement, Grant, appoynt, and Make The orders, constitucions, Ordinances, and by-Lawes, herein-after mencioned and contayned, to bee for ever hereafter duly observed & kept by 3 all and every person and persons vseeing or ffollowinge the Trade of a Taylor, within the said City and County of Lichfield3: /.

Imprimis, Wee doe Grant, agree, order, and appoynt, That the Tailors within the said City of Lichfield, shall for ever hereafter bee, and are hereby made, a Company and Society within the said City, & called by the name of "the Maister, Wardens, and Brotherhood of the Company of Tailors," and by that name shall sue & bee sued./

1—1 Mayor and Aldermen, 1687.
2—2 James the Second, 1687.
3—3 the sayd Trade and Company of Tailors. 1687.
Lichfield Tailors. Second Ordinances, 1697.

[2] Item, Wee doe hereby Constitute, Nominate and appoynt Isaack Mat[c]hett to bee The First maister of the said Company, and Thomas Lauder and Thomas Ashmole to be the First Wardens\(^1\) of the said Company, who shall continue in those respective places & offices, vntill the Feast of Saint John Baptist next ensuing; And that Richard Herbert, Thomas Richards, Abraham Taylor \[^{1\frac{1}{2} \text{ lines of names scratcht out and markt over}}^2\] bee of the said Company and Brotherhood; And that the said Company shall & may have and keep a Booke for the Entering of all penaltyes, Fines, Composicions, and Forfeitures, and for the Inrolling the names of all Freemen and apprentices belonging to the said Trade & Company; And that the said Company shall and may receive and take one Moyety, or halfe parte of all paynes, penaltyes, Fines, Forfeitures, and Composicions, to the use and behoofe of the Bayliffs & Citizens of the said City for the time being (Except as herein-after is Excepted), and the other Moyety or halfe part of the said Fines, Forfeitures, paynes and penaltyes, to the proper use of the said Company of Taylors, The said Company of Taylors, being assisted by the servants & Officers, of the said Bayliffs and Citizens, and their successers, for the Gathering & Collecting the same.

[3] Item, Wee do hereby order,\(^3\) ordeyne and appoynt that noe Foreigner or stranger who hath not

\(^1\) Jonathan Alport, Master of the Company, and Thomas Richards and Isaac Matchett, Wardens. 1687.


\(^3\) Parts of the next six lines in the MS. are too worn to be read, and are therefore printed from the copy of it made in 1726.
been an apprentice by Indenture, or served as an apprentice by the space of Seaven years to the said Trade within the said City, shall use or exercise the said Trade within the said City, untill hee or they shall have first payd, or secured to bee payd, to the Maister and Warden of the said Company for the time being, for his or their Freedom to the said Trade, the sume of Tenn Pounds, or otherwise agreed and compounded with the said Master and Wardens, or the Major parte of the said Company, by and with the Consent of the Bayliffs of the said City for the time being, nor before hee shall bee sworn a Freeman of the said Company within the said City, (in the presence of the Maister and wardens of the said Company, or one of them), before the Bayliffs of the said City, or one of them, and the Towne clerke of the said City or his sufficient Deputy, and bee enrolled a Freeman of the said Company by the said Towne Clerke or his Deputy, On payne of Forfeiting to the said Maister & Wardens for the time being, to the vses before mentioned, the sume of Forty shillings per mensem, for every month any person or persons shall offend in the premises, or act contrary to this Order or Ordinance: /

4. All who take

the Freeman's oath shall swear allegiance to the King,

1 the Mayor, 1687. That Charter omits the next part about being sworn a Freeman: the man is only to be sworn to be obedient to the Major, Master and Wardens (almost as in Article 4, below) 'in all things lawfull concerninge the occupation or Trade of Taylors, and the good Orders, Rules and Ordinances concerninge the same.' The penalty is 40s. a month, as above.

2 This Article 4 is not in the proposed Charter of 1687, except as mentioned in the last footnote.
Successors, to bee obedient to the Bayliffs of the said City, and to the Maister and Wardens of the said Company for the time being, in all lawfull things concerning the said trade, and to observe the Orders, Rules and Ordinances made to the Company of Taylors aforesaid, to bear and pay Lott and Scott as other Freemen of the said City, and to defend the said City to the best of their power, For which oath and Inrollment of such Freedome, there shall be payd by each party sworne and Inrolled, Viz. To the Bayliffs for the time being, Three shillings Fourepence; To the Town clerke, Three shillings Fourepence; and To the Maister and Wardens of the said Company, Three shillings Fourepence.

[5] Item, Forasmuch as the takeing apprentices for a short time, and the takeing many apprentices by any one person of the said Trade, hath bin found very prejudiciall to the said Trade within the said City, It is therefore hereby ordered, Ordeyned and appointed, That noe Maister or Freeman of the said Trade within the said City, shall att any time hereafter take any apprentice, or person to serve as an apprentice, for lesse time than Seaven years, wherein noe Fraud shall bee vsed by antedateing the Indenture or articles by which such apprentice shall bee bound, Nor more time than three months allowed for tryall or likeing of such apprentice; And that noe Maister or Freeman of the said Trade now haveing, or which hereafter shall have one apprentice, shall take any other apprentice till Five years bee expired of his First Apprentice time; and soe from time to time shall not take any apprentice oftner than once in Five yeares, (Except where or when it shall happen that any apprentice shall dye, Goe to serve the King, or Run away from his maister, Or bee and continue soe long sick upon his Maisters hands as that the Maister and Wardens of the said
Company, or the Major part of them shall agree (if necessary) to allow such Maister another apprentice instead of such Sicke, dead or Runaway apprentice, to preserve his said Maisters Custome and Trade: In which case only, such Freeman or Maister may take another apprentice), Caution & notice thereof being First given by such Maister or Freeman to the Maister & Wardens of the said Company for the time being, of the departure & losse of such apprentice from his service; And the same being approved by the Maister, Wardens and Company, or the Major part of them, that the same was not occasioned, contrived, Feigned or Consented unto by such Freeman or Maister, On payne of Forfeiting to the Maister and Wardens of the said Company, to the vses aforesaid, for every offence against this Ordinance or any Clause of it, Five Pounds: 

[6] Item, It is hereby Ordered, Ordeyned and appoynted, That every Maister or Freeman that shall take any apprentice, shall, within One month after hee shall soo take or receive such apprentice, Enter the name of such apprentice with the Maister & wardens for the time being, On payne of Forfeiting to the said Maister and Wardens for the time being, to the vses aforesaid, the summe of Three shillings Foure pence for every month he shall neglect soo doeing; for which Entrance, there shall bee payd to the Maister & Wardens for the time being, Two shillings Six pence /.

[7] Item, It is hereby Ordeyned, appoynted and agreed, that noe person or persons (although hee or they shall have served an apprenticesshipp to the said trade within the said City) shall sett up or doe any

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1 For this Article 5, the proposed Charter of 1687 has an Article 4, that no Master or Freeman shall take more than one Apprentice for 7 years; but that when 5 years of this time are expired, he may take another Apprentice for 7 years.
act or thing openly touching or concerning the said Mistery or trade of a Taylor, as a Maister thereof, or shall bee sworne or admitted a Freeman of the said Trade, before hee or they shall have Compounded with the Maister & Wardens for the time being, for his or their Freedome, and shall have actually paid to such Maister & Wardens such summe of money (not exceeding Twenty shillings, nor lesse than Six shillings Eight pence) as shall be sett and appoynted by such Maister & Wardens, and Major part of the said Company; ¹ The one Moyety whereof shall bee to the vse of the said Bayliffs and Citizens & their Successors, and the other Moyety to the vse of the said Company: /

[8] Item, It is Ordered, Ordeyned and appointed, that noe Maister or Combrother of the said Company, shall entice away, impoy, entertaine, sett on worke, the servant, Journeyman, or apprentice, of any of his Combrethren, without the Licence of the Maister of such servant, Journeyman or apprentice, with whom hee or they last worked, upon payne of forfeiting to the Maister and Wardens for the time being, to the vses aforesaid, for every day after Notice given by the Maister from whom Such Servant, Journeyman, or apprentice shall soe depart, or by the Wardens of the said Company for the time being, or any of them, unto the said Maister that shall soe entice away, impoy, Entertaine, or sett on worke any such Servant, Journeyman or apprentice, that shall (as aforesaid) Leave his Maister, the summe of six shillings Eightpence: /

[9] Item, It is Ordered, ordeyned and appoynted That if any Maister or freeman of the said Trade, or Combrother, haveing Reasonable notice and warning

¹ The Charter of 1687 makes 3s. 4d. payable before the person setting up as a Tailor does anything openly touching or concerning the said Mystery or Craft,' and another 3s. 4d. 'if he occupy for the space of two Months.'—Article 5.
Lichfield Tailors. Second Ordinances, 1697.

of any Meeting to bee appoynted by the Maister & Wardens of the said Company for the time being, shall, without reasonable excuse (to bee allowed and approved by the Maister and Wardens), absent himself from such meeting, such person soe absenting shall, for every such default or absence, forfeit & pay, to the vse of the Company of Taylors only, Two Shillings Sixpence: /\n
10. All who claim the Freedom of the Trade in Lichfield shall first enroll their names in the Company's Book, and pay 3s. 4d.

