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Reforms to Scottish Academical Dress during the 1860s

By Jonathan C. Cooper

Introduction

Although hoods were worn in the ancient Scottish universities during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, their use went into decline thereafter. This paper focusses on the re-introduction of hoods in Scotland, mostly during the 1860s.¹ After consideration of the academical dress in use earlier during the nineteenth century, the four ancient universities are treated in the order in which they adopted comprehensive hood schemes; developments at Edinburgh, Aberdeen and St Andrews are detailed. Attention is also given to additions and amendments made to these schemes until 1890. Attitudes towards academical dress in late-nineteenth-century Scotland are surveyed briefly. Primary sources, in the form of university minutes and portraits, and secondary sources, mostly in the form of contemporary accounts, will be examined. A series of appendices sets out relevant passages from institutional records.

Earlier in the nineteenth century

Although hoods were not worn routinely in the Scottish universities during the early nineteenth century, gowns and caps were used for graduation ceremonies. An account of such a ceremony at the University of Edinburgh in 1830 notes that candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine were ‘attired in black gowns resembling generally those of Oxford and Cambridge’ and were ‘capped’ by the Principal with an ancient velvet doctor’s hat as he uttered: ‘Te medicinae Doctorem creo!’² Graduation at Marischal College, Aberdeen, in 1839 is recalled by one commentator:

One early spring-day we were ranged ceremoniously in the public hall, some eighteen or twenty of us who had completed the curriculum out of a class originally seventy strong, and there, clad all uncouthly in black silk gowns, which the college-beadles had begged, borrowed, or stolen from the city-clergy for the occasion, were made to repeat the words of a Latin oath, and, having been dabbed on the head individually by the Principal with a sacred bit of black velvet, were created and admitted Masters of Arts.³

1 Neither student dress nor official dress is considered in the present paper—only graduate dress is treated.

2 ‘I create you Doctor of Medicine!’; see G. Wilson, *Life of Dr. John Reid* (Edinburgh: Sutherland & Knox, 1852), pp. 14–16. The use of a black gown by graduands and a cap by doctors at Edinburgh is also documented in the 1820s; see L. Whalley, ‘A Defence of the Literary and Scientific Institutions of Scotland from the term “Illegitimate,” applied to them, in the Review of the “Cambridge Tart,” inserted in the “British Critic” for June 1823’, *The Edinburgh Magazine and Literary Miscellany*, 15 (Aug. 1824), pp. 184–97 (p. 194). Watercolours of the doctor’s bonnet and graduation cap used in the University of Glasgow c. 1844 are reproduced in D. Murray, *Memories of the Old College of Glasgow: Some Chapters in the History of the University* (Glasgow: Jackson, Wylie & Co., 1927), facing p. 308.

3 D. Masson, ‘Dead Men Whom I Have Known; or, Recollections of Three Cities’, *Macmil-*

Responding to an enquiry sent by *The Lancet*, the Secretary to the Medical Faculty of Marischal College wrote in 1849:

In reply to the inquiry, 'Whether the graduates of Aberdeen (M.B. and M.D.) wear gowns and hoods, and if so, of what colour,' I may mention that two kinds of gowns are worn at this university — viz., a scarlet gown, by the under-graduates of arts, and a black gown, by the professors. This same black gown is also worn by all graduates alike, at their graduation, and is supplied, free of charge, by the university. No hoods are used.

This is the existing custom, and I am not aware of any express statutes on the point; but as I believe Marischal College was founded upon the model of the University of Glasgow, and it, again, upon that of Bologna, those who are curious in such matters may find information on the subject, perhaps, by referring to the statutes of these universities.⁴

Responding to a similar query, the Secretary of King's College wrote:

In reference to the subject of gowns and hoods, of course the medical graduates had, in former times, a distinctive dress; but it has gradually become obsolete, because in the Scottish universities the graduates have not the same status which they hold in the English universities, where there are stated ceremonials, at which they annually appear in academic costume. No such thing, unfortunately, occurs here.⁵

Evidently, a distinct approach to ceremonial occasions was taken by each of the universities in Aberdeen before their fusion in 1860. The black gown worn by some Scottish professors during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries had false-panel sleeves, a velvet collar and sometimes frogs on the front and sleeves;⁶ if the same garment is being referred to in the 1849 account, it is notable that it was also worn by new graduates during the graduation ceremony at Marischal College as it is usually considered to be an official gown associated with the office of professor. However, this is contradicted by the 1839 account which implies that clerical gowns—likely Geneva gowns—were worn.⁷

The matter of academical dress came before the Scottish Universities Commission several times. At its meeting on 18 June 1859 it was presented with 'a letter from N. R. McLeod of Hatfield Hall, Durham, asking whether the Commissioners would restore hoods to the Scotch universities, as indicating different degrees' and 'a letter from Thomas Diver, Doctor of Medicine of St Andrew's [*sic*], inquiring as to the kind of gown which should be worn by Doctors of Medicine of the University'.⁸ On 6 August 1859 it was presented with 'a letter [...] from George Arthur Humble, of Mount Pleasant, Bideford, Devon, a graduate of St Andrew's, calling the attention of the Commissioners to reviving a distinctive dress

lan's Magazine, 9 (1863–64), pp. 325–43 (pp. 326–27).

4 *The Lancet*, 29 Sept. 1849, p. 358. This is supported by an engraving of Queen Victoria meeting University dignitaries during her visit to Aberdeen in 1848 which shows them wearing black gowns without hoods (University of Aberdeen, Museum Collections, ABDUA: 30249). The absence of hoods in Scotland was also noted in 1858; see J. W. G. Gutch, 'University Hoods', *Notes & Queries*, 2nd series, 6 (1858), pp. 211–12 (p. 212).

5 *The Lancet*, 29 Sept. 1849, p. 358.

6 N. Dickson, 'Tradition and Humour: The Academic Dress of the University of Glasgow', *TBS*, 12 (2012), pp. 10–35 (p. 12).

7 For more on this item of ecclesiastical dress, see S. J. Knox, 'The "Geneva" Gown', *Notes & Queries*, 199 (1 Aug. 1954), pp. 347–50.

8 Scottish Universities Commission, *General Report of the Commissioners under the Universities (Scotland) Act*, 1858 (Edinburgh: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1863), p. 127.

for graduates in the Universities of Scotland.⁹ The reply came on 10 April 1860: ‘in answer to a request from the Rev. G. A. Humble, to be informed what is his proper hood as a graduate of St Andrew’s, the Secretary was directed to state that the Commissioners were not at present prepared to consider the subject; and that they thought it a fitter subject of consideration for the Senatus of the University’.¹⁰ The Commission did not involve itself in the prescription of academical dress; regulation was left to the individual universities. Generally such regulations were passed by the Senatus Academicus comprised of the principal (vice-chancellor), professors and some other senior academics at each of the ancient universities. Each Senatus acted to re-introduce academical dress in response to popular demand from graduates.

University of Edinburgh

The first hood did not re-appear at one of Scotland’s medieval universities but, rather, at the University of Edinburgh (founded in 1582) and it did so in response to popular pressure, as recorded in Senatus minutes from 1843.

Being informed by different members of the University that graduates in the several faculties who have had occasion to appear at Court, or on other public occasions have experienced inconvenience from the circumstances of having no understood title to assume any robe which can be recognised as particular to this University, are of the opinion that it would be desirable to fix on a gown and cap appropriate to the academical rank of masters or doctors in the different faculties respectively.¹¹

The request was not granted in full. Although it had come from a wide range of graduates, provision was made only for holders of the medical doctorate.

The Committee on the Costume for the Graduates having produced a drawing of a gown with a hood lined with scarlet which might be worn on public occasions by doctors of medicine, the Senatus expressed their satisfaction with this form of gown, – and resolve to communicate their approbation to the Patrons, on this understanding that this gown is not to be worn by students at their graduation, but that it may be subsequently assumed as a distinctive dress, by such doctors of physic of this University as may have occasion to appear at Court, or at meetings of graduates of universities.¹²

It is assumed that for almost two decades this remained the only hood used by graduates of the Scottish universities and it was not even worn as part of the graduation ceremony. The installation of Henry Brougham, 1st Baron Brougham and Vaux, as Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh in 1860 occasioned a new system of academical dress (see App. A).¹³ It consisted of an uncomplicated set of four black silk hoods with linings in faculty colours. The gown was to be that of the MA of ‘Oxford and Cambridge’ which is problematic. Professors were to wear the same gown distinguished by a velvet collar and

9 Ibid., p. 130.

10 Ibid., p. 137.

11 University of Edinburgh, Archives, EUA IN1/GOV/SEN/MIN/1. College Minutes, Vol. 6, p. 475 (24 June 1843).

12 Ibid., pp. 477–78 (8 July 1843). It is thought that this drawing may be held in a file made inaccessible at present by damage.

