

# 18th Century Material Culture Tailors & Seamstresses



# 17th Century Taylors

+ Anno 1604 den 19. Augustij ward Veit Schober  
 ein Disputandus umbij 2. Dindere Faust zuzunemen. Schick  
 die 1000 6000. In den 27. November 1613 ward bey for  
 mit todt abgangen. In Lange Zeit. In den 12. vnder ditzem  
 490 Stücken heant gelegen. In demselben Sommer ditzem man  
 geschick. Dem Best. Quart.



StBN

Veit Schober., Tailor  
 Unknown Artist 1604  
 (Amb. 317b.2° Folio 83 verso (Mendel II))

502.

Anno 1607 den 11 Junij wardt Georg  
 Widerbaur ein Schindler in der 12. Stundt  
 zu dem Schindler allred. 59. Jahr, und nach dem  
 17. 1605. in dem Statten und Tegel. Krautst  
 in d'fittal gelandigt, ist er Sonntag. 17. über dem



Einmalig die dem gezeichneten und demnach dieß Schindler  
 die gezeichneten Schindler in dem Statten und Tegel. Krautst  
 in d'fittal gelandigt, ist er Sonntag. 17. über dem

Georg Widerbaur, Tailor  
 Unknown Artist 1607  
 (Amb. 317b.2° Folio 83 verso (Mendel II))

Hanns Heinla, leines Handtwecker ein S. Schneider.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.  
 In dem Jahr 1610. den 20. August. 1610.

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StBN

Hanns Heinla, Tailor  
 Unknown Artist 1610  
 (Amb. 317b.2° Folio 79 verso (Mendel II))



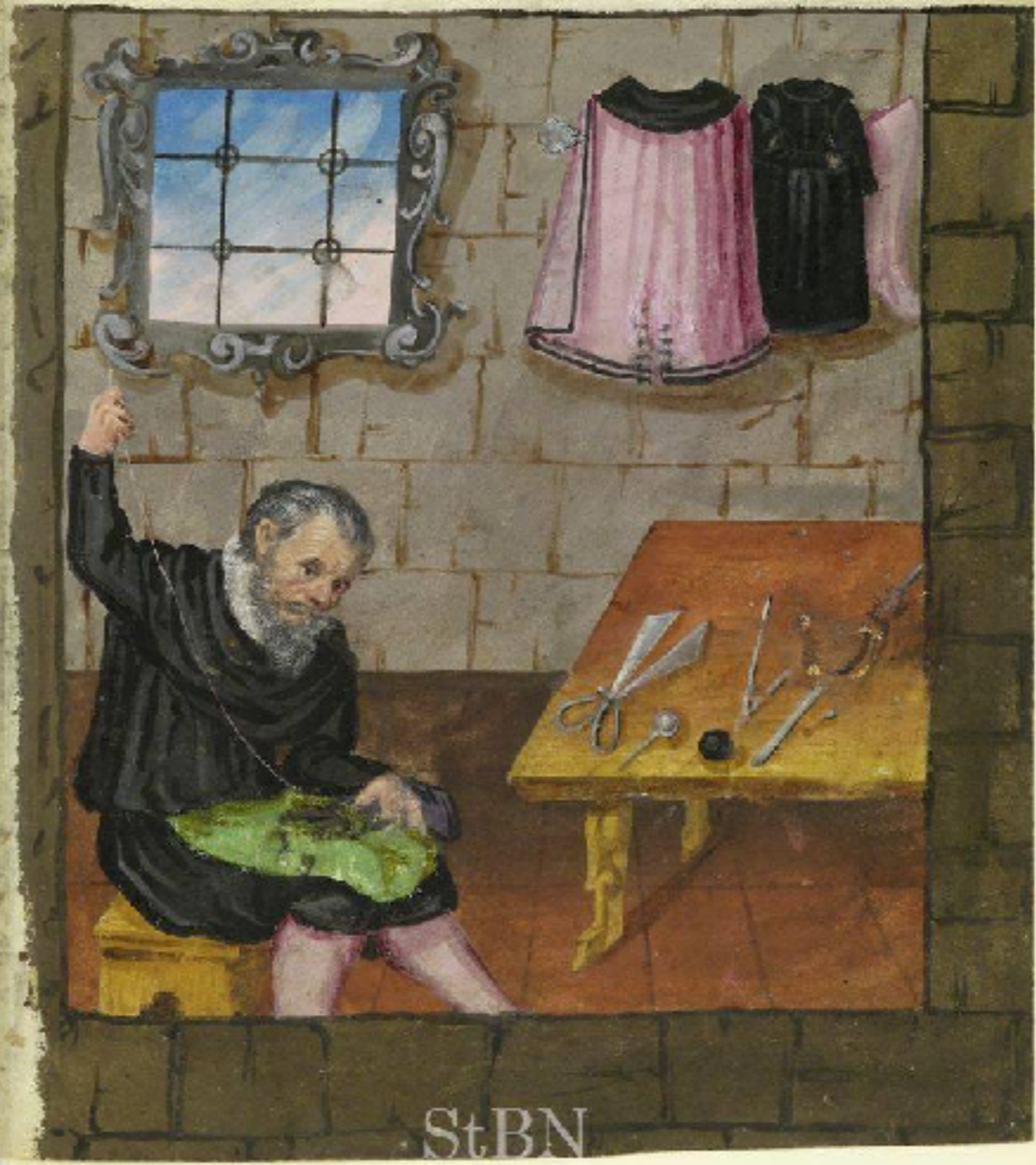
Wolfgang May, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1611  
(Amb. 279.2° Folio 80 Recto (Landauer I))

Am 10 May 1612 ist die ich selbst gegen Abschied, in dem Hause  
habe sein zu nicht aufkommen, was werden, seiner alten Ehre  
wird ist dem zu sagen, die ich in der Zeit der Zeit, die  
von seinem Abschieden abließ, die neuen Abschiede werden  
wird 7: 100 alt werden. 1612 in dem Hause...



Wolfgang Hirn, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1612  
(Amb. 279.2° Folio 81 Verso (Landauer I))

Am 10. Febr. An 1613. In dem Hause des Bartl Harder, Tailors, in der  
St. J. Gasse, in der Stadt, ist ein Zimmer, das mit einem  
Fenster, und mit dem Ofen, und mit dem Kamin, und mit  
einem Tische, und mit einem Stuhle, und mit einem  
Sessel, und mit einem Kasten, und mit einem  
Schrank, und mit einem  
Kamin.



Bartl Harder, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1613  
(Amb. 279.2° Folio 83 Verso (Landauer I))

Wolff Rauscher ein Schneider vnd 68 Jahr alt  
Dau. 16. Februar 1629 In der Duffhing als vnd auf  
genant, vnd ist genant den 23 October 1632  
daring gestorb. Ist ein frommer Gottes fürchtiger Mann  
guter Tag C.

536.