Penalty, 3s. 4d. a month.

11. No Freeman shall take a Stranger as partner.

Penalty, 13s. 4d. a week.

[10] Item, It is hereby ordered, ordeyned, and agreed that every person or persons who shall claime any Freedome or priviledge of the said Trade within the said City, doe first Inroll his or their name or names with the Maister & Wardens of the said Company for the time being, for which he shall pay the summe of Three shillings Fourpence; And in case hee shall neglect soe doing, then hee or they see neglecting, shall forfeit the summe of Three shillings Fourpence for every month hee or they shall neglect soe doing,—after Notice thereof given by the said Maister and Wardens,—to the vse of the said Company of Tailors only: /.

[11] Item, It is alsoe Ordered, Ordeyned, and appoynted that noe Maister or Freeman of the said trade within the said City, shall take any Foreigner, Stranger or others not being free of the said Company, or haveing served as an apprentice within the said City by the space of Seaven Yeares, to be his or their Partner or Partners, or otherwise to worke than only as a Journeyman in the said trade, upon payne of forfeiting to the said Maister & Wardens of the said Company for the time being, for every weeke after notice thereof given by the Maister & Wardens, or any of them, Thirteen shillings Foure pence; one moyety thereof to the vse of the Bayliffs of the said City for

1 twelvpence, 1687.
the time being, and the other Moyety to the vse of the said Company of Taylors:  

[12] Item, It is Ordered, Ordeyned, and appoynted and agreed, that yearly and every yeare for ever hereafter, upon the Feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, or within one moneth after, there shall bee a succeeding Master and Wardens chosen out of the said Company, for the year next ensuing, which Master shall be chosen by the Wardens for the time being (but in default of their Elecczion, then by the said Company or the Major part of them); And the two Wardens shall be chosen by the Company or the major part of them; And that the said Master & Wardens shall take care for, & cause the Collecting and receiveing of all such forfeitures, paynes & penalties as shall happen within their Respective Years, and shall make a true accompt thereof to the Bayliffs of the City for the time being, And to the said Company of Taylors, upon the day of the Eleccion of such new Master and Wardens yearly, and shall then pay and deliver up unto the Bayliffs of the said City for the time being, One Moyety of the Fines, Forfeitures, penaltyes, Composicicions, & other moneys as shall bee become due, forfeited, or payable to the said Bayliffs and Citizens of the said City for the time being, and the said Company of Taylors; 2 And the other Moyety they shall then likewise (or within Ten days after) pay and deliver up to the next Succeeding Master and Wardens, together alsoe with all such other moneys as shall bee due to the said Company, or remaine in their hands, in the Foot of their accompts, upon the each person makeing default or False accompts shall  

1 Second or small skin of the Charter: circular denoting stamp 'No. 2 at 5d.' Revenue stamp '1 Shilling.'  
2 'All such forfeitures' go to the Master and Wardens under the proposed Charter of 1687.—Article 10.
Respectively forfeit to the Bayliffs and Citizens of the said City the summe of Five Pounds; whereof One Moyety shall be to the vse of the said Bayliffs and Citizens, And the other Moyety to the vse of the said Company of Taylors.

[13] Item, It is hereby ordered, & ordeyned\(^1\) & agreed, that there shall bee provided a Box, with three Locks and three Keys, for the vse of the \(^2\)said Company, which Box, and one of the said Keys, shall bee kept by the Master of the said Company for the time being, and the other two Keys by the Wardens of the said Company for the time being; and in Case the Master and Wardens, or any of them, shall happen to dye, or bee Removed within that year wherein they shall see bee Master and Wardens, That they the said Company, or the Major part of them, shall elect a new Master, Warden or Wardens, instead of him or them see dying or being removed, Which new Master & Warden or Wardens see of new to bee Elected, shall continue & bee in the office or places to which hee or they shall see bee elected, vntill the next publick day of Eleccion of Master and Wardens of ye \(^x\) said Company; And that the said Company shall & may elect and have One fitt person to attend them, who shall be called by the name of their ' Beadle' : /.

[14]\(^3\) Item, It is ordered, ordeyned and appoynted, that the Master & Wardens of the said Company shall yearly and every year hereafter, appoint and Cause three Meetings besides that for the Eleccion of Master & Wardens yearly, to concert\(^1\) the matters and interest of the said trade; One of which meetings shall bee within 14 dayes after Michaelmas,\(^1\) one other within Fourteen dayes after Christmas, and the third Within fourteen days after Lady day, On payn that the Master

1 ? MS.  
2 Col. 2 of second Skin.  
3 This Article is not in the proposed Charter of 1687.
Lichfield Tailors. Second Ordinances, 1697.

and Wardens soe neglecting to appoynt such meetings shall, for every default, Forfeit Twenty shillings a-piece, to the vses of the said Bayliffs, Citizens, & Company of Taylors.

[15] Item, It is hereby alsoe ordered, ordeyned and agreed, that it shall and may bee lawfull to and for the Master & Wardens of the said Company for the time being,—with the Assistance of the Serjeants att Mace of the said City for the time being (as the Charter of the said City doth in that behalfe impower),—
to demand, collect & gather all such Fines, Forfeitures and penalties as shall bee forfeited by any person or persons whomsoever, offending against the Orders, Orders, and appointments aforesaid, and upon refusall of payment, to Destreyne for the same ; And the Distress or Distresses soe to bee had or taken, to keepe and detayne untill such Forfeitures, Fines and penalties, together with the charges thereby occasioned, bee fully payd and satisfied : /

[16] Item, it is hereby ordered, ordeyned, and agreed that the Master & Wardens for the time being, & such and soe many of the Brotherhood as the Master and Wardens shall direct, shall be attending upon the Bayliffs\(^1\) of the said City for the time being, on Sundays, to the Chappell & Cathedrall Church, & other publick meetings, as the Bayliffs for the time being shall require, On payne that every One neglecting such meeting without reasonable excuse, shall forfeit Twelve-pence each time, to the uses aforesaid. In Witnesse whereof, Wee the said \(^2\)Bayliffs, and One and Twenty Brethren, have att a Comon Hall hereto\(^2\) affixed our Comon Seal, the Third day of May, in the Ninth Yeare of the Raign of Our Soveraigne Lord, William

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1. Major, 1687.
2. Major and Aldermen have hereunto 1687.
the Third,¹ by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, defender of the Fayth, &c, Anno Domini 1697 : 

Bayliffs.²

¹ the five and twentieth day of July in the third year of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Lord, James the Second. 1687.
² The copy has at its end: "Concordat hæc Copia cum Originali. Examinatum decimo Novembrí, Anno Domini 1726."
FIRST EXTANT ORDINANCES OF THE
LICHFIELD SMITHS' GILD.

3 Aug. 1601.

To all Christian people to whome this present wryting shall come, greeting in our Lord God everlasting!

Knowe yee that whereas peace preserveth and maketh comon-wealthes to flouryshe, and discorde decayeth and distroyeth the same, And there can be no peace where there are noe lawes to releyve and reward the honest and vertuous, and to correct and chastice the wicked and reprobate, And whereas at the parliament holden at westmynster, the fyve and twentieth daye of Januarie, in the nynteneth yeare of the Raigne of the late kyng of famous memorye, Henyre the Seaventh, yt was enacted that noe maysters, wardens, and fellow-shippes of Craftes or mysteryes, or any of theym, nor any rulers of Guildes or Fraternityes should take vpon theym to make any actes or ordynances, ne to execute any actes or ordynances by theym theretofore made in disheritance or dyymynucion of the prerogatyue of the kyng, nor of other, nor agaynst the common profytt of the people, but if the same actes or ordinances be examyned and approved by the Chancellour, Treasurer of England, or cheife Iustice, of eyther benche, or three of theym, or bifiore both the Iustices of Assises in their Cyrcuyt or progresse in the Shire where such actes or ordynances be made, vpon payne of forfiture of fortie poundes for every tyme that they doe the con-
the Smiths and like trades of Lichfield have askt us, Justices Walmysley and Warburton, to approve their Ordinances here following:

1. Every year, on the Friday after Nov. 23, the Brethren shall meet, trary. Nowe the Mayster, wardens and fellowship of the Craftes & mysteries of Smythes, goldsmythes, Ironmongers, Cardmakers, Pewtereres, Plumbers, Cutlers & Spurryers in the Cyttye of Lychfeild, being an auncient Societie of Mayster, two wardens, & Fellowship of the mysteries aforesaid, according to the said act of parliament haue made humble petition vnto Thomas Walmysley and Peter Warburton, two of her maiesties Justices of the common Benche, & Justices of Assyse, as well in the County of Stafford (within which countie the said Cyttye of Lychfeild hath auncientlye been) as in the countie of the said Cyttye of Lychfeild, that it would please theym to examyne & approve the actes & ordinances hearunder wrytten, being some of theym auncient, & some of theym newe and latelie set downe, before the same should haue the name, or be published or sett forthe as any actes or ordinances, that vnder their approbacion the state of the said Craftes & mysteries in the said Cyttye might be prosperous, and their common welthe florishe:—

