

SOME NOTES UPON THE SIGNS OF THE PAWN-  
BROKERS IN LONDON IN THE SEVENTEENTH AND  
EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES.

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My object in bringing these notes before you is not to give a history of pawnbroking, but to record some of the various signs of the houses in the metropolis in which those who were styled pawnbrokers or who transacted the business of the pawnbroker resided. Moneylenders and borrowers of money have no doubt existed in all countries from the very earliest times, but were I to go into the history of usury or moneylending at interest, it would fill volumes, so I intend to content myself with simply making a few introductory remarks upon the subject.

There are many instances known and referred to in the classics and elsewhere of borrowing money upon pledges of various kinds of property amongst the peoples of the Old World. Instances might be quoted from ancient Egypt, China, India, Greece, Italy, and other countries.

To begin with, I may remark that in the *Oxyrhynchus Papyri* many allusions are made to banks and money-lending and some to pawnbroking. I select the following as being interesting :—

*“ Letter concerning Property in Pawn.”*

(Second or third century, A.D.),<sup>1</sup> which is the latter part of a letter from Eunoëa giving instructions to a friend to redeem a number of articles, chiefly of dress, which had been pawned.

“ Now please redeem my property from Sarapion. It is pledged for two minæ. I have paid the interest up to Epeiph, at the rate of a stater per mina. There is a casket of incense-wood, and another of onyx, a tunic, a white veil with a real purple (border ?), a handkerchief,

<sup>1</sup> *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri*, Vol. I, p. 180, Egypt Exploration Fund, 1898.

a tunic with a Laconian stripe, a garment of purple linen, 2 armlets, a necklace, a coverlet, a figure of Aphrodite, a cup, a big tin flask, and a wine jar. From Onetor get the 2 bracelets. They have been pledged since Tybi of last year for eight . . . at the rate of a stater per mina [this interest is 4 per cent. presumably for a month, a very exorbitant rate]. If the cash is insufficient owing to the carelessness of Theagenis, if, I say, it is insufficient, sell the bracelets to make up the money. Many salutations to Aia, etc., etc."

A few years ago, in the course of the excavations carried on at Pompeii, the house of one Lucius Caecilius Jucundus was discovered. He was a banker, usurer, and auctioneer, and possibly a pawnbroker. In one of the rooms of the house a quantity of waxed tablets were found, which were records of his commercial transactions. Some of them showed that he was in the habit of lending money upon bills payable in thirty days with interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per month, which was fairly exorbitant, but it does not show what rate was paid for a renewal, probably something very large.

Usury of course, as we all know, has been practised by the Jews and others in England from the earliest times, and the usurers were severely persecuted and punished for their evil practices.

"The interest generally charged during the period from 1060 to 1290 was from 2*d.* to 3*d.* in the £1 per week, so that there is little wonder there should arise great cries against usury. The sum of 3*d.* would represent nearly as much as half-a-crown in the present time, but as the pound would also possess the same proportion of purchasing power, we can see that the percentage would vary from 45 to 65 per cent., and we have no information as to the kind or quality of the security offered; likely enough in many cases it would be of the slenderest."<sup>1</sup>

The Jews who were brought into England by William the Conqueror were soon hated, feared, and despised, and were the victims of more barbarous cruelties and oppressions than any other people whatever. They introduced bills of exchange, and their industry and frugality caused

<sup>1</sup> *A Brief History of Pawnbroking*, by Alfred Hardaker, London, 1892.

them to accumulate vast sums of treasure, which they lent out at high interest to the nobility and others upon the security of their estates. Several of our early Kings pawned their crowns and jewels to the Jews for temporary accommodation. Edward I. is stated to have pawned the customs dues; Edward III., having no dues to pawn, deposited his crown on three separate occasions; Henry V., Henry VI., Richard II., Henry VII., and perhaps others did likewise.

The Jews continued to be robbed and ill-treated under a succession of sovereigns, until the oppression culminated in the reign of Edward I., who robbed 15,000 Jews of their wealth, and banished them all. A horrible story is told in connection with this event: "Some of the wealthiest of the Jews, having obtained the King's permission to take with them their property, loaded a ship with immense wealth and set sail; but when they got to the mouth of the Thames the captain of the ship cast anchor, and, it being low water, the ship rested on the sands (probably the Goodwins). He then persuaded the Jews to leave the ship, and go with him on the sands, telling them that the tide would not flow for a long time. Having led them some distance from the ship, and finding the tide was coming in, he stole away from them, got on board, and set sail. The wretched Jews, when they discovered their situation, called to him, imploring help; but the captain, mocking them, bade them call upon Moses, who conducted their forefathers through the Red Sea, and so left them to perish. The captain returned to King Edward I., to whom he related the result of his scheme, and delivered up the treasure, receiving in return both honour and reward."<sup>1</sup>

This is only one of many horrible tales that have been recorded. After the expulsion of the Jews in the reign of Edward I. in consequence of their having become too powerful, no trace of their existence in England can be found until after the Reformation.

Their expulsion caused great inconvenience, as there were none either to lend money or manage foreign business. All this time the family of Corsini were settled as bankers in the principal cities of Italy.

<sup>1</sup> Lawson's *History of Banking*.

They were invited over to England and soon began to practise usury to even a greater extent than the Jews had done, which led to their being threatened with banishment, and with some the threat was carried out.

In the fourteenth century they were succeeded by the Lombards or Longobards, who were merchants and bankers from the four republics of Genoa, Lucca, Florence, and Venice.

They combined the several occupations of goldsmith, pawnbroker, and banker. They set up their shops or benches in Lombard Street. Stow records that Edward II., in the twelfth year of his reign, confirmed a messuage sometime belonging to Robert Turke, abutting on Lombard Street towards the south and towards Cornhill on the north, for the merchants of Florence; which proves that street to have had the name of Lombard Street before the reign of Edward II.

From these cunning and industrious people the business of the goldsmith, the pawnbroker, and the banker has descended through many generations to the present day.

I insert here an extract from the will of a fifteenth century Sussex "pawnbroker," kindly sent me by Mr. Garraway Rice :

*"P.C.C. Register 'HORNE,' fo. 7.*

"25th Sept. 1496, 12th Hen. 7th, 'I Adam Oxenbrigge of the towne of Rye in good and hoole mynde . . .  
Item I bequeth to the Grey Freris of Wynchelsee a Chalice of the same hous . . . that is to plegge to me for xxx<sup>s</sup>."

"Proved 4th November 1496."

Pawnbroking, although a very ancient trade, does not appear to have been established as a separate trade before the end of the seventeenth century. The business now done was to a certain extent carried on by the old goldsmiths, who originally came from Lombardy, and as far as London is concerned they settled in Lombard Street and gradually spread over the City and London generally.

Their trade was, ostensibly, dealing in plate and jewellery; but they transacted a considerable business in advancing money upon pledges or pawns, such as upon

jewels, plate, houses, lands, and various other articles. In the middle of the seventeenth century, many of these goldsmiths took charge of the money of others and gave receipts or notes for the same; thus they became goldsmiths keeping running cashes, and afterwards bankers.

This practice first obtained in the days of Charles I. Up to his time merchants and others were in the habit of depositing their money in the Tower for safe keeping, but in consequence of that King having seized it, the merchants lost both their money and their faith in the security of the Tower, and henceforth commenced to entrust it to the safe keeping of some of the leading goldsmiths. Towards the end of the seventeenth century and at the commencement of the eighteenth century, many of these goldsmiths gave up the legitimate goldsmith's business, and with it that of lending money upon pledges, and restricted themselves to the simple business of bankers.

The Bank of England shortly after its establishment, when its bank notes were at 20 per cent. discount and gold at 50 per cent. premium, lent money on pawns, as we can see from the following notice in the *London Gazette*, April 29th, 1695: "The Court of Directors of the Bank of England give Notice that they will lend money on Plate, Lead, Tin, Copper, Steel, and Iron at 4 per cent. per annum."

There are many instances in the old ledgers of the end of the seventeenth century, both of Messrs. Child and Co., and of Alderman Edward Backwell, of their lending money to their customers or others upon pledges of plate or jewels. In the case of William Mead, goldsmith, at the "Goat" in the Strand, who became a bankrupt and whose banking business was taken over by Sir F. Child and Co., a notice appeared in the *London Gazette*, 20th June, 1730, to the effect "that all pledges now remaining in the Hands of the assignees will be peremptorily sold, unless redeemed by the 24 July next, without further notice."

This is a late instance of a banker lending money upon pledges of jewels and plate.

Pawnbroking appears to have started as a separate trade about the reign of James II. It was not until

the beginning of the eighteenth century that the pawnbrokers advertised their trade in the newspapers.

Towards the end of the seventeenth century many of the goldsmiths inserted advertisements in the *London Gazette* and other newspapers announcing their intention of giving up the trade, and requesting all persons having pledges with them to redeem them by a certain date or they would be disposed of, as they were retiring from that business. After 1700 these notices became more frequent.

In the *London Gazette*, 18th June, 1694, was the following notice of what might be considered a pawnbroker's sale: "Mr. Wilson with the rest of the other goldsmiths concerned in the Sale of Plate, Jewels, etc., have appointed Monday the 23rd July next to draw the same in the Quest House of St. Dunstan's in the West in Fleet Street, by 8 in the forenoon."

Captain John Pasill, goldsmith, of the "King's Arms" in Cheapside, gave notice to all persons having plate or jewels in his hands to fetch them away or else they will be disposed of (August 10th, 1696).

Another goldsmith, one Robert Johnson, had the following interesting advertisement in the *London Gazette*, December 31st-January 3rd, 1677-8, which I will quote as it refers to Nell Gwyn:

"All goldsmiths and others to whom one Silver plate may come to be sold marked with the cipher E.G. flourished, weighing about 18 ounces, are desired to apprehend the Bearer thereof, till they give notice to Mr. Robert Johnson, in Heath Cock Alley in the Strand against Durham Yard or to Mrs. Gwin's Porter in the Pall Mall by whom they shall be well rewarded."

I consider it to be quite possible that the retirement of so many goldsmiths and pawnbrokers from the trade is to be accounted for by the foundation of a great pawnbroking establishment in the year 1707-8, styled "The Charitable Corporation for lending Money to the Industrious but Necessitous Poor," which was established in order to defeat the extortionate and usurious rates made by pawnbrokers, which are stated to have ranged from 30 to 60 per cent.

