

**DESCRIPTION OF CEREMONIAL ON THE
OCCASION OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION
STONE OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, IN
GEORGE SQUARE, GLASGOW, ON 6TH
OCTOBER, 1883, WITH APPENDIX CONTAINING
A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE EARLIER
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS OF THE CITY**

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Description of Ceremonial on the Occasion of Laying the Foundation Stone of the Municipal Buildings, in George Square, Glasgow, on 6th October, 1883, with Appendix Containing a Historical Sketch of the Earlier Municipal Buildings of the City by Various

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VARIOUS

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MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, GEORGE SQUARE, GLASGOW.

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Prefatory Note.



AFTER the public Demonstration of 6th October, 1883, in connection with laying the Foundation Stone of the new Glasgow Municipal Buildings in George Square, a very general desire was expressed that a suitable and permanent record of that interesting event should be prepared. The General Municipal Buildings Committee of the Town Council of that date remitted to a Sub-Committee of their number to take the necessary steps for carrying this desire into effect. This Sub-Committee consisted of the Hon. John Ure, Lord Provost; Bailie George Jackson,* and Councillor John Laing, Master of Works, by whom, it may here be mentioned, the arrangements leading up to the Demonstration were devised and carried out. Under the remit, Mr. John Carrick, City Architect, and Mr. James Nicol, City Chamberlain, were associated with the Sub-Committee. In accordance with their instructions, the following account of the day's proceedings has been drawn up, largely on the lines of the full and graphic reports of the Newspaper press of the day.

In an appendix is given a historical review of the earlier Municipal Buildings of Glasgow, which the Committee believe will be found interesting to the citizens.

CITY CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,
GLASGOW, OCTOBER, 1885.

* Since this record was put in type Bailie Jackson has passed away. He died on 29th August, 1885, at the early age of 44. His colleagues have to state that to the deceased more than to any other individual is due the success which attended the great ceremonial of 6th October, 1883.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

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GLASGOW
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
GEORGE SQUARE.

COMMUNITIES possessed of burghal powers and privileges have from the earliest times provided commodious buildings with more or less of architectural dignity for the administration of justice and the conducting of local government. In every Scottish burgh, whether ancient or modern, the Tolbooth or Burgh Hall forms a conspicuous architectural feature of the district, and this is more especially the case when the town happens also to be the seat of the Court of Justiciary. The cities and boroughs of England and Ireland have paid the same homage to constituted authority; on the Continent the *Hotel de Ville* generally ranks with the finest public buildings; and the leading municipalities of the United States, Canada, and the more prosperous British dependencies may all be said to have eclipsed the mother-country in this respect. In Glasgow the marvellously rapid growth of our population, the greatly-extended sweep of our commerce, and the vast increase in our material resources during the present century, have necessitated a corresponding expansion of everything relating to local government. In proof of this it may only be mentioned that the Municipal Buildings now in course of construction are the fourth in order which have been erected within the memory of living citizens—an experience unknown to any other town within the United Kingdom. It is to be hoped that our new Town Halls