

## **JOBS FOR NOBLES**

Nobles didn't have to do much official work to make money. They were born into families that already had a lot of money and owned a lot of land. Even though they didn't have to earn money, they still had a lot to do.

Noblemen stayed busy taking care of their property – house, land, money. They liked to hunt often. They would also travel around the country a lot. They did all of their learning at home and were some of the best educated people at that time. They also needed to throw big parties for the Queen and her guests. Sometimes the Queen sent them to other countries to make deals for her.

Noblewomen stayed busy taking care of the household – servants, cooks, children. They were also educated, but learned mostly about fine arts – singing, poetry, embroidery, painting. They also were supposed to do works of charity – help the poor.

## **JOBS FOR GENTRY**

Both Gentlemen and Gentlewomen lived a lot like the Nobles. But, they could never become Nobles. They were well educated, and usually did not have to work with their hands. They often worked as advisors to the Queen. Gentry were also often businessmen or merchants. They used their knowledge of money, reading, and organizing to make their money. Some of them were wealthier than others.

**BUTLER** - The Butler was responsible for the castle cellar and was in charge of large kegs of beer. The room in the castle called the Buttery was intended for storing and beverages, especially ale.

**CHAMBERLAIN** - The title originated with an officer of a royal household who was responsible for the Chamber, which included the administration of the Queen's household's budget. This occupation was later extended to collecting revenues and paying expenses.

**CHANCELLOR** - A chancellor was a secretary to a Noble or Royal person

**CHAPLAIN** - The Chaplain was responsible for the religious activities of a castle servants and Men at arms. The duties might also include that of a clerk and keeping accounts. A Priest would usually look after the spiritual needs and confessions of the Nobles and their families

**CLERK** - A Clerk was employed to keep accounts.

**CLOTHIER** - Clothiers made clothes for the nobles and required having a knowledge of various fine and expensive materials.

**CONSTABLE** - Constable was the occupation of the person who had been appointed as Custodian, or in charge of, a large estate or castle.

**KEEPER OF THE WARDROBE** - The room in the castle called the wardrobe was intended as a dressing room and storage room for clothes and used by the Queen and Upper Classes. The Keeper of the Wardrobe was in charge of the tailors and laundress.

**KNIGHT** - It was the duty of a Knight to learn how to fight and so serve their Queen according to the Code of Chivalry. Weapon practise included enhancing skills in the sword, battle axe, dagger and lance.

**MESSENGER** - Messengers were lesser diplomats of the lord who carried receipts, letters, and commodities.

**MARSHAL** - Marshal was the officer in charge of a household's horses, carts, wagons, containers and the transporting of goods

**MERCER** - Is the cloth retailer: the local fabric store is a mercer's shop. One may be a silk mercer or a wool mercer, for example.

**MONEYLENDER** - Moneylenders were the Elizabethan bankers.

**PHYSICIAN** - Physicians were a very highly regarded and respected occupation. Bleeding, lancing and surgical procedures were practiced.

**REEVE** - The Reeve supervised all work on a lord's property. The Reeve ensured that everyone began and stopped work on time.

**SCRIBE** - Most Scribes came from religious establishments where reading, writing and comprehension skills were learned.

**SHERIFF** - The sheriff was an important official of county who was responsible for executing judicial duties.

**SQUIRE** - A Squire was junior to a Knight. It was the duty of a Squire to learn about the Code of Chivalry, the rules of Heraldry, horsemanship and practiced the use of weapons. It was also their duty to enter into court life and learn courtly etiquette, music and dancing.

**TUDOR** – A Tudor was a teacher to wealthy children. They taught them in their home, not in school.

## **JOBS FOR YEOMAN**

The Yeoman were very hard workers. They were trade workers – they learned how to do or make something useful, and then they sold it. They were not rich, but they were comfortable.

**APOTHECARY** - An Apothecary dispensed remedies made from herbs, plants and roots. Elizabethan physicians were expensive and a priest often held this occupation, often the only recourse for sick, poor people

**ASTROLOGER** - An astrologer studied the stars and planets but regarded as a mystical person.

**BAKER** - Bread was a daily staple of Elizabethan life, and good bakers were employed by Nobles in their castles.

**BARBER** - A Barber had many occupations in relation to personal care. Barbers would cut hair but would also serve as dentists, surgeons and blood-letters.

