

Old Occupations Glossary

So your ancestor was an axle tree maker — what does that mean?
Use this glossary to translate your kin's archaic occupations.

Accomptant: accountant

Amanuensis: secretary or stenographer

Axle tree maker: maker of axles for coaches and wagons

Baxter: baker

Bluestocking: female writer

Brewster: beer manufacturer

Cohen: priest

Collier: coal miner

Costermonger: fruit seller

Gaoler: jailer

Hind: farm laborer

Joyner/joiner: skilled carpenter

Lavender: washer woman

Leech/sawbones: physician

Peruker: wigmaker

Slopseller: seller of ready-made clothes

Snobscat: shoe repairer

Tide waiter: customs official

Tipstaff: policeman

Vulcan: blacksmith

Webster: weaver

Whitewing: street sweeper



*The Stenographer, 1923.
(Library of Congress)*