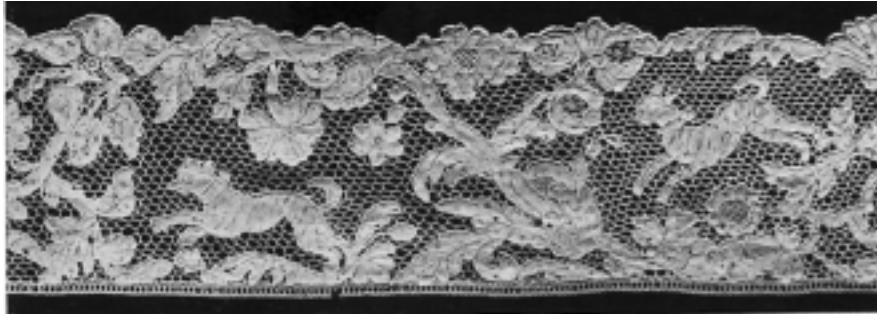




MARIE ANNE DE BOURBON, PRINCESS OF CONDÉ  
ATTRIBUTED TO SANTERRE  
THE ORIGINAL AT HAMPTON COURT PALACE



FRENCH NEEDLEPOINT, 18TH CENTURY  
IN THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

THE WARDROBE OF A PRINCESS IN 1720  
BY GEORGES SELIGMAN

**M**ARIE ANNE of Bourbon, the daughter of François Louis of Bourbon, Prince of Conti, and of Marie Thérèse of Bourbon-Condé, born 1689, married Louis-Henri of Bourbon, Duke of Bourbon, Prince of Condé by contract dated the 8th of July, 1713; she died prematurely on the 21st of March, 1720.

The inventory of her wardrobe taken after her death, provides us in detail with the list of the linen and garments of which her wardrobe was composed. The following is a statement of the articles found in the drawers of the large cupboard in her suite of apartments at the Hôtel de Condé:

Two linen wrappers, trimmed, one with Angleterre lace à brides, and the other with grounded Mechlin priced 100 livres.<sup>1</sup>

Six striped dimity petticoats priced together at 86 livres.

Thirty-four fine linen night gowns, part of them used, priced altogether at 272 livres.

• Thirty-six Holland linen chemises trimmed at the wrists with narrow lace on fine ground, with the exception of six, untrimmed, priced at 400 livres.

<sup>1</sup> One livre was worth about 9½ d., (20 cents).

Five Holland linen wrappers the neck and sleeves trimmed with narrow lace à brides and à réseau, priced together at 70 livres.

Twenty-three fine white linen invalid cloths priced together at 36 livres.

Twelve fine linen aprons, lined, priced together at 20 livres.

Twenty-eight Holland linen handkerchiefs priced together at 45 livres.

Fourteen corsets, some of dimity, some of cloth, priced together at 25 livres.

Seven camisoles, some of fustian, some of dimity, some of cloth; six trimmed with narrow lace, excepting two with point lace, priced together at 200 livres.

Eight white linen negligées priced together at 35 livres.

Four lined linen cloths with a bath robe trimmed with lace, priced together at 18 livres.

Six pairs of stockings, and one pair of cotton sleeves priced together at 15 livres.

Thirty-six white linen dressing jackets, ten chair valances in white fustian, a pair of beaver gaiters edged with a narrow galloon with silver thread buttons; two pairs of stockings, one of beaver and the other of blue silk; a pair of blue taffeta garters embroidered with silver; priced 22 livres.

Six pairs of under-sleeves of which four have each a single row of lace, each of a different sort, the other two pairs having a double row, one of grounded Angleterre and the other of lace à brides; two neck ties of lace similar to that on the two pairs of under sleeves; priced together at 200 livres.

Six neckties of which four are trimmed with point lace and two with Mechlin; a three-piece head dress of Mechlin lace à brides; two pairs of Holland Linen sleeves, one pair of which trimmed with lace à réseau, and the other with lace à brides, priced together at 300 livres.

A three-piece head dress of point d'Angleterre à réseau, trimmed round with pillow edging, with six pairs of ruffles, with one row of similar lace; five other pairs of ruffles which also have a row of lace à brides, a cache-corset, two neckties, a camisole top, a morning cap in three pieces of Angleterre à brides priced at 900 livres.

