



Inventory

Acc.11812

The Scotsman

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The surviving business records of *The Scotsman*, *The Weekly Scotsman* and *The Evening Dispatch*, consisting largely of financial records, 1832 to 1964. Other records have survived only sporadically. These include Directors' minutes, 1868 – 1880, and for the 1940s and 1950s, records of debenture stock, office diaries for 1915 and 1941, and papers of libel cases brought against the newspaper.

The second part of the archive consists of titles and other administrative records, 1628–1954, of the various premises occupied by the business in Edinburgh.

The Scotsman newspaper was founded in 1817 as a weekly, including national and international as well as local news. In its first issue, William Ritchie and Charles Maclaren the joint editors, pledged 'impartiality, firmness and independence'. Six years later, in 1823, the newspaper was sufficiently well established to warrant twice weekly publication. The end of Newspaper Stamp Duty in 1855 saw the appearance of *The Daily Scotsman* alongside the weekly paper. Five years later, *The Daily Scotsman* became simply *The Scotsman* and, in 1877, the twice-weekly issue was stopped. The business was soon to support another sister publication with the appearance of *The Evening Dispatch* in 1886. This newspaper merged with the *Evening News* in 1963 when the *Dispatch* title was dropped.

Unless otherwise stated, the business records relate to the administration of the entire concern rather than individual titles.

Presented, 1999.

1-164	BUSINESS RECORDS
165–204	PREMISES
205–208	MISCELLANEOUS

1-164	Business Records
1-6	Board Of Directors
7-11	Share Records
12-144	Financial Records
145–154	Legal
155–159	Operation
160–164	Staff And Employment

1-6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Papers for Directors' meetings, 1941 - 1959, including minutes, reports, correspondence, figures for advertising, circulation, bank balances and paper stocks. (Minutes of Partners' meetings, 1868–1880, are bound with the annual balance sheets for 1868-1913, Acc.11812/12.)

1. 1941 – 1954
2. 1955
3. 1956
4. 1957
5. 1958
6. 1959

7-11 **SHARE RECORDS**

7. Register of Debenture Mortgage Stock Certificates, 1905–1937.
8. Discharged Mortgage Debenture Stock Certificates, 1906-1924.
- 9-11 Certificates, letters and receipts concerning transfers of Debenture Stock in John Ritchie and Company and The Scotsman Publications.
 9. 1907–1924.
 10. 1929–1940.
 11. 1933–1939.

12-144 **FINANCIAL RECORDS**

- 12–29 **Balance Sheets**
- 30–36 **Private Ledgers**
- 37–41 **Journals**
- 42–92 **Cash Books**
- 93–95 **Purchase Books**
- 96-134 **Records of Contributors**
- 135–144 **Miscellaneous**

12–29 **Balance Sheets**

- 12-13 Volumes of annual balance sheets, 1868-1938. With minutes of Partners' meetings, 25 May 1868 – 6 October 1880

12. 1868–1913
13. 1914–1938

14-20 Half yearly balance sheets

14. 1855–1864
15. 1864–1874
16. 1875–1883

- 17. 1884–1890
- 18. 1890–1896
- 19. 1921–1929
- 20. 1930–1936

- 21. Abstract Accounts, 1940 – 1946

- 22-29 Monthly balance sheets and Statements of Revenue and Expenditure
 - 22. 1953–1954
 - 23. 1954
 - 24. 1955
 - 25. 1956
 - 26. 1957
 - 27. 1958–1959
 - 28. 1960–1962
 - 29. 1963–1964

- 30-36 Private Ledgers

- 30-35 Private Ledgers, 1858 – 1950.
 - 30. 1858–1865
 - 31. 1868–1882
 - 32. 1882–1896
 - 33. 1896–1912
 - 34. 1912–1928
 - 35. 1939–1950

- 36 Biannual summary of payments, 1874-1922

- 37-41 Journals

Journals, 1848–1860, giving daily records of advertisements received, accounts and bad debts.

