

A STUDY OF THE EDINBURGH FURNISHING TRADE TAKEN FROM CONTEMPORARY PRESS NOTICES, 1708–1790

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This article will hopefully not only illuminate the eighteenth-century furniture trade in Edinburgh but also illustrate the wealth of information, which a systematic study of contemporary newspapers can provide.

In Edinburgh eighteenth-century newspapers generally took the form of a folded broadsheet making four sides of print. This consisted of national and international news, generally culled from the London papers, a column of local news, and approximately a side of advertisements. They were sold either from the publisher's promises, or on the street by 'criers' or 'caddies', or through the coffee houses which formed the hub of social and commercial life in all British eighteenth-century cities. They were also distributed to some extent throughout the whole of Scotland. Three or occasionally four issues were produced each week, and in 1739 the *Caledonian Mercury* was reputed to have had a circulation of 1400 copies a week.¹ This certainly would have been larger by the end of the century. Their position was thus not only of purveying news, but also comment, those curious anonymous letters of which the century was so fond, and a miscellany of notices in the Advertisement columns.

These notices offer reliable factual information about positions of workshops or ware-rooms, partnerships, dates, the stock which was being sold, and other services rendered. They can also often give insights in to the characters of the men, and sometimes women, involved, but their claims of being the 'best', 'most fashionable', or 'cheapest' should be taken lightly. The dates 1708 to 1790 reflect the period over which the author has comprehensively surveyed the three main Edinburgh papers; namely the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, the *Caledonian Mercury*, and the *Edinburgh Advertiser*, although holdings of volumes before 1739 are rather incomplete. The latter date corresponds to the time when the trade began to be rationalised by the introduction of Price Books, and also to when Edinburgh's New Town began to thrive.

Fortunately the scarcity of papers from the earlier part of the century barely affects this study as advertising by cabinet makers seems hardly to have occurred during this time. However it should be emphasised here that a trade did exist, but that its protagonists apparently felt no need to advertise, and so have no place in this specific study. The earliest reference to anyone offering their services as a furniture maker is in 1746 when Colin Alison, in trying to sell 'a considerable Parcel of fine, broad Mahogany Plank' also mentions that 'Commissions from the Country will be duly taken care of'.² In 1749 George Keir was selling his whole stock, including 'a considerable Quantity of WRIGHT WORK ready made, such as, Drawers, Tables, Chairs, &c. all fashionable and quite new', but this was because he was leaving Edinburgh. The time from which active businesses began advertising



A T REOCH's Cabinet and Looking-Glass Manufactory, at the GOLDEN CHAIR, near the Foot of Carrubber's Close, Edinburgh, are ready made, and sold at the lowest Prices, Cabinets, Bureaus, Desks and Drawers, Dining, Tea and Dressing Tables, Dressing Boxes, Tea Chests, Tea Trays, Hand Boards, English and India Fire-screens, Easy, Smoking and Dressing Chairs, Dining and Drawing Room Chairs, with Variety of other Cabinet Work: Also, all Sorts of Looking Glasses, such as Pier Sconce, Chimney and Dressing Glasses, with gilded or plain Frames. Likeways, all sorts of Family Pictures, Prints, &c. framed in gilded or plain Frames, done in the newest Fashions; old Glasses remounted in fashionable Frames, by sending the Measures; Sconces furnished for Funerals. Commissions from the Country will be taken proper Care of, and duly answered, and may depend on being charged at as low Prices as if the Person were present.

1. William Reoch, advertisement in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 5 November 1750

in the newspapers is marked by the advertisement placed by William Reoch for his Looking Glass and Cabinet Manufactory, on 5 November 1750 (Fig. 1).

Earlier notices had been placed by Upholsterers, the first announcing in the *Edinburgh Courant* on the 29 December 1708 that 'There is lately come from London to this place, an Upholsterer who mounts all kinds of Beds after the Newest Fashions'. The link between cabinet makers and upholsterers in Edinburgh throughout the eighteenth century was close enough often to be indistinguishable, however many upholsterers did seem just to be selling fabrics and providing an upholstery service, particularly in the first half of the century. In any cases where upholsterers were, or were to become, involved in the selling or making of furniture they have been included here. Undertaking provides a further link between the two trades as the majority of cabinet makers and upholsterers advertising in Edinburgh also furnished funerals 'in town or country after the Scots or English methods, in the most genteel and frugal manner'.³ Many even set up partnerships specifically to deal with the undertaking branch of the business, but during this period there seem to have been no tradesmen acting solely as undertakers, as James Brotherstons and his fierce competitor John Paterson did at the beginning of the century, illustrated in a series of advertisements from 1708. Undertaking is a particularly interesting field which, like several themes touched on in this article, warrants a study of its own.

It is however the rich interaction of these tradesmen and women, which can sometimes be traced across decades, and the development of trading dynasties, as well as the progress and relationships of individuals, which has been the most rewarding aspect of this research. Before dwelling on these themes at length though, various other aspects of the trade and newspapers should be briefly looked at. The most important of these must be the advertisements placed by people from outside Edinburgh. This refers less to the considerable number of tradesmen who came from London, or even Paris in the case of Leonard Dupasquier, and settled in Edinburgh, but to the sale of goods made in London itself. No one will be surprised to hear that the advertisements placed in the London press for

Chippendale's *Director* in 1753, 1754, and 1759 also appeared in Edinburgh, although this was the only pattern book ever to be advertised in Edinburgh during this period. Perhaps more unexpectedly there was a definite trend for the sale of looking glasses made in London. The first of these appears in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* as early as 21 July 1748, when George Stevenson offers for sale

A Parcel of Sconce and Chimney Glasses, set in the newest fashioned Frames, richly carved and gilt, with rich Frames for, and with, Marble Tables, also Consoles and Brackets for holding Candles and Flower pots . . . all performed by John Dawson Carver, at the Golden Head in Millbank, Westminster.

Stevenson could also get frames made to particular sizes if so desired. On 3 August 1774 there was to be sold 'by the Maker from London, A Large and Elegant Assortment of LOOKING GLASSES and GERINDOLES in Burnish Gold Frames of entire new fashions',⁴ this may be Mr Williamson 'the real maker from London' who similarly held a sale of looking glasses advertised on 3 July 1779. The *Caledonian Mercury* of 30 March 1782 has Mrs Bowie selling

An Elegant Assortment of LOOKING GLASSES . . . the Frames carved and gilded in the most appropriate taste . . . Also a handsome Assortment of GERINDOLES . . . The whole being the stock of a person in London lately deceased,

and finally on 15 February 1787 James Aitkin, carver and gilder from London began selling A LARGE ASSORTMENT of LOOKING GLASSES, in burnished gold frames, finished in the most elegant manner, and present taste, and at least thirty per. cent below the usual rates.