SEBN

Wolff Rauscher, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1629  
(Amb. 317b.2° Folio 106 recto (Mendel II))



Hanns Albrecht, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1632  
(Amb. 279.2° Folio 105 recto (Landauer I))

Anno 1634. May. 21. April ist Hanns Hefner  
im 76. Jähr seines Alters in das ewig beständ. Jähr einge-  
gangen worden. In die 67. Jahr alt. 24. Jahr. 2. Monat. 11. Tag. 11. Stunden.  
Denn er ist am 21. April 1634. gestorben.

49.



Hanns Hefner, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1634  
(Amb. 317b.2° Folio 114 recto (Landauer I))





141293  
Peter Mayr Schneider ist im 16. Jahr seiner Alters das 10. Junii  
Anno 1667. in einem Publico auf dem Landauer Hof. Und darmit den  
21. Februarii Anno 1667. Durch den Rector aufgetragen worden  
wird im ersten Vermitlag. am 27. Dito ist er hieher gekommen  
auf die Johannis Kirchhoff. Hines altes 88. Jahr. vmbgeben  
von den Anwesenden in dem Hof. Und hat alle Anwesenden  
Tage. Und darmit ist er im Hof. Und hat alle Anwesenden



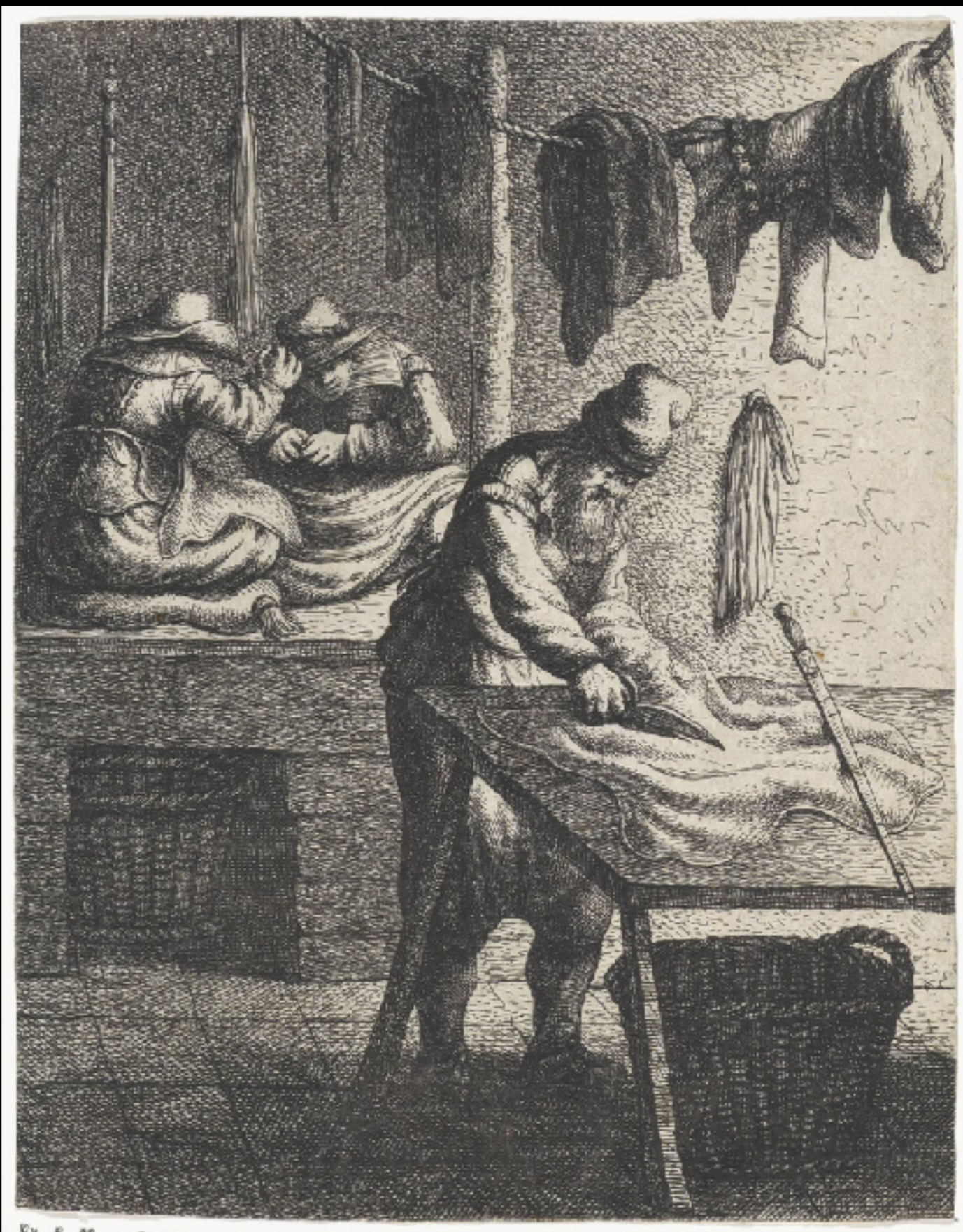
Peter Mayr, Tailor  
Unknown Artist 1667  
(Amb. 279.2° Folio 140 recto (Landauer I))







Tradesmen of the City of London  
Unknown Artist 1647  
(Private Collection)



Tailor  
by Jan Georg van Vliet 1635  
(Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)



Tailor  
by Gills van Scheyndel 1638  
(Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)

De Kleermaaker. 2

ô Mens besteed, , Uw beste kleed .

