



**BAKERS' HALL,
AND THE MUNIMENTS OF THE COMPANY.**

**FROM NOTES BY (THE LATE) GEORGE RICHARD CORNER, ESQ. F.S.A.,
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AND THOMAS BREWER, ESQ.**

We learn from the venerable London chronicler John Stowe, that in Hart Lane (for Harp Lane) was, in his time, the Bakers' Hall, sometime the dwelling-house of John Chicheley, son of William Chicheley, Alderman of London, (Sheriff in 1409,) brother to William Chicheley, Archdeacon of Canterbury, nephew to Robert Chicheley, Mayor of London, and to Henry Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury.

John Chicheley, citizen and grocer, was elected Chamberlain on St. Matthew's Day, 16th Henry VI. (1437), and he continued in that office, "as a faithful, wise, diligent, and prudent man,"* until the 29th year of the same reign. He married Margaret,

* Journal, 4, fo. 5^b.

daughter of Sir Robert Knolles, a brave soldier, who had acquired great riches in the French wars of King Edward III. who in 1380 was one of the leaders of the forces retained and fitted out by Sir John Philpot to aid the Duke of Bretagne,* who in 1381 received the freedom of the City for having, at the head of a large body of armed citizens, dispersed the rebels in St. George's Fields after Wat Tyler had met his fate in Smithfield, and who (temp. Rich. II.), with Sir John de Cobham, petitioned for and obtained the statute establishing the Corporation of the Bridge Wardens, under whom the stone bridge over the Medway at Rochester was erected, and is reputed to have been at Sir Robert's "great cost and charge." He also founded a college within a hospital at Pontefract.†

By the daughter of this gallant soldier, the Chamberlain had twenty-four children;‡ one of whom, Elizabeth, became the wife of Sir Thomas Kiriell (Criol), of Kent, who had been long a prisoner in France, and with her this house in Harp Lane came from Chicheley the Chamberlain to Sir Thomas Kiriell.

Stowe states that "this Elizabeth was secondly married to Sir Ralfe Ashton, Knight-Marshal, and thirdly to Sir John Bouchier, uncle to the late Bouchier Earl of Essex, but she never had child."

It appears that Sir John Bouchier died in 1495, and Dame Elizabeth, his widow, in 1498.§ Her executors and *scoffees* subsequently conveyed the house in question to one Rogers, a baker, who bought it on behalf of the Company, and it thenceforward became their Hall.||

The house was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666, and a new Hall was erected in its place by Sir Christopher Wren.¶ This edifice, which "was beautified in 1683,"* was burned down by a dreadful fire which began in

* Styrpe's Stow.

† See *Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. vi. pp. 54, 62, 116, n.

‡ Stowe quotes Leland for this statement; and see also the Chicheley pedigrees, in "*Stemmata Chicheleiana*."

§ Nicolas's *Vetusta Testamenta*, i. 422, 436.

|| MS. letter of the late G. R. Corner, Esq.

¶ Elmes's *Sir Christopher Wren and his Times*, 432.

Thames Street on the 13th of January, 1714. It was rebuilt in 1719, and was wainscoted and finished in 1722. In 1806 the Hall was new roofed. It is a plain edifice of brick, on the east side of Harp Lane, Tower Street, and is entered under a colonnade of Ionic pillars. The large or upper hall is ornamented with a screen of the Composite order, in which are two arches with carvings of fruit and flowers above, surmounted by a music gallery; and at the north end of the room were formerly three large paintings: one in the centre displaying the arms of the Company; that on the right Justice, with her attributes; and that on the left St. Clement, the patron of the Company. These have now disappeared. The Court room below is spacious and handsome, and is decorated with two Corinthian pilasters at each end. Over the door of entrance are the Royal arms, and over the Master's chair those of the Company; to the right of the chair is a three-quarters portrait of Sir John William Anderson, Bart., a former Master of the Company, and Lord Mayor in 1798; to the left of the chair is a three-quarters length portrait of Walter Anderson Peacock, Esq., Deputy of the Ward of Bishopsgate Without, the active originator of the Bakers' Almshouses at Hackney, and Master of the Company for two successive years; it was presented by him in 1844.

