

Musselburgh Congregational Church

The Purchase of the First Manse at Campie Road, Musselburgh

The history of the purchase from Minute Book No.2, 1897-1905

Excerpts from the Minutes

Special Deacons Meeting 13th February 1901

A general discussion then ensued as to the possibility of securing a Manse.

Social Meeting 14th May 1901

Mr Goldsmith, our respected Town Chamberlain, then made a very humorous speech and made a most earnest appeal for support to our Centenary Fund for securing a Manse for our Minister.

The Musselburgh News Friday 17th May 1901 [Excerpt from item on Centenary Service

Mr A. B. Goldsmith, Town Chamberlain, made an eloquent and humorous speech on behalf of the Manse Fund, making touching reference to the late Mr Simpson's pastorate.

Deacons Meeting 29th May 1901

Appeal to Members in regard to proposed Manse Fund. Resolved that an effort be made to ascertain result by next meeting. A general discussion then took place. It was ultimately left with the Pastor along with the Treasurer and Secretary to draw up a circular appeal to the Public. The Pastor said he had all the materials at hand for the booklet he proposed to issue.

Deacons Meeting 3rd July 1901

Promised and in hand to Manse Fund £43:15:7½. Pastor read letter from Dr. Adamson in regard to the Manse Fund.

Quarterly Business & Social Meeting 7th August 1901

The amount standing to the credit of the Manse Fund promised and in hand was £45:15:7½.

Quarterly Business & Social Meeting 13th November 1901

The Manse Fund remained the same as previously reported.

The Pastor then made a very strong appeal to the members in regard to the Manse Fund. Various suggestions were made as to how best to help the object, a suggestion by Mr. Semple which was heartily taken up being that Collecting Cards be taken up by the members to put before their friends. Mr. Goldsmith congratulated us upon the success we had already attained and spoke a few words of cheer and encouragement.

Deacons Meeting 27th November 1901

Resolved that we get 1000 Circular appeal on behalf of the Manse Fund and 200 Collecting Cards.

Deacons Meeting 30th December 1901

The Treasurer and Pastor made a statement regarding the Manse Fund. The Pastor stated that Mr Coutts had expressed the desire to examine the Title Deeds and do the legal work in connection with the Manse free of charge. Secretary to write to Mr Coutts conveying the thanks of the Deaconate.

Annual Business & Social Meeting 15th January 1902

The Manse Fund stands at £71:2:7½. The Pastor then spoke in regard to the Manse Fund and as to how much we were indebted to Mr. Goldsmith for his kindness. Mr. Goldsmith then made a few humorous remarks during which he gave a detail of the amount collected by him [and] by friends amounting in the aggregate to £52:2:0 and had promises of a considerable amount more. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Goldsmith on the motion of Mr. Dobson.

Special Deacons Meeting 22nd January 1902

The Pastor explained the purpose of the meeting which was to take into consideration an offer he had received from Mr. Cooper, proprietor of the house in Campie Lane, which had been previously mentioned amongst them as a likely house for the Manse they had been working for. The price of the house as already stated at a previous meeting was £575 stg. but Mr. Cooper had offered to take £25 off, seeing it was to be used as a Manse. It was the deacons as the Church Executive to decide on the matter. It had been seen by himself and Mrs. Farquharson and also by a number of the members and was considered suitable. It was a house of 6 rooms and a kitchen.

After some conversation, during which Mr. Dobson suggested that a practical man might be asked to examine the house in case of any defect, but which was not acted upon, Mr Gibb moved, seconded by Mr. Dobson, that the meeting empower Mr. Farquharson to take the requisite steps for the purchase of the house as the Church Manse, seeing the Manse Fund was in such a condition as to justify them in doing so. This motion was unanimously agreed to.

Deacons Meeting 29th January 1902

The Pastor reported that he had seen Mr. Coutts since Special Meeting of Deacons who said that no money would be required in connection with the purchase of the Manse until beginning of May. It was therefore agreed without any formal motion that subscriptions be taken up at that time, but that at the Social Meeting of the Church on the 7th February a report be given in by the Treasurer giving Amount received and also subscriptions still to come in.

The Pastor intimated that a meeting of the Deacons with Mr. Coutts would have to be arranged for an early date in reference to the appointment of trustees in connection with the Manse.

Special Social & Fellowship Meeting 7th February 1902

Mr. Gibb then submitted a statement of the Manse Fund up to date, supplemented by Mr. Goldsmith, showing the amount contributed.

Deacons Meeting 26th February 1902

Mr. Gibb having mentioned that a friend, Mr. D. Haddow, had kindly offered to lecture with Lime Light views on behalf of the Manse Fund, it was agreed to accept the kindly offer and have the lecture in the Church on Friday 7th March at 8 o'clock. It was remitted to Mr. Gibb to get a few bills printed and circulated. A silver collection, at door on entrance, was decided upon and Messrs. Arnott and Hope were appointed to take charge.

Mr. Gibb also intimated that Baillie Waterston had provisionally agreed to lecture for same object on some night before end of March on "Love, Courtship and Marriage". On the motion by Mr. Gibb, Seconded by Mr. Hope, it was agreed to accept the Baillie's kindly offer and the arrangements were left in Mr. Gibb's hand.