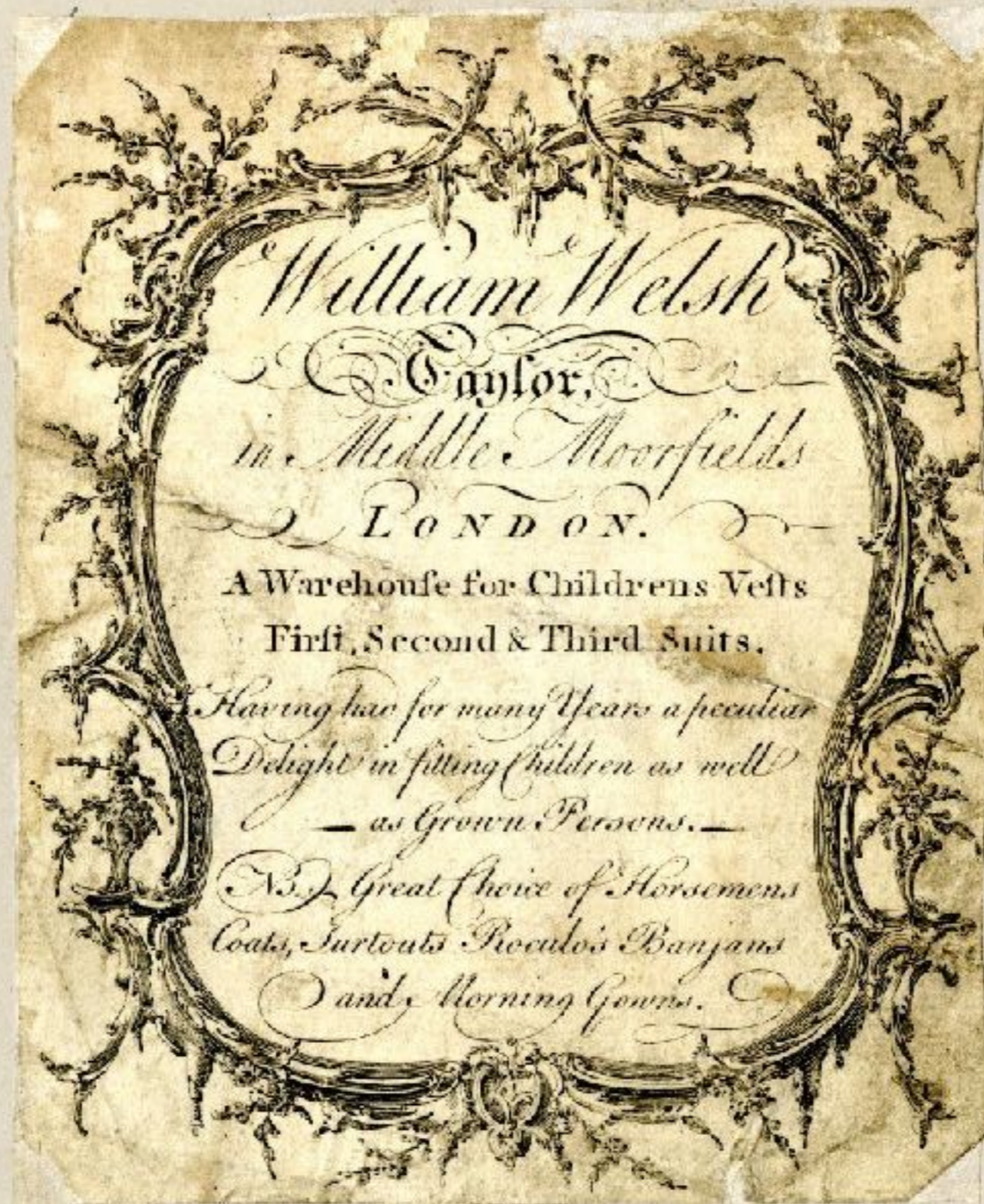


Het kleed is noodig in der Tijdt ,  
Maar beide, kleed en vlees verslijt :  
En daarom zijnder groote reeden ,  
Om uit te sien met, ons Genoed,  
Naa Heemels Stof en heilig goed ,  
Dat ons voor ewig mocht bekleeden.



The Tailor's Workshop  
by Quiringh Gerritsz. van Brekelenkam 1661  
(Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)

Taylors



*William Welsh*

*Taylor,*

*in Middle Moorfields*

*LONDON.*

A Warehouse for Childrens Vests

First, Second & Third Suits.

*Having had for many Years a peculiar*

*Delight in fitting Children as well*

*— as Grown Persons. —*

*A. S. Great Choice of Horsemens*

*Coats, Surtouts, Piccolo's Banjans*

*and Morning Gowns.*

112\*94

Trade Card  
William Welsh Taylor  
(The British Museum)



Kenelm Dawson

SALESMAN

at the Sign of the Jolly Sailor, in Monmouth Street,

LONDON.

Makes & Sells all sorts of Men & Boys Cloaths, of Cloth  
Druggel German Serges & Justians Cutfull & Fashionable Morn-  
ing Gowns, Rockers, Great Coats &c Likewise Buys and Sells,  
all sorts of Second hand Cloaths, both Rich & Plain. If any  
Person have any to Dispose on, please to send to my House, &  
I will wait on them, and Give to the Utmost Value  
Gentlemen may have great Choice of Cloaths &c in the Piece  
& where they may Chuse their Colours have Suits and Liveries  
made at Reasonable Rates

Trade Card  
18th Century  
(Bishopsgate Institute)



## *Casaltine & Mathews*

At the Lamb and Star the 2<sup>d</sup> Shop in  
Houndsditch Facing Aldgate Church  
**LONDON.**

*Sell all Sorts of Mens and Boys Cloaths  
Ready Made. Likewise Cloths, Drugets, German-  
Serges, Sagathies, Durvys, Fustians, Shaggs, Dim-  
tys and Shalloons in the Piece, Mens Morning-  
Gowns, Banyans, Cloth Cloaks, Riding Hoods,  
Riding Habits, Quilted Coats, Hoop-Petticoats &  
Childrens Coats, as Likewise, Stuffs, Camblets, Cal-  
mancoes, Damasks, Norwich Crapes, Burdets &c,  
in y<sup>e</sup> Piece. Wholesale & Retail at Reasonable Rates.*

Trade Card  
18th Century  
(Bishopsgate Institute)



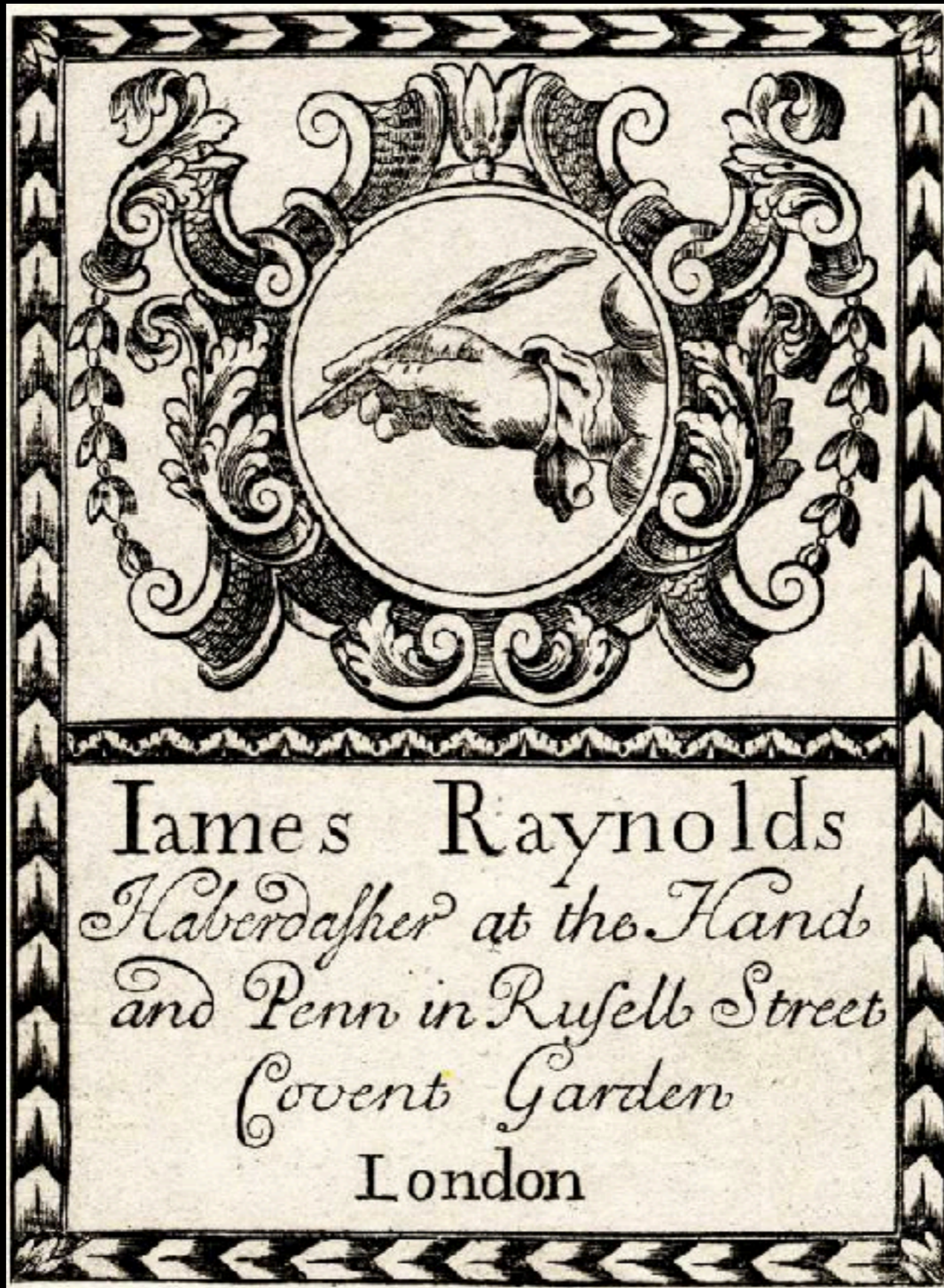
Hogarth del.