Edinburgh was not short of carvers and gilders, John Caitcheon, John Thompson, and Henry Farquharson for instance all advertised, and the city contained several Looking Glass manufactories, so the London carvers must either have been convincingly superior, or were perhaps trying sell off surplus, or inferior stock. James Aitken is not mentioned in the *Dictionary of English Furniture Makers* and the entries for Dawson and Williamson are very slight, so the motives behind these Scottish sales can only be surmised, but they do provide a fascinating precedent for furniture made in London being transported to provincial cities and marketed.

London appears continually as the touchstone of taste, with statements such as this one, of 1765:

Mr Gordon is lately come from London, where he has been several years for improvement; and as he had access to work in the best shops there, [he] hopes their employers shall have satisfaction in every respect

or, from 1771;

Mr. Lamb is just now arrived [from London]; after surveying all the houses in or near that city remarkable for their fashionable and elegant furnishing, and the Warehouses by which that business is supplied.

These epitomise the very practical desire of the Edinburgh cabinet makers to stay abreast of fashion. It should also be emphasised that all the cabinet makers and upholsterers placing advertisements were often making furniture which they claimed to be just as fine as the best from London.

Of literally much wider regional interest are the assorted advertisements for cabinet makers to go to the West Indies and America. The first, in the *Scots Courant* on 16 December 1713, called for

Tradesmen of any Sort, that have a mind to transport themselves . . . for Maryland in America, in the good Ship the Lisle of Leith . . . they shall have the usual encouragement, viz sufficient clothes, daily Wages till the Ship sail, and good accomodation for their Passage . . . It is a very plentiful country, and the Government there takes special care that all Strangers shall have the same Privileges of the Inhabitants, after a few years Service.

Further advertisements in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* suggested that skill as a trademan was not sufficient; on 19 July 1748 two cabinet makers and a chairmaker were wanted for Charleston, in South Carolina, but in order to 'find very good encouragement, They must be Persons of good Morals, as well as good Tradesmen'; similarly on 13 January 1752,

Any Tradesman . . . fully skilled in their Arts, and well recommended for their Sobriety, who incline to go to VIRGINIA . . . may apply to William MacGhie . . . who will contract with them on very advantageous Terms, besides their Passage free.

There can hardly have been a shortage of applicants wanting to leave the squalid, medieval conditions of the old City of Edinburgh, and these notices may provide clues for American historians trying to trace the origins their own cabinet makers. There is unfortunately never any suggestion, in the newspapers, of the export of furniture, although Robert MacMillan, a paper stainer, did have goods 'for exportation' in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* of 7 June 1783.

Sales of wood, whether standing, as cut timber, or imported, were frequently advertised, and a great deal of it seems to have been locally grown. An announcement by the Spinning Wheel Wrights in 1777,⁵ also provides a lateral source of interesting information:

on account of the present high price of wood, they are obliged to raise the prices of their work in proportion, wood being at least one half higher than formerly — a fact well known to every dealer in that article.

This must surely have affected the cabinet trade as well. In a similar vein the letter column of the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* on 29 March 1788 provides a very personal insight into the state of the trade at the time.

Tradesmen and shopkeepers complain much at this time of dullness in business, and want of employment . . . [a reason for this is] their customers going to sales and rouns with the ready money they ought to pay their debts with. It is notorious that at some late sales of furniture, higher prices were given than the articles cost a dozen years ago.

This is followed by a laborious anecdote, and ends,

I therefore, Mr Printer, recommend to my brethren to make auctions, and shut their shops — they can better afford, at this rate, to pay the Exise on the sales and the shop tax,
yours &c. SQUIB⁶

Nevertheless the shopkeepers themselves did hold sales of second-hand furniture, Alexander Peter for instance holding a large sale in 1757.

Peter was one of a handful of successful cabinet makers running their own businesses during the third quarter of the century. His most comparable competitors were William Reoch and Francis Brodie: Peter and Brodie are the two most widely known Scottish eighteenth-century cabinet makers. Peter's first advertisement from 1757 (the one mentioned above) was primarily to let it be known that he

continues his SALE of FURNITURE in the large warehouse within Advocate's Close, where is to be Sold a new assortment of cabinet works, &c. . . . Also a large assortment of new furniture continues to

ALEXANDER PETER Wright,

At his cabinet warehouse, opposite to the Old Assembly close foot, in Cowgate, Edinburgh, hath a large assortment of household furniture ready made, in mahogany, walnut tree, wainscot, elm, and other woods.

Among which are the following goods, viz.

| | |
|---|---|
| Desk and book-cases with mirrors or Chinese doors | elbow chairs, with or without leather covers |
| Desk and drawers, of various woods and sizes | Square and compass winged easy chairs |
| Oval and square dining-tables in pairs | A great choice of ready-made sets of chairs, the patterns quite new, with leather or hair-cloth covers, &c. |
| Corner cupboards, bulged and flat | Hall chairs with wooden bottoms |
| Tea, card, dressing, and night tables, of various sorts and sizes | Bedsteads of various sorts |
| Tea boards and tea-trees, of which last great choice | Chimney shelves and brackets |
| Table china baskets | Bedsteads four-posted, carved and plain, with or without cornices |
| Writing and reading desks | Tent, chair, couch, and folding up beds |
| Cloaths chests, charter-chests, and tea-chests | MIRROR-GLASSES. |
| Choice of wooden candlesticks and candle-sets | Sconce glasses in pairs, with gilt frames |
| Candlesticks of French plate | Ditto in walnut-tree frames |
| Room-screens and fire-screens, with cloth, Indian paper, and check covers | Dressing-glasses of different sizes |
| Room papers, a large floor-cloth, and some upholstery goods | Also several second-hand mirror-glasses |
| Indian pictures, some prints framed and glazed | Some sets of second-hand walnut-tree and beech chairs |
| CHAIR-WORK, viz. Settee chairs, and French | Several pieces of old tapestry |
| | A curious screw press for an office or factory |

And to be sold at his wood-yard in Allison's court, Potter-row,

Carolina pine plank from 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick and under, very proper for sash windows, steps of stairs, doors, &c.

Also Scots ash and beech, and foreign log beech in plank.

At which place there are two large light warehouses lately fitted up, wherein his stock of ready-made goods will be shown.

