

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

## SCOTLAND.

"With the pearlin above her brow."

*Old Scotch Song.*

"Pearlin-lace as fine as spiders' webs."

*Heart of Midlothian.*

FROM her constant intercourse with France, lace must have been early known in Scotland.

Of its use for ecclesiastical purposes, at a period when it was still unknown to the laity, we have evidence in the mutilated effigy of a crosiered ecclesiastic which once stood in a niche of the now ruined abbey church of Arbroath. The lace which adorns the robes of this figure is very elaborately and sharply chiselled, and, when first discovered, still preserved some remains of the gold leaf with which it had been ornamented.

In the inventories of King James V.—that handsome but ill-fated monarch—we find constant mention of "pasment" of gold and silver,<sup>1</sup> as well as an entry of—"Ane gown of fresit clayth of gold, with pasment of perle of gold smyth wark lynit with cramasy sating."<sup>2</sup> And we have other proofs,<sup>3</sup> in addition to the testimony of Sir Walter Scott, as given in the "Monastery,"<sup>4</sup> that

<sup>1</sup> "1539. Ane uther gowne of purpour satyne with ane braid pasment of gold and silver," &c.

"Twa Spanye cloikis of black freis with ane braid pasment of gold and silver."

"1542. Three peces of braid pasmenttes of gold and silver."—*Inventories of the Royal Wardrobe and Jewel House, 1488-1606.* Edinb. 1815.

<sup>2</sup> 1542. Same Inv.

<sup>3</sup> In the Inv. of the Earl of Huntley, 1511-12, there is mention of dresses

"passamenté d'or."

<sup>4</sup> Chap. X., note.

1537. James V. and Lord Somerville at Holyrood:—"Where are all your men and attendants, my Lord?"

"Please your Majesty, they are here," pointing to the lace which was on his son's and two pages' dress. The king laughed heartily and surveyed the finery, and bade him "Away with it all, and let him have his stout band of spears again."