

The "Weekly Magazine" of 1776 strongly recommends the art of lace-making as one calculated to flourish in Scotland; young girls beginning to learn at eight years of age, adding: "The directors of the hospital of Glasgow have already sent twenty-three girls to be taught by Madame Puteau,¹¹ a native of Lisle, now residing at Renfrew; you will find the lace of Renfrew cheaper, as good and as neat as those imported from Brussels, Lisle, and Antwerp." David Loch also mentions the success of the young Glasgow lace-makers, who made lace, he says, from 10*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* per yard. He adds: "It is a pleasure to see them at work. I saw them ten days ago." He recommends the managers of the workhouse of the Canongate to adopt the same plan: adding, they need not send to Glasgow for teachers, as there are plenty at the orphan hospital at Edinburgh capable of undertaking the office. Of the lace fabricated at Glasgow, we know nothing, save from an advertisement in the "Caledonian Mercury" of 1778, where one William Smith, "Lace-maker," at the Greenhead, Glasgow, informs the public he has for some years "made and bleached candlewicks." Anderson and Loch did not agree on the subject of lace-making; the former considering it an unstable fabric, too easily affected by the caprices of fashion.¹²

Be that as it may, the manufacture of thread for lace alone employed five hundred machines, each machine occupying thirty-six persons: the value of the thread produced annually 175,000*l.* Loch adds that, in consequence of the cheapness of provisions, Scotland, as a country, is better adapted for lace-making than England. In consequence of Loch's remarks, his Majesty's Board of Trustees for the Fisheries and Manufactures, after asking a number of questions, determined to give proper encouragement

¹¹ "Madame Puteau carries on a lace manufacture after the manner of Meehlin and Brussels. She had lately twenty-two apprentices from the Glasgow Hospital. . . . Mrs. Puteau has as much merit in this branch as has her husband in the making of fine thread. This he manufactures of such a fineness as to be valued at 10*l.* the pound weight."—*Essays on the Trade, Commerce, Manufactures, Fisheries, &c. of Scotland*, David Loch, 1778.

¹² "If you look at the wardrobes of your grandmother, you will perceive what revo-

lutions have happened in taste of mankind for laces and other fineries of that sort. How many suits of this kind do you meet with that cost amazing sums, which are now and have long since been entirely useless. In our own day, did we not see that in one year Brussels laces are most in fashion and purchased at any price, while the next perhaps they are entirely laid aside, and French or other thread laces, or fine sewings, the names of which I know not, highly prized."—*Observations on the National Industry of Scotland*, Anderson, 1778.