

Laced aprons, which even found their way to the homes of the Anglican clergy, and appear advertised as "Stolen from the vicarage house at Amersham in Oxfordshire: An apron of needlework lace, the middle being Network, another Apron laced with cut and slash lace."<sup>14</sup>

The newspapers crowd with losses of lace, and rarer—finds.<sup>15</sup>

They give us, however, no clue to the home manufacture. "A pasteboard box full of laced linen, and a little portmanteau with some white and grey Bone lace,"<sup>16</sup> would seem to signify a lace much made two hundred years ago, of which we have ourselves seen specimens from Dalecarlia, a sort of guipure, upon which the pattern is formed by the introduction of an unbleached thread, which comes out in full relief—a fancy more curious than pretty.

The petticoats of the ladies of King Charles's court have received due honour at the hands of Pepys, whose prying eyes seem to have been everywhere. On May 21 of the same year he so complacently admired himself in his new lace band, he writes down: "My wife and I to my Lord's lodging; where she and I staid walking in White Hall Gardens. And in the Privy Garden saw the finest smocks and linnen petticoats of my Lady Castlemaine's, laced with rich lace at the bottom, that ever I saw; and it did me good to look at them."

Speaking of the ladies' attire of this age, Evelyn says:—

"Another quilted white and red,  
With a broad Flanders lace below;  
Four pairs of bas de soye shot through

a pair of "laced gloves." Lord Campbell, in 1856, at the Lincoln Lent assizes, received from the sheriff a pair of white gloves richly trimmed with Brussels lace and embroidered, the city arms embossed in frosted silver on the back.

<sup>14</sup> "London Gazette," 1677, Jan. 28-31; again, Oct. 4-8, in the same year: "Stolen or lost out of the Petworth waggon, a deal box directed to the Lady Young of Burton in Sussex; there was in it a fine Point Apron, a suit of thin laced Night clothes," &c.

<sup>15</sup> "London Gazette," 1675, June 14-17: "A right Point lace with a long musling neck laced at the ends with a

narrow Point about three fingers broad, and a pair of Point cuffs of the same, worn foul and never washt, was lost on Monday last."

Ibid. 1677, Oct 22-25: "Found in a ditch, Four laced forehead cloths. One laced Pinner, one laced Quoif, one pair of laced ruffels. . . . Two point aprons and other laced linen."

"Intelligencer," 1664, Oct. 3: "Lost, A needle work point without a border, with a great part of the louns cut out, and a quarter of it new lout with the needle. £5 reward."

<sup>16</sup> "London Gazette," 1677, Oct. 8-11.