2. Alexander Peter, advertisement in the *Edinburgh Chronicle*, 26 January 1760

3. James Cullen & Co, advertisement in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 21 May 1754

THAT the New Company, called the EDINBURGH UPHOLSTERY, JOINER and MIRROR GLASS COMPANY, have now fitted up a large commodious Warehouse in Carrubber's Close, and furnished it completely with great Variety of all Kinds of Household Furniture, after the newest Fashions, in Mahogany, Rose-wood, Red Saunders, Pigeon-wood, Walnut-tree, and other fashionable Woods: Also a neat Assortment of second Furniture of Wainscot, Elm, Beech, Sycamore tree, and other useful plain Woods, viz. Desks, ditto with Book-Cases, Chests of Drawers of various Sizes, Bureaus, square, oval and round Dining Tables, Writing, Dressing and Card Tables, Breakfast, Camp and Commode Tables, Bed Tables and Night Tables, great Choice of Chairs of all Sorts, Couches, Sofas, &c. Stools for dressing, Library, Closet, Camp, &c. Bedsteads of all Sorts, neat Book-Shelves, China Shelves, Brackets, and several other Kinds of useful and ornamental Furniture, never executed in this Place before, whereof Sketches, elegantly drawn, may be seen.

A large Assortment of remarkable fine Mirror Glasses, several of them in very elegant carved and gilt Frames. Also old Mirror Glasses remounted and silver'd, and Paintings and Prints framed in the most elegant Manner.

Upholstery Goods of all Kinds. Some very fine Silk and Worsted Damasks, Worsted ditto, Morrees, Harrateens, Chincies, printed Stuffs, Linseys, &c. Checks of all Sorts, some very beautiful Silk ones, Cotton and Linen ditto, Cotton tufted, Counterpanes, Quilts, English Blankets of all Sorts and Sizes, Carpets of all Sorts, some very beautiful Wilton ones, also all Kinds of Scots Carpets, Scots, English and Flanders Tykes, Fustians, &c. Featherers and sweet-seasoned Down, great Variety of Paper for hanging Rooms of entire new Patterns, a large Assortment of curious India Paper, and a new Sort of English gilt India ditto for Hangings, Screens, &c. Morocco and Spanish Leather for Chair Covers, and several other Kinds of Upholstery Goods, too tedious here to mention.

Upholstery and other Furniture in general well executed after the English, French, Chinese or Gothic Tastes, and Chairs, Matresses, &c. stuffed after the English or French Methods.

FUNERALS decently performed, public or private, in Town or Country, in the most elegant Manner, with all accustomed Formalios, black Rooms, Escutcheons, Silver and Mirror Sconces, Tapers and Silver Stands, Mutes, &c. or in the most frugal Manner, on the lowest Terms.

Great Care will be taken to preserve Order and good Decorum, and to prevent the Employer having unnecessary Trouble and Expence.

N.B. Commissions directed to Mr. James Cullen, in Carrubber's Close, will be punctually answered, and great Care taken in the Execution of them.

be sold at his House in the Horse-Wynd . . . Prices very moderate, and proper discount for Ready Money. N. B. At said ware-room attendance given from eight in the morning to five at night.

By 1758 Peter

Hath removed his Ware-room from the Advocate's Close to the first fore stair below the Horse-wynd, opposite to the foot of the old Assembly close, Cowgate, where he hath collected a very complete Assortment of NEW FURNITURE,

and in 1759 he added another ware-room 'fronting the high street, and entering by the first turnpike, second door within Writer's Court', where he had for sale 'a neat assortment of cabinet, chair, and table work, room and fire screens, &c. &c.' Peter was also temporarily involved with the complicated dealings of the Edinburgh Upholstery Company, more of which later, but apart from being responsible for two small country houses to let, which he probably part owned as one was not quite fitted up,⁷ he used advertisements very rarely (Fig. 2). This was if anything a reflection of his success and in 1772 he was

intending to give up business, [and] is ready to treat with any person whom it may suit to take his SHOP and YARD and to purchase what quantity of his stock . . . he may have occasion for — As the Shop has been long in repute for Cabinet Work, any person who employs the same hands, and uses proper materials, may expect to meet with proper encouragement.

William Reoch placed slightly more advertisements, all similar to that in Figure 1, but never moved from Carrubber's Close, and similarly Francis Brodie and his son William worked and lived in the second close above the Old Bank, Lawnmarket all their working lives. Francis is notable for his use of a bust of Palladio as his shop sign, and as the centrepiece of his billhead, a quite unprecedented move for a cabinet maker of any nationality (Fig 4). Advertisements of 1766 call the firm 'Brodie and Son', and of 1767 'Francis and William Brodie's', and William continued after his father's death in 1782 until 1788, when he was hanged at the Tolbooth for various crimes of theft. He was a notorious character — the infamous Deacon Brodie — who had managed to gamble and carouse away the considerable fortune left to him by his father (See F. Bamford, *A Dictionary of Edinburgh Furniture Makers* (1983)). The shop, house and stock in trade were all completely sold and disbanded during 1788.

There now follows an attempt to describe and illustrate the related careers of well over a dozen different upholsterers and cabinet makers who inhabited a largely closed, almost incestuous, echelon of the Edinburgh trade. This will take the form of tracing several tortuous but chronologically parallel strands through to either their conclusion, or the end of this period. The simplest place to start is with the firm of Young and Trotter, whose history eventually stretches well into the nineteenth century but whose formative years are related particularly clearly in these newspaper advertisements. They first advertised, in their initial guise of Upholsterers, in 1748 and four years later they were intending 'in company with JAMES CADDEL, to carry on the Business of UNDERTAKING for FUNERALS'. This partnership only lasted two years however, and in 1754 James Caddel was Upholsterer and Undertaker at the Crown and Cushion (Fig. 5). Young and Trotter continued the many branches of the upholstery business, including setting up carpet and blanket manufactories, and by late 1772 had

ready for SALE, at their Cabinet Warehouse in Prince's Street, north end of the New-bridge, A large Assortment of all the Articles of Furniture PRESENTLY in TASTE.

**At BRODIE'S LOOKING-GLASS and
CABINET WARE-ROOM, Low-meat,**



THIS DAY is a Sale of FURNITURE, viz. Looking-Glasses, Cabinet and Chair Work, &c. The selling Price is on each Particular, and as this Sale is for ready Money, a very considerable Discount will be given, during the Continuance thereof.

Variety of Dutch CHIMNEY TILES to be sold at the very lowest Prices, the white at 15 d. per Dozen, and the rest in Proportion.

N. B. Funerals and Joiner Work done as well, and at as reasonable Rates, as can be by any other in or about this City.

4. Francis Brodie, advertisement in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 6 June 1754

THAT JAMES CADDELL, UPHOLSTERER and UNDERTAKER, at the Crown and Cushion near the Nether-bow, has now given up his Concern with Messrs. Young and Trotter, and carries on Business for himself, and has just now been at London, and brought down a very large Assortment of Cloth, painted and Stucco Papers, &c. of the newest and best Patterns, all in the present Taste.

Also undertakes Funerals, after the same Manner as practised in London, viz. Coffins of all Kinds and Prices, Flannels or Shrowds either done in the English or Scots Way, Black Cloth for hanging Rooms and Seats in Churches, Silver Sconces and Candlesticks, &c. Horses and Coaches for Town and Country, and all other things in that way, done on the easiest Terms and in the genteelst Manner.