Meeting of Church Members 5th March 1902

Mr. Farquharson, who presided, explained that the object of the meeting was to make arrangements for the proposed Bazaar or Sale of Work in the coming autumn in connection with the Manse Fund. After some conversation, it was agreed on the suggestion of Mr. Gibb, seconded by Mr. Dobson, [1st] that the Bazaar be held in the month of October, near the beginning if possible; [2nd] that a committee consisting of all the female members of the Church, assisted by the Deacons, be appointed to make all the necessary arrangements, Miss Lothian to be Convener; [3rd] that the Pastor, the Treasurer and Secretary along with Mr Muskett draw up a circular explaining the object of the Bazaar within the next 14 days or so to be submitted to a meeting of the General Committee for approval.

The Pastor drew attention to the two forthcoming lectures by Mr. Haddow and Baillie Waterston and hoped the members and friends would turn out in large numbers.

Deacons Meeting 31st March 1902

A letter from Revd. Dr. Adamson, Chairman of the Union Manse Fund, intimating that the Committee had decided on a grant of £50 to the Musselburgh Church Manse Fund, was handed to the Secretary with instructions to acknowledge the handsome grant to the Treasurer, Mr. Carruthers, and asking that it be remitted to Mr. Gibb by the end of April if possible.

The business to be brought before the Quarterly Church Meeting was next considered, two of the main items being the election of Trustees for both Church Building and Manse, and the Bazaar to be held in October in the Town Hall. The 17th and 18th of the month was provisionally fixed as the dates, subject to the approval of the Church Meeting.

The names of Mrs. Burnett of London [Annie Swan], Mr. A.D.M. Black, Judge McPherson of Edinburgh and Mr. Anderson of Pinkie Burn were mentioned in connection with the opening of the forthcoming Bazaar. It was understood that a draft of the Bazaar Circular be submitted to the Church Meeting on the 3rd April.

Quarterly Church Meeting 3rd April 1902

Mr. J Muskett proposed that the following gentlemen be elected Trustees for the Church Building viz. Messrs D. Farquharson, Jas. Macleay, Thos. Dobson, Stuart Semple, Jas. Muir Gibb, Robt. Burns and John Hope. This having been duly seconded by Mr. Jas. Arnot was unanimously agreed to.

Mr McKillop moved that the above seven gentlemen be also elected Trustees for the Manse in Campie Road, with powers to borrow on building, which was duly seconded by Mr. D. Watson and duly agreed to.

He [Mr. Gibb] also stated that the amount paid and subscribed, including grant from Union Chapel Building Fund, towards Manse Fund, amounted in all to £273. They all hoped to be able to pay £300 towards the Manse before the 15th of May.

The Secretary then read a Draft of a Circular he had drawn up regarding the Bazaar to be held in October next, which was adopted subject to some alterations suggested by the Pastor.

Special Deacons Meeting 16th April 1902

The meeting having been duly constituted the Chairman [Mr. Jas. M. Gibb, Mr. Farquharson indisposed] said they had met to consider certain matters in connection with the Manse, and read a note he had received from the Pastor, stating that the lobby would require to be laid with linoleum, and a stove be put in the small room he proposed using as his Study, at the expense of the Manse Fund. After some conversation the meeting agreed to the suggestion, and in connection with the matter, it was agreed that as many of the Deacons as could get, meet on Saturday the 19th in the Manse at 4pm, when Mr. Cooper was expected to be present.

The Secretary read a final Draft of the Bazaar Circular, which was approved.

Special Deacons Meeting 13th May 1902

The Pastor laid before the meeting a completed proof of the Bazaar Circular, which met with approval, and it was agreed to order 3000 copies for circulation, first amongst the Receivers of Work and then by the Receivers amongst their friends. Each Receiver to get 20 copies to begin with.

Deacons Meeting 26th May 1902

Promissory Notes for £300 stg. instead of a Bond on Manse were side by the Trustees present, Mr. Farquharson and Mr. Gibb to see to getting the signatures of the others as soon as possible and get them sent on to Mr. Coutts of Edinburgh.

Deacons Meeting 30th June 1902

A conversation then ensued on the subject of likely parties for opening the Bazaar in October. The Pastor mentioned that he had been trying to secure Mrs. Burnett of London [Annie Swan] for first day, but was sorry that there was little or no hope of her being able to come. Mr. Black of Edinburgh and Mr. Menzies of Inveresk were mentioned as likely men with Dr. Scott and Baillie McPherson of Edinburgh as Chairmen. The matter was left pretty much in the hand of Mr. Farquharson himself.

Deacons Meeting 28th July 1902

Some conversation took place regarding arrangements for the coming Bazaar. The Pastor said the Ladies Meeting for this week would be held in the Manse, as the Hall would probably in the hands of Mr. Steeples [Painter], and he would be present to confer with them regarding having a meeting on Wednesday the 13th August to further Bazaar arrangements.

Deacons Meeting 2nd September 1902

The Pastor intimated that as nearly everyone interested in proposed meeting of ladies were away in August, it had to be put off until September. It was arranged to be held on Wednesday evening the 10th and that all lady receivers of work for October Bazaar be asked to attend.

The question of procuring suitable influential gentlemen to open the Bazaar on 17th and 18th October was then brought up. As Mr. Black W.S. could not attend that week owing to absence from home, it was resolved to ask Mr. Menzies to open the Bazaar on the 17th and Judge Macpherson as Chairman. For the 18th it was decided to ask Col. Aitchison of Drumore as opener and Mr. Coutts of Edinburgh as Chairman. It was also decided to ask Dr. Scott to move a vote of thanks to Mr. Menzies. It was also agreed to advertise the Bazaar in Congregationalist for October, also in Christian News for 2 weeks previous and same in Musselburgh News.

