

by the guilds and companies. The Salters Company, for instance, were enjoined by the will of Thomas Salter to go annually to the Church of St. Magnus for the purpose of keeping an obit, and there they performed the quaint ceremony of knocking upon the grave, and each person saying: 'How do you do, Brother Salter?' This practice was only discontinued early in the present century."

The Parliamentary Commission to investigate the guilds of London, over seventy in number, report the Salters Company and the shipwrights as founded in 1380. During the reign of James I. the Salters Company owned in Ulster, Ireland, 10,900 acres. These lands were originally owned by the O'Neills, and were confiscated during the reign of Elizabeth and James I. Under the Ashbourne act nearly the whole of the county of Londonderry was transferred by the guilds of London to the tenants, the Salters Company holding 250,000 acres.

J. E. Stillwell, M.D., says the Salter family may justly lay claim to considerable antiquity. In the reign of Henry VI., temp. 1423, there lived one William Salter, who was possessed of good estate and whose ancestors had resided at and were the lords for over two hundred years of a manor called Bokenhamis, in England. Walter Salter lived in the time of Richard III., temp. 1482. At the upper end of the south aisle in the church of Tottengen, in the county of Norfolk, there is erected to himself and lady a tablet with the following inscription:

"Orate pro animabus
Walter Salter et Alice uxoris ejus
Et pro quibus tenentus."

"Pray for the souls of Walter Salter and Alice his wife and for the souls of all that belong to them."