N. B. All Sorts of Upholstery-Work done in the very best and genteelst Manner, and upon the most reasonable Terms.

5. James Caddell, advertisement in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 2 May 1754

This was, incidentally, the first cabinet or upholstery warehouse to be set up in the New Town, and in the next year Young and Trotter officially became Upholsterers and Cabinet Makers. The firm continued until 1805 when Thomas Trotter's son William took over as sole proprietor, and became responsible for the vast amount of 'Trotter' furniture which exists in Scotland today. In 1783 Francis Braidwood

begged leave to acquaint his Friends and the Public, that he has fitted up in an elegant manner the large warehouse lately possessed by Messrs. Young and Trotter, Luckenbooths, Edinburgh.

Braidwood seems to have been one of the more fashionably advanced cabinet makers working in Edinburgh; in 1775 when he was a Joiner, Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer and Undertaker, he had

lately come from London and brought with him a large assortment of WOODS of different kinds and colours, for the purpose of making variegated and inlaid work.

In 1785 he had 'several new patterns of chairs and printed papers, directly from London', but was certainly not unique in this respect, James and William Andersons also making 'the most Fashionable Carved Chairs, as patterns from London', in 1789. The year before, Braidwood had 'entered into copartnership' with Alexander Bruce, and together they subscribed to Sheraton's *Drawing Book*, as did many Scottish cabinet makers.⁸

James Caddell reappears in 1766 again entering into a partnership with the explicit intention of undertaking for funerals. This was with William Hamilton and James Russel, and cannot have lasted as in 1768 Caddell, who was by now offering 'all kinds of upholstery goods . . . cabinet and joiner work' announced that

as he in June 1767, assumed William Lamb as partner, which finding upon trial this copartnership to be inconvenient, was by mutual consent dissolved in June last; And a certain allowance given Mr. Lamb for his trouble.

William Lamb 'Upholsterer and Undertaker from London', although it is likely that he originated from Edinburgh, continued on his own 'at the Gilded SOPHA, opposite Blackfriar's wynd'. James Caddell died on November 1769 and his wife, who was sole executrix,

developed her business . . . in favour of Robert Scyth, her nephew (who has presided over Mr. Caddell's business these seven years past) and is now join'd copartner with Willm. Lamb Upholsterer.

Lamb's relationships with the Caddell family were clearly complicated, as by 1774 Lamb and Scyth 'have mutually agreed to DISSOLVE their COPARTNERSHIP' with Lamb continuing opposite Blackfriar's wynd, 'where he has lately fitted up a large room, immediately behind his Upholstery shop, for ready made cabinet work'. The same advertisement also states that

ROBERT SCYTH has taken that commodious warehouse lately possessed by the deceased Mr. Lewis Gordon, Upholsterer and Undertaker, first fore stair below the entry to the New Bridge,

but Mrs Gordon rapidly refuted this, claiming that 'this advertisement was published prematurely and without proper authority'. Instead she 'proposes to keep Patrick Reid, her husbands late foreman' and continue the business herself. Scyth then explained that

he having entered into terms with Mrs. Gordon . . . an advertisement was thereupon drawn up, and shown to Mrs Gordon (who approved of it before it was published) . . . but soon after, a difference arose between Mrs. Gordon and Mr. Scyth, which put an end to the transaction. [He] has therefore taken that spacious and commodious Shop lately possessed by Mr. Thomas Finch Confectioner.

By February of the next year Mrs Gordon was selling her husband's complete stock, and letting the warehouse again, while in contrast by May, Scyth had added to his business a cabinet work manufactory in Cant's Close. Scyth continued his businesses until his death in 1784 when there was a sale of his whole stock of goods. In April of the same year we hear that William Young,

late Overseer to the deceased MR. ROBERT SCYTHE Upholsterer in Edinburgh Having been nominated by his deceased master as his SUCCESSOR in TRADE, has lately entered into Copartnership with JOHN RICHARDSON Upholsterer . . . As W. Young has had the entire management of Mr. Scythe's Upholstery business ever since its commencement, the public may depend that the same due attention as formerly will be paid to the orders of the employers.

This partnership was dissolved in 1787, and in 1789 Young's shop was for sale. William Lamb, Scyth's old partner, continued in business moving to a new ware-room in 1787, and to complete this dynastic thread, an advertisement was placed in 1789 for upholstery and cabinet goods by John Baillie 'who for twenty past has superintended Mr. Lamb's upholstery business' and is now partner with 'A. McKinnon, late cabinet foreman in the most fashionable and extensive manufactories in London and Edinburgh'.

A further example of the worth of these advertisements is that some light can now finally be thrown on the early career of a figure who has to some extent always puzzled furniture historians. In 1752 it was announced that

ALEXANDER SCHAW, CULLEN and SMITH, Upholsterers and Cabinet makers from London, at the Golden Plough in the Luckenbooths, Edinburgh, to make and sell all sorts of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, at the most resonable rates.

The significance of this advertisement is that it ends,

N.B. The above J. Cullen having been for these last sixteen Years with Mr. Bradshaw Upholsterer and Cabinet maker in Soho, London; and for several Years past has been the principle Manager of his whole trade; Ladies and Noblemen, Gentlemen and others who will please to favour us with their commands, may be sure of having them executed in the very best Manner and in a Taste never before practised in Scotland, being the most modern now in Vogue in London and Paris.

Cullen was busy again in 1754 when it was announced that

several of the principal Wrights in Edinburgh have entered into a Copartnery with Mr. James Cullen Upholster from London, for carrying on CABINET, JOINER and MIRROR GLASS WORK, and also to provide all Necessaries for FUNERALS, both in Town and Country; For these purposes they have taken a large Warehouse in Carruberr's Close (Fig. 3).

This company survived under various slightly different names until 1759, when 'JAMES CULLEN, one of the Edinburgh Upholstery Company, and Manager thereof, going from hence to settle in London, occasioned the Dissolution of that Company'. A further advertisement states that

The Goods were divided into as many Lots as there were shares in the Company; the Proprietors of each share drew a lot, and the one drawn by James Cullen was purchased by Alexander Peter, George Stevenson and James Brown, all members of the Foresaid Company,

and was duly sold. Peter then announced in the *Edinburgh Chronicle* that his

goods and cabinet work is removed from the Edinburgh Upholstery Warehouse . . . to the above wareroom [his own, in the Writer's Court] he having no more to do with the new Company.

