

THE STATIONERS, BOOKSELLERS AND PRINTERS OF CHESTER TO ABOUT 1800.

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PART I

IN modern usage a "stationer" is a tradesman who sells writing materials or "stationery," and he is often also a bookseller. These were also the main vocations indicated by the title of "stationer" in the sixteenth century and earlier, though the word "stationery" for the materials was a much later usage. For the title "stationer," in some curious way, became attached to one class only of the tradesmen of all kinds who had a "station" or place of business; in other words, a shop of a permanent kind, as opposed to the stalls, booths or temporary selling places of itinerant and occasional vendors of goods and merchandise. The distinction must have arisen out of the customs attaching to fairs held in the larger towns. Normally the shops, the permanent "stations," were kept by members of the various trade guilds, who, as freemen, were alone entitled to trade. But during a fair their monopoly was laid on one side, and the outsider, the "foreigner," as he was called, was permitted, under varying restrictions as to time and place and on payment of a rent or "stallage," to occupy temporary stalls whereat to display and sell his goods. These stalls would naturally be erected in or near the accustomed place where the fair was held.

So far as Chester is concerned, we have records of such arrangements in the thirteenth century. In 1288

disputes arose between the City and the Abbey over the fairs. The monks claimed that one of the fairs should be held in front of the Abbey gate and that the Abbey stalls there and in the street by the Abbey should alone be used for all sales ; while the citizens claimed the right to buy and sell anywhere else in the city during the fair. The agreement came to laid down the limits where temporary stalls and stands could be erected by the citizens, to be removed when the fair was over ; and the Abbey agreed not to let their houses to city merchants so long as any of the city stalls was vacant, but they were to be free to do so to outsiders, stallage being payable to the city authorities.¹

The " Stationers " of Chester must therefore originally have included all the shopkeepers, but in course of time, as elsewhere, came to mean only the local resident free-men booksellers, who, before the art of printing was invented, monopolised the sale of such written books as were made and offered for sale, as well as such materials, paper, parchment, ink and so forth, as were available in early days ; and they were also professional writers and illuminators as well as binders and repairers of books. But I have not met with any mention of them at Chester earlier than the sixteenth century, when the growth of printed books doubtless drew their trade into greater prominence. It is well known that the various craftsmen in Chester were grouped together in trade monopolistic guilds, or societies ; and from time to time a group would seek to better and consolidate its position and rights by obtaining a charter of incorporation, sometimes royal but more often from the city authorities. The group comprising the Painters, Glasiers, Embroiderers and Stationers obtained such a city charter in 1534, and it is in this document that the first mention of the Chester Stationers seems to occur.

¹ *Chester County Court Rolls (Chetham Soc., 84), p. 122.*

The charter itself has so far not been discovered. The earliest extant book of records of the Company, dating from about 1584 (though with entries of earlier matters), is prefaced by this statement, written in long afterwards.¹ "Be it remembered by this Worshipful Company that the Charter belonging thereto is preserved in the British Museum among the MSS. of our deceased brother Randle Holme."²

This note seems to be incorrect if it was intended to refer to the original charter. There are only two poor *copies* among the Holme MSS. in the Harleian collection, viz. in vol. 2054, at folios 88 and 87b (old folio 157).

I found, however, that the charter of 1534 had been enrolled upon the Chester "Recognisance" Roll in 1661³ on the occasion of an *inspeximus* by Charles II, which was followed by the issue of an exemplification, or officially certified copy (which is also yet to be found). As such an enrolment is, next to the original charter or the exemplification, the best of versions, I have printed the whole charter in the appendix for the first time from this source.

The charter, which is dated 1 May, 1534 (twenty-three years before the Royal charter granted to the Stationers of London in 1557), was issued by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of Chester. After reciting the desirability of each craft and occupation following their own faculties without interfering with those

¹ This entry cannot be earlier, and is doubtless later, than 1753 when the MSS. of Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford, and his son, which included the Holme series, passed to the British Museum.

² See Dr. Bridge's paper on this Company in *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 20, p. 154. I find the Charter was delivered on 15 June, 1641, to Steward Edmonds "to lock up in the chest and put in the pinchett" (? Pentice) (Rough Minute Book of the Co., 1624-5, in the *Earwaker Coll.*, Chester Arch. Soc.).

³ A note to one of the copies referred to mentions an earlier enrolment in 1536, but I have not found where this was.

of others, it shows that the Painters, Glasiers, Embroiderers and Stationers had petitioned for incorporation into one body: and proceeds to state that those four crafts, arts and faculties had, time out of mind, been one brotherhood for the costs and expenses of the Chester Play known as "The Shepherds' Watch," with the Angels' Hymn.

It will be remembered that the presentation, to use a modern expression, of the various Chester Miracle or Mystery Plays was undertaken by one or other of the City Guilds or Companies. "The Shepherds' Watch," according to the earliest known version of the "banns" or proclamation of the plays,¹ was done by the Painters, Glasiers and Embroiderers, and the Stationers are not there mentioned. Still, although they would not be numerous, the charter is evidence that they were sufficiently important to be included in the Company and had assisted the other three in this play, though for how long it is impossible to say.

Returning to the charter, it then proceeds to incorporate the Company, with aldermen and stewards, and deals in turn with each of the four trades, arts or mysteries. There is much of interest in it affecting the painters, hatchers, limners, stainers and "seelers"²; the glasiers who "cut, lead, simon³ and anneal⁴" glass; the embroiderers who "draw, prink,⁵ surfeel,⁶ pink⁷ and cut" cloth, linen, woollen, silks, satins or velvets.⁸ But

¹ Morris, *Chester in the Plantagenet and Tudor Reigns* (1895), pp. 307-9.

² To "seil" or "ceil" means to overlay or line, e.g. with gold.

³ To cool off slowly after exposure to great heat.

⁴ To cement.

⁵ To trim or adorn.

⁶ To "surfle" or "surlfel" means to embroider, to pleat, and also to paint or wash a surface with colour.

⁷ To ornament cloth, etc., with holes, figures, designs and patterns.

⁸ In a petition by the Company, ascribed to c. 1603-4, the embroiderers are described as "industrious in drawinge of knottes, flowers and other devyses in proportion upon lynnens, wollens, and other stuffs, for the use of seamsters, needlewomen and others" (*Hist. MSS. Comm.*, 8th Report (Chester Corporation), App. 385b).

our special interest here is in the Stationers alone. For them the charter provided as follows :—

“ Noe persons or person of what trade or occupacion soever as is abovesaid shall use or exercise the trade and occupacion of a stacioner, either to binde, folde, cut, or sell bookes of any sort or sise whatsoever ; and that none other company within this citty of chester shall intermedell in that profession save only such as has sarved as apprentices to the stacioner or booke binder ; or putt off any books for profite or gaine ; on the forfeiture of V poundes, and the said bookes with the tooles belonging to a stacioner that are soe set to seile¹ or used in the said occupacion to be seised on by the sherifes of the citty for the use of the King's Majeste and the Compane of Painters, Glasiers, Imbrauderers and Stacioners as aforesaid.”

It will be noticed that this clause does not refer at all to the *printing* of books, but only to making up, binding and selling them. The London Stationers did not get their charter conferring a monopoly of printing until 1557, some years later, but it was practically in their hands in 1534, and there can have been no question of printing books at Chester at this date, or for considerably more than 100 years. Printers therefore formed no part of this Chester Company, as originally constituted, but as soon as presses were set up there, the owners, as stationers or booksellers, were forced into the Company's ranks. We find that, in litigation in 1726 (mentioned below), a printer, who had set up a Chester press, referred to the art of printing as “ a modern invention within the time of the memory of man,” and urged that no particular trade or corporation ought to have the right to the sole use and exercise of the printer's trade ; and the Chester Company then agreed that printing had never been regarded as part of the trade of a stationer, though bookbinding was.

¹ Perhaps the tools for binding and ornament, unless “ seile ” here means “ sell.”

Other provisions of the charter were that none of the brethren was to try to take work out of another's hands, or to circumvent, allure or entice another's customers. Disorderly behaviour, including "calling a brother out of his name," was forbidden, and rules and orders were to be made. Disputes which could not be settled were to be put to the Mayor, with a right of final resort to the law of the land. The charter was confirmed in 1661, as mentioned above.

This Chester Company is still in existence, though with only a few brethren, and the books and records (though not, I believe, the charter) are in the possession of its Stewards, who are annually elected. The books have been exhibited on several occasions to the Chester Archæological Society, and several valuable papers in that Society's *Journal* have contained very full extracts taken from them.¹ I have endeavoured to arrange to examine them myself or by a duly accredited and responsible agent, but have been forced to abandon the project owing to difficulties in seeing the books in any reasonable time, place and conditions. There is, however, a good deal of information relating to the stationers in the papers referred to, and in other sources. In all that follows, it will be understood that I have confined myself entirely to matter affecting the stationers, although the Company included the three other important classes of craftsmen, and there is much about these in the books.

The records do not cover the first thirty years of the Company's existence, but from those that are extant we find the earliest recorded "brother" of the Stationers' side of this Company was Francis Godlof or Godlyf, a bookbinder who became a freeman of the city, and was

¹ See *Journal*, N.S. 20, p. 154 note, for the references to several papers by Hughes, Dr. Bridge and F. Simpson, from which and other sources I have extracted notes used here. These papers deal also with the painters and glasiars, of whom I have said but little.

admitted to the Company in 1567 on payment of £4, the "foreigner's" admittance fee.

The first-recorded Chester "stationer" is William Holme, a Tranmere man, of the well-known family, who became a London stationer, and was admitted in 1592 to the Chester Company (which in 1590 included no stationers out of eighteen brethren). The later stationers are mentioned in the biographical notes which follow. The Company's activities in the interests of its stationer brethren are amply illustrated by the following entries in the books and elsewhere :—

- 1599 "Spent upon Randall Eaton for helping to drive away the Statyoners after the Fayre. 4d."
- 1618 "To an Officer for shutting down the Stationers' windows at Midsummer. 4d." (i.e. the windows of the stalls used by the "foreigners" during the fair.)
- 1630 Petition by the Company, at an Assembly before the Mayor of Chester in the Common Hall, complaining that William Case, a freeman and one of the prebendaries of the Cathedral, laboured to infringe and entrench upon the ancient rights, liberties and customs of the City. Because the Company had refused to let him have a key to their meeting house, he called them a factious Company, cursed them and wished the Devil to take them all. He threatened to be revenged on them, and in pursuit thereof petitioned and solicited the Bishop for a stranger to keep a stationer's shop within the Abbey Court, and several times gave forth in speeches that he would cause shops to be built within the court for any one to trade there (with evidence of other scandalous acts and sayings). (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, vol. 17, p. III.)
- 1636 "Given the Macebearer his fee for feching of Ric. Thrope¹ the Stationer before the Mayor for setting up a shoppe in the City, being a forener. 8d."
 "Spent more to suppress Ric. Thrope when we had a warrant from Mr. Mayor for shutting in of his shoppe. 9d."
- 1637 "Ric. Thrope by extraordinary favour was admitted a brother, and payd for his fine. £5."

¹ See below, p. 144.

- 1648 "Paid out to the Macebearer about suppressing a book-seller. 12d."
- 1649 "Paid Mr. John Brookes, Macebearer, for twice going out to St. Michael's Fair to suppress the foreign Stationers. 2s."
- 1651 Ditto.
- 1670 "For fetching Mr. Peter Bodvel¹ before the Mayor. 4d."
"Spent at Mr. Bodvel's house after he was admitted a brother. 8s."
- 1688 "Paid by consent of the Company concerning Mr. Huitt grocer, for selling of bookes. 18s. 8d."
- 1691 "Allowed unto John Minshull, Stationer, which he hath laid out of a suit against Nathan Jolly, Grocer. £1. 16s. 6d."

In 1684-5 there was litigation between two brethren, Humphrey Page, a bookseller, and John Minshull, stationer, because the latter had set up two shops in the city contrary to ancient usage, one only being allowed.

In August, 1625, the accounts of the Company contain this item :—

"Spent in wyne to entertayne the wardens and others of the Company of Stacioners of London. 2s. 6d."

The books of the London Company do not seem to throw any light upon this visit, but that Company was interested in a plantation in Ireland, and it is possible that the wardens stopped at Chester on their way.² It seems unlikely that they were looking for an unauthorised Chester printing press at this date.

In 1726 there was an interesting suit which throws much light on the subject of this paper. The result is

¹ See below, p. 119.

² Mr. R. T. Rivington, the Clerk to the Stationers' Company of London, and Dr. W. W. Greg, both kindly made searches among the Company's records without success. Dr. Greg suggested the reason for a visit to Chester mentioned above.

not exactly known but the documents are worth printing and are as follows :—

(1)

6 May 1726. COMPLAINT ¹ by William Cooke of Chester, printer and bookseller, that he was heretofore regularly bound an apprentice to Mr. Andrew Crooke, His Majesty's printer and bookseller in Dublin, for 7 years, and served the same there, and, being a native of Chester, came to settle there several years since and obtained the freedom of that city, and about 9 years ago he set up a printing press in Chester and followed the trade of a printer there, and bought also several school books and other books, and carried on the trade of a bookseller there, there being only one bookseller in the said city who had served his apprenticeship—Mr. Leigh Page, and also Peter Potter, who, although never apprenticed to that trade, had been apprentice to a bookbinder and followed that trade solely, until lately, yet by connivance of the Mayor & Citizens, for about 3 years he (Peter Potter) has kept an open bookseller's shop. He (Cooke) hoped he would have been permitted to carry on the said trade, there being demand for the sale of books, for until lately there had been no bookseller there, but divers grocers had sold schoolbooks, Bibles, common prayer books, divinity, history and poetry books, and they sold them openly, without interference from any corporation. This continued until 20 years ago when two booksellers, setting up there, drew the trade to themselves and the grocers gave up selling books. The art of printing, "being a modern invention within the time of the memory of man," no particular trade or corporation ought to have the right to have the sole use and exercise of that trade; but now Thomas Dunbabin, Francis Bassano, Abner Scoles, Thomas Rain, Humphrey Collings, Edward Evans, Joseph Dennill, Obadiah Johnson, William Jackson, Samuel Davies, Thomas Walton, Thomas Leivesley, James Maddock, Francis Crane, Samuel Kirke junior, Joseph Parker, Ralph Bingley, Thomas Bennett, Leigh Page and Peter Potter,² calling themselves The Aldermen, Stewards & Society of the Arts and Misterys of Painters, Glaziers, Embroiderers and Stationers within the City of Chester, pretend this Corporation has always

¹ Chester Exchequer Pleadings (Paper) 16/123 (2), P.R.O. Shortly noted in *The Cheshire Sheaf*, 21, p. 70, by the late John Brownbill.

