

**HISTORICAL
MEMORANDA, CHARTERS,
DOCUMENTS, AND
EXTRACTS. 1396-1848**

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Historical Memoranda, Charters, Documents, and Extracts. 1396-1848 by Jame F. Firth

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JAME F. FIRTH

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Coopers Company, London.

HISTORICAL MEMORANDA,
CHARTERS, DOCUMENTS, AND
EXTRACTS,

FROM
THE RECORDS OF THE CORPORATION
AND
THE BOOKS OF THE COMPANY.

1396 — 1848.

LONDON

1848.

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Jackson fund

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DEDICATED
TO
THE WARDENS, COURT OF ASSISTANTS, AND LIVERY
OF
THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF COOPERS
LONDON

BY THEIR OBLIGED FRIEND AND BROTHER

JAMES F. FIRTH.

GILDRHALL,
JUNE, 1948.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and government operations. The text notes that such records are crucial for identifying trends, detecting anomalies, and ensuring that resources are used efficiently and effectively.

2. The second part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data collection and analysis. It highlights that while digital tools have significantly improved the speed and accuracy of data processing, they also introduce new risks, such as data breaches and system downtime. The document suggests that organizations should invest in robust cybersecurity measures and regular data backups to mitigate these risks. Additionally, it stresses the need for ongoing training and education for staff to ensure they are equipped to handle the complexities of modern data management systems.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the importance of data privacy and security. It discusses the various legal frameworks, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), which impose strict requirements on how personal data is collected, stored, and shared. The text advises organizations to conduct regular privacy audits and to implement strong data protection policies that align with these regulations. It also emphasizes the importance of obtaining explicit consent from individuals before collecting their data and providing them with clear information about how their data will be used.

4. The fourth part of the document explores the role of data in decision-making and strategic planning. It argues that data-driven insights are essential for identifying opportunities, assessing risks, and making informed decisions. The text suggests that organizations should invest in advanced analytics tools and techniques, such as predictive modeling and machine learning, to extract meaningful insights from their data. It also emphasizes the importance of fostering a data-driven culture within the organization, where employees are encouraged to use data to inform their work and to share their findings with colleagues.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of data governance and compliance. It defines data governance as the framework of policies, procedures, and standards that ensure the effective and efficient use of data. The text suggests that organizations should establish a clear data governance framework that covers all aspects of data management, from data collection and storage to data sharing and disposal. It also emphasizes the importance of regular compliance audits to ensure that the organization is meeting all applicable laws and regulations.

6. The sixth part of the document addresses the issue of data interoperability and integration. It notes that many organizations face challenges in sharing and integrating data from different systems and departments. The text suggests that organizations should invest in data integration tools and platforms that facilitate seamless data exchange and collaboration. It also emphasizes the importance of establishing clear data sharing protocols and standards to ensure that data is shared in a consistent and secure manner.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the importance of data ethics and transparency. It argues that organizations have a responsibility to use data ethically and to be transparent about their data practices. The text suggests that organizations should establish clear data ethics guidelines and to provide regular updates to the public about their data practices. It also emphasizes the importance of involving stakeholders, such as customers and employees, in the development of data policies and procedures.

8. The eighth part of the document addresses the issue of data ownership and control. It discusses the various legal and ethical considerations surrounding data ownership and control, particularly in the context of cloud services and data sharing. The text suggests that organizations should carefully review their data ownership and control agreements and to ensure that they are protecting their rights and interests. It also emphasizes the importance of providing individuals with control over their own data, including the ability to access, update, and delete their information.

9. The ninth part of the document discusses the importance of data security and risk management. It notes that data is a valuable asset for many organizations, and it is essential to take steps to protect it from theft, loss, and damage. The text suggests that organizations should conduct regular risk assessments and to implement strong security measures, such as encryption and access controls, to protect their data. It also emphasizes the importance of having a clear incident response plan in place to address any security breaches or data loss events.

10. The tenth part of the document discusses the importance of data literacy and skills development. It argues that as the volume and complexity of data continue to grow, it is essential for individuals to have the skills and knowledge to effectively analyze and interpret data. The text suggests that organizations should invest in data literacy training and education for their employees, focusing on areas such as data visualization, data analysis, and data storytelling. It also emphasizes the importance of fostering a culture of continuous learning and development, where individuals are encouraged to stay up-to-date on the latest data trends and technologies.

COOPERS COMPANY.

IT is difficult to assign a correct date to the origin of the mystery or fellowship of Coopers : there is, however, no doubt but that at a very early period the occupiers of trades generally united themselves, according to their respective callings, into associations for their protection and support ; and that in course of time they became incorporated into guilds or fraternities, in many instances originally by the authority of the City of London, in others by grants and charters from the crown.

