

were of pearl and emeralds, and served to display to the greatest advantage a beautiful formed foot and ankle. The stockings were fastened at the top with the celebrated Indian garters, which contained a talisman, the value of which is highly rated as it is supposed to warn the wearer of every good or evil that is to befall them; and no lady, I am told, would be seen in company without them, being considered as the most essential part of their dress. They may be worn either round the leg or on the upper part of the arm, and are invariably of one shape; that of the flat garter with springs, but covered with the most costly materials, according to the fortune or caprice of the wearer. The lady's in question were of satin, set on each side with alternate pearl and emerald, in the centre of each garter was an opening in the form of a lozenge which contains the talisman. This also was set round with the same costly materials; and is clasped on the outside of the leg with an emerald from which depended two tassels of oriental pearls. I must own this part of the dress pleased me much; as there appeared to be so much real taste displayed in the arrangement of it. A close vest of silver tissue formed the shape, to which was fastened with pearls a drapery of point lace reaching as low as where the cambric ended. This drapery was bordered at the bottom with a fringe about three inches deep of the same intermixture of jewelry as the sandal. The neck, bosom, and arms were decorated in the same manner with a profusion of pearls, but they had no covering except a fall of fine point lace from the sleeve of the chemise. The hair, of which the ladies here have a great quantity, was banded and looped with pearls, and on one side was a large bunch of white roses composed of pearl with leaves of emerald."

This description is defective inasmuch as we are not told whether the lady gartered above or below the knee, a most material point as connected with the preservation or disfigurement of the symmetry of the leg and knee

Ladia Venetia Digby was, says the author of *Courtly Anecdotes*: "justly esteemed one of the most beautiful women of her time. Sir Kenelm Digby, reckoned a model of romantic virtue: married her at a period of life, which raises our wonder at the silly arts he continually caused this lovely woman to adhere to, in order to preserve, and, if possible to add to, her outward attractions. He frequently, though her