 - 37. Feb 1848–Jan 1850
 - 38. Jul 1853–Jul 1854
 - 39. Aug 1854–Feb 1856
 - 40. Jun 1859–May 1860
 - 41. June–Sep 1860

42-92 Cash Books

Cash Books, in three different series, 1836–1843, 1832–1939, 1905–1951. With a register of Cash Book Analysis, 1866–1937. Gaps within series are indicated by spaces in the list.

42. 1836–1843
43. Jan 1832 – Feb 1834
44. Mar 1834 – Sep 1836
45. Sep 1836 – Dec 1838
46. Jan 1839 – Jun 1841
47. Jul 1841 – Jul 1843
48. Mar 1844 – Feb 1845
49. Mar 1845 – Feb 1846
50. Feb 1850 – Feb 1851
51. Mar 1851 – Mar 1852
52. Apr 1852 – Apr 1853
53. Apr 1853 – Apr 1854
54. May 1854 – Oct 1855
55. Oct 1855 – Mar 1857
56. Apr 1857 – Sep 1858
57. Oct 1858 – Oct 1859
58. Apr 1861 – May 1862
59. Jul 1869 – Nov 1873
60. Dec 1873 – Jun 1877
61. Jul 1877 – Dec 1880
62. Jan 1881 – Jun 1884
63. Jul 1884 – Aug 1887
64. Sep 1887 – Feb 1890
65. Feb 1890 – Sep 1892
66. Oct 1892 – Apr 1895
67. May 1895 – Nov 1897
68. Dec 1897 – Jan 1900
69. Jun 1900 – Nov 1902
70. Dec 1902 – Feb 1905
71. Mar 1905 – Feb 1913
72. Mar 1913 – Dec 1923
73. Jan 1924 – Dec 1931
74. Oct 1931 – Mar 1939
75. Dec 1905 – Jun 1908
76. Jul 1908 – Jan 1911
77. Feb 1911 – Aug 1913
78. Sep 1913 – Dec 1915
79. Dec 1915 – Jun 1918

- 80. Jul 1918 – Mar 1921
- 81. Apr 1921 – Mar 1923
- 82. Apr 1923 – Jul 1926
- 83. Aug 1926 – Sep 1929
- 84. Sep 1929 – Jun 1932
- 85. Jun 1932 – Jan 1935
- 86. Jan 1935 – Aug 1937
- 87. Aug 1937 – Jan 1940
- 88. Jan 1940 – Apr 1943
- 89. May 1943 – Aug 1946
- 90. Aug 1946 – Feb 1949
- 91. Feb 1949 – Oct 1951
- 92. Cash Book Analysis, 1866–1937

93-95 Purchase Books

- 93. Mar 1923 – May 1933
- 94. Jun 1933 – Mar 1939
- 95. Mar 1939 – Aug 1946

96–134 Records of Contributors

Contributors' Ledgers and Day Books, 1858–1953. For Register of Books received for review, 1855–1860 see Acc.11812/135.

- 96–121 *The Scotsman*
- 122-125 *The Weekly Scotsman*
- 126-129 *Evening Dispatch*
- 129-134 *Evening Dispatch and Sports Dispatch*

96–121 *The Scotsman*

Contributors' Ledgers, 1858-1930, and Contributors' Day Books, 1872-1953.

96-105 Contributors' Ledgers, 1858 – 1930

- 96. 1858–1861
- 97. 1882–1886
- 98. 1887–1894
- 99. 1895–1901
- 100. 1902–1908
- 101. 1909–1914
- 102. 1915–1925 Edinburgh and London

- 103. 1915–1925 England and Foreign
- 104. Up to 1930 Edinburgh and London
- 105. Up to 1930 England and Foreign

106–121 Contributors' Day Books, 1872 – 1953

- 106. Jan 1872 – Sept 1881
- 107. Oct 1881 – Mar 1887
- 108. Apr 1887 – Dec 1891
- 109. Jan 1892 – Dec 1898
- 110. Jan 1899 – Mar 1906
- 111. Mar 1906 – Sep 1909 (With lists of obituary notices in type, 1907-1910)
- 112. Oct 1909 – Sep 1913 (With lists of biographies, 1909-1911)
- 113. Oct 1913 – Nov 1918
- 114. Nov 1918 – Mar 1924
- 115. Apr 1924 – Jan 1928
- 116. Jul 1928 – Oct 1932
- 117. Nov 1932 – Nov 1936
- 118. Nov 1936 – Dec 1940
- 119. Jan 1941 – Feb 1947
- 120. Mar 1947 – Jul 1952 (With annual lists of contributors)
- 121. Aug 1952 – Dec 1953

122-125 *The Weekly Scotsman*

Contributors' Day Books, 1887- 1953.

