

Att Dundie the second day of June One thousand seven hundred and twenty four years.

Which Day the Provost, Baillies, Dean of guild, Treasurer and remanent members of council of the Burgh of Dundie being mett and convened within the Councill house, thereof consulting about the common affairs of the Samen, Takeing to their serious consideration The Petition given in to them upon the Twenty sixt day of May last by Alexander Brown maltman in the said Burgh for himself and in name of the rest of the Maltmen there Humblie shewing that the said Maltmen are of late become very numerous and thereby much straitned for want of a convenient Seat in the Church. And albeit all or the greater part both of the rest of the branches of the Gildrie and the nine Trades have not only sufficient room for themselves in their several Seats and Lofts, but also to spare and let out to others yet so excieedingly are the Maltmen straitend that those of them who frequent their little seat in the East Church are much pinched and the rest left to shift for themselves wherever any Room can be had and thereby are sometimes obleiged either to stand all the time of their being there or if they can get into a seat must needs be troublesome to their neighbours. Which seems to be something of a hardship upon them and the rather because there is abundance of waste room in the new Church which if filled with Seats might be well improven and verry usefull. And for that end the Petitioner for himself and in name foresaid humblie creaved to the effect aftermentioned. As the said Petition bears.

Which Petition having been upon the said twenty sixt Day of May last considered by the Councill they appointed the present and late Magistrates, the Treasurer and John Whittet late convener as a Committee to visit the places yrin condescended on for erecting a Seat or Loft to the Petitioners and to make report thereanent agains this Day And accordingly the said Committee having visited the same reported that they found that the most convenient place for a seat or loft to the Maltmen would be above the Gildries Loft in the New Kirk betwixt these two pillars to the foot of which the Magistrats and Blackness Seats are fixed.

Which Report and Petition above written being fully considered by the said Provost, Baillies, Dean of Guild, Treasurer and remanent Members of Councill of the said Burgh They allowed and hereby grant Liberty and Privileige to the said Alexander Brown and the rest of the Maltmen in this Burgh to cause erect and build a Loft for the masters of the Maltmen to sit in above the Gildries Loft in the new Kirk, they being obleiged to make the side of the said Loft next to the pulpit of Oak and to plaster the same below all on their own Charges. And the Councill have allowed and hereby allow the Kirk Master to give one Tree and the Dean of Gild another Tree to the said Maltmen to help to erect the said loft. And appoint the Dean of Gild to see that the sd Loft be a Due hight above the Gildries Loft. And the Councill Statute and enact that none of the Maltmen sitting in the said Loft goe out thereof till divine Service be over for disturbing the congregation under the pain of forfeiting their right to the said Loft.

Extracted from the records of Councill by me
Rot. Speid, Clk.