[1] Imprimis,—according to the commendable custome vsed as well in the said Cyttye as in other Cytties and townes within this Realme of England, that the governours of corporacions, fellowships and Societies are yearlie changed, and new chosen in their places, It is nowe, therefore,—by the Mayster & two wardens and fellowship of the said craftes and mysteries within the said Cyttye of Lychfeild—ordained, & ordered that there shalbe yearlie, on frydaye next after the feast day of St. Clement, a metinge at some place convenyent within the said Cyttye, by the Mayster & wardens & thotheres of the bretheren of the said Societie or fellowshipp, or the greater number of theym, betwene the howers, of eight & eleaven of the clocke in the aforesnoone of the same day, where the greater number of theym so meetinge togethaer shall & may procede to
the newe election of a newe maister & wardens; & when their election is so made, the maister & wardens so chosen & made, shall continue Maister & wardens of the said fellowship for that one yeare following, & vntill a new Maister & wardens be chosen as aforesaid, if the same be made within fowertene dayes next after the ende of the said yeare. Nevertheles, if cyther the Maister or wardens for the tyme being, or any of theym, shall dye within the yeare, or departe from the said Cittie & dwell elswhere, then the bretheren of the said societie shall, in euerye such case as occasion serveth, call a new assembly at some convenient place within the said Cyttie, & procede to a newe election in maner & forme aforesaid, to supplie euery such defect, & to contynue out the remnant of the yeare in which such defect happeneth. And if any, being a freeman of the said Craftes & Mysteries within the same Cyttie, shall—after notice gyven or sent vnto him of the tyme & place by the Maister of the said Craftes & Mysteries for the tyme being—willinglie or without reasonable excuse absent himself, & not be present at euery such election within the said Cyttie, that then euery of theym so being absent shall forfeit vnto the Maister, Wardens & fellowship of the said Craftes & Mysteries for the tyme being, six shillings, eight pence, wherof the moytie shalbe to their common box, & thother moytie to the poore people within the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discretion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[2] Item, it is further oderned by the said Maister, wardens & fellowship, that none of theym shall at any tyme take any apprentice or covenantaunt-servant for shorter tearme then seaven yeares, & that within the yeare after the retayner of any such servant, aswell the proper name & sirename of the maister as of such servant, & the number of yeares to be by him served,
3. No man shall carry on a trade of the Company unless he has paid and been admitted to it.

Penalty 6s. 8d.

4. Seven-year Apprentices shall be made free of the Company by their masters on paying 6s. 8d.

Penalty 20s.

Lichfield Smiths. First Ordinances, 1601.

together with the facultie in which he is to be trayned vp, shalbe by the maister & servant inrolled or put in writing in a booke of the said Craftes & mysteries, which shall from tyme to tyme remayne with the senior of the two wardens for the tyme being.

[3] Item, it is ordeyned & established by the said Maister, wardens & [f]ellowship, that no man shall heaft etter sett vp & exerceyse his occupa[n]ce in any of the said Craftes or mysteryes within the said Cyttie (except such as haue bene apprentice in the same Cittie according to the ordynaunce next before) other then such as shall first agree with the maister & wardens of the said Craftes or Mysteries for the tyme being, & be admytted & allowed by them, vpon payne to forfeyt for every such offence six shillinges eight pence, the moitie whereof shalbe to the Common box, & thother moitie to the poore people within the said Cittie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the Maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[4] Item, that euery one which haith, or hearafter shall have served any apprentyship in any of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cittie for the space of seaven yeares, or for any longer tearme, shalbe by his Maister made free of the same mysterye, if the said servant be desirous soe to be, & be admytted & allowed as aforesaid, & will pay to the Maister, wardens and fellowship of the same Craftes and mysteries within the said Cittie for the tyme being, six shillinges eight pence; vpon payne that euery maister offending against this ordinance shall forfeyt to the Maister, wardens & Fellowship of the said craftes or mysteries, twenty shillinges; the moitie of which penaltie shalbe to the Common box, & thother moitie therof to the poore people of the said Cittie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the Maister & wardens for the tyme being.

1 That is, Master of an apprentice.
[5] Item, that no person of any of the said Craftes or mysteries not having bene apprentice within the said Cittie as aforesaid, shall set vp or exercise any of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cittie, vnles he be first admitted & sworne a brother of the said fellowship, & pay for the same vnto the maister & wardens for the tyme being, tenn pounds; vpon payn to forfeyt, vnto the maister, wardens & Fellowship of the said Craftes or mysteries, for every offence against this ordinance, tenn pounds; wherof the moytie shalbe to their common box, & thother moytie to the poore people of the said Cittie, to be distributed at the discretion of the maister & wardens for [the] tyme being.

[6] Item, it is ordeyned that no maister or brother of any of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cittie shall intyce, hier, or take to worke, any Journeyman, prentice, or servant of any brother or maister of the said Craftes or mysteries, without the licence & consent of his maister, vpon payne to forfeyt to the said maister, wardens & fellowship, for every such offence, tenn shillinges, wherof the moytie shalbe to their common box, and thother moytie to the poore people of the said Cittie, to be distributed at the discretion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[7] Item, it is ordeyned that no maister or brother of the said Craftes or mysteries hearafter shall suffer any forrenner or other—except such as are his apprentizes—to worke in his shoppe, or house, or elsewhere within the said Cittie, for him, or for any other by his meanes, without the licence of the maister & wardens of the said craftes & mysteryes in the said Cyttie for the tyme being, vpon payne to forfeyt for every such offence, vnto the said maister, wardens & fellowship, thre shillinges and lower pence, to be put into their common box.

[8] Item, that no maister or brother of the said gilds.
Smith shall shoe a horse that another Brother has pared.

Penalty 3s. 4d.

9. Strangers shall not hawk in Lichfield, but only stand in the market or fair.

Penalty 6s. 8d.

10. No Smith shall go to an inn or house unless he's sent for, nor shall he bribe servants to get custom.

Penalty 6s. 8d.

mysterye of Smythes within the said Cittie, nor anie of their servantes, shall hearafter shoe any horse which any of his brethren of the said Cyttie hath pared, except there be verie reasonable cause—& the same cause to be allowed by the maister & wardens for the tyme being,—vpon payne to forfeyt for euery such offence, to the said maister, wardens & fellowship, three shillinges fourer pence; wherof the moytie shalbe to their common box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[9] Item, it is ordeyned that no forener exercysing any of the said craftes or mysteries hearafter, shall haucke within the said Cittie, but onelie take a standing on the markett daye or fayer tyme, vpon payn to forfeyt for euery such offence, to the said maister, wardens & fellowship, six shillinges eight pence; the moytie wherof to be to their comon box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Citty, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[10] Item, that none of the trade of Smythes within the said Cittie shall goe to anie of the Innes or Houses within the said Cyttie, or send any of his servantes to doe any thing belonging to the same trade, except he be called or sent for; neyther shall any of theym gyne rewardes, ould fees, or money to the servantes of any of the said Innes or Howses, or any other person, to haue the Custome of the said house, vpon payne to forfeyt to the maister, wardens & fellowship of the said Craftes & mysteries, for euery such offence, six shillinges eight pence; wherof the moytie shalbe to their comon box, & thother moytie to the poore people of the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.
Lichfield Smiths. First Ordinances, 1601.

[11] Item, that no maister or brother of any of the said craftes or mysteries within the said Cittie shall hearafter disclose anie councell or communycacion concerning any of their said sciencies had at their common assemblies, neyther make anie brawles, chidyng or contention, nor raise or report any false, slanderous, or evill speach or tayle of any of the freemen of any of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cittie, vpon payne to forfeyt to the maister, wardens & fellowship aforesaid, for euery offence against any part of this ordynaunce, ten shillinges; wherof the moitie to be to their common box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Cittie, to be distributed at the discreccion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[12] Item, it is ordeyned that no forener vsing any of the said Craftes or mysteries shall take any worke out of the said Cittie belonging to any of the said Craftes or mysteries, vpon payne to forfeyt to the maister, wardens & fellowship aforesaid, for euery breach of this ordynaunce, ten shillinges, vnles the maister & Wardens first giue consent so to do; wherof the moitie shalbe to their common box, & thother moitie to poore people of the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[13] Item, that euery yeare when newe maister & wardens of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttie shalbe chosen, according to the true meaning of this present ordinances, then there shalbe made by the maister & wardens for the yeare next before, to the then newe maister, wardens and Fellowship, a true accompt of all such somes of money as they or any of them haue receyued for the same next yeare precedeing, & then pay what shall appeare to be due, vpon payne that euery one offending against this ordynaunce, for euery such offence shall forfeyt to the said newe maister, wardens & fellowship, fortie shillinges, the
Lichfield Smiths. First Ordinances, 1601.

moytie wherof shalbe to their common box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Cittie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[14] Item, it is ordeyned & established, that if anie dissencion, debate or discord, shall happen betwene any of the free men of the said trades or mysteries within the same Cyttie, that the maister & wardens of the said trades or mysteries within the said Cyttie for the tyme being, may call the parties before theym, & heare & determynyng the matter according to right & conscience, before any suyt of lawe be attempted, so that peace may be had amongst them; vpon payne that euery partie refusing to abyde such hearing & determynyng the controuersie betwene him & theym, or his or their adversarie or adversaries, shall forfeyt for euery such his or their refusall, to the maister, wardens & fellowship aforesaid, twenty shillinges, wherof the moitie to be to their common box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & Wardens for the tyme being.