13 There had been earlier calls for a system of academical dress to be introduced; for example, the Professor of Greek ‘amidst much applause, recommended the adoption of an academic dress’ in 1857 (‘Professor Blackie on University Reform’, *The Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 5 Nov. 1857, p. 4).

facings; those of the Faculty of Divinity were to wear the Geneva gown. Such a garment was and is worn by ministers of the Church of Scotland.¹⁴ This may indicate unwillingness on the part of divines to wear anything that may have been interpreted as unreformed. Messrs Christie & Findlater were appointed robemakers to the University and advertised their services in the press.¹⁵

Further hoods appear in the *Calendar* for 1865–66, as follows:

LL.D.	Black <i>cloth</i> , lined with <i>blue</i> silk.
LL.B.	Black <i>silk</i> , lined also with <i>blue</i> silk, bordered with white fur.
D.D.	Black <i>cloth</i> , lined with <i>purple</i> silk.
B.D.	Black <i>silk</i> , lined also with <i>purple</i> silk, bordered with white fur.
M.D.	Black <i>cloth</i> , lined with <i>crimson</i> silk.
M.B. and C.M.	Black <i>silk</i> , lined with <i>crimson</i> silk, bordered with white fur.
Sc.D.	Black <i>cloth</i> lined with <i>lemon yellow</i> silk.
Sc.B.	Black <i>silk</i> , lined with <i>lemon yellow</i> silk, bordered with white fur.
M.A.	Black <i>silk</i> , lined with <i>white</i> silk. ¹⁶

So only five years later, the four original hoods were supplemented by another five. Doctoral hoods were distinguished by the use of cloth, the medical colour changed from scarlet to crimson (see Fig. 1), and lemon yellow was introduced as a faculty colour for new science degrees.¹⁷ A contemporary commentator described the medical graduation ceremony in 1865: ‘All the graduates were attired in academic costume—square tasselled caps, black silk gowns, with black cloth hoods, lined in crimson silk, and lavender kid gloves.’¹⁸ Although the gloves did not form part of the officially sanctioned academical dress, it is worth noting that these were worn.

Full dress for Doctors of Law, Medicine and Science was amended in the early 1870s¹⁹ and described, thus:

Gown of superfine Scarlet Cloth, loose sleeves, the cape and facings down the front covered with, and the sleeves lined with rich silk of the colour proper to the Degree. Cap of black silk velvet after the John Knox fashion.²⁰

As well as being the first Scottish university to re-introduce hoods in 1843, in this respect also Edinburgh was ahead of Aberdeen and Glasgow which did not adopt scarlet for doctors until the 1890s (see below).

14 G. Deans, ‘“Hooded Crows”? A Reflection on Scottish Ecclesiastical Dress and Ministerial Practice from the Reformation to the Present Day’, *TBS*, 13 (2013), pp. 45–73 (pp. 54–57).

15 *The Scotsman*, 17 May 1860, p. 1; *The Caledonian Mercury*, 22 May 1860, p. 1.

16 *Edinburgh University Calendar 1865–66* (Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh, 1865), p. 145.

17 By using cloth for doctors’ hoods and silk for bachelors’ hoods, Edinburgh inverted the practice of Oxford and Cambridge (with thanks to an anonymous reviewer for this point). The science colour changed to green by 1874 (B. Christianson, ‘Lined with Gold: London University and the Colour of Science’, *TBS*, 5 (2005), pp. 80–89 (p. 85)).

18 ‘University of Edinburgh: Capping of Medical Graduates’, *The Caledonian Mercury*, 2 Aug. 1865, p. 4.

19 University of Edinburgh, Archives, EUA IN1/GOV/SEN/MIN/1. Senate Minutes, Vol. 5 (1872–75), pp. 95–96, 107.

20 *The Edinburgh University Calendar 1878–79* (James Thin, 1878), p. 194.



University of Aberdeen

Fig. 1. Prof. John MacRobin MD (Edinburgh), 1877.

Museum Collections, ABDUA: 30006. MacRobin graduated MD of the University of Edinburgh in 1827; however, he was Dean of the Medical Faculty in the University of Aberdeen (1860–75). This portrait likely shows the Edinburgh MD hood worn after 1865 (black cloth lined with crimson silk); the scarlet full dress gown is not worn but perhaps this is because scarlet had not yet been adopted for doctors at Aberdeen. However, artists' representations of dress should be approached critically (A. Ribeiro, 'Truth and Imagination: How Real is Dress in Art?', *The Journal of Dress History*, 1.1 (2017), pp. 3–5).

University of Aberdeen

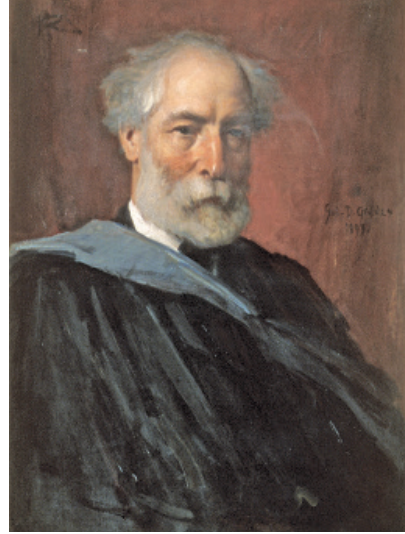
The University of Aberdeen was re-founded in 1860 with the amalgamation of King's College (founded in 1495) and Marischal College (founded in 1593). Just before this event the minutes of the elder college recorded a popular demand comparable to that received by the University of Edinburgh in 1843.

Thereafter a Petition was read from certain Graduates relative to the wearing of hoods as indicative of Academical Degrees, and praying the Senatus to adopt or revive the practice in connexion with this University. The meeting, though disposed to entertaining the proposal favourably, resolved in present circumstances, to postpone its consideration.²¹

There is no record of a similar petition having been received by Marischal College. A few months later the topic was one of the first considered by the new Senatus Academicus of the amalgamated University. A Committee on Academic Dress was established only four days after the Senatus was constituted; it was convened by the Principal, Peter Colin Campbell, and he was joined by the Professor of Greek, William Duguid Geddes (see Fig. 2).²² Within a few weeks they had devised a scheme which was approved and adopted (see App. B). Masters and doctors were to wear distinct black gowns and the system of hoods was graded: the shells of masters' hoods were of black silk and those of doctors' hoods were of dark purple cloth; linings were in faculty colours to some extent but those of the MA and the DD were the same. The MA hood was to be distinguished from that of other universities by the addition of a crimson ribbon but this was altered in the following year.

²¹ University of Aberdeen, Special Collections, KINGS/1/4/1. King's College Minutes, Vol. 17, p. 465 (June 1860).

²² University of Aberdeen, Special Collections, MSU370/1. Minutes of Senatus, Vol. 1, p. 7 (19 Sept. 1860).



University of Aberdeen

Figure 2: Prof. William Duguid Geddes LLD, 1892.

Museum Collections, ABDUA: 30066. Geddes graduated LLD of the University of Edinburgh in 1876 and became LLD of the University of Aberdeen (*ad eundem*) in 1886 (W. Johnston, *Roll of Graduates of the University of Aberdeen, 1860–1900* (Aberdeen University Press, 1906), p. 190). Both universities used blue to line their LLD hoods so this portrait could show either.

Thereafter it was agreed that instead of a distinction in the ribbon of the Master of Arts' Gown from those of Oxford and Cambridge, a slight alteration should be adopted in the shape of the Hood.²³

And so the Aberdeen shaped hood was born. The 'slight alteration' was in fact a radical departure from contemporary hood shapes (see Fig. 3).²⁴ A contemporary commentator made this description: 'The shape of the Aberdeen hoods is peculiar in having the hood proper reduced to a minimum, whereby a greater amount of the lining is exposed to view'.²⁵ Three remarkable features in the academical dress of the University Aberdeen in the 1860s therefore emerge: the use of a black scarf by professors (at all times for those who were Doctors of Divinity), the short-lived use of a crimson ribbon to differentiate the MA hood from that of other universities and the use of an unlined black hood for bachelors of the higher faculties.²⁶

Alumni were quick to question the scheme, as is evident from the following letter to the editor of a local newspaper:

SIR,—I see, from paragraphs in the newspapers, that the Senatus of the University of Aberdeen have fixed upon certain hoods to be worn by the Graduates in General Council.

Can you inform me whether any provision has been made for Alumni who, by observing certain regulations are put in the same position as Graduates, and are also

²³ Ibid., p. 61 (13 Feb. 1861).

²⁴ N. Groves (ed.), *Shaw's Academical Dress of Great Britain and Ireland*, 3rd ed., (Burgon Society, 2011), Vol. 1, pp. 38–39.

²⁵ P. J. Anderson, 'Academic Hoods', *Notes & Queries*, 7th series, 12 (1891), pp. 41–42 (p. 41).

²⁶ For portraits of divine professors wearing scarves, see P. J. Anderson (ed.), *Aurora Borealis Academia: Aberdeen University Appreciations 1860–1889* (Aberdeen: University Printers, 1899), facing pp. 132, 176, 181. For the use of the scarf in Scotland, see Deans, 'Hooded Crows', pp. 59–60. For the use of the unlined black hood elsewhere, see N. Groves, 'Who may wear the "Literate's Hood"?' *Burgon Society Annual 2002*, pp. 15–16.



University of Aberdeen
Fig. 3. MA Hood Shapes, 1891.

the DD (see Fig. 4), was already used for the MA. This situation was further confused in 1890 when the red lining of the BD hood was changed to purple; at the same time two new hoods were adopted: black silk lined with green silk for the BSc and purple cloth lined with green silk for the DSc (see App. C).

A pamphlet published by the General Council in 1891 lists Senatus minutes pertinent to academical costume at the University of Aberdeen and provides a listing of hoods for the other ancient Scottish universities. A detailed illustration of hood shapes is also included (see Fig. 3).²⁹ In 1895 the system of academical dress was overhauled to coincide with the

members of the General Council? Are they entitled to wear the hood appropriated to Masters of Arts? or has any hood been put aside for them?

If the matter has not been adverted to, I think there is a precedent which would exactly meet their case.

Alumni of English Universities are allowed to wear over their surplices a hood, or “decent tippet,” as it is called in the Canon, in form and colours similar to that of the Graduates, so that it be not silk.

Might not a similar arrangement be made in the present case? — I am, your obedient servant,
 ALUMNUS ABERDONENSIS.²⁷

The General Council is one of the constituent bodies of each of the ancient Scottish universities set out in the Universities (Scotland) Act, 1858. It was possible for a non-graduate to become a member of the General Council if certain requirements about matriculation and attendance had been met. The correspondent was evidently keen to be able to wear academical dress under these new provisions even though he did not actually hold a degree. However, from the records examined, it does not appear that the University of Aberdeen went on to make any such additional provision.