The Company of Bakers has been described as amongst the oldest fraternities in the City. They were denominated *Bolengarii* (from the French *boulangier*).† In the year 1155, in the beginning of Henry II.'s reign, the Bakers were charged in the great roll of the Exchequer with a debt of one mark of gold for their guild, showing that they held their privileges in fee-farm of the Crown.‡ They were divided into two fraternities—the White Bakers and the Brown Bakers. The former of these were a company in the first year of Edward II. 1307, and had a new charter granted to them by Henry VII. which was confirmed by Henry VIII. on 22nd July, in the first year of his reign (1509). This is described as the Company's first charter

* New View of London, ii. 596.

† Maitland's History of London, ii. 1235.

‡ Madox, Firma Burgi. Seymour's London, ii. 368.

of incorporation. Queen Elizabeth, by charter dated 26th May, in the eleventh year of her reign (1569), united the White-Bread Bakers to the Brown-Bread Bakers; but James I. by a charter of the 6th of June, in the nineteenth year of his reign (1621), made the latter a separate corporation; and, lastly, they were again united by a charter of 2nd James II. (1686), and have remained so ever since.

Amongst the eighty-nine Companies of the City the Bakers rank as the nineteenth. The ruling body consists of a Master, four Wardens, and thirty Assistants; and the general body contains the two usual classes of the Yecomany or Freemen and the Liverymen. Females are entitled and may be summoned to take out the freedom of the Company; but they are not entitled to the Livery.*

By their several charters, the Company possess a general power of overlooking, searching, correcting, punishing, and governing the mystery and all the freemen thereof within the City and suburbs exercising the same, the workmen, servants, and apprentices and all foreigners and others whomsoever exercising the mystery or art of baking any bread to be exposed for sale within the City, suburbs, and liberties, and within two miles of the same (Elizabeth's charter), and to correct offences concerning the trade, and to make laws and ordinances for that purpose, and to inflict and levy fines and penalties for the non-observance thereof; and they are empowered (under James II.'s charter)—in particular within the City and a circumference of twelve miles (the city and liberty of Westminster excepted)†—to view, search, prove, and weigh all bread made and sold by any baker, foreigner, or seller of bread, and to try whether the same be good and of the assize prescribed by law, and in case of finding it unwholesome, or not of due assize, to seize and take the same and distribute it to the poor of the parish where found, and to impose reasonable fines, and levy the same by distress of the goods of offenders.

These powers of search and punishment have, however, not been exercised by the Company since the abolition of the assize

* Report on Municipal Corporations, London, p. 94.

† Ibid. p. 95.

laws by the Act of 3 Geo. IV. c. 16, when it was considered that the trade was entirely thrown open.

The ancient laws, ordinances, and regulations relating to bakers, and the making and sale of bread, are exceedingly numerous, and some of them highly curious and interesting. They are to be found amongst the statutes of the realm, in the collections of civic ordinances and customs—especially the celebrated “*Liber Albus*,” compiled by John Carpenter, town clerk in the reigns of Hen. V. and Hen. VI., and in the records of the Bakers’ Company. They regulate with the greatest minuteness the manner in which the assay of bread should be made, and the weight and price of each particular description of loaf—as wastell, cokett, simnell, white, wheaten, household, and other kinds of bread. They prescribe the places at which bread might be sold, and how it should be marked or sealed, and they impose various penalties and punishments for violations of the laws and regulations. As specimens of the severity with which offenders were treated, the following quotation may be made from one of the ancient ordinances contained in the “*Liber Albus*,” viz.:

Whereas some persons do say that the assize of bread and of ale is not so well kept, thro’ the taking of fines from bakers and brewsters: It is provided that no Sheriff shall take a fine from bakers or brewsters. And if any Sheriff shall do so, and be convicted of the same, he shall forthwith be removed from the office, and another appointed in his place.

