

rest, consisted for men of a homespun linsey-woolsey blouse, doublet or jacket, wide baggy trousers, heavy shoes, and a low-crowned, broad-brimmed hat, on ordinary days; and on Sundays and holidays, long coats decked with silver lace and silver buttons, bright-colored vests, velvet knee-breeches, black or blue silk stockings, a feather waving in the hat-band, and low shoes with large buckles of silver, or peradventure of pewter or copper. The hair was worn in a long queue of eelskin. The women frizzed and powdered their hair, wore silken hoods, enormous skirts of gorgeous colors, and high-heeled shoes.*

Their habits were regular and methodical. We are told that they arose every day at cock-crowing, breakfasted at dawn, dined at eleven o'clock, supped at five, and retired at sunset. Their tables were plentifully supplied with plain

*"These were the honest days, in which every woman staid at home, read the Bible, and wore pockets—ay, and that too of a goodly size, fashioned with patchwork into many curious devices, and ostentatiously worn on the outside. These, in fact, were convenient receptacles, where all good housewives carefully stowed away such things as they wished to have at hand. * * * Besides these notable pockets, they likewise wore scissors and pincushions suspended from their girdles by red ribands, or, among the more opulent and showy classes, by brass, and even silver chains, indubitable tokens of thrifty housewives and industrious spinsters. I cannot say much in vindication of the shortness of the petticoats; it doubtless was introduced for the purpose of giving the stockings a chance to be seen, which were generally of blue worsted, with magnificent red clocks—or perhaps to display a well-turned ankle, and a neat, though servicable, foot, set off by a high-heeled leathern shoe, with a large and splendid silver buckle. * * *

"A fine lady, in those times, waddled under more clothes, even on a fair summer's day, than would have clad the whole bevy of a modern ball-room. Nor were they the less admired by the gentlemen in consequence thereof. On the contrary, the greatness of a lover's passion seemed to increase in proportion to the magnitude of its object—and a voluminous damsel, arrayed in a dozen of petticoats, was declared by a Low Dutch sonneteer of the province to be radiant as a sunflower, and luxuriant as a full-blown cabbage. * * * But there was a secret charm in these petticoats, which no doubt entered into the consideration of the prudent gallants. The wardrobe of a lady was in those days her only fortune."—Irving's "Knickerbocker," Bk. III, chap. iv.

Again from Irving: "She (Katrina Van Tassel) was a blooming lass of fresh eighteen; plump as a partridge; ripe and melting and rosy-cheeked as one of her father's peaches. * * * She wore the ornaments of pure yellow gold which her great-great-grandmother had brought over from Saardam; the tempting stomacher of the olden time, and withal a provokingly short petticoat, to display the prettiest foot and ankle in the country round."—"Legend of Sleepy Hollow."