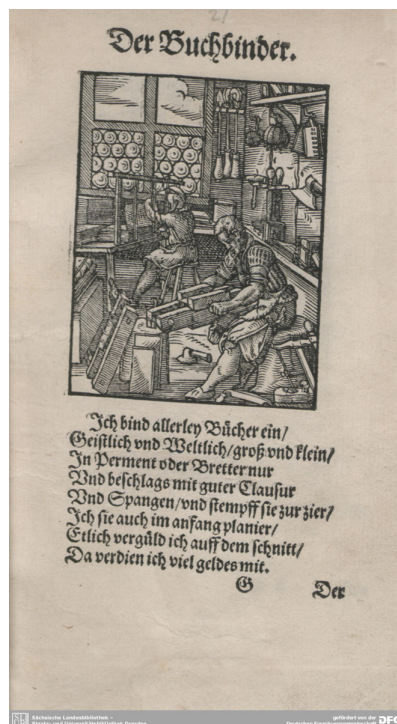


# Jost Amman, Representations of Different Trades, from Hans Sachs, *Eygentliche Beschreibung aller Staende auff Erden* (1568)

## Abstract

Hans Sachs's *Ständebuch* depicts trades and occupations in the widest sense – it starts with the Pope and the Emperor, goes on to describe a range of tradesmen and their various specialties, and ends with several types of jesters. The diverse illustrations are accompanied by short descriptive rhymes. Jost Amman (1539–1591), a Zurich-born resident of Nuremberg, was famous for his book engravings. In these scenes, he depicts the closely related trades of bookbinding, printing, writing, engraving, and papermaking.

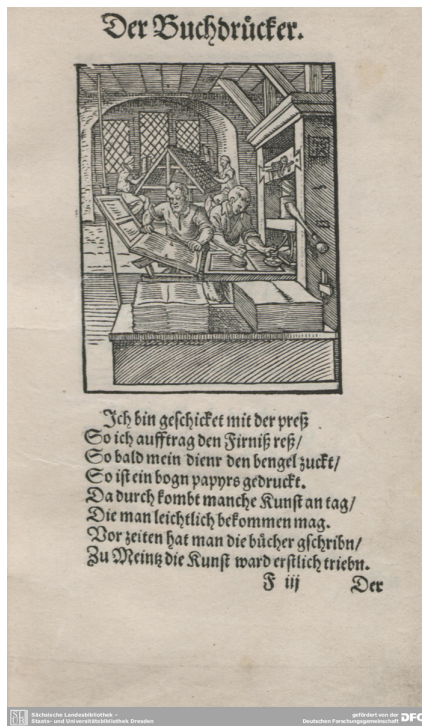
## Source



## The Bookbinder.

Binding books of all sorts 'tis my call /  
Religious and secular / large and small /  
In parchment or in boards of wood  
My studs are strong, my closures good  
I add nice clasps / and stamps to embellish /  
Then I press the books with relish /  
And guild the spines of some I do /  
I earn good money at it, too.

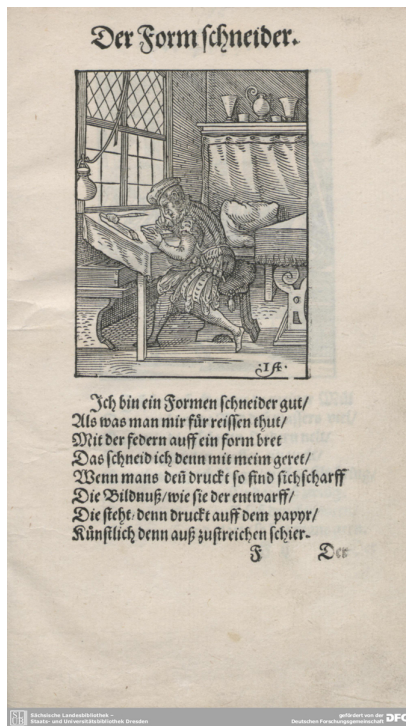
Translation: GHI staff



### The Book Printer.

I am very adept with the printing press  
 I spread ink with skill, no more, no less /  
 As soon as my helper pulls the lever /  
 We print a page to last forever  
 Lots of learning comes in a book /  
 It's easy enough to take a look  
 Scribes wrote books in earlier times /  
 Until the press was invented in Mainz.