And if any default shall be found in the bread of a baker of the City, the first time let him be drawn upon a hurdle from the Guildhall to his own house, thro’ the great streets where there may be most people assembled, and thro’ the great streets that are most dirty, with the faulty loaf hanging from his neck.* If a second time he shall be found committing the same offence, let him be drawn from the Guildhall, thro’ the great Street of Cheap in manner aforesaid, to the pillory, and let him be put upon the pillory, and remain there at least one hour in the day. And the third time that such default shall be found he shall be drawn, and the oven shall be pulled down, and the baker made to forswear the trade within the City for ever.

* An ancient drawing of this punishment, preserved in the *Liber de Assisis Paris*, a MS. at Guildhall (on the same page as the sketch introduced hereafter, p. 66) has been engraved in the first volume of the Society’s Transactions, p. 255.

The muniments of the Company consist of their charters, minute-books, books of account, and other documents of various degrees of importance, and amongst them are some sufficiently interesting to merit particular notice.

Amongst the charters, that granted to the Company by Queen Elizabeth in 1569 is noticeable on account of its being beautifully illuminated, and containing a portraiture of the Queen.

The following is a description of some of the ancient books still in possession of the Company:—

I. The earliest is entitled “The Boke of Rekenyng the gt [grant] of Clothes [i. e., the Company’s livery] by nomb^r, from the first day of May, A^o 1499, forth.” It chiefly consists of lists of names of recipients of the clothing, distinguished by the *white* side and the *brown* side—that is to say, the White Bakers and the Brown Bakers; and at the end are various memoranda of sales of wheat, &c., probably bought by the Wardens on behalf of the Company, each Company being then required to lay up certain stores of corn for provision in case of dearth. This book also contains the following memorial of two deceased members of the fraternity, the first of them being evidently the person who, as before mentioned, purchased for the Company their Hall:—“Mr. Richard Rogers deceased the xiiij day of September, A^o 1506, and the obet is kept; ye dirige ye xiiij day of September, and the mas the xiiij day of Septebre, and lieth in Seynt Botolphis Chirche by Billingsgate. Mr. John French deceased the xiiij day of June, Año 1510, and lyeth in O^r Lady Chappell in Seint Mangnus Chirche.”

II. A minute-book of the orders and proceedings of the Court of the Company. The title and a few leaves are wanting. The book at present contains about sixty pages; the date on the first existing page is 12th January, 1536. The following extracts are given as specimens of the control exercised by the Company over its members:—

xvj^o die Januarij, A^o 1536. It is ordred and agreed by a hole Court that frome hens forth every baker that doth not seall or marke apparantly on almaner lofe brede, white and wheten and houshold, that it may be knowen of whoes bakyng it is, shall forfaytt and pay without any re-

dempcion as often as he shall be founden defectyff, vj s. viij d. to th' use of the Company. There being present M. Colyns, M. Otryngham, M. Smyth, M. Jakson, M. Moreok, M. Owen, M. Clayton, M. Squier, M. John Morys, M. Clement Towne, M. Wyseham, M. Robynson, M. Morys dd., (ap David), M. Taylour.

xxvij^o die Januarij, 1536. At a Court holden the same day, it is agreed by the Master, Wardens, and Assistentz that noe baker shall pay more for wood bitwene this and Mighilmas next comyng than Liij s. iiij d. at the uttermost for a Mⁱ leyd at his dore. And who of the Company that gyveth above that price shall forfayt xls.—the oon half to the hall, the other halff to the taker. There being present, M. Colyns, &c. (*Side note*)—Continuatur 8 Junii, A^o 1540.

19 Februarij, 1536. The same day Dayyd Johns is commaunded to bryng in vj s. viij d. at the next court day for noon-sealyng of his halff-peny manchettes.

xij^o Aprⁱlis, A^o 1537. The same day it is agreed by a Court that every freeman baker shall seall alle maner ferthyng ware under payn of vj s. viij d. for every iiij ferthyng ware wheresoever and as often as they be found.

