

A Gentleman of Great Enterprise

William Sandeman

(1722-1790)

Perthshire Entrepreneur and

Cotton Pioneer

Anthony Cooke

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A Gentleman of Great Enterprise is the first biography of linen manufacturer William Sandeman, (1722-1790), a significant figure in the early industrialisation of Scotland, who worked with the Board of Trustees for Manufactures, to improve Scottish linen manufacture. A member of the Perth mercantile elite, he employed 1,000 hand workers in Highland Perthshire and Easter Ross; exporting to Europe, the Caribbean and North America.

A staunch Unionist, he wished to, effectuate a perfect unity between South and North Britain', and persuaded Richard Arkwright, the English entrepreneur and cotton-spinner, to invest in Scottish mills in New Lanark, and Stanley. Sandeman was a pioneer in the use of water-powered cotton machinery, and with six other partners, held a £1,000 share in the Stanley Company, a total fixed capital of £7,000. He deserves to be better known.

Praise for *A History of Drinking: The Scottish Pub since 1700* (Edinburgh University Press, 2015):

'Despite the difficult relationship between Scotland and alcohol, Scottish historians have largely ignored what has gone on in pubs.

Anthony Cooke has put this right with a splendid book that seeks to relate pubs, drinking and temperance to the main themes of modern Scottish history. The book displays a profound knowledge of its subject and the experience of reading it is as satisfying as consuming a pint of cask conditioned IPA!'

Professor Ewen Cameron, University of Edinburgh

'Cooke describes ale houses, pubs, hostelries, shebeens, lounge bars, howffs, landlords and 'luckies' with a verve to match the stories he

finds . . . and an enthralling and oddly sobering piece of work.'

Rosemary Goring,
Scottish Review of Books

'Magnificent . . . it is a real joy to find such an erudite exposition on Scottish pubs, drinking and temperance in their proper historical context.'

Allan Maclean,
Scottish Local History,
113 (Winter 2015-16)

Anthony Cooke is a retired Senior Lecturer, Continuing Education, University of Dundee, and after retirement was Historical Consultant to Historic Scotland, in the Heritage Lottery-funded (£8.8 million) purchase and restoration of Stanley Cotton Mills, Perthshire, in conjunction with the Phoenix Trust, 1997-2008. He has published books and articles on Scottish economic, social, educational and cultural history, including, *From Popular Enlightenment to Lifelong Learning. A History of Adult Education in Scotland, 1707-2005* (Leicester, 2006), *The Rise and Fall of the Scottish Cotton Industry, 1778-1914* (Manchester, 2010), and *Stanley: From Arkwright Village to Commuter Suburb, 1784-2015* (Ochertyre, 2015).