[15] Item, it is ordeyned that noe Iorneyman of any of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttie shall hearafter worke in his owne house any thing apperteyning to any of the said trades or mysteries, vpon payne to forfeyt to the said maister, wardens & fellowship, for euery such offence, three shillinges fower pence, wherof the moitie to be to their Common box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discrecion of the maister & wardens for the tyme being.

[16] Item, it is ordeyned that noe forener vsing any of the said Craftes or mysteries shall occupie any standing, or utter any Wares, within the said Cyttie, belonging to any of the said Craftes or mysteries, but onelie on the markett dayes, fayre tyme, & tyme of
markett, viz., betwixt nyne of the clocke in the morning, & fourer of the clocke in the after-noone, of any such merket or fayer day, vpon payne to forfeit for euery such offence, vnto the maister, wardens & fellowship of the said Craftes & misteries within the said Cittie, fortie shillinges.

[17] Item, it is ordeyned that no person usin any of the said Craftes or mysteries shall hearafter occupie or cause to be occupied any other of the said craftes or mysteryes within the said Cittie, but that wherein he haith beeene brought vp as an apprentice, according to the true intent of these ordynaunces, vpon payne to forfeit to the Maister, Wardens & fellowship aforesaid, for euery month for offending, twentie shillinges.

[18] Item, that none of any of the said Craftes or Mysteries within the said Cittie shall hearafter buy or cause to be bought any Ware or Wares which any of the freemen of the said trades, craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttye haith bargayned, agreed for, or gyuen earnest for, havinge notice of the same, vpon payne to forfeit to the Maister, wardens and fellowship aforesaid, ten shillinges, wherof the moytie to be to their comon box, and thother moytie to the poore people of the said Cyttye, to be distributed at the discretion of the maister and Wardens for the tyme being.

[19] Item, if any Maister die, any of his apprentices not haung served out the tyme of his apprenticeship, in any of the said Craftes or misteries within the said Cyttye, then shall he, within convenient tyme after request, be placed with some other Maister within the said Cyttye, vntill he haue served out the resydew of the full tyme of his apprenticeship, if he intend to be free within the said Cyttie of any of the said Craftes or mysteries. & shall soe imploym-

1 Second skin of parchment.
Lichfield Smiths. First Ordinances, 1601.

for the benefit of his dead Master's widow,

or compound with the Master and Wardens on her behalf, and then leave.

Penalty £5.

20. No plate, jewels or metal used by goldsmiths or pewterers shall be bought by Lichfield folk for sale again, unless by leave of a Freeman.

Penalty 10s.

21. Wares of any trade shall be sold only by Freemen.

selfe as he shall not onelie doe his endeavour to be sufficient in his art and science, but also doe service to the wydowe of his deceased Maister, by discrecion of the Maister & Wardens of the said craftes & mysteries within the said Cyttie for the tyme being, or els agree with the said Maister and Wardens of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttye for the tyme being, to thuse of his laite maisteres wydow, & so depart without his freedome if he be so disposed; vpon payne to forfeyt for euery breach of this ordynance, to the mayster, wardens & fellowship of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttie, fyve poundes.

[20] Item, it is ordeine & established, noe platte of silver, gould or gylt, whole or broken, or any maner of pretious stones or Jewells, or any lattyn, brasse, pewther, or other mettall whatsoever, belonging to the trade, craft, or mysterie of goldsmythes or pewterers, whole or broken, shall be bought by any of thinhabitantes of the said Cyttie, or any other vsing any of the trades or mysteries before mencioned, to be sould agayne, or shalbe offered to be sould agayne, vnes it be by any of the goldsmythes or pewtherers within the said Cyttie allowed & made free as aforesaid; vpon payne that euery one so offending, for euerye breach of this ordynance shall forfeyt to the Maister & Wardens of the said Craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttie for the tyme being, ten shillinges: And this ordynance is not to be taken to make lawfull that any goldsmythes should meddle in the trade of pewtherers, nor any pewtherer with the trade of goldsmythes within the said Cyttie.

[21] Item, it is ordyned & established that none of the said craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttie, nor any other not being free of any of the said trades, craftes or mysteries within the said Cyttye, shall vutter any wares, being wares belonging to any of the said trades, craftes or misteries within the said Cyttie, but such as
perteyne to his trade, science, craft or mysterye wherein he haith bene trayned vp, allowed & made free of, within the said Cyttye, And that the same wares perteyning to his trade shalbe vttered in open market or fayer, or in his shopp; & not otherwise, vpon payne to forfeyt to the master, Wardens & fellowship of the said craftes & mysteries, for euery such offence, six shillinges eight pence; wherof thone moitie shalbe to the Comon box, & thother moitie to the poore people of the said Cyttie, to be distributed at the discretion of the Maister & Wardens of the said Craftes & mysteries for the tyme being.

[22] Item, if any being free of any of the said trades within the said Cyttye, offend in any thing against any of thordinances in these presentes conteyned, & pay not the penaltie & forfeyture to the maister & wardens for the tyme being, within thirtie dayes after the same forfyture publickly declared in the Guyldhall of the same Cyttie vpon any thursday in the tyme that the Court of Record within the same Cyttie shall or should be kept, after request by the comon Serieant made to thoffendour & refusall made by thoffendour to pay the same forfeyture, & the same signified to the maister & Wardens by the same Comon serieant in wryting vnder his hand, then euery such offendeour shall—in the said open hall, & in the tyme of the said Court-keping—be openlie declared to be disfranchised, And to be neuertheles remytted vpon such redempcion & in such sort as shall seeme good to the maisters & wardens for the tyme being. All which statutes, lawes, ordynances & constitucions are ordeyne by the Mayster, Wardens & fellowship of the said Craftes or mysteries in the said Cyttie, to take place & stand in strength & power as statutes & ordynances from such tyme as the said Iustices of Assise shall make Approbacion and allowance therof.
All these Ordinances, we two Justices of Assise approve.

Provided that if any doubts arise on these Ordinances,
or any one is harmed by them,

the Justices for the time being may amend

and reform the same

by writing signed by them.

Given at Stafford
3 Aug., 1601.

All which ordinances, statutes and constitution, we the said Justices, according to the act of parliament above remembred, and by the authority to vs gyven bye the same, doe approbate and allowe to be and stand in force and effect according to the purport of the same. Provided always, that if any ambiguity, doubt or question shall happen to arise hearafter, upon the taking, construction or meaning of any article thereof, or sentence conteyned in this present booke, or that any person or persons shall at any tymhe hearafter complayne & declare themselues to the Justices of Assise of this Countie of Stafford for the tymhe being, that they be charged or troubled in bodie or goodes by reason of these ordinances aforsaid, or any of them (otherwise then by the lawes & statutes of this Realme he or they ought to be) by thabusing, mystaking or misinterpretation of these ordinances or any of them, or if yt shall happen any myscheife or inconvenience hearafter to fall out by reason of these ordinances or any of them, & that the same shall so appeare to & before the said Justices for the tymhe being, That then, not onelie the same ambiguities, myscheifes, doubts, questions & inconuenencies to be from tymhe to tymhe discussed, reformed and corrected by the said Justice[s] of Assise for the tymhe being, but also all the said ordinances and every of them, or see many of them as shalbe by the said Justices in their wisdome, thought fytt to be reformed or corrected by the discretion of the said Justices of Assise for the tymhe being to be vttterlie made frustrate & voyde, or corrected or amended in such sort as by the said Justices for the tymhe being shalbe declared, lymyted, or appoynted in wryting subscribted with their names. Geuen at the towne of Stafford in the Countie of Stafford at the Assises in our Circuyt, the third day of August in the three and forth yeare of the raigne of our soueraigne Ladie
Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of England, France & Ireland, defendour of the faith, &c.


[Endorst in a later hand] Blacksmiths Company.

3rd August, 43 Eliz., 1601
SECOND SET OF ORDINANCES OF THE COMPANY OF LICHFIELD SMITHS.

