

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY

OF

WAX CHANDLERS

PREFACE

Most of the material for writing these notes has been obtained from the Company's ancient documents, but there is a certain amount of hearsay which has come down to me by tradition from my own family and from Mr. A. J. Wood who served the Company for so many years as Clerk and, subsequently, as Master, and who was a great Wax Chandler.

I fully appreciate that there is room for much study of the earlier documents by one who can read these writings with greater ease than I, and that there is probably information to be found in other places. It is, therefore, my hope that this paper will be the basis for further research and for somebody to write a far more adequate history. It is partly for this reason that I have added a number of appendices giving details of our documents, (References e.g. MS 9509 are Guildhall Library References as most of our documents are on loan there) and some account of our counterpart leases. These in themselves almost form a complete history of the Company.

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The Formative Years

Before considering the Wax Chandlers we might briefly look at some of the Pre-history of those ancient Gilds. It is known that there were many Gilds in China, and some of those Gilds had Halls. There were Gilds of Laundrymen, Cabinet Makers and, in India, the Caste system had many resemblances to City Livery Companies, in Turkey there were Watermen.

Not long before the conquest some of these Gilds seem to have been formed A little more closely resembling our own. They were certainly active in 779-821 as Charlemagne forbade them. In 925 there were certainly Gilds described in the words Of Kings Edgar and Athelstan as Gegliden. So far as one can judge these Gegilden Were a form of Mutual Insurance Society.

In about 895 Leo VI addressed edicts to the Eparch of Constantinople giving instructions for the guidance of Gilds, instructions which in many ways closely Resemble those of the Plantagenet Kings of England. There were Gilds of Saddlers, Butchers, Fishmongers, Bakers, Inn Holders as well as Wax Chandlers, and these Regulations were directed to keeping the trade fair and honest, in much the same Way as were our own early ordinances.

Offenders could be punished in various ways for adulterating the wax. Punishments included flogging, shaving of the head and confiscating of their wares.

In the reign of Alfred the Great, 886, instructions were given for the making of time keeping candles. These were to be made out of beeswax and so constructed that six would burn for 24 hours.

At one time Candle auctions were commonplace. These were often connected with the selling or letting of plots of land. In some cases the successful bidder was the one actually bidding when the candle burnt out; but more usually a pin was inserted in the candle so that when the flame burnt down to the level of the pin, the melting of the wax would cause the pin to drop to the table. Whoever was bidding at that moment was judged the purchaser. At Aldermaston a candle auction is still held every third year.

From the time of Canute until Henry I in 1125 there was a Gild in the City of London known as Cnighthen. The Members seem to have been juniors from noble houses, and they must have been a nuisance to the Kings of that date because, in 1125, the Order was dissolved when only 13 were left.

In those early days a certain amount of control was exercised by the King, as it is recorded that in 1179 – 1180 King Henry II fined eighteen Gilds for trading without a licence. Although there is now a fixed seniority of Companies it is interesting to consider which are really the oldest. It seems likely that, human nature being what it is, Weavers started with clothing, and they were very soon followed by the Dyers, perhaps because the feminine element wished that their clothing should be more attractive, and then again, man being naturally a lazy animal, they were followed by Saddlers who found the horse a ready means of transport.

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These Companies and perhaps a few others are probably really older than the great twelve Companies who occupy the senior positions today. The Fishmongers, Bakers and Weavers are mentioned as early as 1150 and indeed, the Weavers are recorded as farming their own taxes in the year 1130. In 1190 Saddlers are mentioned as having shops in Chepe, and there is also reference to the Goldsmiths, Merchant Taylors, Skinners and Mercers.

In the reign of Richard I in the year 1191 there was a grant to the City of the right

to have a Mayor and Commune. The Commune being the probable predecessor of the Common Council of today. From that date to about 1307 appears to have been a period of hap-hazard development with gradual City supervision and some graft, for example the Fishmongers were accused of subsidising Mayor Harvey in 1271.

A great period in the development of our City Livery Companies is 1328 – 1377 when King Edward III took keen interest and various ordinances were then passed by the City and given royal approval. It was about this time that the Court of Common Council was elected by the Gilds instead of the City Wards.

It seems that our City Gilds were a really fine form of organisation. They were neither trade unions designed to protect labour, nor employers organisations to keep up profits. They were organisations formed to protect the public and to ensure that the various trades were decently conducted without fraud.

Before passing to the Wax Chandlers Company it may be worth while considering for a little the construction of the City Livery Companies, and some of the phrases which keep on occurring and which may not, at first sight, be completely obvious. There are eighty-four Livery Companies, the newly created ones being:-

1932	-	Master Mariners
1944	-	Solicitors
1952	-	Farmers
1956	-	Air Pilots and Air Navigators
1961	-	Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders
1963	-	Furniture Makers
1964	-	Scientific Instrument Makers

Perhaps thirty of these have or will shortly have Halls, and of this number twelve are known as the great Companies and the remainder as minor Companies.

The origin of almost all of them is the Warden who perhaps, at this early stage might have been better described as an Overseer. There are usually two or three of these, and one of them was elected by his fellows to be Prime Warden, (which always seems the best term) but is more often called the Master, although in fact he is really only one of the Wardens. In due course these people found their task of examining wares and controlling the trade to be rather beyond them and they sought from the trade a Court of Assistants which is today the governing body of nearly all Companies. The Court of Assistants in due course approved various people to be the Livery and to wear the gowns and habits of their particular trade.

There always seems to have been a certain amount of privilege attached to this office as they were elected or approved by the Court of Assistants from the Freeman or Yeoman. The Freeman were the great bulk of people conducting a particular trade and they or the Livery could take apprentices approved by the Court of Assistants.

From very early times there was a strong family element, apart from the trade connections, and it is said that in 1445 only one member of the great Companies was a practising

member. Admittance to the Company, which is in the control of the Court, can be obtained in various ways. First of all there is patrimony, which means a man's (or women's) right to the freedom because his (or her) father was a member of the Company at the time of birth. Then there is servitude, which means serving an apprenticeship and, finally, redemption, a more modern method which consists largely of paying a suitable fine. Freedom of a City Company is a preliminary to application for the Freedom of the City of London. Apart from this there are in some Companies a few distinguished men who have been elected as a compliment or honour.

In reading about City Livery Companies there constantly occur certain phrases which at first sight are rather strange. First of all most of the Companies are called a "Mystery", this really comes from the French word 'metier' and means a mastery of a particular trade. The word "Chandler" seems to derive from the Latin "unctarius", later rendered as "Candelarius" or "chandler". The English form of the word "Oynter" gradually becoming "chandler". Later you come to "superstitious uses", that is to say religious and it is likely that many of the Companies had close ties with religious orders in their early stages. At any rate this afforded an opportunity for King Henry VIII, and still more Edward VI and Elizabeth to seek revenue under the Chantries Act of 1545, calling for return of Chantry lands. The Chantries Act had not been put into full effect when Henry VIII died on 31st January, 1547. Edward VI required a revenue from Chantry Lands to be paid to the Crown and later to be redeemed by a lump sum payment. It was not until 1574, in Elizabeth's reign, that the accusation of concealing lands held for superstitious uses was brought against the Companies and cost them dear.

There is an interesting and more detailed reference to this matter in John Stow's Survey of London, first written in 1698. It refers to the gifts of City Companies for the building and maintenance of Hospitals and "for annual relief of the poor to which were added certain rents upon those lands or Tenements so given for the celebration of their yearly Obits and for priests called Chantry Priests to sing Mass at set days in churches where they were buried for the Souls Deliverance out of Purgatory and for the soul of some of their particular friends and relations deceased. Now this being such a Nursery of Superstition and a Maintenance for idle priests by an Act made in the beginning of King Edward's reign all such gifts were granted to the Crown. Accordingly all such Lands and Possessions were seized by the King's Hands and so much Portions of Rents of them as were appropriated for Superstitious uses were as Rent charges paid by the Companies to the King"

This, apparently, was such a blow to the Companies that their charitable donations were almost brought to an end.

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"They were therefore forced to buy off the Rent charges and get as good Pennyworths as they could of the King and this they did in the 3rd year of Edward Sixth by selling other of their Lands to enable them to make these purchases. This cost them £18,700. Which possessions when they thus cleared again they employed then to good uses according to the first interest of them abating the Superstitutions".

A very exact account of which appears in the following table drawn up in 1587.

Wax Chandlers
Lands purchased from King Edward Sixth

“They purchased from the King in Rente per annum	£03	04	00
Payments out of Rents purchased	£06	13	04
In pensions to poore Brethen			
In Almes	£0	00	00

A few minor points of interest come to mind, the Lord Mayor is so called although there has never been any official appointment to such a title. It seems to have been a development of the Latin ‘dominus’ Lord or Master and Major meaning the upper one, and this has been translated into the word Mayor. Of particular interest to the Wax Chandlers Company is the word ”Cera”. , Latin for wax because from this is derived the word ceremony and it shows what great importance candles held in the Middle Ages, not only for providing light but for other purposes as well.

Again, the modern Cannon Street is really Candlewick Street and was probably the Street of the Candle Makers, both wax chandlers and tallow chandlers. Our Hall itself stands on Gutter Lane and Gresham Street: Gutter Lane is almost certainly derived from Gudrun an early Dane, whilst Gresham Street was originally Maiden Lane and is so named in our early documents. Indeed before that, in a document of 1313, it is described as the Royal Street called Ingenelane.

The feature that has given livery Companies their name is the wearing of the Livery or of membership privileged to wear a Livery and elect a Lord Mayor and a Sheriff at Michaelmas and Mid-summer.

Nearly all the ancient Companies adopted Liveries without reference to the Court of Aldermen until the year 1560 when the Stationers Company asked the Court for a grant.