² Of these twenty brethren, only the two last seem to have been booksellers or stationers. Most of the others were either glaziers or upholsterers. The latter represent the original trade of embroiderer.

existed, and that no-one might exercise any of the said Arts or Mysterys, except in the time of fairs within the City of Chester, before being admitted a member to the said Society for a reasonable sum of money (exception being made in the case of widows of such members), and the abovenamed have caused an action to be brought in the Portmote Court in Chester against complainant and allege damage £40. by his exercising the trade of stationer, although complainant only sold books. He further alleges that the said Corporation was never known by the name as above given, but by some other name, the names of Painter, Glazier, Embroiderer and Stainer [*sic*] having been added of late years, the Mayor having before erected corporations.¹ The defendants refuse to allow complainant to see their old books as to their right name and he alleges the name stationer meant a paper stationer, not a bookseller; and there was no bookseller in Chester until one Mr. Bodvill set up the trade of one there. As the Mayor is judge of the Portmote Court and the jurors free men of the City and also free of other companies and corporations, complainant could not expect a fair trial and he desires the same may be tried elsewhere, and that the said Defendants may set forth the actual name of their Corporation and answer the other statements he has here alleged, &c.

(2)

4 May 1727—[*sic*]. DEMURRER of the Aldermen, Stewards and Society of the Arts and Mysterys of Painters, Glaziers, Embroiderers and Stationers within the City of Chester, defendants, to part, and their answer to the rest, of the bill of the complainant, William Cooke.

They demur unto the case being removed from the Portmote Court, as the said case ought to be tried there, and they answer that they do not know that complainant had been regularly bound apprentice to the trade, and leave it to complainant to prove the same. They believe he is a native of Chester and obtained the freedom of same, as he alleges, and set up as a printer. They deny that at the time he set up as bookseller, Mr. Leigh Page was the only bookseller there who had served an apprenticeship, as Peter Potter was apprentice to a bookbinder, which has always been taken in Chester to be part of the trade of a stationer, but that the trade of a printer was never so regarded, and for this reason Peter Potter was permitted to keep an open bookseller's

¹ I.e. granted charters of incorporation.

shop and sell books there. Complainant's selling books is a direct breach of the custom of the said Company and also an offence against the Act of 5 Eliz.; they deny that grocers sold books with their connivance, but if sold by the said grocers it was privately and clandestinely. They also deny there was no bookseller in Chester before Mr. Bodvill, but state the ancient books of the corporation show several names of stationers or booksellers admitted as brothers of the same. Thomas Bolland was mayor of Chester when the action began, and since John Parker has succeeded him, and there are 100 free men in Chester qualified to act as jurors; so that complainant's charge is not proved; they believe there has always been a trade of bookseller in Chester, and, although the grocers might sell pens, ink and paper, they never sold books in an open and public manner except William Jolliffe, deceased, who sold books in an upper room of his house privately and not in his open shop; and they stopped his widow from doing so; that Mr. Bodvill in 1670, selling books before he had become a freeman of the said Company, was brought before the mayor and paid his fine and became free. They have Court books from 1663 to 1696 in which several actions appear in which these Defendants are called by the name of their Corporation as above set forth, and they do not believe any has ever exercised the trade of stationer in Chester without being free of the said Corporation.

They appended a schedule of booksellers or stationers¹ found in the books of their said company, who were admitted members thereof and the times they are mentioned:—

1592	William Holme.	1662	Richd. Thropp, junr.
1598	Randle Holme.	1670	Peter Bodvel.
1611	Thos. Humphreys.	1676	John Minshull.
1613	Peter Ince.	1678	George Atkinson.
1637	Richard Thropp.	1684	Humphrey Page.
1655	Thomas Humphreys.	1691	Joseph Hodgson.
1657	William Thropp.		

[At the foot of the demurrer the Seal of the Company is attached.]²

¹ For all these names, see the biographical list below.

² See below, p. 112.

THE ARMS OF THE COMPANY.

A coloured plate, stated to be taken from a drawing of 1621 by Randle Holme, attached to one of the Company's books of accounts, is given by Hughes.¹ This plate gives the arms used by the four trades associated in the Company. The Stationers' arms were, apparently, *argent, on a chevron gules, between 3 books lying fessewise of the second, leaved or, a phœnix rising crowned or, between 2 barbed roses, seeded or.*

Crest: on a wreath of the colours, a dove displayed, with a diadem or.²

THE SEAL OF THE COMPANY.

I do not know if any matrix is now in existence. There is, however, a fairly good example of the seal in use in 1727 attached to the demurrer of that date by the Company in the legal proceedings by Wm. Cooke mentioned above.³ The seal on the demurrer is of wax and about one inch wide by one and a quarter inches in depth. It shows a phoenix displayed, rising from flames or ashes, within a border, upon which is the (abbreviated) legend, S[IGILLUM] SOCIET[ATIS] PICT[ORUM] VITR[ARIORUM] ACU[PICT]ORUM & STATION[ARIORUM]. "The Seal of the Company of Painters, Glasiers, Embroiderers and Stationers." Chester is not mentioned.⁴

¹ *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, O.S. 2, p. 23.

² Cf. the arms of the London Stationers' Company, granted in 1557 (Fox Davies, *Public Arms*, and Nichols, *Literary Anecdotes of 18th Cent.*, iii, 567), and their seal, figured by Mumby, *The Romance of Bookselling* (1910), at p. 137.

For a banner bearing the arms of the Glasiers, Embroiderers and Stationers (but not the Painters), and another with only the Painters' arms, see Simpson, in *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 18, pp. 164-6.

³ There is also a rough sketch of the seal on a plate of seals at p. 153, *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, O.S. 1.

⁴ Dr. Philip Nelson, F.S.A., etc., is of opinion that this seal is of seventeenth- or eighteenth-century design and date, and if so it cannot of course be the original of 1534.

The meeting house in Chester of this Company and of the Barber-Surgeons was called "The Golden Phoenix."¹ The Bakers' Company and the Linen Drapers' Company in 1633 paid a fine of 20s. to the Painters and Barber-Surgeons, with a rent of 23s. a year, to meet in the lower meeting house of "The Golden Phoenix" and not in the higher, unless some other Company, tenants already to the Painters, was there at a meeting before them. On 6th April, 1643, the Company met at Alderman Holme's house because "The Golden Phoenix" was at that time taken to be a house for the service of the city for the planting of several ordnance for the defence of the city against the enemies of the king.²

So much for the Company of Stationers of Chester. Though I have not seen its eighteenth- and nineteenth-century records, and no printed extracts for this period are available, I should not expect them to contain much further matter of interest for my purpose. At Chester, as elsewhere, the restrictive powers of such trade guilds gradually waned in face of the general opening up of trading to all comers and the ultimate survival of this Company to the present day is only a matter of historic interest.

PART II

The original basis for the biographical list which follows was the Rolls of the Freemen of the City of Chester, 1392-1805, edited by Mr. J. H. E. Bennett, F.S.A., and printed by the Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire (referred to here as *C.F.R.*). It was practically impossible until the middle of the eighteenth century for any man to trade or carry on business for very long in Chester

¹ See the references by Simpson, *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 18, pp. 129, etc.

² For other references to the Phoenix Tower and "gilding the little phoenix," etc., see Hughes' paper in *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, O.S. 2, 21, and also Bridge in same *Jour.*, N.S. 20, 153.

unless he was a Freeman, and therefore, these Rolls, though not complete or continuous, probably supply the names and dates for most of the stationers, booksellers and printers of the City of Chester.

A second source of information has been the Chester Apprentices' Indentures. The names of the apprentices and masters, with dates, have been extracted and printed by Mr. Bennett in considerable numbers in the columns of *The Cheshire Sheaf*.

The extracts from the books of the Chester Company of Painters, Glasiers, Embroiderers and Stationers already in print have of course been used.

From Plomer's *Dictionaries of Booksellers* some names of those associated with Chester were obtained, and supplemented a few mentioned in Timperley's earlier *Dictionary of Printers*. The remainder of the information has been largely a matter of research. I found some interesting notes on Chester printers among the Allnutt MSS. in the Manchester Public Library which were copied for me by Mr. G. R. Axon. A good deal of information was also obtained from the many volumes of *The Cheshire Sheaf*. The article written in 1857, by the late Thos. Hughes, F.S.A., in the *Journal* of the Chester Archæological Society, Old Series, Volume 2, 21, had dealt with early Chester printers as revealed by Mr. Hughes' examination of the Chester Stationers' books, but only covered a short period. Mr. P. H. Lawson, F.S.A., has supplied information about several names.

The Hughes Collection of Cheshire books and pamphlets¹ in the Chester Public Library has been fairly closely examined, but it was then still uncatalogued and unarranged and would require a more methodical search than I have been able to give it.

¹ This was collected by Thos. Hughes, F.S.A., and augmented by the purchase of the collection of Edward Hawkins, keeper of antiquities in the British Museum. It was given to the city by Mr. T. Cann Hughes, M.A., F.S.A., in memory of his father.

It must be made clear that I have in no way attempted to compile a list of Chester-printed books. This was no part of my scheme, which has been to record, so far as found possible, the names of the stationers, booksellers and printers of Chester to about the year 1800, and to give such biographical notes as could be made, associating with them such books as I have noticed were either printed or published by any of them. In some instances it has not been possible to do more than record a name and a date. In such cases, it is likely that the man did not long continue to carry on the trade of bookseller or printer, or never became a master printer, or the owner of more than a very small and probably unsuccessful bookselling business. In other cases, the absence of information may be caused by removal to another part of England, the link with Chester having been lost.

So far as I have myself seen the books or pamphlets mentioned, I have endeavoured to describe them accurately, but for those not seen by me, I have had to rely on the accuracy of others for titles, dates and descriptions.

The earliest known specimen of Chester printing seems to be a hand-bill, issued by William Thorpe or Thropp, probably shortly after 1657, when he joined the Company as a stationer and bookseller. This hand-bill, and Thorpe's bookplate dated 1664, were discovered by the late Thos. Hughes, F.S.A., and are reproduced in his paper in the *Journal* of the Chester Archæological Society (see below under THORPE).

The earliest known book printed at Chester appears to be Randle Holme's *Academy of Armory*, 1688. The evidence for this is given below in the notes on RANDLE HOLME III and THOMAS TILLIER, who seems to have been the foreman printer who actually did the work.

The first regular Chester presses of which records or examples are known are those of E. INCE (c. 1712),

ROGER ADAMS (c. 1714), and WM. COOKE (c. 1717) who, with several other printers, are mentioned below.

According to *A Complete List of all the Printing Houses . . . of London . . .* [by S. Negus], Printed by Wm. Bowyer, 1724 (Timperley, pp. 630-1), there were in 1724 two printing houses in West Chester. These are not named, but were probably those of Adams and Cooke, as Ince was dead by this date. We find Cooke had no Greek type in 1733. Thomas Huxley, a Chester printer of c. 1778, is said to have been the only one "in these parts" who understood Welsh, in which language he printed many books.

ADAMS, ELIZABETH, printer, of Chester; widow of ROGER ADAMS (q.v.). After his death in 1741, she continued to print *Adams' Weekly Courant* until 1771. (See JOHN MONK.) Books and pamphlets printed by her (besides many Welsh ballads and books) include:—

An Alphabetical List of . . . the Freemen of the City of Chester . . . at the General Election on the Twenty second . . . and Twenty seventh . . . July 1747. Chester: Printed by Eliz. Adams for John Page, Bookseller. [Price 6d.] 8vo, pp. 37. (Allnutt MSS., 747.)

A Summary of the Life of St. Werburgh . . . By a Citizen of Chester [Dr. Wm. Cowper]. Chester: Printed by Eliz. Adams and sold by the Booksellers of that City. 1749. 4to, pp. 31. Publ. for the benefit of the Blue Coat School. (*Loc. cit.*, 748.)

The Chester Miscellany . . . Chester: Printed by and for Eliz. Adams and sold by S. Newton, Bookseller in Manchester; and M. Cooper at the Globe in Paternoster Row, London. MDCCL. 12mo, pp. iv + 416. (*Loc. cit.*, 749, and see advt. in *Chester Courant*, 20 Feb. 1750.)

Manchester Vindicated . . . Chester: Printed by and for Eliz. Adams. MDCCXLIX. 12mo, pp. xii + 324. (*Loc. cit.*)

Miscellaneous Poems on Moral Subjects. Chester: Printed by Eliz. Adams, for the Author. MDCCL. 4to, pp. 39.

A Discourse on the Present Case of the Methodists, by a Member of the Church of England. Chester: Printed by Eliz. Adams, 1751 (Hughes Coll.).

Of Thomas Pennant's *The British Zoology*, 4 vols., 1768-70,

Eliz. Adams printed only vol. iii. Chester: for Benj. White, Fleet St., London, who was responsible for the other three volumes.

Elizabeth Adams and her son John were the subject of some verses printed on a broadsheet, with the imprint "Chester: Printed by a *True Blue*," a copy of which, endorsed in MS. "1748. Verses by Dr. Byrom on Adams's Ricantation," is mentioned in *Byrom's Poems* (*Cheth. Soc.*), vol. ii, part 2, p. 574. The allusions in the verses are obscure:—

Good People, I, EL'SABETH Dowager AD-MS,
The weakest and simplest of all the old *Madams*,
And Printer of News that goes by my Name,—
The *Weekly Courant*, which once had some Fame;

And I, likewise, your humble Servant, poor JOHN,
ELIZABETH AD-MS's own sober Son,
Now both of Us living in *Newgate-Street*, Ch-st-r,
Where last *August* we brought on Ourselves a Disaster;

And hereby do own, not by privately hinting,
But confess and declare, we were Guilty of printing
And publishing too a base scandalous Libel
(Tho' some Folks yet think it as true as the Bible)
Against our Right Reverend learn'd worthy Prelate.
With Shame and with Sorrow our Crimes we relate,
And beg and treat his Lordship's full Pardon,
Whose exceeding good Character we laid so hard on;
And, what makes it worse (we speak without Jokes),
As his Lordship's kind Usage no mortal provokes,—
Yet we most humbly hope he'll accept our Submission,
And instead of our Persons take only Contrition.

Besides, in that News which our Hawkers did pass off,
We sadly abus'd the mild Dean of St. A—ph;
For which said Offence against good Doctor P-vy¹
We each of Us here for Ourselves cry *Peccavi*;
As Witness our Hands this Fourteenth of *November*
(A Day which with shame we shall ever remember)
An. Dom. sev'nteen hundred, forty seven and one:
Elizabeth Ad-ms, likewise *Ad-ms*, *John*.

¹ Le Neve, *Fasti Eccl.*, shows no Dean of St. Asaph Cathedral with a name to fit this. Wm. Powell was Dean 1731–51.

ADAMS, JOHN, printer, of Chester; son of ROGER and ELIZABETH ADAMS (*q.v.*); freeman of Chester 9 Aug. 1732 (*C.F.R.*). His father cut him off with a shilling. He assisted his mother in her printing office; died 2 Sept. 1757, bur. St. John's, Chester.