24 July, 1630.

To all Christian People vnto whome this present writinge shall come, William Throppe and Richard Draffgate, the now Bayliffes of the Cittie of Lichfield, and the One and Twenty Bretheren of the Incorporacion of the said Cittie, send greetinge in our Lord God everlastinge. **Know You** that whereas peace preserveth and maketh Common Wealthes to prosper and flourishe, And discord decayeth and distroyeth the same, And that there can be no peace where there are noe lawes to relieue and reward the honest and virtuous, and to corecte and chastize the dissolute and wicked; And whereas our late Soveraigne Lord Kinge James of Blessed Memory, by his highnes letters Patentes, did graunte vnto the Bayliffes and the Citizens of the said Cittie of Lichfield, and their Successors for ever (amongst diverse and sundry other Priviledges, liberties, and thinges therein contayned), That the Bayliffes and the One and Twenty Bretheren of the said Cittie for the tyme being, or the maior parte of them, should for ever from thenceforthe haue full power, faculty, and authoritie, at their pleasures, to make, ordayne, constitute and appoynte, Orders, Constitutions, and Ordynances in writinge, vnder the Common Seale of the said Cittie for the good gouerninge, ordering and disposinge of the said Cittie, and of all and singuler the Citizens, Officers and Ministers,
Trades and Tradesmen, fraternities, and several Companies or societies of any Mystery or Occupation whatsoever within the said Cittie, the liberties and Precincts of the same, And how and in what manner and forme all and singular the Citizens, Artificers, Tradesmen, Fraternities, and all and every the several Companies of any Trade, Mystery, or occupation within the said Cittie for the tyme beinge, in their several Trades, Misteries and occupacions, And how and in what manner evry forreyne Artificer and Tradesman resortinge to the said Cittie, should vs, gouveine, and behaue him and them selues within the said Cittie, the liberties and precincts of the same, as by the said letters patentes more fully appeareth: And whereas John Mynshawe the now Master, and George Attkyn, and William Smythe the now Wardens, and the Company of Smythes, Goldesmithes, Cardmakers and Ironmongers, Pewterers and Brasiers, Plumbers, Cuttlers, Naylers and Spurryers, within the said Cittie of Lichfeild, beinge a very auncient society and brotherhood within the said Cittie, perceivinge theire Trades and Craftes to goe to decaye mightely within the said Cittie, as well for want of good order and aduyce emongst them for the better gouverninge and orderinge of the said Trades and Tradesmen, as alsoe for that many Strangerns and younge men, which haue not served their apprentishippes within the said Cittie, and many other which haue shifted abroade in the Country, and haue not orderly served any Apprentishipp in any one place, haue hither repayred, and sett upp the said Trades or some of them, by means whereof the freemen of the said Trades within the said Cittie are much hindered and ympoverished, haue made humble petition to vs to graunte them a Booke, for the reforminge and amendinge of the said abuses and inconveniencies, and for the establishinge of diverse good orders and
Ordinances amongest them, for the better government
of all and every of the said Trades and Brotherhood, 
and of all persons vsinge the said trades, or any of
them, within the said Cittie; whereupon, wee the
said Bayliffes, and the One and Twenty Bretheren of
the Incorporacion of the said Cittie, with one consent
and agreement, takeinge into consideracion the cause
of the great decay of the said Trades and Tradesmen
within the said Cittie, and desiringe to prevent the
like inconvenyencies, by ordayninge and appoyntinge
some good orders and ordynances for the better govern-
ment of all and every of the said Trades and Misteries,
Hane—accordinge to the power given vnto vs by the
said letters Patentes—devised, made, ordayned and
appoynted, And by theise presentes doe devise, make,
ordayne and appoynte, All and singular theise orders,
constitutions and ordynances followinge, for the good
and prosperose estate of all and every of the said
Trades and Misteries of Smythes, Goldesmithes, Card-
makers and Ironmongers, Pewterers and Brasyers,
Plumbers, Cuttlers, Naylers and Spurryers, within the
said Cittie: and for the orderinge, rulinge and govern-
inge of all and every of the Tradesmen of all and every
of the said trades within the said Cittie, the liberties
and precinctes of the same, Or which shall vs the said
Trades or any of them within the liberties of the said
Cittie:

1. Inprimis, accordinge to the Commendable Cus-
tome vsed, as well in the said Cittie as in other
Citties and Townes within this Realme of Eng-
land, That the Gouvernors of Corporacions,
Fellowshipps and Societies, are yearly changed, and
new chosen in theire places, It is now therefore by vs
ordered and ordayned, that yearly and every yeare
hereafter, uppon the Wednesday nexte after the feast
daie of St. Clementt, The Maister, Wardens and Com-

1. Every year,
the Trades shall meet,

and shall elect a new Master and 2 Wardens for a year,

to govern the Company.

But if any Officer die or leave the City, &c.,

the Company shall meet within 20 days

and elect substitutes for the rest of the year.

Any Freeman who,

after notice,

is absent from an Election without good excuse,

pany, of Smythes, Gouldsmythes, Cardmakers and Ironmongers, Pewterers and Brasiers, Plumbers, Cutters, Naylers and Spurriers within the said Cittie, or the Maior parte of them, shall meete together at some place conventient within the said Cittie; Where the greater number of them soe meetinge together, shall and may proceede to the new election of a new Master and Two new Wardens. And when their election is soe made, the Master and Wardens soe chosen shall continue respectuily Master and Wardens of the said Company for one whole yeare then nexte followinge, vntill a new Master and Two new Wardens be chosen as aforesaid, for the ruleinge and government of the said Company, and for the redressinge of all disorders therein, and for the execution of all Ordynances herein mencioned. Nevertheless, ye the said Master and Wardens for the tyme beinge, or any of them, shall die within the yeare, or departe oute of the said Cittie and dwell elswere, or shall be lawfully putte oute of his said Office, Then the Bretheren of the said Company shall in every such case as ocasyon serveth, call a new assembly at some conventient place within the said Cittie, within the space of Twenty daies nexte after such deathes, departure forthe of the said Cittie, or puttinge forthe of Office as aforesaid, and proceede to a new election in manner and forme aforesaid, to supply every such defecte, and to continue oute the remnant of the yeare in which such defecte hapneth. And ye any, being a Freeman of any of the said Trades and Misteries within the said Cittie, shall—after notice given or sent vnto him of the tyme and place by the Master and Wardens of the said Trades and Misteries, or by any of them for the tyme beinge—wilfully or without reasonable excuse to be allowed by the Maior parte of the said Company, absent him selfe, and not be present at every such election within the
said Cittie, That then every Freeman of the said Trades, or any of them, soe beinge absent, shall forfeyte for every tyne that he shall soe absent him-selfe, vnto the vse of the said Company ij: vj", which said sume shall be putt into their Common Boxe./

2. Item, it is further ordayned and ordered, that yf the Master or eyther of the Wardens soe ducely elected, shall refuse to take vppon him the said Office or place wherevnto he is elected, or shall (after that he hath taken vppon him the said place) be willfully neglligent in the due execucion of the said Office, or doe neglecte to performe and doe his Office and duety therein, and that he be soe adiudged by the Maior parte of the said Companye vpon examinacion thereof, he shall forfeyte to the vse of the said Company, for every such refusall or wilfull neglecte, Fourtie shillinges; which said sumne shall be likewise putt and kepte in their common Boxe./

3. Item, it is ordayned and further ordered that every one that hathe, or hereafter shall haue, served his Apprentishipp in or to any of the said Craftes and occupacions within the said Cittie, for the space of Seaven yeares, or for any longer tearme, vnto any freeman of the said Company, shall by his Master be made free onely of the said Mistery and trade which he hath soe served in, and shall be admitted and allowed to be a freeman of the said Company of Smythes, Goldesmythes, Cardmakers and Ironmongers, Pewterers and Brasiers, Plumbers, Cuttlers, Naylers, and Spurryers, yf the said servant doe desire the same, And doe forthwith paie to the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the tyme beinge, for his freedome, Twenty Shillinges; And to the Bayliffes of the said Cittie, or one of them, for the tyme beinge, for swearinge of him a Freeman of the said Cittie and Company, Three shillinges and Foure pence; And to
and 3s. 1d. to the Town-Clerk.

Penalty 10s.

1. No Brother shall take an Apprentice for less than 7 years.

Penalty 10s.

5. Every Apprentice when taken shall be enrolled in the Company’s Book at its next Meeting.

and 12d. to the Clerk.

and 3s. 1d. to the Town-Clerk.

the Towneclarke of the said Cittie for the tyme beinge, for the inrollinge of his name and freedome, Three shillings and Fourre pence; Vppon payne that every person offendinge againste this Ordynance shall forfeyte to the vse of the said Company, Fourtie shillings; which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in their Common Boxe:

4. Item, it is further ordered and ordayne that noe brother of the said Company shall at any tyme hereafter take any Apprentice vnto any of the said Trades for any shorter tearme then Seaven yeares, Vppon Payne that every Brother of the said Company which shall offend agaynste this Ordynance, shall forfeyte to the vse of the said Company for every tyme soe offendinge, Fourty shillings; which said summe shall likewise be putt and kepte in theire Common Boxe:

5. Item, it is further ordered and ordayne that every Brother of the said Company, which now is or hereafter shall be, which shall take any Apprentice to be instructed in any of the said Trades, shall at the nexte meetinge of the said Company, after the retayner of any such Apprentice, procure and cause the name of his Apprentice to be inrolled in a Booke for their purpose to be appoynted by the Master of the said Company for the tyme beinge, for the inrollinge of the names of all such Apprentices which every freeman of the said Company shall take, and the tyme that he is to serve him therein; Every such Brother takinge an Apprentice as aforesaid, payinge to the vse onely of the said Master of the said Company for the time beinge, for the inrollinge of the name of his Apprentice in the said Booke, the summe of Twelue pence, and to theire Clarke or other Officer, Twelue pence (which said Booke shall from tyme to

1 which for our as.
Lichfield Smiths. Second Ordinances, 1630.

tyme remayne with the Master of the said Company for the tyme beinge), Vppon payne that every Master of any such servant or Apprentice offendinge agaynste this Ordynance, shall forfeyt for every Moneth soc offendinge, vnto the use of the said Company, Tenn shillings; which shall be likewise putt and kepte in their Common Boxe:

6. Item, it is further ordered and ordayned that noe brother of the said Company shall at any tyme hereafter take and keepe aboue one Apprentice at once, nor haue aboue one Apprentice in his service at any tyme together (Excepte it be in the last yeare wherein his said Apprentice is to serve him), Vppon payne to forfeyte vnto the use of the said Company, for every tyme that he shall soe offend, Fiue pounds, which shall be likewise putt and kepte in their Common Boxe./

7. Item, it is ordered and ordayned that noe For- reynere or stranger of any of the said Trades, or any other person or persons whatsoever, which hath not served Seaven yeares at the leaste as an Apprentice in the said occupacions of Smythes, Goldesmythes, Cardmakers and Ironmongers, Pewtersers and Brasyers, Plumbers, Cutlers, Naylers and Spurryers, or to some of them, to some Brother and Freeman of the said Company, within the said Cittie, shall from henceforth may sell any ware of the Company's trade, buy, sell, or vtter any kinde of Wares or stuffe [belonglinge or appertayninge to any of the said Trades, except on Fair-days and Market-days.]