The word ‘Livery’ derived from the French word ‘livre’ and the Latin ‘Liberare’ originally meant the allowance of food and clothing to retainers and officers of great households. The term came to be restricted to the wearing of a type of clothing, whereby the Order, Guild or Allegiance of the wearer could be recognised and it became a symbol also of privilege and protection. The word is moe or less out of use today but survives in the phrase ‘putting a horse at Livery’ and a chauffeur or coachman’s Livery.

Under the Plantagenets

Although this is not strictly the history of our Company it is perhaps interesting to note that we have in our possession documents, as early as 1199, relating to properties which we subsequently owned, such as Aldersgate Street, where it is believed that we held meetings after the Fire of London 1666 and, also documents of 1241 in the reign of Henry 111 referring to our property in St. Michaels Queen-Hithe. We also have deeds of 1298 in the reign of Edward 1.

These are deeds of the brew house known as the 'Cock on the Hoop' which later became the site of our Hall.

First evidence of activity by the Wax Chandlers as some sort of organised body would appear to be 1330 when Wax Chandler collected 40/- towards a present for the King, Edward 111. In 1343, in the same reign, William atte Noke and John Froyl and Roger de Woodhull and William Clerich were sworn to make a scrutiny to prevent inferior wares. This is recorded in the City records. Later in the reign, in 1358, the Wax Chandlers appointed two or four of the trade to inspect wares and William Samkyn, Walter de Rede and John de Notynham condemned a torch falsely made by John Donat a Lombard.

It was laid down on 24th June in our Ordinances that 'those within the City or suburbs, either citizens or foreigners, who make torches, tapers, prickets, (a pricket was a spike to stick a candle on: the word here is used to denote the candle used on such a 'candle stick', the thicker end end being hollowed out to receive the spike), great candles, etc. Shall make them of as good wax within as without, all the same, and shall not put tallow or resin in wicks, or any kind of liquor, or old wax within and new wax without; wicks not to be so heavy as to sell wick for wax; if any offend against this order, all faulty goods on his property to be burned before the offender's door, and he to be imprisoned. Till he pays a fine at the discretion of the Mayor and Aldermen for damage done to common people; for second offence, goods to be burned and offender set on pillory; for third offence, he shall forswear City and occupation: Two or three of the "most loyal people of the said Mystery" to be sworn before the Mayor to present all defaults. In the following year is our earliest ordinance book which refers to the "said Mystery". In the beautifully illustrated calendar of this book is the later entry in Latin evidently made at the time in King Henry VI's reign, "this day Queen Catherine lost her head".

In 1371 Walter Reed and John Pope were chosen to be overseers of the trade, and bye-laws for regulating it followed a petition to the Court of Aldermen from "the Fraternity of Wax Chandlers". At this date the order was made for every member of the craft to attend annually at the North door of St Paul's Church bring a pound of bees wax for candles for the light of the church; even today the Company supplies candles for the High Alter.

In 1376 the Company sent Roger Elys and William Hatfield to the Common Council. That the City recognised the importance of Wax Chandlers is evidenced by the record that "R. Elys Wax Chandler" was an Alderman of Aldersgate 1377-1396.

It is also quite clear that in the reign of Henry V or, to be more accurate, at his funeral in 1422 the Wax Chandlers were an organised body, for their name is given among that of the Saddlers, Brewers, and a number of other Companies as being present at the ceremony.

Although there is no evidence of the Constitution of the Company it is, nevertheless, recorded in the City letter books that the following were appointed Masters:-

1377 John Maynard, John Campion
 1421 Henry Gowe, William Burton
 1423 John Peryn, James Cotterell
 1424 John Broke, Richard de Burg
 1428 Thomas Galiot, John Mayho
 1432 Richard Burg, Nicholas Boyle
 1438 Roger Wyllys, William Underhill

It seems that Wardens or Overseers might have been a better description.

By 1469 the Company must have been of considerable size, for in the yer they undertook to supply twenty-one men for the City Watch. And in 1478 we have a record of the Bill of Fare which was provided for Lord Mayors Day, October 29th. It is interesting to see the enormous change in values from the present day. It does not say for how many the menu was designed, but it is as follows:-

	S.	D.	F.
A Loin of Beef	0	4	
A Leg of Mutton	0	2	½
Two Loins of Veal and Two ditto of Mutton	1	4	
A Goose	0	6	
A Capon	0	6	
A Pig and a Rabbit	0	6	
A Dozen of Pigeons	0	7	
A Hundred of Eggs	0	8	½
A Gallon of Wine	0	8	
A Kilderkin of Ale	1	8	
	<hr/>		
£0	7	0	

In Tudor Times

1483/4 is a great date in the Company's history, in that year on February 16th we were granted our Charter by King Richard III, the last Plantagenet, and this Charter is still in our possession. The following are extracts from the later Charter, under which we act, but are very similar in meaning to that in the original referred to above. It says:-

‘The King, on petition of the Master, Wardens and Commonalty of the ancient Company of Wax Chandlers for the better rule and government of all and every person and persons using or exercising the said art or mystery of a Wax Chandler within the City of London or ten miles of the same, and for the benefit and advantage of the said art, and the reformation of inconveniences and abuses frequently used and practised therein, to the public damage, has confirmed to the said Company all Charters, liberties and privileges granted to their predecessors.

‘All persons using said art or mystery in London or with ten miles thereof to be one body corporate and politic, by name of Master, Wardens and Commonality of the Art or Mystery of Wax Chandlers of the City of London.... They may meet from time to time in any convenient place within the City to elect one of their number to be Master. Of the said Art or Mystery and two to be Wardens, also twenty to be Assistants to help Master and Wardens in their business. Master, Wardens and Assistants, or a majority of them of which Master and one warden must be two, may constitute, ordain, make and establish from time to time any reasonable laws, ordinances, orders and constitutions in writing which seem fit to them for the good rule, governing and correcting of the freemen and members of the Company, and for the reforming, amending and bettering of the works and workmanship thereof, and to set and impose such pains, penalties and punishment by fines and amercements on all offenders as they or a majority of them may think fit. They may have, recover, levy, receive and take the said fines and amercements by distress and other lawful means to their own use without hindrance by the Crown or rendering any account. Laws to be observed as far as they are agreeable to the laws and statutes of the realm and the liberties and customs of the City of London.

‘As great deceits and abuses are often used, committed and done of divers persons using the trade of a Wax. Chandler in the City of London, and others bringing and sending commodities of bad and insufficient stuff, and work with them deceitfully, and as much white wax is brought from abroad which is mixed, corrupt, and not fit to be wrought, made up or sold, all of which deceits and abuses are to the detriment of the public, for reformation thereof Master and Wardens, with two or three others, may as often as they think fit by all lawful means search houses, shops, etc., privileged or not privileged, have rule, correction and government by those who use said. Trade and are members of the Company, having, bringing, or putting to sale any such corrupt, mixed or bad wax as aforesaid, or make or sell any bad or corrupt wax lights, tapers, burning links, flamboyant, prickets, hard wax, soft wax or any other sort of work in wax, such work to be seized and condemned.

‘For better discovery of faults, deceitful and insufficient works of things, wares and commodities belonging to the said art, if it is ordained that henceforth no-one in the City of London or within ten miles of it may use and exercise the Art of a Wax Chandler unless first he or they shall serve as apprentice or apprentices for at least seven years...

‘All Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables and other officers shall assist Master and Wardens or any two of them in carrying out provisions of this Patent’

In 1485 another important even occurred, Sir Thomas Holme, Clarenceux, grunted us our Coat of Arms and this was confirmed with supporters by Thomas Benoit, Clarenceux, in 1530. It is in this Patent that we first find the word ‘Worshipful’. As it refers to the Master and Wardens

of the Company as the 'gode, sedde worshipful and well-disposed'. The term 'Worshipful' did not come into general use until a good deal later. In 1536 Thomas Hawley, Clarenceux, issued a new Patent of Arms which modified the Arms given before, and was supposed to have clarified them. But in 1634, at a Visitation of London when grants of Arms were examined and checked, the Wax Chandlers Company, for some reason which is not known, only produced the 1485 Patent with its supporters of 1530. This was duly confirmed and the effect is that our current Coat of Arms is now one of the very few to go back to the 15th Century.

The Arms include roses and the royal supporters on the shield represent a form of a candlestick, probably used at funeral obsequies or during rites in remembrance of the dead. The epithet 'royal' in this context would seem to imply a mortar of more than common splendour. A similar use survives to-day in the familiar phrase 'battle royal'.

The design of the Crest may involve some symbol of purity. Holme's blazon describes the maiden as kneeling among divers flowers. Hawley says kneeling in a 'Rossyare'. The word is undoubtedly a phonetic rendering of the French, and there may be a reference to the custom of 'la couronnement de la rosiere' an event of great antiquity in some French villages. La rosiere being a maiden to whom a wreath of roses for virtuous conduct. The maiden crest possibly induced Benoit to choose the unicorns for supporters.

The legend asserts that this fabulous beast could only be trapped by setting a virtuous maiden in its haunts, whereupon it would approach her, lay its head in her lap and sleep. It may not be too fanciful to see in Benoit's colouring the beasts h

orn a different colouring from the rest of the animal, his recognition of the candles made by the Wax Chandler. It is also tentatively suggested that for the same reason the penis of the unicorn was later similarly emphasised by Hawley when he altered and amplified the Arms in 1536. 'Pissed or' a crude example of that allusiveness which plays so prominent a part in Heraldry.

I am indebted for the above information to "The Armorial Bearings of the Guilds of London 1961" by John F Bromley.

In 1512 the Foundation Statutes of St Pauls School banned the use of tallow candles thus, 'In no Tyne in the year they shall use talough Caudill in mood wise but all only use wax candill'.

In 1515 Ordinances were approved by Henry V111 and the bye-laws were confirmed.

The Company was, in 1516, allotted its present place in seniority by decision of the Court of Alderman on the 31st January. The twentieth of all the Companies, or eighth of the so-called minor Companies.