T. Cook sculp.

## Mary & Ann Hogarth

from the old Frock shop the corner of the  
Long Walk facing the Cloysters, Removed  
to y<sup>e</sup> Kings Arms, joyning to y<sup>e</sup> Little Britain-  
gate near Long Walk Sells y<sup>e</sup> best & most Fashi-  
onable Ready Made Frocks, suites of Fustian,  
Ticken & Holland, stript Dimmity & Flanel  
Waistcoats, blue & canvas Frocks & bluecoat Boys Dra,  
Likewise Fustians, Tickers, Hollands, white  
stript Dimities, white & stript Flannels in y<sup>e</sup> piece,  
by Wholesale or Retail, at Reasonable Rates.

Trade Card  
18th Century  
(Bishopsgate Institute)



Trade Card  
18th Century  
(Bishopsgate Institute)



“A Taylor.”  
by George Bickham the Younger  
(The British Museum)

## A Taylor.

Erected out of his own Utensils without y<sup>e</sup> assistance of Nature, all but a Cabbage.

1 Thimble	5 Needle Book	9 Sleeve Board	13 Notch Board
2 Cabbage	6 Bodkin. 7 Wax	10 Needle	14 Lap D. <sup>e</sup>
3 Measures	8 Cutting Board	11 Yard	15 Goose
4 Cuckold for Thread	with Forebody.	12 Shears	16 Cucumber

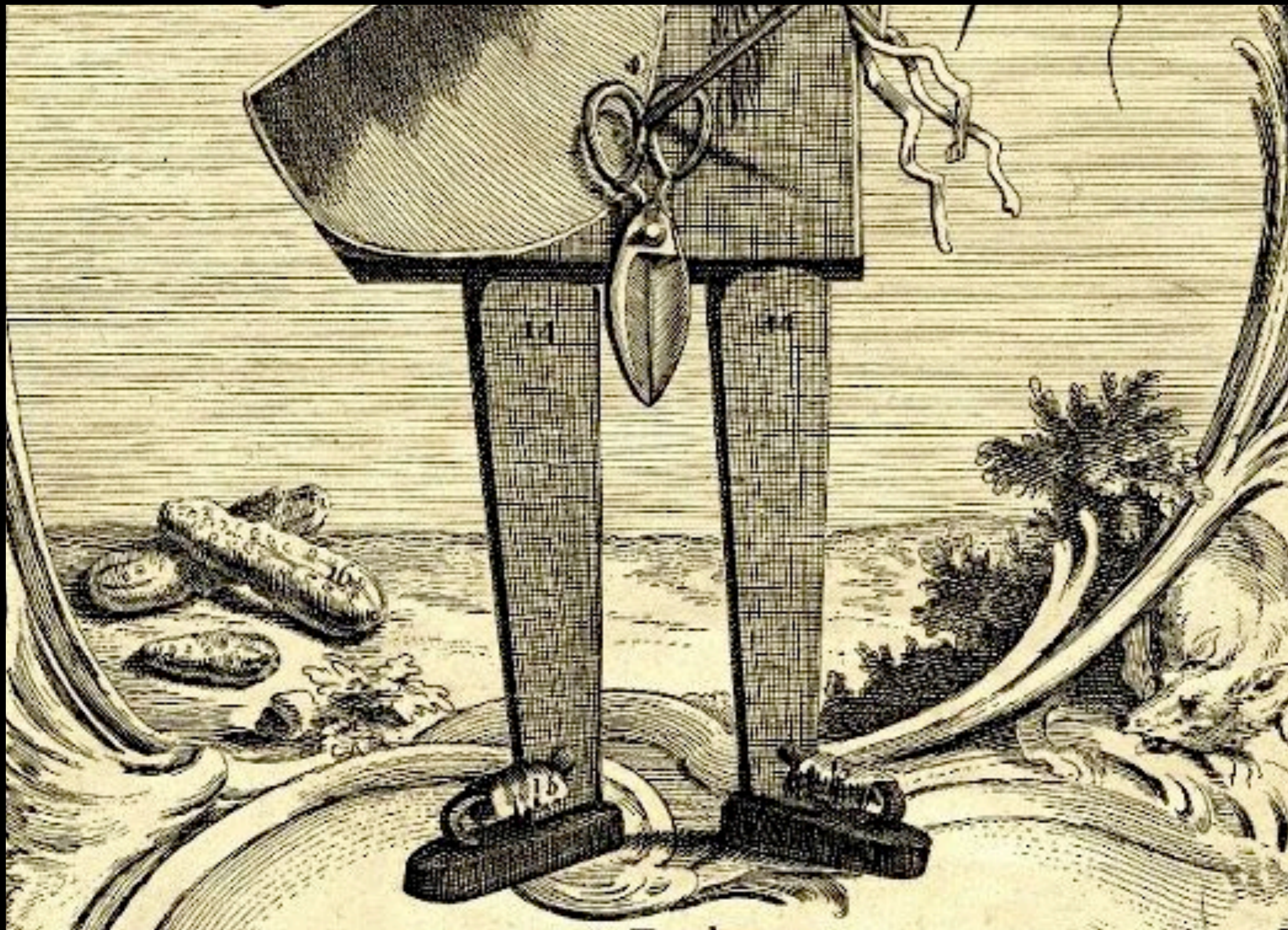
(Bickham in Masj Buildings, the next will be a Vintner)

“A Taylor.”

by George Bickham the Younger  
(The British Museum)



“A Taylor.”  
by George Bickham the Younger  
(The British Museum)



"A Taylor."  
by George Bickham the Younger  
(The British Museum)

15 Gooze  
16 Cucumber



new Gamester drawn in  
to be rook'd.