- 122. Dec 1887 – Jun 1921
- 123. Jul 1921 – Jun 1935
- 124. July 1935 – June 1950
- 125. Jul 1950 – Dec 1953

126-128 *Evening Dispatch*

Contributors' Ledgers, 1886 - 1911

- 126. Jan 1886 – Dec 1890
- 127. Apr 1895 – Sep 1899
- 128. Oct 1899 – Dec 1911

129-134 *Evening Dispatch and Sports Dispatch*

129. Contributors' Ledger, 1924–1928

130-134 **Contributors' Day Books, 1928 - 1953**

130. Sep 1928 – Dec 1931

131. Jan 1932 – Jan 1934

132. Jan 1935 – Dec 1937

133. Jan 1938 – Dec 1940

134. Jan 1948 – Dec 1953

135-144 Miscellaneous

135. Register of Books Received for Review, 1855–1860. With lists of editorial and reporting expenses, 1852–1860, and contributions, 1859–1860.

136-140 **Records of Advertisements**

136. Statistics, 1866 – 1872

137. Statistics, 1866 – 1940

138. Statistics, 1941 – 1960

139. Newspaper cuttings, 1896, of comparisons of columns of advertisements between British newspapers

140. Advertisement analysis *Evening News and Daily Dispatch*, 1966-1972

141. Cash Book, miscellaneous expenses, 1944 - 1949

142. Machine Room Fund, 1918 – 1933

143–144 Registers of Paper stocks

143. 1924–1932

144. 1944–1949

145–154 **LEGAL**

145-149 **Duncan McLaren, Merchant, Edinburgh v John Ritchie, Proprietor, and Andrew Russell, Editor of *The Scotsman*, 1856**

145. Bound volume of printed papers in McLaren v Ritchie and Russell consisting of legal papers and excerpts from *The Scotsman* and other newspapers
146. Bound volume of printed excerpts from *The Scotsman* and other newspapers in McLaren v Ritchie and Russell
147. Bound volume entitled 'Memorial for Defenders in Causa Duncan McLaren against The Scotsman', with press cuttings
148. Bound volume entitled 'Documents Presented by the Defence Committee to the Proprietors of the Scotsman, 1856' consisting largely of correspondence and accounts
149. Miscellaneous papers, 1856
150. **Kilgour v Ritchie**
150. Papers, 1876, in Kilgour v Ritchie and Company
- 151-152 **T. Sexton, M.P., v The Scotsman, 1891**
151. Bound volume of printed legal papers, 1890
152. Bound volume of printed legal papers and press cuttings, 1890-1891
- 153 Collier v Ritchie**
153. Decree, 1884, dismissing the Action in James Collier v John Ritchie and Company
- 154 Martin v Ritchie**
154. Papers, 1894-1895, in William Martin, Manager of the Royal Blind Asylum and School, Edinburgh, v John Ritchie and Company.
- 155-159 OPERATION**
- 155-157 Registers of Impression Statements and Circulation figures
155. 1855-1872
156. 1855-1872. With circulation figures, 1833-1854.
157. 1935-1939. With circulation figures

158–159A **Office diaries**

Office engagement diaries, 1915-1947

158. 1915

159. 1941

159A. 1947

160–164 **STAFF AND EMPLOYMENT**

160-162 **Wages Books**

160. 1839–1857

161. 1857-1865

162. 1866–1869 (With list of apprentices, 1866–1881)

163. Savings Bank Ledger, 1872–1889.

164 **Pension**

164 Quotation for Proposed Pension and Life Insurance Scheme for Employees of Scottish Television Limited.

165-204 **PREMISES**

The first office occupied by *The Scotsman* was in the High Street, Edinburgh. By 1860, this had become inadequate and the business was transferred to premises immediately to the north in Cockburn Street, then in the course of formation. With the establishment of the *Evening Dispatch* in 1886 these offices proved inadequate. In the 1890s, the widening and reconstruction of North Bridge enabled the proprietors to purchase the necessary extra space. The business moved to its North Bridge premises in 1905.