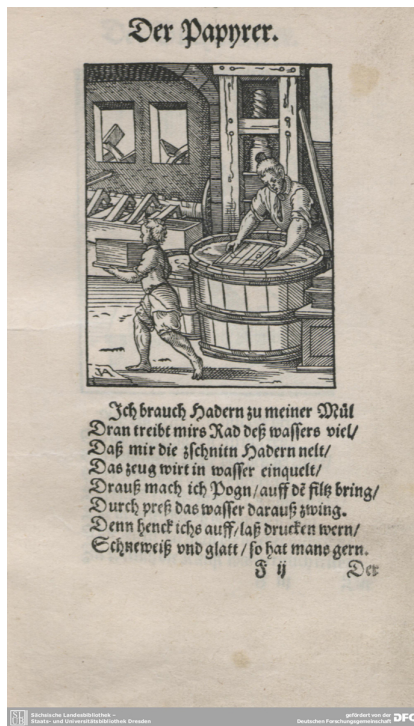
Translation: GHI staff



### The Etcher.

I am an etcher of skill so tender /  
Whenever I'm given an image to render /  
That is drawn on a board in feather and ink  
Then I etch it with my instrument /  
After printing, it will be clear cut  
This image / that has been drawn up /  
Will be etched on paper for all to see /  
Artful and near permanent shall it be.

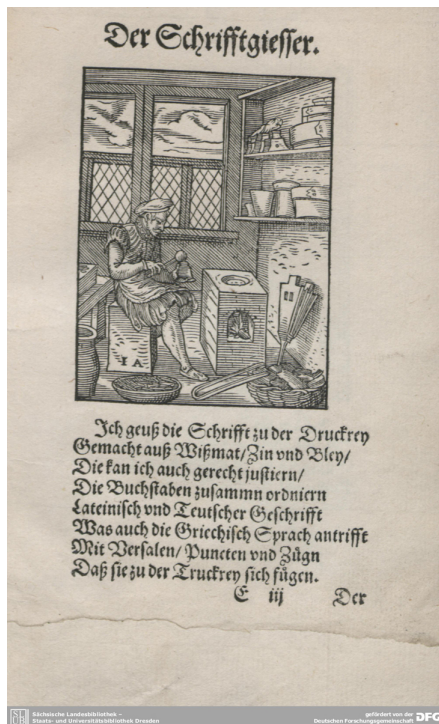
Translation: GHI staff



### The Paper Maker.

I need rags to run my paper mill  
The water turns the wheel once still /  
So that cut-up rags turn to pulp /  
Swelling from the water they gulp /  
I make paper / and press sheets between felt /  
Squeezing out water that therein dwelt  
Then I hang the sheets / and let them dry /  
Snow white and smooth / a delight for the eye.

Translation: GHI staff



### The Type Founder.

I pour type in the print shop to begin  
It is made of bismuth / lead and tin /  
I arrange the type accordingly /  
Putting letters in order as need be  
Latin and German letters can I do  
I pour Greek letters sometimes, too  
Capital letters / periods and others so fine  
They'll look quite nice in a printed line.

Translation: GHI staff

Source: Hans Sachs, Jost Amman (Illustrations), *Eygentliche Beschreibung Aller Stände auff Erden. Hoher vnd Nidriger, Geistlicher vnd Weltlicher, Aller Künsten, Handwercken vnd Händeln*, [et]c. vom grösten biß zum kleinsten, Auch von jarem Ursprung, Erfindung vnd gebreuchen. Franckfurt am Mayn: Feyerabents, 1568. SLUB Dresden. Available online at: <http://digital.slub-dresden.de/id278811973/5>

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