**CUCUMBERS, Tay-  
lors.**

**CUCUMBER-TIME,**  
Taylors Holidays, when  
they have leave to Play,  
and Cucumbers are in  
Season.

**CUDGELLIERS , a**  
Mob rudely arm'd ; also

From "A New Canting Dictionary"

1725

(Public Domain)



*Habit de Tailleur.*

“Habit de Tailleur”  
Costumes grotesques et métiers de Nicolas de Larmessin  
(Public Domain)



Un Tailleur.

Ein Schneider.

1. Ruban. 2. Band. 3. bouton manife d'or. 4. Muffin, goldene Knöpf. 5. das Carreau. 6. eine  
 Scher. 7. mesurer. 8. Maß. 9. pique. 10. fitch. 11. l'aiguille. 12. ein Cirophal. 13. fil et soie  
 14. Fäden und Säden. 15. Carreau. 16. Dögelchen. 17. Rodmanette. 18. Roquelaine. 19. Alare  
 20. tenn. 21. Mantel. 22. des porqone. 23. Pfeifen.  
 J. P. N. T. 1720. Mart. Engelbrecht del. 1720.

“Un Tailleur”

Martin Englebrecht (German) c. 1720  
 (Colonial Williamsburg)



A Tailor  
Late 18th century  
(Public Domain)



“The Rake’s Progress”  
by William Hogarth c. 1732 - 1735  
(Sir John Soane’s Museum, London)



A "Retired" German Tailor  
c. 1749  
(Public Domain)



18th Century Tailor Cutting a Pattern for Stays

The Merchant Taylors.

Les Merchands Tailleurs Anglois.



Revised Engraving

According to Act of Parliament 13 June 1749.

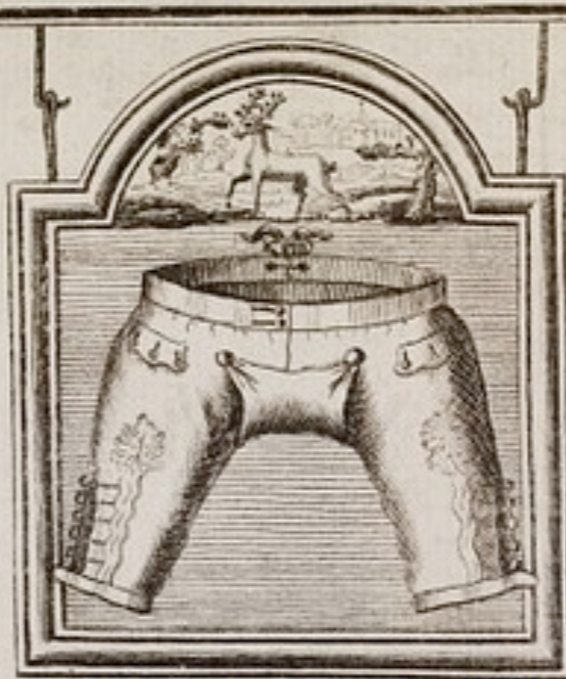
Bickham sculp

This flourishing Company is of great Antiquity & Honour, I find that Edmund Cressing Anno. 1331. sold his House wherein their Hall now stands to John Yakley -  
 Pavillion Maker to King Edward 1. 28 of His Reign confirmed their Guild by y<sup>e</sup> name of Taylors & Linnen. Armours their Arms were granted in the 21.<sup>st</sup> of  
 Edward 4.<sup>th</sup> 1481. Incorporated in y<sup>e</sup> Reign of Hen. 7.<sup>th</sup> they have been dignified with Persons of y<sup>e</sup> greatest Quality, viz. Kings 11, Princess 3, Bishops 27, Dukes 26,  
 Earles 5, Lords 81, & Lord. Mayors above 80. (of which last) was that famous liberal Gent. A. Tho.<sup>o</sup> White Mayor in the 1.<sup>st</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary. 1553, whose great  
 Example most worthy recommends it self to y<sup>e</sup> World for its Bounteous Immitation. Their Mansion Hall, situated in Threadneedle Street. L. O. N. D. O. N. -  
 1681 in Mary Streeting Covent Garden.

“The Merchant Taylors”

c. 1749

(The British Museum)



*Robert Lepper*

Leather Seller and Breeches Maker,

*At the Buck & Breeches in y<sup>e</sup> Minories*

**LONDON.**

*Sells Bucks & Doe Skins, Lincings &c;  
and all Sorts of Breeches, Wholesale and  
Retail at Reasonable Rates. —*

*Likewise Super fine Black & Colour'd D.<sup>o</sup>*

*As also the very best Sorts of Riding Gloves.*

English Trade Card for Robert Lepper, Leather Seller and Breeches Maker, London

c. 1750

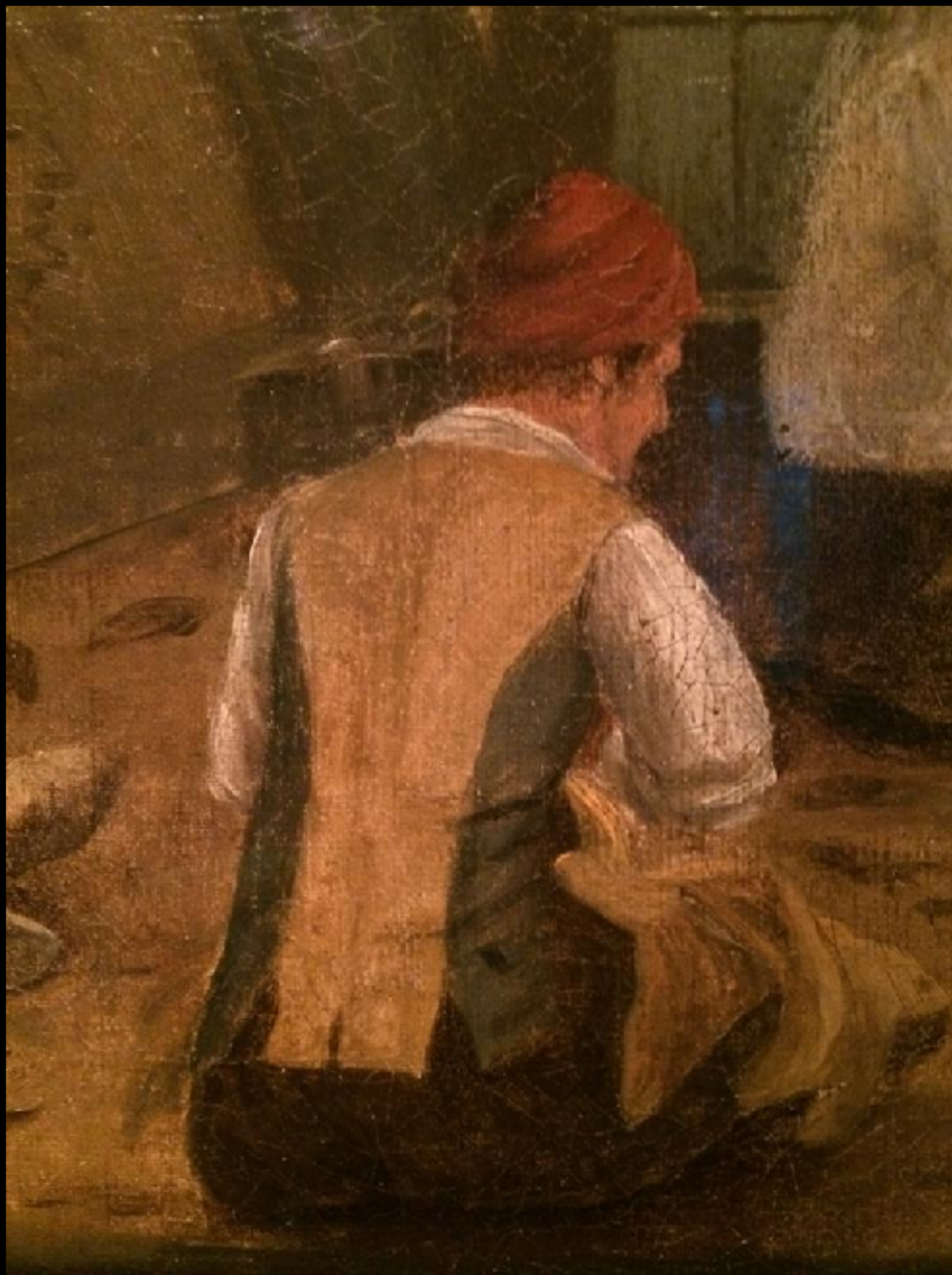
(Victoria & Albert)



