

figure, I was always, at the same time an advocate for every species of embellishment that tended to set off, or augment, the beauties of the form and face of woman: and have occasionally extracted such descriptions or particulars on this subject as either appeared curious, or struck my fancy. Without therefore attempting any studied essay on this prolific topic, I propose; by way of *entremets*, to serve up a few of those extracts, promiscuously, as they occur in my common place-book.

I begin with the following minute description of the dress of Mary Queen of Scots, from Brantome, written in 1579, which is referred to in the *Causes Celebres*, as being the dress she wore when executed.

“She wore“says the historian”a veil of white crape which covered her from her head to the feet, and dragged along the ground. A cap of the same material such as she had been accustomed to wear, when in full dress. A full gown, (*manteau*.) of black satin, trimmed with martin skins of great value, and black taffety flounces. Long hanging sleeves, and the collar *a l’Italienne*. A bodice (*pourpoint*.) of black satin, a petticoat of dark brown crimson velvet, an under petticoat (*vasquine*.) of twilled silk, blue stuff drawers (*calçons*.) blue silk stockings, silk garters, and morocco shoes, (*escarpins*.)”

As a counterpart to the above heavy and mournful dress of one of the most beautiful and accomplished princesses on record, I next hit upon the description of a Bridal dress, at Lima, from Davis’s letters. 1820.

“To begin with her chemise, (for all the component parts of her dress were distinctly visible,) it was of the finest cambric, the bottom of which was trimmed with very broad point lace of about 20 guineas a yard, but the cambric reached no farther than the top of of the knee; silk stockings of a pale blush, embroidered with small rosebuds of silver; her slippers, or rather sandals, were of silver tissue, embroidered with red rosebuds, banded round the instep and ankle after the Indian manner; but instead of ribband they