In 1518 we provided four men for the City Watch and at about this period the solid mass of of ancient records really begins.

4th March 1526 is the date of our earliest surviving charity when Mr. John Thomson gave us property in Thames Street and Sugarloaf Court, charged with superstitious uses and providing 60 quarters of coal and four gowns, all for the poor of St Michaels Queen Hithe. This was recently amended by a cash payment, following the sale of the property, but we still maintain a gift of three overcoats to poor men of the Wax Chandlers Company and these are presented annually at the Hall on St . Thomas's Day by the Master and Wardens.

Our first Treasury book begins in 1530. There are particulars of the gift to us of certain property in Coleman Street by Mr. Brocket, citizen and baker, and this property has only very recently been sold.

In 1538 it is to be supposed that the Company had troubles with Henry V111, for the 'plate' was sold for £40, and the Company provided and equipped at their own expense two men-at-arms to go to the north parts for the King. In 1544 the Master and Wardens. Were arrested for trespass on land of the parish of St. John Zachary, but were acquitted. It is probably from this time that the tradition that the Company resisted a visit of the Church authorities by pouring boiling water on them from the windows of the Hall.

1558 is the original date of our most important charity, that of Mr William Kendall. This carried out for a great money years, but it now administered by a scheme settled by the High Court. There is an interesting possibility in regard to Mr. William Kendall. The Renter Warden accounts beginning in 1531 record him as a member throughout until his death, and he was Master from 1554-1556.

Following recent excavations of the old Nonsuch Palace near Epsom, research was made into the history of this building, and it appears that in 1541 Kendall and his company of workmen wee occupied in making moulds for the walls and his Company totalled twenty four men. A feature of Nonsuch Palace was it moulded decorations, and it therefore seems likely that this work was carried out by Mr William Kendall aided by Giles Gering, a plasterer, who accompanied him.

We do know from examination of Mr. William Kendall's Will that he was interested in building, and particularly drainage, because he gave detailed instructions for the maintenance and repair of his own properties.

In the same year. 11558, our Charter was confirmed by `Philip and Mary, and it was again confirmed in 1560 by Queen Elizabeth 1. 1584 brings the first Search Book, and these from that time onwards give a great many details showing the activity of the Company in examining wares and ensuring that a high standard of honey and beeswax was maintained. The Company's regular Minute Books begin about the same time. The first entry in the first Court Book, 1584, relates to an increase in the Beadle's wages.

At this time, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, there was clearly a great production and trade in both honey and bees wax. The small side-line beekeepers were also apparently sufficiently numerous to warrant special provisions. Some of the dealers still seem to have been regrettably dishonest, and penalties for using deceit by mixtures and moulding of wax were ordained in 1581. Thus:

‘This land yields great plenty of honey and wax not only for home consumption but also for export, but much wax has lately been found corrupt by reason of deceitful mixture, also makers and sellers of honey have put it into casks of deceitful assize and used deceitful mixtures.

‘It is therefore ordered that after Whitsunday next anyone concerned with trade who shall mix wax with resin, tallow, turpentine or other substance for sale, or shall offer it for sale, shall for feint said corrupted wax. If any shall have been actually sold, the person responsible shall forfeit 2s. For each pound sold, where of half shall go to the Crown, half to the person injured or any who shall sue for it.

‘To enable offenders to be traced, every melter and maker-up of unwrought wax shall have his own stamp or mark the breadth of six pence, graven with his initials and shall stamp every piece of wax triangle in three place, on the outside of the upper part, on pain of forfeiture of each piece unmarked.

‘No one shall melt, mix, work or sell any wrought wax, stuff or wares wrought with wax such as lights, staff torches, red wax or sealing wax, book candles, cering candles, cering of corpses, links, green wax, red wax, etc. Except with a good wholesome, pure and convenient stuff. Those working of selling wax must have a mark to set on ware, so that the offenders may be traced, those working or attempting to sell corrupt or deceitful produce to forfeit same, one half to the Crown, one half to the party deceived, or any who shall sue for it.

‘Every barrel, kilderkin of firkin filled with honey by maker and filler shall be marked with his head of cask on pain of 6s 8d. For each barrel, etc. Not so marked; anyone selling or trying to sell a barrel of less than 32 wine gallons, kilderkin of less than 16 wine gallons, firkin of less than 8 gallons to forfeit 5s. For each half-gallon lacking; anyone corrupting honey with deceitful mixture to forfeit vessel and honey, half to the Crown, half to any that may sue for it.

‘The act concerning the markings of wax is not to apply to those selling wax of their own bees in the open market in small pieces, or to any servant corrupting wax by his master’s orders if he confesses the same.

‘No one to counterfeit a mark, or use another’s mark without his consent, penalty £5 for each offence, half to the Crown, half to the party injured or any that should sue for it; pillory and imprisonment for refusal to pay fine’.

Under the Stuarts

It has long been believed that the privilege of having swans on the Thames belonged exclusively to the Crown and to the Vintners and Dyers Companies, but there is a record in our Court Book of 1606 that the Wax Chandler’s Company then sold their swans, and the wording is as follows:-

“Memorandum, 1st April, 1606. ‘It was agreed by the Master and Wardens with the Assistants of the said Company that the mark and game of swans shall be sold unto Mr. Walter Wyllford, Merchant of London, whereupon the Master and Wardens with the Assistants have by their deed indented, sold the aforesaid game of swans unto the aforesaid Walter Wyllford for the sum of £14 of good money of England, in the presence of the Master and Wardens with the Assistants in witness whereof we have put our hands, 1st April, 1606.

In 1609 an Act was passed conforming the title of several Companies to their lands and premises. The Wax Chandlers were among these, and letters patent were subsequently granted on payment of £60 ratifying the Company’s rights in the property in Maiden Lane, now Gresham Street, called Wax Chandler’s Hall and the message adjoining. ‘I have found no record as to when this building was erected but it was known to have been destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666, and to have been subsequently rebuilt as there are extensive records of the efforts and subscriptions which were made for the re-building of the Hall which was occupied in 1668. In 1791 the Hall was reported to be in such a ruinous condition that it had again to be r-built. It had, therefore, lasted little more than a hundred years, and it is recorded that the new Hall was completed and occupied by 1793.

1609 was the year when this Company, together with most of those in the City, was interested in the Irish estates under the resettlement policy of King James 1. A note in our records reads as follows:-

‘King James 1 being seized of divers lands, counties, territories etc. In the province of Ulster, in the northern part of Ireland, as well as the right of the Crown as by the forfeitures and attainder of divers persons who had been in rebellion there, and by the several Acts for the dissolution of Monasteries, or for the planting and civilising those parts with a Protestant colony, certain proposals were to that purpose made by the said King James to the City of London, which they, out of great respect to his said Majesty, and for promoting his as well as the public peace, and readily embracing the Articles, were entered into between divers Lords of the Council on his said Majesty’ part and certain commoners appointed by the Common Council in the said City’s behalf, dated on or about 28th January, 1609.

‘In pursuance whereof the lands etc., intended to be granted to the said City by hi Majesty were surveyed and set out accordingly and the same then consisting of parts of several counties and territories being united and made one county by the name of Londonderry. The said King James granted the same with the woods and timber trees standing and growing, and divers large fishing in the rivers of Bann and Loch Foyle by letters patent, dated 9th March in the eleventh year of his reign, to a certain number of citizens thereby incorporated and initialled or named the Society of the Governor and Assistant of London, of a new plantation in Ulster within the realm of Ireland.

Who, afterwards by virtue of power from his said Majesty, did divide the said county and land into twelve parts or proportions, and conveyed the same to the twelve chief Companies in such manner as the same had upon as allotment or division happened unto them. Excepting the City of Londonderry and town of Coltrane, and lands there unto adjacent and said fishing and woods, which being not divisible remains in the said Society on trust for the said Companies,

and which they still enjoy and manage for their benefit, and from time to time account and make dividends to them on the rent and profits thereof.

‘ That for this carrying on and effecting his Majesty’s intentions, desire of peopling and securing those parts by a Protestant settlement, divers great sums were raised and dispersed, not only be the twelve chief Companies, but also by all the other inferior or lesser Companies as appears in the several Acts of Common Council in that behalf, and the leviers there upon made, and particularly by the aforesaid mentioned allotment or division to the said twelve Companies. Wherein respect was, especially then, to the inferior or lesser Companies by joining them some to one Company and some to another, and particularly in the twelfth part or proportions which was allotted the Haberdashers’ Company, the proportion which was, or ought to belong to the Wax Chandlers, Founders and Turners was included. And was afterwards by the said Company of Haberdashers in performance of the trust reposed in them, and for the other considerations, dated 20th March, 1633, Charles 1 granted and conveyed to the said Companies of Wax Chandlers, Founders and Turners their successors and assignments for ever. That about the year 1638, in the thirteenth year of King Charles 1, the City of London being in some disfavour wit him, his said Majesty did in the beginning of November, in he twelfth year of his reign, order a Scire facias to issue against the Society of London for a pretended breach of Covenant in the letters patent, and Rules of Plantations and in Hilary term following before the Society could be heard to make their defence thereto, judgement was entered against them by default, that the said letters patent should be void and cancelled. But being afterwards in the year 1641 made sensible of the hardships done to the Society by the proceedings and judgement on the said Scire Facias, his said Majesty was graciously pleased to declare his royal pleasure and resolution to restore and confirm the Society in their former grant . But was prevented in so doing by the rebellion in 1641 which soon after broke out in the said kingdom.

