

**Crinoline**, (*krīn'ō-līn*.) *n.* [Fr., from *crin*, horse-hair; Lat. *crinis*, hair, and *lin*, flax; Lat. *crinum*.] (*Manuf.*)  
A texture, of which the warp is of flax, and the wool



*Fig. 723.* — COSTUME OF THE TIME OF ELIZABETH, (1575.)

of horse-hair; hence, a lady's stiff petticoat, made originally of hair-cloth, and used in order to distend female apparel. The term originated among the Parisian milliners, and at first was applied only to this particular kind of hair-cloth; but it is now extended to every kind of hoop by which women's dresses are expanded. The hoop, or crinoline, as now generally worn, is made of various materials, such as cane, whalebone, steel wire, &c. Some are made of very extensive size, reaching a circumference of even five yards. The hoop came into fashion about 1856, and has remained in vogue ever since. The habit of wearing hoops is not new, as they formed an article of attire in the reign of Elizabeth; they were then called *fardingales* (*fig. 723*). They went out of fashion in James I.'s reign, but came in again in 1711, and remained in fashion till the reign of George IV.