By the 1870s two further hoods were adopted: black silk lined with crimson silk for the MB and black silk lined with red silk for the BD.²⁸ The new medical hood was a logical addition as it used the shell common with other bachelors’ hoods and it was lined in the faculty colour; the new divinity hood, however, was lined in red presumably because white, used for

²⁷ ‘University Hoods’, *The Aberdeen Herald*, 16 March 1861, p. 5.

²⁸ University of Aberdeen, Special Collections, MSU370/1. Minutes of Senatus, Vol. 2, inside front cover and minute dated 10 Dec. 1870.

²⁹ University of Aberdeen, Special Collections, p Lambda Abd Univ A, 000792180. Minutes of Senatus and Notes on Graduates’ Hoods, Committee on Academic Costume, General Council, University of Aberdeen (1891). NB: this document is undated but the last minute printed in it is

Fig. 4.
Aberdeen DD
hood, 1860–
95.
 Burgon Society,
 collection, WBS-
 346. See also C.
 Fleming, 'From
 the Archivist',
Burgon Notes, 30
 (Winter 2014),
 p. 3.



Chris Williams

University's quincentenary celebrations. The notable change was the introduction of scarlet doctoral robes for full dress occasions; however, this is beyond the scope of the present paper.

University of Glasgow

The topic of nineteenth-century graduate dress at the University of Glasgow has been treated elsewhere.³⁰ It is worth noting that, as at the other universities, the demand for the adoption of hoods at Glasgow came from graduates (see App. D). A basic listing of hoods from the period is presented here to facilitate comparison with the other Scottish universities (see Table 1). A reformed scheme of scarlet doctoral hoods and scarlet full-dress doctoral gowns was adopted in 1893.³¹

University of St Andrews

Although the eldest of the Scottish universities, St Andrews (founded in 1413) was the last to re-adopt a comprehensive scheme of academical dress. However, it did so after careful consideration of precedents and produced a logical system. Although a full scheme of aca-

dated 7 June 1890 and it has been listed in a bibliographic source as having been published in 1891 (P. J. Anderson, *Collections Towards a Bibliography of the Universities of Aberdeen* (Edinburgh Bibliographical Society, 1907), p. 116).

³⁰ R. T. Hutcheson, 'Notes on Academic Dress in the University of Glasgow' (unpublished typescript, University of Glasgow, Archives, ACCN3669); R. T. Hutcheson, "Both Decent and Useful": Academic Dress in the University', *College Courant: Journal of the Glasgow University Graduates Association*, 55 (Martinmas 1975), pp. 13–15; N. Dickson, 'Tradition and Humour: The Academic Dress of the University of Glasgow', *TBS*, 12 (2012), pp. 10–35; N. Dickson, 'Old Glasgow Hoods', *Burgon Notes*, 35 (Spring 2016), p. 5.

³¹ Hutcheson, *Notes*, pp. 15–16.

Table 1: University of Glasgow hoods during the 1860s and 1870s

	1868	1871	1873	1875
BA ¹				Black silk bordered inside with red purple silk
MA	Black silk lined with red purple silk			
BSc			Black silk lined with gold coloured silk	
DSc			Black velvet lined with gold coloured silk	
MB CM ²	Black silk lined with white silk		Black cloth lined with scarlet silk	
MD	Black silk lined with red silk		Black silk lined with scarlet silk	
BL ³				Black silk bordered inside with Venetian red silk
LLB			Black silk lined with Venetian red silk	
LLD	Black velvet lined with black silk ⁴	Black velvet lined with red silk	Black velvet lined with Venetian red silk	
BD	Black silk bordered with black velvet and lined with red purple silk			
DD	Black velvet lined with black silk ⁵			

1 The BA was last awarded at Glasgow in 1861, before any hoods had been prescribed, but there was likely demand from holders of the degree to have dress designed for them retrospectively; this hood has since disappeared from the *Calendar* (Hutcheson, *Notes*, p. 9).

2 This became the MB ChB (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) i.e. the general medical qualification in 1892; the ChM became a postgraduate qualification (Dickson, *Tradition and Humour*, p. 19).

3 The BL or Bachelor of Law (as opposed to the LLB or Bachelor of Laws) degree did not require the prior completion of the MA degree.

4 A holder of this degree who also held MA status could use a red purple lining instead of black (Dickson, *Tradition and Humour*, p. 16).

5 Ditto.

demical dress was not adopted until 1868 (see below), a forerunner to this was the sanction of two medical hoods by the Senatus Academicus in 1862.

The cap and gown for Bachelors and Doctors of Medicine are to be similar to those worn by Masters of Arts at Cambridge. The Gown may be made of silk or stuff, at the option of the wearer. The Hoods are also to be of the same stuff as the Cambridge hoods, but of distinctive colours and materials. The M.B. hood may be made of either black silk or stuff, with an edge of purple silk two inches wide inside and outside. The M.D. hood, which is very handsome and elegant, is made of purple cloth, and lined with rose-coloured silk.³²

32 University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY452. University Minutes, Vol. 18, p.

This provision was reported, within a fortnight, by the medical press.³³ The introduction of these garments occurred just before reforms to medical degrees took effect.³⁴ However, these short-lived hoods were superseded by new ones within a few years. Whereas no particular logic for the design of these early medical hoods is evident, the comprehensive scheme which replaced them was based upon thorough historical research. As at Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow beforehand, popular demand motivated action at St Andrews. Senatus minutes from March 1866 record:

A petition was read from Graduates and Students in the Faculty of Arts requesting the Senatus to authorise an academic Hood to be worn by Masters of Arts of the University.³⁵

A committee was appointed 'to consider the general subject of academical Costume and report thereon'; it was convened by Alexander Ferrier Mitchell (Professor of Oriental Languages) and he was joined by John Tulloch (the Principal) and John Campbell Shairp (Professor of Humanity).³⁶ A verbal report was made some nine months later;³⁷ an interim report was

made in January 1867 (see App. E) and a final report in May 1868 (see App. F). The scheme of academical dress recommended in the report was adopted in November 1868.

The committee's convenor, Alexander Ferrier Mitchell (see Fig. 5) was born in 1822 and educated at Brechin grammar school then St Mary's College; he graduated MA of the University of St Andrews in 1841. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Brechin in 1844 and was appointed Professor of Oriental Languages in St Mary's College in 1848. He graduated DD (St And.) in 1862 and transferred chairs to become Professor of Ecclesiastical History in 1868. He was Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1885 and graduated honorary LLD of the University of Glasgow in 1892. He retired and became Emeritus Professor in 1894 and died in 1899.³⁸



Fig. 5. Prof. Alexander Ferrier Mitchell DD (St Andrews).

Mitchell, *Scottish Reformation*, frontispiece

162 (29 Sept. 1862).

³³ 'Academic Costume for St. Andrew's [*sic*]', *The Medical Times and Gazette*, 11 Oct. 1862, p. 398; 'Medical Academic Costume of the University of St. Andrews', *The Lancet*, 11 Oct. 1862, p. 407.

³⁴ J. S. G. Blair, *History of Medicine in the University of St Andrews* (Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press, 1987), p. 61.

³⁵ University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY452. University Minutes, Vol. 18, p. 460 (10 March 1866).

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 488 (8 Dec. 1866).

³⁸ J. Christie, 'Biographical Sketch of Dr Mitchell', in: A. F. Mitchell, *The Scottish Reformation: Its Epochs, Episodes, Leaders, and Distinctive Characteristics*, ed. D. Hay Fleming (Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1900), xiii–xliv; J. K. Cameron, 'Mitchell, Alexander Ferrier (1822–1899)', Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004); R. N. Smart, *Biographical Register of the University of St Andrews, 1747–1897* (University of St Andrews Library, 2004).



Figs 6–8. Professors, University of France, nineteenth century. Faculties of Laws (left, Fig. 6), Medicine (centre, Fig. 7), and Science (right, Fig. 8).

André Belloguet, *Catalogue de la Maison Bosc*. The figures are not dated precisely but the artist died in 1873.

During the course of his research, Alexander Mitchell wrote to David Laing, antiquary and librarian,³⁹ asking for his help and their correspondence sheds some light on Mitchell's approach:

I have been spending—I fear you will think—misspending a deal of time on that weary subject of the old Academic hoods, caps, gowns etc & have now collected a number of facts bearing on the subject partly from the published *Fasti* of the other Universities & partly from the MS records of our own.⁴⁰

Mitchell asked Laing to assist him with two questions: one concerning the shape of the cap of Doctors of Divinity and another concerning the manner in which hoods were worn.⁴¹

Both the interim and final reports were signed on behalf of the committee by Mitchell alone and, on their presentation to the Senatus, votes of thanks were given on both occasions specifically to Mitchell rather than the committee as a whole. This probably indicates that Mitchell was the principal author; his research abilities are borne out in the reports. References are made to manuscript sources held in the archives of the University of St Andrews; secondary sources from elsewhere in Scotland are also referred to. Furthermore, the reports cite the works of seventeenth-century French historians, César-Egasse du Boulay (Bulaeus) and Charles du Fresne, sieur du Cange (Du Cange). Bulaeus' *Historia Universitatis Parisiensis* (1665–73) and, to a lesser extent, Du Cange's *Glossarium mediae et infimae Latinitatis* (1678) are used to give historical justification for the French-inspired scheme of academical dress proposed by the committee.

³⁹ M. C. T. Simpson, 'Laing, David (1793–1878),' *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 2004).