‘But King Charles 11, upon his restoration, by letters patent, dated 10th April, in the fourteenth of his reign, taking notice therein of his father’s intentions, did restore to the said Society in the City of London the said City and County of Londonderry, and all lands, fishing, etc., formerly granted the. Whereby they became seized of, and reinstated in the same as before, and have ever since managed them and received the rents and made several dividends to the twelve Companies, that by reason of the said judgement against the Society upon which their estate was seized and sequestered by the King and no profits for many were accrued to any of the said Companies. And afterwards by that unhappy calamity which befell the City of the dreadful Fire in the yer 1666, by which the ancient books and papers belonging to the said Companies o Wax Chandlers, Founders and Turners, were most of them consumed so that no marks or footsteps appearing that might lead them into an inquiry of their said right and interest to a proportionable part of the rent and profits of the said lands and fishing invested in the said Society.

‘And by reason of the frequent changes and alterations of their members, and the long and designed concealment thereof by the said Haberdashers, the said inferior Companies of Wax Chandlers, Founders and Turners remain wholly ignorant of their respective rights and interest aforesaid. Until very lately by some accident they were informed thereof, from which they made

immediate application to the said Company of Haberdashers, who have not only refused to render them an account, but allege that they are not entitled to any part or portion of the dividends by them received of the said Society, or if they had any right to any part thereof, they are fore-closed there from by the statutes of limitations.

Question

“Therefore if the said Company of Wax Chandlers, Founders and Turners have not a right to a certain share of the dividends of the rents and profits made by the said Society to the said Haberdashers, for and in proportion to the monies paid by them respectively advanced and paid towards the said plantation, and whether the said Haberdashers’ Company, who are but in the nature of trustees for the said inferior Companies, may not be compelled to account with, and pay what is due to them, notwithstanding the said statute.

Answer

“I am of the opinion that the Wax Chandlers, Founders and Turners have a right to the share of the dividends made by the Society, equal to the share that they had in the lands conveyed by the Society to the Company of Haberdashers, and that their right, as this case is, is not barred by the statute of limitations.

Question.

“If the Haberdashers are accountable to the said inferior Companies for that proportion of dividends, and that the said Companies are entitled to a remedy, what method will be the most proper for them to take for attending the same.

Answer

‘If the Haberdashers will not come fairly to an account the proper method for the inferior Companies will be to join in a Bill against the Haberdashers, and the Society must be made parties requiring them to set forth what they have received from the Society, and to pay to them one sixteenth part of what they have so far received. And equity will decree the to account and pay the arrears due to the inferior Companies.

Signed Duncan Dee. December 1st, 1704.

Endorsed

‘The case concerning the Irish Dividend with the Haberdashers Company and Counsels Opinion.
December 21st 1704.

In general the period seems to have been one in which we suffered hard times, although in 1611 a Barge and Waterman were provided on Lord Mayor’s Day to carry thirty of the Livery at a cost of £6 10s. 0d. In 1618 an inventory was made of our possessions, and these included a great cup with cover, spoons, salts, some gilt beakers, pot, chests, seal, locks, pewter plate etc. It is wonderful to think what the value of these goods would be if we had them today.

In 1620 £20 was given towards the relief of Palatinate whence the Elector Frederick and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of James I, had been driven by the Spaniards.

1622 is the date of one of the small charities which still survive. In that year Mr. William Parnell gave his premises in Puddledock in the Parish of St. Andrew Wardrobe, London, to pay money for the poor Freemen and widows of Freemen of the Company. This property was taken down by the Metropolitan Water Board under an Improvement Act of 1863, and they then paid the munificent sum of £75, and from this is still received a small income which we devote to charitable purposes.

It is interesting that within the last year a direct descendant of Mr. William Parnell approached us to enquire if we could help in the education of her two sons, she having been widowed. The Company felt that this ancient connection should be honoured in some way and was happy to help in getting the boy into Christ's Hospital. He has now been apprenticed to the Wax Chandlers' Company.

In the same year Mr. William Sharp, the then Master, had a transcript made of many old documents relating to the Company, and this is still in our possession and is a valuable source of information.

Of course this was the time leading up to the Civil War and in 1627 the Company was ordered to pay £120 out of the Treasury Chest for Charles 1, being part of the £120,000 paid by the City to the King. In 1628 and 1638 and again 1642 and 1643 substantial sums of money (the 1642 sum being £250) were lent to the King. In 1632 St Pauls then, as in 1966, sought money for repairs, and the Wax Chandlers gave £50. In 1643 we evidently tried to recoup some of our losses and we ventured £50 upon the Irish plantations. But there is no record as to whether this was a profitable venture. In 1647 a new scale of fines was instituted and a Liveryman had to supply a silver spoon on admission. We have a pair of spoons of about that period which may have been so supplied.

In 1652 a Committee of the Commonwealth met at Wax Chandlers Hall and left a letter entered in our Minute commanding Charters of the Company to be taken to Westminster. The Charters were delivered to the Committee of Corporations set up by the Commonwealth, and Mr Hudson was appointed to solicit a new Charter.

In 1654 the Company sold the property in East Meath in order to raise the sum from the state. 1660, the year of the Restoration, was a year of great activity. The Company's Charter was confirmed and extended, and the Company lent £30 to the King, being part of the £120,000 lent by the City.

In this year there was an obligation from Mr Normansell, occupier of our property in the Aldersgate. Our most precious piece of silver, the Normansell Cup is said to have been given in quittance of an obligation. It is a large straight loving cup and cover.... The cup is engraved over the whole surface with subjects and articles relating to the production and manufacture of wax.

On the bowl is a man tingling a swarm of bees and another is hiving the same from the bough of a tree.... On the cover are a naked figure kneeling at a desk, at the side of which is a large taper

which he appears to have just lighted; a robed female with basket on her head, and with a sickle cutting cotton for the wicks from a tree; on the foot are. . . Beehives on stands . . . The plate mark is the small black letter f. Of 1683 and the “S crowned” makers mark of Charles Shelley. We also have an engraved spoon of about this date, believed to have been sold to provide the King with funds, and subsequently re-purchased.

It may be of interest at this stage to say something of the traditions of the Loving Cup. The ceremony reverts to the days of King Alfred, 871 A.D. Alfred's mother was the daughter of Oslac, cup bearer to King Ethelwulf. Although Alfred became King in 871 the Danes wintered in London in 872. By 877 the country was apportioned between the Saxons and the Danes, London going to Alfred, yet the Danes wintered in London in 890. Many attempts were made to get the Saxons and the Danes to live peaceably, but treachery was common especially during the act of drinking. To stop the treachery, Oslac the cup bearer devised that the leader of the Danes and Saxons should pledge in public their good will to maintain the King's peace. He made sure that the dagger hands of their unruly followers were visible and full by fitting the cups with lids which must be held by the man in front of the drinker.

The ceremony affecting the Top Table is as follows:-

Two covered cups are used, the cup bearer advances followed by his assistant, each having a cup. The cups are raised head high, at the moment when they drink facing one another the orchestra plays and the Company may sing. The cup bearer replaces the covers on the cups, next the host and principal guests each turn with the covered cup to their immediate neighbour who should now be standing, both bow and the neighbour removes the cover. The host and principal guests drink a second time, the cover replaced, the neighbours take back the cups and the host and principal guests and neighbour stand back to back, ostensibly to protect the neighbour while he is drinking, from an attack from behind. And so the cup passes round the table, three people always standing at the time of drinking, and the one who has finished drinking protecting the back of his neighbour.

It may well be that the drink was often Mead, a fermented honey drink in which this Company was interested. Indeed, in recent years, it has been our custom to serve Mead in the Loving Cup at our banquets. Nuptial feasts were celebrated with the drinking of mead, and this continued for the thirty-day period after the ceremony which come therefore to be called the honeymoon.

In 1660 the Company paid £15 towards the cost of the Coronation, and in 1664 finances seem to have been improving, because a new head was bought for the Beadles Staff, and this is probably the one which we have to-day, though it has no hall mark. It was also decided that a barge was to be bought and for this purpose members had to pay varying sums.

1663 is the year in which Charles II granted us a new Charter which did not differ very much from the original. Ordinances under this Charter were confirmed by the Lord Chancellor and Judges of the Kings Bench and Common Plea.

The following extracts from the ordinances of 1664 approved by the Lord Chancellor and Chief Justices in July of that year may be interesting:-

'5. Each Master, Warden and Assistant shall on Election Day on reasonable summons given or left in print or writing at his dwellinghouse or shop by the Beadle of the Society make personal appearance in `livery gown at Common Hall by nine of the forenoon, and at Court or meeting give his voice or hand in writing who shall be Master and Wardens for the next two years or as required, and not leave without permission, everyone as warned and coming late to pay 2s. If one does not come at all to pay 5s.

'14. Because decent and comely apparel is to be worn and used by the citizens of so noble a City as London, and meetings are to be in an orderly and comely manner, every Master, Warden and Assistants shall sit at monthly and other Courts in gowns and not in cloaks: everyone in Livery coming to Common Hall for Court or other reason shall come in a gown and not in a cloak; no one of the Art shall come to Common Hall before Master or Wardens for Court, Assembly or Quarterday "with his apron about him"; all attending meetings are to come in "decent and meet apparel"; offenders to forfeit 1s. To Master, Wardens and Society, those coming in aprons to pay 4d to the `Beadle.

'20. Wares and commodities of the Art, viz. torches, tapers, prickets, flamboys, etc, shall be of good and perfect wax and good wick, not mixed or corrupted with turpentine, resin, tallow, etc. Except the casting of torch staves which cannot be done without; every small torch to be a yard long in the wax besides a convenient snuff, every large torch an ell (1 1/4 yards) long, with like snuff; every yellow link to weigh 1 1/4 lbs., every black link 1 1/4 lbs., both yellow and black to be a yard and a half-quarter long; all book candles, "cearing candles" and soft wax to be good and clean, all hard wax to be of good stuff clean wrought and of good colour as good within as without, offenders to forfeit 20s. For each offence or such less sum as Master, Wardens and Assistants shall think fit.