It obtained an Act of Parliament in 1708, but did not

really do much business till 1719. It started with a capital of £30,000, but it was eventually increased to £600,000, nearly all of which was squandered in a shameful manner in speculations on the Stock Exchange, which caused a very great scandal at the time.

The first notice that I have observed in the *London Gazette* of this institution is under date December 6th, 1708 :

“The Charitable Corporation for the Relief of the Industrious Poor, by assisting them with small sums upon Pledges at Legal Interest! having some time since lent money accordingly, at their house in Duke Street, Westminster, at the Rates following viz. : from 20s. to 10s. at one and a half per cent. per annum, charges above the interest, and from 10s. to 5*d.* at 5 per cent. per annum Interest without charge, and 6*d.* or under Gratis! and taking the said interest and charge for no longer time than the poor Borrowers keeps the money. Therefore that they may not be imposed upon by Stolen Goods, do desire all who lose anything to send immediate Notice there of to the House aforesaid. That they may be stopped and returned.”

Then on the 9th June, 1709, they give notice that books for subscription will be laid open at their house.

In the same journal of the 7th July, 1719, they again give notice that they have resolved to begin to lend money upon pledges pursuant to their charter at their house in Spring Gardens on the 22nd instant, but a further notice postponed this until the 29th instant.

On April 16th, 1728, a meeting was called for 30th April, to consider declaring a dividend for the last six months.

Then (September 18th, 1731) they gave notice that at their house on Lawrence Pountney Hill, Cannon Street, there would be sold by public auction on Tuesday, the 19th October, and the following days, several sorts of goods and manufactures, plate, jewels, etc.

On the 25th October, 1731, the Corporation from the same house “gives notice that John Thompson late Warehouse keeper of the said Corporation had absconded, and offer a reward of One thousand Pounds for his capture. He is presumed to have taken away a great

quantity of Jewels, etc., as well as some books." Then follow other advertisements on the subject.

The last notice I have come across of this Corporation was in 1742.

A very pleasing story is given by Mr. Hardaker in his *Brief History of Pawnbroking*, which he quotes from *Sacred and Legendary Art*, by Mrs. Jameson: "The pawnbroker's badge and cognizance has been properly enough referred to the Lombard merchants who carried on business in England in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. But the Lombards had merely assumed the emblem which had been applied to St. Nicholas, as their charitable predecessor in the same line. The good saint was Bishop of Panthera, in Lycia." Mrs. Jameson gives the fable as follows: "Now in that city there dwelt a certain nobleman who had three daughters, and from being very rich he became poor—so poor that there remained no means of obtaining food for his daughters, but by sacrificing them to an infamous life; and oftentimes it came into his mind to tell them so, but shame and sorrow held him dumb. Meantime the maidens wept continually, not knowing what to do, and not having bread to eat, and their father became more and more desperate. When Nicholas heard of this, he thought it a shame that such a thing should happen in a Christian land. Therefore, one night, when the maidens were asleep, and their father alone sat watching and weeping, he took a handful of gold, and, tying it up in a handkerchief, he repaired to the dwelling of the poor man. He considered how he might bestow it without making himself known, and while he stood irresolute, the moon, coming from behind a cloud, showed him a window open, so he threw it in, and it fell at the feet of the father, who, when he found it, returned thanks, and with it he portioned his eldest daughter. The second time Nicholas provided a similar sum, and again he threw it in by night, and with it the nobleman married his second daughter. But he greatly desired to know who it was that came to his aid; therefore he determined to watch, and when the good saint came for the third time he was discovered, for the nobleman seized him by the skirt of his robe and flung himself at his feet,



saying, 'Oh, Nicholas, servant of God, why seek to hide thyself?' and he kissed his feet and hands. But Nicholas made him promise that he would tell no man."

"In the engraving which accompanies the story," wrote Mr. Turner, "the saint is represented standing on tiptoe, and about to throw a bell-shaped purse into the window of the house. The merchant is seen through an open doorway sitting sorrowfully in the nearest room, while his three daughters are sleeping in a room beyond. The three purses of gold, or, as they are more commonly figured, the three golden balls, disposed in exact pawnbroker fashion, are to this day the recognized and special emblem of the charitable Nicholas."

Many speculative suggestions have been advanced as to the meaning of the sign "The Three Golden Balls" or the "Three Blue Balls," but I consider they must all give way to the probability that the sign was taken from the lower part of the coat of arms of the Dukes of Medici, from whose states and from Lombardy the old goldsmiths came. These capitalists advanced money on lands and valuables at high rates of interest and hence were the predecessors of the pawnbrokers. The popular explanation of the sign is, as you may all be aware, that the chances are two to one against anything pawned ever being redeemed.

The most favourite signs adopted by the old pawnbrokers in London towards the end of the seventeenth century were the "Bell," "Blue Ball," "Crown," "Golden Ball," "Seven Stars," "Sun," "Three Bowls," "Three Blue Bowles," "Three Cocks," etc. Of the "Three Balls," the first instance that I have met with was in 1744. The first instance on record of the world-renowned "Three Golden Balls," is in 1672, as the sign of Townsend, a tobacconist near St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet Street; the second is that of Mr. Hankey, goldsmith and banker of Fenchurch Street, the house afterwards numbered 7; and the third is that of Thomas Rudge, of the "Three Golden Balls," in Houndsditch, in 1731, which is the first occurrence that I have come across of a pawnbroker living under that sign, and another in 1699 of a starch seller at the "Three Golden

Balls" in St. Martin's Lane, and another pawnbroker flourished under this sign in Castle Street, Leicester Fields, in 1752.<sup>1</sup> It is a very remarkable circumstance that out of the hundreds of signs of the houses of pawnbrokers I have met with, from the earliest times after the Fire (1666) up to 1731, only one occurrence of the "Three Golden Balls" used by a pawnbroker should be met with, and only one of the "Three Balls," but of the sign of the "Three Bowls" there are a great number, ranging from 1702 to 1765, and a few of the "Three Blue Bowls," which was practically the same sign. I think this sign must be the original rendering of the familiar "Three Golden Balls," as so many of the former have been noted before any instance of the latter was met with.

Of other signs having the ball or the bowl in their composition the following may be mentioned :

- "Ball and Crown," 1703.
- "Blue and White Ball," 1726.
- "Five Blue Bowls," 1742.
- "Golden Ball and Bunch of Grapes," 1722.
- "Golden Ball and Cross Keys," 1723.
- "Old Golden Ball," 1725.
- "Ring and Ball," 1685.
- "Striped Ball," 1715.
- "Three Blue Balls," 1720.
- "Three Blue Bowles and Golden Ball," 1729.
- "Two Bowls," 1710.
- "Two Masks and Golden Ball," 1710.
- "Two Vizard Masks and Golden Ball," 1715.
- "Three Bowls and Rose," 1744.
- "Star and Blue Ball," 1745.
- "Three Green Balls," 1745.
- "Five Blue Balls,"
- "Three Bowls and Golden Ball,"
- "Dove and Two Balls,"
- "Golden Ball and Blue Anchor,"
- "Rose and Three Balls,"
- "Three Balls and Acorn,"
- "Three Balls and Gold Ball,"

} 1753 to 1765..

<sup>1</sup> I have met with the name of John Balls," in Charles Court in the Strand, near Hungerford Market, in 1720.

Irrespective of the above signs, which were apparently the most popular, as they occur several times in the various streets of the Metropolis in the early part of the eighteenth century, there may be noted some of the earliest that were employed by the pawnbrokers for the signs of their houses. These have been extracted from advertisements in the old newspapers. After the name of the sign I have appended the date of the year in which they are first observed.

- "The Five Roses," 1687.
- "Half Moon and Cross Pistols," 1687.
- "Gilded Hart," 1698.
- "Globe," 1693.
- "Crown and Pearl," 1697.
- "King's Head," 1693.
- "Bell," 1702.
- "Bell," 1693, kept by John Bush, pawn-taker.
- "Black Spread Eagle," 1704.
- "Blue Flower Pot," 1701.
- "Crooked Billet and Three Horse Shoes," 1700.
- "Crown," 1703.
- "Flying Horse," 1702.
- "Golden Lyon," 1701.
- "Half Moon," 1702.
- "Key," 1704.
- "Naked Boy," 1703.

Then we meet with signs that are of rare occurrence, such as the "Black Hart and Rose," "Tea Table," "The Blue Boat," "Double Cane Chair," "Five Bells and Candlestick," "Hand and Ear," and a great many in triplicate, such as the "Three Crowns," "Three Hats," "Three Neats' Tongues," "Three Tobacco Rolls," etc. But for the rest of the signs observed, together with the names and residences of the pawnbrokers, see the list at the end of this paper.

At the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries, it was legal for publicans to take in pledges; but this was prohibited by law in 1751. It was not only publicans who acted as pawnbrokers, as I have met with the following instances: In the *London Gazette*, December 2nd, 1697, is a notice that "All

persons who have any Plate or Jewels at Pawn in the hands of Joseph Fell, Goldsmith, or otherwise indebted to him are to take notice that unless they pay such money to Christopher Rednapp, Upholsterer, at the 'Cock' in Witch Street by the 21st instant such plate and jewels will be disposed of."

Then we find one Richard Trigg, bricklayer and pawnbroker, in Long Lane, parish of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, 1710; William Streeton, leatherseller and pawnbroker, 1710; also John Goddard, back door of the "Vine" Tavern, Eagle Street, in Holborn, pawnbroker, 1726. He was probably also a publican.

There are also many instances in my list at the end of this paper of female pawnbrokers. One of these, advertising in the *Daily Advertiser*, says "All Persons that have Pledg'd any goods with the *Gentlewoman* in Hanover Yard, are desired to redeem them" without delay, etc.

Amongst them I came across the following amusing notice in the *Postman*, February 9th, 1699: "The other day a Female Pawnbroker who lives not far from Fleet Ditch wanting a Husband applied herself to a Cunning man near St. Pauls and after she had opened her case gave the conjuring Doctor Two Guineas and the person pitched on was Sir W—— M—— A—— of about 80 years of age who not coming according to expectation she arrested the Fortune Teller for her Two Guineas, who has put in bail, and Council learned in the Law are retained on both sides to Argue the Premises most strenuously in Westminster Hall."

In Boynes's *Trade Tokens*, the author appears to rather jump at conclusions in describing the following farthing token:

O. NATH. LITTLEFORD = Three Balls.  
R. IN. WHIT. CHAPPELL. = N.L.

On which he remarks, "The issuer was evidently a pawnbroker," which, as we have already seen, does not follow at all. In describing another token issued at the sign of the "Negro's Head," 1668, the author considers the issuer was probably a pawnbroker, as this sign was sometimes used by the trade.

