

That the whole Trade use about 30 or 40,000 Skins in a Year: That in a Beaver Hat, made for Exportation, the Witness said, he generally put about 10 or 12 Ounces of Beaver; but that in the general Run of such Hats, for Home Consumption, he puts about 7 or 8 Ounces; which Hat is worth from 23 s. to 25 s.

Mr. *Lawford* said, That, since Beaver was so dear, few Hats were made all Beaver for Home Consumption; but that there are few made for the Town Consumption with less than 9 or 10 Ounces: That he paid for dying upwards of 500 Dozen of Hats the last Year, and that above 250 Dozen of them were above One half Beaver.

That, if Beaver was at 6 s. or 6 s. 6 d. a Pound, upon the Skin, we could consume it all in the Manufacture of Hats; but the Demand for Hats abroad now fails.

And being asked, Why they did not consume it all in the Years 1737. 1738. and 1739. when it was at 5 s. a Pound? he said, He thought the Reason was, our Hats being then very narrow, and low Crowns. And the Agent for the Petitioners observed, upon this Occasion, That in those Years the Quantity left in the Market, for the Use of the Manufacturers, was, upon a Medium, near equal to the Quantity imported in the Year 1750.

Mr. *Crafton* said, That if Beaver was at 6 s. or 6 s. 6 d. a Pound, he thinks the Trade would consume all that has been imported for Seven Years: That, he thinks, the Body of Hatters would contract for it all, for that he would be one that would.