

accounts,<sup>9</sup> "twenty-five yards of fyne bone lace" was required to edge a ruff, without counting the ground, composed either of lace squares or cutwork. Queen Anne, his consort, pays 5*l.* for her wrought ruff, for "shewing" which eighteen yards of fine lace are purchased at 5*s.* 8*d.*<sup>10</sup>

The ruffs of the City lady were kept down by the old sumptuary law of Elizabeth.

"See, now, that you have not your 'city ruff' on, Mistress Sue," says Mistress Simple, in the "City Match."<sup>11</sup>

In 1620, the yellow starch of Mrs. Turner, supposed to give a rich hue to the lace and cutwork of which ruffs were "built," gave scandal to the clergy. The Dean of Westminster ordered no lady or gentleman wearing yellow ruffs to be admitted into any pew in his church; but finding this "ill taken," and the king "moved in it," he ate his own words, and declared it to be all a mistake.<sup>12</sup> This fashion, again, gave great offence even in France.<sup>13</sup> Since the English<sup>14</sup> alliance, writes the "Courtisane à la Mode," 1625,<sup>15</sup> "cette mode Anglaise sera cause qu'il pourra advenir une cherté sur le safran qui fera que les Bretons et les Poitevins seront contraints de manger leur beurre blanc et non pas jaune, comme ils sont accoutumés." The Overbury murder (1613) and hanging

And other messengers; besides embroiderers,  
Jewellers, tire-women, semsters, feather men,  
Perfumers; whilst she feels not how the land  
Drops away, nor the acres melt; nor foresees  
The change, when the mercer has your woods  
For her velvets; never weighs what her pride  
Costs, Sir."

<sup>9</sup> "Second Acc. of Sir John Villiers, 1617-8." P. R. O.

"150 yards of fyne bone lace for six extraordinary ruffs provided against his Majesty's marriage, at 9*s.*, 67*s.* 10*d.*"—*Extraordinary Expenses*, 1622-6. P. R. O.

<sup>10</sup> "State Papers, Dom." Jac. I. vol. iii. No. 89. P. R. O.

<sup>11</sup> Jasper Mayne, 1670.

<sup>12</sup> "State Papers, Dom." James I. vol. cxiii. No. 18.

<sup>13</sup> We read that in 1574 the Venetian ladies dyed their lace the colour of saffron. The fashion may therefore have been derived from them.

<sup>14</sup> "He is of England, by his yellow band."—*Notes from Black Fryers, Henry Fitzgeffery*, 1617.

"Now ten or twenty eggs will hardly suffice to starch one of these yellow bandes."—*Barnaby Rich, The Irish Hubbub, or the English Hue and Cry*, 1622.

Killigrew, in his play called "The Parson's Wedding," published in 1664, alludes to the time when "yellow starch and wheel verdingales were cried down;" and in "The Blind Lady," a play printed in 1661, a serving man says to the maid: "You had once better opinion of me, though now you wash every day your best handkerchief in yellow starch."

<sup>15</sup> "La Courtisane à la Mode, selon l'Usage de la Cour de ce Temps." Paris, 1625.