The Company up to this time seems to have been no more than a commercial outlet for goods, under Cullen's auspices (although it was carrying out undertaking), and so would merely have been a complementary feature to Peter's personal ware-rooms. However in its new form under the management of John Peat, Company Clerk, it continued, moving in 1773 to Miln's Square where the warehouse and stock were finally sold in 1776. Cullen had meantime returned to London, where he had

taken the warehouse and workshops, belonging to Mr. William Bradshaw, and lately possessed by him, in Greek Street, Soho Square, London, where the business is to be carried on as formerly . . . and as Mr. Cullen was so happy while here, as to meet with encouragement from many of the nobility and gentry of this part of the Kingdom, he takes this public method (being the only one in his power) to acknowledge their generosity and kindness, and to assure them that he shall always think gratefully of it, and make it his study to serve everyone well and expeditiously, who shall please to honour him with their commands, for any goods wanted from London, in his way.

Cullen was a master of the servile tone generally adopted by eighteenth-century craftsmen. A final link with him comes in 1765 when William Launie, at the French Bed and Sofa, declares that he 'has for several years acted as foreman to Mr. Cullen of London, whose abilities are well known in this place'.

These excerpts provide no more than an anthology of the dealings of some of the cabinet makers and upholsterers active in Edinburgh during this period, but have hopefully given some outline of the character of the trade. Finally, however, it seems appropriate to turn away from the Masters and examine their Journeymen, who towards the end of the century became increasingly vociferous throughout the country. In the *Edinburgh Advertiser* of the 26 May 1778 it was announced that the Journeymen Wrights and Masons of Edinburgh had

entered into unlawful combinations, to procure an increase in their wages [and] it appeared that Journeymen Wrights and Masons who are either not connected in such combinations, or who have been improperly induced to enter into the same, would willingly return to their duty, but were intimidated thereon by the threats of their bretheren . . . the person or persons so disturbing them shall be prosecuted according to law.

A heated debate ensued in the press with factions supporting either side, and on the 17 June in the *Caledonian Mercury* the General Society of Journeymen Cabinet Makers, Joiners and Carvers in and about Edinburgh took the radical step of establishing 'a Manufactory of all manner of CABINET and CHAIR WORK, where the variety of the neatest and newest patterns of every article may be had'. They also thanked their

Brethren through the Kingdom . . . for their attention given to them on this occasion [and] . . . hope that the Brethren will still keep out of town, till matters are settled.

Matters must have been settled as news of the struggle eventually disappears, but strangely no resolution seems to have been announced in the papers. Nevertheless this display of solidarity did persuade the Journeymen Apprentices to the Barbers and Hairdressers of Edinburgh and its suburbs to 'resolve to free ourselves from that slavish and sinful practise' of having to work on the Lord's Day⁹ and the Cooks and Cooksmaids did likewise.¹⁰ In 1784 Dundee was experiencing the same turmoil, only now, as viewed from Edinburgh, it is possible to see the methods used by the Masters to attempt to break these strikes. On 18 May the following advertisement appeared in the *Edinburgh Advertiser*:

WANTED JOURNEYMEN WRIGHTS, For House and Cabinet Work — Whereas, there are several large buildings presently carrying on in Dundee, and, in respect, there are not a sufficient number of Journeymen Wrights for House and Cabinet Work in Dundee, necessary for executing the demands of such work; these are therefore intimating to Journeymen Wrights, that, upon their repairing to Dundee, they will meet with proper encouragement.

The Journeymen Wrights of Dundee countered this comprehensively, and at length, in the *Caledonian Mercury* of 19 May, viz.:

[the Masters] seemed so much in a hurry that they forgot to carry with them the most essential part of the story, what is that we commonly call the TRUTH . . . we have a sufficient number of hands . . . the wages . . . is very small . . . several of the Masters are either unwilling or unable to pay us . . . several of the Masters are generous enough to pay some Journeymen with half the wages they draw for them — every Wright will understand what we mean by this . . .

Likewise in 1788 contrasting notices were placed in the Edinburgh press from the Masters¹¹ and Journeymen¹² in Newcastle, and a notice in the *Caledonian Mercury* of 12 July 1786 complaining of 'a very great scarcity of Good Workmen in the Cabinet and Joiners line' in Dublin may reflect a similar dispute. The answer to these disputes or apparent answer, is hinted at in an advertisement, placed on 18 August 1787 in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* for the *Cabinet-Makers' London Book of Prices*. Eighteen years later Edinburgh was to have its own Book of Prices.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank the staff of the National Library of Scotland for patiently providing an endless stream of newspapers, and David Jones for his comments and advice in the preparation of this article.

The Trustees of the National Library of Scotland granted permission to illustrate the five newspaper advertisements.

REFERENCES

1. Mary Craig, *The Scottish Periodical Press 1750-1789* (Edinburgh, 1931), p. 82.
2. Unless individually noted all exact references can be found in the Appendix, which is arranged alphabetically, by looking up the tradesman and then the relevant year.
3. The Edinburgh Upholstery Company. *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 9 June 1760.
4. *Ibid.*, 30 July 1774.
5. *Ibid.*, 14 May 1774.
6. In 1778 there were twenty-five advertisements for auctions in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* during May, and ten in the *Caledonian Mercury* during April. This does not however reflect any appreciable increase in auctions generally.
7. *Edinburgh Advertiser*, 20 March 1764.
8. In 1785 Robert Wilson made 'all sorts of plain and variegated cabinet work', and he too subscribed to the *Drawing Book*.
9. *Caledonian Mercury*, 20 June 1778.
10. *Ibid.*, 24 June 1778.
11. *Ibid.*, 14 June 1788.
12. *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 19 June 1788.

APPENDIX

This appendix contains a complete list of advertisements placed by wrights or upholsters between 1739 and 1790 in either *The Edinburgh Evening Courant* (EEC), *The Caledonian Mercury* (CM), *The Edinburgh Advertiser* (EA), or *The Edinburgh Chronicle* (ECh). All the newspapers consulted were in the National Library of Scotland and this survey is as comprehensive as holdings allow. Where the same paper and year appear more than once under a single name the text of the advertisement has changed. All addresses refer to Edinburgh unless otherwise stated.

SOS refers to a total Sale of Stock.