Penalty 10s.

Penalty £5.

7. No Stranger or others who haven't served 7 years' appren- ticeship to a Freeman, may sell any ware of the Company's trade, except on Fair-

gilds.
Nor may Strangers buy any silver, gold, jewels, or metal, to sell again; nor carry on any of the Company's trades, or be a Freeman of it, until he's compounded with it, or paid it £10, and taken his Oath as a Freeman.

No Goldsmith shall meddle with a Pewterer or Brasier, or either of them with him.

Penalty 20s.

inge to any of the said Trades; Nor shall any such forreyner buy within the said Cittie, any Wares, Silver or gold, Silver plate, whole or broken, or any manner of preciose stones, or Iewelles, brasse, pewter, lattyn, or lattyn wyer, Mettles or Commodities belonginge to the said Trades of a Goldesmyth, Pewterer and Brasyer, Cardmaker and Ironmonger, or to any of the said Trades aboue mencioned, to sell the same agayne, or to make profit or benifitt thereof; Nor shall sett vpp any Shopp, or vse or exercise any of the said Trades of Smythes, Goldesmythes, Cardmakers and Ironmongers, Pewterers and Brasyers, Plumbers, Cuttlers, Naylers and Spurryers, or any of them, or any thinge to any of the said Trades appertayninge, publiquely or privately, within the said Cittie, or be made a freeman of the said Company, before he hathe compounded for his freedome with the Maior parte of the Freemen of the said Company, or given vnto them the summe of Tenn poundes to be made a Freeman and Brother of the said Company, and hath taken his oath of a Freeman of the said Cittie and Occupacion accordingly, in such manner & forme as by the precedent Orders is limitted and appoynted for freemen of the said Company to doe; vppon payne that every person that shall doe contrary to any branche or clause of this Ordnance [or] any parte thereof, to forfeyte to the vse of the said Company for every tyme that he shall offend herein, Twenty shillinges of lawfull money [of] England; which said forfeytures shall be likewise putt and kepte in their common boxe. And it is alsoe the true intent and meaning [of] this Ordnance, that the Goldesmyth shall not meddle in the Trade of a Pewterer or Brasyer, nor the Pewterer or Brasier in [the Trade] of a Goldesmyth within the said Cittie:
8. Item, it is ordered and ordained, that noe Journeyman Smyth, Journeyman Goldesmyth, Journeyman Cardmaker and Ironmonger, Journeyman Pewterer and Brasyer, Journeyman Plumber, Journeyman Cuttler, Journeyman Nayler, and Journeyman Spurryer, or any of them, now working, or which at any time hereafter shall workke with any Freeman of the said Company, shall departe from the service of his Master to worcke with any other Brother of this Company, Without one Monethes warninge given to his said Master, vnlesse that he haue his Masters license or leaue, Vppon payne that every Brother of the Company which shall receiue any Journeyman contrary to this Ordynance, shall forfeyte to the vse of the said Company for every tyme soe offendinge, Tenn shillings; Which said Summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in their Common Boxe: / 

9. Item, it is ordayned and ordered that noe brother of the said Company within the said Cittie, shall from henceforthe suffer any Forreyner or other of any of the said Trades (Excepte such as are his Iournymen and Apprentices) to worcke in his Shopp or howse, or elsewhere within the said Cittie, for him, or for any other person whatsoever, Without the licence of the Master or Wardens of the said Company for the tyme beinge; Vppon payne to forfayte for every such offence, to the vse of the said Company, Three shillings and Fourpence; Which said summe is likewise to be putt and kepte in their common boxe./ 

10. Item, it is further ordered and ordayned, that yf any Brother of this Company shall refuse to giue or paye, or shall not pay his or their parte and porczon in money, Which shall be assessed vpon him by the Maior parte of the said Company,

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1 2nd skin of parchment.
of the cost of these
Ordinances,

he can't make
his Apprentices
Freemen.

11. No Stranger
shall

(save on Fair-
days) hawk any
goods in which
the Company
deals.

[See Ordin. 15.]

Penalty 6s. 8d.

12. No Black-
smith

shall go or send
to any inn or
house

unless he is
ordered; nor shall he bribe
servants,

to get custom.

Penalty 6s. 8d.

for and towards the obtayninge of theise new Orders
and Ordynances, he shall not be hereafter suffered, but
shall be for ever disabled, to make any of his Appren-
tices, which now he hath or hereafter shall haue,
Freemen of the said Company, or of any of the said
Craftes or occupacions within the said Cittie, at the
end of theire Apprentishipps, Any former Order, or
Ordynance whatsoever to the Contrary thereof notwith-
standinge: /

11. Item, it is further ordered and ordayned that

noe Forreyner exercisinge or vsinge any of
the said Trades or Misteries, shall at any
tyme on the Markett daies here, or on any other daies
(Excepte fayre daies here) hanke vpp and downe, or
in the said Cittie, With any Commodities belonginge
to any of the said Trades or Misteries; Vpon payne
to forfeyte to the vs of the said Company for every
such Offence, the summe of Sixe shillings and Eighte
pence; Which said summe shall be likewise putt and
kepte in theire common Boxe: /

12. Item, it is further ordayned and ordered, that

noe brother of the said Company, of the
Trade of Blackesmithes within the said Cittie,
shall from henceforth the goe to any Innes or howses
within the said Cittie, or send any of his servants
thither, to doe any thinge belonginge to the said Trade
(Excepte he be called or sent for); Neyther shall any
of them giue rewards, olde fees or money, to the
servantes of any of the said Innes or howses, or to any
other person or persons whatsoever, to haue the Cus-
tome of the said Inn or howse; Vpon payne to for-
feyte to the vs of the said Company for every such
Offence, the summe of Sixe Shillings and Eighte pence:
Which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in
theire Common Boxe.
13. It is further ordered and ordained, that no Forreyner vsinge any of the said Craftes or Misteries, shall carry any worcke oute of the said Cittie, belonginge to any of the said Craftes or Misteries, to worcke it vpp in the Country, without the consent of the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the tymbe beinge; vppon payne of every one offendinge againste this ordynance, to forfeyte to the vse of the said Company, for every such offence, the summe of Tenn shillinges; Which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in theire Common Boxe: 

14. It is further ordered and ordained, that noe Journeyman of any of the said Craftes or Misteries, shall at any tyme hereafter, worke within the said Cittie, in his owne howse, or any other Shopp or Roome within the said Cittie (Excepte in a Freeman's shopp of the said Company), any thinge appertayninge to any of the said Trades or Misteries, vppon payne to forfeyte to the vse of the said Company, for every tymbe wherein he shall offend contrary to this Ordynance, the summe of Three shillinges and Fowre pence; which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in theire common boxe: 

15. It is further ordered and ordained, that noe forreyner vsinge any of the said Craftes, Trades, or Misteries, shall at any tyme hereafter, take any shoppe or standinge, or vtter any Wares within the said Cittie, belonginge to any of the said Craftes or Misteries, but only on the fayre daies, and Markett daies here, videlicet, on the Markett daies here betwixte the howers onely of Tenn of the Clocke in the Morninge, and Three of the Clocke in the Afternoone; Nor shall sell or vtter on the Markett daies here, betwene the said howers, any other kinde of Wares, but onely such Wares as properly belongeth unto
the Trade wherevnto he was Apprentice, and truly served his Apprentiship; Vpon payne to forfeyte for every time offendinge against this Ordynance, to the vse of the said Company, Fourtie shillinges; Which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in their common boxe.

16. Item, it is further ordered and ordayed, that noe brother of the said Company shall at any tyme hereafter vse and occupy, or cause to be vsed and occupuyd, any of the said Craftes or Misteries within the said Cittie, but that wherevnto and wherein he hath served his Apprentishipp; Nor shall sell, or buy to sell agayne, any manner of Wares belonginge to any of the said Craftes or Misteries, but only such Wares as proparrly appertayne to his Trade, whervnto he served his Apprentishipp; vpon payne to forfeyte to the vse of the said Company for every tyme soe offendinge against this Ordeynance, the summe of Tenn shillinges; Which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in their Common Boxe.