In the well-known pictures by Hogarth of Beer Street and Gin Street, houses are depicted with the sign of "Three Balls"; on that of Beer Street, "Pinch, pawn-broker," is painted over the door.

There appear to have been two lower grades of pawn-brokers in the eighteenth century, *i.e.* those termed fripperers, who were essentially dealers in left-off clothing, and the chandlers, who took in pledges without licenses, the greater part of the money borrowed from the chandlers being laid out in the same shops. An amusing instance is given by Mr. Hows in *The History of Pawnbroking*, 1847:

"A hard-working carpenter, whose wages did not exceed £1 a week, possessed a large tin kettle. His wife in the course of the week pledged the kettle for sixpence. On Saturday evening the husband brought home a leg of mutton and a half-peck loaf, out of his wages; and as the mutton was to be boiled, the wife, at the chandler's shop, on Sunday morning, pledged the loaf and paid a halfpenny, and released the kettle. She then boiled the mutton and took it up, wiped the kettle out and paid a halfpenny and released the loaf; after which the husband and wife sat down and ate a hearty dinner."

King Charles I. gave the inhabitants of London a charter whereby it was made lawful for them to expose and hang in and over the streets and ways and alleys of the said city, and suburbs of the same, signs and posts of signs affixed to their houses and shops, for the better finding out of such citizens' dwellings, etc.

In those days, when so few of the people could read, the picture-sign was necessary to guide them to the house they desired; but from some accounts we have read of them it must have been very difficult for any person to make out what they were intended to represent, as many were so complicated and others badly designed. Of course in the principal streets good artists were often employed. At one time it was the fashion to gild the signs, such as the "Golden Anchor," "Golden Ball," "Three Golden Bells," etc.

Then there were many incongruous combinations in some signs, such as the "Five Bells and Candlestick,"

"Naked Boy and Seven Stars," etc. This addition of an extra sign to the original sign, which probably had been that of the house for generations, irrespective of the trade carried on beneath it, is supposed to have been due to the fact that it was usual for a young tradesman, on his first starting business at a certain house—we will say, for the sake of argument, at the "Five Bells"—to add to the sign of his house the sign of the master to whom he had lately been apprenticed, which, we will assume, was the "Candlestick." The sign of the young tradesman would therefore become the "Five Bells and Candlestick."

The signs of the houses were very numerous; and in consequence of anxious tradesmen wishing to be well known, they resorted to putting up such enormous signs over the streets and swinging from their houses, that they became an intolerable nuisance and also dangerous. They frequently fell and injured the passers-by, and there is a record of a sign in the parish of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, being so large and heavy as to have pulled the whole front of a house out into the street and in its fall killed four people; besides, in a high wind these old signs creaked and groaned in a way which must have been disagreeable to all persons.

I have remarked in going through the advertisements in the *Public Advertiser*, which was the organ of the pawnbrokers, that in or about the year 1758 there were fewer advertisements inserted by pawnbrokers announcing articles "Stopt" than formerly. This is accounted for by the fact that the Bow Street Runners were instituted about this time by Sir John Fielding, the magistrate of Bow Street, who was the terror of the thieves, who consequently avoided taking their plunder to the pawnbrokers. The majority of the advertisements for "Stops" were inserted by the Bow Street Runners, as the loser was desired to apply to Sir John Fielding in Bow Street or to one of his receivers.

About the year 1760 some people advertised complaining that their signs had been blotted or painted out by mischievous people during the night; thus the "Three Blue Balls" were painted white and the "Red Star" painted blue, and so on. I have been told of an old print

of about 150 years ago depicting some urchins climbing up to paint out the signs or otherwise to disfigure them. An old man who has had his sign painted out is seen at the first-floor window, and just as the miscreants come within reach he thrusts out a mop which has been well dipped in tar or red ochre, with which he bedaubes the interloper's head. One of the sufferers, residing at the sign of the "Red Star" in the Old Bailey, writes to the paper and describes the rascals as miserable sinners and hopes that they won't finish up over the road, and concludes with, "But Lord forgive them, they know not what they do, and if they did they would not have tried to have done me out of my living, for lots of people have been asking for the sign, and not finding it have gone elsewhere and spent their money."

An Act was passed in or about 1762 to suppress the sign-boards and sign-posts, which was slowly carried into effect throughout the Metropolis.

The following advertisement will show that some of the streets had already been denuded of their signs in 1763, as on the 27th September of that year we read: "As not only the signs are taken down in Bridge Street, but the dangling Rows of Stockings and Sugar Loaves are also removed—Quere, Why the Pewter Porringers are suffered to hang in Parliament Street, and the same sort of wooden stockings in the adjoining Part of Charles Street."

Wood Street and Whitecross Street are said to have been the last from which the signs were removed, in 1773. The streets were then numbered.

For the purpose of gleanings as much information as possible about the signs of the pawnbrokers, I have examined the advertisements in the old newspapers, principally in the *Daily Advertiser* and *Public Advertiser*, up to the year 1765, and the evidence arrived at proves that from about 1754 to that date there was a marked tendency for the adoption of either the sign of the "Three Golden Balls" (or "Bowls") or "Three Blue Bowls," to the gradual extinction of other signs. In fact, other signs than those composed of balls or bowls for the pawnbroker during the period 1754-1765 are quite rare.

After this the pawnbrokers appear to have adopted generally the sign of the "Three Balls," golden or blue,

as the sign of their trade, not as the sign of their houses, as they had lost their old signs and had become known by a number. We have already had an insight into the mixed character of them, and others you will see in the list appended to this paper.

This well known trade sign is an excellent beacon to the pawnshop, in the same manner as the barber continues to hang out his pole with shaving and bleeding dish attached to this day, and very frequently we see the black boy or Scotchman outside a shop door to guide the passer-by where he can get tobacco or a pinch of snuff.

There is a pawnbroker in the neighbourhood of Dorset Square whose sign is illuminated at night, which is most effective.

*Read's Journal* for the 27th June, 1752, gives the following case of a pawnbroker, but no sign is recorded :

"John Leppard, a pawnbroker, in Kent Street, Southwark, stood indicted for taking in Pawns on the Sabbath Day, and also stood indicted for taking and receiving three pence halfpenny for the loan of one shilling for one week : to which indictment he pleaded guilty, and was fined Five shillings for the first and twenty shillings for the other."

This was a very lenient punishment for such a gross charge of usury.

I will now conclude by giving you the following story of Jack Sheppard and the pawnbrokers which I met with in the *Examiner*, November 18th, 1821 :

The celebrated Jack Sheppard, famous for his skill in breaking into houses and out of prisons, though a small man, conducted his business in the most daring manner possible. He was very fond of breaking into pawnbrokers' shops and used often to go alone on these shining expeditions. He one night got into the house of the two brothers Rawlinsons, pawnbrokers in Drury Lane, and rifled the shop in their hearing, as they both were in one bed in an adjoining room. He managed this by pretending there were several of them, and loudly giving out directions for shooting the first person through the head that dared to stir an inch, which effectually quieted the worthy money-lenders. Sheppard, however, "could not bear a rival near the throne," and he held the renowned Blueskin



in great contempt, describing him as "a worthless companion, a sorry thief, and that nothing but his attempt on Jonathan Wild could have made him take notice of him." This, we fear, was a spice of envy, for the illustrious Blueskin was no flincher in his way; and his bold attempt to stab Wild in open court, while on his trial, has been immortalized by the Dean of St. Patrick's verse; in which we find that he gallantly—

". . . drew forth his knife,  
To make a sad widow of Jonathan's wife."

It has been generally supposed that this Rawlinsons' shop was formerly known by the sign of the "Three Bowls" and that it was the same house that was inhabited by William Chambers, pawnbroker, in 1709; whose sign I had the pleasure of giving to the Guildhall Museum a few years ago.

#### ALPHABETICAL LIST OF LONDON PAWNBROKERS' SIGNS.

*Acorn.*

1716/7. Jan. 5. Lawrence Harwood, at the *Acorn* in the Bell Sauvage Yard, Ludgate Hill.

*The Acorn.*

1744. Foster's Buildings, Whitecross Street. Pawnbroker retiring from business.

*Acorn.*

1752. Sarah Williffee, Pawnbroker, Bell Lane, Spittlefields.

*Acorn.*

1754. Joseph Sutton, Pawnbroker, New Street, Covent Garden.

*Acorn.*

1762. Butcher Row, Temple Bar. A pawnbroker's.

*Anchor and Hoop.*

1745. Thomas Page, Pawnbroker, Holywell Street, Shoreditch.

*Angel.*

1711/12. March 4. Richard Roycroft, at the *Angel* in Bridges Street, Convent Garden.

*Angel.*

1722. Jan. 27. Thomas Rayner, *Goldsmith*, at the *Angel* in Cranborne Street, Leicester Fields.

*Angel.*

1744. Captain Richard Tyson, Blackman Street, Southwark. Pawnbroker retiring from business. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Ball and Crown.*

1703. Isabel Addinson, Pawnbroker, *Ball and Crown* in Brownlow Street in Drury Lane. *London Gazette*, July 15, 1703.

*Baptist's Head.*

1752. March 20. Old Bailey. Whereas many people pawn their Plate, watches, wearing apparel, etc., they may have them redeemed in order to be forthwith sold or more money advanced by enquiring for Mr. Clemens at the Baptist's Head facing the Great Old Bailey, who buys the above goods, or any other sorts, although not Pawned, or lends money on them to near the full value for a time agreed, also any House of Goods or Parcels of Furniture bought on notice as above. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Bell.*

1693. John Bush, *Pawn taker*, at the *Bell in Charterhouse Lane*, hath left off his trade, and all persons that hath goods or pawns with him are to fetch them away. *London Gazette*, May 18, 1693.

*Bell.*

1701/2. March 5. Richard Newenham, at the *Bell in Charter House Lane*.

*The Bell.*

1706. Dec. 16. Mr. Hammond, *The Bell in Maiden Lane*, Convent Garden.

*Bell.*

1708. Sept. 6. Thomas Johnson, deceased, *Bell* at the back side of St. Clements. *London Gazette.*

A similar notice appeared in the *Gazette* of 30 Aug., 1709.