'27. Every apprentice of a Freeman shall within three months after his term has expired (if there be no reason otherwise) be made free of the Company by presentation of his former Master or Mistress; persons so made free to pay 3. 4d to buy napery, etc., for Society, 3s to the Clerk and 2s. To the Beadle : any delaying to present himself without good cause, or refusing or delaying to take oath or pay fees, to forfeit £10 or such less sum as Master and Wardens shall think fit.

'32. No one using said Art in the City of London or within ten miles thereof, or any other Freeman of the Company, shall strike, beat, abuse, or in open audience jeer, mock, revile, misuse, slander, hurt or speak evil of any member of the Society, on pain of forfeiting up to 20s. At the discretion of the Master, Wardens and Assistants or majority of them, no member shall affirm anything in Court that is not truth, whole truth and nothing but the truth. ..

These ordinances seem soon to have put into operation, for a book in the possession of the Company notes that on the 11th October 1664, Master, Wardens and others searched houses of Bryan Ayliff, tallow chandler, in Old Bailey, and Giles Longe, sackman in Bread Street; faulty goods were found, seized and taken to Guildhall and on trial condemned to be burned; this was done publicly before the Royal Exchange, in Leadenhall Market and Cheapside. (i.e. in three separate places).

Ayliff subsequently indicted the Master and others for riot, for the unlawful entry and for seizure of candles. On trial before the Lord Chief Justice on 18th February 1665, the Master and others were acquitted, 'with abundance of satisfaction to the Company'.

The original Charter was handed over to Charles 11 during the 'Quo Warrento' proceedings and was lost. We shall be looking at this point a little later. It is, however, interesting to record that this Charter is the one under which we act to this day.

In 1666 the Hall was destroyed in the Fire of London, and the next year a Committee was appointed to re-arrange leases consequent on this destruction, and there was evidently considerably enthusiasm for getting our Hall re-built, for in the following year everyone on the Freedom had to pay £1, and everyone on the Livery £5 towards the rebuilding of the Hall, and a Committee was appointed to administer these funds and to go into the whole matter. These fines and other means of raising money continued for several years, certainly up to 1674, the new Hall having been completed in 1668. In 1668 the Company paid for a NEW RIVER water lease per quarter 7/6d. We have among our documents details of this transaction which read as follows:-

NEW RIVER water lease	for 11 years at 30s/ - p.a.
Quarterly.	

Indenture made 30 March 33 Charles 11 between the governor and Company of the New-River brought from Chadwel and Amwel to London on one part, and the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers on the other part . . . The said governor and Company in consideration of the sum of thirty shillings in hand paid, in the name of a fine or income . . . have demised and granted to the Company one watercourse, conveniently furnished with water running in and through five small cocks of Brass souldered and set into the same, and placed in the kitchen and yard. . . .

(Seal attached "Brought from Chadwel and Amwel to London")

It is interesting that the Metropolitan Water Boards headquarters are still at New River Head in London which, at one time, was the reservoir supplied with water under this scheme. Earlier we must have got our water from a well under the Hall as its discovery is mentioned at the time of an earlier re-building of the Hall, but no trace was found when the present Hall was re-built.

In 1684 Charles 11 directed a 'Quo Warranto' to be sent down to the Company to know by what authority they used several liberties and privileges. Whereupon the Master, Wardens and Clerk and some of the Court attended His Majesty with a petition. They were presented to His Majesty of the Earl of Sunderland, Secretary of State, and on their knees surrendered the Charter. The King bade them rise and gave the Petition to the Master, the Clerk having read the Petition, His Majesty said that he would take care of it and delivered it to the Earl of Sunderland. The Master and Assistants thereupon kneeling upon their knees kissed His Majesty's hand.

In 1685 James 11 granted a new Charter with several alterations and limitations, removing several persons from the Court of the Company and placing others in their room. £162.10s.0d was paid for the new Charter. In February the same year the new Charter was publicly read and the new Master and Assistants took the oath of allegiance.

In 1686 the Company together with the Founders and Turners sold and conveyed all their land in Ireland to Dame Katherine Beresford for £500, the Company's share was £192, reserving their right to fishing, hunting and mining to the Irish Society.

In 1688 James 11 was moved to restore the Company and other Corporations to the same condition they were in at the time of the surrender of their Charters, And ordered that our Charter of Charles 11 be handed back because the surrender was not enrolled. But the same could not be found. James 11 abdicated, in these circumstances the opinion of Sir George Treby, Attorney General, was sought as to the position of the Company. First, whether the Company having accepted a Charter and not having back the Charter of Charles, though the surrender was not enrolled, could legally act under the old Charter and not take notice of the new one without some instrument under the Great Seal of England and null the new one or till an act standing in Parliament be passed.

Second, the position with regard to the members of the Court under the new Charter of James. Sir George Treby answered that the deed of surrender not being enrolled, the Company was not dissolved nor any way altered by it, and that the said old Company and their officers and members might have, and have an execute their ancient privileges and all constituting of a new Corporation or new officers purporting to be made by the new Charter as void. And that by law the old Assistants, might resume their places and set aside the new pretended assistants who were no other than usurpers in law. Thereupon the Court of Assistants out of the ancient assistants that were in at the time of the surrender appeared at Wax Chandlers' Hall on Tuesday, 1st October, 1689.

The Court being thus settled according to the opinion and directions of Sir George Treby upon the foundations of their old Charter proceeded to the election of Master and Wardens, Stewards, Clerk and Assistants. Thomas Hitch as Master, William Hitch as Clerk.

Following the decision of Sir George Treby and the consequent election of the new Court and officers, the Company seems to have settled down fairly quickly. And later in the year the precepts from the Lord Mayor were read, under which it was ordered that everybody made free of the Company should also become a Freeman of the City.

In the next year King William and Queen Mary demanded that the City should raise a Regiment of Horse Dragoons, and this they agreed to do, the Company paying its own proportion and agreeing to do this in the following year, 1690.

In 1696 a Freeman was hauled before the Court of Aldermen and committed to Newgate for omitting to take up the Livery.

The next few years show fairly frequent references to the Clerk or the members visiting Bexley for the purpose of supervising the charitable distribution some of which are continued to this day, although it has mostly passed out of our hands in regard to the exact administrations, and we know little about the use to which this money is now put.

In 1699 the Court had trouble over the admission of Freeman who were already connected with the Joiners, Carpenters and Masons Companies, and it banded together with other Companies to protect their members from pressure by the three Companies mentioned above who wished them to join their Freedom.

It does not seem that at this period the days for the meeting of the Court were as strictly observed as they are now, or if they were, they were not regularly recorded, for it appears that in 1704 it was ordered that the Court should be held every Friday for binding and making free.

1708 appears to have been one of those recurring periods when the Company was hard up and the Hall was let to a Mr. Priest – Dancing Master. At other times it had strange uses, such as the fattening of swans for banquets and the storage of corn for sale in times of scarcity.

In 1711 an Act of Parliament was passed relating to duties on Wax Candles.

From the Hanoverian Accession

In 1714 at the official entry of King George 1 into the City, the Company evidently made a great effort, and it is recorded as follows:-

'It is ordered that stands shall be set up for the Companies standing upon the King's making his public entry, and that there be new banners and a standard provided, I.e. the King's Banner, the City Banner, and the Company's Banner, two yards square each, and the Company's Standard, five yards long, and that Mr. Charles Wiseman do prepare and paint the same, the price thereof is left to him, but not to exceed £23.

In 1736 the Haberdashers were again in arrears with their payment on account of the Irish Estates and Fisheries. But a settlement with them was made later in the year when it is recorded that the arrears had been paid up.

In 1738 it was ordered that 2 East India £100 Bonds be sold and laid out in a lottery.

Dated 1739, there is also framed in the Hall an order to all Constables to produce the body of William Budd to answer complaint of our Master and Wardens, but no record of the result has been traced.

This year sees a gift by John Lancashire who was very active on the Company's affairs, of £100 of Shares in the joint stock of South Sea Annuities. Further payment were made in 1751 and 1752 bringing the fund to £500 but, unfortunately the good intentions do not seem to have been maintained, for in 1767 the £500 which had been then accrued was sold for repairs to the Hall.

The Apprentice Register records that on the 7th August, 1766, Margaret Couchman of Igham, Kent, was apprenticed and was to live with the Master. This is interesting because it confirms that although it was unusual to have women in the Company the need to comply with the Charter was recognised and there can be little doubt that the Court is bound to admit women apprentices and Freeman, though whether they can progress to the Livery is not so clear. It chances that Igham is the village in which the present writer lives and quite a lot is known about Mr. Couchman who seems to have been Clerk to the Vestry, and to have been a man of some substance as he built a Workhouse at his own expense in return for a ninety-nine year lease.

Wax bleaching was an important feature of the Wax Chandlers work and there is a drawing by Sandby in the possession of the Greater London Council dated about 1770 showing a house inhabited by Isaac Barrett, Wax Chandler, at Stockwell. Isaac Barrett's son Brian Barrett, was admitted to the Company by patrimony on January 23rd 1777 and he carried on his father's business. The house was supplied with water by pipes which came from a spring of remarkably fine water, and it is said that Mr. Barrett at his house carried on one of the finest manufacture of wax bleaching in the Kingdom or perhaps in Europe.

The process of bleaching the yellow bees wax was to melt it with hot water or steam in a tinned, copper or wooden vessel, let it settle and then run off into an oblong trough with a line of holes in its bottom. The wax is distributed through the holes into wooden vessels which revolve in water thus producing long ribbons or films of wax. In order to expose the ribbons to the bleaching action of air, light and moisture, they were laid on long webs of canvas stretched horizontally between standards 2 feet above the surface of a sheltered field and freely exposed to the sun. It is this part of the process which is shown in the picture. The ribbons which were covered with nets to prevent them being blown away by the wind were frequently turned over and were watered from time to time like linen bleaching in the grass field. The whole process was repeated several times until the yellow tint was entirely removed and the wax could be formed into white candles.