17. Item, it is further ordered and ordayed, that noe brother of the said Company shall at any tyme hereafter buy, or cause to be boughte, any manner of Wares which any other brother of the said Company hath bargayned, agreed, or given earnest for (yf he have notice of the same), Vpon payne to forfeyte for every such Offence, to the vse of the said Company, the summe of Tenn shillinges; which shall be likewise put & kept in their common Boxe:

18. Item, it is further ordered and ordayed, that yf any Brother of the said Company shall happen to die, havinge any Apprentice or Apprentices which at the tyme of his decease hane not served oute hys and there Apprenticeips, that then the said Apprentice and Apprentices shall, within con-

1 Column 2 of 2nd skin.
venyent tyme after request made, be placed with some other Freeman of the said Company, vntill he haue served oute the residue and full tyme of his Apprenti-

shipp (yf he intend to be free of the said Company), or shall serue oute the residue of his tyme with the Widdow of his said deceased Master, At the discretion of the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the tyme beinge, or the Maior parte of them; or else agree with the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the tyme beinge, for the residue of the tyme he hath to serue, to the use of his said late Masters widdowe, And soe departe without his\(^1\) freedome of the said Company, yf he be soe disposed; upon payne to forfeyte to the use of the said Company, for every Offence againste this Ordinance, Fiue poundes, to be likewise putt and kepte in their common Boxe.

19. I tem, it is further ordered and ordaind, that the olde Master and Wardens of the said Company shall, every yeare—apon the daye that the new Master and Wardens of the said Company are chosen—accordinge to the trewe meaninge of the former ordynance, make and deliver vpp vnto the new Master and Wardens, and to the rest of the said Company (beinge there present) a trewe accompte in wrtynge vnnder their handes, of all such summes of money, writings and other thinges whatsoever, Which they or any of them haue received or disbursed for the yeare last preceedinge, by reason of their Offices of Master and Wardenshippes; And shall then paye and deliver to the handes of the new Master and Wardens, all arrearages which shall appeare to be due vppon their accomptes; and vppon payment thereof, the said new Master and Wardens soe chosen, and eyther of them, shall enter into bond, and become bounden jointly or severally, with good and sufficent suerties, in double

\(^1\) MS. alterd. ? the or his.

shall be put with another Freeman,
or remain with their old Master's widow,
or pay dunes to her, and leave without their Freedom.

Penalty £5.

19. Every year's Officers shall,
on the election of new Officers,
account to them for all Company-money, &c.,
and pay them all arrears.

The new Officers shall then give Bonds
the summe of the money received, to the olde Master and Wardens, or to some other Brother of the said Company whom the maior parte of the said Company shall for that purpose nominate, with condicion to deliver vpp the like accounte as aforesaid; vppon payne of every person offendinge againste this Ordinance, for every such offence to forfeite to the use of the said Company Tenne poundes; which said summe shall be likewise putt and kepte in their common Boxe. / 20. I tem, it is ordered and ordynayned, that if any debate, discension or discord, shall happen betwene any of the Freemen of the said Company within the same Cittie, concerninge matters of theire Trade, that the partie grieved shall declare his griefe to the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the tyme beinge, before he seeke any further remedy by lawe; to the intent that every such debate happeninge may be friendly ended by the said Master, Wardens and Company; vppon payne of every one that shall offend herein, or shall refuse to stand to the end that the said Master, Wardens and Company, or the maior parte of them, shall make, to forfeite for every tyme soe offendinge, to the use of the said Company, Three shillings and Foure pence; which summe is likewise to be putt and kepte in their common Boxe; Provided alwaie, that if the Master, Wardens and Companie, or the maior parte of them for the tyme beinge, doe not end and arbitrate the same within a fortnight nexte after complaynt made vnto them, That then the partie grieved shall be at liberty to take his remedy as he shall thinke beste. 21. I tem, it is further ordered and ordynayned, that the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the tyme beinge shall be obeyed in all reasonable and lawfull things for the tyme of theire Office, by all and every of the Brethren of the said
Company; And that every person of the said Company shall duly and respectively carry and behave him selfe to the said Master and Wardens and every of them (for the tyme beinge), withoute givinge them or any of them any evill or vnseemely wordes or mysbehaviour; upon paine that every one that shall doe any thing contrary to this ordynance, to forfeyte to the use of the said Company, Three shillings and Four pence; which shall be likewise putt and kepte in theire common Boxe.

22. Item, it is further ordered and ordayned, that noe brother of the said Company shall disclose hereafter any Counsell or Communicacion concerninge the said Trades or Mysteries or any of them, had at theire common assemblies; neythre make any brawles, chidinges or contencions there, nor raise or reporte any false, slaunderose or evill speeches, or tale of any Freeman of the said Company within the said Cittie, upon paine to forfeyte to the use of the said Company, for every tyme that any Brother shall offend herein, Tenn shillings; which summe is likewise to be putt and kepte in theire common Boxe.

23. Item, it is further ordered and ordayned, that if any Freeman of the said Craftes or occupa-
shall forfeyte in or by any of these Ordynances, Then
and from thenceforthe it shall and may be lawfull to
and for the Master and Wardens of the said Company
for the tyme beinge, or for any of them, to distrayne
and take by way of distresse, any of the Goods, Wares
and Marchandize of the said Offenders, and the same to
detayne and keepe by the space of Three daies then
next after; and yf the said Forfeyture or forfeytures
for which the said distresse shall happen to be taken,
be not within the said Three daies paid and dischardged,
That then and from thenceforthe the Master and Ward-
dens of the said Company for the tyme beinge, shall
sell the same goods, Wares and Merchandizes, after the
best rate they can, for the payment of the penaltie for-
eyted; and the overplus comeinge of the sale thereof
(yf any be) the same shall be agayne restored vnto the
party soe offendinge (he demaundinge the same). And
yf it happen that the said Master and Wardens of the
said Company for the tyme beinge can not convenently
distrayne the goods of any such Offendor in forme afores-
said, That then in defecte of such distresse, it shall be
lawfull to and for the Master and Wardens of the said
Company, by the name of the Master and Wardens of
the society and Company of Smythes, Goldesmythes,
Cardmakers and Ironmongers, Pewterers and Brasyers,
Plumbers, Cuttlers, Naylers and Spurryers within the
said Cittie, to arrest, sue or ymplead, or cause to be
arested, sued and ympleaded, any of the said Offendors
by Process yssuing oутe of the Kings Maɪesties Courts
of Record within this Cittie, vppon an action of Deto
for any of the said Forfeytures herein contayned, at
theire discreción, [r for]the of any other of his Maɪesties
Courtes of Record whatsoever. /

24. The Company shall have a
Common Box

Item, it is lastly ordered and ordyned that the
said Master, Wardens and Company, shall for-
ever haue a Common Boxe, Wherein all theire said
severall forfeytures shall be kepte aforesaid; Which
said Boxe shall alwaise from tyme to tyme remayne in
the Custody of the Master of the said Company for the
tyme beinge; and the moneyes in the said Boxe beinge
shall alwaise from tyme to tyme be bestowed and laid
forthe, as by the Master, Wardens and Company, or
the greater parte of them for the tyme beinge, shalbe
appoynted and declared. Provided alwayse, and it is
hereby further ordered and ordayned, that this Booke,1
nor any thinge herein contayned, shall extend or be in
any sorte prejudiciall to any former Booke or Bookes,
orders or ordynances, heretofore made by vs vnto any
other Brotherhood or society within this Cittie; But
that all and every of the Booke and Bookes heretofore
made by vs to them, or any of them, may continue in
there full power and force, accordinge to all and every
of the Orders and Ordynances therein respectiuely con-
tayned, Anything herein contayned to the contrary
thereof in any wise notwithstandinge. Provided like-
wise that yf it shall happen at any tyme hercafter, That
there shall not be one sufficyent freeman resident within
the said Cittie, of every of the said Trades vsinge his
trade and mistery here, That then yf the Master and
Wardens of the said Company doe not provide one
sufficyent workman of every of the said Trades, to vs
cand practise his trade here, within Sixe Moneths next
after warninge given vnto them by the Bayliffes of the
said Cittie for the tyme beinge, That then and from
thenceforth it shall and may be lawfull to and for the
Bayliffes and Bretheren of this Incorporacion, to make
free of the said Company, at theire liberty and pleasure.
any Forreyner of any of the said Trades, which shall be
soe wantinge within the said Cittie, Theise Ordynances,
or anythinge herein contayned, to the contrary thereof
in any wise notwithstandinge. In witnes whereof,

1 Deed, set of Ordinances.
Lichfield Smiths. Second Ordinances, 1630.

wee the aforesaid Bayliffes and Bretheren of this Incorporacion, for the better authority of all and every of the aforesaid Ordynances, haue herevnto putt the Common Seale of the aforesaid Citty, the Twentie Fourth daye of July 1630, And in the Sixte yeare of the Raigne of our Soveraigne Lord, Charles, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, Fraunce and Ireland, Kinge, defendor of the faithe, &c: 

[There is no seal to the Deed.]