COA refers to a Change of Address.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| AITKEN, James London | CM 1789 Sep 12, 19, 26, Oct 10 — COA |
| EEC 1787 Feb 15 Looking glass sale | Adam's Sq., South Bridge |
| ALISON, Colin Wright, Assembly close | EEC 1789 Sept 19, 26 |
| EEC 1746 May 5, 6, 8 | BELL, Robert Bristo St |
| ALLEN, F. Cabinet maker, Begbie's Land, | CM 1771 Apr 6, 8 |
| West Bow | EA 1771 Apr 5 — SOS (deceased) see |
| EEC 1789 May 23 | also MILN and BELL |
| ANDERSON, Daniel Carver (from London), | BEVERLY, Alexander Upholsterer, below |
| 32 Nicholson's St | Blackfriars wynd |
| CMI 1783 Oct 18 | CM 1761 May 23 |
| EEC 1779 Oct 2 — now in partnership | CM 1765 May 29, Jun 1 — with |
| with MYLNE | GORDON, Lewis — COA near the |
| ANDERSON and FORREST Upholsterers, | Tron Church |
| Blackfriars wynd | EEC 1765 Jun 1 |
| CM 1766 Jan 27 | EA 1765 May 31 |
| ANDERSON, James and William Cabinet | CM 1768 Nov 30 — partnership |
| chair makers, Rose St | dissolved |
| EEC 1789 Apr 11 | EEC 1768 Nov 30 |
| BALLIE, John Upholsterer, and | EA 1769 Mar 31 |
| McKINNON, A Cabinet maker, Chalmer's | CM 1769 May 20 — COA New Bridge St |
| close | EA 1769 May 23 |
| EEC 1789 Mar 28, Apr 2, Jun 6, 11, 13 | CM 1779 Feb 20 |
| EA 1789 Apr 3 | EEC 1779 Feb 15 |
| CM 1789 Mar 18, 28, Apr 2, Jun 6, 11, | BOWIE Wright and undertaker, Baxter's |
| 13 | wynd, Stirling |
| | CM 1778 Jun 29, Jul 6, 13 |

BRAIDWOOD, Francis Cabinet maker,
Lady Stair's close, Lawnmarket

- CM 1775 Aug 16
- CM 1776 Feb 3
- EA 1776 Feb 2, Apr 5
- EA 1783 Jun 24, Jul 8, 15, — new ware-
room in the Luckenbooths
- EEC 1783 Jun 21, Jul 2, 16
- CM 1783 July 5, 16
- CM 1784 Apr 24
- EEC 1784 Apr 10
- EA 1784 Apr 23, May 11
- EEC 1785 Feb 9, Mar 27
- CM 1785 Feb 18
- EA 1785 Feb 12
- EEC 1786 Apr 1
- CM 1786 Mar 29
- CM 1788 May 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, Jun 28
— with BRUCE Alexander
- EEC 1788 May 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 31,
Jul 5, 19, 21, 24, 26 — COA South
Bridge St
- EEC 1789 Jan 15, Apr 30, May 2, 9, 18,
30
- CM 1789 May 9
- EA 1789 May 8, 19, 29, Oct 20

BRODIE, Francis Wright and glass grinder,
Lawnmarket

- CM 1751 Nov 14, 18, 19
- CM 1754 Apr 22, 25, 29
- EEC 1754 Apr 23
- EEC 1754 May 20
- EEC 1754 May 23, 27, 28, 30, Jun 3, 6
- CM 1754 May 23, 27, 28, 30, Jun 3, 6
- EEC 1756 May 8, 11, 13, Jun 3
- CM 1756 May 11, 13, Jun 3
- EEC 1757 Oct 15
- EEC 1762 Mar 6, 11, 15
- CM 1762 Mar 8, 13, 17
- EEC 1766 Mar 3 — BRODIE AND
SON'S
- CM 1767 Mar 1
- EEC 1767 Jan 19 — FRA. AND WILL.
BRODIE'S
- CM 1767 Jan 17
- EEC 1769 Apr 22
- CM 1769 Apr 19
(Francis Brodie dies in 1782)
- EEC 1788 Apr 19, 21, 26
- EEC 1788 May 15, 17
- CM 1788 May 15, 17 — SOS (hanged)

BROUGH, John Cabinet maker and
upholster, No. 16 South Bridge

- CM 1788 Nov 6 — SOS (deceased)

BRUCE, Alexander — see BRAIDWOOD,
Francis

BRUCE, William Upholsterer and
undertaker, City Guard

- EEC 1769 Jun 19 — COA Clam Shell
Turnpike, Bell's wynd
- CM 1769 Jun 17
- EA 1769 Jun 20, 23
- CM 1771 May 11 — COA Dickson's
Close
- EA 1771 May 17
- EA 1772 Jun 24

BRUCE, William Upholsterer and
auctioneer, Fleshmarket close — probably
same as above

- EEC 1784 Apr 26
- CM 1784 Apr 26, May 1
- EEC 1784 May 15, 17 — selling Brodie's
stock
- CM 1788 May 15, 17
- EEC 1788 Nov 1 — selling Brough's stock
- CM 1788 Nov 6

BRUNTON, James Glass grinder, Chalmer's
close, Netherbow

- EA 1789 Feb 27 — SOS (deceased)

BRYDEN, Daniel Wright, Grassmarket

- EEC 1754 May 14 — SOS (deceased)

BUCHAN, Thomas Cabinet maker,
Libberton's wynd, Lawnmarket

- CM 1789 May 16
- EEC 1789 May 16, 18

BUTTER, Charles Wright and

BARCLAY Royal Exchange

- CM 1768 Jul 18, Nov 9, 16, Dec 7 —
partnership dissolved (for Butter also
see Ed. Up. Co.)
- EEC 1768 Jul 17, Dec 7

CADDELL, James Upholsterer and
undertaker (see also Young and Trotter),
Netherbow

- CM 1754 May 6
- EEC 1754 May 2
- CM 1756 Apr 17, 20, 22
- EEC 1756 Apr 24, 29, May 1
- CM 1766 Dec 22, 27 — in partnership
with HAMILTON, William and
RUSSEL, James
- EA 1766 Dec 26
- EEC 1767 Jan 3
- EA 1768 Jul 22, Sep 2 — partnership
with LAMB, William dissolved
- EEC 1768 Aug 20