⁴⁰ University of Edinburgh Library. La. iv. 17 fols. 6873–6874. Letter: 1868 March 21, St Andrews, to David Laing, Alex F. Mitchell.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

Of course, this was not the first time that St Andrews had followed Paris with regard to academical dress; as is pointed out in the interim report, members of the pre-Reformation University of St Andrews were required by regulation to wear dress according to the custom in the University of Paris.⁴² So the University of St Andrews in the nineteenth century sought to emulate its own practice from before the Reformation which in turn had come to it from Paris. The reports look to Parisian sources, both historical and contemporary, to justify its recommendations. The final report refers to a separate report on academical dress which had been drawn up for the Graduates Association of the University of St Andrews in 1859; it contained a letter on the subject from M. Arnaud, the Vice-Rector of the University of France.⁴³ It seems that this document confirmed what the committee had already ascertained about French academical dress.

The University of France was a centralized imperial institution which governed higher education in France for much of the nineteenth century.⁴⁴ Academical dress was re-introduced by decree in 1809 and amended in 1852; however, some aspects were in use under the Ancien Régime. It had two variants, the *grand costume* and *petit costume*, for different occasions, and comprised the *simarre* (gown and cassock in one), the *chausse* (fur-trimmed stole), the *toque* (cap), the cincture and the cravat (see Figs 6–8).⁴⁵

The final report cites various further sources to give provenance to its recommendations. Among them is a piece of legislation which confirms that doctors wore scarlet; although the Act of 1474 which is cited cannot be traced, a sumptuary law of 1458 does so—it is conceivable that dates may have been confounded.⁴⁶ Similarly, the Scottish poem quoted cannot be traced; however, the ‘neukit bonnet’ it refers to is the cornered or peaked cap. The English poem quoted in the report is *The Ballad of the Caps*, a late Elizabethan piece which sheds some light on various caps, including those of scholars.⁴⁷

As for the scheme proposed by the committee, masters and doctors were to wear the academical dress of professors in the University of France, adopting the *grand costume*

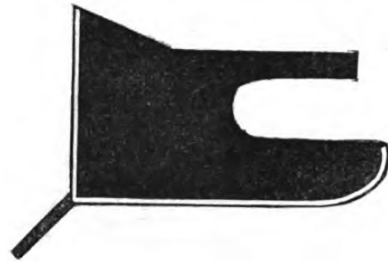


Fig. 9. Cambridge MA hood ca. 1850 the shape of which was adopted by the University of St Andrews in 1868.

G. J. French, *The Tippetts of the Canons Ecclesiastical* (London: George Bell, 1850), p. 6.

⁴² See also J. C. Cooper, ‘Academical Dress in Late Medieval and Renaissance Scotland’, *Medieval Clothing and Textiles*, 12 (2016), pp. 109–30 (p. 114).

⁴³ It has not been possible to locate a copy of the original report or letter in spite of a search of the obvious file: University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY615–620. Executive Papers of the General Council.

⁴⁴ G. Weisz, *The Emergence of Modern Universities in France, 1863–1914* (Princeton University Press, 1983), pp. 18–20.

⁴⁵ Y. Mausen, ‘The Question of Ecclesiastical Influences on French Academic Dress’, *TBS*, 5 (2005), pp. 36–41 (p. 38); J. Boedels, *La justice: les habits du pouvoir* (Paris: Antébi, 1992), pp. 220–21.

⁴⁶ Parliamentary Register, Sumptuary Law, King James II, 6 March 1458: Edinburgh; Cooper, ‘Academical Dress’, p. 111.

⁴⁷ F. W. Fairholt, *Satirical Songs and Poems on Costume: From the 13th to the 19th Century* (London: The Percy Society, 1849), pp. 115–21.



Photographs reproduced courtesy of the University of St Andrews

Fig. 10 (above). Parisian hats commissioned by the University of St Andrews in 1868.

Fig. 11 (right). BD hood of the University of St Andrews after 1888: violet purple both lined with white satin and edged with white fur.

Museum of the University of St Andrews. Fig 10: HC792; HC793; HC795; HC796. Fig. 11: HC1098(4).



and *petit costume* according to degree and occasion. Hoods, however, were to be ‘after the pattern of those of the University of Cambridge, as most nearly resembling the form of the hood on the Rector’s Robe of this University’ (see Fig. 9).⁴⁸ This is where the scheme proposed by the committee differs from contemporary French practice. It seems that the *chausse* was confused with the hood. Masters’ hoods were of black silk lined with red and those of doctors were in faculty colours lined with white satin ‘to represent the old ermine lining’ used on the *chausse* in France.⁴⁹ Bachelors were entitled to wear exactly the same hood as doctors but with the gown of the MA.

The report was adopted in November 1868 at which time the Senatus resolved to obtain specimens of the items of academical dress.⁵⁰ These included caps made by Bosc of Paris (see Fig. 10);⁵¹ it seems that these caps were ‘thought to be altogether too splendid, even for “occasions of high ceremony”’.⁵²

Evidently the scheme of academical dress devised was not always put to full use. In 1871 Principal Tulloch gave notice of a motion:

That the graduation ceremonial shall be conducted with more becoming formality than heretofore—all graduates for the session being expected to appear at the ceremonial in appropriate costume.⁵³

The minutes record the outcome of the discussion:

48 For more on Rectorial dress at St Andrews, see: J. C. Cooper, ‘The Dress of Rectors at the Scottish Universities’, *TBS*, 12 (2012), pp. 46–62 (pp. 49–51).

49 Doctors were later permitted hood linings of white satin or ermine.

50 University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY452. University Minutes, Vol. 19, pp. 1–2 (7 Nov. 1868).

51 P. J. Lowe, ‘French Connection at the University of St. Andrews’, *Burgon Notes*, 1 (June 2002), p. 6; *Burgon Notes*, 21 (Autumn 2012), p. 3.

52 R. G. Cant, ‘Academic Dress’, in: *University of St Andrews: An Historical Exhibition, the Parliament Hall, St Andrews, 1962* (St Andrews: W. C. Henderson & Son, 1962), pp. 30–33 (32).

53 University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY452. Minutes of Senatus, Vol. 19, p. 129 (6 May 1871).

It was agreed also to recommend to the professors of the several faculties appear at the ceremonial in their proper gowns and hoods, and that the candidates about to graduate also appear in appropriate costume.⁵⁴

In a report to the *Senatus Academicus* in 1885, the United College suggested: ‘it would be well to prescribe that, at the graduation ceremony, hoods as well as gowns should be worn by the graduates’; ‘the report was adopted and it was remitted to the colleges to see effect given to these recommendations.’⁵⁵ There was a further resolution in 1887 that ‘students proceeding to graduation should, if possible, bring with them the hoods of their respective degrees.’⁵⁶

Two further faculty colours were added to the scheme during the 1880s. An early-twentieth-century commentator pointed out: ‘It is interesting to note that in the institution of new Faculties, such as that of Science, the University of Paris and St. Andrews have adopted the same colours. This cannot have been accidental.’⁵⁷ It was not—Mitchell referred back to the letter from the Vice-Rector of the University of France in 1859 to ascertain that amaranth was the colour used by the Faculty of Science; this was adopted for St Andrews in 1887.⁵⁸ In the following year the Students’ Representative Council requested that the *Senatus* obtain ‘patterns of the exact colours appropriate to the Academic costume of graduates in Science of this University.’⁵⁹ The *Senatus* moved that ‘a sum not exceeding five pounds be expended on the purchase, at Paris, of caps worn by Doctors of Science and Music.’⁶⁰ Another new faculty colour was adopted soon thereafter—cerulean blue for Music.⁶¹

At the same time in 1888 it was resolved by the *Senatus* that ‘the costume of the Bachelor Degree in all Faculties should have the Hood edged with white fur’⁶² (see Fig. 11). This put an end to the practice of the previous twenty years whereby bachelors had worn exactly the same hood as doctors in the respective faculties.

Photographic and pictorial representations of the academical dress of the University of St Andrews from this period are rare. The doctoral gown based on the French *simarre* (gown and cassock in one) is best represented in a late-nineteenth-century photograph of an unknown academic (see Fig. 12). It is also shown in a photographic portrait of Professor Mitchell himself (see Fig. 5).⁶³ The undress version of the entire costume can be seen in an early-twentieth-century portrait of the Revd Patrick Macdonald Playfair; he was Doctor of Divinity so the faculty colour is violet purple (see Fig. 13). Of course, the hood and not the *chausse* is worn here; however, the cincture is worn in the French style (cf. Figs 6–8). It

54 *Ibid.*, Vol. 19, p. 169 (9 March 1872).

55 *Ibid.*, Vol. 20, p. 533 (24 April 1885).

56 *Ibid.*, Vol. 21, p. 124 (9 April 1887).

57 T. Baty, *Academic Colours* (Tokyo: Kenkyusha Press, 1934), p. 26.

58 Minutes of *Senatus*, Vol. 21, p. 113 (12 March 1887).

59 *Ibid.*, Vol. 21, p. 226 (10 March 1888).

60 *Ibid.*, Vol. 21, p. 227 (10 March 1888); Museum of the University of St Andrews, HC794.

61 Minutes of *Senatus*, Vol. 21, p. 247 (14 April 1888).

62 *Ibid.*

63 This photograph was published posthumously in 1900; however, Mitchell looks less elderly than in another portrait painted c. 1894 (Museum of the University of St Andrews, HC209) so the photograph is likely to have been taken at an earlier date. Of course, it is possible that Mitchell is wearing a separate gown and cassock rather than a *simarre* but the difference is not visible.