Interior of a Tailor's Shop  
Unknown Artist c. 1767 - 1799  
(Museum of London - Photo Courtesy Scott Stephenson)



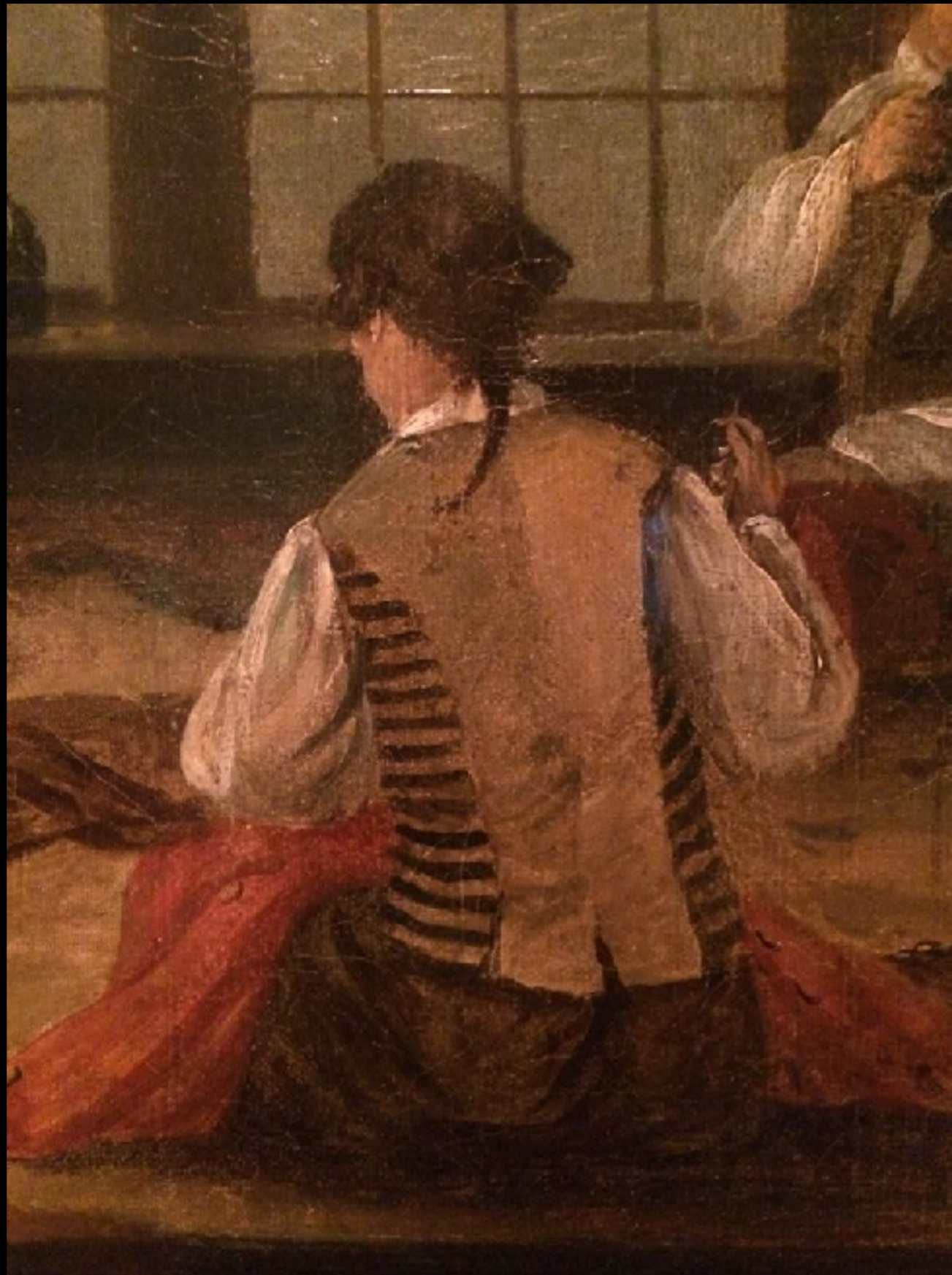
Detail: Interior of a Tailor's Shop  
Unknown Artist c. 1767 - 1799  
(Museum of London - Photo Courtesy Scott Stephenson)



Detail: Interior of a Tailor's Shop  
Unknown Artist c. 1767 - 1799  
(Museum of London - Photo Courtesy Scott Stephenson)



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Detail: Interior of a Tailor's Shop  
Unknown Artist c. 1767 - 1799  
(Museum of London - Photo Courtesy Scott Stephenson)



*The Methodist Taylor caught in Adultery*

*London, Printed for Rob<sup>t</sup>. Sayer, Map & Print-seller, N<sup>o</sup>. 53 in Fleet Street.*

*Collage fait  
Published as the Act directs July 20. 1768.*

“The Methodist Taylor caught in Adultery”  
by Robert Sayer 1768  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



"The Newsmongers" - Two Smiths & a Tailor  
c. 1769  
(The British Museum)



**“The TAYLOR and COBLER”**

by Carington Bowles after Adriaen Brouwer, made by Philip Dawe c. 1768 - 1772  
(Lewis Walpole Library)

For the Oxford Mag. 1770. July.