ADAMS, ORION, printer and bookbinder; son of ROGER ADAMS (*q.v.*); freeman of Chester 11 July, 1747 (*C.F.R.*); of Chester, Manchester, Plymouth, Dublin and Birmingham; d. 1797 at Handbridge, Chester. For an account of him, see the paper by G. R. Axon referred to under ROGER ADAMS. The Hughes Coll. has *Three Letters* . . . Printed and sold by Orion Adams at his Printing-Office in Northgate Street, Chester, 1747. He does not seem to have worked in Chester for long, as on 11 July, 1750, he acquainted the public, from Manchester, that he was removed from the City of Chester to Manchester, "and keeps a printing office at Smithy Door where all manner of printing is neatly perform'd" (*Chester Courant*, 17 July, 1750).

ADAMS, ROGER, printer and bookseller, of Chester and elsewhere; freeman of Chester by order of Assembly 20 Feb. 1713-14 (*C.F.R.*). For him, his son Orion and others of his family, see the paper by G. R. Axon in *Trans. Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.*, XXXIX, 108; printer and owner of *Adams' Weekly Courant* (afterwards the *Chester Courant*) from about 1733. He d. 1741; will pr. Chester 1748. For a book printed by him in 1719, see under THOS. TILLIER.

Among other books printed by Roger Adams at Chester may be mentioned the following (mostly from Allnutt's MSS., 744, etc.):—

Reasons Humbly offer'd to the Consideration of the Publick; showing how the Works now executing by Virtue of an Act of Parliament to recover and preserve the Navigation of the River Dee, will destroy the Navigation and occasion the Drowning of all the Low lands adjacent . . . From Observations made on the Spot with a Map of the River Dee. The second Edition. Chester: Printed by Roger Adams. [Price 2s.] Fo., pp. 14. Preface signed November 15, 1735. Thomas Badeslade.

A New Cut Canal, intended for improving the Navigation of the City of Chester. . . . Chester: Printed by Roger Adams. [Price 2s.] Fo., pp. 16. Dated March 25, 1736. Thomas Badeslade.

Philosophical and Mathematical Reasons . . . with some Remarks on Mr. Badeslade's Reasons. . . . By John Grundy. Chester: Printed for Roger Adams. Fo. (paged 17 to 22 to follow the last item).

The Raree Show : or the Foxtrap. An Opera. The Second Edition, with additions, written by Joseph Peterson, comedian. Chester : Printed by Roger Adams for the Author, 1740. 4to.

A Table of Fees Belonging to the Officers of the Consistory at Chester. Chester : Printed by and for Roger Adams in Fleshmongers Lane, n.d., fo., pp. 22.

A Catalogue of the Lords, Knights and Gentlemen that have compounded for their Estates. To which are added some Gentlemen's names which are omitted in the former edition. London : Printed for Thomas Dring, 1655 : and Chester : Reprinted by R. Adams, 1733. 8vo, pp. xvi.

The Scripture Genealogy . . . A Display of Herauldry. By John Reynolds of Oswestry, Antiquarian. Chester : Printed by Roger Adams for the Author. 1739. 4to, 215 pp.

Articles of Enquiry . . . of the Diocese of Chester [1738]. Chester : Printed by Roger Adams. (Hughes Coll.)

ALLEYNE, JOHN, occurs in 1592 in the books of the Chester, Stationers' Co. as a journeyman bookbinder. (*Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 20, 178).

ATKINSON, GEORGE, stationer and bookseller, of Chester ; freeman as bookseller, 20 April, 1678 (C.F.R.) ; d. 1682, will (missing) proved Chester 22 Jan. 1682/3 by widow Mary. Plomer, *Dict.*, mentions shortly as the only work associated with him a sermon, the full title of which is, *Of Perjury, A Sermon preach'd at the Assizes held at Chester, April 24, 1682*, by John Allen, M.A., Chaplain to the Bishop of Chester. London : Printed for Benjamin Tooke . . . and George Atkinson, Bookseller in Chester, 1682, 4to (6d.) (Hughes) ; and states that in Hilary Term 1682/3, Awnsham Churchill, a London bookseller, commenced an action against Atkinson's widow Mary.

BODEN (or BOWDEN), THOMAS (of Manchester), stationer and printer ; son of Edward Boden of Chester, bricklayer ; freeman of Chester 4 July, 1795 (C.F.R.). According to Timperley and Allnutt, he was born in 1768 and died Feb. 1836, aged 68. He occurs in Manchester in 1795 with W. COWDROY (q.v.). He issued in Manchester *The . . . Trial of Thomas Walker and Others . . .* Lancaster : Printed for T. Boden, Manchester, 1794, 8vo (Timperley). Boden and Cowdroy printed and pub. in March, 1795, *The Manchester Gazette*, No. 1 (Timperley).

BODVEL, PETER, stationer, of Chester ; of a Carnarvonshire family. Plomer, *Dict.*, states that he had been apprenticed to Thos. Brewster, bookseller of London, and gave evidence

against his master in 1664 at the latter's trial for seditious publishing, that Bodvel's shop in London was burnt out in the fire of 1666, and he then removed to Chester. He was associated with Edward Fowkes of London in publishing the first *Prayer Book* in Welsh, printed for them by S. Dover, London, 1664. He was an eccentric Presbyterian of whom, in reference to this *Prayer Book*, Timperley says (p. 54) that at the beginning of the book was written a memorandum that "Peter Bodvel, the undertaker of this book, was a Presbyterian bookseller at Chester, and often bragged of comparing the King to an owl, the Royal family to cranes and the clergy and their followers to apes, by the capitals in the Morning and Evening Service at the beginning of those Prayers." The words quoted are written on the fly-leaf of one of the copies (G. 19895) of this *Prayer Book* in the British Museum. The capitals used for certain of the prayers have owls, cranes and apes in the designs. A suggestion that this note is in the writing of Dr. Johnson seems to be without foundation. When Bodvel opened a shop in Chester, he was brought by the Chester Co. before the mayor, whereupon he obtained admission to the Co.; freeman as bookseller 1668 (C.F.R.); alderman of the Co.; d. 22 April, 1676, and bur. St. Michael's, Chester (Hemingway, *Hist. of Chester*, ii, 124); admon. granted Chester 27 April, 1676, to Cadwalader Jones, ironmonger of Chester, for the benefit of the widow Elizabeth (née Davies), who carried on the business for a time. (Probably it was her admon. granted Chester 1681.) In 1726, WM. COOKE (q.v.) alleged Bodvel was the first Chester bookseller properly so-called, but the Chester Stationers' Co. denied this and named eight earlier stationers. After his death, the books in his shop were valued at £60 in a suit in 1676 by Hy. Mortlock of London, bookseller (*Chesh. Sheaf*, III, xxi, 95).

BROSTER, CHARLES, stationer and printer of Chester and Bangor; son of PETER BROSTER (q.v.); freeman 22 June, 1795 (C.F.R.). He seems to have become the editor of *The North Wales Gazette* on its foundation at Bangor on 5 Jan. 1808, and after its discontinuance in Sept. 1816, purchased the materials and recommenced publication at Bangor on 20 Feb. 1817. In his announcement in the *Liverpool Mercury* 21 Feb. 1817, he remarked, "As the Dee is the natural boundary of the Principality, rather than Conway, he trusts the inhabitants of those counties [Denbigh and Flint] will yet shake off the odium of being indebted to a press at Chester or at Shrewsbury for the insertion of an advertisement, by which the expense must be so

materially increased." The paper failed in 1827, and Broster's connection with Bangor appears to have ceased. For the later history of the paper, see Ifano Jones, *Printing and Printers in Wales*, 1925, p. 191.

BROSTER, JOHN, stationer and printer, of Chester (The Exchange); freeman 19 Oct. 1792 (C.F.R.); alderman; son of PETER BROSTER (*q.v.*) and in partnership as Broster & Son, who pub. in 1790 *Hist. of the Siege of Chester*. London: Printed for R. Faulder, New Bond St., by Broster & Son, Chester. 8vo, 1790; also, in 1800, *Copy of a Letter from a Young Man, a "Quaker in Pennsylvania," to William Cowper the Poet* [by Joseph Brighthurst]. Printed by Broster & Son, Chester, 1800. 12mo. John Broster wrote and published *A Walk round the Walls and City of Chester*, 1821, and several later editions, being a revision of *The Chester Guide* (see PETER BROSTER); also *Cheshire Biography*. Chester: Printed and sold by Broster & Son; also by G. Bulkeley, 1796, pp. viii + 83. Broster also wrote *Progress of the Brosterian System, Removal of Impediments of Speech* 1827. Broster & Son published *The Traveller's Companion* from Holyhead to London, 1794; and Willis's *History of the Cathedral of Chester*, 1794. He sold, by auction, in Jan. 1816, the library of John Lloyd, LL.D., M.D., decd., of Wigfair, St. Asaph, the sale catalogue, entitled *Bibliotheca Llwydiana*, including books printed by Caxton, Wynkyn de Worde and Pynson (*Cheshire Sheaf*, II, 271). He projected and advertised, about 1822, *Holmeiana or Biographical Notices of the three Randle Holme's*, an octavo, 30 copies large paper and 150 small; but apparently it was never published (*Cheshire Sheaf*, II, 28). John Broster conducted other auctions besides books and in Dec. 1817, held an important sale of furniture, etc., at Brereton Hall, Co. Chester, when the Brereton estates were being sold, and he also sold at Liverpool, in April, 1818, the ancient stained-glass figures of the Earls of Chester, once at Brereton Hall, and now in the possession of Lord Leigh of Stoneleigh Abbey (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, xxi, 13). John Broster, who lived at Brook Lodge, Flookersbrook, Chester, went to Edinburgh and became F.A.S. (Scot.) and thence to London. He died at Chester Lodge, Sandown, in the Isle of Wight, aged 84.

BROSTER, PETER, stationer, bookseller, printer and antiquary, of Chester (The Exchange); son of Thomas Broster, alderman, and father of JOHN BROSTER (*q.v.*); freeman 6 June, 1766 (C.F.R.); publisher of *The Chester Guide and Directory*, 1780, and later editions; printer of a Sermon preached at Mold 13 Jan.

1793, by Rev. Ed. Parry ; *The Poetic Works of the Rev. William Smith, D.D., late Dean of Chester . . .* by [Rev.] Thomas Crane. Chester : Printed for T. Crane by P. Broster, 1788, price 1s. 6d., 27 + 24 pp. ; *The Explosion, a Poem*, by a Chester Citizen. Chester : Printed for the Author 1773. Sold by T. Longman, and P. Broster in Chester. Sheriff 1776 and mayor of Chester 1791 ; died 2 Feb. 1816, aged 75 (M.I. Chester Cath.). " At a very advanced age, Mr. John [*sic*, for Peter] Broster, Esq., many years a respectable bookseller and one of the aldermen of that city " (*Gent. Mag.*, March, 1816). Will proved Chester, 30 July, 1816. The local historical collections of Peter Broster were given by the first Duke of Westminster to the Chester Archaeological Society, and many of his notes and communications offered to the *Gent. Mag.* have been printed in the *Cheshire Sheaf*.

BUCKLEY (or BULKELEY), GEORGE, stationer and bookseller, of Chester (Bridge St.) ; son of JOHN BUCKLEY (*q.v.*), who gave him his business in 1778 ; freeman 2 Dec. 1774 (*C.F.R.*) ; died 10 April, 1819, in 75th year, " formerly an eminent bookseller in Chester " (*Liverpool Mercury*, 23 April, 1819).

BUCKLEY (or BULKELEY), JOHN, bookseller, of Chester (Bridge St.) ; freeman 13 Jan. 1755 (*C.F.R.*) ; father of GEORGE BUCKLEY (*q.v.*) ; partner in 1756 with T. LEDSHAM (*q.v.*) ; will 18 Jan. 1782 and cod. 5 Aug. 1784, pr. Chester 22 Feb. 1786, by son, Geo. Buckley ; left dwelling-house and three shops in Upper Bridge St. occupied by Thos. Smith, Joseph Ratcliffe and — Taylor widow, to wife Mary for life and then to son Geo., mentions son-in-law John Johnson (married eldest daughter), sons John and Richard, daughter Mary Jones ; to son Geo. silver tankard and two-handled silver cup ; by agreement 31 March, 1778, testator gave to son Geo. all his shop, goods, stock, tools, presses, etc., of his business of stationer and bookseller on the east side of Bridge St. ; mentions creditors of late son James and also Joseph, son of his son Joseph.

BURTON, RICHARD, son of Laurance Burton of Preston Co. Lancs., skinner ; apprenticed to RIC. THORPE of Chester, stationer (*q.v.*), for seven years in 1640.

CHIVERS, —, writing stationer of Chester ; marr. May, 1780, Susan Shone of Malpas.

CODDINGTON, WILLIAM, printer, of St. Peter's parish, Chester, and afterwards of Liverpool ; born *c.* 1770 ; King's School, Chester, 25 March, 1778–29 Sept. 1781 ; marr. (1) 1 May, 1798, at Nantwich, Sarah Dudley of Nantwich, by whom he had issue, Wm. Dudley Coddington, bapt. St. Peter's, Chester,

24 April, 1799, afterwards of Blackburn, cotton merchant; she was bur. at Davenham, 23 Oct. 1799; he marr. (2) at Liverpool, about Oct. 1801, Martha Ann Mitchell. Wm. Coddington revised, corrected and re-published Hinde's *Life of John Bruen*. Chester: Printed and sold by the Editor, 1799; and also printed a dictionary there. Removed to Liverpool about 1800 and died there 1 Jan. 1804, aged 34. An obituary notice characterised him as "a man of genius in his profession, moral in his conduct and of great urbanity of manner" (Reade, *The Reades of Blackwood Hill*, pp. 50 and 51, and information of E. Axon, F.S.A.). In 1801 appeared "*A Sermon . . . At Childwall . . .* By the Rev. J. Sharpe. . . . Liverpool: Printed by Coddington and Ferguson, for W. Jones, Castle Street. 1801." 8vo, pp. 24. (*Local Gleanings* (1876), i, 187.) (R. Ferguson occurs as a Wigan printer from 1780 and went to Liverpool, No. 6 George's St., in 1783/4 (Hawkes, *Lancs. Printed Books*, 150, 151, 155). In 1802 Ferguson, MacKay & Co. were printers there.) In 1802 a second edition of S. Richardson's *Shorthand* has the imprint "Liverpool: Printed by Coddington & Co. for W. Jones, Bookseller, Castle Street." 8vo, vi + 50 pp. Coddington & Co. also printed in 1801 at Liverpool *An Abridgement . . . of Psalms and Hymns*, by Rev. T. Jones; and *The Address of President Jefferson*, for W. Jones. Ifano Jones (*Printing and Printers in Wales*, 1925) notes a Wm. Codington as a printer at Mold in 1796.