*Bell.*

1715. Sept. 24. Benjamin Hall, at the sign of the *Bell in Deadman's Place*, Southwark.

*Bird in Hand.*

1719. Oct. 3. Jean Bosall, *Pawnbroker*, at the *Bird in Hand*, the lower part of Nightingale Lane.

*Bird in Hand.*

1720. Nov. 8. Jane Edsall, *Pawnbroker*, at the *Bird in Hand*, the lower end of Nightingale Lane.

*Blackamoor's Head.*

1710/11. March 17. John Blackmoor, at the *Blackamoor's Head*, in Church Street, near St. Ann's Church, Soho.

*Blackamoor's Head.*

1718. March 1. Mrs. Smithson, at the *Blackamoor's Head* in Castle Street, the back side of Long Acre.

*Blackmoor's Head.*

1716. Dec. 1. Thomas Jeffrys, at the *Blackmoor's Head* upon Saffron Hill.

*Black Boy and Two Sugar Loaves.*

1765. Facing Bever's Repository, Little St. Martin's Lane. This is now Aldridge's. A pawnbroker's.

*Black Hart.*

1702. Ann Collier, *Pawnbroker*, *Black Hart*, in Bishopsgate Street. *London Gazette*, March, 1702.

*Black Hart.*

1707. May 1. Ann Collier, *Pawnbroker*, deceased, *Black Hart*, Bishopsgate Street.

*Black Hart.*

1714/15. Jan. 25. John Powell, at the *Black Hart* in Bishopsgate Street.

*Black Hart and Rose.*

1720. Aug. 16. Ann Lill, late Widow Powell, at the *Black Hart and Rose*, formerly the *Black Hart* at Skinners Street End, without Bishopsgate.

*Black Peruke.*

1716. July 31. Elizabeth Norris, late wife of Phillip Norris, deceased, *Black Peruke*, in Panton Street, Leicester Fields.

*Black Spread Eagle.*

1704. June 26. John How, Pawnbroker, *Black Spread Eagle*, in Phoenix Street, near Bloomsbury.

*Black Spread Eagle.*

1705. June 30. Thomas Rumbold, Pawnbroker, at the *Black Spread Eagle*, near the Watch House in Holbourn. *Flying Post*.

*Black Spread Eagle.*

1715/16. Feb. 21. David Stephens, at the *Black Spread Eagle* in Phoenix Street, Bloomsbury.

*Black Swan.*

1707. Sept 1. Hester Pedley, at *Black Swan* in Charterhouse Lane.

*Blue and White Ball.*

1726. Dec. 17. J. Pullen, Pawnbroker, at the *Blue and White Ball* in Drury Lane, near Brownlow Street.

*Blue Ball.*

1718. March 22. Mrs. Williams, Pawnbroker, at the *Blue Ball* in Queen Street, near the Seven Dials.

*Blue Ball.*

1723. Feb. 5. John Rancock, Pawnbroker, at the *Blue Ball* in New Gravel Lane, Shadwell.

*Blue Ball.*

1723/4. March 17. Walter Vincent, at the *Blue Ball* in Orange Court, near Leicester Fields.

*Blue Ball.*

1726. Dec. 23. Mrs. Rylands, at the *Blue Ball* in Little New Street, near Shooe Lane.

1731. Dec. 4. Richard Ryland advertised.

*Blue Ball.*

1731/2. March 14. William Powel, at the *Blue Ball* in Hoxton Market. Pawnbroker.

*Blue Ball.*

1744. Mr. Johnson, in King Street, *Little Tower Hill*, Pawnbroker. Notice to redeem pledges, as he is leaving off trade. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Blue Ball.*

1744. Mrs. Ann Caswell, Pawnbroker, Old Pye Street, Westminster.

*Blue Ball.*

1753. George Street, Whitechapel. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Blue Ball.*

1755. Mr. Gregg, Pawnbroker, Barnaby Street, Southwark.

*Blue Ball.*

1757. Mr. Davidson, Pawnbroker, London Wall.

*Blue Boar.*

1757. Rosemary Lane. A pawnbroker's.

*Blue Boat.*

1710. Nov. 11. Samuel Barnes, at the *Blue Boat*, in Ratcliff Highway.

*Blue Flower Pot.*

1701/2. Feb. 23. John Hobart, Pawnbroker, at the *Blue Flower Pot* in Clare Court, Drury Lane.

*Blue Flower Pot.*

1702. Mrs. Cox, Pawnbroker, *Blue Flower Pot* in Queen Street, near the Seven Dials in St. Giles in the Fields. *London Gazette*, March 8, 1702.

*Brown Bear.*

1753. Thomas Daleman, Pawnbroker, *Brown Bear*, Bow Street, Covent Garden.

*The Bull.*

1745. Mr. Cheary, Pawnbroker, Bird Cage Alley, near St. George's Church, Southwark. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Cannon.*

1716/7. Jan. 19. Charles Fry, Pawnbroker, at the sign of the *Cannon* in Barbican.

*Catherine Wheel.*

1725. Oct. 26. Charles Mills, Pawnbroker, at the *Catherine Wheel* in Houndsditch, deceased.

*Cheshire Cheese.*

1711/12. March 28. Daniel Arnold, *Cheshire Cheese* in Vinegar Yard in Drury Lane.

*Clothworkers' Shears.*

1731. June 10. John Willmott, Pawnbroker, at the *Clothworkers' Shears* in Houndsditch.

*Crooked Billet and Three Horse Shoes.*

1700. May 23. Mrs. Sarah Biker, at the *Crooked Billet and Three Horse Shoes* in Houndsditch. *London Gazette*.

*The Crown.*

1703/4. Feb. 28. Anne Stanger, *The Crown*, next door to the Fleece Tavern in Pickadilly (*sic*). *London Gazette*.

*Crown.*

1719 and 1725. April 7. Thomas Jennings, Pawnbroker, *Crown* in Fetter Lane.

*Crown.*

1724/5. Jan. 16. Margaret Hignett, now Northall, living at the *Crown* in Holborn. Left off business.

*Crown.*

1727. Feb. 17. Thomas Immines, at the *Crown* in Fetter Lane.

*Crown.*

1744. William Matthews, Peter Street, the Mint, Southwark. Pawnbroker, leaving off business. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Crown.*

1745. Cecil Court, St. Martin's Lane. Mr. Matthews, d. ceased, Pawnbroker.

*Crown.*

1753. Holborn Hill. Mr. Clemens advertised "All sorts of goods redeemed out of Pawn in order to be sold &c.—or more money advanced and kept a limited time, as also bought and not pawned or money lent to near the value, by Mr. Clemens—every forenoon at his House the Sign of *The Crown on Holborn Hill* and in the afternoon at *The Baptist's Head* facing the *Great Old Bailey*." He had several other addresses. *Daily Advertiser*, March 12, 1753.

*Crown and Cushion.*

1744. Robert Shorter, in Bridgewater Square. A pawnbroker. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Crown and Pearl.*

1697. July 26. John Phelps, *Goldsmith* at the *Crown and Pearl* over against Exeter Exchange in the Strand. Notice to redeem pawned goods. *London Gazette*.

*Crown and Scepter.*

1718. May 31. Mary Metcalfe, *Crown and Scepter* in Holborn, *goldsmith*, deceased.

*Double Cane Chair.*

1707. Sept. 4. Richard Bowles, at the *Double Cane Chair* in Postern Street, Great Moorgate.

*Dove.*

1753. Baldwin's Gardens. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Dove and Two Balls.*

1755. Baldwins Gardens, Mr. Ramsey, Pawnbroker.

*Five Bells and Candlestick.*

1716/7. March 5. Mrs. Laughton, late of the *Five Bells and Candlestick*.

*Five Blue Balls.*

1753. Chandois Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Cates, Pawnbroker.

*Five Blue Bowls.*

1742. *Five Blue Bowls*, Chandos Street. Stopt on Friday morning last at *Mr. Carmalts*, a large table spoon. Whoever has lost it, may have it again, by describing the marks or producing the fellow of it, and paying the charge of this advertisement.

Note.—It was brought in by a tall thin young woman, who said her name was Jane Heats and that she came from a laundress in Lincolns Inn. *The Daily Advertiser*, Jan. 13, 1742.

It was called the *Five Bowls* in 1728.

*Five Roses.*

1687. A Commission of Bankrupt was taken out against *Robert Grimes, Pawnbroker*, who lived at the *Five Roses* on Saffron Hill. Dec. 22, 1687.

*Five Roses.*

1708. Richard Nealson, *Five Roses*, Saffron Hill, near Holborn. March 1, 1704/5.

This broker intends to give up business. March 22, 1708.

*Five Roses.*

1745. July 30. Shoe Lane. A pawnbroker's shop. He stopped two silver tea spoons. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Flying Horse.*

1702. *Joseph Goodale*, Pawnbroker, at the *Flying Horse* in Fore Street, near Cripplegate.

*George.*

1759. *Minories*. Mr. Coleman. A salesman. He sold the pawnbroker's unredeemed pledges.

*Gilded Heart.*

1698/9. Feb. 20. *John Exton*, Pawnbroker, at the *Gilded Heart*, Without Bishopsgate. Leaving of his trade. *London Gazette*.

*Globe.*

1693. *Thomas Coates*, late a *Pawnbroker*, at the sign of the *Globe* in *Shoe Lane*. All persons having goods in his hands are desired to take them out. The utmost time limited by his Creditors for Payment of his Debts being two months. *London Gazette*. April 10, 1693.

*Goat.*

1730. June 20. *William Mead*, Goldsmith, deceased, late of the *Goat* in the Strand.

All pledges now remaining in hand must be redeemed or will be sold.

*Golden Anchor.*

1708. July 19. *Isaac Miller*, junr., lately deceased, at *Golden Anchor* in Whitecross Street.

*Golden Anchor.*

1719. May 16. *John Breach*, at the *Golden Anchor* in Whitecross Street, persons who have pledged Plate, Jewels, etc., in his hands are desired to fetch them away before the 24th of June next or they will be disposed of, etc., his Executor having left off the trade, but attendance will be given by *Mr. Edward Stone* to lend money on Pledges of goods honestly come by as formerly.

*Golden Anchor.*

1755. Whitecross Street. A pawnbroker's.

*Golden Ball.*

1694. Whereas a *Porringer* was lately offered to Pawn, whoever has lost any such, if they repair to the "*Golden Ball*" in *Whitecross Street* telling the marks and paying the charge may have it again. *London Gazette*, April 12, 1694.

*Golden Ball.*

1700. Dec. 9. *John Ashman*, *Pawnbroker*, *Golden Ball* in *Brownlow Street* in *Drury Lane*, giving up trade. *London Gazette*.