[Endorst in a later hand.] Blacksmiths Company
24 July 1630

John Thornton

[A Third set of Ordinances was engrost for execution, in July 1820, 1 Geo. IV, by Sir Wm. Draper Best, Knight, one of the Judges of the King's Bench, and Sir Jn. Richardson, Knight, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, but does not seem to have been executed. It has 23 Clauses founded almost wholly on the forgoing Ordinances. I don't think it worth printing.]
ORDINANCES OF THE LYNN TAILORS.

[A.D. 1449.]


6 July, 27 Henry VI.—Ordinance by the Mayor and council, made for the good government of the Craft of tailours of the towne of Bishop's Lenn, wnderby it was appointed that yearly all tailors, plying their craft in the said towne should appear before the Mayor in the Guildhall within the two months following St. Michael's Feast, and in his presence choose two of their number to act as Hedesmen of their craft during the ensuing twelve months; who on their election should (p. 166) take the following oath:—

"Sires, ye 'shal wele duly and trewely make serche of your crafte of all dwellers within the towne att this time; and that from this tyme forward, no new-come persons sette uppe the saide crafte with-oute he be sufficiaunt in connyng, Whos sufficiaunce and connyng shal be determined bi pe advyse of the meyre and the said hedesmen. And every persone so newe come and omitted, and wilbe no burgeys, for his newe settyng uppe shal paye to the Meyre xld., to the comons of Lenn xld., and to the said hedesmen xld.—Which xld. shal go to the sustentacioun of the procession upon Corpus Christi day;—And yf he wil be burgeys, than he to pay but xld. for his no [?] newe settyng uppe;
All to pay for every Denizen sower ¼ d. a week; and for every alien, double.

A non-Burgess to pay 40d. for every apprentice.

Any one misfitting a customer, or cabbaging his cloth,

shall make amends.

But a Tailor unjustifiably slandering another on this point,

is to forfeit 40d.

Non-tailors slandering are to be punished.

All quarrels in the Truie to be referred to the 2 Headsmen, and then the Mayor, under a fixt penalty. And if a Headsman is partial

[And also to pay] to be said hedesmen, for every sower be the weke, denysen quadranta [¼d]; for every sower be the quarter, denysen iid.; and for every sower of alyaunt, duble to be sower of deynsens, upon the payne the seid dwellers paye duble hem selffe. And also, what persone of the saide crafte kepe any prenty with-in the toun from this tyme forward, and be no burgeys, shal paye to be sustentoacioun of the seid procession on Corpus Christi day xld.; and the Meyre to sette a rewle therein, according to be statute in the Hall of olde tyme. And yt any persone compleyne of any man of the seid crafte that he hath hurte be myss-cuttyynge or myss-shapyng, or any part of his colthe taken otherwise than in trewe forme; upon which, any persone or persones so convicted be leful and due preves, that he or they so convicted, to make amendes to be party or partyes so greved, be the sight of the Meyre and the seid hedesmen. And yt any persone of the said crafte slander any man of such deedis so doon, and may not evydently be proved be due and leeful proves, they to be punysshed be be avyse of the Meyre and the seid hedesmen, and to forfeit as often as he is founden so fauty, xld., Which shull go to be said procession upon Corpus Christi day. And yt any other person than of the said craffe compleyn or slander any man of deelis so doon, and may not be duly proved, thei to be punysshed be advyse of the Meyre and his counsell. And yt ther be any controversies and debates among any of the seid craffe—shaper or sower,—noon of them to sewe other in no manere wyse, but to come to the ii hedesmen, and to compleyne to him yt nedo be; and thei to do ther parte to drawe hem to accorde; and yt thei may not, that thei to make relacion to Meyre: every man doying the contrary shal [forfete] be payne accordlyng to be statute in the halie. And yt any of the seid ii hedesmen wil be parciall, or rewle be mater
otherwise pæn conciens, that than he pæt so feleþ him agreved, come and compleyne to the Meyre. And if any pær said hedesmen be slowe [slow], and wil not do as is aforneðeil, so that they departe without remedy, so that who of hem sewe other throwe here defaute, that iche of pær seid hedesmen so prevèd gilty, to forfete pær peyne pæt longeth to the halle," etc. [Followed by the names of the thirty-eight tailors of Lynn affected by the statute.]

SOUTHAMPTON TAILORS' PETITIONS,

[a.d. 1406–7 and 1468.]


8 Henry IV.—Petition (French) of the Taylors of Southampton to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said town, together with record of consent of the same Mayor, Aldermen and burgesses to the same petition, which, in the clauses following the preamble, runs in the following words:—

"Please a votre tressage discrecion, par advys de vos Aldermans, prudeshommes, et autres vos avaunditz bones burgeis, ordeignier et establier en ices present assemblee, que nulle alieiene Tailloure, ne soudier Taillour Engleis, ne autre veignant en Carrike, Galeye, ou nief des aliens, priegne ne tigne shope, meson, ne chambre, deinz mesme la ville pour tailler, ne deinz la Fraunchise dicelle taille robes, jepone, ne autres garnementz, a qü que soient, devaunt que tielle Taillour aliene ou soudier Taillour ad fait fyn et gree ove les mestres de mesme de mestier pour le temps esteauntz, ufl le.

Pray ordain

that no alien, or hired English tailor, or other from an alien shop, may set up in the city to cut

or may cut robes, &c.,

till he has settled with the Masters of the Trade, on

pain of imprison-

ment the first

time and 10x, the 2nd
time;
Southampton Tailors' Petitions.

commandement de vous ou del mair pour le temps esteautz, par les ministres de dite ville . . . Et auxi que nulle Taillour extraunge veignant sodeynement de tailler en mesme la ville, ne tigne shope ne chambre de tailler drape, saunz conge del Maire et des mestres del dit mestier, et tanque il ad feat fyn solons lour discreciouns en manere suis dit. Et, &c. &c."

_Ibid._ p. 87. A.D. 1468: 12 December, 8 Edward IV.

Certificatory Letters, touching the petition made to the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses of Southampton by the Tailors of the said town, and the consent of the same Mayor, &c. to the said petition, whereby the tailors of Southampton sought for the protection of their trade against the encroachments and competition of foreign tailors.

After stating that heretofore their gains have been "wonte to rise of the strange people comynge into the poorte of the saied towne, as in carryckes, galleys, shippes of Spayne, Portingall, Almayne, Flanders, Zelonde, and others, in their vyages, ther beynge for their use to cutte their clothe by the handes of the taylors of the same town," John Renande (Roeffe Taylor) and the petitioners of the Craft of Tailors of Southampton complain that, to their injury "Nowe of late in dyvers carrickes, galleys, and in shippes of strangers, have come taylers of divers nacion, and sondre in them by divers tymes, the which tary and abyde within the carrickes, galleyes and shippes within the same poorte," &c.

See extracts about the crafts of webbers and weavers, and shoemakers and cordaners of Waterford in the 10th Report, Appendix, Pt. VI. p. 319, 320, and many other trade regulations. Very interesting details about the Galway trades, &c. are in the same Report : Appendix, Part VI. Notes of Ordinances for plenty of trades in
Orders Concerning Tailors.

Kendal are in the 10th Report: Appendix, Part IV. p. 299-318. That about the Tailors is as follows:

f. 221.—"Orders concerning Tailors." February 23, 1575. It is ordered that the Company of Tailors may nominate four of the most honest members of their trade, to be called Searchers or Overseers, to correct abuses. (This order was repealed in March 1575.) It is also ordered that no person who has not given or promised a benevolence or gift towards purchasing the incorporation of the borough, and so become a freeman, or been made free after, shall take upon him the occupation of a tailor within the borough, under pain to forfeit 10s. to the chamber of the borough. It is also ordered that any tailor may at pleasure exercise the science of a woollen draper. (The last two orders having been repealed, were revived on the 14th of November 1577.) . . . .

f. 231. List of the twelve Companies [? 1578] with the number of wardens eligible by each:—

1. Chapmen, Merchants and Salters, 2.
2. Mercers and Drapers, linen and woollen, 2.
4. Tailors, Embroiderers and Whilters, 4 or 2.
5. Cordwainers (cordyners), Cobblers, and Curriers, 4 or 2.
6. Tanners, Saddlers, and Gilders, 2.
8. Butchers and Fishers, 2.
Notes on Ordinances.

Notes are in the Ninth Report, p. 292, of the Stratford-on-Avon Ordinances for Weavers (2 April, 14 Eliz., A.D. 1572), Shoemakers and Sadlers (21 Oct., 20 Eliz., A.D. 1578), and Skinners and Tailors (2 March, 1585).

For notes of other Ordinances, and of many Gilds—chiefly religious—I refer the student to these Hist. MSS. Com. Reports, which contain material for a most interesting volume of extracts on the social condition of the country. I hope Mr. W. L. Sydney will some day give us such a volume, to match the capital "England in the Eighteenth Century."
Printed in Great Britain by Richard Clay & Sons, Limited, Brunswick St., Stamford St., S.E. 1, and Bungay, Suffolk.
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