165–195 **Titles**

165. Act and Warrants of the Dean of Guild Court, 1875-1886, in favour of John Ritchie and Company. With related letters.

166. Inventory of Writs and Title Deeds of Subject belonging to John Ritchie and Company in Anchor Close, etc, 1895.

167-186 **Milne Square, Edinburgh**

167. Bennett's Property, 1820 – 1897
168. Johnston's Property, 1628 – 1813
- 169-170 **Lothian's Property**
169. 1687 –1879
170. 1688 – 1825
171. McLeish's Property, 1690 –1898
- 172-173 **McLeod's Property**
172. 1688 –1697
173. 1696–1897
174. Robertson's Property, 1793–1874.
175. Shiell's Property, 1688–1898.
- 176-177 **Simpson's Property**
176. 1686 – 1826
177. 1725 - 1763
178. Steadwell's Property, 1869–1898.
179. 7 Milne Square, 1828–1898.
180. Property in Milne Square, 1688–1879.
181. Property in Milne Square, 1689–1829.
182. Property in Milne Square, 1703–1726. With Disposition, 1898, of 3 and 4 Milne Square by Walter Scott Inglis in favour of the City of Edinburgh
183. Property in Milne Square and North Bridge, 1795–1888.
184. Property in Milne Square, 1801–1825, near the head of Old Assembly Close
185. Property in Milne Square, 1832–1898.

186. Properties in Milne Square, 1838–1869.

187–188 **233 High Street**

187. 1744-1849

188. 1822–1892

189. Claims, 1897-1898, by Walter Scott Inglis, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Edinburgh, and others against the City of Edinburgh concerning property in Cockburn Street and Milne Square, Edinburgh, to be purchased under the North Bridge Improvement Act, 1894.

190-193 **North Bridge, Edinburgh**

190. Titles, 1820– 897, 40 North Bridge.

191. Titles, 1898, 40 North Bridge. With papers on Succession Duty payable by Sarah Weddell as heir to Thomas Henderson Weddell.

192. Titles, 1793-1873, of Henderson's Property, 46 North Bridge, Edinburgh.

193. Plan, 1897, showing property in Milne Square to be acquired from the Trustees of the late Mrs Helen Macalister under the North Bridge Improvement Act, 1894.

194 **Anchor Close, Edinburgh**

Letters, legal papers and plan, 1854-1859, concerning alterations to property belonging to John Ritchie and Company.

195. Miscellaneous documents relating to property, 1874-1895.

196 **Insurance**

196. Receipt for premium, 1894.

197-204 **Property records**

197–198 **Buildings Ledgers, North Bridge Buildings**

197. 1898-1928

198. 1928-1949

199–200 **Rent Ledgers, North Bridge Buildings**

199. May 1940 – Nov 1948

200. May 1950 – May 1955

201–202 **Rent Cash Books**

201. 1821-1851

202. 1939/1940 – 1950/1951, North Bridge Buildings

203. **Tenants' Ledger, North Bridge buildings, 1903-1914.**

204. Meter-readings, 1904-1921.

205–208 **MISCELLANEOUS**

205-206 **Special issues of newspapers**

205. *The Scotsman*, 29th June 1955, anniversary of centenary as a daily paper (2 copies).

206. *The Scotsman*, 17th April 1957, special issue (4 copies).

207–208 **Printed Books**

207. *The Scotsman New Buildings, Edinburgh, 1905.*

208. *The Scotsman, 1817 - 1955. Scotland's National Newspaper.*