- CM 1768 Aug 13
 CM 1769 Jun 17
 CM 1769 Nov 4 — deceased — business continued by MRS CADDELL
 EA 1770 Jun 1, 8 — who settles it on SCYTH, Robert
- CAITHEON, John Carver and gilder, Carubber's close
 CM 1765 Jun 8
- COUPER, William Upholsterer and undertaker, Blackfriar's wynd
 CM 1781 Mar 10
 EEC 1781 Mar 10, 12
- COUSTON, John Wright, Dunfermline
 CM 1762 Aug 11, 14, 16
 CM 1762 Dec 22, 25 — SOS (deceased)
 EEC 1762 Dec 24
- CULLEN, James Upholsterer and cabinet maker (from London)
 CM 1752 Aug 31 — with SCHAW, Alexander and SMITH
 CM 1754 Feb 7, Apr 18, May 2, 16 — founds the Edinburgh Upholstery Company with BUTTER, Charles, Carubber's close
 EEC 1754 Feb 7
 CM 1754 May 20, 27, Jun 13, 27, Jul 11, Oct 29, Nov 4, 5
 EEC 1754 May 21, 27, Jun 4, 11, 18, 25, Oct 28, 29, 31, Nov 7, 11, 12, 14
 CM 1755 Apr 28
 EEC 1755 Apr 29, May 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22
 CM 1759 Mar 15, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29 — Cullen returning to London
 EEC 1759 Mar 15, 17, 20, 24, 29 see Ed. Up. Co.
 EEC 1759 Jun 19, 21, 26 — taken the ware-room of William Bradshaw (his old master) in Greek St, Soho Sq., London
- DAWSON, John Carver, Millbank, Westminster, London
 EEC 1779 Jul 3 — Looking-glass sale
 CM 1779 Jul 3
- DUN, James Wright, Westport
 EEC 1769 Oct 11
 EEC 1789 Feb 28, May 11, 21 — COA Laurieston St
 EA 1789 Apr 10
 CM 1789 Jan 29, Feb 26, May 18, 25
 EA 1790 Jan 1 — SOS (deceased)
- DUPASQUIER, Leonard Carver and gilder, Prince's St (from Paris)
 CM 1775 Jun 5
 EEC 1775 Jun 3
 EA 1775 Jun 2
 CM 1779 Jul 24 — COA Crosswell High St
 EA 1779 Jul 27
 EA 1781 Nov 16 — COA Old Cess Office
- EDINBURGH UPHOLSTERY COMPANY — see CULLEN, James
 CM 1759 Mar 24, 27, 29, 31, Apr 3
 ECh 1759 Mar 24, 29
 EEC 1759 Mar 27, 29, 31, Apr 3, 5, 17
 ECh 1759 — see PETER, Alexander
 CM 1759 Jun 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20 — Edinburgh upholstery, Joiner and Glass Manufactory Company, John Peat clerk
 EEC 1759 Jun 9, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26
 ECh 1759 Jun 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28
 CM 1760 Jun 7, 11, Jul 19, 21
 EEC 1760 Jun 9, 11, Jul 19, 23
 EEC 1763 Apr 23, 27, 30, May 4, 7
 CM 1763 Apr 25, 27, 30, May 7
 CM 1764 Apr 2, 4, 7, 9
 CM 1769 Feb 8, 11, 25, Mar 1, 4 — new warehouse in Carrubber's close
 EEC 1769 Mar 4
 EA 1769 Feb 14, 21, 24
 EEC 1772 May 6, 9
 EA 1772 May 1, 5, 8
 EEC 1773 Jun 7, 12, 19 — COA Miln's Sq.
 CM 1773 Jun 7, 9, 14
 EEC 1774 Apr 20, 23, 30, Jul 23, 27, Nov 12, 14
 CM 1774 Apr 20, 23, 30, Jul 23, Nov 14
 EEC 1776 Mar 6, 13, May 22 — SOS
 CM 1776 Mar 6, 13, May 22
- FARQUHARSON, Henry Carver and gilder, New Bridge, High St
 CM 1783 Aug 6
 EA 1783 Jul 1, 5
 EA 1784 May 21
 CM 1785 May 23, Jun 1
 EEC 1785 May 21
 EA 1785 May 24, Jun 3
- FISHER, Mrs Cabinet maker, Lady Stairs close, Lawnmarket
 CM 1756 May 18 — SOS (closing)

FRASER, John Wright and cabinet maker,
The Windmill

EEC 1759 Jun 23

GORDON, Lewis Upholsterer, near the
Tron Church, High St 1765, 1768 — see

Beverly, Alexander

CM 1769 Apr 12

EA 1769 Apr 14

EEC 1774 Mar 26 deceased — Mrs
Gordon continues

CM 1774 Mar 26

EC 1774 Apr 4, 6 — partnership with
Grant, Charles had been dissolved in
February

CM 1774 Apr 4, 6

EEC 1774 May 14, 16, Jun 22, — Mrs
Gordon continues with Reid, Patrick
staying as foreman

CM 1774 May 14, 16, Jun 22, Aug 10

EEC 1775 Feb 1

EEC 1775 Feb 25, Apr 1, 29 — SOS —
Charles Grant selling the timber

CM 1775 Feb 25, Apr 1

EA 1775 Feb 24

HAY, Robert Cabinet maker, Edinburgh
Vendue, Crosswell

EEC 1789 May 9

HUME, William Cabinet maker, City Guard
(member of the Dalkeith Carpet Manufactory)

CM 1763 Apr 4, 9, 18

EEC 1789 Apr 24 — SOS (deceased)

JAMESON, John Wright and Turner, Mary
King's close, High St

EEC 1754 Jun 11, 25

KAY, James Cabinet maker, Stephen Law's
close, City Guard

CM 1754 Jun 11, 13

KEIR, George Wright, Colqhoun's Land,
The Pleasants

CM 1749 Apr 13, 20, 24 — SOS (closing)

KINNEAR, David Wright, Kirkgate, South
Leith

EA 1787 Aug 7 — SOS (deceased)

LAMB, William Upholsterer, Chalmer's
close, High St (from London)

CM 1768 Jul 2, 16 — late partner with
James Caddell

EA 1768 Jul 26

EEC 1768 Aug 10

CM 1768 Aug 6, 27

EA 1768 Aug 9, 23, Nov 15

EA 1768 Oct 25, Nov 18

CM 1768 Oct 31, Nov 26

EA 1769 Jan 31, Feb 14 — COA
Blackfriar's wynd, High St

EEC 1769 Feb 1, 22

CM 1769 Jan 28, Feb 18

CM 1769 Jun 21, Nov 22, Dec 6

EA 1769 Nov 17, 28

CM 1771 Apr 22, 29 — partner with
Scyth, Robert

EA 1771 Apr 26

EEC 1774 May 2 — dissolving
partnership

CM 1774 Apr 30, May 4

EEC 1774 Jun 22, 27

CM 1774 Jun 22, 25

EEC 1775 May 6

EA 1775 May 2

CM 1775 May 3

CM 1787 Dec 29 — COA South
Bridge St

EEC 1787 Dec 29

LAUNIE, William Upholsterer and
undertaker, Libberton's wynd (from London)

CM 1765 Dec 18, 21

CM 1778 Apr 18 — partnership with
Lind dissolved

CM 1784 Aug 7 — COA Milne's Sq.