Also that no maner p'sone send any maner kynde of brede into Chepce-side to selle iij peny lofes for iij d., or white half peny brede for like somme, upon payne of xx s. as often as they be found; wherof x s. to be to the Hall, and x s. to the taker.

vij^o Februarij, 1537. Jamys Blacknall, at a Court kept the same day promysed to bring in xx s. on Thursday next comyng, and to be judged by the house for ij fawtes—that is to say, for lakkyng xxxvj unces in his grote white lofe, and iiij unces in his peny wheten. [Other fines of this kind are frequent.]

xxij^o Februarij, 1537. It is agreed by the hole Court that it shalbe liefull to every of the Company this Lent following to bake soden ware, as symnelles and cracknelles, and also to bake wygges.

ij^{do} Aprilis, A^o 1538. Thomas Spencer was judged by the Court to pay for selling of wigges in Southwerk contrary to the ordenaunce x s., and for his dysobedience in standeryng M. Stag, seying that they should be his wygges, wherof the contrary is confesed by Laurence, servaunt to the said Tho. Spencer, other x s., sm^e xx s., to be brought yn the next Court day, and to be judged by the M. Wardens and their assistents.

21 May. At a Courte there holden William Willyscrofte, servaunt with Thomas Spencer, confessed there openly that he was covenannt with th same Th. Spencer by ij yerres, and as yet hyderto his said master never presented hym to be sworne in the Hall; and that his master gave hym a jorney peny and so made hym a jorneyman, contrary, &c.

10 Feb. 1538. The q^a (quarter) symnell to conteyne this next Lent

xi s. vj d.; the q^r wyg, ix s. vj d.: and the q^r cracknell, vij s. vj d. Also it is agreed that no baker, a freeman, shall sell or bring to be sold into Chepessyde or into any other place within the liberties of the Citie oute of their houses any wiggcs or sodden ware, upon payne of x s.; the one halff to the Hall, the other halff to the taker, and the brede to Newgate.

vijth Augusti, A^o 1543. Richard Morys promysed to bring in xl s. the next Court day for his mysbehav^{er} and bending his bow within the Kinges Citie of London agenst John Warner.

ijth Octobris, A^o 1543. *The Price of Whete*—It is agreed that no baker shall not gyve nor pay above xij s. for a quarter of the best, under the payne of the flyne conteyned in our ordenaunce.

xijth Decembris, A^o 1543. That no ffreman baker shall gyve any Cristmas loves or othir reward, under payne of xl s.

The same day it is agreed that who so ever gyveth pondage after New Yeres Day next comyng shall pay the forfait of our ordenaunce without redempcion or favour.

vij die Julii, 1545. It ys agreed by the Company of the house that, if they take whete of the Kinges grace, to delyver of every quarter of whete a hundrethe and three quarters in bysket. And if they bake of theyre owne whete, to giffe unto them after ix s. a hundred.

Quinto die Octobr. A^o 1545. That George Horde, gentilman, shalle go and be associate in prosession generall and obettes and at alie other tymes with the Robert Bandon.

xxiiijth Feb. 1545. That no baker from Sonday nexte comyng after the date hereof shalle bake no kynde of fferthing brede, that ys to be witte, manchettes, bunces, prykked nor fferthyng wygges, (Frenche bunnecs for the straungers excepte,) to serve no tipler nor taverner, uppon payne of x s.; the one moyte therof to the taker, and the other moyte to the use of the Halle. (*Side note*)—This acte is made by the hole Company of the howse. (*Addition*)—The xj day of May it ys agreyd by the howse to bake manchetes who will, this acte not withstanding.

xviij Feb. 1 Edw. VI. From hensforth it shalnot be liefull unto any person, baker, free of the said companye of bakers, shall receyve into any their howsse or howsses any woman servaunte to th'entent that any such woman servaunte shuld sett, season, or carry any breade, which might or shuld supply the service of any man servaunt, journeyman covenant, or apprentice, uppon payn for every such housholder so doyng or sufferyng, to th'use of t'hall for every offence duely provyd, xl s.; every journeyman to be payd for his salary xvj d., and not above, and to work as well by night as day, under the like fine of xl s.