Special Meeting of Lady Receivers of Bazaar Work 10th September 1902

The Chairman, Mr. Farquharson, made a statement to the effect that Mr. Menzies would open the Bazaar on the 17th with Judge Macpherson in the chair and that on the 18th Col. Aitchison of Drummore would open, with Mr. Coutts as chairmen. Mr. Black W.S. who could not be present on the 17th owing to having arranged for a Continental trip, had sent £5 stg. to be spent at the Bazaar. The meeting then discussed the number of stalls and came to the decision that 5 stalls for the sale of general work would be necessary, besides a Refreshment Stall, one for Flowers and Plants and another for putting up of Parcels. The following ladies were then appointed to take charge of the various Stalls.

<u>For No.1 The Manse Stall</u>	Mrs. Farquharson; Mrs. Innes; Mrs. Crooks.
<u>For No.2 Stall The Y</u>	Mrs. Reid Gibson; Mrs. Burns.
<u>For No.3 Stall</u>	Mrs. Goldsmith; Miss Anderson; Mrs. Lawson.
<u>No.4 Stall</u>	Miss Lothian; Misses Tennant.
<u>No.5 Stall</u>	Mrs. Gibb; Mrs. R.Burns; Mrs. Hay.
<u>Refreshment Stall</u>	Mrs. Bonnington; Mrs. Kay; Miss Banks.
<u>Flower and Plant Stall</u>	Mrs. Lamb; Mrs. Muskett; Miss Storey; Mrs. McLay Jnr.
<u>Parcel Stall</u>	Mrs. Arnott and Assistants.
<u>Short Concerts in Side Room</u>	Miss Sandilands
<u>Home Spun Shetland Tweed Exhibition</u>	Miss Tulloch.

It was decided on the motion of Mrs. Gibb that the uniform charge for admission to Bazaar be 6d all through the proceedings.

Special Deacons Meeting 17th October 1902

The Pastor stated that the meeting had been called specially to further the Bazaar arrangements and referred to the arrangements already made regarding the opening of the Bazaar on the 17th and 18th October. He then asked the Secretary to read the minutes of the Lady Receivers Meeting held last night, at which the Stallholders had been appointed. This having been done, the minutes were approved.

It was then agreed to ask Mrs. Muskett to get a number of type-written copies of the Lady Stallholders to circulate amongst themselves with a view to good order and the facilitating of business.

It was also agreed to get estimates from say two or more likely parties for the erection of the stalls in the Town Hall on the previous afternoon, the 16th October, also to advertise in both the Christian News and the Musselburgh News on the two previous weeks.

It was also remitted to the Secretary to get estimates for a few hundred programmes of the two day's proceedings similar to those circulated on a previous occasion; and to report to next meeting of deacons.

Some conversation took place as to the advisability of having a sort of intermittent Concert on the Saturday evening, but nothing definite was arranged until it could be ascertained if suitable parties be secured for the purpose.

Deacons Meeting 2nd October 1902

It was agreed, on Mr. Gibb's suggestion, to order 5,000 handbills advertising the Bazaar, for circulation in the town and district. Mr. Farquharson stated that at the meeting of the previous night some 18 different districts had been mapped out for ladies who had volunteered to distribute the bills in the ensuing weeks. It was also agreed to order 500 of the Programmes for circulation amongst those likely to attend the Opening of the Bazaar on both days.

On the suggestion of the Secretary the deacons present agreed to meet in the Town Hall on Saturday afternoon on the 4th inst. For the purpose of ascertaining the accessory accommodation for Bazaar proceedings and arranging accordingly.

The following are the Districts mapped out for circulating handbills about Bazaar, referred to above.

No.1	Wallyford	Miss Tennant
No.2	Mitchell St., Eskside & Bridge St.	Mrs. Reid Gibson
No.3	Bellfield to corner of Mitchell St.	Mrs. Ogilvie
No.4	South side of High St.	Mrs. Innes
No.5	Newbigging & Pinkie Rd.	Mrs. J. Burns
No.6	Inveresk Rd. & Dalrymple Loan	Miss Banks
No.7	Albert & Victoria Terr. & District	Miss M. Burns
No.8	Levenhall	Miss E. McLean
No.9	High St. Fisherrow, south side	Miss. M. Lamb
No.10	High St. Fisherrow, north side	Mrs. Kay
No.11	Inveresk	Messrs Watson & McKillop
No.12	West Holmes Gdns. & Market St.	Mrs. Hay & Mrs. McLeay
No.13	Millhill & Kerr's Wynd	Miss Miller
No.14	High St. Musselburgh, north side	Miss Lothian
No.15	New St., Links St. & Beech Lane	Miss Storey
No.16	Ditto west end from Beech Lane	Miss Tulloch
No.17	New Craighall	Mr. Farquharson
No.18	Cowpitts	Miss Dunn
No.19	Old Craighall	Miss Brown

Bazaar Meeting 8th October 1902

The Pastor presided and made a statement as to the arrangements already made. He invited reports from ladies present both as to work received and arrangements made.