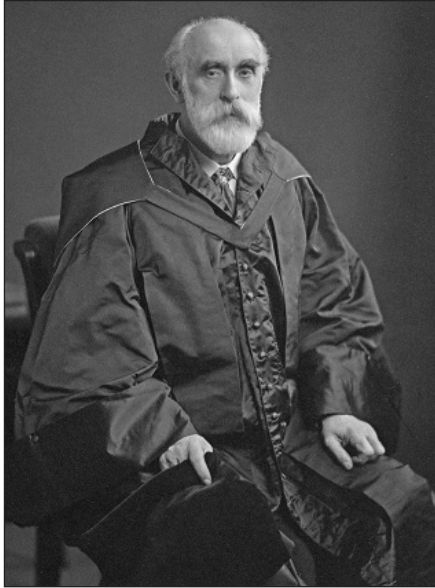


Fig. 12



Fig. 13

Fig. 13: Reproduced courtesy of the University of St Andrews. Museum of University of St Andrews, PCF304

Fig. 12 (far left). Unknown academic in St Andrews doctoral dress, late nineteenth century.

Fig. 13. The Revd Patrick Macdonald Playfair DD (St Andrews), 1911.

Fig. 12: T. & R. Annan & Sons, Unknown academic, National Galleries of Scotland, PGP R 1052. Gift of Mrs Riddell in memory of Peter Fletcher Riddell, 1985

has been suggested that the cincture 'in all probability represents the golden girdle which in the mediæval ceremony at Montpellier was placed around the waist of the graduand'.⁶⁴

In practice, some wore the Oxford MA gown instead of the French *simarre*; similarly the French-style caps were neglected in favour of the square and the doctoral bonnet.⁶⁵ This is supported by the extant pictorial evidence. Portraits show the fur-lined MD hood in 1870 (see Fig. 14) and the MA hood in 1880 (see Fig. 15); in neither case does the gown being worn appear to be that prescribed by the Senatus.⁶⁶

It seems that there was some later misconception that the 1868 scheme had been in place for much longer. The Principal (and Vice-Chancellor), Sir James Colquhoun Irvine, giving a lecture on Benjamin Franklin in St Andrews in 1938, detailed the conferment of his LLD in 1759 when Franklin is described as 'clad in the undress gown of a Doctor of Laws (cut in the fashion of the University of Paris)' and his being draped in 'the hood of scarlet silk lined with white satin'.⁶⁷ These items did not appear at St Andrews until more than a century later but this indicates that the scheme was successful as an attempt to re-create the past, persuading even those who might be expected to know better.

A century after it was written, Mitchell's report was described as 'a work of exemplary scholarship'.⁶⁸ It is clear that it represents an early piece of detailed research on academi-

64 D. J. Cunningham, *The Evolution of the Graduation Ceremony: Being the Graduation Address to the Graduates in Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, July 1904* (Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1904), p. 20.

65 Cant, 'Academic Dress', p. 32. A black velvet *birretum*, commonly called the John Knox cap, serves as doctoral headwear in St Andrews today.

66 See also a portrait of John Campbell Shairp wearing the LLD hood in 1886 (Museum of the University of St Andrews, HC228).

67 J. B. Salmond (ed.), *The Aim and the End: Being Lectures and Addresses delivered by Sir James Colquhoun Irvine* (Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd, 1956), pp. 239–40.

68 Cant, 'Academic Dress', p. 31.



Fig. 14 (near right). Dr Pullon MD (St Andrews), 1870.

Fig. 15. Mr J. Clelland MA (St Andrews), 1880.

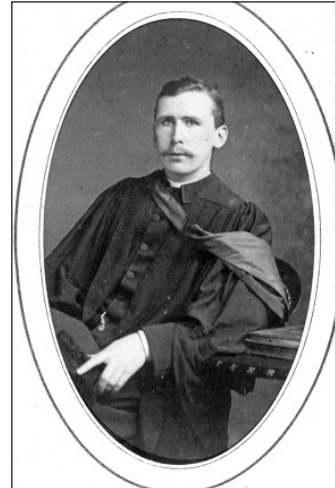


Fig. 14

Reproduced courtesy of the University of St Andrews Library: ms37103-4.24v

Fig. 15

Reproduced courtesy of the University of St Andrews Library: ms37103-1-25r-4

cal dress; had it not been confined to the minute book for a century and a half, perhaps it would have served as an exemplar to other universities in designing their own schemes of academical dress.

Attitudes towards academical dress

In spite of the demand from graduates as noted above, there was not universal approval for academical dress in late-nineteenth-century Scotland. The following excerpts are not intended to serve as a comprehensive survey but represent a small selection of contemporary attitudes. For example, one provincial commentator describes a service in Glasgow Cathedral in 1880:

I was not a little delighted with the beautiful service conducted in the Cathedral, although I don't know what some of the more strict Peebleans would have said had they seen all that I saw. It is so different from what takes place in our old-fashioned burgh. In the first place there is a fine organ, played by Doctor Peace, who wears his hood as Doctor of Music. After the voluntary, Doctor Burns, the incumbent, entered the pulpit, and the assistant took his place at the reading-desk, each in his academic hood. Some worthy people object to the wearing of hoods, asserting that the bright colours are rather suggestive of the 'scarlet lady,' but it seems to me an excellent practice.⁶⁹

Others too have noted 'the popular prejudice against scarlet, on account of its supposed associations with the Roman Church,' with regard to academical dress in Scotland.⁷⁰

Scottish academical dress even attracted international attention. The robes of the University of Edinburgh were displayed at the Paris International Exposition in 1878; the

69 *Peeblesshire Advertiser*, 13 March 1880, p. 4.

70 J. Woodward, 'Academical Hoods, &c', *Year Book for the Episcopal Church in Scotland for 1899*, (Edinburgh: R. Grant & Son, 1899), pp. 117-24 (p. 119).

Table 2: Comparison of the principal hoods among Scottish universities during the 1860s

	Edinburgh February 1860	Aberdeen October 1860	Glasgow April 1868	St Andrews November 1868
MA	Black silk lined with white silk	Black silk lined with white with crimson ribbon	Black silk lined with red purple silk	Black silk lined with red silk
MD	Black silk lined with scarlet silk	Dark purple cloth lined with crimson silk	Black silk lined with red silk	Crimson silk or cloth lined with white satin
LLD	Black silk lined with blue silk	Dark purple cloth lined with pale blue silk	Black velvet lined black silk	Scarlet silk or cloth lined with white satin
DD	Black silk lined with purple silk	Dark purple cloth lined with white silk	Black velvet lined black silk	Violet purple silk or cloth lined with white satin

stand was described as ‘excit[ing] a good deal of attention, and not a little wonder among French visitors to the British Section’.⁷¹

Conclusions

Academical dress was re-introduced at each of the Scottish universities in response to popular demand from graduates. The scarlet-lined MD hood adopted by the University of Edinburgh in 1843 was the first modern Scottish hood. Both Edinburgh and St Andrews adopted academical dress for medical degrees before including other graduates in wider schemes. This may be an indication that demand from physicians was a particular motivating factor in the re-introduction of academical dress in Victorian Scotland. During the 1860s, Edinburgh adopted a system of black silk hoods lined with faculty colours; Aberdeen used purple cloth doctoral hoods lined with faculty colours; Glasgow prescribed black hoods of velvet or silk and a limited range of linings which changed soon thereafter; and St Andrews approved doctoral hoods with shells in faculty colours adopted from France (see Table 2). The advent of science degrees, amongst others, added further hoods to the schemes of each of the Scottish universities in the decades that followed. Edinburgh introduced the use of scarlet gowns for doctors—with facings and sleeve linings in existing hood colours—during the early 1870s. Scarlet was not adopted by doctors at Glasgow or Aberdeen until the 1890s, when the academical dress schemes approved during the 1860s were reformed substantially. It has been noted that St Andrews doctoral dress was unusual in that it was not scarlet but of faculty colours.⁷² The scheme of academical dress introduced by the University of St Andrews in 1868 remains, with a few modifications, in use to the present day.

Acknowledgements

An early version of this paper was presented at the Burgon Society Spring Conference, 22 April 2017, in London. I am grateful for the assistance of staff of the Centre for Research Collections, University of Edinburgh, of the Special Collections Centre, University of Aberdeen, and of the Special Collections Division, University of St Andrews. I am grateful for the comments received from reviewers, especially Neil Dickson and Alex Kerr. I am also grateful for images provided by various institutions and Chris Williams.

⁷¹ ‘The Paris Exhibition’, *The Edinburgh Evening News*, 10 May 1878, p. 2.

⁷² Whittaker, ‘Academic Dress’, *The Musical Standard*, 31 (1909), pp. 137, 153, 170–71 (137).

Appendix A: Installation Report, University of Edinburgh, 1860

Transcribed from: University of Edinburgh, Archives, EUA IN1/GOV/SEN/MIN/1. Senate Minutes, Vol. 1, pp. 388-90.

16th February 1860

It appears to the Committee highly desirable that this opportunity should be taken to make such arrangements as are within the competency of the Senatus for the relative precedence on occasion of University Ceremonials of the different Faculties, and for fixing the proper costume to be worn by the Professors on such occasions.

They therefore recommend that the precedence of the several Faculties should be as follows:-

1. Divinity
2. Laws
3. Medicine
4. Arts

That in each Faculty the Dean should take precedence and after him the Members of the Faculty in the order of the dates of their Commissions.

The Committee also recommend that all the Professors with the exception of the Divinity Faculty, should in so far as they may find it convenient wear on occasions of University Ceremonial a Gown and Bands of a Uniform Pattern, and as nearly as may be resembling the M.A. Gown and Bands of Oxford and Cambridge with the distinctive mark of a velvet collar and stripe down the front - to indicate the Professorial character of the wearer.

A pattern of the gown recommended by the Committee will be found in the hands of Messrs Christie & Findlater 104 South Bridge whom it is proposed should be named Robe Makers to the University.

It is proposed that the Professors of the Faculty of Divinity should continue to wear the Geneva Gown and Bands.

The Committee further recommend that all the Professors should wear Caps similar to those in use in the English Universities, and that similar Caps but of black Velvet with gold Tassels should be worn by the Chancellor, Rector, and Principal.

