INTRODUCTORY.

With a new pen we commence the new task of telling the story of the Bookbinders' Trade Societies. Up to the present time only brief and fragmentary sketches have been made of certain parts of our Trade History, and, however full of interest these may be, they have not been brought into the hands of all who cared to read them, but have been published for sections of the trade only. It is our intention to give the fullest information possible to all interested in the growth of our organisations, for the sake of preserving things which might otherwise be lost, and forming an easy and concise work of reference.

Very great difficulties lie in the path of research, for as the earliest attempts at organisation date back over one hundred years, to a time when the men were compelled to adopt a plan of secret association forbidden by the law, records of their early doings were either not kept, or those which may have been kept were constantly handed from one to another in secrecy for safe keeping until they had served their purpose, when they were intentionally or accidentally destroyed. Had it not been for the love of antiquarian research displayed by Mr. John Jaffray, it is highly probable that any attempt to-day to unveil the mysteries of the past in this direction, would have been well nigh fruitless. Of manuscripts very few remain, and even of the few printed notices of early proceedings, which were made and published, some are not to be found even in that great store-house of treasures, the British Museum. For his "Notices of the Early History of the Journeymen Bookbinders' Trade Society" Mr. Jaffray seems not only to have ransacked all available documents, but to have put himself to considerable trouble and expense in order to obtain information from the only surviving men whose memories might yield some missing link in the story, and it is evidently upon the basis of Mr. Jaffray's research that Mr. T. J. Dunning subsequently prepared "Some Account of the London Consolidated Society of Bookbinders" for the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science. Both these works are now out of print, and without apology we propose to borrow extensively from the former for the earlier part of these papers—because it is impossible to write without doing so—filling in such details as we may be fortunate enough to secure. It may appear to some that having said "without apology," we have a supreme contempt for the rights of others, but we say it with every feeling of gratitude to Mr. Jaffray, and believing that he looked for some one to continue the work which he commenced. He regretted that so many years had been allowed to pass away without an attempt being made to preserve an account of the noble deeds of the "Friendlies" of a former time, and he himself rescued from oblivion, and for the first time put upon record that "Which Time had almost swept from memory's page," expressing the hope "that the future historian of our Trade may be enabled to detail every circumstance connected with these occurrences, the very smallest of which must prove interesting to all binders deserving of the boon then won for them." However unworthy, we take this matter up, and, in order to make a complete story, shall borrow without apology from the work of our predecessor.

The older unions of to-day are apt to complain of the newer trade unions, that they enter light-heartedly into a struggle without resources and with the apparent intention of relying upon the older unions, who have for many years husbanded their funds for their own support, but the history of our own, and other trades, shows that it is the soreness of grievances existing that drives men to combination and resistance, and not the means at their disposal. Even with a large fund men will not be tempted to undergo the terrors of a strike unless the down-pressing heel of adversity has driven in a conviction of the necessity for improvement upon the hummid ground of slavish conditions, until only an explosion relieves the ferment beneath. We must understand the condition of bookbinders in the last century to understand their action.

Perhaps the greatest disadvantage under which our fathers laboured was the illegality of combinations of workmen. From very early times legal enactments were constantly being made with the object of either fixing the rate of wages or preventing such combinations. The practice commenced in 1350, when a great strike of labourers was prevented by an ordinance of the Government, afterwards confirmed by Act 25, Ed. III., cap. 2, prohibiting workmen from taking higher wages than was customary before the plague, which had decimated their numbers, and given them the opportunity of demanding an advance in the price of their labour. By Act 34, Ed. III., cap 9, combinations of workmen for this purpose were expressly forbidden: "that all alliances and covines of masons and carpenters, and congregations, chapters, ordinances, and oaths betwixt them, made or to be made, shall be henceforth void and wholly annulled;" and, although directed only at the men of the building trade, it formed the precedent for further legislation of a similar character, being the first statute directed against combinations. By Act 3, Hen. VI., cap. 18, it was made a capital offence to organise a combination of workers in the building trades, and members thereof were liable to indefinite terms of imprisonment. In 1549, by Acts 2 and 3, Ed. VI., cap. 15; combinations of workmen generally were attacked. The preamble finds that "artificers, handicraftsmen, and labourers
have made confederacies and promises not only that they should not meddle with one another's work, and perform and finish what one hath begun, but also to constitute and appoint how much work they shall do in a day and what hours and times they shall work, contrary to the laws and statutes of this realm;" therefore, in order to check such outrageously wicked conduct, the king ordained that such sinners should be punished by fines, imprisonment, the pillory, or the loss of one ear. The fourth section of this Act was specially directed once more against the building trades, being intended to put a stop to the formation of associations of masons for the purpose of preventing workmen from other towns coming in to disturb their local monopolies; by it all persons were forbidden "to interrupt, deny, let or disturb any such workmen coming to dwell and work in their towns;" but this section was appealed against by the Corporation of the City of London in the following year, on the ground that it would drive away their craftsmen and artificers and impoverish the city, so that by Acts 3 and 4, Ed. VI., cap. 21, this enactment was "utterly made void for ever." The former section, however, continued to be the only general enactment against associations of workmen for these purposes until 1799, so that the bookbinders of 1786 were liable to its penalties. It is clear from this statute that the Legislature of 1549 did not consider that combinations of workmen to control their employers in these matters were offences at common law: if they had been, workmen would have been already liable to a much severer punishment than that imposed by this statute. But by Acts 3 and 4, Ed. VI., which had made void the fourth section of the Act of 1549, the Legislature appears to have recognised the practice of striking against the admission of strange workmen, and allowed it, although the intention was not to benefit the workmen but the towns in which they resided. The Act 5, Eliz., cap 4, seems to have been framed in a better spirit and more in the interests of workmen, since its object is said to be "that idleness might be banished, husbandry advanced, and a convenient proportion of wages yielded to the hired servant both in time of scarcity and in time of plenty." It made apprenticeship for seven years compulsory "in any art, mystery, or occupation now used or occupied within the realm of England and Wales," and at a trial in 1811 Lord Ellenborough allowed that bookbinding was a craft entitled to the benefit of the Act, although not specially mentioned in it, on reference to a previous statute, Act 25, Hen. VIII., cap. 15, in which the "craft and mystery of binding of books" is clearly set forth. By Act 1, James I., cap. 6, wages were to be fixed periodically by the Justices of the Peace at the Easter Quarter Sessions, when the rates were to be proclaimed in every market town, employers giving more than the legal rate being liable to fine and imprisonment, and this law continued to be part of the statute law until 1813, but it had long fallen into disuse. In 1776 Adam Smith wrote, concerning the practice of fixing wages by law: "I shall conclude with observing that though anciently it used to rate wages first by general laws, extending over the whole Kingdom, and afterwards by particular orders of justices of the peace in every particular county, both these practices have now gone entirely into disuse. Whenever the Legislature attempts to regulate the differences between masters and workmen, its counsellors are always the masters." While the laws regulating the rate of wages were thus falling into disuse, other changes were going on affecting the manufacturing trades. The intimate relationship of the master, apprentice, and journeyman was breaking down, and the establishment began to consist of a capitalist and a number of workmen who were engaged only upon very short hirings, and who roamed from shop to shop whenever there was an opportunity to obtain an increase of wages. Disputes became frequent, and although employers were forbidden to give more than the trade rate of wages, it was often found more convenient to break the law than to invoke its tardy assistance. On the other hand, combinations of masters to reduce prices were frequent and openly avowed; and combinations of workmen grew in numbers, though often under the cloak of legally enrolled benefit societies, with the consequence that as strikes occurred in particular trades, the Legislature was called upon to apply some more effectual remedy, and a number of special statutes which became known as the "Combination Laws" were passed for the protection of employers in different trades, prohibiting all agreements, associations, or meetings of workmen, and giving the magistrates power to convict summarily and punish with imprisonment any workman taking part in them. They differed from each other in little more than the denomination of workmen against whom they were directed; while it might be inferred from this piecemeal legislation that combination was a greater offence in some trades than in others, and in some trades no offence at all. This apparent inequality was, however, removed in 1800 by the Statute 40, Geo. III., cap. 106, which was directed against all associations of workmen for any trade purpose whatsoever. Fortunately, this insane effort on the part of the legislature to prevent strikes was the last. Experience had shewn that such efforts at repression were not only useless, but pernicious, and in 1824 the Combination Laws were repealed. During the first twenty-four years of this century strikes were perhaps more frequent than at any previous period, so that the season of repression was prolific in giving birth to that it was intended to destroy, and many of the greatest trade organisations of the country date their origin from those evil days. [To be continued.] In binding serials or periodicals, it is the common custom to destroy the covers and advertising pages. This may be well enough for works which one intends sometime to dispose of at the second-hand store or the rag-dealer's; but these very advertisements, if preserved, often become very valuable. If one thinks the covers and advertising pages deface the book if inserted in their proper sequence, let them be placed in the back part of the volume, where they may be consulted in the future, if desired. In this manner, valuable and interesting illustrations are often preserved.
LITTLE is known about the condition of Bookbinders, apart from their status under the law, prior to 1780. It would appear however that the usual working hours had been from 6 in the morning till 9 at night, with only a half-hour's rest for breakfast and one hour's rest for dinner, any other meal or refreshment having to be taken during the working hours. In 1747 these hours were worked, and the wages of a journeyman were quoted at 12/- per week. By 1780 a marked improvement had taken place, not only in the price of labour, which had risen to 14/- and up to 17/- for forwarders and beaters, and even from 18/- to 21/- for finishers, but through some cause which cannot now be determined, the working hours had been reduced, and the time usually worked was from 6 till 8, any longer hours being accounted as overtime, in which case an allowance of bread, cheese, and beer was generally made. "According to an informant, since the death of the journeymen, shortly before the famous strike in 1786, struck for and obtained the hour from 8 to 9, which tended to make the employers more fierce against the journeymen, when a like demand was a second time made at the above date." Other evidence would seem to confirm this statement, but, on the other hand, Mr. Jaffray had the opinions of some living at the time who had never heard of a strike prior to 1786.

The best evidence we can find shows that in 1780 the hours were generally from 6 till 8, or twelve and a half working hours to the day, though in some shops there was a custom of employing two sets of men, who worked as "day men" and "night men," each party working from 6 till 6, for the purpose of getting ready by the following morning or night such orders as came in by the post, mail coaches not having been yet introduced.

For some years prior to 1780 it was the custom of many of the journeymen to meet in public houses adjoining their workshops on Saturday evenings, to drink "a social pint of porter," or pass the time with a "little harmony," and out of these informal and friendly gatherings, at which a great deal of shop chat was indulged in, grew the first germs of our Trade Societies. It was at "The Cheshire Cheese," Surrey-street, Strand, where some ten or twelve binders were wont to meet in 1779-80, that the first attempt was made to form a regular Society, and on moving to "The One Tun," in the Strand, near Hungerford Market, in 1786, the Society became established as "The Friends," and was the centre and origin of the agitation which led up to the strike. No doubt the long hours of work, which contrasted unfavourably with those of other trades, was the principal theme of comment, and a Mr. J. Lovejoy was the first to suggest the desirability of an effort being made to reduce them by striking. The idea spread rapidly through the trade, and from being much talked about in other meeting places, by 1783 a second Society was instituted at "The Green Man" in Bow-street, though it was not formally established until 1785, when it was named "The Brothers." Shortly afterwards a third Society was formed at "The Jolly Butchers" in Warwick-lane, called "The City Brothers." Those who first met to form these Societies joined without the payment of any entrance fee, but all new comers were compelled to pay a fee, at first of a shilling, advancing by degrees to one guinea. They met weekly, and a small subscription was levied, which, with the entrance fees, was carefully saved to form a strike fund. "The Friends" did this for about three years.