Also that noo persone, free baker, from hensforth bake any hoothe wiges with butter or oyle to be utteryd to any their customers, uppon payne to forfait for every such offence to be provyd x s.; the one halfe to the taker, and thoder to th'use of t'hall.

iiij Maij, 1 Edw. VI. That from hensforth the Company shall sell breade in baskittes in Chepside, according to a former acte, that is to saye, the west side on Monday and Frydaye, and th'easte side Wensday and Saturday, and that neither parte occupie one others' dayes, uppon payne to forfayte x s.; th'one half to t'hall and thoder half to the taker; (*added*) and not to bake purposely upon like payne, (*added further*) nor to send into Southwarke uppon the same payne of x s.

ix of August, 1 Edw. VI. At this Courte it is granted and agreed that there shalbe provyded and bought, that is to say, di. C weight, a quarter weight sealled, xiiij lb. weight, viij lb. weight, iiij lb. weight, ij lb. and j lb., after the which weightes all the Company shall provyde the like weightes. And that every man's weight shalbe from tyme to tyme tryed at the discrecion of the Master and Wardeynes for the tyme being.

Ult^o. Julij, 1^o Ed. VI. At this Courte it is graunted and condiscendid by th'assents of the said Auncyents that forasmuch as many tymes heretofore Richard Morrice one of the Company, and in the Lyverye, hath by slaunderous reproch and woords by him spoken and utteryd, aswell agenst dyvers of th'auncyents that have been Master and Wardens as also agenst the Shireffs of the Citie, which hath moche hyndred the Company, and by such hys means have hadd moch evill will and grudge at their hands, to their great hynderaunces, Be it nowe ordeyned that if at any tyme hereafter the said Morrice do attempt any acte or utter any words or reproch either agenst any of the Company or other Rulers of the Citie and y^t duely proved, that then furthwth the same Morrice to be put oute of the Lyverie and exiled the Company w^{out} redempc'on.

17^o Januarij, A^o 1554. At this Corte kept by the Mr and Wardeins and th'auncyents John Davys was charged in all his offence, that is to say, aswell for lack of weight as for having a wrong seall, and for beating his wife, for the which he hath not onely deserved shame but also banyshment; notwthstanding by menes of Mr. Clayton, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Lewys, who have taken uppon theym to be his suerties for his amendem^t and honest behavior hercafter, he is p'doned, and for y^t they are become his suerties he ys releassed for this tyme.

III. A long book marked on the outside V, but having no title. It seems to be an account of wheat bought by the Company, and begins thus: "Whete of Will^m Pory appoynted out of a lighter at Comon Stayrs the ix day of May, A^o 1537, at ixs. vj d."

IV. A long book of paper bound in parchment; the inner binding consisting of two leaves of a parchment MS., a Lectionarium or Book of the Lessons used in the Church Service. It is entitled "Quarterages and other Dueties paiaible for and in the

tyme of Mr. Allayne, Maister, Mr. Hoorde, Mr. Beest, Mr. Rooper, and Mr. Large, Wardens." The entries extend from 1556 to 1632. It appears that each member paid xij d. on "two quarter-days for the assembly of the fellowship," in July and November, and a like sum on "four quarters for and towards the clerks and bedills wages—that is to saye, att Xptmas, Thannuncia", Midsom', and Mighelmas."

V. A large ledger, or account-book, of paper, bound in stamped limp leather, lined inside the cover with parchment leaves from two different MSS. The accounts extend from 1586 to 1625, and are exceedingly well kept and written. The first account in the book may be taken as a fair specimen of the whole, and is sufficiently curious and interesting to give entire, as follows:—