The Gown which the Committee recommend to be worn by the Principal is of the same shape as that to be worn by the Professors but made of Purple Cloth.

The Committee were extremely desirous to have been able to recommend that the Professors in each Faculty should wear a Hood lined with a distinctive colour - which should also be the hood for Graduates in that Faculty.

But they find on enquiry that the Hood is universally recognised as denoting the Academic Degree of the wearer and they cannot recommend a deviation from so general a practice.

They recommend however that such of the Professors as possess Degrees from other Universities, and have either no degree or a lower degree from this University should on occasions of ceremony wear the hood appropriate to such foreign Degree. And that those Professors who are Graduates of this University and have not obtained a higher degree elsewhere should wear the hood now to be sanctioned.

The only Degrees for which it seems necessary at present to provide appropriate hoods are those of D.D. L.L.D. M.D. and M.A. And the Committee recommend that all the

Hoods should be of black silk with the following distinctive linings viz:

For the Degree in Divinity	Purple
” ” ” in Laws	Blue
” ” ” in Medicine	Scarlet
” ” ” in Arts	White

If this suggestion is approved of the proper hoods can be obtained from Messrs Christie & Findlater, with whom it is also proposed that arrangements should be made for providing gowns on loan for Honorary Graduates.

The gowns and hoods to be worn by Masters of Arts and Doctors of Medicine should it is proposed be the same as those of the Professors—with the exception of the velvet on the gowns.

Signed A. Campbell-Swinton, Convener.

Professor More moved a vote of thanks to the Committee, and that the Report be approved of.

This Motion was agreed to.

The Senatus remit the matter to the Committee, with full powers to take the steps indicated in the Report for providing for the ceremony of the Installation, or such other steps, as may seem to them desirable.

Appendix B: Report on Academic Dress, University of Aberdeen, 1860

Transcribed from: University of Aberdeen, Special Collections, MSU370/1. Minutes of Senatus, Vol. 1, pp. 19, 30.

10th October 1860

Thereafter on the interim report of the Committee on Academic Dress, it was agreed unanimously: That in the case of those who are desirous to procure new Gowns, the Gown to be worn by Masters of Arts and by such Professors as are not Doctors in any Faculty should be that which is commonly known as a Master's Gown, with an opening in the sleeve above the elbow, and made of Black silk or of any texture of similar appearance; That for Doctors in any Faculty the proper gown should be one with large sleeves after the pattern of the Doctor's gown heretofore worn by the Rector of the University and King's College, made of black silk or other material of similar appearance.

The Committee stated that they hoped to be prepared by next meeting to report as to what addition should be adopted to distinguish Professors from other Graduates, and as to the other matters remitted to their consideration.

[...]

27th October 1860

Thereafter the following recommendations of the Committee on Academic Badges were approved of and adopted by the Senatus:

1. That Professors be distinguished on occasions of University ceremony from other graduates by wearing a scarf of black silk; Professors who are Doctors in Divinity to wear the scarf at all times with their gowns; Members of the University Court to wear the scarf of purple.

2. That the Hoods for the various degrees to be as follows:

For M.A.—Black silk lined with white silk to be distinguished from the M.A. Hoods of Cambridge and Edinburgh by a crimson ribbon.

For all Doctors, of dark purple cloth lined,

for D.D. with white silk

for LL.D. with pale blue silk

for M.D. with crimson silk.

For Bachelors in the higher Faculties who are not entitled to wear the M.A. Hood, the Hood to be of black silk without lining.

Appendix C: Report on Diplomas and Hoods, University of Aberdeen, 1890

Transcribed from: University of Aberdeen, Special Collections, MSU370/2. University of Aberdeen Document Book, pp. 497-98.

7th June 1890

Report of Committee of Senatus on Diplomas and Hoods

[...]

II Academic Hoods

Two points have occupied the attention of the Committee. The first is the differentiation of the B.D. Hood from that of the M.B., the former being at present indicated by red silk and the latter by crimson silk whereby they are not sufficiently distinguished.

It is recommended that Purple Silk be substituted for Red Silk, as the distinguishing mark of the B.D. Degree.

The other point is as to the Degrees in Science. It is proposed to adopt the same differentiation as in Edinburgh University for the same Degrees: viz:- Green Silk, as lining of Black Silk in case of the Bachelor, and as lining of Purple Cloth in the case of the Doctor of Science, which is the same differentiation as obtains between the Baccalaureate and Doctorate in all Faculties in this University.

(Signed) W^m. D. Geddes,
Convener of Committee

Appendix D: Letter to the Editor of the Glasgow Herald, 1861

Transcribed from: The Glasgow Daily Herald, 26 March 1861, p. 3.

GLASGOW AND UNIVERSITY HOODS.

To the Editor of the Glasgow Herald.

SIR,—As you have, in a kind and liberal spirit, which cannot but be appreciated, lent your columns of late to the aid of justice as regards some points affecting Episcopalians in Scotland, may I ask you to favour me by allowing a word to be spoken upon a collateral subject—I mean that of *University Hoods*!

By ancient statute Episcopalians are *required* to wear the *hood*, agreeable to their degree, when *preaching the sermon*. This custom is followed also by some English Dissenters; but if any gentleman entering the Church of England, or the Episcopal Church of Scotland, should have the misfortune to be a Graduate of *Glasgow*, he must take his stand, not as a *University* man at all, but as a mere *literate*, having no academic hood to wear! This is a grievance to many who are Graduates of Glasgow, and, among other things, has tended to *lower* the Scottish Universities in the eyes of English people. Several of the Episcopal clergy of Scotland are Graduates of Glasgow—there are others in England—and several Graduates now at College are about to take orders, and, as a consequence, are about to take up a position *inferior* to that of any from either Oxford, Cambridge, London, Durham, Dublin, the Queen's Colleges, or even *Aberdeen*, for, to the honour of the Senatus of the last be it recorded, a hood for the several degrees of M.A., M.D., LL.D., and D.D., has been granted.

Originally Glasgow had a hood, but the distinctive colours for the several degrees have been lost amid the revolutions of modern times. This is a loss both to Graduates and to the University; to Graduates, because, notwithstanding all that has been said against the Scottish Universities, there is not a better course of training for the work of the ministry in all Christendom than that which is followed in the Arts Curriculum at Glasgow. It is also a loss to the University, because it tends to alienate the feelings of those who have graduated, and to keep away others who would come. Gentlemen who have taken a degree at Glasgow go, perhaps, to Durham to take Divinity, and apply for an *ad eundem degree* there, simply to be able to wear a hood and rank as *University men*. It is to be hoped that the Senatus will see the propriety of following the example set by Aberdeen, and of raising the Graduates of Glasgow to a position of equality with those of other Universities, by sanctioning some hood for the several degrees. —I beg to remain, Sir, your obedt. servt.,

A FRIEND OF GLASGOW COLLEGE.

Appendix E: Report on Academic Costume, University of St Andrews, 1867

Transcribed from: University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY452. University Minutes, Vol. 18, pp. 492–99.

12th January 1867

Your Committee regret that they are not yet able to present a complete report on the subject remitted to them, but they deem it their duty to report without further delay the facts they have ascertained, and to leave it to the Senatus to determine whether time should be allowed them to prosecute their researches until they are able to present an exhaustive Report.

At the very commencement of their researches the Committee were led to reject the opinion somewhat prevalent of late—that the University of St Andrews was founded on the model of that of *Louvain*,—for the simple reason that though this was asserted by the Louvain doctors in 1528, it was disproved by the unquestionable fact that the University of Louvain does not claim to have been erected till the year 1426, or fifteen years after the erection of St Andrews. After rejecting this opinion your Committee had nothing to guide them in their researches save the old tradition that the University of St Andrews in common with the other Scottish Universities was founded on the model of that of Paris, and borrowed its Academic Costume as well as most of its customs and arrangements from that more ancient seat of learning. They think that they have at last found unquestionable proof of the correctness of this tradition in Archbishop Hamilton’s Charter for the “nova fundatio et erectio Collegii Mariani” which requires inter alia that “Praefectus, Licentiatus, et Bachalaurius, et Canonista, domi et foris *gestent capitia brevia, juxta consuetudinem Parisiensinum*, insuper studentes Theologiae ad Bachalaureatum usque, et quinque Regentes similiter, Parisiensum more, *capitia* deferant: omnes praeterea discipuli, quantumris notalibus splendidi vel re sint lautâ , habeant togas cinctas intra septa Collegii, ad lauream usque.”*ⁱ And though they have not met with so explicit a statement on the subject in the foundation charters of the other two Colleges, they can have no doubt that the costume in them was similar, and that the object of Archbishop Hamilton in the above clauses of his charter was not to introduce a novel custom, but only more expressly to enjoin what the previous recognised custom of the University, because in another part of the same charter he enjoins that at the celebration of divine service, “omnes personae fundatae adsint superpellicis indutae, Praefecti, Licentiato, Bachalaureo, et Canonistâ capitia, instar Praefecti et canonicorum gymnasii divi Salvatoris gestantibus.”ⁱⁱ The exfuscation of these facts, they trust, will be deemed sufficient to justify them in asking that further time may be allowed them to ascertain what the Academic costume of the graduates of the University of Paris actually was. Meantime they have to report as the result of a cursory examination of “*Bulaei Historia Universitatis Parisiensis*,” which is the chief authority in regard to the customs and history of that University, that they have ascertained that the chief insignia of the Master of Arts were:

- I. The Pileus, Pileum or Biretum which is thus described: Pileum quartum genus vestimenti data a Domino Deo, doctoribus suae legis Mosaicae, fuit rotundum: quale pictum in Ulysse conspicimus, quasi superâ sit media divisa, nonnulli

Notes marked with Roman numerals have been added. Others are found in the original text.