As the time drew near for the accomplishment of their purpose, "The Friends" resolved on calling a general meeting of all the journeymen in the trade, whether members of the Society or not, then numbering from 80 to 100, and for this purpose notices were issued and advertisements inserted in the newspapers, so that the utmost publicity might be given to it. Nearly all the journeymen in London attended the meeting, which was held at "The Green Man," Bow-street, Covent-garden, and the result was an unanimous resolution to strike. A Committee, composed of members of the three Societies, was then formed, with Mr. "Watte" Row as Secretary, to arrange the plan of campaign, and they determined in March, 1786, to first apply for the reduction of hours at four of the principal shops in the trade: John McKinlay's, Bow-street; John Jackson's, Strand; John Wingrave's, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street; and John Lovejoy's, Dean-street, Fetter-lane. The application was made on Wednesday, March 22nd, and refused, and on the following Saturday one week's notice was given. One of the four shops at which the movement thus commenced was that of Mr. J. Lovejoy, the same individual who was the first to suggest the reduction of hours to "The Friends," but who had since gone into business, and with his change of position there had grown a complete change of sentiment. "As he had been when a journeyman among the most active in inciting the men to get this hour reduced, so he was now the most energetic among the employers in resisting and inciting others to resist the application of the men for its reduction. He discharged the whole of his men immediately upon receiving notice, and, it is highly probable, caused the other masters, who had themselves entered into a combination to oppose the reduction, to do the same." What was intended to have been a limited strike thus suddenly became a general lock-out, though not all the employers were included in the combination against the men. The first to give the hour was His Majesty King George III., having been requested to do so by his finisher, John Polwath. Mr. John Bell also gave it to his finisher, Thomas Fairbairn, and several smaller employers gave it rather than lose their men, but they were exceptions.
By April, the difficulty of obtaining men to do the work led the employers to seek the consideration of the publishers and booksellers, who held a meeting on April 4th, and, having determined to support the employers, they published the following address in the *Morning Chronicle* of April 6th, 1786:

"TO THE PUBLIC. The booksellers of the cities of London and Westminster having heard the complaints of the master bookbinders of a combination entered into by the journeymen in that branch to compel the masters to an abridgment of the usual hours of labour, in order that they may have extra hours for which it is customary to demand payment; and having also carefully considered the reasons assigned by the journeymen for this extraordinary imposition, are of opinion that the opposition of the masters is well founded, and the pretences of the journeymen groundless, since the requisition of an abridgment of their hours of working is supported on the pretence of fatigue and hardship of the labour, and the employment of extra hours for additional pay amounts to a direct contradiction of this pretence. It is therefore the determination of the booksellers to give the master bookbinders all the legal support in their power against this unjustifiable confederacy, by procuring for them every indulgence, in point of time, till their journeymen are brought to a proper sense of their duty and their interest, either by a due consideration of the folly and imprudence of their present conduct, or by the interposition of the laws, which have wisely provided suitable punishments for such offences against order and good government.

Chapter Coffee House," April 4th, 1786."

In *The Gazetteer* of the same date, there appeared an address published by the men, setting forth their reasons for forming a society, but no copy of the paper can be found. The address of the booksellers was copied into several other papers and received wide publicity, but no one troubled about the workmen's side of the question.

Many of the men who had been thrown out of employment, on receiving a guinea from the Society's funds, made their way to other towns in search of employment, while those who remained prepared to hold out until they had secured their object. Meanwhile, the employers, finding the men obdurate, took another step to compel their submission. One Saturday afternoon "Wattie" Nimmo got an inkling that the employers intended prosecuting some of the men, and the news spread rapidly through the trade. Not knowing who were to be made the victims, a large number left town quietly, arranging to meet at Kensington Gravel Pits, where they stayed at an inn all night. By Sunday morning Nimmo had acquired the information he wanted, and conveyed a list of those to be indicted—which included himself—to those waiting for the news at Kensington; these then came back to town, but remained *perdu* until bail could be secured. On Tuesday, April 25th, twenty-four men were indicted at the New Sessions House, commonly known as "Hicks' Hall," as quietly as possible, with a view to having them all clapped in gaol without the opportunity of securing bail, but the attempt had been frustrated by Nimmo.

The indictment is an exceedingly lengthy document full of legal repetitions, which it is not worth while to copy in full, but here are the principal counts:

"Middlesex. The Jurors for our Lord the King upon their oath present that Thomas Armstrong, Mungo Hall, Paul Isaac Rockey, Jacob Brown, William Dukeys, John Townley, William Craig, William Graham, John Lightbody, Joseph Scott, William Lewis,
German Bookbinders' Song

Of 1842.

Who can be more contented,
With life as 'tis presented,
To us who bind the books?
Our work is full of pleasures,
We bind the richest treasures,
And beautify their looks.

Chorus:— Hallo, hallo, hallo, hallo,
'The Binder's life for me.

The plough we move so swiftly,
The hammer wield so deftly,
Upon the beating stone.
In rounding or in backing,
We find no music lacking,
Each has its merry tune.

We scrape and gild and burnish,
Till every edge we furnish
With golden rays of light.
We work most charming headbands,
With blue and white and red strands,
Like ladies' dress bedight.

The backs we draw on lightly,
The corners turn in tightly,
Well sealed with good stout paste.
The sides we neatly cover
With marbled paper over,
To suit the owner's taste.

Half French, half English binding,
In each a pleasure finding,
We ready are to do.
The back we neatly fillet,
Or gild with tools to fill it,
The title letter too.

In carven oak book cases,
And shelves in poorer places,
Or ladies' hands I ween;
Before the Sacred Presence,
At wedding feast, as presents,
Our work is always seen.

The leaders of the nations,
With stars and decorations,
With us their treasures trust.
Where would be all the sages?
The wisdom of the ages
Without us would be dust.

If all our story pages,
As in the by-gone ages,
Were written down on rolls,
The wear, from oft unfolding,
And stains, from students' holding,
Would oft blot out the scrolls.

But since the art of printing—
The world with glory lighting—
Brought books within our reach;
In any form of binding,
How easy 'tis in finding,
What'er the pages teach.

There could be no diffusion
Of knowledge, in confusion,
Of papers loosely laid.
So, colleagues, lift your glasses,
To readers of all classes,
And drink, "Long Live our Trade!"

All hail the craftsman's hand, boys!
All through the Fatherland, boys!
Men still will need our aid.
Long as the world goes round, boys!
Bookbinding can't go down, boys!
All hail our worthy Trade!

From Journal für Buchbinderei.
During the few days following their indictment, the men and their friends did their best to procure bail, and by Monday, May 1st, they succeeded and were all bailed out in parties of six before the Justice at Bow-street. Mr. John Bell, who had given the hour, and Mr. John Withers, landlord of "The Green Man" in Bow-street, appeared as bail for one party of six, amongst whom were Armstrong and Hall, two of McKinlay's men, and Fairbourne, Mr. Bell's finisher, who had been included in the charge, but who continued to work for Mr. Bell until he went up for sentence. The following is a copy of one of the bail papers:

"Middlesex
To all Constables, Headboroughs, and others of His Majesties' officers of the peace for the said County, whom it may concern.

Whereas William Graham hath this day found sufficient sureties before me, Sir Sampson Wright, Knt., one of His Majesties' Justices of the Peace for the said County, for his personal appearance at the next General Sessions of Oyer and Terminer to be holden at the new Sessions House in and for the said County; then and there to plead to a certain indictment for unlawfully conspiring, combining, confederating, and agreeing with divers other persons, being workmen and journeymen in the art, mystery, and manual occupation of bookbinders, to take from, lessen, and diminish one hour in each day from the usual number of hours which they and other workmen and journeymen in the first art were accustomed to work and labour, and to compel their respective masters and employers in the same art to pay them the same prices for each day's work so diminished by one hour, as they had worked the usual number of hours. To which indictment they have not yet appeared or pleaded.

"These are therefore in His Majesties' name to charge and command you and every of you immediately on sight hereof, not to arrest, imprison, molest, or in any otherwise detain the body of the said William Graham for by reason or means of the act above mentioned, and no other. And this shall be to you each and every of you a sufficient warrant. Given under my hand and seal the first day of May in the year of our Lord 1786.

"Sampson Wright." (Seal.)

No time was lost in procuring the best legal advice possible, and the choice of our fathers does them infinite credit. Mr. (afterwards Lord) Erskine—who had already made for himself a reputation by his defence of Lord George Gordon, in 1781—was engaged on a retaining fee of fifteen guineas, and none too soon, for whilst the committee were still in his office he was waited upon by the employers, who wished to retain him for the prosecution; Mr. Garrow (afterwards Sir William and Attorney-General) was retained at a fee of ten guineas; and Mr. Sylvester (afterwards Recorder for the City of London) was retained as Junior Counsel at a fee of five guineas.

Every effort was made to strengthen the Society for the struggle and an address to the public was placarded on the walls and afterwards published in the Morning Herald of May 9th.

"To the Public.—In the Gazetteer of the 6th April, the journeymen bookbinders were under the necessity of presenting the equity of their cause to the judgment of the public. To that respectful tribunal they have appealed, and though their opponents have not controverted their defence, they have, notwithstanding, against reason and humanity, persevered in very arbitrary and unjustifiable measures against them. Above eighty men have been discharged from their employment without a minute's notice, only for counterfeiting a few men in their profession or opinion that thirteen hours per day were sufficient for a day's work in their laborious calling, the stated hours being from six in the morning to eight in the evening, and the usual wages given from 15/- to 18/- a week, and a few men at a guinea. The employers of the above men, after dismissing them from their service, have, with a very wicked and rancorous spirit, followed them to other shops, and had them repeatedly discharged. With vindictive rage, they have forced into the sweet retreats of domestic felicity and deprived their wives from earning a maintenance, as far as their influence extends. Not sufficiently satiated with such barbarity, authority has been given to the magistrates to apprehend twenty-four of the men, some of whom have received the usage above related. Lives the person, after what has been recited in this and the former address, that is not forced to acknowledge that such proceedings are a stigma on human nature.

"It is their desire, at all times, to conduct themselves with submission to their superiors, considering themselves in a subordinate state. Nevertheless, they cannot help reflecting that they are men, and as such, sensible of the oppression they labour under. They hope none will believe them actuated with motives adverse to the interests of their employers, or linked in combination to obstruct their business; they reprobate every idea repugnant to justice, and ground no claim but on principles of equity. Leaving the innocency of their intentions, the uprightness of their cause, with their whole deportment, to the day of decision, they have then not the least doubt but a candid and unbiassed court will see through the artifice and subtility of their late employers.

"Most humbly submitting these sentiments to the consideration of an unprejudiced and benevolent public, they are respectfully informed that the smallest donation, to enable the journeymen bookbinders to
support an expensive suit, will be most thankfully received and gratefully acknowledged at Mr. Winter's, No. 33 Warwick-lane, Newgate-street; Mr. Smith's, staymaker, No. 355, near Exeter Change, Strand; and at Mr. Panchaud's, watchmaker, No. 267 Oxford-street, on the Terrace.

At some time previous to the trial, an effort was made to prevent the employers getting their work done by other than Society men; by trying to induce the women to join in the movement, and Mr. Hall quaintly tells his own adventure in this direction at Mr. McKinlay's shop—where Roger Payne once worked. He says:—"I cannot remember the exact time of striking the women; this I remember, it was on account of them and the apprentices doing books in boards by the booksellers consenting to take them so in place of binding, for a time. I was appointed to strike Black Jock's (a nickname for John McKinlay) women. I went at one o'clock to see Maria, his forewoman, who used to dine in the shop, she being single. I told her that she must inform the other women the injury they were doing us by continuing at work. If they were willing to serve our interest and leave their work, they should receive their wages for doing nothing; if we gained our cause they should be sure of employ and the advantage of the hour also. Coming down, I met Mr. McKinlay on the stairs; 'Well, Mr. Hall, are you coming to work again?' 'Directly, sir, if you will grant the hour.' 'Come in here,' he says, going into his dining-room and setting a large square bottle of Hollands to give me a glass, taking one for himself and pouring out another. Pat, pat, came our ladies down stairs—What is all this about?—I was glad to make my escape. The six or seven women were all subpoenaed against me on the trial. Wm. Graham at Mr. Jackson's was served the same." From the latter remark, it may be inferred that the women were induced to join in the movement in more than one of the shops, and it is highly probable that they did so in all the four originally struck.

