

FRANCE'S LACE INDUSTRY

Royal Decree Regulating Early Manufacture and the Present Production Plans.

The manufacture of laces in France dates back to the days of Louis XIV. In the month of August, 1663, the famous "Declaration du Roy" was published, decreeing the establishment in Arras, Rheims, Sedan, Aincion, Aurillac, and other towns in the kingdom of manufactures of all kinds of thread and needlework, after the manner of the points made at Venice, Genoa, Ragusa, etc. They were to be called "points de France" and the decree provided that all such work should be free from duty. In order to encourage the industry in the country, another decree, dated October 12, 1666, forbade any person of any quality or condition to wear, under pain of confiscation of the articles and £1,500 fine, any Venetian or other foreign lace, no matter of what kind. The following year a second decree was issued forbidding the wearing of any dress with silver or gold facings and of lace made outside the country. These decrees also forbade the manufacture or sale of any lace other than that made in the royal manufactures and according to the designs of the directors of the establishments.

Colbert, the minister of Louis XIV., was the chief instigator of these Draconian decrees. He obliged the manufacturers to make only one point or design, to the exclusion of any other. A large number of localities only obtained their living by the kind of lace familiar to them, and everywhere it was believed that the opening of manufactures whence, henceforth, designs were to be issued would cause ruin. But the real aim of the government establishments had not been understood, which was to perfect the industry, in providing models, designs and methods of execution, constituting precious elements for the improvement of the ordinary manual work.

For 20 years Colbert had to contend with popular prejudice on the subject, but he finally triumphed, for it was through his efforts that the admirable "point de France" took rank among the arts and industries of the kingdom. To-day, in spite of the progress of machine-made lace in the numerous manufactures of the northern and eastern departments, the handmade article holds a respectable rank. The lace makers (women) throughout the country not being organized or syndicated after the manner of other workers, it is difficult to state exactly the number of those who work at the industry, but it does not fall short of 200,000. The wages they receive are in general but small. In proportion to the talent and amount of work furnished, there are places where a clever lace maker will not earn, for 12 or 14 hours' work, more than 30 cents a day.

In the country around Caen, Bayeux, and Falaise, in the Calvados, where formerly a great deal of lace was manufactured, the inhabitants have decreased by 27,182. In the same department in 1851 there were 50,000 lace makers, while in 1875 they had fallen to 30,000. Yet, in spite of the extraordinary improvement in the machines, the lowering of the wages, and the decline of public taste, the handmade industry holds a good many centers.

Aincion still produces its famous point d'aiguille, which enjoys so much favor and employs so many workers (10,000). Handmade lace is found all along the northern coast—Berbourg, Honfleur, Bolbec, Pecamp, Dieppe, Bayeux, Falaise and Lisieux. At Honfleur and Dieppe a special kind is manufactured, imitating Valenciennes. But the most active center is at Bayeux, where Chantilly lace is manufactured.

Flanders, the cradle of the lace industry, has lost much of its prestige, while Lille and Arras produce but a small quantity of cheap grades. For Valenciennes, the town celebrated above all others for the lace art, the nimble fingers have ceased to ply the fuseau for nearly a century, although in certain places, such as Bergues, Casel, Hazebrouck and Baillieu, an imitation of this fine lace is manufactured.

In the department of the Vosges and at Mirecourt a very fine imitation of Brussels point is made, and 20,000 to 25,000 women still work therein.

HILARY'S BRINTON

Crude Drugs of Brazil. A conspicuous feature of the rapidly-expanding trade between the Amazon region and the United States is the growth of the drug trade. Brazil produces a long list of medicinal herbs, roots, berries, beans, balsams and other crude supplies for the manufacturing chemist and perfumer. Many of these are staple articles and others are just becoming known to the trade. Heretofore not much importance has been attached to this line of exports, but latterly manufacturers have turned their attention to this region as a source of crude supplies. With the largely increased and growing demand for these products local merchants have become interested, and without doubt this branch of trade will soon develop into an important factor in the exports from the Amazon region.