* Report of Universities Commission of 1836, p. 364.

i Hoods to be worn in the manner of Paris; belted gowns to be worn.

ii Surplices to be worn.

Galerum vocant. Non habet acumen in summo nec totum usque ad comas caput tegit sed tertiam partem a fronte inopertam relinquit; et in occipitio vittâ constrictum est ut non facile labatur ex capite. Est autem bypsinum.” (Tom II, p. 257.) “Licentiati autem birretari seu Magistrari non poterant, nisi post absolutum cursum trium armorum cum dimidio, et tunc prout cuique commodum erat in Scholis suae Nationis actu publico quem vocabant Placet..... a suo Magistris regente Pileum rotundum laureamque magistralem accipiebant: (Tom. v. p. 858.ⁱⁱⁱ)

- II. The toga, pallium, or cappa which is described as follows: Paludamentum vestis Regum genus est, quo utebantur ad ostendendum bellum proxime futurum. Est quoque vestimentum Magistrale quo Magistrandi induuntur ad futurorum honorum titulum ostendendum. Erat autem vestis oblonga. Hinc Parisberiensis Stalatos Magistros vocat: item nigri coloris. Quam vestem, quum gestare pene desissent Magistri, Universitas eam revocare in usum voluit, ut autem retulimus, et Innocentius III per legatum suum Robertum an 1215 confirmavit. Sic enim statuit. Nullus Magistrorum legentium in Artibus habeat cappam nisi rotundam, nigram et talarem, saltem dum nova est. Pallio autem, bene potest uti. Sotulares non habeat sub cappâ rotunda laqueatos, nunquam liripipiatos. (Tom II. p 671^{iv}). In tom. IV. p. 280, it is said that this “cappa” is “manicata”. Elsewhere the material of which this toga or cappa may be made is described and the statutes are quoted which require the graduates in Arts to wear it, especially when lecturing or when attending Comitia of the University as will immediately appear.
- III. The Epitogium, Caputium or Capitium, which with the toga or cappa is described in the following extracts: “Cum igitur ex rei evidentiâ nobis appareat, quod nonnulli Magistri Disputationes et etiam Congregationes in suis mantellio, Collobiis seu tabardis ingredi non abhorrent, necnon in Disputationibus Bachelarii aut Scholares in alio habitu, quam in cappâ manicata, ad sedes paraesumant accedere: ex quibus potest contra nos oriri grave scandalum in futurum. Hinc est quod nos super his providere cupientes statuimus, Quod de caetero Magistri ad Disputationes accedant in habitu decenti, videlicet, cappa, epitogio, longo vel brevi fourato.” Et si in alio habitu accesserint, voces eorum in dictis Congregationibus pro nullis habeantur” (Tom. iv. p. 258.^v)

.....
“Item jurabitis, quod habebitis pallium vel cappam rotundam, novam, et propriam, non accommodatam nec conductam, neque alio colore simulato ficto acquisitam de bono panno. Videlicet bona bruneta nigra vel de parsico nigro, vel alio meliori panno nigro, si vobis placnerit, quae sit honorabilis ad portandum coram quibuscunque personis ad honorem totius Universitatis et specialiter Facultatis Artium, et quod Capicium hujusmodi cappae sit sufficienter amplum et longum, forratumque minutis variis vel *grossis* novis.” (Tom. iv. p 274.^{vi}) At page 374 of the same volume where the statute quoted above from page 258 is re-enacted in slightly different words, it is explained that the “Epitogium” was

iii Description of headwear.
iv Description of gowns.
v Description of hoods.
vi Description of gowns and hoods.

to be “pellibus munitum seu ut tunc loquebantur foderatum.” And among the “statuta” given at p. 425 of the same volume there occurs the following which shews that the hood was of the same material as the gown. “Item quando legitur ordinarie in praedicto vico” (i.e. vico straminis), “Magistri ibi legentes non possunt legere de mane nisi in Capis nigris fouratis in Caputio de minutis variis : tamen post prandium debent legere in capis rugatis cum caputio de eodem panno fourato.” Elsewhere is it expressly stated that the colour of the hood as well as of the gown was to be black. And from the “Fasti Aberdonenses” we learn that in King’s College there, as in St. Mary’s College here, the costume of the Doctors of the several Faculties, and of the Masters in Arts was to be “instar Parisiensium,” for we are told at p. 87, that the masters are not to go out without “caputio nigro”, and p. 88, in divine service are to appear “caputiis nigris foderatis.”

Your Committee therefore think that they are fully warranted to report that sufficient materials are furnished by Bulaeus to determine that ancient costume of the Bachelor and Master of Arts; but they regret that the cursory examination they have been able to make of his great work has not furnished them with sufficient materials for determining the costume of the Bachelors and Doctors of Divinity, of Laws, and of Medicine, and that at present they can only report that the Bachelors and Doctors of Divinity, and of Medicine, had a recognised form of gown and hood, the latter of which in the case of the graduates in Divinity generally bears the special name of Epōmis and was like the hood of the graduates in Arts, “foderatus” or “forratus,” and that the Bachelors and Doctors of Laws wore a red gown. Probably their hood was of the same colour, though as yet your Committee have not succeeded in discovering any special reference to it. The Doctors in the Faculties were distinguished from the Bachelors by the “Birretum Doctorale,” just as the Masters in the Faculty of Arts were chiefly distinguished from the Bachelors by the “Pileum Magistrale.” Both the Birretum and the Pileum appear to have been of the same form (i.e. round) but probably they were of different colours or materials. That of the Doctor of Laws is expressly mentioned by Bulaeus, to have been red, and probably that of the Doctor of Divinity was of the same colour as his gown. Its exact form may perhaps be traced by the fact stated by Bulaeus that in his day it was still worn by the Doctors in the University of Oxford though not by the Masters.

Your Committee have no doubt that even if a more careful examination of the volumes of Bulaeus should not enable them to determine what yet remains doubtful as to the costume of the graduates, a careful consultation of authorities referred to by him and Du Cange would enable them to supply the information which is still requisite for a complete Report. But for this, farther time will be absolutely necessary, as several of the works which must be consulted are not likely to be met with save in London or Paris. And it will be for the Senatus Academicus to say whether this farther time shall be granted them to complete their search or whether they shall now be discharged.

Signed in the name of the Committee
Alex. F. Mitchell, Convener
St Andrews, 12th Jan. 1867.

The thanks of the Senatus were given to Dr Mitchell for the trouble he had taken in this subject, and the Committee was continued.

Appendix F: Final Report on Academic Costume, University of St Andrews, 1868

Transcribed from: University of St Andrews, Special Collections, UYUY452. University Minutes, Vol. 18, pp. 573–84.

2nd May 1868

In the Report which your Committee presented to the Senatus Academicus on 12th Jan 1867, they set forth at length the information they had succeeded in collecting from “Bulæi Historia Universitatis Parisiensis”, respecting the costume of Masters of Arts in that University, and the evidence they had obtained from “Archbishop Hamilton’s Charter for the re-constitution of St Mary’s College”, and from the “Fasti Universitatis Aberdonensis”, that the costume assigned to Masters of Arts in the Universities of St. Andrews, and Aberdeen, was similar to that worn by graduates of the same rank in the University of Paris. Their subsequent researches enable them to furnish but little additional information respecting the costume of the Masters of Arts. A careful examination of the M. S. Record of the Faculty of Arts in the University of St. Andrews, from the foundation of the University to the Reformation, warrants them to state that, within a few years after the foundation of the University, regulations were formally adopted respecting the costume and duties of Masters of Arts, which were in substance and almost in language identical with those in force at Paris. Similar regulations appear to have been early adopted in the University of Glasgow though it claims to have followed more immediately the model of Bologna than of Paris. The same difficulty was experienced here, as in Paris, in enforcing obedience to these regulations, and long before the time of the Reformation in Scotland, the law requiring each candidate to have a gown of his own provided for his graduation was dispensed with on payment of a small fine at least in the case of poorer Candidates, that is, in fact all who did not hold a benefice or other office of a certain value, or were not the sons of noblemen or gentlemen.

As was stated in their former report, the hoods of the Masters of Arts in the Scottish Universities appear originally, like those of Paris graduates, to have been lined or bordered with fur. But from certain entries in the M. S. Record of our own Faculty of Arts, and in the “Fasti” of the University of Glasgow it appears probable that before the Reformation, the permission granted at an earlier period to the Rector, to use a silk instead of a fur lining to his hood, had been extended to the Masters of Arts, for we find in the possession of the respective Faculties a considerable number of hoods “rubei” or in the case of Glasgow “blo-dei coloris”. Your Committee can only reconcile this with the facts previously ascertained by them, by the supposition (also adopted by the Committee of the University of Glasgow) that it refers to the colour of the lining of the hood, which would thus appear, like that still worn by Masters of Arts in the University of Oxford, to have been black with a deep red lining.

In their former Report, your Committee stated that while the cursory examination they had made of Bulæus History had not enabled them to fully ascertain the distinctive costume of the Doctors and Bachelors of Divinity, Law, and Medicine, it had supplied them with sufficient evidence that the Doctors of Laws wore a cap and gown (and probably also a hood) “rubri coloris”, and that the Doctors of Divinity and Medicine had each a distinctive form of gown, cap, and hood the colours of which, however, they did not succeed in trac-

ing. A further examination of the volumes of Bulæus has satisfied them that the hood of the Doctors of Laws was of the same colour as his gown, and that by “rubri coloris”, as will shortly appear is to be understood “scarlet”,—that the gown and therefore in all probability the cap and hood of the Doctors of Medicine were “rubei coloris”, to which (if it denotes a colour at all different from that denoted by “rubri” with which it is sometimes interchanged) Du Cange warrants us to assign the signification of crimson,—and that the gown, hood and cap of the Doctors of Divinity were probably of a violet purple colour.