In due course a true bill was presented by the Grand Jury and the trial was fixed for Monday, July 3rd, but it would appear that an adjournment was procured, when Mr. Erskine moved for and obtained a writ of certiorari to remove the case to the Court of King's Bench, and the men were ordered "to be brought up before our Lord the King on the morrow of All Souls" (November 3), or before William, Earl of Mansfield." In the meantime the men were exceedingly active; for some time after the commencement of the strike they had been holding weekly general meetings on Monday evenings. Besides these, there were many committee meetings, which were so frequent and protracted that the committee got fairly worn out, and one by one they dropped off until the main part of the business rested upon the shoulders of Messrs. Hall and Graham, both of whom, being amongst those indicted, probably held on because of their own interests being particularly involved, and they were not released from their arduous labours until the trial actually took place.

When that was it seems impossible now exactly to determine, for the account given by Mr. Hall is not reliable. He gives it as six weeks anterior to the date of the sentence, but at that time the Court was not sitting, it being between terms. The Plea Rolls of the King's Bench show that the men were ordered to be tried on November 3rd, which means in that term, but there is no record of any trial during that term. They were actually tried during Hilary Term, 1787, and it was probably on some day in February. There are concurrent circumstances which point to that month, they were to have been tried before Lord Mansfield, but he was taken ill at the end of January, and Judge Ashurst took his place while he went away to Bath for the benefit of his health. But while the Plea Rolls of the King's Bench give the trial as taking place in Hilary Term, no date is given, nor has the final judgment been entered up. It is fairly certain, however, that the case was adjourned from November, and that the trial took place during February, 1787.

During the ten months that this charge of conspiracy had been hanging over their heads, great feelings of bitterness had grown up in the bosoms of the men, especially against their former comrade Lovejoy, who had been one of the foremost in defending the rights and privileges of the trade, and who had even told them that "when he died, they would call him their father, and ever revere his memory." Alas for human consistency! his action as an employer had choked all their reverence to such an extent that some wag had sent him a halter, with a note requesting him to use it. This request he declined to accede to in the manner intended, being no longer friendly to the men, but he brought the halter with him to the Court on the memorable day of the trial, intending to use it when giving evidence. While waiting for the case to come on, he stood outside the Court in the great Westminster Hall in conversation with other employers, when one of the men, Wattie Nimmo—who, although indicted with the others, was, like some more of them, on good terms with the employers—suggested to Hall, as representative of their committee, that Lovejoy had got the halter with him, but that if they would provide him with a bottle of rum or brandy, he would get it for them. A bottle and glass were soon provided, and Nimmo went into the Hall, where he began to treat some of the employers, with Lovejoy amongst them. Squeezing in beside Lovejoy he offered him the bottle and glass, and then carefully annexed the damaging evidence, which he conveyed to the committee, who were sitting in a coffee house close by, where it was burnt and a note immediately sent off to Mr. Erskine, acquainting him of the coup de main.

The trial, Rex v. Armstrong and others, came on for hearing before Judges Ashurst, Buller, and Grose, and a jury. Being a Crown case, the "prosecuting masters" became simply witnesses for the Crown. Very little can be told concerning the trial; the women and several employers besides the prosecutors having been subpoenaed, attended, but very few were examined. Mr. Lovejoy appears to have gone into the box determined to make a great show, but he cut a very poor figure under the searching cross-examination of Mr. Erskine, who confronted him with a number of motions which he had made as a member of "The Friends" Society and which were recorded
in the minute book, and requested him to reconcile the apparent inconsistency of his conduct. When the story of the halter came up, Mr. Erskine asked him to produce it, and Lovejoy, seemingly unaware of his loss, fumbled about first in one pocket and then in another, to the great amusement of the Court, but could not find it. Of course, Mr. Erskine took the opportunity and made a great point of "this cock and bull story," using it to damage the credibility of the witness, and he appears to have been fortunate in making some other "smart checks," which lightened the case against the men, though it did not prevent their ultimate conviction. The statement that the trial was quashed has no more foundation than the memories of a man in his eighty-fourth year concerning things which took place sixty years before. The probability is that the case was so manifestly clear that it was stopped, and that after an able speech by Mr. Erskine—who pleaded what must have sounded in those days like rank heresy, "that the men had a right to combine, and that they could legally do so provided that they did it in a proper manner," though report sayeth not what was the proper manner as conceived by that eminent counsel, who doubtless knew of ways of evading the penalties of the law unknown to common workmen—the men were one and all found guilty, as no doubt they were; probably they gloried in it. At this point the employers thought fit to interfere, through their counsel, on the men's behalf. Evidence is not wanting that they were sick of the whole proceeding and prepared to concede the hour rather than protract the struggle, and the idea of losing their men by having them clapped in gaol for any length of time would be as disastrous to them as the prolongation of the strike by other means, so they began to beg for mercy for their men, which also meant mercy for themselves. The Judges then discharged eighteen of them sine die, ordering the other six to immediately go back to their work or to come up next term for sentence, when they would inflict a severe punishment upon them. These six—Thomas Armstrong, William Craig, William (not Patrick, as sometimes reported owing to his nickname of Pat, he being an Irishman) Lilbourne, William Wood, Thomas Fairbourne, and Alexander Hogg (not Thomas Ashman, as Mr. Hall wrote)—were men working in the principal shops. Fairbourne had never struck at all, but was forced in under the charge of conspiracy by the four employers probably to spite Mr. Bell for having given the hour. No record can be found of where Hogg worked.

[To be continued.]

ANThony Koburger, of Nuremberg, one of the most important printers of the 15th century, bound his books in a very elaborate and distinctive manner. He gave up the use of small dies, and by means of large tools covered the sides with a handsome and harmonious design. He also printed the title of the book...upon the top of the obverse cover.—E. G. D.

FROM a very early time deer and cheveril were used in the monasteries for binding the books themselves and for making cases for the costlier bindings.—E. G. D.

In the handsomely got up "History of Furness" by Joseph Richardson, a copy of which we have received from Mr. Harper Gaythorpe, 12 Harrison-street, Barrow-in-Furness, there is a view of George Fox's chapel at Swarthmoor, an engraving of the carved oak chair in which he used to meditate, and another (which we reproduce) of the Bible presented by the Father of Quakerism, with chain and padlock attached, by which it was secured to the preacher's desk. The two quarto volumes of which "The His-
tory of Furness" consists are profusely illustrated by woodcuts, chromo-lithographed views, steel-plate portraits, and plates of arms richly illuminated, and constitute one of the most complete local histories of the day, Her Majesty the Queen being amongst the subscribers. The work is now almost out of print, very few copies in the original binding remaining.

It was not till the reign of Edward VI. that gold tooing became usual in England, most of the bindings in Henry VIII.'s reign being still blind tooled, though with occasional exceptions.—S. F. P.
The Bookbinders' Trade Societies.

In spite of the threat of a severe sentence if the six men selected did not return to work, they absolutely refused to do so, but, under the advice of Mr. Erskine the society was broken up, in form, that is to say, its operations were suspended during the period that intervened between the trial and sentence, although meetings of the men were secretly held. Of the eighteen who had been discharged by the court, some were already in employment, and the others were not long before they obtained it upon the very terms for which they had struck, for during the strike, some of the Bookbinders, not being able to get their binding done in the usual way, started workshops of their own, engaged the men upon their own terms, and thus assisted them against their late employers, much to the disgust and irritation of the latter gentlemen. Mr. Hall, in his letters, wrote "I was only one week out of work without the hour during the strike," through Mr. Anderson, a bookseller, of Holborn-hill, acting in this manner.

It is impossible not to admire the firmness and constancy of the six who thus calmly awaited the penalties of the law. They knew they were liable to imprisonment, the pillory, or the loss of an ear, yet believing in the righteousness of their cause, they persisted in refusing to obey the judges. They had been working longer hours than most other trades, and in the one nearest to their own, that of printing, the compositors had, by joining together, effected substantial reform in that direction, besides making the basis of a better scale of prices. As shortly before as the close of 1785, out of eight propositions from the compositors, five had been agreed to by their employers, and with such recent proof of the possibility of bettering their own condition before them, they manfully determined to win and never to submit.

Tuesday, May 8th, 1787, was an anxious day for the Binders of London. Once more they assembled in Westminster Hall, and their hostages were brought up at the court of King's Bench, when on the judges learning that they had not obeyed the mandate of the court, five of them were sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Newgate. The following account of the case is taken from The Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser of Friday, May 11th:

"On Tuesday, the journeymen Bookbinders were brought up before the judges of the King's Bench, in order to receive judgment, they having been convicted of conspiracy against their masters, by demanding of them an abridgment of their hours of labour, and leaving their employ when refused. The judges on the bench were Messrs. Ashurst, Buller, and Grosse, who upon this and former occasions, on this cause, acted with the greatest impartiality, and at the same time shewed a proper resentment against such daring attacks upon the liberty of the state and the laws of the constitution. Mr. Justice Ashurst took the lead in the business, made many trite and judicious observations, and very candidly spoke of the lenity of the masters towards their journeymen, their having been twenty-four convicted, and only five of them, at the request of their counsel to the masters, received sentence as hostages for the rest. The sentence passed upon them was two years' imprisonment in Newgate, which the wise and learned judge could not think too severe, in order to check the growing evils of combinations in a trading and free country.

"The Counsel for the prosecution were Messrs. Bearcroft and Minger. Attorney, E. Naylor, Great Newport-street.

"The Counsel for the defendants, Messrs. Erskine and Garrow.

"The masters who were present still possessing the same feelings of humanity, were shocked to think that the misguided zeal of the body at large, should be so severely felt by a few individuals. It is to be hoped that this sentence will be a warning to artificers in general, and prove a means of their avoiding such combinations in future."

The wise and learned judge did "not think the sentence severe," and we are at a loss to understand why the masters should have been "shocked," for the state of feeling at that time regarding the punitive powers of the judges was callous in the extreme. Those were days when the public generally agreed in the policy of avenging crime, and looked unmoved upon batches of 30 to 40 miserable wretches expiating minor offences by death upon an open scaffold at the close of each session. In the previous month of the same year it was recorded that the Sheriff of London had "given orders for the building of twenty-four pillories, as it is expected this term will furnish more tenants for the exalted buildings than ever known in the memory of man." The Pillory and the Gallows were regarded as other public sports, for the people had not awakened to the savagery of their laws, and the debasing effect of such exhibitions. It was still necessary that some should suffer that others might be saved.

The five who were sentenced were all Finishers. Armstrong who had worked at McKinlay's, Craig at Jackson's, Lilbourne at Wingrave's, Fairbourne at Bell's, and Wood at Matthews'. Hogg, who had worked at Lovejoy's was discharged, probably on account of the doubtful evidence given by his employer. Wood had gone into business for himself almost immediately after the commencement of the strike. Fairbourne was working for Mr. Bell up to the day when he was taken to prison. No sooner had "the victims" been conveyed to prison, than the journeymen throughout the trade felt new ardour in the cause. The Society was re-formed in permanence and good earnest, and it was immediately determined to allow each sufferer a guinea per
week, and where there were families to support they were allowed the same; but the difficulty was to obtain supplies for the purpose. Persons were appointed to attend the various shops weekly, and it will astonish many to know that nearly two thousand pounds were thus obtained to support the men and defray the law expenses. Not only did the trade contribute a certain weekly quota, but other trades, stimulated by a fortitude they could not fail to admire, came forward with contributions, the printers being among the most liberal; the women too acted very handsomely, one instance deserving particular notice, that of Mrs. Dartnell, of St. Martin's-court, who gave upwards of fifteen pounds to the fund. Indeed, there seemed to be a struggle among the journeymen and their friends as to who should render the trade best service.

The strike was successful, and after the trial was over even the prosecuting masters gave way to the men's demand, “Mr. McKinlay being first, for which he was well taken to task by the others, especially old Fraser.” Mr. McKinlay had been one of the prominent organizers of the Masters' Association with James Fraser, at the instigation of Lovejoy, and their names were handed down in a satirical production that was at one time quite the rage in Binders' meetings:—“Did you never hear of Black Jock, or Blinking Jamie Fraser, who went round about the town to draw the trade together?” Fraser, who had cast in the eye, was one of the last to see the advisability of giving way, though his experience afterwards led him to draw up “a Plan for Reconciling the Differences between the Masters and Journeymen Bookbinders,” which our illustration represents him as holding. Another determined opponent of the men was James Matthews, “a very respectable bookseller and vendor of medicines, at No. 18 Strand,” according to Timperley, “a lay preacher in a chapel of his own at Whetstone. It is recorded that no man knew better how to make a ‘bishop’ (a compound of wine, water, and roasted oranges) than Mr. Matthews, and at the Trade Sales of the Booksellers, which were then held at taverns, he was accustomed so to make a ‘bishop’ that he was familiarly called by his brethren ‘Bishop’ Matthews. He was the father of the great Charles Matthews the comedian.” Mrs. Matthews was Wood's aunt, but that did not prevent her husband from indulging his “spite” upon her nephew. Further opposition however being useless, he had to conform to the customs of the trade.