By 1791 the Hall, rebuilt after the Great Fire, was reported to be in ruinous condition and it was rebuilt and completed by 1793 at a final cost of £1,429 15s.0d. This Hall lasted until 1852 when another Hall was built and completed in 1853 costing £4,417. 6s. 4d. The architect was Charles Fowler, a member of the Court. He built Covent Garden and Hungerford Market and was first prize man to the present London Bridge. The Surveyor had reported that it would be better to build a new Hall on the same site. It was ordered that this should be done, the cost not to exceed £1,000, and this money was to be raised in various ways including the letting on ground lease of some property adjoining the Hall.

A further £600 was to be raised by granting annuities on the lives of the annuitant, the money to be paid out of the Company's ordinary income. The Clerk, Mr. Gregory, was very helpful as he offered to advance £200 at 5%, and this offer was gladly accepted. As it happens in these days the estimate received exceeded the amount it was intended to spend and eventually an estimate of £1,242 was accepted.

In 1792 the Hall was in process of being finished and various changes were made, including the provision of double doors and a musicians gallery.

In 1795. the Court seems to have been rather troublesome in their attendances and it was therefore proposed that the sum of 40/- should be allocated and should be shared equally among the first twelve men who arrived after the opening hour of the Court.

In 1798 the Court considered whether a new Charter should be obtained so that they could more effectively regulate the trade which had unquestionably changed from earlier days. Although the Committee appointed met once there is no trace that anything effective resulted from its labours. The award of 40/- to be divided among the Court does not seem to have been wholly effective, for, in 1801 it was decided that those members who did not attend at the time of the summons should each make a payment of 2/6d.

In 1803 at the instance of the Ward of Cripplegate it was decided to pay the sum of £10 towards the Cripplegate Volunteer Corps.

In 1822 the institution of quarterly Courts was started, the same to be held on the second Thursday after each quarter day. In 1831 Mr. Alderman Cowan was elected Sheriff and a Committee was appointed to examine the traditions, and to see what ought to be done in order that he might receive full honour from this Company. There is a long report on the customs and usages, but in the main it seems that the Sheriff was to be accompanied on official occasions by sixteen members of the Company, with the Clerk and Beadle., and on great occasions the Company's Banners were carried. They were examined and found to be wholly unfit for use and it was ordered that new Banners should be provided, first the Royal Standard, second the Company's arms and supporters, crest, etc., Third the Banner of the Sheriff elect, and fourth the Banner of the City. These Banners were to be in the very best style with silk fringes and the cost was 60 guineas.

In 1821 a return of the Company was made to the Lord Mayor and at that time the number of the Company was 152 of whom 93 were of the Livery. The Banners just referred to seems to have been impressive for on the 18th day of April a letter was received from the Lord Mayor asking if he could borrow them for use on Easter Monday, and this was, of course, granted.

The Court had some doubt as to whether they were properly complying with the Company's Bye-laws and the Clerk was ordered to examine these with special reference to the election of Master, Warden and Assistants, and it was apparently from this date that it was decided that the relevant part of the Charter should be read out by the Clerk on Election Day, as it is done at the present time.

In this year thought had been given as to the desirability of Masters remaining in office for one year only and the Clerk took Counsel's opinion. It was quite clearly established that the Company owes its existence to the Royal Charter of 1483/84 and that the Charter was definite on that point, in that a Master was chosen for two years, therefore the procedure could not be altered without going to the Crown for a new Charter, and it would seem in many ways that this would be a pity as well as extremely expensive.

In the same year the Master, Mr. Watts, was appointed a Governor of the City of London Corporation School in recognition of the support the Company had recently given that body.

In 1833 a letter was received from Sir Francis Palgrave, one of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the Municipal Corporations in England and Wales. It contained a large number of questions and the Clerk was instructed to prepare a document answering them. This document is to-day in use at the Guild Hall, and forms a comprehensive summary of the Company's laws, regulations and activities.

From an entry in 1834 it appears that there has been a custom for the senior Liverymen not past the Chair to present haunches of venison for the Company's dinner and in this year it was recorded that Mr. Boughy Burgess, in place of this, presented a pair of Ormolu Candelabra and said "they will be I think both useful and ornamental to our table and certainly a more permanent service than many haunches of venison".

In April 1834 the Master and Wardens gave particulars of the work which had been done in repairing and modernising the Hall in accordance with an instruction of the previous year. The total cost of this was £1,308, 3s. 6d and, in conclusion, the Master and Wardens congratulate the brethren of the Court on "the superior accommodation, comfort and respectability which the Company have hereby secured, not only for themselves and successors, but also for the resident officer of the Company".

In 1834 a survey of all the City Companies was ordered and the Royal Commission Report of 1837, together with the Report of 1884, form a unique guide to the history, constitution, powers, privileges and possessions of most of the present day Livery Companies. These form the basis of most of the control exercised from the Guild Hall.

The Company then, as throughout most of its history (although being an early Company, its numbers were not limited by Charter) remained small and in the years 1801 to 1833 only 91 people were admitted to the Livery. It records that at that day two stewards were annually elected by the Court to provide a dinner for the Livery on Lord Mayor's Day, but they usually paid a composition of £20. The custom even then seems to have been regarded as somewhat onerous and the last steward that I can see recorded was Charles John Todd in 1847.

The long report on the Company and its traditions and laws is very useful to this day. But there appears to be nothing which ought to be quoted at this time except perhaps the interesting fact that it makes quite clear that women are entitled to the Freedom of the Company but at that time there was only one, named Elisabeth Applegarth, admitted in 1799.

In 1836 the Reverend Gilbert Gilbert was elected honorary Chaplain of the Company, he was a Liveryman. This seems to be the last occasion on which we had such an appointment.

April 1837 shows the suspension of quarter age until further notice. This small annual payment by Liverymen and Freemen is still continued in many Companies but does not appear to have been restored in ours. The record of 1837 and 1838 gave a very long and interesting accounts made to support the Master of the Company, Mr John Cowan, afterwards Sir John Cowan, in his candidature as Lord Mayor, and in the subsequent entry into the various offices, and to take part in the ceremonies which accompany this office.

During this period Her Majesty Queen Victoria came to the City and was entertained by the Lord Mayor, and the Company spared no expense in honouring the Lord Mayor, and in helping him to do honour to the Queen. It may be worthwhile, as an example of the preparations, to give the following extracts of the instructions for a procession:-

"Marshalsmen and City Officers in front, to clear a way, the Beadle of the Company, Mr Bishop and four assistants bearing the following banners; the Royal Standard; the Arms of the Company; the Arms of the Lord Mayor; and the Arms of the City. The Band of the Grenadier Guards, the Clerk in his Chariot"

1837, the year of Queen Victoria's accession to the throne, the Lord Mayor, Sir John Cowan, who was a Warden of the Company was made a Baronet and chosen Master of the Company. Our next Lord Mayor, in 1862, was Sir William Anderson Rose, M.P., a member of the Court and, subsequently, Master of the Company.

Whifflers, or persons to wait upon the Company on Lord Mayor's Day, were formerly appointed, but for many years no such appointment was made. A Clerk who is a Chartered Officer and Beadle are elected by the Court for life. At that time the Company owned property in Coleman Street, Sugarloaf Court, Aldersgate Street, Old `Change, Maiden Lane., and its total average annual income was about £845. Some £60 per annum were distributed to pensioners and £20 to widows of deceased Masters.

In 1839 a Committee was appointed to consider the Bye-laws but it is recorded that after a time it desisted, on finding their work a useless labour, as their pre-seasons in 1664 acting under the Charter then recently granted by King Charles 11, which is still our Governing charter, had diligently and carefully combined all that was useful and good etc. Furthermore, it was reported that by an Act of Parliament made in the nineteenth year of King Henry V111 it was extremely doubtful whether any attempt to alter the laws could well be made. It was, however, pointed out there there was an Act of King William 1V, in the fifth year of his reign, under which some of the old oaths could be amended, and declarations made in their place. The Committee recommended declarations in place of oaths, and that these should be printed in a book and signed by the Master and the person being enrolled, and this is done to this day. It was particularly stressed that it was inconvenient to the Company to follow the practice of many Companies in having a Master for one year only and it was felt that no alteration in this procedure could, or should, be made.

It was about this time that it was decided that in the absence of the Master the chair should be taken by the Upper Warden. The Minutes of the Court of July and August 1840, record the presentation to the Company of portraits of Mr. Pulley and Mr. Caldwell.

In November 1841, Mr. Clay having died whilst in office as Master, a considerable discussion took place, and the custom was then established following the precedent of 1711 that the Senior Past Master should be re-elected as Master to service for the period of office still remaining.

The Meeting of January 1844 gives in brief the history of the Company's ancient connections with the Parish of Bexley, particularly the connection of Mr. Nicholas Frankwell & Mr. William Kendell. It is from these ancient times that the then custom of Master and Wardens going to Bexley on November 1st each year seems to have stemmed, and also the gifts which throughout the ages had been increased, till at that time they were usually £50 pa.

On this occasion a petition from the Parochial Ministers was received asking for aid for the National Schools which had long been supported by the Company and for the Episcopal Chapel which had been consecrated in 1836. £10 was subscribed for an organ "capable of being played by hand or by barrel to save the salary of an organist".

In April 1845 there was a tentative suggestion that Ladies should be asked to the Company's Summer Dinner. But this does not seem to have proceeded with and the custom of not having Ladies at our functions persisted until very recent times.

1847 was the beginning of the period when, following a letter from the City Remembrancer, there was much concern about the City's proposal to pull down our Hall for the widening of Gresham Street.

In the next few years there were many reports and petitions on this subject. Mr. Charles Fowler, the subsequent architect of the Hall completed in 1854, was a member of the Livery and conducted most of the negotiations. There are detailed reports of the old Hall which are very interesting and show that it must have been a building of considerably more attraction than the one which was subsequently erected.