The faculties of Divinity and Law were of much older institution in the University of Paris, than that of Medicine, and while the Bachelors in these faculties as well as the Professors in that of Medicine continued to be reckoned as members of the Faculty of Arts, the Doctors of Divinity and Laws appear from early times to have had a distinctive organization, and to have been allowed to take as their distinctive costumes the former that which had been assigned to the highest ecclesiastical officebearer, and the latter that which had been assigned to the highest lay officebearers in the University, and which had previously been the distinctive costume of the ecclesiastical and lay peers of the Parliament of Paris, and which in fact were originally royal dresses (as it will be remembered that in a quotation adduced in their former report, from Bulæus, it is asserted that the Masters pallium originally was.) The following is the statement of Bulæus respecting these matters. “Restat ut de ornamentis ipsorum et insignibus a regibus concessis agamus. Primum quidem est vestis purpurea, eaque duplex, rubri coloris cærulei seu violacei; ut utraque Regum est sub duplici nomine et titulo; quâtenn enim reges suut et exercitibus præsent, rubric coloris purpura eas magis decet; quæ fuit etiam Imperatorum Romanorum; nec ulli eam gestare licebat, nisi cui ipsius gestandæ jus concessissent; eamque vocabant Purpuram Tyriam; coccineam et conchyliatam vestem. Monstreletius ad annum 1422 ubi de funore de Caroli VI ait filium ejus Carolum VII induisse vestem talarem et pallium coccineus pellibus murium Ponticorum munitum, quemadmodum Curia Senatores induere solent “Il fut revêtu d’one longue robe et mantel d’escarlante rouge fourée d’ermine ainsi que les Censeillers de la Cour.” Alterum pupuræ genns, quod est cærulei seu violacei coloris, Regum quoque proprium est, quâteria sunt sacerdotes. Talis enim color proprius fuit olim Episcoporum et Sacerdotum Secularium, ut nigra Monachorum ... Hinc ergo Pares Ecclesiastici gestarunt Pallium ejusmodi, Capuchium seu Epomidem honorariam violacei coloris pellibus quoque murinis munitam; quod ornamentum Rectori universitatis concessum fuerat a Regibus.” (Vol. i. 400.) “Iam vero quemadmodum Cancellario, Paribus Franciæ Laicis &c ... ita Rectori et Procuratoribus purpureas vestes et Rhenones pellitos atque Collaria simili modo pellibus ornata gestare proculdubio a Regibus concessum esse nemo negaverit.”ⁱ

At this stage of their investigations, was brought under the notice of your Committee, a Report on the subject of University costume which had been drawn up for the Graduates Association of this University, in 1859, and which embodied a letter on the same subject from M. Arnaud, the Minister of Public Instruction in France, and Vice Rector of the University of France. This report and letter tended greatly to confirm the conclusions to which your Committee had been already led, as well as to facilitate their future labours. In particular the letter of M. Arnaud showed that the costume of the Doctors of Laws was still in all essential respects the same as the extracts from Bulæus prove it to have been in ancient times, and they have since ascertained that the costume of the Doctors of Divinity (which

i Discussion of colours.

at the time M. Arnaud's letter was written was somewhat different), as well as the costume of the Doctors of Medicine (which he omitted to mention) are now substantially what the statements of Bulæus had led them to believe it was in earlier times. The present practice of the University of France, so far as it can be gathered from M. Arnaud's letter, and from other sources of information open to your Committee, appears to assign to the Professors in the three Faculties above named the following costume:

- I. To the Professors of the Faculty of Theology.
 1. For ceremonies. Violet purple silk robe with black silk facings and row of purple buttons.
 2. For ordinary occasions. Black silk robe.
 3. Square cap or biretta of purple velvet with bands of black and gold.
 4. Cincture or belt of violet moiré ribbon with fringes or tassels.
 5. Violet Purple hood with three rows of spotted ermine.
- II. To the Professors of the Faculties of Laws.
 1. For ceremonies. Robe of scarlet cloth with black facings and row of buttons.
 2. Black robe with scarlet edgings or facings.
 3. Scarlet coloured cap with band of gold lace.
 4. Black belt or cincture with fringe of same colour.
 5. Scarlet silk hood with three rows of spotted ermine.
 6. Cambric Cravat.
- III. To the Professors of the Faculty of Medicine.
 1. For ceremonies. Robe of crimson silk with black facings and row of crimson buttons.
 2. Black silk robe with crimson facings.
 3. Crimson Cap with bands of black velvet and gold lace.
 4. Black belt or cincture with fringes of same colour.
 5. Hood of crimson silk with three rows of spotted ermine.
 6. Cambric Cravat.

Only Professors in these Faculties are now entitled in France to wear the costume which formerly was that of all the Doctors in the Faculty, and sometimes even on public occasions they substitute for the cap and gown proper to their Faculty, the simple black gown and black cap which the information gleaned from Bulæus leads us to suppose were anciently the distinctive dress of the Masters of Arts. These also with the addition of a black hood with rows of ermine still form the distinctive badge of the French "Avocat." The Faculty of Arts, as such, does not now exist; and the Faculty of Letters which is supposed to occupy its place, has its distinctive costume, a robe, cap, and hood of orange tafetta, of which no trace is found in the ancient history of the University. But in this, as in the above mentioned faculties, a simple black gown and cap are often substituted for the other costume, and of this the natural explanation appears to be that they were those anciently in use in the Faculty of Arts — the original Faculty of the University. That the ancient scarlet gown and hood were anciently used by Doctors (probably of Laws) in Scotland is proved beyond possibility of question by the Act passed by the Scottish Parliament in 1474, for the

regulation of costume as well as by the regulations laid down by Bishop Elphinstone for the Professor of Law in the University of Aberdeen.

That the violet purple gown and hood were used by the Doctors of Divinity in Scotland, your Committee are not yet prepared so unhesitatingly to affirm, but they think that it is at least highly probable that they were from the fact that according to the French usage, they were worn by the Ecclesiastical judges in the highest court of judicature in Scotland, as the Doctor of Laws' robe was by the lay judges in the same court. They appear also to have been worn by the Rector of our own University from early times; and Wycliffe's gown, part of which is still preserved, is said to be of this colour, and of course to prove that it was then used by Doctors of Divinity in England.

In the satirical poems of the 16th century there are many references to that colour so distinctive of the dresses of the higher clergy. Respecting the form of the cap anciently worn by the Doctors of the several Faculties there is no room for doubt that those of the Doctors of Laws and Medicine were, like that of the Masters of Arts, round and there is one fact which might lead to the supposition that that was also the form of cap worn in the Faculty of Theology. *Oxoniae enim ex antiquo statuto et ex antiquâ consuetudine non habent uti pileis rotundis nisi Doctores S. Theologiae et Juris Canonici Doctores...* (Bulæi Historia, Vol. II. 257.) Yet the most of the facts seem rather to countenance the opinion that like that now worn in France, it was square and of a purple colour. Such a square purple cap was used by the more dignified clergy in Scotland, as well as by those of other countries. That of Cardinal Beaton, of course is scarlet in colour, but it is square in form. So also it appears to your Committee is the cap which Principal Spens, a Doctor of Theology of our own University, is represented on his tombstone as wearing, and one exactly similar in shape is generally found in old portraits of Archbishop Cranmer. One of the Satirical poets of the time of Scottish Reformation seems to confirm this conclusion, "your neukit bonnets put away, and cut your longtailed gown"; and the portraits of the Doctors of Divinity in various Continental countries generally represent them as wearing a square—not a round cap; so that the English poet speaks generally when he says:—

The Physic cap to dust may bring
Without control the greatest king,
The lawyer's cap hath heavenly might
To make a crooked cause aright,
Which being round and endless knows
To make as endless any cause.
So any cap whate'er it be
Is still the sign of some degree.
Both east and west and north and south
Where'er the Gospel finds a mouth
The cap divine doth thither look,
The square like scholars and their book.
The rest are round but this is square
To show that they more stable are:
For any cap whate'er it be
Is still the sign of some degree.

Your Committee would therefore recommend that if any changes or additions to the present costume of the Members of the University are desired, the following should be adopted.

1. For Masters of Arts. A gown of black silk or other inferior stuff, after the pattern of the black gown still worn by the Professors in several of the Faculties of the University of France, with cincture or belt of black silk, and a cap of black velvet, silk, or other material after the fashion of that still worn in the University of France.
2. For Doctors of Divinity, Laws, and Medicine. If on occasions of high ceremony a distinctive dress is deemed desirable, robes respectively of violet, scarlet, and crimson silk or cloth with facings, cinctures, and caps after the fashion used in the University of France; and for ordinary occasions, black gowns, with cinctures and caps as used by the Professors of these Faculties in the University of France.
3. The hoods of the graduates of all the Faculties to be after the pattern of those of the University of Cambridge, as most nearly resembling the form of the hood on the Rector's Robe of this University, and of the following materials and colours:—
 - That of the M. A.—black silk with red silk lining.
 - That of the D. D.—violet purple silk or cloth with white satin lining—to represent the old ermine lining.
 - That of the LL. D.—scarlet silk or cloth with white satin lining.
 - That of the M. D.—crimson silk or cloth with white satin lining.
4. The Bachelors in the several Faculties to be entitled to wear the hoods of their Faculties with the gown and cap of M. A.

(signed) Alex. F. Mitchell, Convenor

A vote of thanks was unanimously awarded to Dr Mitchell for the great pains and prolonged research he had taken in investigating the subject of Academic Costume.

Professor Baynes gave notice that he would at the ordinary meeting in November, that the Report be adopted by the Senatus, and that the Professors and other Graduates be recommended to appear at University ceremonies in their appropriate Hoods and caps – and that the Senatus obtains specimens of the same.