It was in the “State Side” of Newgate—“where there were no restrictions as to hours or beer,”—that the wicked binders were incarcerated, and according to old accounts, the rigour of their confinement was mitigated as far as was possible by their many friends and well-wishers, who sent in such presents as legs of mutton, ribs of beef, gallons of beer, and bottles of gin to cheer them in their enforced retirement. Indeed it is recorded that the substantial gifts thus presented to them and their families were so numerous as to admit of more than one of the imprisoned victims saving their weekly allowance. Under such conditions was this great prison managed for those who had friends or money, and we even read of “friendly balls” being indulged in. For those who could enjoy the good things provided by friends, life was rendered tolerable, and they might even sing “Stone walls do not a prison make, Nor iron bars a cage,” but Wood was a man of somewhat different character; he fretted and pined for liberty and the society of his wife, and took his imprisonment very much to heart, keeping aloof from his companions and their festivities. The effect of continual fretting was a weakening of his constitution, so that after about ten months of confinement he caught the jail-fever, or distemper, a disease which, according to Howard, destroyed “more individuals than were publicly killed by the hangman,” and we have already alluded to the enormous numbers who underwent capital punishment. Old chroniclers record many instances of its ravages, and even so late as 1750, on one occasion “the lord mayor, one alderman, two judges, the greater part of the jury, and a number of the spectators, caught the jail distemper” while at the Old Bailey, and died.

After only a few days' illness poor Wood died in the arms of his wife—to whom he had given all his money, —on the 10th of March, 1788.
A demonstration was speedily organized with the assistance of the printers and other trades, and the funeral procession with a “very large concourse of people,” wended its way from Newgate down Ludgate-hill, up Fleet-street and the Strand till opposite the house of Mr. Matthews. There it halted, and the bearers lowered the bier to the ground, while the assembled multitude relieved their feelings with “a deep heavy groan.” Mrs. Matthews, Wood’s aunt, stood looking on from the dining room window, when she was observed to fall;—it was supposed she had fainted at the sight. After a few minutes pause the bearers raised their dead comrade and bore him to the place of interment, a burial-ground adjoining the Wesleyan chapel in Tottenham Court-road.

[To be continued.]

The “Dallastype” Shakspeare.

Most of our readers have no doubt seen the paragraph going “the rounds of the press” to the effect that the authorities of the British Museum have given permission for a facsimile reproduction of the first folio Shakspeare of 1623, and some have no doubt enquired by what “process” the reproduction was to be made. It is now announced that the work is in the capable hands of Mr. Duncan Dallas, of “Dallastint” and “Dallastype” fame, and will be produced by him by the latter process. The printing will be done on hand presses on best English handmade paper, made specially for the work, and there will be two editions—an imperial 8vo. and a foolscap folio, the same size as the original, the latter strictly limited to 250 copies, numbered and signed. The price to subscribers will be five and ten guineas respectively for the small and large paper editions, subscribers paying in advance getting a reduction of one and two guineas on each edition. The work will also be issued in parts at 2s. to subscribers, and 3s. to non-subscribers. It will be completed in 57 parts. On completion, the price of both editions will be considerably advanced.

Messrs. J. E. Garratt & Co., 48 Southampton-row, W.C., are the subscription publishers, of whom detailed prospectuses may be had.

The interest in Shakspeare, far from diminishing, continues to increase with the spread of the English language. Shakspeare is pre-eminently the classic of the English tongue. It is not too much to say that a copy of the 1623 folio is the cornerstone of any collection of English books. Of course the excessive rarity of the book and the prohibitive prices which copies fetch (a perfect copy is now being offered in the catalogue of an eminent bookseller for £1,000), make it for most collectors, students, and librarians, a treasure to be dreamed of rather than possessed.

Students will possess in the “Dallastype” reproduction a specially trustworthy book, presenting for a few pounds every essential point in the costly original, except the rarity. The complete work will make a handsome and valuable addition to a library, and its publication is being looked forward to with considerable interest on both sides of the Atlantic, and in all countries where the immortal bard is known and studied.

Mr. Dallas has kindly lent us the facsimile reproduction of the first page of The Tempest, which is given on next page.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of The British Bookmaker.

Dear Mr. Editor,—In your “Workshop Whispers” Will-o’-the-Wisp mentions our meeting at “The Old London Coffee Tavern,” at which the wages of the “Women” were under consideration. Will you allow me to tell him that it was proposed and carried unanimously that 10 per cent. be added to their bills, so that it will cover every item.

Next, to the thanks that he says is due to me, it is certain that a meeting like that must be called by someone, and Mr. Pavely, in conjunction with myself, called it, but the injustice of not allowing the women to share in the benefit of the eight hours was so apparent that I feel sure other employers would soon have stepped forward, and it is with pleasure I can say that the proposition had only to be made, when it was accepted without any discussion by the whole of the employers present, so the thanks must be distributed amongst them. What has given us great pleasure is the fact that the Cloth Binders have followed in the same direction.

Now in reference to a matter more personal to myself (after thanking Will-o’-the-Wisp for the kind manner he speaks of me), I should like to clear the matter up in reference to the Book-edge Gilding. Having found, many years ago, a great difficulty in getting the gilding done up to time, on the score of distance from the city, I resolved to have it done indoors, and when a few months ago they obtained the eight hours, I had simply the choice of two things, viz.: close that part of the “works,” or give the eight hours; perhaps unwisely, I determined on the latter, for it has placed me in an unfortunate position.

It is perhaps in the knowledge of your readers (certainly Will-o’-the-Wisp) that the compliment was paid of electing me one of the nine representatives of the employers who had to deal with, and hold conferences with, nine of the employees (by the way, that compliment caused me to attend, I think, 23 meetings), and, as one of them, I am personally pledged not to give the eight hours to the Binders before January next. So I have the discomfort of knowing that the Gilders pass through one binding shop at 6-30, their day’s work ended, a constant reminder that the binders are not sharing the same privilege. The first few weeks the Gilders had the eight hours they were paid at 12 o’clock, but we found it not good policy to make two pay times, and they were told that in future they would have to complete their 48 hours by one o’clock on Saturday, so that is their great hardship. One would almost think that they had to wait from 12 o’clock to one o’clock for their money, but such is not the case (it is not I that is establishing a week of 49 hours), and all they have to do is to exercise a little patience, when we shall all be on the same footing, otherwise the Gilders must be sent out.

Thanking you in anticipation of insertion,

I remain, yours truly, Frank E. Bailey.
Very shortly after the death of Wood, the attention of Sir Matthew Bloxam, the Sheriff, was drawn to the unfortunate binders who still remained in Newgate, by his hairdresser, a Mr. Trueman, who was acquainted with both Armstrong and Fairbourne and whose sympathy had been especially aroused on the news of Wood's death. Sir Matthew's interest was probably more easily excited through his connection with the trade, being a partner in the firm of Messrs. Fourdrinier, Bloxam & Co., stationers, of Lombard-street, so that on his next visit to the prison he saw the men, and advised them to get a petition drawn up and signed by as many respectable people as possible, and have it sent on to him, when he would use his best influence on their behalf. This was done, and Sir Matthew presented the petition to Lord Sydney, then Secretary of State, requesting the release of the men. It would appear, however, that Lord Sydney had laid the petition aside and forgotten it, at least no further notice was taken of it, until, after a few weeks' delay, the Sheriff again visited the prison, when he was surprised to find the men still in durance vile. He thereupon called for a hackney coach and went directly to the office of the Secretary of State, and so effectively pleaded the men's cause that a free pardon was granted them; nor did his kindness end there, for he paid from his own pocket the gaol fees demanded upon their release.

It is probable that the pardon came so unexpectedly that there was no time to organise a demonstration, as had been done in connection with Wood's funeral: indeed, it is fairly certain that it was sent direct to Sir Matthew Bloxam, who took it to the prison in person, and thus had the opportunity of shewing his warm-hearted interest in the men's welfare by the payment of the gaol fees. Some one, however, must have gained an inkling of what was coming, for the men left Newgate on Friday, June 28th, 1788, accompanied in the coach "by two or three friends," with whom they drove to the "Cheshire Cheese," in Surrey-street, Strand—the house where the idea of forming a Society had been first mooted, and where many of the binders still met for a "social pint of porter." The news of their release ran through the trade like wild-fire, and in the evening the victims and some of their friends met at supper at "The Virginia Plant," Clerkenwell Green. In Mr. Robert Pratt's "Narrative of the Rise and Progress of the Bookbinders' Society," it is recorded that "when our friends were restored to the bosoms of their families, the emotions of the journeymen at this unexpected release may be felt, but cannot be described; their joy knew no bounds, and in this temper of mind they desired that the event should be celebrated by an annual dinner." This anniversary dinner was first held in 1790, and as it became necessary that the accounts of the members should be made up, and the money—so much from each—set apart for the celebration, the year of the Society was declared to commence on the June meeting night, which continued until a very recent date.

As soon as convenient after their liberation, the "victims" waited upon their fellow craftsmen for the purpose of returning thanks for the attentions which had been paid them during their confinement. They were accompanied about town in coaches, and introduced at the several shops by four or five respected members of the trade; amongst other places thus visited was the binding shop in Buckingham Palace. The next thing was to get the men work, which seems to have been speedily obtained, even from the "prosecuting masters." In Mr. T. J. Dunning's "Some Account of the London Consolidated Society of Bookbinders," he says—"At the liberation of the four who remained, they were each provided with a sum of money to enable them, if they thought fit, to go into business—as it was not likely that they would obtain employment in London as journeymen—which they did, except Mr. Lilburn, who went into the country." This statement, however, is not borne out by other evidence. That a sum of money was granted to each man is most likely; a surplus still remained of the fund which was raised for the support of the men and their families, and this was probably equally divided, but only Mr. Craig went into business at that time, and then, "by the assistance of some friends," Armstrong—"who was one of the best finishers in the trade—went back to work for Mr. McKinlay, and afterwards worked for Dartnell's, in St. Martin's-court; he did not go into business until December, 1795," Fairbourne probably went back to Bell's—at any rate, he remained a journeyman until his death, in 1800, when the Society voted a sum of money in aid of his funeral expenses. Lilbourne became foreman to Mr. Cooper, of Charing Cross, immediately after his release, and worked in London up till 1794, after which his record ceases, and it has been supposed that he either left London or died about the end of that year.

As soon as the Societies had begun to settle down after the exciting events of the past two years, the parent Society, "The Friends," resolved to perpetuate the memories of the victims by having their portraits painted. For this purpose the artist Munro, "a very excellent portrait painter," was engaged, and, for the sum of £10 10s., painted the four upon small oval ivory tablets, about the size of a couple of crown pieces.

"These tablets were inserted in gilt metal frames, about an inch in breadth, with some sparkling substance—glass or mock brilliants—adhering thereto, whilst four projecting star-like rays made them assume the diamond shape. They were attached to, or slung on richly-embroidered purple belts or scarfs, about four inches broad, with gold or silk lace intertwined. Though called in derision 'horse-collars,' their proper designation was 'regalia,' and they were worn on
lodge nights and feast days by the president, vice-pre- 
president, a committee-man, and the secretary of the 
Lodge." Unfortunately, these portraits have long 
since disappeared, and mysteriously so; a number 
of versions have been given of the cause of their 
disappearance, but nothing more is known than that 
these precious relics have been lost to the Societies.