**BLACKSMITH** - The Blacksmith was one of the most important, albeit lowly, occupations of the Elizabethan era. Blacksmiths forged weapons, sharpened weapons, repaired armor.

**BOTTLER** - A Bottler had a responsible occupation and was in charge of the Bottlery which was intended for storing and dispensing wines and other expensive provisions.

**BOWER OR BOWYER** - The Bowyer manufactured bows, arrows and crossbows

**CANDLEMAKER** - The Candlemaker made candles to light a castle or palace. Candles were supplemented by lighting from torches, lanterns and rush dips.

**CARPENTER** - The occupation of the Carpenter was diverse. Carpenters built furniture, roofing, and wood panelling. Carpenter: a skilled craftsman who shaped or made things of wood. Carpenters were highly skilled and considered to be elite tradesmen

**CHANDLER** – A chandler makes candles for chandeliers.

**COOK** - Cook was employed in the castle kitchens roasting, broiling, and baking food in the fireplaces and ovens.

**CORDWAINER** - A Cordwainer was a Shoemaker or Cobbler, a craftsman who made shoes.

**EWERER** - A Ewerer brought and heated water for nobles

**FARRIER** – Makes and fits horse shoes.

**FOWLER** - The man who supplies game birds for a noble person's table.

**HERALD OR HARKER** - A Herald was a knights assistant and an expert advisor on heraldry. The Herald (or Harker) would declare announcements on behalf of the Queen or Noble to the public

**JOINER** – A joiner makes furniture.

**NURSE** - Takes care of infants and young children.

**OSTLER** - The man (or boy) in charge of the horses and stabling at an inn. Also called stable boy.

**PAGE** - The life of a castle Page would start at a very young age - seven years old. A Page was junior to a Squire. It was the duty of a Page to wait at table, care for the Lord's clothes and assist them in dressing. The Page was provided with a uniform of the colours and livery of the Lord.

**PORTER** - The Janitor, or Porter, was responsible for a Castle entrance and for the guardrooms. The Porter also insured that no one entered or left the castle without permission

**SPINSTER** - Spinster was the name of the occupation given to a woman who earned her living spinning yarn. The Spinning Wheel was invented during the Elizabethan era. Later the term Spinster was used to describe any unmarried woman.

**WATCHMAN** - Watchmen was an official at the castle responsible for security. Also night-watchman.

## **JOBS FOR ARTISANS**

The Artisans were poets, playwrights, musicians, and performers. They were usually a part of the Yeoman class, but didn't always have much money. They made their money by entertaining or working for the wealthy Nobles or Gentry

**ACROBAT** - An Acrobat was a popular Elizabethan entertainer

**ARTIST** - Artists were employed in the later Elizabethan era by kings and nobles. At first an artist painted heraldic designs on early furniture and then it became fashionable for portraits to be painted

**JESTER** - The Jester also referred to as the Fool Entertained the Queen and the court.

**MINSTREL** - Minstrels provided Castle entertainment in the form of singing and playing musical instruments. Minstrels often would record the deeds of heroic knights in songs giving the knight great publicity and establishing respect and additional status.

**PAINTER** - Elizabethan castles ere highly colorful and the services of painters were often required.

**POTTER** - Potters were craftsmen of in clay, porcelain and early forms of ceramics. Basically they produced pots for cooking and storage and occasionally worked as sculptors. Potters were members of Elizabethan craft guilds

## **JOBS FOR PEASANTS OR POOR**

Many of the peasants, or poor people, never got the chance to learn how to do something useful. They definitely didn't know how to read, and were usually very dirty and unhealthy. If they were lucky enough to have a job, it was rarely a fun one. Many of the peasants got stuck doing jobs that other people didn't want to do.

**COTTAR** - A Cottar was one of the lowest peasant occupations, undertaken by the old or infirm, who had a series of low duties including swine-herder, prison guard and menial tasks

**GONG FARMER** - Gong was another name for dung! These people collected human dung from the large houses and carried the waste outside of the city or town.