COOKE, WILLIAM, printer and bookseller, of Chester (the Bishop of Canterbury, near the Eastgate); apprenticed to Andrew Crooke, King's printer and bookseller in Dublin (1681-1731), for seven years, but returned to Chester, his native place, and was admitted a freeman (not in *C.F.R.*). He set up a printing press there and became a bookseller. He was Postmaster of Chester about 1727. Thos. Gent, *Life*, etc., p. 84, states Cooke bought the materials of the late Mr. [E.] Ince c. 1718. Gent also says that he left a friend from Dublin (Alex. Campbell) as a journeyman to Mr. Cooke the printer, but Campbell soon left Chester for London. Cooke's complaint, in 1726, of the interference of the Chester Stationers' Co. has been given already (see p. 109). Cooke was printer of the *Chester Weekly-Journal*, the first Chester newspaper, probably commenced in 1721 (*Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 21, 25) and in existence in Sept. 1729,¹ in which the following advt. appeared in 1725:—

¹ Mr. A. H. Arkle of Birkenhead showed me a run of this paper from March 15, 1726-7, to September, 1729 (with gaps). See *Notes and Queries*, Dec. 1931.

"WILLIAM COOKE, Book printer and Book-Seller of the City of Chester, at the Sign of the Bishop of Canterbury near the Eastgate, doth all manner of Printing Work, as Books, Bonds &c. and selleth Books in most Faculties; With all sorts of Stationary; which Goods may be had if sent for by the Men that carried this News. Also all manner of Almanacks. December 8, 1725" (*Cheshire Sheaf*, II, 32).

In 1723 appeared *A Paraphrase on the XXVIII Chapter of Deuteronomy*. By Mr. John Lindsay, nonjuring clergyman . . . Chester: Printed by Wm. Cooke, for the Author, MDCCXXIII (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, i, 82). Plomer, *Dict.*, shows Hazlitt records another book printed by him, *Syntax* . . . Chester: printed by William Cooke for Jos. Hodgson and . . . sold by Peter Potter (1720?). Others were: *A Confession of Faith* . . . [by S. Acton] Chester: Printed by William Cooke for the Author; Dated from Namptwich, 1721, 8vo (Allnutt MSS., 732); *A Caveat to Ministers . . . a Sermon*. By S. Acton. Chester: Printed by William Cooke for the Author 1722. 8vo (*loc. cit.*, 733); *The Lord's Favorite, a Sermon* . . . By S. Acton. Chester: Printed by W. Cooke for the Author 1723; Dated from Namptwich, April 1723 (*loc. cit.*, 734); *Christ's Voice in the Gospel*, A Sermon . . . By S. Acton. Chester: Printed by W. Cooke for the Author. Dated Nantwich, May 1724. 8vo (*loc. cit.*, 737); *Liberality* . . . A Sermon preach'd at St. Mary's in Chester, September 16, 1733, on occasion of obtaining an Act of Parliament for making the River Dee navigable. By John Thomas, M.A., Minister of Ince . . . Chester: Printed by Wm. Cooke and sold by him for the Author. Price 6d. 4to, pp. 20. "N.B.—We were forced to print the Greek words in English characters for want of Greek letters" (*loc. cit.*, 741). It was probably his admon. as of Thornton in the Moors, Co. Chester, printer, granted at Chester 5 Feb. 1740/1 to brother Thomas Cooke of Chester, tailor, Mary Cooke, widow, and mother of decd. renouncing; the inventory includes books valued at £1. Among his apprentices as printer were PETER JOYNSON (*q.v.*) and JOHN READ (*q.v.*).

COWDROY (or COWDRAY), WILLIAM, printer, of Chester and Greengate, Salford; appr. to JOHN MONK (*q.v.*); freeman of Chester, 24 July, 1777 (*C.F.R.*); editor of *The Chester Chronicle* from about 1785; issued *The Directory and Guide for the City and County of Chester*, with a concise History. . . . Written and compiled by W. Cowdroy of Chester, printer, 1789. Founder,

printer and editor of *The Manchester Gazette*, 1795, with THOS. BODEN (*q.v.*), and the firm of Cowdroy and Boden occur as Manchester printers for a few years. W. Cowdroy (perhaps the son below) printed at Salford in 1810 a second edition of Rich's *Authentic History of Miss Moreton* (Hawkes, *Lancashire Printed Books*, III, 103, 105-6).

Timperley has this note: "1814, Aug. 10, died, William Cowdroy, proprietor, editor and printer of the *Manchester Gazette*, aged 62 years. Mr. Cowdroy was a man of rare genius, a poet, a wit, a facetious companion, an unshaken patriot, a kind father, a firm friend, and a truly honest man. As conductor of the *Manchester Gazette*, his light punning paragraphs had no equal. His columns frequently supplied the newspapers with wit and humour on current topics; and many of his old compositions, with changes of name and date, were often revived at intervals of five or six years. At Chester, while he employed himself as editor and compositor [of the *Chester Chronicle*] he displayed the singular faculty of composing his paragraphs without writing them; and some of his happiest efforts in prose and verse were produced in that manner. He left four sons, all printers, and two daughters." His will proved Chester 19 Oct. 1815. The following lines are from a poem written to his memory by his friend Edward Rushton, the blind poet and bookseller of Liverpool:—

Ye lovers of social delights,
Whose bosoms are mild and humane,
Ah! pause from your perilous rites,
And mark for a moment my strain.
Poor Cowdroy, by nature endowed
With talents to please and illume,
To nature's dread fiat has bow'd,
And silently sunk to the tomb.

As the elephant's trunk can upraise
The lords of the forest as straws,
So Cowdroy could pen on a phrase,
Or advocate nature's great cause.
If hate ever rankled his breast,
'Twas against the dark foes of mankind;
And each claim that corrodes the oppress,
'Twas the wish of his soul to unbind.

His heart was the nest of the dove,
 There gentleness found an abode,
 And like the bright day-star, his love
 For the whole human family glow'd :
 But that bosom with feeling once fraught,
 And that tongue, the dispenser of mirth,
 And those eyes ever beaming with thought,
 All, all are descended to earth !

The sons were : (1) William Cowdroy, who was in partnership for a time with John Slack as printers in Salford. They printed, in 1801, *Plebeian Politics*, by Tim Bobbin the second, and other books. He succeeded to his father's business and became proprietor, editor and publisher of *The Manchester Gazette*. He died 10 March, 1822, aged 47. (2) Thos. Cowdroy. (3) Benjamin Cowdroy, a printer in London. (4) "Citizen" Howarth Cowdroy, founder of the *Manchester Courier* in 1817, died 1828. Several of the family were buried at St. Mark's Church, Cheetham Hill (*Manchester City News, Notes and Queries*, vol. ii (1879), 82, 92).

COWLEY, THOMAS, stationer, of Chester; freeman by order of Assembly 16 Nov. 1769 (*C.F.R.*); see WM. READ for a book printed for him in 1771.

CRANE, THOMAS, printe and bookseller in Chester. See W. C. JONES and JONES & CRANE.

CUTTER, THOMAS, of Chester, printer, will proved at Chester 3 Sept. 1812 and a further grant on 10 Sept. 1814.

DAVENPORT, RICHARD, of Chester, stationer; son of Ric. Davenport of Blackhurst, Co. Chester, gent.; apprenticed to PETER INCE (*q.v.*) for ten years in 1631; freeman of Chester 1640-1 (*C.F.R.*).

DAVENPORT, RICHARD (II), printer, of Chester; appr. to JOHN MONK, printer (*q.v.*); freeman, 31 March, 1784 (*C.F.R.*).

"DURSTON, MR.", a bookseller "under the two Churches in Bridge St.," Chester; so mentioned in *The Chester Weekly-Journal*, 25 June, 1729. Perhaps a 'foreign' bookseller. A Joseph Dunstan became a freeman 5 June, 1702 (*C.F.R.*).

DYMOCK, WILLIAM, bookseller, of Chester (Bridge St.), 1780 (*Chester Guide and Directory*, 1780).

FLETCHER, JOHN, printer, of Chester (Foregate Street and Chronicle Office, Bridge St. Row); purchaser in Aug. 1783, of *The Chester Chronicle* (founded in May, 1775, by Poole and Barker), of which he was proprietor and printer for over fifty years; printer of (*inter alia*) :—*A Planetary and Almanack for 1789*;

and *The Royal Chester Sheet Almanack and Lancashire and N. Wales Diary* for 1789 (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, xiv, 6); also of *Prolu-siones Poeticae* . . . [ed. by Rev. Thomas Bancroft]. Chester : Printed by J. Fletcher. 1788. Sm. 8vo, pp. viii + 188; and probably other works by John Bancroft (see *Manchester School Register* (Cheth. Soc.), i, p. 105); *Airopaidia* . . . the Narrative of a Balloon Excursion from Chester . . . 1785, By Thomas Baldwin, Esq., M.A. Chester : Printed for the Author by J. Fletcher; and sold by W. Lowndes . . . London and J. Poole, Chester . . . 1786. [Price 7s. 6d.]; *The Epitaph Writer*, by John Bowden. Chester : Printed by J. Fletcher. 1791; *Sketch of the Political History of the City of Chester*. Chester : Printed by J. Fletcher. 1790; *Poll Books*, 1790, 1812. (See *Cheshire Sheaf*, II, 156, and Cooke); *Twenty One Plans . . . of Different Actions in the West Indies*. By an Officer of the Royal Navy. Chester : Printed by J. Fletcher for the Author. MDCCLXXXIV (*Cheshire Sheaf*, II, 287); *Gayton Wake or Mary Dod*. Chester : J. Fletcher. 1804; *The Charter of Charles II to the City of Chester*. Chester : Printed and sold by J. Fletcher. 1788; *The Whole Proceedings . . . The King v. Amery and Monk*, 2 vols., Chester : Printed by J. Fletcher. 1791. He was the printer, in 1817, of Hanshall's *History of the County Palatine of Chester*, and of Barnard's imitations of *Fifty Select Poems of Marc-Antonio Flaminio*, ed. by Archdeacon Wrangham. Chester : 1829, 8vo, 22 + 69 pp.; also of Joseph Hemingway's *History of the City of Chester*, 2 vols., 8vo, 1831 (£1 11s. 6d.). Timperley (p. 937) in a lengthy obituary notice, states that he was born of humble but reputable parents at Halton, Co. Chester. Twice Mayor of Chester (1825, 1832). Part of his printing office in the Hop-pole Yard was destroyed by fire 13 Jan. 1809. He died 7 Jan. 1835, in his 80th year. For some account of him and his imprisonment for libelling the Recorder of Chester in 1784, and also for a reproduction of his portrait in the Town Hall, see a paper by Hand in *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*, 76, 219.

GODLOF (or GODLYF), FRANCIS, bookbinder, of Chester; freeman 1567/8 (*C.F.R.*); paid £4, the "foreigner's" admittance fee, to the Chester Painters, Glaziers and Stationers' Co. in 1567.

GARRET, JOHN, apprenticed to WM. HOLME (*q.v.*), stationer, for nine years from 29 Dec. 1593 (Chester Stationers' Co.'s books).

HALL, CHARLES, bookbinder, of Chester; son of Wm. Hall of Chester, cordwainer; freeman 11 Aug. 1802 (*C.F.R.*).

HALL, WILLIAM, printer, of Chester; appr. of JOHN POOLE, printer (*q.v.*); freeman 13 May, 1789 (*C.F.R.*). Probably the same

as W. Hall, overseer in the printing office of the *Lancaster Gazette* from 1801, who died 4 June, 1822, aged 53 (Timperley, p. 886).

HAMPTON, PETER, printer, of Chester; son of Jas. Hampton, of Chester, cordwainer; freeman 3 April, 1784 (C.F.R.).

HARRISON, JOSEPH, stationer and bookbinder, of Chester; appr. to PETER BROSTER, ald. (q.v.); freeman 30 May, 1800 (C.F.R.).

HARVIE (or HARFIE), JOHN, printer, of Chester, of an undated Welsh ballad (Davies, *Bibliog. of Welsh Ballads*, 1911); Cooke, *Biblio Cest.* (1904) records, *Extract from Miss Mary Gilbert's Journal*, with Preface by John Wesley. Printed by J. Harvie, Chester, 1768; The Hughes Coll. has *A Collection of Hymns*, collected by John Hampson. Chester: Printed by J. Harvie. MDCCLXVII.

HODGSON, JOSEPH (I), stationer and bookseller, of Chester; son of Gabriel Hodgson of Minshull Vernon; freeman 5 Oct. 1691 (C.F.R.); apprenticed in 1683 to JOHN MINSHULL (q.v.); sheriff 1707 and mayor of Chester 1717, and probably died shortly afterwards. He seems to have married Alice Milton of Nantwich (mar. lic. 12 Aug. 1693). The tuition (guardianship) of Joseph Hodgson of Chester, bookseller, was granted 1717, and was no doubt that of his son below. Plomer, *Dict.*, states only known as publisher of *The Danger of Bad Principles*, a Sermon . . . by Tho. Leche, M.A., Rector of Tilston . . . Chester: Printed for Jo. Hodgson, Bookseller, 1712 (*Local Gleanings*, i, 98) and of John Cowper's *A Sermon preached at the Assizes*. Chester: 1711. See E. INCE and WM. COOKE. In Nov. 1713, the Chester Stationers' Co. resolved to support a complaint by Hodgson against two ironmongers who designed to sell, by auction or otherwise, a parcel of books belonging to Jonathan Harvey decd., neither of them having served an apprenticeship to a stationer or being free of the Co. (*Cheshire Sheaf*, I, 78).

HODGSON, JOSEPH (II), bookseller, of Chester; son of JOSEPH HODGSON (I), the mayor (q.v.); tuition granted 1717; freeman 27 Feb. 1718 (C.F.R.) (Rob. Hodgson, esq., son of Joseph Hodgson, bookseller, decd., was admitted a freeman 27 May 1791.) See WM. COOKE.

HOLLAND, J(AMES); stated (in error) to have been a bookseller in Chester, 1714, by Plomer, *Dict.*, who adds publisher of *A General View of Christian Religion*, by Laurence Fogg [Dean of Chester], 1714. But this was one of the *Two Treatises* which had been reprinted in 1714 by E. INCE (q.v.) and it shows that Holland was a London bookseller of St. Paul's Churchyard.

HOLME, RANDLE (I) (1571-1655), classed as a stationer of 1598, in a plea by the Chester Co. in 1726 (see p. 111 and WILLIAM COOKE), but better known as an arms-painter and herald, as were his successors of the same name. For him and them, see Earwaker in *Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 4, 113.

HOLME, RANDLE (II) (1601-1659), son of and apprenticed for ten years 1 May, 1617 to RANDLE HOLME (I) (*q.v.*).