So far, this History of the Trade Societies has been 
but little more than an account of the strike of 1786, 
for information upon the subject of the Society and its 
rules is not obtainable. The whole of its proceedings 
as a Society were secret, and there was a fascinating 
element in its secrecy similar to that of Freemasonry, 
which the men of those days were not unwilling to 
copy in laying the foundations of their Societies, 
whether for benefit or trade purposes. That the 
Society was reformed in its three branches after the 
conviction of the men is almost certain, in spite of 
the statement in the preamble to the 1794 edition of 
the laws, that "by some fatal error . . . the trade was 
disbanded," for we have the fact of Mr. Faulkner 
joining the second Society or Lodge in 1789, the 
anniversary dinner of 1799, and the forming of a 
fourth Lodge in 1792-3. The earliest document which 
gives any light upon the laws and customs of the 
Societies was copied from a MS. without date by the 
late Mr. Jaffray, who says that "there can be little 
doubt that these were the original laws of the Societies 
in 1793," and if so, it may be safely presumed that 
they were little different from the original articles by 
which the first society called "The Friends" was 
governed.

The following was the 

CEREMONY OF MAKING.

"The Friend proposed being below stairs, the pro-
poser shall conduct him to the door, giving notice with 
three distinct knocks, answered by the Friendly Sire 
within, with the Friends upstanding and uncovered. 
The F.S. shall then call out—'Conduct the Friend in.'

"The Secretary being at the door, wearing a purple 
sash, with a flaming gilt heart attached thereto, and 
robe, the person proposed repeating the following 
words:—

'True generous friendship no cold medium knows,
But with one love and one resentment glows.'

Then introducing him to the Friendly Sire, saying as 
follows:—'I present to you a Friend.' The Friendly 
Sire then proceeds to give the following notice:—'As 
you have now the honour of being admitted a member 
of this our Friendly Society, I shall beg leave to offer 
you a few instructions, your attention to which will 
not only render to yourself much happiness, but to 
this Society great honour. Let no temptation lure 
you, nor provocation excite you to injure any man, in 
word or deed, especially those of this Society. Love 
and esteem the members thereof; and if, through the 
casualty of life, any one should stand in need of your 
assistance, grant it to him with cheerfulness and 
freedom. Advise with friendship, reprove with candour, 
and whatsoever you promise be sure to perform. In 
the way of your profession, attempt not to wound the 
fame of another, but contribute as much as lies in 
your power to his welfare and reputation. These 
qualifications will not only make you happy in yourself, 
but an ornament to this or any other Society to which 
you may belong. As the oak which now spreadeth its 
branches towards the heavens was once but an acorn 
in the bowels of the earth, so shall this Society by our 
good conduct flourish, and be esteemed until time 
shall be no more.' The Friendly Sire shall then take 
the proposed Friend by the right hand, saying, 'Sir, 
I hail you by the sacred name of Friend—

And may that dear—that ever honoured name—
Revive to life the near extinguished flame;
Make every source of happiness to flow,
And our fond hearts with sacred transports glow.
When God with pity saw the sons of men
Oppressed with numerous ills and pain,
Friendship and Love—twin-born celestial pair—
Sent down to lavish all their bounties here.
This gift divine, the Almighty hand bestows
To aid our joys and dissipate our woes;
To ease the bosom that is deep distress'd
And raise the transport of a joyous breast;
To cherish virtue and to raise the mind
To nobler views and pleasures more refined;
To teach us how our follies we may cure,
Enjoy life's blessings and its ills endure.
For nought like converse, with some chosen friend,
Can cheer the mind, the sovereign balm extend;
To chase the solitary hours away.
And gild the bosom with a cheerful ray.
Did such connections oft the cares engage,
Of this unthinking, this degenerate age.
Wiser and better soon would mankind grow,
And friendship ever flourish here below.'

The new made member shall then be welcomed by 
every Friend taking him by the hand, saying, 'I hail 
you by the sacred name of Friend.'

[To be continued.]"
The earliest known laws, mentioned in last month's issue, must have been a revised code adopted by the Lodges during the year 1793, in order to meet the requirements of an additional Lodge founded in that year. Prior to that date it was the rule that Lodges should be composed of not more than fifty, but as the members had been actively organizing, some of the Lodges became overfilled; this happened in Lodge II., held at the "Jolly Butchers," in Warwick-lane, where most of the city men met—they were consequently nicknamed "Butchers"—when Mr. Thos. W. Faulkner began, about 1792, to establish a new Lodge. With the assistance of Mr. D. Dobell, this became an accomplished fact on the night of July 1st, 1793, when forty-six founders registered their names on the books of Lodge IV., at the "Cheshire Cheese," Chapter House-court, St. Paul's Churchyard. Shortly afterwards it was removed to the "George," in Little Drury-lane, where it became the next in importance to Lodge I. —"The Dons,"—being the general House of Call for the trade, and meeting-place for the Trade Committees; owing to the respectability of its members, who at that time wore knee breeches and white stockings, it was known as "The White Stocking Lodge." The members of Lodge III. were known as "The Clean Shirt Boys," because "few of them could boast of the possession of one on Monday mornings," but their numbers were not so strong as those of other Lodges.

In order to understand the constitution of the Society—which was evidently only a blind—appended is the full text of the

**ARTICLES.**

"Art. 1.—The business of the Society shall be regulated by three officers, elected by ballot. The first bearing the title of Friendly Sire, the second that of Friend Secretary, and the third that of Friend Assistant-Secretary. The officers elected for the first two quarters after the Anniversary, to fill the office fourteen weeks, the last two quarters, twelve weeks.

N.B.—The past Friendly to be deemed an officer for the instruction of new ones. He is likewise to keep a book to receive fines and entries, and keep a clear account thereof. The Secretary is to keep proper minutes of each night's meeting. The Assistant-Secretary to receive each night's payments.

"Art. 2.—Any member present refusing to stand when elected, 'If out of office six months,' or not having paid his fine within that time, shall be fined one shilling.

"Art. 3.—That the officers shall attend, and be entrusted with their respective Regalias, at half-past eight o'clock, on default thereof to be fined one shilling, 'except they send their key and a proper apology.' Should any officer be absent, the Friendly Sire shall have full power to nominate whom he pleased to fill the office for that night. On refusal, the Friend appointed shall be fined one shilling, exclusive of any other article. N.B.—The Lodge to close precisely at eleven o'clock, unless business requires it longer.

"Art. 4.—That proper respect shall be paid to the Chair, any Friend refusing to obey the F. S. when called to order, or otherwise insulting him in Lodge hours, or insulting any member individually, or the members in general, shall be fined one shilling.

"Art. 5.—That this Society shall meet every Monday fortnight, each member to pay fourpence to be spent, and fourpence towards an Anniversary Dinner, to be held on the 28th of June. Should the 28th fall upon a Sunday, it shall then be kept on the Saturday prior. The stewards for conducting it shall be chosen by ballot. If they decline the office when chosen, to be fined two shillings and sixpence. No person to receive a dinner ticket unless he is full on the book on the night the tickets are issued, and of which the F. S. is to give due notice on the night prior, and no tickets transferable.

"Art. 6.—Any member who does not appear on the night prior to the quarterly night, he shall be summoned by the Secretary to clear his book on the quarterly night, and for which the Secretary shall receive twopence for each summons, and for each neglect he shall be fined sixpence.

"Art. 7.—Any person wishing to become a member of this Society, must be proposed one night before he can be admitted, and if his character appears respectable, he may then be balloted for, and made in the usual form, by the payment of five shillings. The time of payment not to exceed three months from the date of entry. All arrears of the feast-money to be paid, and the proposer to pay one shilling if the proposed does not come forward.

"Art. 8.—No member shall be entitled to vote on the night of his admission; nor any person again received, who does not take leave 'personally, or by proxy,' delivered to the Secretary of the Society, on the first meeting night after he leaves the town, without being entered on the books as a new member.

"Art. 9.—That every member shall attend on the night of the election, or send his ballot, intimating the Friends he wishes to fill the respective offices, in default thereof to fine one shilling, and for not clearing the book sixpence, and if not cleared on the night after the quarter he shall be expelled.

"Art. 10.—Notice of the election night to be given in the Lodge by the F. S. on the night prior.

"Art. 11.—All motions of a general nature to be made on the night following the election night, and given in writing to the F. S., and on no other night. Any Friend making use of illiberal language, or insinuating anything prejudicial to the character of a brother member, without sufficient proof, shall, on conviction thereof, be fined, or expelled, as the majority think the case may require.
"Art. 12.—That each Lodge be limited to the
number of fifty. The entrance-money to be equally
divided in the four Lodges by the report of the Secre-
taries' entry books once a quarter. Should the Lodges
amount to more than fifty, each Lodge in rotation
shall admit one. Any member who is transferred
from one Lodge to another, shall give information
and take honourable leave prior to joining another, in
order that the person coming from either of the four
Lodges, with evidence to give or receive, may transfer
their feast-money at the same time. No member to
take leave but on a quarterly night.

"Art. 13.—The F.S. shall not suffer any profane
language to be used without a severe reprimand for
such depravity of conduct. Any member entering the
Lodge-room disguised in liquor, and being trouble-
some, the F.S. shall order him to withdraw, in order
that moderation, decency, and good sense be the
leading features of each night's meeting.

"Art. 14.—That no member shall plead ignorance
of the above articles, they shall be read every quarterly
night immediately following the minutes, and all fines
to go to the box—

"God Save the King."

A few old minutes which still remain, on loose
various sized sheets of paper, shew the usual order
of conducting the business of the Lodges, while from
other sources the harmonious character of the after
proceedings are drawn. At half-past eight the
Friendly Sire and other officers were invested with
their regalias, and having taken their places, the
Lodge was opened by the F.S. calling "Attention."
The minutes of the previous meeting were then read,
new members admitted, trade business discussed,
defaulting members erased, loans or gifts to other
trades granted, and loans to members granted upon
the security of two other members. If there was no
other business the F.S. would then say, "Friends,
there being no other business before the Chair, I
declare the Lodge closed. We will now proceed to
harmony." Jugs of porter were then brought in and
circulated, while tobacco was served from underneath
the table, where it was usually kept in the Vice
President's hat, both being paid for by the murrpences
contributed by the members. Bowls of negus or
punch were also frequent after the conclusion of the
business in prosperous times, and it was common for
members taking honourable leave to give five shillings
or more for the others to drink their health, on which
occasion the Lodge usually added a like amount. At
eleven o'clock the proceedings ended, a list of those
present being taken and placed upon the minutes,
which usually wound up with remarks such as the
following: "There being no other business, the
remainder of the night was spent with the greatest
friendship, and at eleven o'clock the Lodge closed";
"After spending an agreeable evening, the Lodge
closed in good harmony"; "No other business of
importance occurred; the Lodge closed with that
degree of conviviality, harmony, and good order for
which the members of Lodge I. have hitherto been
distinguished." No wonder the members of Lodge I.
were called "The Dons"!

Looking carefully through the foregoing "Articles,"
we find there is no intimation of any general body
such as a Trade Committee, or payments to men out
of work, or of funds for general trade purposes; the
whole business set forth indicates a friendly meeting
only, with the main object of an anniversary dinner;
and in the few remaining minutes of the meetings
there are but few and slight indications of any business
affecting the working of the trade. But the fines
were plentiful enough, and as there is no direction as
to their use after they had gone "to the box," we may
fairly assume that "the box" was the war chest of the
trade, and the fines made up a fund from which all
expenses incurred for trade purposes were drawn.
That there were committees from the Amalgamated
Lodges is also certain from existing minutes, and
doubtlessly upon trade matters, for in one we read
that "Friend Tomlinson, as secy., to the meeting
of officers of the four Lodges (held at the George
Little Drury lane) read the resolutions of the meeting."
The laws forbidding trade combinations account for
these otherwise strange omissions, but did not prevent
the active though secret work of organisation and
discussion of trade grievances, which had become
very plentiful. The trade was overrun with appren-
tices, a serious sub-division of labour had been
commenced that threatened the livings of men who
had hitherto been used to perform the whole of the
work, and, what was almost as fatal to their well-being,
the number of small master-men increased rapidly,
and with them the evil of assistance by their wives
and children in times of brisk trade, instead of that
of properly qualified workmen. Under these cir-
stances, towards the close of 1793 the trade was
again in a state of ferment, not because the trade
was slack and employment scarce—fortunately, few
of those who could and would work were unemployed,
indeed, it was no uncommon occurrence for employers
to give a man half-a-guinea to induce him to go to
work. "There had been a wonderful increase in
business that had kept pace with the augmentation
of members," and the time was judged to be favourable
for a determined effort to put down the abuses
which had grown up during the partial prostration
which followed the strike of 1786.

