

tiser" of 1764, "to support our exiled countrymen in France, where they learn nothing but folly and extravagance." English laces were not included in the prohibition. In 1763, that "neat shop near the Stinking Style, in the Lukenbooths," held by Mr. James Baillie, advertises "Trollies, English laces, and pearl edgings." Four years later, black silk lace and guipure are added to the stock, "mennuet," and very cheap bone lace.⁷

Great efforts, and with success, were made for the improvement of the thread manufacture, for the purchase of which article at Lille 200,000*l.* were annually sent from Scotland to France. Badly spun yarn was seized and burned by the stamp master; of this we have frequent mention.⁸

Peuchet, speaking of Scotland, says:—"Il s'est formé près d'Édimbourg une manufacture de fil de dentelle. On prétend que le fil de cette manufacture sert à faire des dentelles qui non-seulement égalent en beauté celles qui sont fabriquées avec le fil de l'étranger, mais encore les surpassent en durée. Cet avantage serait d'autant plus grand que l'importation de ce fil de l'étranger occasionne aux habitans de ce royaume une perte annuelle de 100,000*l.*"⁹

Whether about the year 1775 any change had taken place in the legislation of the customs of Scotland, and they had become regulated by English law, we cannot say, but suddenly constant advertisements of Brussels lace and fine point appear in the "Gazette," and this at the very time Loch was doing his best to stir up once more Scotch patriotism with regard to manufactures.¹⁰

The Scotch Foresters set the example at their meeting in 1766, and then—we hear nothing more on the matter.

⁷ "Edinburgh Advertiser."

⁸ 1774. "Several pounds of badly spun yarn was burnt by the stamp master in Montrose." This announcement constantly occurs.

⁹ About this period, a Mr. Brotherton, of Leith, seems to have made a discovery which was but a prelude to the bobbinet. It is thus described in the "Weekly Magazine" of 1772:—"A new invention has lately been discovered by Mr. Brotherton, in Leith, for working black silk lace or white thread lace on a loom, to imitate any pattern whatever, and the lace done in this way looks fully as well as if sewed,

and comes much cheaper. It is done any breadth, from three inches to three-quarters of a yard wide."

¹⁰ In 1775, Dallas, Barclay, and Co., advertise a selling off of fine point, Brussels thread, blonde, and black laces of all kinds, silver double-edged lace, &c. "Edinburgh Advertiser."

1775. "Black blonde and thread laces, catguts of all sorts, just arrived from the India House in London in the Canon-gate."—*Caledonian Mercury*.

"Fashions for January: dresses trimmed with Brussels point or Mignonette."—*Ibid.* same year.