A three-piece set of night wear made of Mechlin lace à brides, five pairs of sleeves with one row each of a different sort of lace, some à réseau, some à brides; 3 neckties, and three cache-corsets, also with grounded or

barred lace; another pair of sleeves similar to the above, three fichus, two of which are trimmed with Mechlin, and the other with point lace, priced at 200 livres.

A pannier trimmed with plain green taffeta, and another also trimmed with gold embroidered green taffeta, the ground around is of similar gold thread; a pair of black beaver stockings, a tippet edged with sable, a pair of black velvet mittens trimmed with sable, a small lynx muff and a black taffeta hood, priced together at 30 livres.

Five bed gowns of white China satin lined with quilted white taffeta, counted one with the other as four, and priced at 50 livres.

Eight taffeta domino robes of various colours, of which one is of gauze, one trimmed with silver net and the other with gold gimp, with their dominoes of similar materials and three rose-coloured taffeta hoods, priced together at 250 livres.

A trimming of revers for a gown, of blue velvet embroidered in gold. Seven pairs of gold thread tassels, priced at 300 livres.

Nine bodices, one covered with cloth of gold, and the others made of various materials, all priced at 40 livres.

In the cupboards and wardrobes of the anteroom the following were found:

A cloak and skirt of cloth of gold on purple ground, lined with taffeta, also purple, valued at 3000 livres.

A petticoat of cloth of silver, the bottom trimmed with silver fringe with large bullions, the over-dress of Spanish point, lined with white taffeta; priced at 600 livres.

Two plain satin gowns, one white, the other with narrow black stripes, with two skirts to match these two gowns, lined also with white taffeta, priced together at 300 livres.

A cloak and skirt of grey velvet, priced together at 300 livres.

A petticoat of green damask the bottom trimmed with a scalloped galloon and fringes and edging of gold, priced at 160 livres.

A buttoned dress, the ground of green satin, with gold and silk flowers, lined with green taffeta; another dressing gown, also buttoned, made of white damask, lined with white taffeta, trimmed with button holes made of gimp ribbon to match, priced together at 600 livres.

A plain gown with its petticoat of yellow satin with silver and silk

flowers to match, lined with taffeta also yellow, priced together at 400 livres.

A plain indoor gown, unlined, of white damask, with a petticoat of black Saint Maur reps<sup>2</sup> priced together at 150 livres.

A buttoned cherry-coloured satin gown with silver and silk flowers, trimmed with silver buttons and button holes, valued at 250 livres.

A plain chintz indoor gown, white ground, black flowers, lined with white taffeta a white damask petticoat, the bottom trimmed with black silk fringe; and also lined with white taffeta; a "chambreloup" of grey camel's hair with revers, material of silver ground, flowers and silk of various colours, the front decorated with raised trimmings and buttons of silver thread, lined with rose-coloured taffeta, all valued at 200 livres.

A cloak and a skirt of white taffeta priced together at 100 livres.

A cloak of Saint Maur rep silk priced at 90 livres.

A cloak and skirt of fine Saint Maur reps, with another cloak and a skirt of mohair, also black, priced together at 160 livres.

A skirt of satin lined stripes, wadded, green with rose-coloured bouquets; three corsets, of which two are of velvet, one being black, the other blue and the third covered with blue taffeta, the front trimmed with point; five little bed-jackets, one of linen chintz, and the other of cotton with bouquets, the third of white satin, the fourth of *gros de Tours* of the same colour, and the fifth and last of white cotton trimmed with point; priced altogether at 170 livres.

A satin cloak with gold and silk flowers of various colours on a white ground, lined with white taffeta; a green velvet petticoat of seven breadths, the bottom trimmed with gold Spanish point, valued altogether at the sum of 1550 livres.

The flounce of a skirt of Spanish point with a large bullion fringe joined by a gold thread edging, weighing altogether 5 marks, 6 ounces and priced at 575 livres.

A cloak of heavy flame coloured velvet, the fronts trimmed with raised vellum lace with gold ground, the sleeves fringed and with tassels, also of gold, priced together at 3100 livres.

