

be "a species of lace made with thread." In the old Scotch songs it frequently occurs:—²⁵

"Then round the ring she dealt them ane by ane,
Clean in her pearlin keck, and gown alane."

Ross Helonora.

Again—

"We maun hae pearlins and mabbies and cocks,
And some other things that ladies call smocks."

As the latter articles may appear more familiar to the world in general than "kecks," and "mabbies," and "cocks," we may as well explain a "pearlin keck" to signify a linen cap with a lace border; a "mabbie," a mob; a "cock," or cock-up, no more eccentric head-dress than the lofty fontanges or commode of the last century.

Again, in "Rob Roy," we have the term "pearlin": when Bailie Nicol Jarvie piteously pleads to his kinswoman, Helen Macgregor, he says—

"I hae been serviceable to Rob before now, forbye a set of pearlins I sent yoursell when you were gaun to be married."

The recollection of these delicate attentions, however, has little effect on the Highland chieftainess, who threatens to have him chopped up, if ill befalls her lord, into as many square pieces as compose the Macgregor tartan, or throw him neck and heels into the Highland loch.

The brave Montrose, we read, sent his lace ruffles to be starched and dressed before they were sewn on the embroidered sark he had made only to wear at his execution. "Pearlin" was provided for him which cost above 10*l.* an ell.

The close-fitting velvet cap, enriched with lace, appears in the seventeenth century to have been adopted by the lawyers of the Scotch courts. An example may be seen in the portrait of Sir Thomas Hope, Lord Advocate of Scotland, who died in 1646, which hangs in the Hall of the Advocates of Edinburgh. Another (Fig. 145) appears in the engraving of Sir Alexander Gibson, Bart., Lord Durie, one of the lords of session, who died two years previously.

In 1672, when lace—"point lace made of thread"—came

²⁵ 1633. In the "Account of Expenses for the young Lord of Lorne," we find:—

"2 ells Cambridg' at 8*s.* the ell for ruffles, 16*s.*

"2 ells of Perling at 30*s.*, the uther at 33*s.* 4*d.*, 3*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*."—*Innes' Sketches of Early Scotch History.*