HOLME, RANDLE (III) (1627-1700). Included here as a Chester publisher and printer, but primarily a herald painter. In 1688 he issued his well-known book, *The Academy of Armory*. A complete copy should have two title pages. The engraved title page has upon it "Printed att Chester by the Author." The printed title page has "Chester: Printed for the Author MDCLXXXVIII." There are some commendatory verses in the book signed "T. Tillier, Typog." In expressing the opinion that the book was printed in Chester, Earwaker (*Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, N.S. 4, 152) points out that the will of Randle Holme (IV) (son of the author) refers to a room in his house in Bridge St., "which room was formerly made use of as a printing house or place"; that at the end of the book Randle Holme (the author) writes of the high price of paper, great wages and his daily layings out; and that elsewhere he described the book as "my own labour and printing." See T. TILLIER also for some further evidence, which clearly establishes that he was for a time at work as a printer in Chester, and makes it extremely likely that he, as Holme's foreman, printed *The Academy of Armory* at Chester in 1688.

According to Beloe, *Anecdotes of Literature*, vi, 342, Dr. Johnson confessed that the *Address to the Reader*, at the end of Holme's book, suggested to him the idea of his own preface to his *Dictionary*.

HOLME, WILLIAM, of Chester, the first recorded stationer there; son of Richard Holme of Tranmere; apprenticed 1569 for eleven years to John Harrison, citizen and stationer of London; admitted a freeman of the Stationers' Company of London 1580, and to the Livery in 1604; "1591 this yeare Wm. Holme stationer came [to Chester], no mention of any [stationer] before" (Harl. MS. 2054, f. 92b.); admitted to Company of Painters, Glaziers, Embroiderers and Stationers of Chester, 12 June, 1592, on payment of a foreigner's fee of £4; alderman of the Co. 1601-4; freeman of Chester 1592 (*C.F.R.*); mar. Anne, daughter of Wm. Nicolls of Co. Devon; sold Tranmere c. 1611; bur. "neere to the font" Holy Trinity, Chester, 3 Aug. 1617 (*Jour. Chester*

Arch. Soc., N.S. 3, 113). (He must be distinguished from his nephew, Wm. Holme of Chester and London, stationer, who was apprenticed in 1581 to him and admitted to the London Co. 1589). It was in his lifetime, viz. 1599, that the Chester Co. first took action "to put down" the stationers' shops during the fair.

HUETT, JOHN, son of William Huett of Northwich, yeo.; apprenticed to PETER INCE (*q.v.*) for ten years in 1642.

HUMPHREYS, DAVID, son of THOS. HUMPHREYS (I) (*q.v.*); was apprenticed as a stationer to his father in 1621 for seven years, but is said by T. Hughes to have taken Holy Orders. Perhaps the David Humphreys presented to the vicarage of Bromborough, Co. Chester, 26 Jan. 1659/60.

HUMPHREYS, THOMAS (I), stationer and notary public, of Chester, 1611; contributor as a member of the Chester Stationers' Co. in 1612 to the repair of The Phoenix Tower; alderman of the Chester Company 1654. Probably the Thos. Humphreys appointed Registrar for the parish of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, 20 Sept. 1653.

HUMPHREYS, THOMAS (II), stationer, of Chester, son of DAVID HUMPHREYS (*q.v.*) and grandson and apprentice (1648) of THOS. HUMPHREYS (I) (*q.v.*); admitted to Chester Stationers' Co. 1655; freeman of Chester 1655-6 (*C.F.R.*).

HUXLEY, THOMAS, writing and law stationer and printer, of Chester, "in the Eastgate," and, in 1780, Foregate St.; born at St. Asaph; appr. to PETER JOYNSON, printer (*q.v.*), 1755; freeman by order of Assembly, 8 Aug. 1778 (*C.F.R.*); mar. Nov. 1780, — Jones of Chester; partner of W. READ (*q.v.*); printed many Welsh books, and, according to the Chester imprint of 1783 on one of them (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, 61), the only printer "in these parts" who understood Welsh. Thomas Huxley, aged 65, was bur. 1 Nov. 1803, at Holy Trinity, Chester, and is perhaps the same. (But on 9 Feb. 1803, Thos. Huxley of Chester, son of Thomas Huxley of Chester, *decd.*, stationer, was admitted a freeman. He was bapt. 21 Dec. 1781, Holy Trinity, Chester, and occurs to 1829 at least as law stationer at 54 Watergate St. The admon. of Thomas Huxley, law stationer, was granted at Chester, 20 Aug. 1804.

INCE, E., printer in Chester, from about 1712. Perhaps Edward Ince (son of Randle Ince), freeman of Chester 1709. Plomer, *Dict.*, states his only known imprint is to *Two Treatises*, by L[aurence] Fogg, D.D. [Dean of Chester]. Chester: Printed by E. Ince for R. Minshull in Bridge St. 1712. Sm. 8vo, 55 + 238

pp. ; but the Hughes Coll. has *A Sermon* . . . 8 March, 1712, by John Oliver, M.A. Chester: Printed by E. Ince for J. Hodgson in Eastgate Street, 1713 ; and *A General View of Christian Religion*, by L. Fogg, D.D. Chester: Printed by E. Ince for James Holland at the Bible and Ball in St. Paul's Churchyard, 1714. (This was one of the *Two Treatises* above.)

Thos. Gent (1710-78), the York and London printer, in his *Life*, p. 79, writing of his return to Ireland to visit his parents in 1718, states, "I would not stay [in Chester] to ask Mr. Ince, a master printer newly set up, for business, but travelled to Holyhead," etc. Ince probably died about that date, as Gent also states that WILLIAM COOKE (*q.v.*) bought the late Mr. Ince's materials.

INCE, PETER, stationer, of Chester (Watergate St.) ; freeman of Chester, 1612, as a draper (*C.F.R.*) ; admitted to Chester Company about 1612, alderman of Company 1635-42 ; leave looker of Chester 1635 ; died 1648 ; will pr. Chester, 1648. He was a cousin of Wm. Ince, mayor of Chester 1642, M.P. The registers of Holy Trinity, Chester, have many references to his family but do not give his burial. For some notes on him, see *Cheshire Sheaf*, 8, 97. Writing on 20 Aug. 1637, to the Archbishop of York on the subject of Wm. Prynne and Peter Ince, Bishop Bridgeman of Chester says, "We have no other stationer in that city, yet no Puritanicall bookes [appear] but our citizens get them as soon as any, which I suppose come by his means, tho' he be so cunning as it will hardly be discovered unless by his own answers upon his oath." On 20 Nov. 1637, the Bishop writes that Ince had visited Prynne in the Tower and that the Privy Council ordered a search to be made in Ince's house for seditious books. This the mayor did, "but all the birds were flown ere the nest was searched" (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, 9 and 32). Ince was fined £300 for associating with Prynne and made a public recantation in the Cathedral and before the Mayor (*id.*, III, xxi, 61).

JONES, WILLIAM COLLISTER, printer and bookseller, of Chester (St. Peter's Churchyard) ; bapt. 12 July, 1772, at Holy Trinity, Chester, as son of Wm. and Sarah Jones of Chester. Printed several Welsh books and ballads, *c.* 1791 (Davies and Ifano Jones) ; also W. Cradock's *Works*, ed. Charles and Oliver, 1800, printed and sold by W. C. Jones, Chester, and W. Trep-pass, St. Martin's-le-Grand ; *The Political History of the City of Chester* . . . Chester : printed and pub. by W. C. Jones, 1814 ; *Poems*, by William Colquitt, A.B. Chester : printed by W. C.

Jones, 1802, 4to, 24 pp.; *A Short Account of the Reformers*, by the Rev. P. Oliver. Chester: printed and sold by W. C. Jones, St. Peter's Churchyard (Hughes Coll.); *Short Sermons for Poor People*, by the Rev. P. Oliver, 3rd edn. Chester: printed for J. Tushingham, 1812 (by W. C. Jones) (Hughes Coll.).

He was a partner before 1797 with Thos. Crane, a printer and bookseller in Chester, and they printed *A Token for Children*, by the late Rev. James Janeway. Chester: printed by Jones and Crane, 1797 (Hughes Coll.). This book mentions five other religious works printed by this firm. There was a contemporary bookselling and printing firm of Crane (Sam.) & Jones (Wm.) in Liverpool, but they were different persons.

JONES & CRANE, see JONES, W. C.

JOPSON, JAMES, stationer, of Chester; son of Allen Jopson of Chester, distiller, and appr. to Wm. COOKE (*q.v.*) for seven years in 1732; freeman 6 Sept. 1740 (*C.F.R.*). The Hughes Coll. has *The Advantages of Religion to Societies*, A Sermon, by Dr. John Tillotson. Chester: Printed for J. Jopson, MDCCXLI. It seems very likely that he was the founder of *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, the first newspaper printed and published in Coventry. This appeared on 20 July, 1741, the imprint being "Coventry: Printed by J. Jopson in Hay Lane." In Feb. 1743, the title became "*Jopson's Coventry and Northampton Mercury*," the paper being printed by Jopson at Gold St., Northampton, for a few issues. Jopson seems to have died in 1759 and his widow, E. Jopson, continued the paper which still exists as the *Coventry Standard* (Poole's *Coventry*, pp. 393-4).

JOYNSON, H., occurs as a Chester printer of an undated Welsh ballad (Davies), but the initial "H." may be an error for "P."

JOYNSON, PETER, printer, of Chester; son of Peter Joynson of Aldford; appr. to Wm. COOKE (*q.v.*); freeman 9 Aug. 1732 (*C.F.R.*); his will pr. Chester, 1764. "Mr. Joynson, printer, Chester," was a subscriber to John Piper's *Life of Miss Fanny Brown*. Birmingham: 1760. (Allnutt MSS., 752.) The Hughes Coll. has *A Charge of the Lord Bishop of Chester* . . . 17 June, 1747. Chester: Printed by Peter Joynson; and *A Sermon* . . . May 5, 1756, by John Mapletoft, M.A. Chester: Printed by Peter Joynson. He also printed *A Sermon* by John Prescott preached before the Judges at the Assizes held in Flint April 13, 1762. Chester: Printed by Peter Joynson and sold by Thomas Ledsham, Bookseller. [n.d. 1762.] 4to.

KING, DANIEL, engraver, son of William King of Chester,

baker; was apprenticed to R. Holme, 3 Sept. 1630, and was admitted a member of the Chester Stationers' Co. 11 Aug. 1640; steward 1643; freeman of Chester 1640 (C.F.R.); published from London in 1656 *The Vale Royal of England*; d. 1661-2 (?).

LAWTON, JOHN, stationer, of Chester (Bridge St.); son of John Lawton of Chester, innholder (The Plume of Feathers); freeman 13 July, 1747 (C.F.R.); appr. to JOHN PAGE (q.v.) in 1742. On 2 Dec. 1751, John Lawton advertised that his employer, ALDERMAN PAGE (q.v.), bookseller, had turned over his business to him and asked for "the continuance of the resort and orders of his master's friends to the old accustomed shop where they will be sure to meet with every Piece that takes with the Publick and as early as such can possibly be got from London; and likewise shall be well supplied with every Particular in the Book-sellers and Stationery Way." John Page added a recommendation (*Chester Courant*, 3 Dec. 1751). Lawton was sheriff 1758 and mayor of Chester 1770; associated with *The Contest* . . . with a Preface in favour of Blank Verse . . . by Roger Comberbach Esq.; an Epistle from Dr. Byrom . . . and an Eclogue by Mr. Comberbach in Reply . . . Printed for T. & T. Longman in Paternoster Row, London, and J. Lawton in Chester. 8vo, iv + 22 (Allnutt MSS., 725); also with one of the issues of Dr. Foote Gower's *A Sketch of the Materials for a new History of Cheshire* . . . Sold by Mr. Lawton, Bookseller, in Chester . . . MDCCLXXI; and *Il Penseroso* [by Wm. Cowper, M.D.]. London: sold by John Lawton in Chester, MDCCLXVII (1s.) (Hughes Coll.). His death is noticed in the *Chester Courant* 7 Dec. 1784: "Sunday last, died at his house in Bridge St., John Lawton esq., some few years since an eminent bookseller of this City and one of the aldermen of the Body Corporate."

LEADBEATER, CHARLES WORRAL, bookseller and printer, of Chester (Eastgate St.); son of Ed. Leadbeater, brewer; freeman 11 Nov. 1789 (C.F.R.). His name appears on *A Sketch of the Political History of the City of Chester*, by Ralph Eddowes, Esq. Chester: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater. 1809. Cooke (*Biblio. Cest.*, 1904) records *A Treatise on the Nature of Influx* . . . Trans. from Swedenborg. 4th ed. Chester: Leadbeater, 1798. 8vo. The Hughes Coll. has *The Ghost . . . a Poem*, by a Protestant [? John Pritchard of Chester]. Chester: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater [? 1812]; *The Life of Joseph and his Brethren*, by the Rev. Mathew Henry. Chester: Printed for Thomas Allen. 1812 (by C. W. Leadbeater); *A Declaration of*

Faith and Discipline. Chester: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater; *A Summary Exposition . . . of the Prophets and Psalms*, trs. from Swedenborg. Chester: Printed and sold by C. W. Leadbeater. 1799; *The Whole Duty of Woman*, new edn. London: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater, Chester, 1807; *An Essay on the Suretyship of Christ*, by Samuel Richardson. Chester: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater. 1796 (1s.); *An Account of the Experience and Death of John Shewel of Dodliston*. Chester: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater; Ed. Moore, *Fables for the Female Sex*. New ed. Chester: Printed by C. W. Leadbeater, 1802.

LEDSSHAM, THOMAS, bookseller and stationer, of Chester; son of Thomas Ledsham of Chester, tailor; freeman 9 Aug. 1732 (C.F.R.); partner in 1750 with JOHN ROWLEY (q.v.), in 1756 with JOHN BUCKLEY (q.v.), and perhaps before 1750 with one of the PAGES (q.v.); marr. (first) 23 Oct. 1749, at Chester Cathedral, by licence, Anne Carter of the Abbey Court. His will, dated 14 Nov. 1763, was proved at Chester 3 March, 1769; mentions his (second) wife Martha, brothers Richard and Daniel, to whom his stock in trade, house and land at Bersham, Co. Denbigh, purchased from Sam. Evans and others, fields in Great Boughton, daughters Hannah, Abigail, Lettie, Elizabeth and Sarah, and younger daughters, only son Thomas; his body to be laid in a leaden coffin and deposited in St. Michael's Ch., Chester, near the remains of his first wife; witnessed by Tho. Brook, John Gresty and Ric. Barker. (The will of the son Thos. was proved at Chester 21 June, 1806.) He was associated with *An Assize Sermon . . .* 31 July, 1746, by Wm. Smith. London: Sold by Thomas Ledsham, Bookseller in Chester (Hughes Coll.). Messrs. Ledsham & Rowley sold *A Sermon . . .* by Abel Ward, A.M., Prebendary of Chester. Manchester: Printed by and for R. Whitworth [1750]; and Messrs. Ledsham & Bulkeley [*sic*] sold another *Sermon* by Abel Ward, 1756 (*Local Gleanings* (1878), ii, 162).