The small bills to the number of several thousand were distributed for circulation in the different districts of the town and neighbourhood, also the Invitation cards to those likely to attend the Opening of the Bazaar on Noon of the 17th and 18th. Several other arrangements were made.

Bazaar Meeting 15th October 1902

The Pastor presided and intimated that Mr. Menzies could not attend the opening on 17th but that Judge Macpherson would take his place.

Musselburgh Congregational Church

A GRAND BAZAAR

IN AID OF THE
CENTENARY MANSE FUND
WILL BE HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL MUSSELBURGH

*On Friday the 17th and Saturday the 18th
of October 1902.*

The Bazaar will be opened at 12 Noon each day:
On FRIDAY, by R. C. MENZIES, Esq.,
AND
On SATURDAY, by Colonel AITCHISON
Of Drummore

MUSICAL AND PHONOGRAPH ENTERTAINMENTS,
SHORT CONCERTS, etc.

Will be rendered on both days.

*The Orchestra from the Lauriston City Mission, Edinburgh,
will be present on Friday Evening.*

DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SHETLAND GOODS
Will be given by Miss TULLOCH each day.

Refreshment Stall; Flower and Plant Stall

DONATIONS of Goods or Money will be gratefully received

ADMISSION SIXPENCE

J. Aikman, Printer, Musselburgh

The Bazaar 17th and 18th October 1902

The Bazaar was held in the Town Hall on the 17th and 18th Oct/02. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. R. Menzies, Judge Macpherson of Edinr. Opened the Bazaar on the 17th and made a very appropriate speech. Mr. Farquharson occupied the chair and Mr. T. Dobson moved the vote of thanks to Judge Macpherson and the Revd. Mr. Sharp who offered prayer.

The Sales on the 17th amounted to £113 stg.

On the 18th Jas. Coutts Esq. S.S.C. Edinbro opened the Bazaar in suitable terms with Mr. Farquharson in the Chair. The Revd. Robert Gilmour offered Prayer and Mr. Goldsmith moved the vote of thanks.

The amount of the two day's sales including Donations was £186:16:9½d.

The Church Hall 22nd October 1902

A meeting of the Bazaar Workers and others interested in the Church was held this evening. After a short Prayer Meeting Mr. Farquharson, who presided, stated the object of the meeting which was first to get some idea from the lady stallholders as to the amount of work left in their hand, and what they were going to do with it. The following estimate was given by the ladies present as to the value of the goods left on hand.

- Mrs. Gibson - Snowdrop Stall - about £25 stg.
- Mrs. Gibb - No.3 Stall - about £15 stg.
- Miss Lothian - No.4 Stall - about £5 stg.
- Mrs. Goldsmith - No.5 Stall - about £4 stg.
- Mrs. Farquharson - Manse Stall - about £5 stg.
- Making in all about £54.

Some conversation took place on the question of the best time to hold a Supplementary Sale, when it was found that some difference of opinion existed on the point, and on the Pastor's suggestion it was left over for more mature consideration.

Mr. Gibb then made his statement with regard to how the Manse Fund stood at present. The Bazaar had yielded the sum of £186:16:9½d so far and that added to the Donations received last year made up a sum of £489:3:3d, or in round numbers £490 stg. He hoped to be in the position to pay £450 in all of what was due on the Manse, leaving £100 for next year.

A vote of thanks was here passed to Mr. Gibb on the motion of the Pastor, which he cordially acknowledged.

A presentation of a basketwork Music Stand was then made by the Pastor to Miss Sandilands as a slight acknowledgement of her painstaking and persevering work in connection with the short concerts at the Bazaar, as well as the general praise worship of the Church. Miss Sandilands made an appropriate and feeling acknowledgement.

Mr. T. Dobson then moved that the cordial thanks of the Church be given to the Lady Stallholders and to all who had so cordially assisted as receivers of work and helped to make the Bazaar the success it had been. He thought that Mrs. Gibson as the only Lady Stallholder outside of their own Communion deserved special acknowledgement. Mrs. Gilmour had also helped much by her presence at the Bazaar. Mr. Gibb seconded and the motion was passed enthusiastically.

The following Sums were drawn at the several Stalls:

Mrs. Farquharson	Manse Stall No.1	£44:19:10
Mrs. Gibson & Mrs. Burns	Snowdrop Stall No.2	£23:17:9
Mrs. Gibb	Stall No.3	£19:9:5
Mrs. Goldsmith & Miss Anderson	Stall No.4	£30:16:4
Miss Lothian & Misses Tennant	Stall No.5	£24:16:1½

Mrs. Kay	Refreshment Stall	£10:13:10
Mrs. Lamb	Plant & Flower Stall	£3:9:1
Miss Tulloch	Shetland Spinning Exhibition	£1:1:9
Mrs. Arnott	Parcel Stall	£0:0:7
Miss Sandilands	Short Concerts	£2:1:11
Mr. Arnott & Mr. Lamb	Drawn at Door	£4:8:6
Mr. Lamb per Mr. C. McPherson	Javelin Throwing	£1:15:2
Miss Franks	Fortune Telling Doll	£0:11:6
Donations through	Mr. Farquharson	£19:0:0
Donations through	Mr. Semple	£0:5:0
		£186:16:9½

Special Deacons Meeting 12th November 1902

Mr. Gibb gave his report as to how the Manse Fund stood at present date. There had been received in all, including proceed of Bazaar, £495:14:6 of which £474:6:7 had been paid, £450 stg. Towards payment of Manse, leaving the sum of £21:7:11 on hand. There were still several a/c's in connection with the Bazaar to pay amounting to £9 or so. There would be £100 stg. Remaining as a debt on the Manse, in connection with which it was explained that Mr. Coutts had put the £200 payment on the back of the Bill he held for £300 advanced, instead of drawing out a fresh Bill for acceptance, on the prospect of having the debt cleared off during 1903.