It is evident from the following memoranda that the Coopers were one of the early mysteries of the City of London.

In 1396, the " good men of the mystery of Coopers " applied to the mayor and aldermen of London for an ordinance restraining those of the mystery from making vessels for beer or other liquors out of oil or soap tuns.

In 1409, they made a further application to the mayor and aldermen ; upon which it was ordained that no one of the mystery of Coopers, living within the liberty of the city, should make any wooden vessels in which any liquor ought to be put, unless of pure and entire wood.

In 1420, an ordinance was made requiring each Cooper to have his own mark or sign, made of iron, to mark all the barrels or kilderkins he made, a copy of which mark or figure was to be entered of record at the Guildhall.

In 1422, their wardens were sworn into office before the mayor and aldermen.

In 1428, the " wardens and good men of the mystery " presented a petition to the mayor, aldermen, and commons for a further ordinance for the regulation of the trade ; which was agreed to and passed.

In 1440, they applied for further powers for the regulation of the trade and punishment of offenders ; which was in like manner complied with.

In 1457, the mayor and aldermen ordered defective casks to be burnt ; and passed an ordinance that all vessels of unclean and sappy timber, or lacking their just measure, should be burnt.

In 1488, the wardens and other good men of the mistery applied to the mayor and aldermen for extended rules and orders for the better government of the trade and the regulation of their members ; which were confirmed and granted.

And in 1501, by charter of King Henry VII. dated the 29th of April in the 16th year of his reign, under writ of privy seal and by the authority of Parliament, the Company was incorporated a fraternity or gild for ever ; the charter describing them at that time as " Citizens and Coopers of the art and mistery of Coopers of the City of London."

By this charter the master, wardens, and commonalty of the freemen were yearly, on Sunday next before Pentecost, to elect and make from amongst themselves one master and two wardens or keepers, to superintend, rule, and govern the mistery and commonalty. It also gave them power to make laws and statutes for the scrutiny, correction, and governance of all freemen of the city using the trade, as well as for amending defects, so as to be of the greatest use to the common people.

In a subsequent charter of the 30th August, 1662, 13th of Charles II., being the governing charter, the above is recited, and all the powers and privileges therein contained are ratified and confirmed, save and except such parts as were then otherwise granted, altered, added, or supplied ; and by this the election for master and wardens is appointed to take place yearly on the Monday next before the Feast of Pentecost.

As the documents on which the foregoing statement is founded supply some curious information, they will now be given at length in their original form.

I. 6 April, 1396, 19 Rich. II. Ordinance by the Mayor and Aldermen.

Ordinacio facta pro Coupers, qils de dit mister' ne facent vesselx dez tonelx doyle, sope, & autres choses.

Sexto die Aprilis anno regni regis Ricardi secundi decimo nono : probi hōies mister' de Coupers, London, porrexerunt Maiori & Aldermannis quandam billam tenorem infrascriptum continentem.

A tres honorables & sages seignurs Maire Recordour & Aldermans de la Citee de Londres supplient tres humblement les bones gentz del mistier des Coupers de Londres, qe come diverses persones du dit mistier achatent tonelx doyle sope barell' & tonclx, pur wood des queux ils fount barell' pur cervoise & autres licours, les queux sont de tiel odour q; le cervoise ou licour mys dedeins est perduz & corrupt, as gūntz damages auxi bien de braceours come autres comuners du d'ce citee & tres gūnt esclaundre des bones gentz du dit mistier : Et auxi facent tonelx vates kemelyncs & autres vesseux appartenantz a braceours de meresme qest faux & deceyvable, par queux sovent les braceours sont descieux & out gūnt perde & damage, et sovent out pleynes en le court de viscountz v's gentz du dite mistier, a gūnt desclaundre de mesme mistier ; et ascuns du dite mistier qant ils sont trovez en defaute ne voilent estre justifieez, mes usent faire vesseux de tiel faux meresme de jour en autre a gūnt disceit & damage del cōe poeple : Qe plese as voz treshonorables & tressages siçs de gūnter as gardeyns du dite mistier & leur successours qils puissent visiter les shoppes & mesons des gentz du dite mistier & surveier lo^r meresme & vesselx, qils soient bones & covenables, & ceux qe sont faux & desceyvablement faite amesner a Guyhall pur profit del chambre & la estre condempnez : et q; celuy q; soit trove en defaute qil paie al primer defaute vj^s viij^d, ceste assavoir la moite al chambre & lautre moyte au dite mistier : et al seconde defaute xiiij^s iiij^d en la fourme avantd'ce : et al tierce defaute xx^s en