*Golden Ball.*

1703. Oct. 21. *Thomas Cates*, *Pawnbroker*, *Golden Ball* in *Cursitor Alley*, *Chancery Lane*.

*Golden Ball.*

1704. Mrs. *Hodges*, *Pawnbroker*, *Golden Ball* in *Charles Street*, near *St. James' Square*. Sept. 4, 1704.

*Golden Ball.*

1705. Aug. 20. Mrs. *Raynams*, at *Golden Ball* in *St. Andrew Street* in *St. Giles in the Fields*.

*Golden Ball.*

1706/7. Jan. 13. Thomas Underwood, senr., at the *Golden Ball* in High Holborn.

*Golden Ball.*

1707. Sept. 18. Christopher Whitmore, *Golden Ball* in Middle Row, St. Giles in the Fields.

*Golden Ball.*

1711. Sept. 25. Charles Price, Pawnbroker, at the *Golden Ball* in Hemins Row.

1713. Mrs. Wise was here.

*Golden Ball.*

1712. Nov. 8. Mrs. Remo, Pawnbroker, at the *Golden Ball* in St. Andrew Street, in the parish of St. Giles.

*Golden Ball.*

1714/5. March 5. William Cross, at the *Golden Ball* in Grub Street. Pledges that have lain with him a year.

*Golden Ball.*

1715/6. Feb. 7. Francis Underwood, Pawnbroker, *Golden Ball*, Holborn, deceased.

*Golden Ball.*

1716/7. Jan. 22. Thomas Cole, Pawnbroker, at the *Golden Ball* in Mutton Lane.

*Golden Ball.*

1716/7. Feb. 12. William Mears, *Golden Ball* in Crown Court, Long Walk, near Christ Church Hospital.

*Golden Ball.*

1718. March 1. Mrs. Combys, at the *Golden Ball* in Gravel Street, near Brooks' Market, Holbourn.

*Golden Ball.*

1719. May 2. Mr. Evans, at the *Golden Ball* in Long Acre.

*Golden Ball.*

1720. Dec. 27. Edward Evans, Pawnbroker, at the *Golden Ball*, against Rose Street, in Long Acre. Leaving off his trade.

*Golden Ball.*

1723. March 23. Whereas Mrs. Hannah Smith living next door to the *Golden Ball* in Charles Street, St. James' Market (for reasons best known to herself) has thought fit to hang up the *Golden Ball* again (which sign her house was formerly known by) only with this addition writ under it the "*Old Ball*." Whosoever have any Plate, Watches or Jewels in her Hands which have lain 18 months are desired to pay the Warehouse Room and Interest to prevent their being disposed of in a month after the Publication of this advertisement.

*Golden Ball.*

1724/5. Jan. 30. John Ball, at the *Golden Ball* in Upper Moorfields. Left off his trade.

*Golden Ball.*

1726. Jan. 24. John Wayt, Pawnbroker, at the *Golden Ball* in Maiden Lane, Convent Garden. Going into the country.

*Golden Ball.*

1726. Feb. 7. In Harts Horn Lane in the Strand. No name.

*Golden Ball.*

1731. July 27. Mary Waight, at the *Golden Ball* in Maiden Lane, Convent Garden.

*Golden Ball.*

1731. Aug. 24. John Whoman, *Golden Ball*, Plumbtree Street, Bloomsbury.

*Golden Ball.*

1742. All persons that have pledg'd Plate, Jewels, etc., at *The Golden Ball*, against the Dead Wall in *King Street*, *Golden Square*, are desired to fetch them away. Leaving off Trade and going into the Country.

*Golden Ball.*

1744. Jonathan Goddard, *Pawnbroker*, Burleigh Street, near Exeter Street, Strand. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Golden Ball.*

1744. Great Hart Street, Convent Garden, Robert Lawson, *Pawnbroker*. Notice to redeem pledges as he was clearing the house.

*Golden Ball.*

1744. Whitecross Street, Southwark. Mr. Harrison, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1745. Great Pulteney Street. A *pawnbroker's* shop.

*Golden Ball.*

1745. High Street, St. Giles'. A *pawnbroker's*.

*Golden Ball.*

1753. Saffron Hill. Mr. Burchmore, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1754. James Street, Haymarket. *Pawnbroker's* shop.

*Golden Ball.*

1756. Bishopsgate Street. John Delaforce, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1756. Little Queen Street, Oxford Road, George Mure, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1759. Marybon Street, near Golden Square. Mr. Brown, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1760. Clerkenwell Green. *Pawnbroker's*.

*Golden Ball.*

1764. Cursitor Street. Thomas Marsh, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1764. Marybone Street, Golden Square. Mr. Brown, *Pawnbroker*.

*Golden Ball.*

1765. Orchard Street, Westminster. *Pawnbroker's* shop.

*Golden Ball.*

1765. Saffron Hill, Hatton Garden. A *pawnbroker's*.

*Golden Ball and Blue Anchor.*

1754. Brick Lane, Spitalfields. A *pawnbroker's*.

*Golden Ball and Bunch of Grapes.*

1722. Sept. 22. Mary Jones, *Pawnbroker*, at the *Golden Ball and Bunch of Grapes*. Leaving the house.



*Golden Ball and Cross Keys.*

1723/4. Feb. 22. Simon Peter, at the *Golden Ball and Cross Keys* in Horton Street, Clare Market.

*Golden Ball and Cross Keys.*

1744. Mr. Peters, Horton Street, Clare Market. Notice to redeem pledges, as he had left off trade. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Golden Ball and Three Blue Bowls.*

1765. George Yard, Tower Hill. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Golden Cup.*

1745. Golden Lane, St. Luke's. Widow Stevenson, Pawnbroker.

*Golden Dove.*

1716. Sept. 4. Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, *Golden Dove* in the Old Artillery Ground near Spittle Fields.

*Golden Key.*

1709. Nov. 17. Thomas Byfield, Pawnbroker, *Golden Key* in Eagle Court against Somerset House, Strand. Left off business.

*Golden Key.*

1744. In Chambers Street, Goodman's Fields, Mr. Ryle, Pawnbroker. Leaving off trade.

*Golden Key.*

1745. Jan. 17. Widegate Street, Without Bishopsgate. Mrs. Goodman, Pawnbroker, gave notice to all Persons who had pledged articles with her that had lain sixteen months or upwards are desired to redeem them by the 15 February next or they will be sold. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Golden Key.*

1754. Near Hermitage Bridge. Alexander Murray.

*Golden Lion.*

1701. April 20. Thomas Barrett, Pawnbroker, at *Golden Lion* near the Playhouse in Drury Lane. Leaving off trade.

*Golden Lion.*

1714. April 17. Richard Warter, Goldsmith, *Golden Lion* at Holborn Bridge, notice to fetch away the articles pawned.

*Gold Ring.*

1720. April 2. Edward Amson, deceased, *Goldsmith, Gold Ring* in Fleet Street.

*Golden Rose.*

1745. R. Raniolde, Pawnbroker, *Golden Rose*, Frith Street, Soho.

*Golden Wheatsheaf.*

1735/6. Jan. 3. John Smallman, Pawnbroker, at the *Golden Wheatsheaf* in Houndsditch, is leaving off trade, etc.

*Green Dragon.*

1754. Addle Hill, Mrs. Codlicott, Pawnbroker.

*Greyhound and Hare.*

1717. July 13. Mary Shaw, widow, at the *Greyhound and Hare* in Houndsditch.

*Half Moon.*

1702. All persons that have any Plate, Rings, Jewels, etc., or any other goods in the hands of *Edward Rowley*, Pawnbroker, at the *Half Moon* in Bishopsgate Street at Spittle Gate are desired to fetch them away before the last day of April next or they will be disposed of. *London Gazette*, Feb. 8th, 1702.

*Half Moon.*

1708. Dec. 13. Edward Rowley, *Goldsmith*, *Half Moon* at Spittle Gate, Bishopsgate Street.

*Half Moon and Cross Pistols.*

1687. *Minories*. "On the 8th Instant a Case of Pistols wrought with silver to the value of 9 or £10 be offered for Sale were stopt on suspicion by *John Blankley* at the *Half Moon and Cross Pistols* in the *Minories*. Whoever describes the Pistols may have them, paying charges." *London Gazette*, Nov. 10, 1687.

This was probably a pawnbroker.

*Hampshire Hog.*

1764. St. Giles. Henry Flannagan, Pawnbroker.

*Hand and Ear.*

1707. John Fox, *Hand and Ear*, next St. Sepulchre's Church, June 16, 1707.

*Hen and Chickens.*

1715/6. Jan. 28. Edward Harrison, *Goldsmith*, late of *Hen and Chickens* in Cheapside. To redeem their effects.

*Hole in Wall.*

1726. Jan. 31. William Wall, at the *Hole in Wall* in Great Kerby Street.

*Hope and Anchor.*

1744. Shoreditch, Thomas Page, probably pawnbroker.

*Hound and Hare.*

Mary Shaw, at the *Hound and Hare* in Houndsditch, deceased.

*Katherine Wheel.*

1708. Aug. 16. Thomas Mann, Pawnbroker, at the *Katherine Wheel* in Blackman Street, Southwark. *London Gazette*. Again Feb. 16, 1709/10.

*The Key.*

1704. John Cranwell, *The Key*, Golden Lane, near Cripplegate, July 20, 1704.

*King's Arms.*

1707. Jan. 5. John Howard, Pawnbroker, at the *King's Arms* at Hatton Wall, near Hatton Garden. Giving up.

*King's Arms and One Tun.*

1758. Strand. A pawnbroker's.

*King's Head.*

1693. Nicholas Birkhead, Goldsmith, formerly living at the *King's Head*, Holborn, hath left off his trade. *London Gazette*, May 29, 1693.

*Leg and Dyal.*

1725. June 22. Thomas Bell, at the *Leg and Dyal* in Grub Street.

*Lock and Key.*

1744. *Petticoat Lane*, John Smart, at the *Lock and Key* in *Petticoat Lane*, Pawnbroker, is leaving off business. *Daily Advertiser*, Sept. 27, 1744.

*Moving Head.*

1754. Borough, Southwark. Mr. Burgess, Pawnbroker. He stopt a lady's "Etwee."

*Naked Boy.*

1703. Dec. 16. Grub Street. Thomas Farnell, next door to the *Naked Boy*. All persons that have Plate, Jewels, etc., in his hands are desired to fetch them away by the 25 January next or they will be disposed of. *London Gazette*.

*Old Bell.*

1711/12. Feb. 19. 1720. April 26. Edmond Chantrell, at the *Old Bell* in Deadman's Place, Southwark.