Annual Business Meeting 14th January 1903

The Chairman [Revd. Farquharson] then called on the Secretary to read his report on the Church work of the last year. The report recalled the events of the last 3 years in connection with the Centenary of the Church Building, culminating in the scheme for procuring a Manse for the Pastor. This had been entered into with great spirit by the Church, the result being that the Manse had been bought and nearly four fifths of the cost paid, there being only a debt of £100 on the house which had cost £550 stg. They had been much assisted in this good work by the Bazaar of last October.

Mr. Gibb, Treasurer, next presented his report, showing the total income of the Church for the year to have been £166:9:3 and expenditure £186:16:11½ leaving a balance against the Church of £17:7:8½. There were also several a/c's due, which would raise the deficit to [not recorded]. The Manse Fund showed that in all £499:11:1½ had been raised by subscriptions, grant from Union Church Building Fund and by the Bazaar of October last. £450 of that had been paid on the Manse, leaving a debt of £100 stg. Which it was hoped would only be temporary. There were a/c's in connection with the Manse still to pay amounting to [not recorded]. He, Mr. Gibb, had on hand [£ not recorded] to meet this leaving a balance of [not recorded] against the Fund.

Mr goldsmith then moved that the Supplementary Sale of goods left over from the October Bazaar be held in April next with a view to clearing off the deficiencies in finance. This was seconded by Mr. Lamb and ultimately agreed to.

[N.B. The membership of the Church at the beginning of 1902 stood at 98 and at this time was 114 a nett increase of 16; 22 new members had joined and 6 members had removed or died].

Deacons Meeting 25th February 1903

The Pastor reported that the Ladies Committee who had charge of the Supplementary Sale of Work had fixed upon the last Saturday of March for the Sale, and that they had also decided on having it in the side wing of Inveresk Parish Hall which could be had for 5/- and 2/6 for use of piano. They were also in favour of no charge being made for admission. Mrs Sommerville of Dalkeith had been mentioned as a likely lady to open the Sale and would be asked to do so. These decisions were duly approved by the meeting on the motion of Mr. Goldsmith seconded by Mr. Lamb.

It was remitted to Mr. Farquharson to draw up a handbill for circulation in the town and neighbourhood with regard to the Sale, also to have a poster in large type printed and carried about by a Sandwich man on day of Sale.

Special Church Meeting 18th March 1903

The arrangements connected with the Supplementary Sale of Work on the 28th inst. Were then taken up by the meeting. Miss N. Tennant was appointed Superintendent of the short Concerts or Entertainments proposed to be held in the side room of the Inveresk Parish Hall and Miss Anderson consented to take charge of the flowers and Plants which may be sent in. The arrangements for the sale of the goods on the tables were left in the hands of the Ladies Committee.

A thousand handbills were given out to various ladies for distribution in the town and district during this week.

Deacons Meeting Monday 30th March 1903

The Treasurer also reported that the sum of £37:8:11 had been drawn at the Sale of Work of the 28th inst. From which would fall to be deducted the expenses connected with its get up. There would probably be a surplus of [not recorded]. He had paid the two a/c's left over unpaid in connection with the Manse - viz. Messrs. Cooper & sons of £11:2:7 and Messrs. Coutts & Palfrey's outlay a/c of 5/8.

Quarterly Church Meeting 15th April 1903

Mr. Gibb also read report of Manse Fund including proceeds of Sale of Work on 28th March which showed that £37:8:11, including private sales, had been drawn at the Sale. The total sum at the credit of the Manse Fund was £53:7:9½ from which fell to be deducted Cooper & Sons a/c, Coutts & Palfreys' outlay a/c and Feu duty. Taxes, Insurance etc amounting in all, with expenses of Sale, to £29:3:4 thus leaving a Balance to the good of £24:4:5½. Both reports were adopted.

Mr Gibb then moved that the balance of £23 be formally transferred from the Manse Fund [which fund would now be closed except for £1:4:5½] to the General Church Fund. [At this time there was a deficit in The General fund of £15:13:5½]. Mr. Dobson seconded, with the remark that this was in accordance with the understanding that the Sale of Work was for the benefit of both funds. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Goldsmith then pointed out that during the last two years the church, aided by outside friends, had done good work in providing a Manse for the Pastor, besides carrying out the ordinary Church work. There was only a debt of £100 remaining on the Manse which, no doubt, would be wiped out by and by. What the Church had now to do was to see to ways and means of keeping up the Income, and the deacons would see to a regular visitation of the members so as to impress upon them, especially those who were or had been irregular in attendance, the necessity of as regular attendance as possible, with a view both to their spiritual growth as well as regular giving to the funds, without which no church could prosper.