LEICESTER, WILLIAM, stationer and bookseller, of Chester (Eastgate St.); appr. to JOHN POOLE (q.v.); freeman 23 Dec. 1789 (C.F.R.); afterwards of Warrington, where he died 12 Feb. 1817, aged 55. He was one of the Society of Friends. Administration granted, Chester, 30 May, 1818.

LLOYD, WILLIAM, stationer and bookbinder, of Chester; son of George Lloyd of Chester, victualler; freeman 24 Jan. 1800 (C.F.R.).

M'MILLAN, THOMAS, bookseller, of Chester; son of Hugh M'Millan, draper; freeman 6 April, 1784 (C.F.R.).

MASSEY, RICHARD, stationer, of Chester; son of Ric. Massey, baker; freeman 31st Oct. 1775 (*C.F.R.*).

MILLER, WILLIAM, bookbinder, of Chester; appr. to JOHN LAWTON (*q.v.*) and assigned to BENJAMIN MONK (*q.v.*); freeman 7 April, 1784 (*C.F.R.*).

MINSHALL (or MINSHEW), WILLIAM, mentioned by Plomer (*Dict.*) as a bookseller (? in Chester) 1655, but no evidence of him has been noticed.

MINSHULL, JOHN (I), stationer and bookseller, of Chester (Bridge St.); second son of Randle Minshull of Chester, merchant and innholder; freeman 1676 and perhaps disenfranchised and re-admitted 26 Oct. 1687 (*C.F.R.*); sheriff of Chester 1702, alderman 1708 and mayor 1711. He had been apprenticed to PETER BODVEL (*q.v.*) in London, completed his term with Elizabeth Bodvel, the widow, and was admitted to the Chester Co. 18 Oct. 1676; marr. Mary, dau. of Rob. Weaver (Mar. Lic. 11 Oct. 1677). (She was bur. St. Michael's, Chester, 9 March, 1714-15.) The Assembly on 15 Sept. 1691, ordered Minshull to be indicted for an encroachment in Bridge St. Road. He had begun to enclose a small shop there over against the shop of Henry Lloyd which he thought might be to his advantage without the least prejudice or inconvenience to the Row. He was fined £5, reduced to £3 in 1694, and ordered to pay 5s. a year for 21 years. In a paper on "A Chester Bookseller, 1667-1700," in *The Library* for 1903 (2nd Series, vol. iv, No. 16, p. 373), H. R. Plomer has some interesting notes on John Minshull, derived from a Chancery suit brought by the Stationers' Company of London against Robert Wellington, bookseller of London, and John Minshull of Chester in 1699, for infringing the Company's privilege of printing the Psalms in metre, and for importing and selling other books which the Company claimed as its exclusive property. In his answer, Minshull stated that he purchased his freedom from the Stationers of Chester, that he had carried on business there as a bookseller for twenty-five years, and that he considered he was free to do so without the interference of the London Company. He put in a schedule of certain books in stock and gave particulars of some he had sold, with the names of his customers and the prices. He evidently did a large business in English school books and those of an educational character. Plomer prints the schedule, from which it appears that Ephraim Johnson (of Manchester), bookseller, and Mr. Taylor of Whitchurch were his largest customers. Other booksellers named as purchasers in Cheshire and North Wales, are John Williams

of Ruthin, Mrs. Mary Ovens and Onesephorus Wright, both of "Kannershmead" [? Llanerchymedd, Anglesey], Simon Lloyd of Mold, Thos. Davies of Denbigh, Ric. Parry of Bangor, Hugh Thomas of St. Asaph, Chas. Vaughan of "Bella" [? Bellan (Ruabon) or Bala], Henry Fisher of Wrexham, Mrs. Hughes of "Beumorris," Mrs. Stones and Mr. Wright both of Nantwich, and Mrs. Powell of Flint.

In his *Life and Errors* (ed. Nichols, 1818), John Dunton, the London bookseller (1674-c. 1703), has some references to John Minshull: "Mr. Minshull, in Chester, is a man of good sense, very courteous to strangers (as myself have lately experienced) and manages his trade with a great deal of prudence. But I have done this man a better justice in my *Dublin Scuffle* than my designed brevity will admit of here" (vol. i, 237). In the last-mentioned book at p. 412 Dunton refers to a visit to Dublin, and that after having seen the Library at Trinity College, "we went to visit Mr. Minshul (whose father I knew in Chester). Mr. Minshul has been student in the college for some time and is a very *sober ingenious* youth; and I do think is descended from one of the most courteous men in Europe (I mean Mr. John Minshul, bookseller in Chester)."

John Minshull was buried at St. Michael's, Chester, on 28 Jan. 1729/30. His will, dated 16 Aug. 1727, and a codicil dated 21 Jan. 1729/30, were proved at Chester on 2 March, 1729/30. He mentions property at Hampton (Co. Chester), in Chester and in Handbridge; his son Alexander and the latter's children John, Deborah and Mary; his daughter (Mary) Tagg and her children Mary, Anne, Thomas and James; an unnamed daughter of his son Randle; he left £10 to the Blue School Hospital of Chester. He was father of RANDLE MINSHULL of Chester, bookseller (*q.v.*); RICHARD MINSHULL of Chester, stationer (*q.v.*); John Minshull, admitted Trinity College, Dublin, 13 July, 1695, aged 17, scholar 1697 (referred to by Dunton above); Alexander Minshull of The Inner Temple; a son Robert *ob. inf.* and the dau. Mary, wife of Thos. Tagg of Chester. (Information of P. H. Lawson, F.S.A.) He published *The Speech of the Hon. Henry Booth, Esq.; spoken in Chester, March 2, 1680* . . . London: Printed for John Minshull, Bookseller in Chester, and are to be sold by Langley Curtis in Goat Court without Ludgate. 1681. Fo., 4 pp. (Bodl., Oxford); also, *A Sermon* preached . . . at Warrington June 3, 1697, by Edmund Entwistle, D.D. London: Printed by J. H. for H. Mortlock [at the Phoenix in St. Paul's Churchyard] and John Minshull, Bookseller in Chester, 1698,

4to (Arber, *Term Catalogues*, III, 62, and Hughes Coll.); *The Last Judgment* . . . a Sermon at the Assizes, 18 April, 1682. By John Oliver. London: Printed for John Minshull and to be sold in his shop in Bridge Street, Chester, 1682 (Hughes, Coll.); *The Poor Clergy in Chester* in 1697. Chester, 1698: Printed for John Minshull, Bookseller. (Cooke.) Minshull was one of the booksellers advertised to sell Holme's *Academy of Armory*, 1688.

John Minshull supplied and bound books for several of the Chester churches, and for Sir Willoughby Aston, Bt., of Aston Hall, Co. Chester.

MINSHULL, JOHN (II), printer, of Chester and Shrewsbury; second son of Giles Minshull and brother of THOMAS MINSHULL (q.v.). Mr. P. H. Lawson, F.S.A., supplies the following note: bapt. at St. Michael's, Chester, 18 Jan. 1762; married there Dec. 1783, as of Shrewsbury, printer, Mary Howell, spr., of St. Michael's parish, by whom he had an only son John, *ob. inf.* 1785. John Minshull died in May, 1785, in Chester, "in the prime of life" (*Chester Courant*, 17 May, 1785) and, with his wife (who died in 1833) and their child, was buried at St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester.

MINSHULL, RANDLE, stationer, of Chester, son of JOHN MINSHULL (I) (q.v.); born 5 Dec. 1679 (St. Michael's Reg.); freeman 6 Jan. 1702/3 (C.F.R.); married, at St. Oswald's, Chester, 27 Dec. 1709, Elizabeth Craven, spr., of St. Peter's parish, and had issue a daughter, Elizabeth, bapt. Holy Trinity, Chester, 28 May, 1713. Apparently predeceased his father. (Information of P. H. Lawson, F.S.A.) See E. Ince for one of Minshull's publications.

MINSHULL, RICHARD, stationer, of Chester; son of JOHN MINSHULL (I) (q.v.); bapt. St. Bridget's, Chester, 9 Dec. 1680; freeman 6 Jan. 1702/3; buried St. Michael's, Chester, 4 March, 1708. (Information of P. H. Lawson, F.S.A.)

MINSHULL, THOMAS, bookseller and printer, of Chester and Shrewsbury; son of Giles Minshull, linen draper, and Ann, dau. of Thos. Crowfoot; bapt. St. Michael's, Chester, 19 Sept. 1760; freeman of Chester 26 October, 1792 (C.F.R.). Mr. P. H. Lawson, F.S.A., supplies the following notes:

Thos. Minshull died at Shrewsbury in July, 1810 (*Gore's Liverpool Advertiser*, 26 July, 1810). His widow died in May, 1812, after a lingering illness (*Chester Courant*, 19 May 1812). He wrote a number of monodies, odes, congratulatory lines, songs and satirical pieces, which his son, Richard Minshull of Oswestry, contemplated publishing about the year 1815, and was also the

author and compiler of the *Salopian Guide and Directory*, 12mo, published by Parkes of Shrewsbury in 1804. A contributor to *Byegones relating to Wales and the Border Counties*, 1st ser., see vol. 5, 13 April, 1881, where it is surmised that he was the "M-nsh-ll" who figures in some of the Shrewsbury election squibs of 1795/6, that he used to sign himself "Q in the corner" and that "by all accounts he gave way to the same bad habits that afterwards ruined" his son Richard Minshull. Richard Minshull settled in Oswestry as a printer. He is credited in Parry's *Royal Progresses* with being the author of Price's *History of Oswestry*, was a wit and lampooner and quite a "character" in his time. (See *Byegones*, 1st ser., vol. 5, 28 Apr. 1880, 13 Apr., 18 May and 17 Aug. 1881.) Richard Minshull was an agent for the *Chester Courant* in 1821 and was living in 1838 when his daughter was legatee in the will of his cousin, Thomas Walshman.

MINSHULL, WILLIAM, bookseller and printer, of Chester, and later of Lancaster where he printed and published *The Lancaster Gazette*; third son of Giles Minshull, draper, and brother of THOS. and JOHN MINSHULL (II) (*q.v.*); bapt. St. Michael's, Chester, 31 May, 1767; freeman of Chester as printer 1792; married, at St. Oswald's, Chester, 3 Jan. 1790, Sarah Hall of St. Oswald's parish, spinster. He was then described as of St. Peter's parish. When he left for Lancaster, in 1801, his business premises in Chester were apparently at or near the Eastgate, as appears by the following advertisement in the *Chester Courant* for 14 April, 1801:

To be sold, by private contract, the entire stock in trade of W. Minshull, bookseller, stationer, &c., together with a large and well selected circulating library, to which there are nearly one hundred subscribers. W. Minshull is happy in this opportunity of returning his best thanks to his friends, for their very liberal support, a grateful sense of which he shall ever retain; and at the same time informs them, that he purposes removing to Lancaster in June next, where he intends publishing a weekly newspaper, entitled *The Lancaster Gazetteer and General Advertiser for Lancashire, Westmoreland, &c.*, advertisements, essays, &c., for which will be thankfully received and transmitted to him by the different postmasters or booksellers. All persons having any demands against W. Minshull are desired to send same to him before the 25 of May and those persons who stand indebted to him, are requested to pay their respective debts on or before the same day. *Eastgate, Chester, April 13.*

William Minshull died 19 May, 1833, aged 65, and was buried in Lancaster churchyard (M.I.). By his will, in his own writing,

in a little notebook eaten through by worms, he left his property in trust for his two daughters, Anne wife of John Aspden Cooper (par. clerk of Kirkham, bur. there 26 Jan. 1854, aged 63), and Graciana Jane Minshull (died unmar. 16 Apr. 1835, aged 32 (M.I.), admon. at Lancaster to Ann Cooper his sister and heir. Under £300). The will (date gone) was proved at Lancaster 26 July, 1833, by Thomas Howitt the elder, the sole executor and trustee. Under £1,500. He was an agent for the *Chester Courant* in 1821. (Some of above from information of P. H. Lawson, F.S.A.)

MONK, BENJAMIN, stationer, of Chester; son of WM. MONK, printer (*q.v.*); freeman 25 Oct. 1771 (*C.F.R.*). A Benjamin Monk, Esq., of 8 King St., occurs in Pigot's *Chester Directory*, 1829.

MONK, EDMUND, printer, of Chester; son of JOHN MONK (I); freeman 24 June, 1790 (*C.F.R.*); proprietor and printer of the *Chester Courant*. He printed a pamphlet *An Accurate Statement of the Trial of James Price and Thomas Brown . . . the 6th day of April, 1796* [for assault and theft of mail bags at Thornton-le-Moors]. Chester: Printed by E. Monk, 1796. He died Feb. 1800, admon. Chester, 3 July, 1801.

MONK, JOHN (I), printer, of Chester (New Gate St. in 1780); appr. to WM. MONK (*q.v.*); freeman 19 April, 1765 (*C.F.R.*); sheriff of Chester 1776; councillor 21 Oct. 1784; alderman 1791; printer of the *Chester Courant* from 1771 (see ROGER ADAMS). In 1785 was pub. *Salomme and Eleazer . . . By a Lady of Chester*. Chester: Printed by J. Monk. MDCCLXXXV. Sold by G. Bulkeley, J. Poole and P. Broster (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, xiii, 58); also *Essays and Meditations*, by a late Eminent Physician. Chester: Printed and sold by J. Monk, MDCCLXXXV (1s.) (Hughes); also printed the following works by Thos. Penant—*Synopsis of Quadrupeds*, 8vo, Chester, 1771; *A Tour in Scotland in 1769*, Chester, 1771, with *Supplement*, 1772, and the first vol. of *A Tour in Scotland and Voyage to the Hebrides*, Chester, 1774, vol. two being printed in London for B. White, 1776. (See E. ADAMS.) Monk was the printer of Dr. Matthew Dobson's *A Medical Commentary on Fixed Air*. Chester: 1779. 8vo; also of a Poll Book of Freemen in 1784 and other books. He was a defendant, with Thos. Amery, in the six years' litigation with the Corporation of Chester over the charter of Charles II, the proceedings in which were printed in 1791 by J. FLETCHER (*q.v.*). John Monk died 3 Feb. 1799, aged 58, and bur. St. John's, Chester. Mrs. Elizabeth Monk, his widow, died 21 Feb. 1810, aged 78 (M.I. St. John's).

MONK, JOHN (II), printer, of Chester (Newgate St.); son of JOHN MONK (I), of Chester, printer (*q.v.*); freeman 11 Aug. 1800 (*C.F.R.*). No doubt the John Monk, editor, printer and proprietor of the *Chester Courant*, who died 3 May, 1817 (admin. Chester, 16 Aug. 1817). He had married Miss [?] Margaret] Harrison of Aldford (*Gent. Mag.*, Nov. 1801) and she appears to have succeeded him as proprietor of the *Chester Courant*, and of his printing press. In 1814 appeared *The Weekly Entertainer* or *Companion* to the *Chester Courant*. Chester: Printed by J. Monk in Newgate Street. (Only seven fortnightly numbers appeared.) He also printed, in 1810, *A Compilation . . . of all Papers relating to the Election for City Officers in 1809*, etc. Several other books with his imprint and that of M[argaret] Monk (who occurs to at least 1829) are mentioned in *The Cheshire Sheaf*, II, 135.