Th'accompte of Mr. Humfrey Virome, Maister of the Comynalty of Freemen of the Mistery of Bakers of the Cittie of London and Suburbes of the same, and of William White, Richard Baker, Anthonye Wrighte, and John Parsons, Wardens of the same Comynaltye, that is to say, from Mondaye next after the daie of St. Clement, (being the eleccion daie appoynted in and by the Corporacion of the same Comynaltye,) which foresaid daie of St. Clement, by olde Calenders, is the xxijth daie of November, A° 1586, in the xxvijth yeire of the reigne of o' Sovraigne Lady Elizabeth, by the Grace of God Queene of England, France, and Ireland, Defendour of the Faithe, &c., untill Mondaye next after the daie of St. Clement, A° 1587, in the xxixth yeire of the reigne of oure saide Sovraigne Ladye, as well of all such somes of money w'ch the said Mr. and Wardens, or any of them, have received for and during the said tyme to th'use of the said Comynaltye, as also of al mann' payments by them or any of them made, towching or concerning the affaires of the said Comynaltye, within the tyme aforesaid.

The receipts are arranged very clearly and systematically, under the following heads:—

The remainder of the last yeare's accompte	-	-	59 s. 5 d.
Fines for lack of weighte, receyved on searche daies	sum	9 li. 17 s. 2 d.	
Fines for lack of weighte, taken on Courte daies	sum	49 s. 10 d.	
Fines for late comyng to Courte, and being absent	sum	59 s. 8 d.	
Money received for th'oties of covenant servants	sum	28 s. 0 d.	
For presentment of apprentices	-	sum	13 s. 0 d.
For apprentices made freemen	-	sum	4 li. 6 s. 8 d.

For admittance of householders, allowance of sealls, and for admytteng of redempcones - - -	sum	4 li. 16 s. 8 d.
Fines for breaking the ordenances of this fellowship	sum	14 s. 8 d.
Money received upon a collecion for the use of this Comynalty - - - - -	sum	11 li. 10 s. 10 d.
Ordinary receipts yerlie, uncertaine - - -	sum	58 li. 9 s. 8 d.
Casual receipts - - - - -	sum	27 li. 4 s. 0 d.
Sum total of the receipts this year - -		127 li. 9 s. 7 d.

PAYMENTS.

Fees to officers - - - - -	sum	17 li. 13 s. 4 d.
The Exhibicon of a Scholler: Paid to th' use of Edmond Robothome, a scholler, student in the Unyversitie of Cambridge, for a yeere's exhibicion,* due at Mighel- mas, 1581, aforesaid - - - - -	iii li.	
Costs of reparations - - - - -	sum	20 s. 3 d.
Charges of trayneng souldiers - - - - -	sum	67 s. 1 d.

EXPENCES FOR A DYNNER.

Paid for 20 stone and 3 lb. of beefe, 30 s. 6 d.; ten mary- bones, 3 s. 4 d.; sewett, 7 s. 8 d.; for mutton to give to the poore, 15 s. 4 d.; and to a porter, 4 d. -	57 s. 2 d.
Paid for 38 capons, 3 li. 18 s. 2 d.; 12 geese, 21 s.; 13 dozen of larks, 13 s.; and 300 of eggs, 13 s. 10 d. -	6 li. 6 s. 0 d.
Paid to the grocer for fine sugar, 17 s. 11 d.; course sugar, 16 s. 7 d.; pepper, 7 s. 4 d.; large mace, 20 d.; cloves and mace, 2 s.; curranace, 2 s. 6 d.; prunes, 20 d.; safron, 2 s.; dates, 3 s. 4 d.; bisketts, 8 d.; barberies, 18 d.; rosewater, 2 s.; paper, 4 d.; orrengadoes (1½ lb.), 3 s.; synamon, sugar, and sanders, 3 d.; more bisketts (½ lb.), 12 d.; more sugar (2 lb.), 3 s.; safron, 2 d.; pepper, 11 d.; and more for sugar, 2 s. 10 d. - - - - -	3 li. 10 s. 8 d.
Paid for bringing the venison - - - - -	6 s. 0 d.
Paid for marchpanes - - - - -	36 s. 0 d.
Paide for 12 pikes - - - - -	21 s. 0 d.
Paid for bread, 23 s. 2 d., and for 4 busshells and three pecks of flower, 12 s. 8 d. - - - - -	35 s. 10 d.
Paid for ale, 9 s. 3 d., and beere, 4 s. 10 d. - - -	14 s. 1 d.
Paid for six gallons and a half of creame - - -	8 s. 8 d.
Paid for the Church dueties - - - - -	11 s. 0 d.
Paid for a firkin of butter - - - - -	17 s. 8 d.