Deacons Meeting 27th April 1903

The Treasurer then stated that he had only just received amount of charge for the use of Inveresk Parish Hall for the Sale of Work, in the shape of a letter from Mr. Jas. Wilkie, Session clerk, which stated that according to the Scale of Charges, it would be £1:15:0. It being usual for a reduced charge to be made in such cases as a Sale of Work, the Secretary was instructed to see Mr. Wilkie on the subject.

Deacons Meeting 3rd June 1903

Mr. Gibb reported that the "In Memoriam" donation of £10 stg. from Mr. Goldsmith had been paid to Messrs. Coutts and Palfrey and the debt on the Manse now stood at £90.

Letters and communications from Churches and Pastors asking for help to clear off debt were laid upon the table and the Secretary [was] instructed to reply, pleading the inability of the Church to give assistance at present, owing to the recent and prospective efforts in connection with the Manse.

Deacons Meeting Monday 29th June 1903

Mr goldsmith was glad to hear that the Ladies Working Party were continuing their good work in view of the contingency arising for another Sale of Work, during the autumn or winter.

Quarterly Church Meeting 22nd July 1903

Mr. Gibb reported on the Manse Fund. The debt on the Manse now stood at £90 stg. and he had a small balance on hand of £2:0:11½.

After hopeful remarks by Mr. Goldsmith also by Treasurer and Secretary and Messrs. Ogilvie and McKillop, it was agreed that the Ladies Working Party continue their good work in view of a Sale of Work being required in the coming year if not sooner.

Quarterly Church Business Meeting 15th October 1903

An interesting conversation then took place on the possibility of clearing off the Debt on the Manse which stood at £90 stg. Mr. Farquharson intimated that he had the offer of £10 from a friend to help this good work, providing the Church managed to raise the remainder within a year from now. This friend had already sent a cheque for £5 toward the Manse Fund which he had handed over to Mr. Gibb.

Mr. Gibb then gave the meeting an account of how the Manse Fund stood, showing that he had a Balance on hand of £6. He pointed out that rates and taxes were coming due before long and this balance would probably be pretty well absorbed in their payment.

The discussion on the practicability of clearing off the Manse Debt and so secure the £10 offered by the Pastor's friend was then resumed. The ladies had been busy preparing for a Sale of Work in the Spring, but the general feeling was in favour of postponing it until September or October of the Autumn and having it on a larger scale, with the greater object in view. It was pointed out that the success or even the possibility of success would hinge on the Funds of the Church keeping up during the winter, but if all put their shoulders to the wheel with a will, it would or should be practicable.

Though no formal motion was made, the meeting was obviously in favour of the scheme, and the idea will no doubt be more thoroughly gone into at the next Quarterly Meeting, which was also the Annual Meeting, in January. Mr. Goldsmith intimated during the conversation that he would give £5 toward the object in view, while Mr. Semple said he would do all he could to help. Mr. Goldsmith also mentioned that he hoped to be able to raise a good round sum amongst his personal friends for such a good purpose. One or two of the ladies present said they would go on with their work of preparing for the larger Sale as energetically as possible.

Deacons Meeting 26th October 1903

Mr. Burns brought before the meeting a scheme for helping to clear off the debt from the Manse. He proposed that the boys and girls of the Sabbath School and in connection with the Church be utilised through cards in gathering money, mainly in pence, amongst their friends and acquaintances. A good deal had been done in that way in raising money in connection with churches to clear off debt. It was usual to give a few prizes to those who were most successful and perhaps it would be advisable to do so, if the idea was taken up.

Conversation on this subject followed and the scheme was favoured by all present. June of next year was spoken of as the most likely time to set the scheme on foot, seeing it would serve to help in advertising the proposed Sale of Work in September or October following.

Deacons Meeting 30th November 1903

The Pastor intimated that he had been desired by Mr. Malcolm, Church Officer, to bring the question of an increase in salary before the meeting. After some conversation, Mr. Crooks moved that an increase of £3 be given [which was withdrawn in favour of the motion by Mr. Goldsmith]. Mr. Goldsmith moved, seconded by Mr. Burns, that an increase of £2 be given. Mr. Dobson moved that £1 be given as an increase until the debt on the Manse was cleared off, when another increase might be given. On the vote being taken, Mr. Goldsmith's motion was carried by a majority of 2. Mr. Goldsmith said it was on the distinct understanding that the Church be kept scrupulously clean that he had moved the addition, the Pastor adding that the Secretary would emphasise that in his note intimating the decision of the Deacons.

Annual Business & Social Meeting 20th January 1904

Mr. Gibb reported on Manse Fund showing a Balance on hand of £1:4:7½.

With regard to the proposed Sale of Work with the object of clearing off the remaining debt of £90 on the Manse, Mr. Gibb moved that it be held in October on a suitable Friday and Saturday, that the Town Hall be taken for the day fixed upon and that a circular be got printed and sent to likely parties in the early Spring. This was unanimously agreed to.

Miss Lothian reported that the ladies were continuing their work in preparing for Sale of Work and hoped to have good results by October.

Deacons Meeting 3rd March 1904 [held in the Manse at 8 o'clock]

The Sale of Work was then discussed. The date was fixed for the 7th and 8th October and Mr. Goldsmith was asked to secure the Town Hall for these dates from 2 o'clock each day. It was decided to aim at raising £150 to £200 stg. as, besides the balance of £90 on the Manse to clear off, there was a strong necessity for repairing the roof of the Church building and painting and papering the interior. Mr. Farquharson undertook to inform the Ladies Committee of this decision at their first meeting on the 10th inst. It was also agreed in connection with the Sabbath School, the Band of Hope and Juvenile Endeavour Society effort that each boy and girl who raised the sum of 5/- or upward, be presented with a prize in the shape of a Book for their tact and diligence.