EEC 1784 Aug 7

EA 1784 Aug 6

LITTLE, David Cabinet maker, Dalkeith
(late partner of Hogg)

EEC 1773 Feb 27

MILN and BELL Cabinet makers, Bristo St

CM 1769 Jan 2 — partnership dissolved

MOFFAT, William Wright, Nether Bow-
well

CM 1771 Mar 11 — Looking glass sale
(closing)

MURRAY, John Looking-glass
manufactory, Fountainwell, Netherbow

CM 1754 May 7, 13, 14, 21, 23, 28

EEC 1754 May 27, 21, 23, 28

MURRAY, William Upholsterer,
Luckenbooths

CM 1750 Aug 28, Sept 4, 11

CM 1751 Jul 18, 30, Aug 1

CM 1752 Feb 18, 25, Mar 3, 10, 17

CM 1753 Feb 27, Mar 6, 20

CM 1754 Jun 13, 18, 20 — in partnership
with John Murray — see above

EEC 1754 Jun 13

CM 1766 Feb 3 — SOS (deceased)

PALMER, Alexander Wright and picture
framer, Potter-row

CM 1763 Apr 25

PETER, Alexander Cabinet maker,
Advocate's close

EEC 1757 Dec 6, 17

CM 1758 Jun 6, 10 — COA Horse wynd,
Cowgate

CM 1759 Apr 28 — Writer's court as well

ECh 1759 Apr 26, 28 — sale of part of his
stock of the Ed.Up.Co

ECh 1760 Jan 26

EEC 1772 Feb 17, May 6, Jul 20 — selling
business

PUNSHON, John Upholsterer, The Side,
Newcastle

CM 1742 Dec 20

REOCH, William Looking-glass
manufactory, Carruber's close

EEC 1750 Nov 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15, Dec 25

CM 1750 Nov 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15

CM 1751 Nov 18, 19, 21

EEC 1852 May 21, 26, 28

EEC 1755 May 12, 13, 15, 27, 29

EEC 1764 Feb 20, 25

EA 1764 Feb 21

CM 1764 Feb 20, 22, 25

CM 1774 May 23, 25, 28, — SOS
(closing)

ROE, George Upholsterer, Cant's close

CM 1746 May 6

RUSSELL, James Upholsterer, Fountainwell

CM 1766 Feb 24 — partnership with
Gillespie dissolved
see also Caddell, J

EEC 1789 Feb 23 — shop for sale, West
Port

EA 1789 Feb 20, 27

EEC 1789 Aug 10 — deceased

SCHAW, John and ANDERSON Cabinet
factory, Tolbooth wynd, Canongate

CM 1759 May 12, 17, 22, 26, 28 —
partnership dissolving (see below)

SCHAW, John Upholsterer, Luckenbooths

CM 1761 Mar 30, Apr 4, 8, 13, May 2, 6
— SOS (closing)

SCYTH, Robert Upholsterer

1770 see Caddell

1771 see Lamb

EEC 1774 May 21, 23, 28 Jun 6, 22 —
COA New Bridge

CM 1774 May 21, 23, Jun 8, 25, 27

EEC 1774 Aug 6, 10

CM 1774 Aug 6, 10

EEC 1775 May 20, 31 — also Cant's close
manufactory

CM 1775 May 20, Jun 3

CM 1776 Jun 3, 8

EEC 1776 Jun 1

CM 1777 Aug 2

EEC 1777 Aug 2

EA 1778 May 12

CM 1778 May 9, 20

EEC 1778 May 16

CM 1779 May 29, Jun 12

EEC 1779 Jun 2, 5

EA 1779 Jun 4, 18

CM 1782 Jun 13

EEC 1782 Jun 13

EA 1782 Jun 16

CM 1783 May 17, 19

EA 1783 May 20

EEC 1783 May 19, 21

CM 1784 Feb 7, 11, 14, 21, 25, 28, Mar
3, 6, 10, May 10 — SOS (deceased)

EEC 1784 Feb 9, 11, 14, 18, 21, 23, Mar
1, 8, 10, May 10

EA 1784 Feb 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, Mar 2,
12

see Young, William

SINCLAIR, Alexander Upholsterer,
Greenock

EEC 1787 Aug 30

SMITH, A Upholsterer and cabinet maker,
No. 8 Shakespear's Sq (from Kelso)

CM 1781 Apr 2

EEC 1781 Apr 7

TAYLOR, William Upholsterer, Libertoun's
wynd, Lawnmarket

CM 1742 May 27

THOMPSON, John Carver and gilder,
Cowgate

EEC 1774 Jul 11, 13

CM 1774 Jul 16

CM 1785 May 28

WILLIAMSON, Carver, London

EEC 1779 Jul 3 — Looking-glass sale

CM 1779 Jul 3

WILSON, Robert Turner, Inglis's Land,
Playhouse close

EEC 1774 Mar 23

WILSON, Robert Cabinet maker and
upholsterer, Leith wynd

EEC 1785 Jun 1, 8

- CM 1785 Jun 4, 11
 EA 1785 May 31, Jun 3
 EEC 1786 Apr 26 — COA Writer's court,
 Luckenbooths
 CM 1786 Apr 22, May 13
 YOUNG, Robert and TROTTER,
 Thomas Upholsterers, Luckenbooths
 CM 1748 Feb 29, Mar 7
 EEC 1748 May 17, 19
 EEC 1750 Mar 22, Apr 3, 9 May 1, 8, 15
 CM 1750 Apr 12, 19, 26, May 17, 24, 31
 EEC 1750 Nov 12, 20, 22, 26
 CM 1750 Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20
 EEC 1752 Jun 8, 25 — with Caddell,
 James (undertaking)
 CM 1752 Jun 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 22, 23
 EEC 1753 Feb 15, 19
 CM 1753 Feb 15, 19, 20, 27
 EEC 1753 May 15, 28, 29, 31, Nov 15,
 Dec 24
 CM 1756 Mar 25
 CM 1760 Nov 24
 EEC 1764 Feb 27, Mar 10 — with Cheap
 (carpet manufactory)
 EA 1764 Feb 28
 EEC 1765 Mar 9
 CM 1765 Mar 9, 30, Jul 8, 13
 EA 1765 Mar 12, Apr 2, Jul 9, 12
 CM 1766 Aug 20
 CM 1767 Feb 11
 CM 1769 Apr 19
 EA 1769 Apr 14
 EA 1772 Sep 15 — plus new Prince's St
 cabinet warehouse (now
 Upholsterers and Cabinet Makers)
 EA 1773 Mar 2, Oct 8
 EEC 1773 Feb 20, May 31, Jul 21, Aug
 28, Oct 6
 CM 1773 Mar 31, Jul 19, Aug 28, Oct 6
 EEC 1774 May 28
 CM 1774 Apr 13, May 25
 CM 1775 Jul 15
 EEC 1775 May 10, Jul 12
 EA 1775 May 5
 CM 1780 May 3
 CM 1782 Apr 8
 EA 1789 May 1
 YOUNG, William Wright, Cowgate
 EEC 1750 Sep 11
 EEC 1753 Dec 18
 YOUNG, William Upholsterer, Cant's close
 EEC 1784 Apr 10 — succeeds to Robert
 Scyth, and now in partnership with
 Richardson, John
 EEC 1784 May 29 — COA Bridge St
 EEC 1787 Sep 6 — partnership dissolved
 CM 1787 Sep 6
 CM 1789 Mar 28 — shop for sale