In 1850, after various discussions, it was decided that the compensation to be demanded from the City should be in the region of £6,000. Discussions were then held with the City Surveyor and an Umpire was appointed and he eventually awarded a sum of £4,014 in compensation. There is drawn into the Court Book a plan showing in good detail the situation of the Hall before and after this requisition.

The last meeting at the old Hall was held on Monday, 20th October, 1851, and the Company then rented temporary premises at 19 Gresham Street West at a rental of £150 per annum.

Various estimates were obtained for the re-building of the Hall and the designs put out to competition, but eventually awarded to the Company's architect, Mr Fowler, and the lowest estimate was £3,493. The foundation stone was laid by Joseph Pulley, the Master, on the 20th July, 1852, and there was buried in a glass bottle hermetically sealed, under the foundation stone, a memorial giving particulars, and a number of coins provided by the Master as follows:-

£1., a Sovereign dated 1852.
 10/-., a Half Sovereign dated 1850.
 5/-., a Crown Piece dated 1847.
 2/6., a Half Crown Piece dated 1849.
 2/-., a Florin dated 1852.
 1/-., a one Shilling piece dated 1847.
 6d., the Sixpenny Piece dated 1841.
 4d., a Fourpenny Piece dated 1846.
 3d., a Threepenny Piece dated 1850.
 1d., a One Penny Piece dated 1851.
 1d., two Halfpenny pieces dated 1851.
 A Farthing dated 1850.

These are presumably still there as the ground floor was not rebuilt after the 1939 war. On the 29th Sept, 1853, the Hall must have been fairly advanced as the first Court Meeting was held here on that date.

On the 20th January, 1854, the sum of £1,200 was placed at the disposal of the Renter Warden for furnishing and we still have a little of this furniture left, although much of it was burnt in the fire in the recent war. The official date of the opening of the Hall was the 20th April, but there is no account of any special ceremony on that occasion.

In 1856 Mr. Fowler, the architect of the Hall (a member of the Court) presented to the Company full plans of the Hall, together with the histories and notes of all the proceeding Halls, but this document, unfortunately, seems to have been lost. Later in the same year it was decided that any member attending late at the Court should forfeit his fee. And in 1857 the Company made a grant of £25 to the relief of sufferers from the late Mutiny in India.

In 1860 there was considerable discussion on the method of electing members to the Court and to the offices and the Clerk was ordered to make research and he reported that from the date of the Charter of King Charles 11 until the year 1672 election seems to have been by a show of hands. But in 1708 the election was decided by ballot and this practice has continued to the present day.

At a later Court the question of the cost of coats for giving away on St. Thomas's Day, as we still do, came up, and estimates were obtained from a Cheapside Tailor and five coats were ordered to be bought at 26/6d each.

In 1862 we lent various of our most precious items, Charters, Grants of Arms and Silver to an Exhibition of the Society of Antiquaries and they printed a most detailed report, copies or extracts of which are entered in the Minute Book of January 22nd, 1862. It is pointed that in the Grant of Arms of the 3rd February 2 Richard 111, 1485, the unicorns had been added as an original Grant by Thomas Benoit on the 11th October 22 Henry V 111, 1523, by which he conforms the Grant of Haberdashers predecessor, "rectified with my hand", and adds, "also I have devised and granted to the same Worshipful Company the uniform to uphold their arms, as they do appear in the said margin"

There is also a long description of the Normansell Cup and of the spoon which we have in our possession makes "twice presented to the Company" by William Coleborne, dated 1653. Later in the year came the decision that at any Meeting where a meal was served a box of sweet meats of the value 7/- should be supplied to each member of the Court and visitors to take home. This custom had continued for a great many years, certainly till just before the 1939 war, It had then become the practice for this to be taken home by the diner to his wife as it was not at that time the custom to invite Ladies to our functions.

The 7th March, 1863, was the date of the entry into the City of London of Her Royal Highness, Princess Alexander of Denmark. The Company arranged to have 150 seats in St. Paul's Church Yard and made extensive preparations in their Hall, it being the intention that each member of the Livery off Court should be able to take a Lady. A cold collation was to be provided and the whole amount cost £316, a very considerable sum for those days. It was particularly reported that the wine was costly, as follows:-

Wine consumed

Champagne	34 bottles	@	5/6	£9. 7s. 6d.
Sherry	30 bottles	@	4/6	£6. 15s. 0d
Port	9 Bottles	@	5/-	£2. 5s. 0d.
Moselle	9 Bottles	@	5/6	£2. 9s. 6d
Brandy	1 pint	@	3/6	3s. 6d
Total				£21. 0s. 0d.

The court books of the period constantly record the stock of wine and it may be of interest to set out what was in the cellars in September 1866.

Stock of wine in the cellar as under :-

Port	1,163 bottles
Sherry	636 bottles
Madeira	33 bottles
Champagne	63 bottles
Claret	135 bottles
Moselle	154 bottles
Bucellas	24 bottles
Hock	7 bottles
Chablis	68 bottles
Brandy	29 pint bottles

In July 1867 the negotiations with the Charity Commissioners having proved abortive, notice was received that an information had been laid against the Company at the Court of Chancery. During the next few years a great deal of the records of the Company are devoted to legal opinions and the results of various cases in connection with William Kendell's Charity.

On the death of Mr. Charles Fowler it was proposed at the Court on the 22nd October, 1867, that he should be replaced, but it was discovered that the Court, by his death, was reduced to 23 which was the Charter number. In 1866 it was resolved that the fine for taking up the Freedom and Livery of the Company by redemption should not be less than £100.

On the 16th August, 1869, the Master of the Rolls gave a very clear judgement in favour of the Wax Chandlers Company holding that it had been the intention of Mr. William Kendell that surplus funds of his Charity should be for the benefit of the Company of which he was Master.

On the 9th March, 1870, the Lord Chancellor gave judgement and rejected the appeal of the Attorney General. His decision came down quite firmly in favour of the Wax Chandlers Company in the case of the William Kendell Law Suit.

In July 1871, notice was received of a further appeal to the House of Lords and this matter was finally settled in February, 1873, when came before Lord Chelmsford, Lord Colonsay and Lord Cairns. They accepted the appeals and the Wax Chandlers' Company lost a major part of their interest in Mr. Kendell's bequests. There followed prolonged negotiations with the Charity Commissioners and finally a scheme was approved by the Master of the Rolls, on the 4th July, 1878, and this scheme still operates. After providing for the continuance of various minor bequests approximately three-quarters should be paid for charitable purposes to the Parish at Bexley and to the Parochial Charities of the City of London and the remaining one-quarter should be paid out at the discretion of the Company to poor people connected with the Company or to such other persons as the Company think proper.

In 1882 a fine for Freedom and Livery was again increased to the sum of £150. In 1882 Mr. James Anderson Rose presented the portrait of his father, Sir William Anderson Rose, which is now in the Hall.

1884 was the date of the review of City Companies previously referred to.

In 1892 the Company was again engaged in litigation in connection with the Irish Estates and the legal advice was the Company should be dismissed from the action, and this appears to terminate the Company's long association with lands in Ireland. In September of this year the Company presented a silver cake basket to commemorate his being thrice Master of the Company.

In January 1893 one of the Company's banners was lent for an exhibition in Chicago as part of the decorations of the British exhibit. In this year stock was taken of the Company's wine and it may be interesting to compare this with the type of wines drunk in early days:-

Burgundy	4 dozen and two.
Brandy	1 dozen and seven.
Champagne	3 dozen and five.
Claret	6 dozen and eight.
Curaçao	8 bottles.
Hock	16 dozen and five.
Madeira	4 bottles.
Maraschino	9 bottles.
Port	76 dozen and nine.
Sauternes	6 dozen and five.
Sherry	85 dozen and ten.
Sundry odd bottles	10 bottles.
TOTAL	203 dozen and ten.

At the same meeting it was decided that in future admissions to Freedom and Livery would not take place on the same day.

In 1897 past Master Charles John Todd presented the Company with what is known as the Diamond Jubilee Cup in commemoration of Queen Victoria's sixty years on the throne. This had been designed on the lines of the Normansell Cup which has been in our possession for so many years. At the same period, and to commemorate the same event, it was decided to present each member of the Company, being a Liveryman, a silver gilt spoon, and some of those are still in our possession.

In January 1901 a decision was taken that as part of his fine any man, on election to the Court, should present a piece of silver and this has been the course of a great deal of the silver which we possess at this date.

Until July 1901 the Company had always had an official Beadle, but at this date the office was ordered to be held in abeyance, presumably for financial reasons. In September the Company received a South African War Medal presented by the Government in commemoration of the raising and equipment of the City of London Imperial Volunteers. In January 1902 it was resolved that the Company should have painted a portrait of past Master Charles John Todd, in recognition of his long service, and this was to be framed and the cost not to exceed 200 guineas.

In 1906 the Master of the Wax Chandlers Company became ex-officio President of the British Beekeepers Association. This body was formed in 1874, but in the interim seems at times to have merged with the Central Association of Beekeepers, the latter being largely concerned as a Central body dealing with County and other associations, while the British Bee Keepers Association dealt mainly with individuals. In recent years we have been happy to close up our connections with the British Bee Keepers Association and they now hold a meeting in our Hall every year.

In 1911 the Company supplied a banner bearing their coat of arms, to be placed per entry in the Guild Hall library. In the same year the Irish Society wrote giving a short history of the Company's connections with the North of Ireland and suggesting that a stained glass window should be supplied for the Guild Hall at Londonderry. The Company decided to take no action in this matter.

In 1912 a list of pictures lent by Mr. Gregory was produced. These were all destroyed when the hall was burnt except for a portrait of a man with ruff, listed as a copy of Van Dyck and "The Reformation Preacher", an original painting.

1913 was the date of the purchase of the Company's present property in Fleet Street. In the same year it was decided that No. 3 Lloyds Avenue was a suitable investment for the funds of William Kendell's charity.