*Old Golden Ball.*

1725. May 15. Mrs. Hannah Smith, of the *Old Golden Ball* in Charles Street, St. James' Market, has left off the trade of lending money.

*Parrot.*

1704/5. Feb. 15. Mrs. Dorothy Harvey, at the *Parrot* in Shoe Lane, near Fleet Street.

1707. Aug. 4. Thomas Harvey, of the *Parrot*, issues a similar advertisement.

*Phoenix.*

1703/4. John Branston, Pawnbroker, the *Phoenix* against Bond's Stables, in Fetter Lane. *London Gazette*, Jan. 21, 1703/4.

*Pine Apple.*

1745. Aug. Castle Street, Cranbourn Alley, Leicester Fields. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Plow and Arrow.*

1753. Pawnbroker's shop, Thrall Street, Spitalfields.

*Prince of Orange's Head.*

1753. Broad Street, St. Giles'. Goods stopt by a constable at above address.

*Queen's Head.*

1702. May 11. 1705. April 20. Gowin Birkhead, *Goldsmith*, at the *Queen's Head* in Grafton Street, Soho. Notice of Pawns.

*Raisin Wine Warehouse.*

1752. Feb. 28. Great Wild Street, near Lincoln's Inn Fields. Susanna Penrice. All Persons who have pledged goods or wearing apparel with Susanna Penrice are desired to redeem them by the 26th March, or they will be sold without farther notice. To be sold at the same place a piece of Shell Work in imitation of the Fireworks in the Park. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Red Lamp.*

1745. Jan. 26. King Street, St. James. Widow Humphreys advertised to all Persons having pledges with her to redeem them within three months. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Red Lion.*

Hop Garden, Bedfordbary, Covent Garden. Mr. Drysdale, Pawnbroker.

*Red Lion Inn.*

1745. Sept. 25. Borough, Katharine Gaghan, Pawnbroker. All Persons that have pledged any kind of goods whatever with her are desired to redeem them within a month, she being dead. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Ring and Ball.*

1685. Samuel Hankey, Goldsmith, Fenchurch Street, under-

St. Dionis Backchurch. He subsequently moved to a house opposite called the *Three Golden Balls*.

*Ring and Ball.*

1723 Aug. 17. Joseph Green, *Goldsmith*, at the *Ring and Ball* on little Tower Hill. Pledges to be redeemed. Leaving off business. On Feb. 14, 1729/30, he says he is leaving off trade.

*Rising Sun.*

1730. Aug. 8. Mrs. Gallwith, Pawnbroker, at the *Rising Sun* in Norton Folgate, near Hog Lane.

*Rose.*

1711. April 19. Thomas Grainger, at the *Rose* in Salisbury Court, near Fleet Street.

*Rose.*

1719. Nov. 28. William Cooling, at the *Rose* in Stanhope Street, Clare Market. Left off his trade.

*Rose.*

1739. Arthur Sadler, the *Rose*, near St. Bride's Church in Fleet Street. Desired all persons to redeem their pledges within 3 months or they will be disposed of, he having left off the business.

*Rose and Three Balls.*

1758. Mr. Pearcy, Pawnbroker, East Smithfield.

*Rose and Three Balls.*

1758. Princes Street, Clare Market. Thomas Stone, Pawnbroker.

*Sash.*

1707. June 19. Richard Smith, Pawnbroker, at the *Sash* in Earl Street, St. Giles.

*Seven Stars.*

1706/7. March 10. Mrs. Whitmore, widow, *Seven Stars* in Ship Yard, near Temple Bar. All goods that have lain there a year.

*Seven Stars.*

1708/9. Jan. 27. Daniel Parker, Pawnbroker, at the *Seven Stars* in Lambs Conduit Passage, near Red Lyon Square, hath left off his trade and desires all those who have any Rings, Watches, Plate, or jewels, etc., to fetch them away in two months or they will be disposed of.

*Seven Stars.*

1710. Nov. 23. Sarah Whatmore, late dwelling at the *Seven Stars* in Ship Yard, without Temple Bar, but now removed to Richard Crone's, Clerk of St. Dunstan's in the West in Bolt Court, Fleet Street.

*Seven Stars.*

1721. Jan. 10. Esther Robarts, Pawnbroker, at the *Seven Stars* in Stone Cutter Street, Shooe Lane.

*Seven Stars.*

1726. Aug. 20. Charles Miller, at the *Seven Stars* in Petticoat Lane.

*Seven Stars.*

1752. Carey Street. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Seven Stars.*

Saffron Hill. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Ship and Shears.*

1754. High Holborn, Adam Stowers, Pawnbroker.

*Star and Blue Ball.*

1745. Cow Cross, near West Smithfield. A ring was stopt on suspicion of being stolen. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Star and Three Balls.*

1752. April 3. Wood Street, Cheapside. The pawnbroker at this sign stopt a broken bell, with a name round it, supposing it to be stolen, thought to belong to some Raker. Whoever can prove to be their Property may have it again by applying at above on paying for this advertisement. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Striped Ball.*

1715/16. Feb. 18. Also 1720. Whitchurch at the *Striped Ball*, next door to the King's Bagnio in Long Acre. Leaving off business.

*Sugar Loaf.*

1709. July 2. Thomas Seth, Pawnbroker, at the *Sugar Loaf* in Fore Street by Moor Lane. Leaving off his trade. *London Gazette.*

*Sun.*

1707. Dec. 11. Cornelius Drew, at the *Sun* in Silver Street, near Cripplegate.

*Sun.*

1709/10. Jan. 10. All Persons having any apparel or Linnen in the hands of Cornelius Drew at the *Sun* in Silver Street, near Cripplegate, are desired to redeem them by the 25th April next he having *left off* the business, (but at the request of Divers Persons) *will continue* to deal in Plate and Rings on Moderate Terms. *London Gazette.*

*Sun.*

1718. March 11. Cornelius Drew, Pawnbroker, at the *Sun* in Silver Street, near Cripplegate.

*Sun.*

1728/9. Jan. 14. Thomas Waters, at the *Sun* in Charterhouse Lane, West Smithfield.

*Sun Dial.*

1716. Aug. 21. Elizabeth Warner, *Sun Dial*, in Corbett Court, Spittle Fields.

*Tea Kettle.*

1757. Fair Street, Horsleydown. Mary Corne, Pawnbroker.

*Tea Table.*

1752. Feb. 24. Mr. Erwin, Chiswell Street, Moorfields. A pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1745. Coventry Street, Haymarket. Mr. Watson, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1745. July 27. John Pearse, Pawnbroker, of Blackman Street, Southwark, stopped several articles of silver plate supposing the same to have been stolen. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Three Balls.*

1745. Corner of Crown Court in Russell Street, Covent Garden.

*Three Balls.*

1745. St. Martin's Lane, near Chandos Street.

*Three Balls.*

1752. Feb. 28. Holles Street, Clare Market. William Carter, Pawnbroker, who gave up his trade, which was continued by Robert Barrett. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Three Balls.*

1753. Wheeler Street, Spitalfields. Mrs. Brown.

*Three Balls.*

1753. Mr. Scriven, the *Three Balls*, corner of Beale Street, Golden Square.

*Three Balls.*

1753. Will. Johnson, Pawnbroker, *Three Balls*, corner of Russell Street, Bridges Street, Covent Garden.

*Three Balls.*

1753. Old Boswell Court, Temple Bar.

*Three Balls.*

1753. Mr. Harrison, Pawnbroker, Denmark Street, St. Giles' Church.

*Three Balls.*

1754. Russell Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Bowers, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1754. West Street, near Seven Dials. Mr. Pardoe, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1754. Corner of Half Moon Street, Strand. Mr. Fells, a pawnbroker, sometime called *Three Blue Balls*.

*Three Balls.*

1754. Russell Court, Bridges Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Rochfort, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1755. New Belton Street, Long Acre. Thomas Pretty, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1756. Corner of Bennett's Court, Drury Lane. Francis Partrick, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Corner of Hanover Court, Grub Street. Clem. Hart, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Swallow Street, Piccadilly. Pawnbroker's.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Chandos Street. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Near St. George's Church, Southwark (a white house). A pawnbroker's.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Cow Cross. Mr. Master, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Corner of Dove Court, Leather Lane. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Balls.*

1760. Barbican. John Berrie, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1762. Coventry Street. Mr. Watson, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1763. Winford Street, Corner of Bell Lane, Spitalfields. Moses Coronel.

*Three Balls.*

1764. Russell Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Monks.

*Three Balls.*

1764. New Belton Street, Long Acre. Robert Hall, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1765. Near the Pound, St. John's, Clerkenwell. Mr. Warner, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1765. Chandos Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Cates, Pawnbroker.  
This house was formerly the *Five Balls*.

*Three Balls.*

1765. Corner of Lumber Court, Seven Dials. Mr. Child, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls.*

1774. Puddle Dock Hill, Blackfriars. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Balls.*

1774. Thomas Warner, Pawnbroker, deceased, the *Three Balls* in *King Street, Tower Hill*.

*Three Balls and Acorn.*

1763. Golden Lane. Mr. Payne, Pawnbroker.

*Three Balls and Gold Ball.*

1764. Bow Street, Bloomsbury. Mr. Morgan, Pawnbroker.

*Three Bells.*

1744. Corner of Dean Street, Broadway, Westminster. Pawnbroker leaving off trade.

*Three Black Lions.*

1744. Corner of Rosemary Lane, Goodman's Fields. Pawnbroker.  
*Daily Advertiser*.

*Three Black Lyons.*

1721. Sept. 5. Stephen and Francis Ewens (lately deceased), at the sign of the *Three Black Lyons*, the corner of Old Round Court, in the Strand.

*Three Bowls.*

1702. All persons who have any goods in the hands of *John Crouch* at the *Three Bowls*, in Plumbtree Street, St. Giles in the Fields, are desired to fetch them by the 13th November next or they will be otherwise disposed of, he designing to leave off trade. *London Gazette*, Oct. 1, 1702.

*The Three Bowls.*

1703. Lazarus Coombes, Pawnbroker. *The Three Bowls*, in Holles Street in Clare Market. Jan. 21, 1703/4. In 1708 giving up his trade.

*Three Bowls.*

1704/5. Feb. 5. *Three Bowls* in Little Russel Steeet, in St. Giles in the Fields.