A skirt of cloth of silver of seven breadths lined with white taffeta; priced at 360 livres.

An indoor gown of white taffeta faced with crimson gauze, a skirt of

<sup>2</sup>Reps of St. Maur was a twilled silk, serge-like material.

similar taffeta, likewise covered with the same gauze; priced together at 50 livres.

An underskirt of yellow damask with silver flowers and flowered tissue lined with yellow taffeta, priced at 900 livres.

A white damask cloak and indoor gown of *gros de Tours*<sup>3</sup> with stripes of various colours in silk brocade, a skirt of black Saint Maur reps lined with black taffeta, priced together 170 livres.

Two short dresses and two skirts of grey taffeta priced together at 130 livres.

Two other short taffeta dresses, one of striped lemon colour, and the other pale rose colour and sea green with two skirts matching the two dresses, priced together 140 livres.

A plain indoor gown of sky blue taffeta with revers of gold net, a skirt of similar taffeta, trimmed also from top to bottom with gold net. A mantle and a skirt of blue glacé taffeta, priced together at 200 livres.

A cloak and a skirt of pink<sup>4</sup> taffeta priced 70 livres.

A cloak and skirt of *gros de Tours* with yellow and white stripes with bouquets of silk and silver, the skirt lined with white taffeta priced at 160 livres.

A plain indoor gown of *gros de Tours* with lemon and blue stripes and gold, silver and silk flowers, lined with blue taffeta, priced at 330 livres.

A cloak and skirt of grey *gros de Tours* with bouquets priced at 180 livres.

A flesh coloured cloak of *gros de Naples* faced with a material with a ground of similar colour and with silver flowers; a skirt of the same material lined with green taffeta, priced together 500 livres.

An under dress and a skirt of cloth of gold priced at 1600 livres.

A cloak and a skirt of black watered silk priced at 80 livres.

A cloak and a skirt of rose coloured damask with silver and silk flowers priced 700 livres.

A cloak of sky blue velvet faced with cloth of silver, gold and silk flowers, with a skirt of similar stuff lined with lemon coloured taffeta priced at 1000 livres.

A cloak and a skirt of *gros de Tours* serge on a pearl grey ground with gold, silver and silk flowers of various colours, priced at 650 livres.

<sup>3</sup>*Gros de Tours*, a silk-like taffeta but heavier.

<sup>4</sup>Gris de lin. "Couleur qui participe du blanc et du rouge." Dictionnaire Richelet date 1720.

An under dress and a skirt of black cloth priced at 80 livres.

A costume of black Saint Maur reps lined with linen cloth of the same colour, and an under dress of the same reps, self-lined, priced at 70 livres.

Four tippetts trimmed variously with gold or silver net, another tippet of cherry coloured satin edged with silver, the two sides trimmed with narrow silver lace, another tippet of black velvet embroidered with gold and trimmed with a sort of narrow gold tatting, another tippet of flesh coloured taffeta, trimmed with Angleterre à réseau; a gold embroidered sash, and four gauze neckerchiefs of various colours, all priced together at 250 livres. A parcel composed of armlets, fripperies, silk, gold and silver tissue ribbons weighing altogether 4 marks and priced at 140 livres.

Five small taffeta aprons, one rose coloured and trimmed with silver net and green silk, the second flame coloured, embroidered with gold tissue; the three others plain and of various colours, priced together at 40 livres. Five gauze scarves, three of them black with fringes, the fourth backed with gauze, also black, and the last of striped white; a parcel of old trimmings for gauzes, some fringed, some pinked, priced altogether at 70 livres.

Four pieces of white ground chintz priced at 450 livres.

Seven ells of glazed white dimity, with two handkerchiefs, four small pieces of embroidered Indian lawn, and a remnant of striped green and rose coloured satin, priced together 70 livres.

In the suite occupied by the Princess at the Tuileries, the inventory of the wardrobe was taken on September 20th, 1720.

