

pointers or his horses. We read in the journals of the time how on the day after Lord George Gordon's riots, a report ran through London that the Earl of Effingham, having joined the rioters, had been mortally wounded, and his body thrown into the Thames. He had been recognised, folks declared, by his point lace ruffles.⁴

Mr. Damer, less known than his wife, the talented sculptor and friend of Horace Walpole, appeared three times a day in a new suit, and at his death⁵ left a wardrobe which sold for 15,000*l*.⁶ Well might have been said of him—

“We sacrifice to dress, till household joys
And comforts cease. Dress drains our cellars dry,
And keeps our larder bare; puts out our fires,
And introduces hunger, frost, and woe,
Where peace and hospitality might reign.”⁷

There was “no difference between the nobleman and city 'prentice, except that the latter was sometimes the greater beau,” writes the “Female Spectator.”⁸

“His hands must be covered with fine Brussels lace.”⁹

Our painters of the last century loved to adorn their portraits with the finest productions of Venice and Flanders; modern artists consider such decorations as far too much trouble. “Over the chimney-piece,” writes one of the essayists, describing a citizen's country box, “was my friend's portrait, which was drawn bolt upright in a full-bottomed periwig, a laced cravat, with the fringed ends appearing through the button-hole (Steinkirk fashion). Indeed, one would almost wonder how and where people managed to afford so rich a selection of laces in their days, did it not call to mind the demand of the Vicaress of Wakefield ‘to have as many pearls and diamonds put into her picture as could be given for the money.’”

Ruffles were equally worn by the ladies : —¹⁰

“Frizzle your elbows with ruffles sixteen :
Furl off your lawn apron with flounces in rows.”¹¹

⁴ He had retired to the country to be estimated at the same sum.
out of the way.

⁵ August 1776.

⁶ The wardrobe of George IV. was

⁷ Cowper.

⁸ 1757.

⁹ “Monsieur à la Mode,” 1753.

¹⁰ “Let of ruffles many a row
Guard your elbows white as snow.”

The Belle, 1755.

“Gone to a lady of distinction with a Brussels head and ruffles.”
The Fool of Quality, 1766.

¹¹ “Receipt for Modern Dress,” 1753.