*Three Bowls.*

1705. Henry Harwood, Pawnbroker. *Three Bowls*, in Eagle Street, near Red Lion Square, Holborn. Aug. 13, 1705.

*Three Bowls.*

1707. Oct. 9. John Pashley, at the *Three Bowls* in Market Lane, near St. James' Market.

*Three Bowls.*

1709. Nov. 1. William Chambers. *Three Bowls*, in Drury Lane. Again Feb. 7, 1711/12.

*Three Bowls.*

1710. July 13. John Paishley. *Three Bowls*, in Market Lane, near St. James' Market.

*Three Bowls.*

1710. Nov. 11. Amos Hayton, Pawnbroker. *Three Bowls*, in Cecil Court, near St. Martin's Lane.

*Three Bowls.*

1710/11. Feb. 20. Harwood, Pawnbroker. *Three Bowls*, in Eagle Street, near Red Lyon Square.

*Three Bowls.*

1714. Aug. 21. Barbara Braxton, Pawnbroker. *Three Bowls* in Long Acre.

*Three Bowls.*

1715. Aug. 30. Amos Hayton, removed from *Three Bowls* in Cecil Court to *Three Bowls* in Hemmings Row, near St. Martin's Lane.

*Three Bowls.*

1715. Nov. 29. Also 1719. Richard Stockwell. *Three Bowls* in Bride Lane, Fleet Street.

*Three Bowls.*

1715/16. Jan. 14. John Dunn, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Bowls* upon Holborn Bridge. Leaving off his trade.

*Three Bowls.*

1717. Aug. 20. William Barnes, at the *Three Bowls* in Fetter Lane.

*Three Bowls.*

1719. Dec. 19. Richard Pretty lately at the *Three Bowls* in Little Newport Street by Cranborne Alley, and since at the *Three Bowls* in Vere Street by Clare Market.

*Three Bowls.*

1720. Feb. 13. Isaac Davis, at the *Three Bowls* in Market Lane, St. James'.

*Three Bowls.*

1720. Nov. 12. Thomas Crosfield, at the *Three Bowls* in Robin Hood Court, Shoe Lane.

*Three Bowls.*

1721. Abraham Bibby, of the *Three Bowls* in Wych Street, near St. Clement Danes. Died at his House the *Three Bowls* in Wych Street, near St. Clement Danes. Mr. Abraham Bibby, a *wealthy pawnbroker* and a great Bowler, who not only took in Pledges, but had large sums of money out at Interest, he had an Estate in Northumberland of £300 per annum. *Read's Journal*, April 15, 1732.

*Three Bowls.*

1722. Dec. 22. Joseph Walker, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Bowls* in Aldersgate.



*Three Bowls.*

1724. June 27. Mrs. Elizabeth Penne, at the *Three Bowls* in Long Acre.

*Three Bowles.*

1725. Nov. 20. Aaron Moore, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Bowles* in Salisbury Court, London.

*Three Bowls.*

1728. March 26. Mrs. Mary Hewlett, at the *Three Bowls* in Little Russell Street, Bloomsbury, deceased.

*Three Bowles.*

1731. Sept. 3. Charles Smith, deceased, at the *Three Bowles* in Market Street, near St. James' Market.

*Three Bowls.*

1736. Sept. 4. Oxford Street. All Persons that have any sort of Goods, Plate, Jewels, Wearing Apparel, Linnen, etc., at the sign of the *Three Bowls* next door to Mr. Deschamps, Undertaker, in *Oxford Street*, near *St. Giles' Pound*, which are under the said Mr. Deschamps' care, are desired to redeem them within the space of two months, or they will be sold, they have given up Business.

*Three Bowls.*

1736. Holborn Bridge. The pawnbroker at this sign desires people to redeem their pledges, as the principal is dead and the house to be let.

*Three Bowls.*

1742. Oct. 9. Mr. Price, the *Three Bowls*, corner of *Hosier Lane*, *Snow Hill*. He stopped a silver watch made by Gordon which was offered to pledge.

*Three Bowls.*

1742. Nov. 12. All persons that have any goods pledg'd at the *Three Bowls* in *Castle Street*, *Oxford Market*, are desired to fetch them away between this and Christmas next, or they will be disposed of, the Person is going to leave off Trade. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Three Bowls.*

1742. Mr. Irton, of the *Three Bowls*, the corner of *Crown Court* facing *Compton Street*, *Soho*, stopped a silver pepper caster.

*Three Bowls.*

1742. Nov. 12. Joseph Johnston, deceased, at his late dwelling House, *The Three Bowls*, the corner of *May Pole Alley* in *Wyck Street*. All persons are desired to redeem their pledges before the 25 December next, or they will be sold forthwith as the Widow is not following the business. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Three Bowls.*

1742. Jan. 12. Archibald Campbell and James Crockett, Pawnbrokers, at the *Three Bowls* in Shoe Lane. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Three Bowls.*

1744. Corner of *Blackmoor Street*, *Drury Lane*. Notice given of having stopt a large table spoon.

*Three Bowls.*

1744. *Three Bowls*, corner of *Half Moon Street*, *Strand*. Notice of a Ring stopp'd.

*The Three Bowls.*

1744. Against Hosier Lane, Snow Hill. Mr. Pike, Pawnbroker.

*Three Bowls.*

1744. Corner of Crown Court, Soho. A round tortoiseshell shell snuff box found in Grosvenor Square, was offered for sale by a woman who picked it up. Stopt by the proprietor.

*Three Bowles.*

1744. Mr. Shearer, *Great Wild Street*, stopt a silver spoon supposed to have been stolen.

*Three Bowls.*

1744. In Turnagain Lane, Snow Hill. A pawnbroker. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Three Bowls.*

1745. Corner of Bennett Court, Drury Lane. George Stringer, Pawnbroker.

*Three Bowls.*

1745. July 23. Corner of Russell Court, Covent Garden. Mr. Carmalt, Pawnbroker, deceased. Notice by the Executors that all pledges must be redeemed within three months. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Three Bowls.*

1745. Stanhope Street, Clare Market. Mr. Bibby, Pawnbroker.

*Three Bowls.*

1745. *Three Bowls* in Great Hart Street, Covent Garden. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Bowls.*

1745. In Bride Lane. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Bowls.*

1745. Mr. Beighton, Pawnbroker, in Skinner Street, Snow Hill, giving up his business.

*Three Bowls.*

1753. Mr. Price, *Three Bowls*, opposite Hosier Lane, Snow Hill.

*Three Bowls.*

1753. West Street, Monmouth Street.

*Three Bowls.*

1754. Russell Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Bower, Pawnbroker.

*Three Bowls.*

1754. Great Hart Street, Covent Garden. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Bowls.*

1754. Bow Street, Bloomsbury. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Bowls.*

1757. Corner of Compton Street, Soho. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Bowls.*

1758. West Street, near Seven Dials. Humphreys, Pawnbroker.

*Three Bowls.*

1759. Rose Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Morrill, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1720. Sept. 20. John Buchan, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Blue Balls* in Charles Court in the Strand, near Hungerford Market. Giving up business.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1742. Thomas Harrison, at the *Three Blue Balls* in Horsley down, Fair Steet. Giving up trade.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1744. Sept. 3. Great Maddox Street. Pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1744. Sept. 29. Corner of Deacon Street, Broadway, Westminister. All persons having pledged any goods at the above named sign are desired to redeem them or they will be sold.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1744. St. Martin's Lane. Pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1745. Mr. Allen, in Petticoat Lane. Notice to redeem, leaving off Trade. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Three Blue Balls.*

1745. New Belton Street, St. Giles. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1745. Brownlow Street, Drury Lane. Thomas Atkins, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

Bride Lane. A pawnbroker's house.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1745. 10 July. In Kemp Court, near Broad Street, St. James'. A silver spoon was offered for pawn, but in consequence of the woman who brought it causing suspicion, the spoon was stopt. *Daily Advertiser.*

*Three Blue Balls.*

1752. Bennett's Court, Drury Lane. William Stringer, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. Mr. Browne, Pawnbroker, Snow Hill.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. Three Blue Balls, corner of Half Moon Street, Strand. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. St. Martin's Lane. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. Over against the French Exchange, Monmouth Street. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. Golden Lane. Mr. Payne, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. Broad Place, Blackfryars. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1753. Denmark Street, over against St. Giles' Church. Mr. Harrison, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1754. Boswell Court, St. Clement's. Moses Corouch, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1754. Denmark Street, over against St. Giles' Church. Mr. Fell.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1754. Golden Lane. Mr. Payne, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1755. Corner of Beach Street, Barbican. Mr. Scriven, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1756. Corner of Featherstone Buildings, Bedford Row. Mr. Bibby, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1757. James Street, Grosvenor Square. Richard Rickaby, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1758. Holliwell Street, Strand. Samuel Graygoose, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1758. King Street, Golden Square. Mr. Walton, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1758. Castle Street, Leicester Fields. Mr. Stiles, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1758. Silver Street, Oxford Road. John Bland, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1758. Corner of Hanover Court, Grub Street. Clement Hart, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1760. Facing Hungerford Market, Strand. Mr. Jordans, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1760. Corner of St. Martin's Lane, Strand. Mr. Scriven, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1760. Corner of Cockpit Alley, Drury Lane. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1760. Holles Street, Clare Market. Mr. Price, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1761. Castle Street, Leicester Fields.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1763. Ludgate Hill. Pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1764. Carnaby Street, Golden Square. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1764. Rose Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Merritt, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1765. Golden Lane. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Balls.*

1765. Little Russell Street, Covent Garden. Mr. Monk, Pawnbroker.

*Three Blue Bowls.*

1729. Oct. 21. Jacob Pullen, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Blue Bowls* in Charles Street, near Long Acre.

*Three Blue Bowls.*

1736. Near Holborn Bridge. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Bowls.*

1745. Great Hart Street, Covent Garden. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Blue Bowls.*

1753. Great Hart Street, Covent Garden. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Bowls.*

1755. Tothill Street, Westminster. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Bowls.*

1755. Corner of Crown Court, Compton Street, Soho. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Blue Bowls and Golden Ball.*

1729. Aug. 12. James Fletcher, at the *Three Blue Bowls and Golden Ball*, in Stanhope Street, near Clare Market.

*Three Bowls and Anchor.*

1745. Feb. 4. John Middleton, Pawnbroker, deceased, St. Clement's Lane, Clare Market. *Daily Advertiser*. This house was sometimes called the "*Three Blue Balls and Anchor*."

*Three Bowls and Golden Ball.*

1753. Stanhope Street, Clare Market. Mr. Bibby, Pawnbroker. *Three Bowls and Rose*.

1744. Mr. Caddy, lower end of St. Martin's Lane, stopt a silver spoon supposed to have been stolen. Goldsmith or Pawnbroker?