His name as printer appears on *A Sermon* preached in Malpas Church, by Ralph Bridge, M.A., Chester, 1803 (Cooke); *History of the Contested Election in Chester*, 1812; *Report of the Trial, The King v. Hassall*, Chester, 1812.

MONK, M., see JOHN MONK (II).

MONK, WILLIAM, printer, of Chester; appr. to ROGER ADAMS (*q.v.*); freeman 12 Nov. 1753 (*C.F.R.*). He married Dorothy, dau. of Roger Adams, and thus arose the long connection of the Monks with the *Chester Courant*.

MONSDALE (?), MRS. ANN, bookseller, with a circulating library, in Bridge St., Chester, 1782, 1791.

PAGE, HUMPHREY, stationer and bookseller, of Chester; freeman 1684 (*C.F.R.*); formerly of Nantwich, bookseller (*Local Gleanings*, i, 254, and Plomer, *Dict.*); where he was one of the advertised sellers of Holme's *Academy of Armory*, 1688. He complained in 1685 against JOHN MINSHULL (*q.v.*) for having set up two shops in Chester contrary to ancient usage; and about the same time (and later) action was taken against grocers for selling books (*Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, O.S., 2, 28-9). He also published *A Sermon . . .* 30 Jan. 1710, by John Oliver, A.M. Printed for H. Page, Bookseller in Chester, 1711; and his widow issued *A Sermon . . .* 13 Nov. 1715, by C. Sudell, A.M. London: Printed for Edmund Parker; and Mrs. Page, bookseller, in Chester, 1716. (Hughes.) Page published in 1711, at Chester, a sermon by J. Oliver (Plomer). He was alderman of the Chester Co.; sheriff 1700, and mayor 1707 of Chester; J.P.; d. 3 April, 1711, in 54th year. M.I. St. Peter's, Chester (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, xx, 48); admon. granted, Chester, 9 Nov. 1711, to the widow

Rachel, surety Edward Puleston of Chester, alderman ; father of LEIGH PAGE (*q.v.*).

PAGE, JOHN, stationer and bookseller, of Chester ; son or grandson of HUMPHREY PAGE (*q.v.*) ; apprenticed 15 November, 1721, for seven years to LEIGH PAGE (*q.v.*) ; perhaps freeman 19 Sept. 1732 (*C.F.R.*) ; sheriff of Chester 1742, alderman 1750, mayor of Chester 1755 ; associated with *An Enquiry into . . . Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction* [by P. Gaskell]. Printed for John Page, Bookseller at Chester, 1747 (Hughes Coll.) ; said to have printed and sold a sermon preached on 2 April, 1757, by the rector of Hawarden (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, i, 5) ; advertised *A Catalogue of the Library of the late Robert Radcliffe of Foxdenton Esq. (Chester Courant*, 10 April, 1750). Relinquished his business in Dec. 1751 to his apprentice JOHN LAWTON (*q.v.*). See ELIZ. ADAMS. The death of John Page is recorded in the *Chester Courant* of 30 May, 1780—"Sunday last, died, John Page of Hawthorne [Hall, Wilmslow], Esq., one of the Body Corporate of this City, a gentleman much respected by all who had the Pleasure of his Acquaintance." He was Provincial Master of the Freemasons in Chester. For some lines on his death see *Chester Sheaf*, III, 187. His arms (*gules, a fesse argent between three birds*) are on the Mace board of mayors in St. John's Church, Chester.

PAGE, LEIGH, bookseller, of Chester ; son of HUMPHREY PAGE (*q.v.*) ; freeman as gentleman 15 Oct. 1719. See WM. COOKE. Sheriff of Cheshire 1733 ; of Hawthorne Hall, Wilmslow ; admon. Chester, 1743.

PALIN, JAMES, bookseller, of Chester ; son of Thos. Palin, grocer ; freeman 6 April, 1784 (*C.F.R.*).

POOLE, JOHN, stationer, bookseller and printer, of Chester (Eastgate St.) ; appr. of THOS. LEDSHAM (*q.v.*) ; freeman 13 Sept. 1766 (*C.F.R.*) ; alive 1789. His imprint appears on *Bolesworth Castle, A Poem*. Inscribed to Mrs. Crewe. [By Thos. Townshend.] Chester : Printed by J. Poole at the New General Printing Office, Foregate Street. MDCCLXXXVIII. COOKE (*Biblio. Cestr.*, 1904) records a book by A. Burns, Teacher of Mathematics in Tarperley, Cheshire, *Geodesia Improved . . .* Chester : Printed for the Author and sold by T. [? J.] Poole in Chester, 1771 ; and *A Letter to the Inhabitants of Manchester* [on the earthquake], by Bishop Porteus. Printed by J. Poole, Foregate St. [1777], 24 pp. In 1778 appeared *The History of Cheshire*, containing King's Vale Royal . . . and extracts from Sir P. Leycester's *Antiquities of Cheshire*, 2 vols., 8vo. Chester :

Printed by John Poole. MDCCLXXVIII. (10s. 6d.) The *Gent. Mag.*, vol. 49, p. 411, describes this, with reference to Dr. Gower's grandiose promises of a new history, as "a meagre republication of old materials, eked out with little new—By a Chester *Book-seller*." In 1796 M. Poole & Son were booksellers in Chester and perhaps were his widow and son THOMAS (*q.v.*).

POOLE, THOMAS, stationer and bookseller, of Chester; son of JOHN POOLE (*q.v.*); freeman 20 June, 1795 (*C.F.R.*); produced *History of the City of Chester*. Chester: Printed for T. Poole, 1815. 8vo. (A Ric. Poole, bookseller, of Chester, occurs in 1829 and later connected firms of booksellers in Chester were Poole & Harding (The Cross), Harding & (Geo.) Prichard, Seacombe & Prichard, Poole & Boulton, and Boulton & Catherall.) Thomas Poole, of the parish of St. Peter, bookseller, and Elizabeth Turner were married, by licence, on 17 Sept. 1801, at St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, Chester. Thos. Poole's will proved Chester, Aug. 1818.

POTTER, PETER, of Bridge Street, Chester, bookseller and bookbinder; perhaps Peter Potter, son of Peter Potter of Chester, skinner, decd., freeman 1708 (*C.F.R.*); sheriff of Chester 1735; married 11 Oct. 1714, at Holt, Mary Puleston of Wrexham, sp.; advertised as seller of *R. Wright's New and Correct Tables . . . Manchester*: 1732; also *Funebria . . .* by John Thomas, M.A., curate of Christleton and Minister of Ince. London: 1728. The Hughes Coll. has *A Sermon . . .* 4 Feb. 1740, by William Smith, A.M. London: Printed for P. Potter, Bookseller in Chester; and *A Sermon . . .* before the Mayor and Corporation of Chester, by Peter Cowper, M.A., 17 Oct. 1736. London: Printed for Peter Potter, Bookseller, Chester, 1736. See WM. COOKE. Potter was bur. 6 Aug. 1742, at St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester; will 23 Feb. 1741/2, proved Chester 9 April, 1743; testator confirmed articles of Aug. 1714 made on marriage with wife Mary between him and John Puleston of Pwyll-yr-uwdd, Wrexham, Co. Denbigh, gent.; mentioned friends Sam. Jarvis of Chester, alderman, and Thos. Lloyd, clerk of the Pentice; executors, daughters Mary Potter and Elizabeth Potter; left gold watch, two silver spoons and silver cup to wife; witnesses, John Oliver, Char. Aldcroft, Edm. Bolland.

PRINCE, BENJAMIN, bookbinder, of Chester; appr. to JOHN POOLE (*q.v.*); freeman 20 June, 1795 (*C.F.R.*).

READ, JOHN, printer, of Chester; son of John or Thos. Read of Dublin, brazier; appr. to WM. COOKE (*q.v.*) for seven years in 1731; freeman 14 July, 1747 (*C.F.R.*).

READ, WILLIAM, printer, of Chester (Foregate Street in 1780); appr. 1755 to WM. MONK (*q.v.*); freeman 30 Dec. 1769 (*C.F.R.*); became a partner of T. HUXLEY (*q.v.*) and they printed many Welsh ballads and books; Read's will proved Chester, 29 July, 1807. In 1771 appeared *Rider's Poll Book, or a Political Almanack* . . . Chester: Printed by Read and Huxley . . . for Messrs. Bulkeley, Poole and Cowley, Booksellers. 1771.

ROBERTS, JOHN, stationer and bookseller, of Chester (Higher Bridge St. in 1791); appr. of JOHN BUCKLEY (*q.v.*); freeman 2 April, 1784 (*C.F.R.*).

RODEN, THOMAS, bookseller, of Chester; appr. of P. BROSTER (*q.v.*); freeman 10 April, 1784 (*C.F.R.*).

ROWLEY, JOHN, bookseller and bookbinder of Chester; son of Thos. Rowley of Brewers Hall, Chester, yeo.; bapt. 20 April, 1721, at St. Mary-on-the-Hill; appr. to PETER POTTER (*q.v.*) for seven years in 1736; freeman 15 Sept. 1742 (*C.F.R.*); (non-resident 1747); partner in 1750 with T. LEDSHAM (*q.v.*). A *Catalogue* of the books of an eminent citizen of Chester, decd., to be auctioned by Rowley, was advertised in the *Chester Courant*, 28 Nov. 1749, with the intimation that "he regulates Gentlemen's Libraries." Following his announcement of the publication of an *Assize Sermon* by Rob. Frodsham, vicar of Rostherne, in 1751, he states that he "methodizes and appraises gentlemen's studies and will purchase any parcels of books; or, if persons not disposed to sell them to booksellers, will vend them for the owners by a marked sale or by way of auction, which they most approve of." (*Courant*, 16 April, 1751.) Sarah, wife of John Rowley, stationer, was buried at St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester, 20 June, 1783, and several of their children were also buried there.

SABINE, HENRY, of Chester, printer; sometime conductor and editor of the *Chester Courant*. Timperley states that he was one of the fourteen journeymen printers arrested for printing No. XLV of Wilkes' *North Briton*, published on 23 April, 1763, and that the printers brought an action against Nathan Carrington and R. Blackmore, King's Messengers, for false imprisonment, and received compensation. His death is recorded in the *Salopian Journal*, 23 Aug. 1800: "Lately, at an advanced age, Mr. Henry Sabine, printer, formerly conductor of the *Chester Courant*."

SHEPHERD, JOHN, bookseller, of Chester; appr. to JOHN POOLE (*q.v.*); freeman 23 Dec. 1779 (*C.F.R.*).

SIMCOCK, ROBERT, bookbinder and bookseller, of Chester and Wigan; appr. of PETER BROSTER, bookseller (*q.v.*); free-

man 20 June, 1795 (*C.F.R.*); appears to have gone to Wigan, as Robert Simcock of the parish of Wigan, bookseller, was married, by licence, on 14 Aug. 1797, to Esther Pover, at St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, Chester, a daughter (Elizabeth Trevor) also being baptized there 7 Nov. 1798.

STANTON, WILLIAM, stationer, of Chester; appr. of JOHN POOLE (*q.v.*); freeman 25 June, 1795 (*C.F.R.*).

THORPE (or THROPP), RICHARD (sen.), stationer, of Chester; son of Thomas Thropp of Barnet, innholder, and grandson of William Thropp, sheriff of Chester 1597; younger brother of Thomas Thropp apprenticed 5 June, 1584, to Martin Watkins, then senior warden of the London Stationers' Company. Apprenticed 6 Sept. 1596, for seven years to Martin Ensor, citizen and stationer, of London; freeman of Chester, 1635-6 (*C.F.R.*); in 1635 the Chester Company prosecuted him for setting up a shop as a "foreigner" and obtained an order to shut it up. He petitioned to join the Company, and on 22 Feb. 1637, "by extraordinary favour" secured admission on payment of £5 and the gift of a cup worth thirty shillings (*Cheshire Sheaf*, I, 216-17, 225, 238). He also agreed, according to custom, to give a dinner on St. Luke's Day to the members of the Company and their wives. Of the £5 twenty-nine brethren and the widows of two others received two shillings each. He was alderman of the Chester Company 1655, and was several times fined for being "tardy" and attending meetings in his gown. He died on 18 April, 1668, aged 58, and was buried on 20 April at Holy Trinity Church, Chester. He was followed in his business by his son, WILLIAM THORPE (*q.v.*). For an account of a lawsuit concerning books supplied to him by Edward Dod, of London, see *The Library*, June, 1928, p. 53.

THORPE (or THROPP), RICHARD (jun.), stationer, of Chester; son of RICHARD THROPP (*q.v.*); bapt. 4 Oct. 1644, Holy Trinity; freeman of Chester 1662 (*C.F.R.*); said to have failed about 1680 and become a pensioner of the Chester Stationers' Co.; Mar. Lic. 10 Oct. 1665, Ric. T. of C., stationer, and Anne Price of same, widow, married at Holy Trinity, Chester, 14 Oct. 1655.

THORPE (or THROPP), WILLIAM, stationer, bookseller and (?) printer, of Chester; of The Hand and Bible near The High Cross and the Stationer's Arms, Watergate St.; freeman 1654-5 (*C.F.R.*); admitted Chester Stationers' Co. 18 Oct. 1657; son of RICHARD THROPP (*q.v.*); Steward of the Chester Co. 1672 and alderman; his bookplate, dated 1664, said to have

been engraved by Holler, and his handbill have been reproduced (*Jour. Chester Arch. Soc.*, O.S., 2, pp. 21 and 26). The book-plate¹ bears, in the upper part, three shields of arms, (1) the City of Chester, (2) the Stationers' Co., and, between and below, (3) the arms of Thorpe (*checky, argent and sable, on a fesse or 3 marilets sable*). Below these, a right hand extended towards a Bible bound and double clasped, and the initials "W.T." Below—"Printed for William Thorpp Bookfeller in the City of Chester & are to be sould by him there, at his Shop at the hand & Bible neere the high Croffe & at the Stationers Armes in the Watergate Street, Where alsoe Books both new & Old are to bee bound and fold."

