

Names of Old Time Occupations

*Compiled by Daniel H. Burrows
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Accomptant	Accountant	Dresser	A surgeon's assistant in a hospital
Almoner	Giver of charity to the needy		
Amanuensis	Secretary or stenographer	Drover	One who drives cattle, sheep, etc. to market
Artificer	A soldier mechanic who does repairs		
Bailie	Bailiff	Duffer	Peddler
Boniface	Keeper of an inn	Factor	Agent, commission merchant; one who acts or transacts business for another; Scottish steward or bailiff of an estate
Brazier	One who works with brass		
Brewster	Beer manufacturer		
Brightsmith	Metal Worker		
Caulker	One who filled up cracks (in ships or windows)	Farrier	A blacksmith, one who shoes horses
Chaisemaker	Carriage maker	Faulkner	Falconer
Chandler	Dealer or trader; one who makes or sells candles; retailer of groceries	Fell monger	One who removes hair or wool from hides in preparation for leather making
Chiffonnier	Wig maker	Fletcher	One who made bows and arrows
Clark	Clerk		
Clerk	Clergyman, cleric	Fuller	One who fulls cloth; one who shrinks and thickens woolen cloth by moistening, heating, and pressing; one who cleans and finishes cloth
Cohen	Priest		
Collier	Coal miner		
Colporteur	Peddler of books		
Cooper	One who makes or repairs vessels made of staves & hoops, such as casks, barrels, tubs, etc.	Gaoler	A keeper of the goal, a jailer
		Glazier	Window glassman
		Hacker	Maker of hoes
Cordwainer	Shoemaker, originally any leather worker using leather from Cordova/Cordoba in Spain	Hatcheler	One who combed out flax
		Haymonger	Dealer in hay
		Hayward	Keeper of fences
Costermonger	Peddler of fruits and vegetables	Higgler	Itinerant peddler
Crocker	Potter	Hillier	Roof tiler
Crowner	Coroner	Hind	A farm laborer
Currier	One who dresses the coat of a horse with a curry comb	Holster	A groomer of horses
		Hooker	Reaper
Docker	Stevedore, dock worker who loads and unloads cargo	Hooper	One who made hoops for casks and barrels
Dowser	One who finds water using a rod or witching stick	Huckster	Sells small wares
		Husbandman	A farmer who cultivated the land
Draper	A dealer in dry goods		
Drayman	One who drives a long strong cart without fixed sides for carrying heavy loads	Journeyman	One who had served his apprenticeship and mastered his craft
		Joyner/Joiner	A skilled carpenter

Keeler	Bargeman	Snobscat/Snob	One who repaired shoes
Kempster	Wool comber	Sorter	Tailor
Lardner	Keeper of the cupboard	Spinster	A woman who spins or an unmarried woman
Lavender	Washer woman	Spurrer	Maker of spurs
Lederer	Leather maker	Squire	Country gentleman; farm owner; justice of peace
Leech	Physician	Stuff gown	Junior barrister
Longshoreman	Stevedore	Stuff gownsman	Junior barrister
Lormer	Maker of horse gear	Supercargo	Officer on merchant ship who is in charge of cargo and the commercial concerns of the ship
Malender	Farmer	Tanner	One who tans (cures) animal hides into leather
Maltster	Brewer	Tapley	One who puts the tap in an ale cask
Manciple	A steward	Tasker	Reaper
Mason	Bricklayer	Teamster	One who drives a team for hauling
Mintmaster	One who issued local currency	Thatcher	Roofer
Monger	Seller of goods (ale, fish)	Tide waiter	Customs inspector
Muleskinner	Teamster	Tinker	An itinerant tin pot and pan seller and repairman
Neatherder	Herds cows	Tipstaff	Policeman
Ordinary Keeper	Innkeeper with fixed prices	Travers	Toll bridge collector
Pattern Maker	A maker of a clog shod with an iron ring. A clog was a wooden pole with a pattern cut into the end	Tucker	Cleaner of cloth goods
Peregrinator	Itinerant wanderer	Turner	A person who turns wood on a lathe into spindles
Peruker	A wig maker	Victualer	A tavern keeper, or one who provides an army, navy, or ship with food supplies
Pettifogger	A shyster lawyer	Vulcan	Blacksmith
Pigman	Crockery dealer	Wagoner	Teamster not for hire
Plumber	One who applied sheet lead for roofing and set lead frames for plain or stained glass windows.	Wainwright	Wagon maker
Porter	Door keeper	Waiter	Customs officer or tide waiter; one who waited on the tide to collect duty on goods brought in
Puddler	Wrought iron worker	Webster	Operator of looms
Quarrier	Quarry worker	Wharfinger	Owner of a wharf
Rigger	Hoist tackle worker	Wheelwright	One who made or repaired wheels; wheeled carriages, etc.
Ripper	Seller of fish	Whitesmith	Tinsmith; worker of iron who finishes or polishes the work
Roper	Maker of rope or nets	Wright	Workman, especially a construction worker
Saddler	One who makes, repairs or sells saddles or other furnishings for horses	Yeoman	Farmer who owns his own land
Sawbones	Physician		
Sawyer	One who saws; carpenter		
Schumacker	Shoemaker		
Scribler	A minor or worthless author		
Scrivener	Professional or public copyist or writer; notary public		
Scrutiner	Election judge		
Shrieve	Sheriff		
Slater	Roofer		
Slopseller	Seller of ready-made clothes in a slop shop		