In 1919 the Company's Hall was let to the Ironmongers Company who had the misfortune to lose their Hall as a result of a Zeppelin bomb during the war. In 1922 the British Beekeepers Association resolved to elevate the Master from the position of President of to that of Patron, and this honour was accepted on behalf of the Company.

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Following the outbreak of war in 1939, by October 1940, all the Company's ancient documents had been packed under expert advice and had been deposited with the Company's bankers, and soon after that date I was reported that a land mine had exploded close to the Hall and done a great deal of damage.

On the 29th December 1940, the Hall was largely destroyed by fire which spread from adjoining buildings and could not be quelled through lack of water. An Emergency meeting of the Wardens was held on the 6th January in the cellar of the Hall (being the only place fit for each use), and the Clerk gave a report which is recorded more fully in the Court Minutes of the 29th day of January giving details of all he had done to safeguard the Company's property and to remove its current records to a place of safety. The Court heartily thanked the Clerk, Mr. Wood and his family, for the great efforts they had made on the Company's behalf.

It is, incidentally, interesting to record that, according to tradition, our premises in Aldersgate Street were used for a similar purpose after the destruction of the Hall in the Fire of London, 1666.

In May 1941 the silver which had mercifully been preserved in the cellars at the time of the destruction of the Hall was transferred to Bath. There it remained in safety in underground vaults until after the war.

On the 25th March, 1943, the Company was represented at St. Paul's at the first United Guild Service which has since become a feature of the City Livery Companies year.

In April 1946 our past connection with Bee Keeping was well renewed as the reconstituted British Bee Keepers Association asked that the Master should become patron of the new body to be known as the Central Association of the British Bee Keepers Assn.

After the United Guild Service on the 25th March 1947, a very unusual event occurred in that the Master and Court of the Company presented to Mr. A.J. Wood an antique clock to commemorate 50 years service with the Company as Clerk and Assistant Clerk and that during all these 50 years he had never once failed to attend a meeting of the Company.

In January 1948 the Company were asked to provide the Government with some estimates of the cost of re-building their damaged properties and it is interesting to record these and later to compare the figures with the actual cost, in the case of the Hall, and the compensation which was eventually paid by the City or the Government.

The Hall	£30,000.
Nos. 15, 16, 17 Albion Buildings	£20,000

No. 186 Aldersgate Street	£50,000
Nos. 196, 197 Upper Thames Street	£50,000

In April 1945, it having been decided that a value payment was appropriate the Company received in respect of 196 & 197 Upper Thames Street the sum of £3,551 including interest.

On the 7th October, 1949, a formal resolution was passed, after a good deal of discussion, deciding definable that the Company's Hall was to be re-built on the present site and, at the same Court, the Clerk asked for permission to send three boxes of counterpart leases marked 1591 to 1650, 1533 to 1668 and 1728 to 1874 respectively to the Guild Hall library, and this was agreed. In 1951 Mr. Fuller kindly agreed to examine a large box of ancient documents and to list them. Having done so, he, with the permission of the Court, then removed them to the Guild Hall library, for examination and preservation.

In January 1952 there was a rather unusual occurrence in that Past Master Mr. C.G. Todd was appointed Clerk and, for this purpose, he resigned from the Court. But at the subsequent Court in April 1952 he was re-appointed a member of the Court and it was put upon record that this was to be looked upon as exceptional and not become a precedent. At the Court of the 15th July, 1952, there was presented a very fully statement of the Company's assets, investments and properties together with an explanatory appendix which endeavoured to show the original source of these various assets.

In October 1953 a final settlement which reached in the matter of the property, No 186 Aldersgate Street, and the sum of £4,500 was decided upon.

In January 1954 plans prepared by Messrs. Seely and Page, as architects of the Company, were considered and approved. After much thought and many negotiations it was decided to re-build the Hall and contracts were let in 1956. Owing to the fact that the War Damage Settlement was most unsatisfactory it was not possible to re-build the Hall on quite the same scale as before and, in order to deal with the financial position, the architects Messrs Seely and Page, were instructed, whilst retaining the outward character of the Hall, to design it so that two floors could be let. The Hall itself is on almost exactly the same site as that of 1502 and the granite of the 1853 Hall survived and it retained external up to first floor level.

It is curious to note that on the 1853 Hall there are no bee skeps as there were on the previous one. But one of these was found in the ruins of the burned Hall and now appears a little way above the doorway in the new structure. Although most of the furnishings were destroyed it was fortunate that the Company had taken precautions by sending some of their pictures, all their silver and all their ancient documents to a place of safety, and these are all well preserved and are in good condition.

The Hall itself is on the third floor and there is a Clerk's office on the fourth floor and above, residential accommodation for a caretaker. The Hall can accommodate approximately sixty diners and includes a small anteroom and minstrel's gallery. The walls of the Hall are lined with cork tiles which ensure quiet during the service of meals and good acoustics for after-dinner speeches.

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The three magnificent crystal chandeliers were recovered from the ruins of the Hall and have been repaired and re-assembled and now make a fine show. There is a show case for the Company Plate which incorporates some fine wood carving from the earlier Hall, attributed to Grinling Gibbons. Lime green curtains on the lofty windows and a red patterned carpet complete the décor of this apartment which, although traditional in character, possesses many marks of individuality. These are enhanced within and without the building by evidence of the long history of the Company, by pictures which adorn the walls, the stained glass panelled heraldry, the Metal Insurance Plates, the Beehive Roundel in the carved stone above the main entrance and the entrance doors themselves which were there, enrichment of bees and wax candles picked out in gold leaf which recall to all who come there the craft and attributes of this ancient Company.

In July 1956 a detailed agreement was received from the Guild Hall library with regard to an additional deposit of documents following that placed on October 1949, chiefly leases for the period 1590 to 1884. A printed list of the new deposit is contained in the Court Book under this date.

In April 1957, having finally decided to let a portion of the re-built Hall, the Estate Agents were instructed to find suitable tenants. In July preliminary excavations were being made and there were found a Roman Hammer head and a considerable number of Roman pottery fragments, including two bowls which were restored and are now almost complete and in the Company's anteroom. In October the Company accepted with gratitude the offer of £100 from Mr. J.C. Field, a Liveryman whose family's ancient connection with this Company are recorded elsewhere. This sum of money was devoted to the fine double Oak doors to the Hall which are still a notable feature.

At a Court on the 15th April, 1958, it was decided that the Company should provide candles for the New High Altar at St. Paul's Cathedral in perpetuity, thus renewing the traditions of our very early days.

There was no official opening of the new Hall but the first meeting of the Court was held there on Tuesday, 7th October 1958. Mr. A.E.B. Fuller being Master at the time, Mr John Dummelow Upper Warden and Colonel T.H. Winterborn Renter Warden, and the Clerk Mr. Charles G. Todd. (A Past Master).

The Company passed a vote of thanks to the Clerk for his work in re-establishing the Company in its Hall. The Clerk offered the Company furniture to the value of £500 from his grandfather, past Master C.J. Todd's house, and this offer was accepted but the Clerk then asked

the Company not to pay the money but to use it in the creation of a Todd Memorial Fund, details of which appear in the Court Book 14th July, 1959, and Claude a provision of the Clerk to read annually some details of benefactors prior to the Clerk's Toast to their memory at an annual ceremony.

In 1960 it was decided to supplement the records now on loan to the Guild Hall Library by depositing the plans of the 1853 Hall together with the plans of the new Hall.

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In November 1960 the Clerk, at the request of the Court, made a statement showing the improvement in the Company's affairs since 1935 and up to 1959.

In 1961 there was a further deposit of the Company's ancient documents with the Guild Hall library and details of this are recorded in the Appendix.

On the 11th July, 1961, there was received from Mrs Joan Joly a request that the Company should help to get her second son into Christ's Hospital where her elder son was being educated. Mrs. Joly's husband had died in Africa and she herself had, before marriage, been a Miss Parnell, a direct descendent of Mr. William Parnell our Renter Warden and benefactor of 1620.

On the 9th May, 1963, the Princess Royal, Her Royal Highness Princess Mary, Countess of Harewood, visited the Hall in connection with the centenary celebration of the British Red Cross and was received by the Clerk. And on the 5th June the Corporation made use of the Hall for a luncheon for the Mayor of Charlottetown and other Canadian Mayors. This was an unusual event and the Clerk was asked to speak briefly on the Company's silver and its history.

On April 6th, 1965, The Court approved for the Freedom Mr R.K. Todd, son of the Clerk, and the Clerk thereupon presented to the Company to commemorate this event a silver rose water dish which the Company had presented to his grandfather to commemorate his being made thrice Master of the Company. He explained that this rose water dish was made by the celebrated silversmith Gilbert Marks and the flowers on it were reproduced from a tulip tree at the then residence of past Master Charles John Todd, sir.

On the 19th October, 1965, Mr. A G. Horton, a member of the Livery, was congratulated on becoming President of the British Bee Keepers Association and was asked to consider means by which we could become more closely associated with that body.

On Tuesday, 19th April, following the recommendation of Mr. Horton, it was decided to make an annual award of £50 together with a diploma for the best paper on Bee Keeping, the arrangements to be made through the British Keepers Association.

On August 4th, 1966, past Master and Clerk Mr C.G. Todd nominated Mr. C.B. Gregory to be Master for the second time and it was made clear that the unusual step was in celebration of the Gregory family having completed 200 years continuous service with the Company.

It was in January of this year that the Clerk was asked by the Court to put his knowledge of the Company into writing and it is from this that the present notes stemmed and it would therefore seem that this would be a proper point to end these remarks and, in view of our long connection with the Churches, to conclude with the Grace recently written for us by Ronnie Simpson, a member of our Livery and Precentor of Westminster Abbey:-

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For thy creature the Bee

The Wax and the honey

We thank thee, O Lord

By the light of all men

Christ Jesus our King

May this food now be blessed.

AMEN