Since that time the masters' Society had been
dissolved, but late in the year 1793 or very early in
1794 it was re-formed and a Committee appointed
to prepare a new and increased list of prices for binding
to be submitted to the booksellers and publishers.
This was just the opportunity that the men needed,
and it was seized upon by the leading spirits of the
time, to the ultimate advantage of the trade.

"To be continued."

A two hundred and eighty pound weight account
book that could safely be left out over night has
recently been completed by E. J. Decker, of Chicago.
It is claimed to be the largest book ever made. It is
bound in full canvas back, and the leaves are of rope
Manilla, one ream of paper being used. The covers
weigh fifty pounds. It has two handsome nickel-plated
padlocks secured by safety chains, as a preventive
of curious eyes probing its secrets.
About the middle of February in the year 1794, the first movement towards a further reduction of the hours of labour was made in a conversation between Mr. Thomas W. Faulkner and Mr. Burnett, two of the members of Lodge IV. Mr. Faulkner had learnt from three of the employers, Messrs. J. Millar, Crawford, and J. Anderson, that the Masters' Society had been reformed with the intention of a general rise of prices for their work, and he suggested that it was a favourable opportunity to obtain a reduction of one hour per day for the journeymen. Burnett agreed with the idea and promised his assistance. Faulkner next consulted Mr. T. Armstrong, one of the victims of 1786-7, but his opinion was "however much I wish it, I can give you no hope." Nothing daunted, however, Faulkner and Burnett took an early opportunity of addressing their Lodge upon the question, and succeeded not only in obtaining its approval, but the appointment of a committee of three, consisting of Faulkner, Burnett, and Gould, with the understanding that the other Lodges should be invited to co-operate with them. Mr. Faulkner then wrote the other Lodges, who responded to the call by each appointing three representatives, making in all a committee of twelve, who met for the first time early in March at the "George," in Little Drury-lane, when Mr. Faulkner was elected president. The first question of importance was the mode of proceeding. Faulkner's advice, according to his own account of the movement, was "to open a correspondence with the employers, and then act according to circumstances." This met with the approbation of the committee, and Faulkner wrote "congratulating them upon the occasion, and wishing them success. This had the desired effect. We received an answer thanking us for our good wishes and expressing their expectation of receiving an advance of price at no distant period. I then wrote again to them expressing our satisfaction, at the same time hoping that on such an occasion somewhat would be done for the benefit of the journeymen—stating that previous to a final arrangement with the booksellers for prices, it was but just that they should be acquainted with our desires. I wrote the masters several times, and about the middle of April was informed that they had a plan for the benefit of the men. I wrote and requested to be put in possession of their plan. It was this: when a man of good character died, his widow should receive assistance from the masters. This I objected to immediately, observing that merit should be rewarded whilst it could be enjoyed; and gave notice that one hour's reduction from our daily labour was what we expected." A conference was requested by the masters' committee and agreed to, when the four deemed most efficient—Faulkner, Burnett, Poole, and Gould—were appointed to meet the employers and negotiate with them on behalf of the trade. They met at the "Cheshire Cheese" by St. Dunstan's, on May 1st, Faulkner taking the leading part for the men, and Mr. J. Tuck, president of the Masters' Society, for the employers, but no decision was come to upon the question of reduced time, and the meeting was adjourned upon the understanding that the proceedings should be kept secret on both sides. Faulkner complained that this compact was not adhered to by the employers, for on the same evening, after the conference, they reported the whole case to their Society. Some general remarks of his thus reported were taken as applying to Mr. Lewis, his employer, and in consequence a resolution was passed that no further communication with the men's committee should take place while Faulkner remained a member thereof. His complaint seems an unreasonable one, except in so far as it was justifiable on account of having been falsely reported, for however much it may have been advisable on the men's part to abstain from giving particulars of a conference where nothing was determined, but where they had nothing to give away or lose,—on the other hand it was absolutely necessary that the sub-committee should inform their full body what the men desired and the reasons for the request. But Mr. Faulkner, in spite of the good services he rendered the trade, was an autocrat who could understand no side other than his own, and who would brook no opposition from whatever source.

The sudden break-down of the negotiations brought matters to a climax, for the men were determined to force their demand, and the employers, expecting a
struggle, bound themselves, under an agreement imposing a penalty of £50, not to give the hour. A meeting of the whole trade was called without delay, and held at the "Robin Hood," New-street-square. After the position had been explained, J. Faulkner—brother of the leader of the movement—rose and declared that he should ask his employer for the hour on the following Saturday. The idea was quickly taken up by one and another, who rose and expressed their intentions in the same form, until the whole meeting had decided, without any advice from the committee, upon that line of action. The chairman even warned those present that "it was not the advice from the chair, but every man, individually, had a right to stipulate upon what terms he would sell his labour and abilities to another." On the following Saturday the hour was everywhere asked for, but without success, the general answer being "I will consider it"; Faulkner was discharged, Mr. Lewis being incensed against him for his remarks at the conference, but he was the only man who suffered in consequence of this action.

After a short pause, during which everything looked very discouraging, Faulkner conceived the idea of starting a co-operative bindery and appealing to the publishers for work, but the Society was without any appreciable amount of funds, there being only a little more than £20 in hand between the four Lodges. In order to carry out his plan, Faulkner applied to a friend, Mr. Shepherd, a tax collector, of Chiswell-street, who agreed to advance the money necessary on the security of Mr. Faulkner, and an order was at once given to Mullins the press maker for standing-presses and thirty lying-presses, upon the condition that it was not to be proceeded with until after the last day of May, when, if the hour was granted, the order might be cancelled. The news of this movement was industriously circulated, and came upon the employers just as they received the publishers' reply to their own demand, which was, that rather than pay any additional price for their work, they would take on men and have it all done indoors. This double difficulty created no little consternation in their ranks; to be foiled in the effort for an advance of prices was bad enough, but the threatened loss of work was more serious, and another meeting was called to take into consideration this new aspect of the question. A compromise with the men was suggested, with the rescinding of the resolution of non-intercourse; a course strongly opposed by Lovejoy, the former companion of "The Friends" and instigator of the strike in 1786—now known amongst the journeymen as "The Tyrant"—but it was nevertheless carried, and an invitation was sent to the men's committee to meet Mr. Tuck and Mr. Wingrave at Lovell's-court, Paternoster-row, where Mr. Tuck carried on business. At this juncture Mr. Gould retired from the men's committee, and Mr. D. Dobell, who worked for Lovejoy, was appointed in his place. The meeting resulted in formulating the basis of an agreement that the employers on their part would give the hour on the Michaelmas day next ensuing, provided that the men would refuse to work for any employer who did not belong to the Masters' Society; the employers to contribute towards any expenses incurred through drawing men out to enforce this agreement.

A general meeting of the men was called in June, at the "One Tun," Strand, when the committee's agreement was ratified, though not without considerable dissatisfaction being expressed by those who worked for binders unconnected with the Masters' Society; of these malcontents Mr. Faulkner made short work, but a proviso was added to the agreement allowing those booksellers who had been accustomed to have their binding done indoors, to retain their men. The committee was then reappointed to further negotiate with the employers for the formation of articles which should give binding effect to the propositions in both Societies.

Mr. Faulkner's account of the subsequent proceedings is as follows: "In less than a month after the hour was given (that is, promised, for it did not come into operation till September 29th, I made proposals to the masters for their consideration, for the future regulation of the trade. They were speedily adopted and were as follows: That no society man should work for an underworking master—that no master should employ a non-society man—that subsistence money should be allowed to men out of employ—that men should be struck from underworking masters upon complaint being made to me by the master appointed to transact the secret business of the trade—that men should be struck from work if refused the hour [this applied to non-society masters only]—and lastly, that the masters should pay two thirds of the expenses. These measures being agreed to gave me great satisfaction, and encouraged me to proceed in an endeavour to prevent an undue number of apprentices; for at that early period I foresaw that the bible binders would injure the trade in a few years. It was an attempt that required caution, for it was not to the interest of the trade to differ with the masters who had so recently acted honourably by us. I therefore determined to prevent this in the first instance, by checking the system away from the metropolis. For this purpose I corresponded with the trade, and sent printed circulars to every city and market town in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, stating that there was a redundancy of journeymen, and that, in consequence, only four could be permitted to come to London yearly informing them at the same time that should they not pay the necessary attention to the notice, they could not obtain employment. I had the power, and in gross instances made use of it. If the men had been true, and faithfully kept their promise, I think now that in a great degree success would have attended my endeavours in an attempt to persuade the London masters to assist in putting a stop to a practice that sooner or later must be injurious to all connected with the trade."

The foregoing propositions laid before the Masters' Society by Mr. Faulkner were agreed to as nearly as possible, and formed the basis of a plan of conjoint action. One thing should be here noted: previously, no subsistence money, or out-of-work pay had ever been granted by the Lodges, support only being given to those who were called out or locked out on some
trade dispute, when a levy was imposed on the members. Under this joint agreement men out of work were to receive six shillings per week, towards which the associated employers were to pay three shillings and sixpence; while those called out to enforce this agreement were to receive fifteen shillings, of which the employers were to give ten shillings. A new code of laws regulating both Societies was at once framed, and as those for the men contemplated a rigid exclusion of non-society men, a working ticket was sketched out for the purpose of distinguishing those entitled by apprenticeship to exercise the craft from others. Who was responsible for the design is not clear, but Mr. Faulkner suggested the motto United to support but not combined to injure," which has ever since been the motto of the societies. The plate was engraved by Mr. Timbury; the size of the card was 5 x 3½ inches, and our illustration is a reduced facsimile.

[To be continued.]

Foreign Notes.

The difficulties which the German progressives have to contend with are illustrated by the following story:—Herr Rohmann, a small master-bookbinder of Berlin, was one of the most forward of the social democrats and a leader of no small standing, but he offended another leading man, Herr Singer, who had been entrusted with 3,000 marks by a comrade, since dead, by demanding an account of it. Rohmann was subsequently elected by his comrades editor of the Berlin Volkshalldates, but on the Saturday previous to taking the editorial chair a warning was published in the Zurich Sozial Demorat, sent from an internal detective association, known as the "Iron Mask," to the effect that Rohmann was a police spy. His grief at the disgrace was so great that within a month his hair became snow white; he lost his business, and had to walk from Berlin to Hamburg, where he begged the necessary travelling expenses and went to England. Now the plot is all found out, and everyone knows that he was no police spy, but that the cruel slander was only circulated to get rid of a troublesome reminder.—Journal für Buchbinderei.

The Illustrirte Zeitung für Buchbinderei devotes a special article to "The Sense of Decorum in Trade." It says:—"We have a duty to perform and bread to win for our families, and we lose no self-respect in seeking for work, nor in refusing that which we cannot do. But we do lose self-respect if we take work which we cannot do and then turn out a bad job, or at lower than fair prices, and then because the price will not allow for the materials required, scamp the work and put it into any rubbish. It is through this bad practice that it has become a common saying 'don't trust the bookbinder because he is generally short of money.' Directly my neighbour cuts down his price I think mine must come down. This is a very dangerous practice, because I do not know what may be the reason for my neighbour's low prices. Perhaps he wants to give up business, and must sell at any price; yet why should I adopt his throwing-away policy and follow in his downward course? I should gain nothing, only further injure the trade and lead the public astray. We are often asked 'why can't you work as cheaply as so-and-so in the next street? you do not pay more for material than he does.' 'Well,' someone replies, 'his work is not solid nor good, and he does not pay for his materials!' But that is not decent; is it not better to say: 'there must be a difference in the quality of the work, for my colleague can no more afford to give away, than myself; but if you think it cheaper, you had better go there?' By such an answer you raise the reputation of the trade, save your own self-respect, and your customer buys of you just the same as ever.'

