

Extracted from Privy Council Records

Edinburgh 29<sup>th</sup> November 1608

Complaint by Johne and Patrik Heriotis, Thomas and David Wyleis, and Alexander Chalmer, bonnetmakers in the Cannogait, for themselves and the other bonnetmakers there, as follows:-Johnne Hill, deacon of the waulkers of Edinburgh, and Thomas Patirsoun, deacon of the bonnetmakers there, for themselves and the other brethren of the said crafts, on the one part, and Imbre and Alexander Moseis, Johnne Crystie, alias Fockart, Daniell and William Robesonis, William Crystesoun at Bell's Mill, Jonet Gilleis there, Mungo Campbell at Beldony, Johnne Roger at Wester Wood-mill, Bessie Heriot at Silver-mill, Alexander and Mathew Findlayis, servants to the Laird of Cragyhall, Thomas Wilsone, Johnne Robesone in the New Mill, George Lyell at Laswaid-mill, Niniane Lyell at Caringtoun-mill, Thomas Hegielaw there, Robert Wilsone at Roisling-mill, all waulkers, and William Coutis, also waulker, burges of Edinburgh, on the other part, had, in a meeting kept on 27th October 1595, most unlawfully made a band among themselves, whereby the said waulkers are bound not to work for any unfree bonnetmakers, or receive any work from them, without command from the said deacons. Accordingly, the said waulkers have this long time bygone refused to receive the complainers' bonnets and work the same, thereby prejudging them of the "commoun benefite of lauchfull subjectis," although the bonnetmakers of Edinburgh have no farther liberty outside the same than the complainers have. -Charge had been given to the said Imbre Moses, Daniell Robesone, Jonet Gilleis, Bessie Heriot, Johnne Crystie, Johnne Hill, and Thomas Patirsone, to appear this day, bringing with them the said band; and now, pursuers and defenders appearing personally, the Lords find that the said band was unlawfully made, and therefore decern the same to be null. They also decern the defenders to receive from the pursuers such work as they shall present to them, and to deliver the same back again to the pursuers duly waulked at their reasonable expenses.

Edinburgh 12<sup>th</sup> January 1609

Complaint by Johne Hill, deacon of the waulkers of Edinburgh, Bessie Heriot in the Silver-mill, Johnnet Gilleis at Bell's Mill, and the brethren of the bonnet-makers within the said burgh, as follows:-Johnne and Patrik Heriotis, and the other bonnet-makers in the Cannogait, have lately charged the pursuers to waulk all such stuff as they shall present to them, under pain of horning (*ante*, p. 201). Now, the said waulkers have the said two mills in tack, whereof divers years are yet to run; and the said bonnet-makers of Edinburgh, the said waulkers being workers to them, have been in peaceable possession of the said two mills these divers years bygone, "and na unfremen hes bene sufferit to have thair geir walkin at the saidis mylnes, bot onlie fremen burgessis of Edinburgh." Moreover, the bonnet-makers of the Cannogait have their own mills at Craighall and Rosling and other places about this town, where their work has been wrought these 30 years bygone, never to this hour impeded by the complainers. Further, the bonnet-makers of the Cannogait, being unfreemen, without order or government, and not subject to burden in any public affairs, can have no privilege at the said two mills during the years of the tack yet to run; "bot thay preis to incrotche upoun the saidis bonnet-makers of Edinburgh thair libertie and fredome, who ar a number of poore frie men, and according to thair mean power beiris burdyn in all publict effairis of the burgh of Edinburgh, and sua to disposes thame of thair tua mylnes without a lauchfull tryall or cognitioun pre ceiding." Yet more, the defenders have never presented any of their work to the said waulkers, "bot hes simplie chargit thame with the saidis letters of horning," purposely to get them to the horn. Still, for obedience, the complainers have found caution in 100 merks to waulk all such work as shall be presented to them by the defenders, if it be found they ought, the complainers own tacksmen being first served. Wherefore the said letters of horning ought to be suspended.-The said Johnne Hill, and Thomas Patersoun, deacon of bonnet-makers of Edinburgh, appearing for the pursuers, and the said Johnne and Patrik Heriotis, and Thomas and David Wyleis, bonnetmakers in the Cannogait, for the defenders, and these latter having produced the letters of horning abovementioned, with the decree whereupon the said letters proceeded, and the said letters and decree having been considered, the Lords find both to be orderly directed, and ordain the same to be put to farther execution during the years to run of the said tack only, with the condition that the bonnet-makers of Edinburgh shall have the privilege to be first served at the said two mills.