The handbill (which is the earliest known specimen of Chester printing) is :

THESE are to give notice, That at the Sign of the *Hand and Bible* in this City of *Chester*, that any one that stands in need or hath a desire to buy any *Bookes*, may there be furnished with severall sorts of New and Old, or have *new* and *old* bound at a reasonable price ; and smal Pictures in black and white, and in colours, And also severall sorts of Maps, small and large, black and white, and in colours. Likewise white paper of severall sorts gilt and ruled for Mufick Books, and ruled for books of Accompts, and coloured paper of the best. Sealing Wax hard and soft. *Pennes*, *Penfils* black and red. And also *Inkhorns* of several sorts ; and *Letter-Cases*, black boxes, *Vellome*, *Parchment*, *Spectacles* of several sorts, *Mouth-glue*, *clasps* for books, *Quills*, *Wafers*, *New-bookes* and *Newes* weekly. WILLIAM THORPPE.

He was a supporter of the publication of Blome's *Britannia* and in the 1673 edition, among the arms of benefactors, his are given (No. 166) as *checky, arg. and sable, on a fesse or, three martlets, impaling, per bend sinister, arg. and sable, six marilets counter-changed* (Allen of Greenhills, Co. Chester, see No. 165) ; he married Mary Allen of Upton in Wirral (Mar. Lic. 7 Nov. 1668), dau. of Ric. Allen of Greenhills, Co. Chester (she died 23 April, 1675, aged 30). Thorppe was churchwarden of Holy Trinity, 1673 ; bur. 28 Sept. 1676, at Holy Trinity ; admon. granted Chester 12 Oct. 1676, to his brother Richard Thorpe of Chester. He had two sons, William and Thomas. For a sermon "*Funerals made Cordials* . . . London : Printed by T. C. for Andrew Crook, sold at Chester by W. Throp, 1658," see *Cheshire Sheaf*, I, 207. A reference to "a Cheshire bookseller" in No. 10 of *One and*

¹ For another copy in the possession of J. W. Lloyd, see *Ex Libris Jour.*, vol. 8, pt. 12 (1898), p. 183. Mr. P. C. Brown told me of this.

Twenty Chester Queries . . . London: MDCLIX, may be to Wm. Thropp (*Cheshire Sheaf*, II, i, 77).

THORPE (or THROPP), WILLIAM, stationer, of Chester, son of Wm. Thropp, of Chester, stationer, decd.; freeman 9 April, 1706 (C.F.R.); possibly the same as William Thropp of Cockpit Hall, Manchester, who announced in 1738-9 a sale of books by auction at Manchester Exchange. (*Palatine Note-Book*, ii, 206.)

TILLIER (or TILLIARD), THOMAS, a printer in Chester c. 1688. Some commendatory verses signed "T. Tillier Typog." appear in Randle Holme's *Academy of Armory*. Chester: 1688, p. [xiii]. (See RANDLE HOLME.) Plomer, *Dict.*, gives a broadside with the imprint "London: Printed for T. Tilliar. MDCLXXXVIII" (see also Allnutt in *Bibliographica*, ii (1896), pp. 293-4). On 3 Jan. 1688/9, Thomas Tillier, foreman printer, wrote from Dublin to Randle Holme at Chester, referring to previous communications and to apprentices wanted by his (Dublin) master for the press. J. P. Earwaker, M.A., F.S.A., in commenting on this letter, stated that Tillier was the foreman printer employed in printing Holme's book at Chester, but supplied no evidence beyond that afforded by the book (*Cheshire Sheaf*, III, i, 77-8). Mr. John Brownbill noticed among the Holme MSS. (Harl. MS. 2758, ff. 316-17) a large copper-plate engraving of a "Geographical Diagram," with Chester in the centre, showing the distances and bearings from the city of other places. The author is described on it as "John Jackson, a lover of Arith(metick) & Geogra(phy)," and the sheet has upon it "Printed in Chester by T. Tillier." As no movable type was used, this sheet can only be evidence that Tillier was a printer in Chester for a time, but it greatly strengthens the view that Holme's book was printed in Chester. It is noteworthy also that Holme, among some miscellaneous coats of arms given near the end of the printed book, ascribes, probably as a compliment to his printer, arms to the family of Tillier. These are a "canting" coat, bearing a *talaria* or Mercury's shoe sable, winged argent, on an azure field; and they are figured in Holme's book on an engraved plate (see No. 151 on p. 484, and on the plate at p. 471). Administration, on intestacy, of the estate of Thomas Tilliard [*sic*], of Dublin, printer, was granted at Dublin, 1717. (John Jackson was no doubt the reader of lectures in geometry, published as *Mathematical Lectures*, read to the Mathematical Society at Manchester. By the late ingenious Mathematician John Jackson. Manchester: Printed by Roger Adams. 1719.)

VYCHAN, DANIELL, son of Danyell Vychan of Chester, decd., was apprenticed to PETER INCE (*q.v.*), stationer, for ten years in 1626. "He served not his time."

WALKER, JAMES, printer and bookseller, of Chester; son of Martha Walker; appr. to PETER BROSTER (*q.v.*); freeman 27 Oct. 1798 (*C.F.R.*).

WEAVER, JOHN, printer, of Chester; appr. to JOHN MONK, printer (*q.v.*); freeman 31 March, 1784 (*C.F.R.*).

WRIGHT, WILLIAM, of Chester, bookseller; only known from the record of his bankruptcy, Sept. 1779 (*Gent. Mag.*).

APPENDIX

CHARTER OF THE PAINTERS, GLASIERS, EMBROIDERERS AND
STATIONERS COMPANY OF CHESTER, 1 MAY 1534.

This copy is taken from the enrolment on the Chester
Recognisance Roll (P.R.O.) 13-14 Charles II (1661), m. 4.

This is preceded by the following :—

Comitatus Palatinus	} Memorandum quod tricesimo die Decem-
Cestrie. ss.	
	} Anglie &c. decimo tertio Ranulfus Holme

generosus & Willelmus Phillips protulerunt hic in curia Scaccarii dicti domini Regis Cestrie apud Cestriam quandam cartam gerentem datam apud Cestriam in Festo Sancti Phillipi et Jacobi anno regni domini Henrici octavi nuper Regis Anglie &c. vicesimo sexto et confectam per Henricum Gee quondam Maiorem civitatis Cestrie unacum Aldermannis et Communi Concilio eiusdem civitatis et petierunt illam irrotulari inter recorda Scaccarii Cestrie predicti et per warrantum prenobilis Caroli Comitis Derby Camerarii comitatus pallatini Cestrie irrotulatur in hec verba, Scilicet :—

Concessio facta per Maiorem	} [Here follows the charter.]
Civitatis Cestrie Societati	
de Painters, Glasiers, etc.	

[THE CHARTER.]

To all and singuler to whom this present writeinge shall come ;
HENRY GEE Maior of the Citty of Chester with the Aldermen
and Common Consell of the same Citty send greteinge in our
Lord God everlastinge ; KNOWE yee that for the better orderinge
preserveinge and maintaning the good of the said Citty and
prosperous estate thereof and that ich craft and occupacion may
follow ther o(w)ne faculties without wrongeinge or medelinge
with others as to(o) many of late tymes have done to the grate
disquiet of this Corporacion ; and forasmuch as the severall
crafts arts and faculti(e)s of Painters Glasiers Imbrauderers and
Stationers have bie ther humble petecion desired that they might
bee incorporeted into one body by grant under the Citty seale ;

It alsoe appereinge to us that they have bin tyme out of minde one brotherhood for the costs and expences of the plae of the Shepperds' Wach with the Angells' Hymme and likeways for other layings out conserneinge the welfare and prosperetie of the said Citty ;

Itt is therefore ordered and declared by joynte consent of us the Maior Aldermen and Common Consell, that the said Painters Glassiers Imbrauderers and Stacioners and their successores from henceforth and for evermore shal bee taken and reputed as one speciall Company of the said Citty and shall have use and enjoye such rules and orders as herreafter followeth, with all others made or to be made by the said Company ; Provided that they be not repugnant to the orders, walle [weal] and government of this Citty and the laws of the Realme ;

[1] IN PRIMIS, that the said Painters, Glassiers, Imbrauderers and Stacioners shall chuse out of their brotherhood too able and fitte men to be their aldermen for to order and governe the said societie too whome the brotherhood shal be obedient and yeld subieccion, and that those soe choosen shall continue from tyme to tyme excepte they acte anythinge to the hurt and preiudice of the said societie, and that they shall likeways yeirlie or as often as they finde it convenient elect and chuse too fitt men to bee stewards of the said society for the receiveinge and disburseinge of such summes of money as doth belonge or appertane to the said societie, gifeinge and makeinge their accontes yearlie even accordinge to their tyme of meteinge for eleccion ;

[2] THAT noe person free of the Citty of Chester of what profession trade or occupacion soever, or any other inhabitinge within the same or the liberties therreof shall exersise the arte misterie or trade of paintinge, hachinge, lymneinge, staneinge or seeleinge or make any kinde of worke with colors for profitte or gane unlesse hee bee first admitted a brotherr of the said Company and societie, Neither shall the painters, hachers, lymners, staners or seelers intermedle with any of the said occupacions of Glasseinge, Imbrauderinge or Stacioninge or any other trade whereof there is a brotherhood and societie within the Citty without the lefe and good will of the said brotherhood, only the Barbers Painters or Staners are and have power to follow their pollinge and shaveinge as tyme out of minde they have done. All others offendinge contrary to the true meeneinge hereof shall for everye such offence forfeitte the summe of one pounce to bee levied one goods of the offender bie the Sheriffs of the Citty, and the one halfe therrof to bee for the use of the

King's Maiestie and the otherr halfe for the use of the said Company of Painters Glassiers Imbrauderers and Stacioners ;

[3] ALSOE that noe person as is aforesaid shall use or exercise the trade of a Glassiere etherr to cut lead simon or annall any sort of glasse whatsoever for profite or gane but such as bee of the said brotherhood and societie one forfaiture for every such offence in soe doinge the summe of one pounce to be levied and for the uses as aforesayd And that likeways the Glassierrs shall not intermedelle with or in any of the trades of paintinge, imbrauderinge or stacioninge but follow that to which they served as apprentices uppon the forfaiture of the summe of one pounce to be levied and for the uses as aforesaid, and that the Glassierrs shall well and sufficientlie lead, annall and simon their glasse, of which if it bee fonde otherwayes for everie time soe offendinge they shall forfeite to the use of the Company the summe of ij shillings vj. pence.

[4] ALSOE that noe person as is aforesayd shall use or exercise the trade of an Imbrauderer etherr to draw prink surfeel pinke or cut any maner of clothe linnen or wollen silks, satens or velvetts or any otherr sorts whatsoever or doe that which belongs in any maner to Imbraudery for profite or gane but such as are of the said brotherhood and societie one forfaiture for everye such offence the summe of one pounce to bee levied one the goods of the offender and to bee gathered and for the uses as aforesaid, and that the Imbrauderers shall not medle in any otherr trade belonginge to the said brotherhood but that only of Imbraudery.

[5] ALSOE that noe person or persons of what trade or occupation soever as is abovesaid shall use or exercise the trade and occupation of a Stacioner, etherr to binde, folde, cut or sell bookes of any sorte or sise whatsoever, and that none other company within this Citty of Chester shall intermedell in that profession, save such as have sarved as apprentices to the Stacioner or Bookebinder, or put of(f) any books for profite or gane one the forfaiture of v poundes, and the said bookes with the tooles belonginge to a Stacioner that are soe set to seile [? sell] or used in the said occupation to be seised one by the Sherifes of the Citty for the use of the King's Maiestie and the Companie of Painters, Glassiers, Imbrauderers and Stacioners as aforesaid ;

[6] ALSOE that none of the said Company of Painters Glassierrs Imbrauderers or Stacioners or any brother amonge them shall seeke to take any worke out of any otherr's hand or circumvent, alure or entice the customers of any other brother to himselfe,

uppon the forfeiture of ten shillings for everye such offence and the valew of the said worke soe done or taken from any brotherr to be paid to him that had itt first given or promise made of it.

[7] ALSOE that noe brotherr of the said Company shall in their meteings or assemblings or att any other tyme dissorderly carry or behave himselfe to any of his brethren, or disturbe or interrupt any brotherr or call him out of his name, one forfeiture of one shilling for everie such offence and to be for the use of the said Company ;

[8] ALSOE that the Aldermen and Stewards of the said Company shall, bie a generall consent or the maior part of them, have poure to make orders and rules for the good government of the said brotherhood with penalties, and in case such orders bee broken the said fines to be levied uppon the goods of the offender, alwayes provided that the said orders soe made doe not infringe the lawes and orders of the Citty or bee contrary to the lawes of God and the lawes of the Kingdome as is aforesaid ;

[9] ALSO that all differences, sutes, incumbrances or what else doth arise, either betwixe the said Company or brotherhood and any otherr person, or anything among themselves which cannot be ended by them, it shall be put to the Maior of the Citty for the tyme beinge and if hee and his brethren cannot deside it, then it shall bee putt to the lawe of the land for the full and finall determinacion thereof.

In witness whereof the said Maior to this present writeinge hath sett too the seale of his office ; Yeven at Chester one the fe(a)st day of St. Phillip and Jacob in the twenty and sixt yeare of the raigne of our Soverrine Lord Henry the eight, bie the grace of God of England ffrence and Ireland King, defender of the faith etc. And in the yeare of our Lord God MCCCCXXXIIII [May 1, 1534].

There is a copy of an exemplification of this charter dated 30 December, 1661, in Harleian MS. 2054, fo. 88, and also another copy on fo. 87. The first copy has at the foot sketches of the Exchequer Seal for the County of Chester and Flint, 1660, no doubt attached to the *Inspeximus* by Charles II, exemplified at the instance of Randle Holme and Wm. Phillips at the time of enrolment.

The exemplification begins :—

CAROLUS secundus Dei gratia Anglie Scotie Francie et Hibernie Rex fidei defensor etc. Omnibus ad quos presentes literae per-

venierint salutem: Inspeximus quandam cartam gerentem datam apud Cestriam in festo Sancti Phillipi et Jacobi anno regni domini Henrici octavi nuper Regis Anglie etc. vicessimo sexto confectam per Henricum Gee tunc Maiorem civitatis nostre Cestrie unacum aldermannis et communi consilio eiusdem civitatis cuiusquidam carte tenor sequitur in hec verba. [*Here follows the charter.*] Nos autem tenorem carte predictæ ad instanciam et requisicionem Ranulfi Holme generosi et Willelmi Phillips¹ diximus exemplificandum. In cuius rei testimonium has litteras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste meipso apud Cestriam tricesimo die Decembris anno regni nostri decimo tertio [30 Dec. 1661].

Irrotulata inter recorda

Scaccarii Cestrie et examinata
per Willelmum Slater deputatum
Baronum scaccarii Cestre.

EDWARDS.²

¹ The books of the Company have the following references to the preliminary steps taken to obtain this exemplification:—

"1661. Spent at Namptwich going about our charter to the Earl of Derby. 6s. 8d.

Spent by Wm. Throppe when he went to Lancashire to have the Vice-Chamberlain's hand and approbation for the exemplifying of our charter, both horse and man and horse hire. £1 16s. 3d."

² Presumably Thos. Edwards, then a "baron" of the Exchequer of Chester.