Pope Leo's recent acquisition of the literary relics of the famous Borgeshe family (for 250,000 francs) is of historic importance. The codices of the Vatican archives date from the time of Sixtus IV., or very little earlier, for the library of Boniface VIII. was destroyed by fire, and the collection made by the popes at Avignon was lost. It is this missing period which is now filled by 400 codices containing the history of the papacy during the Avignon period, that has been found in the Borgeshe archives. It will be arranged in the Vatican library by Father Cozza.—Galtignani's Messenger.

Had the German printers' strike been successful, it was expected that the bookbinders would have followed suit in the autumn, and ever since, the bookbinder employers have been thinking how best to establish a union amongst themselves similar to that of the printer employers. We now learn from the Allgemeiner Anzeiger fur Buchbinderei that the first step has been taken by one of the largest employers in Stuttgart, who, during the gossips which ensued after a meeting of the present bookbinders' union, made some definite proposals on the subject.

Constantinople has fifty newspapers; nineteen of them are daily, five semi-weekly, seventeen weekly, three semi-monthly, six monthly. In nationality five are Turkish, seven Armenian, eight Greek, six French, two French and English, one Italian, two Hebrew, two Bulgarian, one Arabian, one Persian, one German.

The sixth International Exhibition of Art will be held at Munich, Bavaria, from June 1st to November 1st, 1892. It will be opened by Prince Luitpold, the Regent, the Künstler Verein of that city having the management. Particulars of Karl Albert Bauer, secretary of the central committee.

The cashier of the Berlin Bookbinders' Trade Union, Herr Krüger, has stolen the whole of the funds, amounting to upwards of 1,000 marks, and falsified the Society's accounts. He was entrusted with 900 marks to pay over to the German printers' strike fund, but only paid in 60 marks.

A congress of the German trade unions will take place on the 14th of March at Halberstadt. The principal task of this congress will be to devise a form of organisation in which the forces of the organised German workmen will be most powerfully concentrated.

An agricultural and industrial exhibition will be held in Philippopolis from August 2nd till the end of October, 1892, in which bookbinding, printing, and photography will be represented. Particulars may be had of the commissioners of the Bulgarian Exhibition, Sofia.
The New Code of Laws submitted to and adopted by a General Meeting of the four Lodges was as follows:—

ARTICLES FOR THE REGULATION OF MEMBERS IN SOCIETY.—Indented, made, and agreed upon this seventh day of July, in the Thirty-fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c., and in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-four. Between the several persons whose Hands are hereunto subscribed, being denominated The United Friendly Society of Journeymen Bookbinders. London: Printed in the year of our Lord, 1794.

INTRODUCTION.—Friends: Your Committee being appointed to consider the State of the Trade respecting the journeymen, think it a duty incumbent upon them to lay before you the following remarks, as they will evince the necessity of a firm and united system being adopted to eradicate the evils at present existing, and prevent such encroachments in future.

To trace the evils from their source, we must call your attention to the last dispute between men and masters; wherein you will find, however beneficial the result was, the seeds of the present trouble was then sown, and having had time to mature, will require all that fortitude and spirit you are so justly celebrated for, to eradicate.

In all contests of a public nature, the parties concerned are generally led from one extreme to another, till at last the most violent methods are resorted to, and amongst the most inhuman acts of cruelty in the pride of one or spirit of the other, will submit. This, we have to deplore, was the case in the last disturbance. Some masters made use of every artifice to draw men from the country; some took a number of apprentices; and others learners and beaters, which still remain in the Trade, to the material injury of the journeymen in general.

To counteract those projects, the men that were capable commenced business on the best terms they could, and, consequently, laid the foundation of a redundancy of masters. Fortunately, for the Trade in general, the increase of business has kept pace with the augmentation of population, otherwise the situation of many individuals at the present crisis; but, my friends, let us not depend upon the same support in future, as our Trade, like all others, will some day arrive at the summit of prosperity, and then we may be punished for our present timidity.

On the conclusion of that business, by some fatal effect of which we are all equally guilty, the Trade was disband, its welfare and interests left to blind chance, when by a timely interference the evil might have been nipt in its bud, and a vast deal of trouble and expense saved to the Trade at the present time. From that period till now no exertions have been made to remove or prevent a repetition of the grievance, although everyone is sensible it exists.

Since we had the honour to act as your Committee, the retrospect of labour past is in itself exhilarating, if that labour has attained its termination; but, if to be continued, success must be included in the view, or hope will languish into despondency.

In looking back on our career of a few months, our satisfaction is almost unnit; we call to mind, indeed, exertions sometimes arduous; but we find them followed by encouragement and applause, which more than counterbalance every effort. Thus rewarded, labour goes on cheerfully, and we look forward on that which is to come with a hope that has received its earnest, with spirits quickened by success; and with gratitude in acknowledging what we have received, resolved to continue.

We, therefore, friends, lay before you that part of our labour which is intended for your regulation as Societies, and have only to regret the abilities we possess are not equal to our wishes for your happiness and prosperity; we, therefore, recommend an union among and cordial connection with each other in public concerns, and a cultivation of friendship and brotherly love in private; thus cemented, we may exclaim with an eminent author, “When Love’s well-woven bands unite Societies, they act with greater vigour to a common purpose, than private interests; and, indeed, in the same manner, and with as much success.”

Then follows a table of fines which, being included in the articles, it is not necessary to reproduce separately.

GENERAL ARTICLES.

ART. I.—Being firmly convinced the welfare of the journeymen depends upon Societies being in strict unanimity with each other, and that a reciprocal interest must cement the whole body,—Resolve, the Trade shall consist of four Societies, fifty members each.

ART. II.—That after the 25th of September, 1794, every journeyman desirous of becoming a Member of either Society shall pay an admission fee of 10s 6d.

ART. III.—The business of each Society shall be regulated by two officers, elected quarterly, by ballot, the first entitled “Friendly Sir,” the second “Friend Assistant Secretary,” which persons, assisted by the past Friendly Sir, shall enforce a strict observance of these articles in their respective Societies.

N.B.—The officers elected for the first and second quarters after the anniversary to serve fourteen, the third and fourth quarters twelve weeks each.

ART. IV.—That a Secretary be chosen annually, by ballot, drinking expenses to be allowed him, who, with the assistance of the other officers, shall collect and receive all subscriptions, fines, &c., as shall be due to this Society, and pay them into the hands of the “Friendly Sir.” He shall summon Members for non-attendance (when necessary), from each of which he shall receive from the Members so summoned Two-pence. He shall keep the books of the Society regular, and in good order. He shall enter the minutes of every meeting, and if of general import shall transmit a copy to the trade committee previous to the next meeting.

ART. V.—If a Member refuses to officiate when chosen, and six months is expired since he was last in office, he shall be fined Two Shillings. If absent when chosen, and declines when being informed thereof, shall fine double.

ART. VI.—The officers to attend and take their respective seats by half-past eight o’clock precisely, on default shall fine Two Shillings, except the key is sent, and a proper apology. Should any officer be absent, the “Friendly Sir” shall have power to nominate whom he pleases to fill the office for that night. In case of refusal, the friend so appointed shall fine One Shilling.

ART. VII.—This Society meet every Monday night at the . . . . . . . . The chair to be taken at half-past eight o’clock, and business to conclude at eleven. Each member to pay One Shilling for the following purposes, viz.—Four-pence halfpenny to be spent, Three-pence halfpenny for the Anniversary Festival, and the remaining Four-pence for the use of the Trade in general.

ART. VIII.—That an Annual Festival be held on June the 25th, to commemorate the liberation of our friends. The stewards to be chosen by ballot; on refusal to serve shall be fined Two Shillings and Sixpence each.

N.B.—The Stewards so chosen to be exempt from office for three months after.

ART. IX.—Every Member to attend three nights each quarter, or fine One Shilling. For non-attendance on quarterly night to be expelled.

N.B.—Every absent Member on the night preceding quarterly night to receive a summons, specifying the necessity of attendance. The Secretary for each default to fine Sixpence.

ART. X.—That every Member wishing to change must give notice to his Society of such intention, and attend the Committee to receive information of the mode of proceeding.

ART. XI.—Denying it particularly our duty at this eventful period to prevent those evils from existing in our Trade which have proved the ruin of many,—Resolve, that after the 11th day of August, 1794, no person shall be permitted to exercise the profession unless he produces the working ticket provided for that purpose.

ART. XII.—If any Member of Society neglects to inquire for or permits a person to work prior to the production of the ticket above-mentioned, shall be fined Five Shillings per week.

N.B.—All doubts relative to the 11th and 19th Articles are to be transmitted to the Committee, who shall decide according to circumstances.
ART. XII.—If a Member leaves London, and neglects to give information to his Society, shall upon return pay Ten Shillings and Sixpence, and all arrears due at the time he quit, prior to re-admission.

N.B.—Persons from the country neglecting to attend the General Committee, and become Members of Society, shall fine Sixpence for every week's or six days' attendance.

ART. XIV.—That every journeyman Bookbinder shall have access to either Society, on producing the working ticket, and paying his drinking expenses.

N.B.—The Committee for the time being to be deemed Honorary Members, and admitted free of expense.

ART. XV.—The Secretary of each Society to audit the trade accounts on the first committee meeting after quarterly night, and report the same to their respective Societies.

ART. XVI.—The "Friendly Sir" shall not suffer profane or obscene language without a severe reprimand for such depravity of conduct, in order that moderation, decency, and good sense may abound among each meeting. Persons persisting to fine Sixpence for each offence.

ART. XVII.—If any Member makes use of illiberal language, or insinuates anything prejudicial to the character of a brother Member, without sufficient proof, shall fine Two-and-sixpence.

ART. XVIII.—The company of any Master Binder whose conduct evinces respect for the trade in general will be highly acceptable.

ART. XIX.—That proper respect be paid to the Chair. Any person refusing to obey the "Friendly Sir," when called to order, or otherwise insulting him in Lodge hours, shall fine One Shilling.

ART. XX.—If a Member makes known what passes in Society to any person (a Member excepted), he shall, upon conviction, fine Ten Shillings and Sixpence.

ART. XXI.—The George, Little Drury Lane, to be appointed the "House of Call" for our profession, where every person in want of employment must make personal application to inform the landlord of the result of all applications for employment within six hours, or fine Two-and-sixpence.

ART. XXII.—Anxious at every opportunity to evince our attention to the interests of the trade, and reflecting that great evils may arise to all parties by apprentices disagreeing with their masters, and entering into engagements to complete the remainder of their time upon condition of receiving a weekly sum,—Resolve, that in all such cases the sums shall be restricted to Ten-and-sixpence per week.

ART. XXIII.—Whenever the necessity of calling a general meeting occurs, the committee shall be empowered to nominate the officers to transact the business of the evening, and if any Member insults them in the execution of their office shall be fined Five Shillings.

N.B.—This article is to be understood as requiring the same attention to good order as is observed in Society. On default to be punished according to the articles provided for the offence.

ART. XXIV.—If any person or persons calls a meeting of the trade without the approbation of the general committee, or officers of the Society, shall be expelled.

ARTICLES WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYERS.

ART. I.—If any member of Society continues in the employ of a master that endeavours to injure the fair trader after receiving one week's notice of such nefarious practice shall be expelled.

ART. II.—Many persons having asserted they will employ men to prevent the Master Binder from receiving the fair price, as agreed to in the list, dated May the first; we declare if any Member of this Society knowingly accepts of such employ he shall be expelled also.

ART. III.—If any Member discovers another working for an employer that is endeavouring to undermine the fair trader, and neglects to give information of the same to the General Committee, in order that such persons may become subject to the Regulations specified in these Articles, shall upon proof of the same be fined ten shillings.

ART. IV.—If any Member of this Society commences business and neglects to join the Masters in their laudable endeavours, shall be deemed an enemy to his trade, and should he ever be under the necessity of offering himself to become a Member of either of the Journeymen's Societies, shall receive a positive refusal.

ART. V.—If any Member of Society shall engage with an employer, and neglect to fulfill his engagement, shall be fined five shillings.

ART. VI.—A Member of Society, being guilty of any crime which amounts to expulsion, shall prior to being readmitted be fined Two Guineas, which sum shall be paid by regular instalments of five shillings per week. N.B.—The following Article to be an exception to the sum although not to the mode of enforcing payment.