*The Carlton House Butchers.*

“The Carlton House Butchers.”  
Publish'd in Oxford 1770  
(The British Museum)



“A City Taylor’s Wife dressing for the Pantheon”  
Publish’d 5th Feby. 1772 by W. Humphrey, St. Martin’s Lane  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



*The Blacksmith lets his Iron grow cold attending to the Taylor's News.*

“The Blacksmith lets his Iron grow cold attending to the Taylor’s News”  
London 1772  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



J. Frosthoven f.

W. Sawbury del.

SNIP ANGLOIS.  
Publish'd 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. r 1773, New Bond Street.

“SNIP ANGLOIS”  
Publish'd 30th Dec. r 1773 New Bond Street  
(The British Museum)



W. Sawney del. **SNIP FRANCOIS.** J. Boucher Engr.  
*Published 30<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1773 New Bond-Street N<sup>o</sup>. 34.*

“SNIP FRANCOIS”  
Publish'd 30th Dec.r 1773 New Bond Street  
(The British Museum)



*M. Gandy del.*

**SNIP FRANCOIS.**

*Publsh'd 30<sup>th</sup> Dec: 1773 New Bond Street N<sup>o</sup> 134.*

*J. Boucher sculp.*

“SNIP FRANCOIS”  
Publish'd 30th Dec.r 1773 New Bond Street  
(The British Museum)



“Deny it if you can... **NINE TAYLORS** makes a **MAN**”  
by Carrington Bowles after Samuel Hieronymus Grimm 1774  
(The British Museum)



**The Hen Peckt Husband .**

*London. Printed for R. Sayer & J. Bennett, N<sup>o</sup> 33 Fleet Street in Art. de Droit le 14 Juin 1776.*

“The Hen Peckt Husband”  
after John Collet, painted by Mr. Dawes by R. Sayer & J. Bennett 1776  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



BLANK  
the Taylor

with the "Dance" in 1778

“BLANK the Taylor”  
1778  
(The British Museum)





The TAYLOR turn'd JOCKEY.  
or Goose upon Goose.

“The TAYLOR turn'd JOCKEY. or Goose upon Goose.”  
by William Henry Bunbury c. 1780  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



The TAYLOR turn'd J O C K E Y,  
or Goose upon Goose.

"The TAYLOR turn'd JOCKEY. or Goose upon Goose."  
by William Henry Bunbury c. 1780  
(Lewis Walpole Library)

BAD NEWS



That this World is a Lottery, what men can doubt:  
 And Money the speed which causes the rout.  
 For the Tickets are bought by the Fool, and the Wise,  
 Yet 'tis plain there are more than ten Blank to a Prize.

Song Tomara Teals ad

To prove right my Theme, too Greats behold:  
 Each ventured his all, in Lust of more Gold  
 And Corruption, You find with Speech none is crown'd,  
 Tho' Womb & Despair, poor Stiff, doth surround.

Song Janiacci

“BAD NEWS”

Publish'd Novr. 26, 1783, by Jno. Russell, Bond Street, Bath, 1783  
 (Lewis Walpole Library)



*London Printed for Bowles & Carver, North in, St. Pauls Church Yard.*

**QUARRELSOME TAYLORS, or TWO of a TRADE SELDOM AGREE.**

*1744*

**“QUARRELSOME TAYLORS or TWO of a TRADE SELDOM AGREE”**  
by Carington Bowles  
(Public Domain)



“QUARRELSOME TAYLORS or TWO of a TRADE SELDOM AGREE”  
by Carington Bowles  
(Public Domain)



**“THE STAY MAKER taking a PLEASING CIRCUMFERENCE”**  
by Jno. Russell 1783  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



"TAYLORS returning from a BEAN FEAST"

c. 1780

(Lewis Walpole Library)



“TAYLORS returning from a BEAN FEAST”

c. 1780

(Lewis Walpole Library)



*There once was a Taylor a Shooting would go,  
 Who before had neer fired a Gun we well know;  
 The Piece double charg'd hit him full on the Breast,*

*The*  
**TAYLOR**  
*turn'd*  
**SPORTSMAN.**

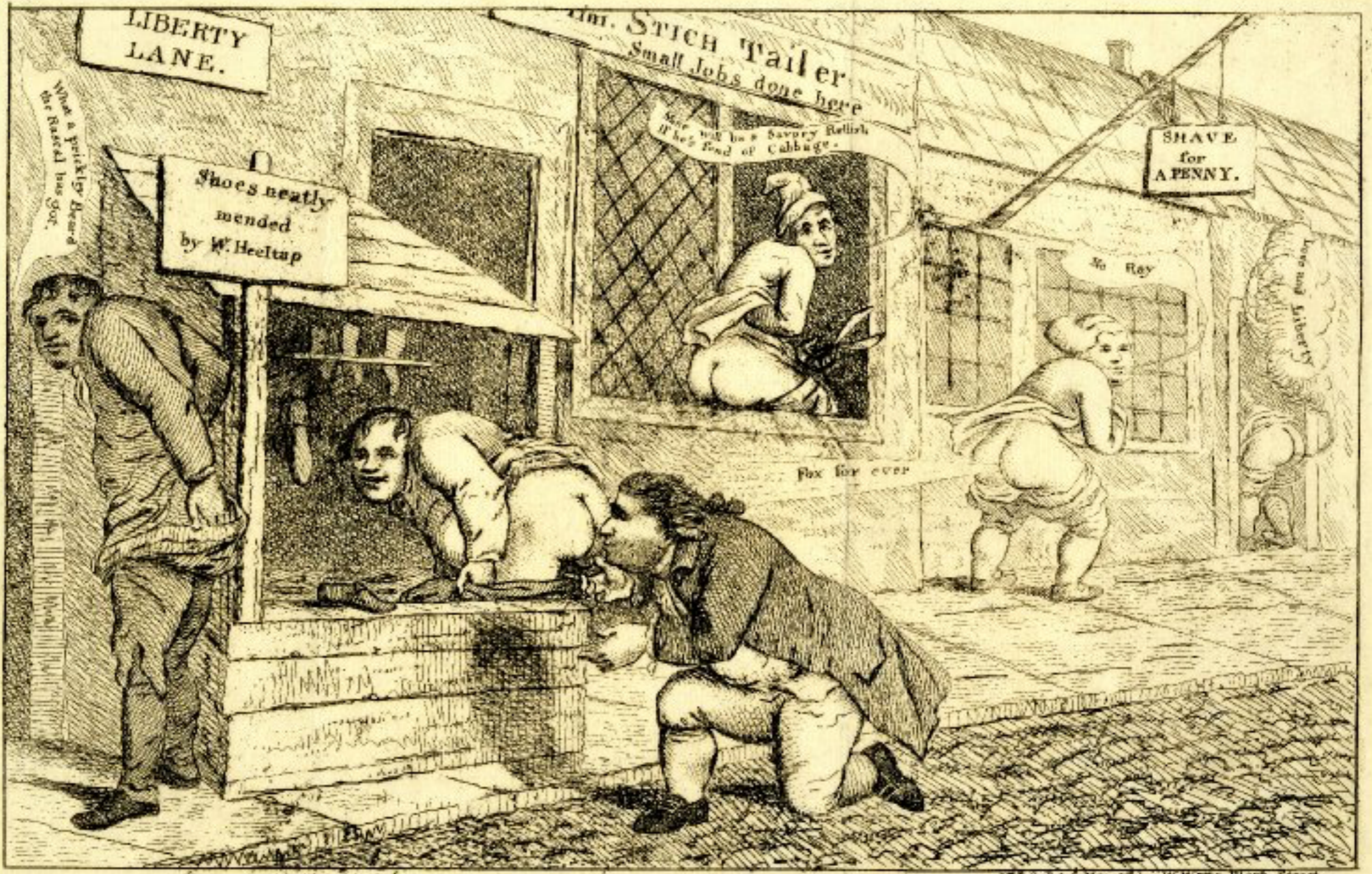
*And gave him the Attitude here as express'd  
 The Gun left his Hand and the Birds flew away  
 And the Taylor's been sick of the Sport to this Day*