Deacons Meeting 30th March 1904

The Sale of Work to be held in October was then taken up. Mr. Farquharson intimated that the Ladies Work Committee had heartily agreed to the proposals of last Deacon's meeting. It was resolved that all the names of Lady Members of the Church who were householders be put down in [a] Circular as Receivers of Work, along with those outsiders who are known as friendly, also that the effort of the Sunday Scholars and young people of the Church be noticed in [the] Circular.

Quarterly Church Meeting 27th April 1904

Mr. Gibb also mentioned that there was an adverse Balance of £1:12:0 in connection with the Manse Fund at present date.

Some conversation then took place on the progress of arrangements for the October Sale of Work. The circulars would be ready this week and it was hoped a large amount of interest and enthusiasm would arise in connection with the Sale.

Deacons Meeting 2nd May 1904

It was also decided to get Collecting Cards printed for the Juveniles, this matter being left in the hands of Messrs. Gibb and Burns.

Deacons Meeting 29th June 1904

Mr. Farquharson mentioned that a Chubb lock was necessary for the back door of the Manse and it was agreed to order one.

Quarterly Church Meeting 27th July 1904

In his remarks, Mr. Goldsmith expressed the opinion that the Church might now look forward to shortly being self-sustaining, a consummation which they would all desire. He was sure it would be specially pleasing to the Pastor who, if the position was attained, would attend the Union meetings with very much increased pleasure. [This was after the report on finance which showed a balance in the General Account of 1/6 in favour of the Church. The Report also showed a Reserve Fund of £16:1:0, money which had been collected by the Revd. Mr. Kelly, of Portobello, and friends and donated to the Church].

Mr. Farquharson next referred, more particularly, to the Sale of Work and hoped the members of the Church were all keeping it in view and helping to make it a great success. He asked the Ladies of the Church, particularly, to attend the fortnightly meetings held in the Hall and by every possible means to further the good work. They hoped through it to clear off the remaining debt on the Manse, and also to get the Church building repaired and cleaned.

Mr. Dobson, Secretary, congratulated the Church Members present on the pleasant prospect opening up before them of being an unaided Church. He believed it was now possible, but in order to attain this desirable object, it would be necessary for each of them to keep up their regular givings and not to slacken in the least, because they now had a Reserve Fund. It would all be needed, they might depend, and being a self-sustaining Church would give Mr. Farquharson a Status at the Union Meetings amongst his brethren, which he had not had in the past, but which he so thoroughly deserved all the same.

Deacons Meeting 29th August 1904

In view of the Sale of Work on 7th and 8th of October it was agreed to call a Meeting of the Church Members and friends on Wednesday 14th September to make final arrangements and infuse interest in the Sale so as to make it a success. It was agreed to ask Sir Chas. Dalrymple to open on the 7th with Rev. Mr. Auchterlonie as Chairman and for the second day Judge Macpherson to open and Rev. Mr. Parnaby to preside.

Mr. Gibb intimated that he proposed opening the Sabbath School on [the] 11th, a few weeks sooner than usual with a view of getting the scholars interested in the collecting card scheme in good time. It was agreed that intimation of this be made from the pulpit on 4th also.

Special Church Meeting 14th September 1904

There was a fair attendance of lady members.

After a hearty tea and praise and prayer, Mr. Farquharson explained the main object of the meeting which was to make complete, as far as possible, the arrangements for the Sale of Work to be held in the Town Hall on the 7th and 8th of October, the proceed to be devoted to clear off the remaining debt on the Manse. Sir Chas. Dalrymple, Bart., M.P. had kindly agreed to open the Sale on the 7th, the first day of the Sale, and Revd. Mr. Auchterlonie, Chairman of the Congregational Union for the current year, would preside. Snr. Bailie Mackenzie of Edinburgh had kindly agreed to open the Sale on the 8th with Revd. Mr. Parnaby of St. Augustine Church as Chairman. The hour of meeting each day was fixed for ½ past 2, instead of 2 P.M.

It was agreed, after some discussion, to make a charge of 3d for admission to all whether specially or generally invited, on both days.

Three stalls for goods sent in or provided by the ladies of the Church, one for flowers and fruit and one for Refreshments. The ladies were left to appoint the Stallholders themselves.

Mr. Farquharson undertook to have handbills ready for distribution in the town and neighbourhood by the 18th so as to get the sale well advertised. The young people going round with their collecting cards to be asked to distribute the handbills. It was agreed to send a good supply of both handbills and collecting cards to Wallyford.

Deacons Meeting 28th September 1904

It was agreed that 100 Posters be ordered by the Pastor for advertising the Sale of Work in shop windows etc. Agreed also to have tables for goods as offered by Mr. Dickson, Joiner, with frames attached for hanging or showing the goods.

Mr. Lamb was appointed to take charge of the doors on days of Sale and to take the admission money of 3d for each person. Messrs. Ness and Jas. Brown were named as likely young men to assist and relieve Mr. Lamb and Mr. Farquharson undertook to ask them to act.

Mr. Farquharson asked as many of the ladies and others of the workers to meet in the Town Hall on the Thursday previous to the first day's sale.