ART. VII.—If any Member continues to act in defiance of these Articles for twelve or more months, the fine shall be increased from Two to Five Guineas.

COMMITTEE ARTICLES.

ART. I.—That a Committee of Twelve, consisting of three from each Society, be appointed to maintain the just rights of the Trade. That one of each Society seceded each quarterly night by ballot. The vacancies to be supplied by the Friendly Sire nominating three persons and the Society returning one of the three by ballot. Refusing to serve after being elected to be fined as. N.B.—No seceding Member of Committee to be returned for two quarters.

ART. II.—The Officers of the Committee to consist of a President and Secretary, that the same order be observed as in Society, one Member of the Committee from each Society to extract from the minute-book such proceedings as may be deemed necessary for the information of the Members.

ART. III.—The Committee to meet at the George, Little Drury Lane, every Tuesday fortnight, and not to be removed from thence without the consent of the majority of the Committee. N.B.—Members of the Committee not attending by nine o'clock precisely, to fine sixd.

ART. IV.—If a Member of the Committee absents himself for one night, shall be fined as., for two nights as., and for the third night neglect increased to gs. and expelled also.

ART. V.—That upon information being given to the Committee of any person exercising the profession as a journeyman, who is not a Member of Society, shall immediately summon such person to attend them. For non-attendance at time specified, to fine as. per week from the date of the summons until he actually becomes a Member of Society. N.B.—Any Member of Society neglecting to attend when summoned, shall fine gs. Summoned a second time and not attending, rosh. asld, and for the third neglect, shall be expelled.

ART. VI.—That after April 14th, 1794, no person shall be suffered to follow the profession except he has been regularly apprenticed, and served the term of seven years from the date of his indenture.

ART. VII.—The Committee to be empowered to constitute and make such bye-laws, rules, and orders, for the good regulation of the trade, as shall seem necessary, with reasonable penalties for non-performance, or disobedience; and the said bye-laws, &c., to alter, change or annul, as the said Committee shall think requisite. But no such bye-laws shall be established unless approved by a majority of the trade, convened for that purpose.

In witness whereof, we, the said United Society of Journeymen Bookbinders, have hereunto set our hands.

The printed list which follows contains 165 names, and it is probable that there remained very few binders in London outside the Society.

[To be continued.]

JAPANESE ENGRAVINGS.—In a recent number of Artistic Japan, the accomplished editor contributes an interesting paper on "Japanese Engraving," which is credited with a remote origin, dating back more than one thousand years. "Japanese engraving," says Mr. Byng, "was practised on wood. The design which was to be reproduced was fixed on a board of cherry or other hard wood cut lengthwise. The design was on paper with the right side turned to the block, but its transparency was such that they could trace the drawing on the wood through the paper. Afterwards the intermediate spaces were hollowed out with a chisel, so as to leave only the lines of the picture. The printer then inked the projecting parts, and applied the paper with his hand by the aid of a disc of bamboo filaments. He did not, however, as we might suppose, spread the ink uniformly over the engraving. In order to bring out unlooked for aspects, forms, blank intervals or atmospheric depths, the pigment was manipulated in numberless ways, heaped up on this side, fined down on that, shaded off in others, so that tones of great variety were produced in a single impression."
By the Employers' Articles of 1794, they "mutually agreed to form themselves into a Society for the purposes of well ordering and regulating the Trade in general, for the benefit of Widows, for the relief of Journeymen, etc.

Their eighteenth rule stated "That upon information being given to the Society or Committee of any member working under customary prices, the Committee are empowered immediately to summon such member to attend them at their next meeting, and if it appears to them that he has intentionally worked under price, they report the same to the next General Meeting. If they find the report of the Committee just and true, such member's name shall be struck off the Society's Book, and forfeit all right and benefit thereeto."

Under the agreement thus arrived at between employers and employed, each side appointed a representative to conduct the secret business of the trade, the employers choosing Mr. J. Black, and the men, Mr. T. W. Faulkner, who became known as "The Manager," and seemed very proud of his share in the negotiations which had thus far been brought to such a satisfactory conclusion. Some four or five employers had given the hour as far back as in May, but September 29th was to be the day on which the reduction of time was generally to come into operation. Faulkner obtained employment from Mr. Ottridge, a bookseller, who had given the hour and who had been allowed to retain his men according to the arrangement entered into, although not a member of the Masters' Society. But there were a few employers who were not members of the Masters' Society who would not give the hour; of these, Staggemeier, a German binder, was the most important, and it was decided to strike the men in his shop, numbering five. This decision was readily complied with, for the men felt it a hardship to work longer hours than those generally adopted, and on coming out four received 15/- per week as strike pay; the other, Player, an edge gilder, having a wife and family, was allowed one guinea.

The first difficulty in enforcing the agreement arose with some of the Society men who worked in shops where the hour had been given, but where the employer did not belong to the Masters' Society. Except booksellers, these employers were nearly all undercutting those who formed the Masters' Society, and according to the agreement "no Society man should work for an underworking master," but upon being called out, they flatly refused to quit their situations. Faulkner was deeply chagrined to find this unexpected opposition, and strove to maintain his almost absolute power over the affairs of the trade by bringing a complaint before Lodge I., to which the refractory members belonged, but it was useless; the men had obtained the hour and were disinclined to sacrifice themselves to support the compact with the organised employers. Others finding the trade slack—owing to the disturbance caused by the alteration of prices—began to doubt the wisdom of the reduction of hours, and loudly lamented their loss of overtime. There were others, too, who were jealous of the great power in Faulkner's hands, and as much of his work was necessarily of a secret and somewhat delicate character, jealousy bred suspicions, and suspicions were whispered around until Faulkner was surrounded by as hard and dissatisfied a set to deal with as the employers had been, or perhaps worse, and the seeds of dissension once sown blossomed into a nice crop of difficulties.

In many respects Faulkner proved himself an able and judicious diplomatist who knew how to make the most of his resources, as the following account of the way in which he got hold of a non-society man shews:—Gough was working at Mr. Remnant's and would not join. He had been summoned before the committee, but in return sent them a vulgar and disgraceful message which incensed Faulkner, who did not easily forget. "This fellow I never lost sight of and was determined to punish him, but how?" was the question. Mr. Remnant only employed this vagabond, and not being of the Masters' Society, it was useless to complain to them. But after a twelvemonth had elapsed, I called on Remnant. He was not at home, but I saw Mrs. R. I told her of the advantages of a master's being in Society, and also that his widow would receive £40. She highly approved of my remarks, and said Mr. R. should join them—which he did a few days after, and the very next morning I complained to Mr. Black (who acted for the Master's Society) that Remnant employed a man not a member of the Society. He wrote direct, and Gough was informed that he must join Society, or be dismissed. I fined him sixpence per week besides all other charges, and a lecture, not very civil, gratis. This latter piece of sarcasm, intended as a pleasantry, probably did more harm than good. Of course the simple fact of admission to Society did not alter the feelings of Gough, but with the not very civil lecture on top of a heavy fine, it was no wonder he joined the ranks of the malcontents who had made up their minds to displace Faulkner as a schemer for his own advantage, while others were equally disgusted with his arbitrary and high-handed dealings, instead of feeling that he had done a good piece of work in getting the man into their ranks.

Amongst the complainers was Thomas Fairbourne, one of the martyrs of 1786, who had seceded from the Society about the time of the passing of the 1794 articles, as he was working in the shop of a non-associated employer, and Fairbourne was a determined opponent of Faulkner's policy. At the time of his secession, his Lodge was so exasperated against him that the members took the portrait which had been taken in his honour after his imprisonment, tore it
from its frame, and publicly burnt it in the bowl of a tobacco pipe. It is evident, however, that he must have rejoined, for in the autumn of 1794 he was working with Faulkner in the same Society shop—Mr. J. Millar's, Bell's-buildings, Salisbury-square—where his antipathy to Faulkner was the more easily excited, and he then made an attempt to form a fifth Society, the intention being to get rid of Faulkner's jurisdiction. Faulkner's account of the transaction is as follows:—"One afternoon a card was given me by a woman in Mr. Millar's employ, stating a meeting was to be held that evening at the 'White Horse,' in Clare-market, Fairbourne's then residence, for the purpose of forming a fifth Society; and that Fairbourne was to be in the chair. In the course of the day, I informed him that I knew of the intended meeting. He replied, it was a lie—not the most polite man of his time. I gave him the card, and again he declared it false, which caused the remark from me that his new friends were worse than his old who never made use of his name without his consent; indeed, in the second-hour affair he was of so little importance that we never had occasion for it. Not satisfied with his denial, a friend of mine—Pounceby—attended the meeting, and lying martyr Fairbourne was in the chair. The next morning I requested Mr. Black to write their employers on the subject, which was immediately done; being informed that unless they relinquished the idea of a fifth Society, their places were vacant. They submitted—it was the first and only meeting they held."

The suppression of the fifth Society only added fuel to the fire of discontent, and the efforts to upset Mr. Faulkner's government were redoubled, especially when it got to be known that he was trying to obtain the post of secretary to the Master's Society. Whether he would have succeeded if the Society had not interfered cannot be judged, for the Society did interfere, and as the employers appear to have been well aware of the difficulties of enforcing the agreement, and were themselves becoming dissatisfied with it, they declined his services. In one of the Faulkner letters written from New York and dated June 15th, 1846, there is a passage referring to this little episode which seems to have been carefully left out of the correspondence as it appeared in the Finishes' Circular, but which shows how disappointed Mr. Faulkner must have felt, for he wrote:—"Infamous ingrates! stopped me from being secretary to the Master's Society in 1794, the masters observing that it would increase the difficulty of keeping them (the men) to their duty, as they would then say I was too intimate with the masters."

From this time onward, Mr. Faulkner lost his influence over the members of the Lodges more and more day by day, although he remained the most active organiser, indeed, he attributed much of the "ill-treatment" he then received to the fact of having forced so large a number of men into membership; he claimed about one half of the total numbers, but that seems to be a flight of fancy. The employers, too, began to find out that while their agreement with the men was a powerful lever for the advancement of the Societies, it was of little avail for the main purpose they had in view, the prevention of "underworking" amongst themselves, for while they were spending their money for the support of men who had been drawn out of underworking shops not associated with their own, the same system of underworking was being carried on by their own associates, though in a more secret manner, and in consequence of this discovery about the middle of the year 1795 they withdrew their contributions towards the men's support.

Thus Mr. Faulkner's occupation was gone, but he forestalled the crisis by himself retiring from the position he held under the united Lodges, and severed his connection with his own Lodge at the same time. His own version of the affair is:—"Disgusted with continued ill-usage and unmerited insult . . . . I determined upon quitting an ungrateful set of beings that would not behave with the usual courtesies of life to the man who had rendered them most essential service, and in 1795 quit them—taking leave publicly, and formed a fifth Society. On that occasion, I told them they would regret the separation, for no other person could fill the situation. Several called out 'Were none so wise as me?' 'Were none of equal ability?' etc., etc. I answered there might be my superiors, but it was of no avail, and one week from that time would prove it. They appointed Mr. Gunter, a very well-behaved gentlemanly person, above his station in life by many degrees. He waited upon Mr. Black the following Monday, expecting to receive the usual payment from the masters, saying he was appointed in my place—a situation of secrecy—mark the absurdity—and was answered by Mr. B. that he knew Mr. Faulkner very well, that he knew nothing of him, and bowed him out of the house. Thus terminated the friendly feeling that had been so beneficial to the trade. When quitting Society, I complained of their ingratitude—told them nothing but force should make me join them again, and I thought that would not be in their power—alluded to several false charges which I had uniformly refuted, and observing that I was not in the habit of accusing persons privately, took that public opportunity of accusing their secretary, Beard, of robbing them, and proved it."

[To be continued.]

TRIPE FOR BINDING BOOKS.—A company has been incorporated in Newark, N.J., with a capital of $100,000 for the manufacture of "membranoid." The article and its name are alike new. It is a fancy leather made from tripe—nothing else than tanned tripe, in fact. It is said to be very pretty and durable. The inventor of the process of manufacture, James W. Decker, of Newark, had considerable trouble with the Patent Office people until he and they compromised on the name of the product given above. They insisted upon it that tripe was tripe, no matter through what chemical processes it might have been put.