*Three Cocks.*

1708. Sept. 2. Thomas Baslius, at the *Three Cocks* in St. John Street. Lain above a year.

*Three Cocks.*

1710/11. Jan. 18. Thomas Bastin, Pawnbroker, *Three Cocks* in St. John's Lane.

*Three Cocks.*

1723/4. Feb. 8. Thomas Bastin, at the *Three Cocks* in St. John's Lane, near Hicks Hall.

*Three Crowns.*

1721. April 11. Mr. Holloway, at the *Three Crowns*, near the Watch House in High Holbourn.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1731. May 25. Thomas Rudge, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Golden Balls* in Houndsditch. This is the first advertisement of a pawnbroker's sign of the *Three Golden Balls*, but in 1672 Townsend, a tobacconist, lived at the *Three Golden Balls*, near St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet Street.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1744. In Chick Lane, West Smithfield. A pawnbroker's. *Daily Advertiser*.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1752. Castle Street, Leicester Fields. A pawnbroker's shop.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1753. Aldersgate Street. Edmund Hewett, Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1754. Great Pulteney Street, Golden Square. Stockdale, Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1756. Little Turnstile. Mr. Gibson, jun., Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1757. Carnaby Street, Golden Square. Mr. Dobree (?), Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1758. Bird Street, Grosvenor Square. Mr. Jason, Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1759. Fleet Market. Alexander, Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1760. Clare Street, Clare Market. Mr. Spires, Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1760. St. John Street, Clerkenwell. Mr. Warner, Pawnbroker.

*Three Golden Balls.*

1765. Mr. Powell, Oxford Street. A pawnbroker's.

*Three Golden Cocks.*

1703/4. Jan. 13. M. R., Pawnbroker, *Three Golden Cocks*, in St. John's Lane.

*Three Green Balls.*

1745. Feb. Berwick Street. Mr. Hatton, Pawnbroker, deceased.

*Three Green Balls.*

1745. Sept. 14. Berwick Street. Widow Hatton stopt a Cambrick Apron and four Mobs, wet.

*Three Hats.*

1710. Oct. 3. Elizabeth Hatter, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Hats* in Horsley down, Southwark.

*Three Kings (William Wells).*

1717. Sept. 28. Edward Elmes, Goldsmith, at the *Three Kings* in Moorgate street.

Whereas there was left in the Hand of *William Wells*, deceased, at Dean's Court, St. Martin's le grand, Watches, Rings, Snuff Boxes, and other things as Pledges. This is to give Notice that if the Persons concerned do not Redeem them out of the Hand of Mr *Edw. Elmes*, Goldsmith, at the *Three Kings* in Newgate Street, on or before the 25 March next they will be disposed of. Oct. 1, 1717. *London Gazette*.

*Three Neats' Tongues.*

1719. Dec. 15. Bendish Rash (Executor of), at the *Three Neats' Tongues*, near St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.

*Three Pidgeons and Crown.*

1709. Dec. 12. Samuel Rowlings, Pawnbroker, at the *Three Pidgeons and Crown* in Drury Lane.

*Three Tobacco Rolls.*

1703. Widow Rooke, Pawnbroker, *Three Tobacco Rolls* in Blackamoor Street, Southwark. *London Gazette*, Sept. 30, 1703.

*Two Bowls.*

1710. July 20. John Crouch, deceased, *Two Bowls* in Plumtree Street, St. Giles.

*Two Golden Balls.*

1744. Grub Street. Mr. Francis, giving up trade on account of his health.

*Two Golden Balls.*

1753. Chick Lane, West Smithfield. Mr. Kay, Pawnbroker.

*Two Golden Balls.*

1756. Chick Lane, West Smithfield. Mr. Kay, Pawnbroker.

*Two Golden Balls.*

1762. Fetter Lane, Holborn. Mr. Kay, Pawnbroker.

*Two Golden Balls and Crown.*

1758. Bottom of St. Martin's Lane. Forshall and Blondell, Pawnbrokers.

*Two Green Posts.*

1745. Colchester Street, Red Lion Street, Whitechapel. A pawnbroker's.

*Two Kings and Key.*

1752. April 25. Next door but one to the *White Horse* Inn, Fleet Street.

"Whereas many people pawn their Plate, Watches, Wearing Apparel, etc., and are not able to take out the same such persons on enquiring for Mr. Clarke at the above address, may have them redeemed, in order to be forthwith sold to the best Bidder either in private or publick sale; or where goods will admit more money advanced and kept a limited time. Plate, watches, wearing apparel, etc., bought, altho' not pledged, or money lent on them to near the full value for a certain sum agreed on. Any house of goods or Parcel of Furniture bought. Any Gentleman or Lady, by sending Notice, shall be waited on at their Houses, and the business shall be transacted with the utmost Honour and Secrecy." *Read's Weekly Journal.*

*Two Masks and Golden Ball.*

1710. Aug. 10. John Church. *Two Masks and Golden Ball* in Hewit's Court in the Strand near St. Martin's Church.

*Two Vizards' Masks and Golden Ball.*

1715. May 17. John Church, deceased, at the sign of the *Two Vizards' Masks and Golden Ball* in Hewitt's Court in the Strand. House to be let.

*Unicorn.*

1705. April 20. Edward Sandford, Goldsmith, at *Unicorn* in Russell Street, Convent Garden.

*Vine Tavern.*

1726. Jan. 3. John Goddard, Pawnbroker, *back door* of the *Vine Tavern*, Eagle Street, in Holbourn.

*Vizard Mask.*

1703/4. March 20. 1705. Dec. 3. Thomas Henly. *Vizard Mask* in Hewet's Court near St. Martin's Church in the Strand.

*White Bear.*

1720. Nov. 19. Mr. Meele, Pawnbroker, at the *White Bear* in Little Newport Street.

*White Hart.*

1714/5. Feb. 15. Edward Collins, *White Hart* in Ludgate Street.

*White Horse.*

1754. Little Tower Hill. Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Bell, a broker, Chandos Street, Convent Garden.

In the *Postman*, Sept. 10th, 1698, is the following notice:

"Whereas a letter subscribed by William Bradley at the 'Leg and Garter' in Bow Lane was sent to Mr. Bell, a broker in Shandoes Street, wherein he was desired to stop certain Goodes, etc. This is to give Notice that the said 'Bell' has stopt the Goods accordingly."

The Persons who live at the *Sign of the Rose* in Fetter Lane are leaving off their trade. Therefore all those that have any goods, wearing apparel, Linen or Woollen, Plate, Rings, Watches or whatever else in their hands are desired to fetch them away by the 25th December next or they will be disposed of. *London Gazette*, Oct. 12, 1696.

1703. Thomas Farnell, next door to *Naked Boy* in Grub Street. *London Gazette*, Dec. 16, 1703.
- 1705/6. Jan 17. Bacon Gwyn, next the *Star Inn* in Blackman Street, Southwark.
- 1708/9. March 10. Richard Slade, Pawnbroker, Aldersgate Street.
- 1710/11. Feb. 13. Stephen Bradshaw, next door to *Golden Hart*, Queen Street, Cheapside.
1711. May 5. William Wellwood, Pawnbroker, in Cock Lane next to the sign of the *Golden Key* near Shoreditch.
- 1711/12. March 28. Ann Stead, next the *Three Tuns* in Long Acre.
1716. May 24. Elizabeth Saunders, leaving off trade, over against the *Dial* in Fleet Lane.
1720. Feb. 19. Mrs. Hildyard, next door to the *Elephant and Castle* in High Holborn.
1720. Dec. 17. John Michael, deceased, next door to the *Bull and Gate* in Holborn.
1722. Jan. 27. Mrs. Judeeth Shergold, Pawnbroker, next door to the *Green Man* and still in White Cross Street, Southwark, leaving off trade.
1722. Aug. 18. Mrs. Hallam, near the *May Pole* in East Smithfield.
1723. May 11. Joseph Walker and Joseph Walker, jun., Pawnbrokers, next door to the *White Lyon*, Aldersgate. House to let.
1724. Oct. 6. Elizabeth Waller, Pawnbroker. Tennis Court, Middle Row, Holborn.
1725. Sept. 14. Margeret York, *alias* Doughty, Pawnbroker, is removed from Plumb Tree Court, Shooe Lane, to next door to the *Golden Cup* in Noble Street, Foster Lane.
1726. March 21. Henry Brown, of Bow Street, *alias* *Thieving Lane* in Westminster.
- Elizabeth Curtis, deceased, in King's Street by Golden Square next door to the *Surgeon's Arms* by the *Green Dragon*.
1726. Aug. 29. Edward Young, Pawnbroker, in Exeter Court, near Exeter Change in the Strand. There will be no things delivered out after candle light.
1744. Mrs. Felce, *Pawnbroker*, giving up business, next door to *The Image Yard*, in the low ground, Piccadilly.
1744. Dec. 18. All Persons that have pledg'd any Goods with the *Gentlewoman* in Hanover Yard, are desired to redeem them between this and Lady Day, or else they will be sold. She leaving off Business. *Daily Advertiser*.
1745. Jan. 1. J. Collyer, Bookseller, in Ivy Lane, Paternoster Row.
- This day is Published, An Apology for the Business of a *Pawnbroker*, by a Pawnbroker.
- "Can there any good come out of Nazareth?" *Daily Advertiser*.
1745. Jan. 15. George Woodfall, Bookseller, *King's Arms*, near Craig's Court, Charing Cross. This day is Published A Plain Answer to a late Pamphlet, entitled "*The Business of a Pawn-*



broker, stated and defended, shewing the false reasoning and mistating of several Facts contained in that Pamphlet: and also discovering and displaying some of the many secrets in that Business practised by the initiated Pawnbrokers. With some hints humbly proposed for their Regulation. By an Impartial Hand. 'From thine own words art thou judged.' Printed and sold by George Woodfall at the 'King's Arms' near Craig's Court, Charing Cross." *Daily Advertiser*.

1745. Jan. 15. *Reasons against Licensing Pawnbrokers, etc.*

Printed for M. Cooper in Paternoster Row. *Daily Advertiser*.

1745. Jan. 23. "All persons following the Business of *Pawnbroking* and no other who are disposed to submit themselves to a Parliamentary Enquiry, are desired to meet their Brethren on Friday next at Five o'Clock, at the *Crown Tavern*, behind the Royal Exchange, to consider of a proper application to Parliament." *Daily Advertiser*.

1752. George Bowers, No. 13, Marsham Street, Westminster. He was a pawnbroker. This is the first time any house has been described by number.