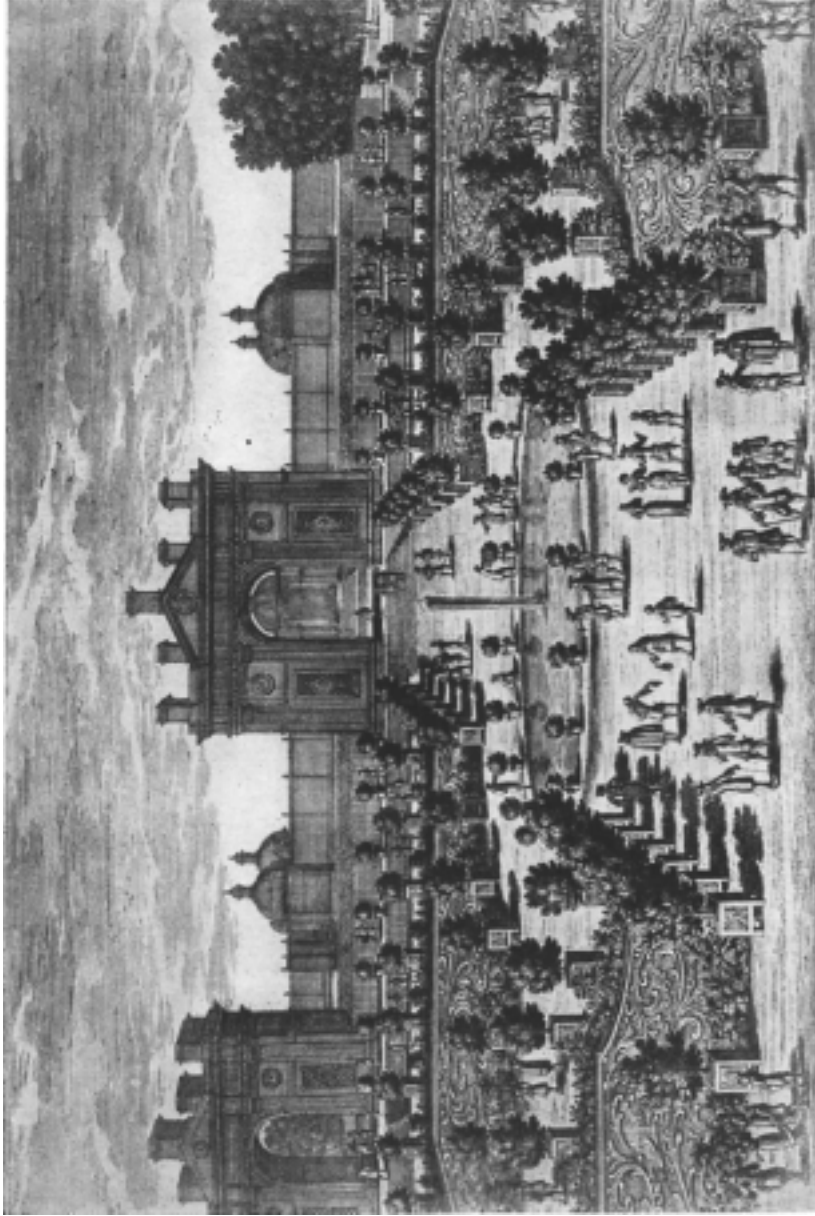
A plain indoor gown and a skirt of yellow and pearl grey striped damask faced and lined with yellow taffeta valued at 300 livres.

A plain indoor gown of flame coloured smooth velvet, trimmed with sable and lined with white taffeta, priced at 1000 livres.

A plain rose coloured embossed velvet indoor dress lined with taffeta of the same colour priced at 450 livres.

A plain white Marseilles satin indoor dress with gold and silver flowers and lined with sea green taffeta, priced 600 livres.

A plain velvet indoor gown, a petticoat of a rich yellow colour, lined with Florence taffeta to match, priced at 650 livres.



GARDEN OF THE HOTEL DE CONDÉ  
FROM A PRINT BY PERELLE, ABOUT 1690, IN THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART



A plain white satin indoor gown, with gold flowers, lined with white taffeta, priced at 200 livres.

A plain indoor gown of green satin, with silver flowers, faced with narrow bright red velvet and trimmed with silver gimp button holes and silver buttons, priced at 650 livres.

A plain indoor dress and petticoat of pearl grey taffeta, price 80 livres.

A plain taffeta indoor gown and its petticoat of striped taffeta in sea green, pink and other colours; also a remnant of an ell, valued at 130 livres.