*Published by R. Sayer, N<sup>o</sup>. 63 Fleet Street, as the Act directs, 4 June, 1782.*

BM 6136 L-A, vol III 1782

4 June

“The TAYLOR turn'd SPORTSMAN.”  
 by Robert Sayer 1782  
 (Lewis Walpole Library)



1784 Feb. May. J. by W. Wells, Fleet Street.

A NEW WAY to secure a MAJORITY: or, no DIRTY WORK comes amiss .

“A NEW WAY to secure a MAJORITY, or, no DIRTY WORK comes amiss.”  
 by William Wells 1784  
 (The British Museum)



Printed & sold by W. Allen,

30. Leane Street, Dublin.

*FREDERICK elegantly furnishing a large House.*

17.50

“FREDERICK elegantly furnishing a large House.”  
by Wm. Allen c. 1786  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



A Gentleman with His Tailor  
by Robert Smirke c. Late 18th Century  
(British Museum)



A Recreated Tailor in His Shop  
(Colonial Williamsburg Foundation - Interpretation by Jay Howlett)



*A Recreated Tailor in His Shop  
(Colonial Williamsburg Foundation - Interpretation by Mark Hutter)*



*A Recreated Tailor in His Shop  
(Colonial Williamsburg Foundation - Interpretation by Mark Hutter)*



A Recreated Tailor in His Shop  
(Colonial Williamsburg Foundation - Interpretation by Mark Hutter)



Dutch Building Marker or Sign from Amsterdam  
L:ate 17th - Early 18th Century



English Building Marker or Sign from Penrith, County of Cumbria  
1662



**GRAVESTONE IN PAISLEY CHURCHYARD.**

Gravestone of an English Tailor in Paisley Churchyard

1749

(From "The Antiquity" by Edward Walford, Charles Cox, Lattimer Apperson)



English Pearl Ware Punch Bowl - The Merchants Tailors Arms

c. 1770

(Private Collection)



English Pearl Ware Punch Bowl - The Merchants Tailors Arms

c. 1770

(Private Collection)



Dutch Tin Glazed Earthenware Plate  
18th Century  
(Mazereeuw Antiquair)

Seamstresses, Milliners  
&  
Mantuumakers



Sewing Apprentice  
by Anne Claude Philippe de Tubières, Comte de Caylus after Edme Bouchardon 1737  
(Metropolitan Museum of Art)



Austrian Seamstress  
by Christian Seybold Early - Mid 18th Century  
(The State Hermitage Museum)



"A Girl Sewing"  
by Philip Mercier c. 1750  
(Tate Gallery)



Dressmaker's Shop  
c. 1775  
(Public Domain)



“Domestick Amusement: The Fair Seamstress”  
by James Watson 1764  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



“The Seamstress”  
by Richard Purcell after Philippe Mercier, printed by Robert Sayer 1765  
(The British Museum)



“Domestick Employment Needle - work”  
by Richard Houston after Philippe Mercier c. 1765  
(The British Museum)



Girl Sewing  
by Paul Sandby c. 1765  
(The Royal Collection)



At Sandpit Gate  
by Paul Sandby c. 1765  
(The Royal Collection)



*D A N G E R .*

*Ah! Beware if you did but think,  
How near you are to Danger's brink;*

*You'd surely then leave off your play,  
And start from Betty's secret way.*

Printed by W. B. G. in the Strand, London.

“DANGER”  
by unknown 1784  
(Public Domain)



The Couturier's Workshop, Arles  
by Antoine Raspal c. 1760  
(Public Domain)



*J. Collet pinx.*

*J. Caldwell sculp.*

THE UNWELCOME CUSTOMER.

London Printed by J. Smith, N<sup>o</sup>. 21, Chancery Lane, & R. Sayer, N<sup>o</sup>. 43, Fleet Street.

as the Art directs 17 August 1772.

“THE UNWELCOME CUSTOMER”  
by James Caldwell after John Collet, Published by Robert Sayer 1772  
(Colonial Williamsburg)



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*From Sarah Woodcock, to the Girl,  
That's down'd the humbles, Neep to twirl.*

**The RIVAL MILLENNERS.**  
*Printed for Robt. Sayer, N<sup>o</sup>. 43 in Fleet-Street, London.*

*All Milleners delight in show,  
And cry — 'Tis I will have that Bow.*

**“The RIVAL MILLENNERS”**  
by Carington Bowles after John Colletc. 1778 - 1779  
(The British Museum)





A MORNING RAMBLE, or The MILLINERS SHOP.

478

Printed and Sold by T. GALT, in Pall Mall, at the Sign of the Three Kings, in the Year 1782.

“A MORNING RAMBLE, or The MILLINERS SHOP.”  
by Carington Bowles 1782  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



Recreated Seamstress  
The Margaret Hunter Shop: Milliners and Mantuamakers  
(Colonial Williamsburg)



Recreated Seamstresses  
The Margaret Hunter Shop: Milliners and Mantuamakers  
(Colonial Williamsburg)

Fred Blystone-2014



Recreated Seamstress  
The Margaret Hunter Shop: Milliners and Mantuamakers  
(Colonial Williamsburg)

Fred Blystone 2014



Recreated Seamstress  
The Margaret Hunter Shop: Milliners and Mantuamakers  
(Colonial Williamsburg)

# Embroidery



The Embroiderer  
by Jean-Baptiste-Siméon Chardin  
(Christie's)



Young Girl Embroidering  
by Jean-Etienne Liotard  
(Public Domain)

# Knitting



*Philip Mercier del.*  
*Domestick Employment, Knitting.*  
Printed for Robt. Sayer, at the Golden Book in Fleet Street, London.

“Domestick Employment, Knitting”  
Printed for Robert Sayer after Philip Mercier 1766  
(Public Domain)



“Knitter Asleep”  
by Jean-Baptiste Greuze (1724-1805)  
(Public Domain)

# Acknowledgements



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