MUSSELBURGH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

A SALE OF WORK

Will be held in the

TOWN HALL, MUSSELBURGH

On Friday the 7th and Saturday the 8th October 1904

~~~~~  
THE SALE WILL BE OPENED AT 2-30 EACH DAY:  
On Friday, by Sir Charles Dalrymple, M.P.,  
AND  
On Saturday, by Bailie Mackenzie,  
Edinburgh.

~~~~~  
THE OBJECT OF THE SALE OF WORK IS TO
CLEAR OFF THE DEBT ON THE MANSE AND ALSO TO EFFECT
NECESSARY REPAIRS ON THE CHURCH BUILDING

SUM REQUIRED, £200.

~~~~~  
**A Large Assortment of Useful Goods for Sale.**

Refreshment Stall.

**FLOWER AND PLANT STALL**

-----  
**Short Concerts and Musical Entertainments.**

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Any Donations of Goods or Money will be gratefully received.

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ADMISSION ALL DAY THREEPENCE

Train from Edinburgh 1-45 for Opening.

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J. Aikman, Printer, Musselburgh

#### Deacons Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1904

Mr. Gibb reported that Mr. Burns and he had got 16 Books at 1/- each, the regular price being 2/-, from the warehouse in Edinburgh of the Religious Tract Society, for the young people whose collection card showed subscriptions over 5/-. It was decided to entertain the young people to tea on an early date, including all who got subscriptions.

Mr. Gibb mentioned that he had not got in all the a/c's in connection with the Sale of Work, but he would have his report ready soon.

#### Special Deacons Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> November 1904

A special Meeting of the Deacons was held in the Manse tonight to receive Mr. Gibb's Report on the Sale of Work and to consider the question of repairs and alterations to the Church Building. Besides Mr. Farquharson, there were present Messrs. Macleay, Goldsmith, Gibb, Burns & Dobson. After prayer, Mr. Farquharson briefly stated the object of the meeting as above stated.

Mr. Gibb reported that the total Income from the Sale of Work, including donations and young people's gatherings was £138:7:8½. From this he had paid off the remaining Debt on Manse amounting to £91:18:2. Expenses in connection with [the] Sale, Rent, Printing etc. £9:0:2 leaving a Balance of £37:9:4.

From this balance it was agreed to put aside £30 for repairs on Church Building, the Balance of £7:9:4 to be preserved for some slight repairs on greenhouse at back of Manse, Taxes etc.

After some conversation on the repairs and alterations necessary on and in [the] Church Building, it was agreed to ask Messrs. Cooper & Son, Builders, or their foreman, Mr. White, to examine the roof and report to the Deacons as to its condition, also to give their opinion on the proposed alterations or addition in front of the Building and on the pulpit stand as well as additional seats consequent on removal of the old Pipe Organ.

It was also agreed to advertise the Pipe Organ for sale and Mr. Robt. Burns undertook to put advertisement in Evening News. Mr. Farquharson himself undertook to see Messrs. Cooper & Son about examining [the] roof of Church etc.

#### Quarterly Church Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1904

He [Mr. Gibb] then gave a Report on what has been termed the Manse Fund for the past 3 years. The Sale of Work in the Town Hall produced with subscriptions £139:8:2. From that he had paid off the remaining debt on [the] Manse, which was now the property of the Church. He had also laid aside, as agreed to by the Deacons, £30 for repairs on Church Building, and after paying certain unavoidable expenses connected with the Sale of Work, he had a Balance in hand of £6:4:4 ½, which, however, would be mostly required to clear off some debts still unpaid in connection with the Sale of last month.

On the motion of Mr. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. Watson, both reports were adopted.

Mr. Gibb moved that the fund which had hitherto been called the Manse Fund be now designated the Property Fund which was seconded by Mr. Goldsmith and agreed to.

The meeting then took up the question of repairs of Church Building. Mr. Goldsmith stated that three of the Deacons had met informally on Monday night, the 21<sup>st</sup>, to consider this question and what they would recommend to the present Church meeting. Mr. Farquharson was from home, and as the night was very inclement as regards weather, the other Deacons did not turn up. They concluded, however, to recommend that nothing be done for the present so far as any alteration on the front of the Church Building was concerned, and to confine their attention to securing more seat near the Pulpit and putting the roof into a moderate state of repair according to their means. The Pastor read over a letter from Mr. R. Cooper, Builder, stating that a new roof would cost £130 stg. and that other improvements, both in front and in connection with the hall and Vestry at back of Church, would probably cost in all over £400 stg. Mr. Cooper also gave it as his opinion that the wood of the roof would probably last for some years yet. Mr. Farquharson then invited remarks from members on the question of repairs.

Messrs. Gibb, Taylor, Wilson, Arnott and Dobson then offered remarks all agreeing generally with the recommendation of the Deacons that the church should go on meanwhile with the smaller scheme. Mr. Goldsmith mentioned, in connection with the idea of an entirely new Church which was mooted, that, if the present Church Building and Feu were in the Market, they would probably bring £600 stg. which would form a good nucleus for a new church.

Mr. Dobson suggested that the matter of repairs be left in the hands of the Deacons and a committee of practical men from the membership on the understanding that the smaller scheme only be gone on with. Mr. Goldsmith moved that this be the finding of the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Watson and unanimously agreed to.