A plain indoor dress and petticoat of blue *gros de Tours*, priced at 200 livres.

An under dress and the skirt of plain black velvet, price 600 livres.

Three pieces of white taffeta for use as a lining for the bottom of dresses, price 30 livres.

A plain dress of green Naples silk with silver and silk flowers lined with taffeta, priced at 900 livres.

A plain indoor gown of "feuille-morte" coloured satin with green flowers, lined with white taffeta, priced at 100 livres.

A plain dress of white satin with flowers in gold and silk, lined with rose-coloured taffeta, priced at 300 livres.

A plain dress and petticoat of rose coloured satin, lined with taffeta to match, priced at 200 livres.

A cloak and skirt of brocade, silver flowers on a blue ground, the skirt lined with white taffeta, priced at 1800 livres.

A petticoat of rose coloured damask, the bottom trimmed with a silver galloon bordered with fringe, lined with white taffeta, priced at 200 livres.

A plain gown of satin in olive green, rose colour and white, lined with rose coloured taffeta, with a petticoat to match, priced at 250 livres.

A plain dress with the petticoat of silver moiré, rose coloured, priced at the sum of 300 livres.

A petticoat of yellow satin, flowered with silver, and lined with taffeta, priced at 550 livres.

A plain satin gown with pink and white flowers on a grey ground, lined with sea green taffeta, priced at 250 livres.

A plain gown and petticoat of flowered white damask lined with white taffeta, priced at 500 livres.

A plain green gown of Naples silk, with silken flowers, the fronts trimmed with buttons of silver thread, priced at 280 livres.

A plain gown of bouclé cloth of silver trimmed with buttons and button holes of silver thread, lined with white taffeta, priced at 1500 livres.

An under skirt with its bodice, and a petticoat of flame coloured damask with large silver and gold flowers, the same under skirt lined with flame coloured taffeta, and the petticoat with white taffeta, valued together at 4200 livres.

A yellow damask cloak, lined with yellow taffeta and faced with silver embroideries, deep bullion fringes on the sleeves; the petticoat of damask lined with taffeta to match and with the same silver and silk embroideries, priced at 600 livres.

A plain gown of yellow damask flowered with silver, lined with yellow taffeta priced at 900 livres.

A plain gown of purple satin with silver and silk flowers, lined with purple taffeta, the buttons and button holes of silver, priced at 850 livres.

An under dress and petticoat of black silk Saint Maur reps priced together at 250 livres.

A full costume of green Tourville damask consisting of a bodice, skirt and petticoat, lined with various taffetas, priced at 3500 livres.

A plain gown and petticoat of cloth of gold flowered with blue and various other coloured silks, lined with blue taffeta; priced at 4200 livres.

A white damask skirt lined with white taffeta; priced at 200 livres.

Two plain cloth gowns lined with white taffeta; priced at 250 livres.

A skirt of silver moiré, unlined, priced at 120 livres.

A cloak and skirt of white taffeta priced at 140 livres.

An indoor gown and petticoat of black *gros de Tours* priced at 150 livres.

A petticoat of shot taffeta lined with the same taffeta trimmed with quilted hair cloth, priced at 40 livres.

Twenty-four pairs of shoes and slippers, of various materials with silver and gold embroideries, with the exception of three plain pairs, priced 120 livres.

Two plain scarves made of black silk lace and trimmed with different lace, one of them lined with black taffeta, price 800 livres.

A black chenille scarf priced at 80 livres.

A black gauze sash flowered in silver, trimmed with coarse and fine gold net, lined with blue taffeta, valued at 500 livres.

A black gauze sash with silver flowers trimmed with pink taffeta embroidered in silver on silver net, priced at 300 livres.

A gauze sash with gold flowers trimmed with white taffeta, embroidered with gold and silk, edged and decorated with gold net, priced at 400 livres.

A sash, the ground of gauze and gold flowers, trimmed with white taffeta, embroidered with gold and silk, ornamented with gold net, priced at 300 livres.

Two sashes of black flowered gauze, one trimmed with yellow taffeta embroidered in silk, and ornamented with silver net, the other of blue taffeta decorated with chenille priced at 150 livres.