* Many of the Companies at this time voluntarily gave such exhibitions.

Paid for ypoocrase and other wine	-	-	-	4 li. 6 s. 9 d.
Paid to the Chaundeler for salt, sawce, pipkins, candells, and like necessaries	-	-	-	7 s. 8 d.
Paid for 16 dozein of trenchers, 10 s. 6 d.; to a porter, 2 d.; water, 23 d.: and 100 of faggotts, 5 s.	-	-	-	17 s. 7 d.
Paid for dressing 17 messe of meate	-	-	-	25 s. 0 d.
Paid to 2 officers to carve	-	-	-	5 s. 0 d.
Paid to the musicians	-	-	-	8 s. 0 d.
Paid to the butler	-	-	-	15 s. 0 d.
Paid to the porter for keeping the gate	-	-	-	2 s. 0 d.
Paid to the pewterer for hire of pewter, and for certein pewter lost at the hall	-	-	-	15 s. 0 d.
Paid for wasshing the lynnyn, washing the disshes, and making cleane the howse	-	-	-	10 s. 0 d.
Summa	-	-	-	29 li. 16 s. 1 d.
Ordinary and necessary payments	-	-	sum	62 li. 17 s. 2 d.
Allowance, ordinary	-	-	sum	11 li. 18 s. 0 d.
Sum total of all the payments	-	-	-	130 li. 11 s. 11 d.

So resteth cleere upon this accompt nil, for that this accomptant hath paid more than he hath received 3 li. 2 s. 4 d., which is to be answered to him by this howse.

This book extends to the year 1625, and seems to have been exceedingly well kept and written.

VI. The quest book of the Company from 25 Eliz. 1583, to 1650. The first leaf, which is in bad order and partly illegible, appears to contain articles to be inquired into by the Inquest of the Company, relating to forestalling and regrating, offences against the assize of bread and the ordinances of the Company.

In addition to the foregoing and many other books of subsequent date, the Company possess a volume of a different character, which has evidently been for ages used by them when the solemnity of administering the oaths of office or of membership has been observed. It is a folio copy of the New Testament (but has the title-page of the entire Bible), "imprinted at London by Christopher Barker, anno 1584." On each of the covers there is affixed a brass plate, with a well-engraved in-

scription in Roman capitals. That on the front cover is in these words:—

THOV SHALTE FEARE THE LORD THY GOD. THOV
SHALTE SERVE HYM AND CLEAVE UNTO HYM:

AND SHALL SWARE BY HYS NAME:

DUTRENOME, 10 CHAPTER.

THOV SHALTE NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE

LORD THY GOD IN VAIN, FOR THE LORDE

WILL NOT HOLDE HIM GILTLESSE THAT

TAKETH HIS NAME IN VAIN. EXODUS, 20 CHAPTER.

The inscription on the back cover (which will bring the present paper to a close) is engraved without any particular regard to the division of the lines; but it is here produced in a different form, for a reason which will be obvious:—

ONE OF THIS SOCIETTE
IN TIME OF SOME PARPLEXITYE
OF HIS FREE LIBARRALLYTE
THIS BOOKE GAVE TO THIS COMPANYE,
WHOM GOD PRESARVE ETIRNALLY
TO PRAYSE HIS DEVYNE MAGESTYE,
ON[E] GOD ALONE, IN PARSONS THREE,
IN TRENYTYE AND UNITTYE
AMEN, AMEN, SO LETT YT BE.

S^d WILLIAM WHITE, WARDEN.

NOVEMBIR 27, 1587.



BAKER DRAWING HIS OVEN.

(Fac-simile from illumination in the *Liber de Assisis Paris*, A.D. 1284, in *Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall*.)