Two sashes of black gauze with silver flowers, trimmed with gauze, one of sea green with silver and silk flowers embroidered with a narrow silver lace, the other of white gauze with silver and silk flowers decorated with narrow silver lace, priced together at 120 livres.

Three old gauze scarves of different colours, one of which is trimmed with black silk fringe, priced at 30 livres.

Three dress-trimmings, two of which consist of head-dresses of two pieces, and the third of three pieces; six pairs of dress sleeves and three collarettes, all of embroidered point and tasseled. Priced with a complete headdress of black silk lace at 2400 livres.

Four batiste hunting shifts, the fronts and sleeves trimmed with Mechlin lace, a muslin cravat trimmed with Angleterre lace à brides, 2 collars trimmed with Angleterre lace à brides and à réseau priced at 250 livres.

A dressing gown of batiste trimmed round with Angleterre lace à réseau, with fringe, a fichu of embroidered point edged with fringe, the whole priced at 200 livres.

A parcel consisting of several headdresses, chemisette sleeves and muslin neckties trimmed with fringe valued at 150 livres.

Two large day headdresses of two pieces and the foundation; four pairs of sleeves with three rows of ruffles; four neckties, a large full fichu, all of point lace, priced at 1250 livres.

A headdress, for a cap, consisting of two pieces; two pairs of sleeves of

two rows each, and two little pieces for the bodice, all of thread pillow edging, priced at 250 livres.

A headdress of two pieces and its crown, two pairs of under sleeves of three rows each, and two neckties, all of Angleterre à réseau, priced altogether at 250 livres.

A headdress of two pieces with its crown, two pairs of under sleeves of three rows each, and two neckties, all of Angleterre lace à brides, priced altogether at 300 livres.

One cap trimming of two pieces, one pair of under sleeves with two rows of Angleterre lace à réseau, and two little stomachers of similar lace, all priced together at 100 livres.

Two pairs of sleeves, one of two rows and the other pair plain, one necktie with two stomachers, all trimmed with Angleterre lace à brides, priced at 80 livres.

Two other pairs of sleeves of two rows, two neckties, two stomachers, all trimmed with Mechlin lace à brides, trimmed with thread lace edging, priced at 300 livres.

A trimming of flowered gauze in two pieces, a pair of sleeves of two rows, a necktie, all trimmed with a small edging of thread lace, priced at 50 livres.

Three night sets consisting of two pieces each, of which two are lace à brides and the other lace à réseau, priced at 200 livres.

A parcel consisting of old night sets and other small items of linen, trimmed with various laces all priced together at 200 livres.

Five corsets, one covered with rose coloured satin with silver embroidery in the front, another the front and sleeves covered with silver moiré, two others covered with white dimity, the front of one trimmed with narrow lace, and the fifth of yellow taffeta; ten quilted caps; priced altogether at 100 livres.

Seven tippets of silk of various colours with fine gold and silver, with five others of silk of different colours, priced at 100 livres.

Five gauze fichus of several colours, three hoods, one of black velvet, another of "chette," and the other of taffeta, priced at 60 livres.

Four pairs of armlets, three slashed, one bobbin lace, all priced together at 120 livres.

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What strikes one at once in this inventory is the scarcity of linen and above all of handkerchiefs, stockings and the solitary pair of garters.

If we compute 30 handkerchiefs for a wardrobe of this importance, we may find this number very small, but we must take into consideration that at this period the handkerchief was seldom employed for the purpose for which it is now used.

The handkerchief was looked upon as an addition to the toilette for show only, and until the end of the century the nose was blown on the fingers. It was an article of luxury, an accessory for the toilette carried almost exclusively by the nobility and some rich citizen families, the number of which was very restricted.

As to the twelve pairs of stockings, I can only explain this paucity by an omission in the inventory, as these certainly were one of the most generally used accessories of the costume and one which, with elegant ladies, necessitated garters to match.

Neither can I explain the absence of hats and gloves. Although gloves were worn but rarely,—only on special occasions,—the members of aristocratic families possessed one or several pairs.

I cannot, short of writing a volume, make further comment on this inventory. It is remarkable enough, it seems to me, to be published in the BULLETIN, so as to acquaint its readers with a small part of the History of Dress in France.