X. R. KENNEDAY.

Influence of Automobiles. One of the points of interest in the motor-car or automobile development is the fact that there is a tendency by people who have fine country houses for sale to advertise them in first-class motor-car journals. The intention of these advertisements indicating not only that the class of periodicals mentioned may become the natural medium for such advertisements, but that the facilities offered by up-to-date automobiles for traveling long distances quickly and easily and without regard to fixed timetables, increasing the radius of neighborhood and possibilities of combining with country life a command of city conveniences through accessibility to them, are making country houses more valuable.

MARSHAL HALSTED.

MANUFACTURE OF YARN.

Improvement Introduced in Germany in Textile Goods Department.

An invention has been recently made by an English manufacturer which relates to improvements in yarns such as are to be used in the manufacture of textile goods, the object being to construct a serviceable yarn from material which has hitherto been considered of little or no value, or to construct an exceptionally strong yarn at a very cheap rate. The invention consists of a yarn having a core or center thread around or upon which is the body or yarn proper. The core yarn may consist of one or more materials, such as cotton or worsted, or a combination of the two, and the body of cotton or other material, such as silk, wool, shoddy, mungo, flax, waste, or a combination of any of these. According to this invention, the core thread (consisting, say, of cotton) is covered entirely with any other desired fiber (say, of wool), so combining the strength of the core with the utility or appearance of the body. By combining the core and body as described, fibers, such as waste or mungo of such short staple as to be of practically no spinning value, may be utilized in the manufacture of textile goods possessing equal or greater strength and being similar in appearance to goods manufactured from high-class fiber. The core and body constituting the improved yarn are combined in the following manner:

The fiber forming the body of the yarn is removed from the swift, or carder, by means of a condenser doffer and card and iron strippers in the ordinary way, and the core thread is brought from any adjacent point to and between the card stripper and the iron stripper, from which point the two together pass between the rubbers and the body is rubbed around the core sufficiently to keep the two together when on the condenser bobbin, from which the yarn is spun in the ordinary manner.

OLIVER J. D. HUGHES.

THE BRAZIL-NUT CROP.

Immense Output of Last Year Will Be More Than Half Taken by the United States.

The crop of Brazil nuts for the year 1903 has been delivered, and accurate statistics can therefore be quoted. The crop will exceed the great crop of 1902 by 800 tons. The season was a record breaker in several ways. In the first place the United States developed an appetite for nuts that was practically insatiable. Never before were such enormous cargoes of nuts shipped as during this season. All the big orders went to the United States. The total shipments of nuts from the Amazon up to date are 7,734 tons. The most conservative estimate of the remainder of the crop (now in transit) places it at 200 tons, a total for the year of 8,034 tons, of which the United States has so far taken 4,964 tons and Europe 2,770 tons. A brief comparison with the shipments of previous years will show how remarkably this branch of the export trade has developed. The total crop of 1900 was 2,514 tons, of which the United States took 44 per cent.; of 1901, 2,803 tons, of which the United States took 50 per cent.; of 1902, 7,200 tons, of which the United States took 55 per cent. The crop of 1903 is above 8,000 tons, of which the United States will take about 66 per cent. The strong demand from the United States has held the market firm and high throughout the season. Never before has the market been so steady and inflexible, but, though ruling above the average, prices have not been exorbitant and a fair profit has been afforded to buyers and sellers alike.

X. K. KENNEDAY.

GERMAN INLAND WATERWAYS.

Playing an Important Part in the Industrial Development of the Nation.

The most notable meeting in this district during 1903, and one of the most important held in Europe, was a three-day session of the German and Austro-Hungarian Association for Inland Navigation, held in Mannheim from September 9 to 12. This association is made up of members from the two empires, who either in a private or official capacity have taken conspicuous part in inland-waterway improvements in the two countries or in freight transportation on such waterways. The September meeting was attended by several cabinet ministers and other high officials besides many noted engineers. Papers were read on a variety of topics pertaining to the subject of inland waterway improvement; the further extension of canals in Germany, notably to connect the upper Danube and upper Rhine systems; the relation of river shipping to manufacturing, to state railways; and other allied topics. The papers read, as well as the discussions that followed, gave renewed emphasis to the importance of inland waterways in the industrial development of Germany, the need of still further improvement of these waterways and their continued operation under private control with proper recognition and guarantees from the several states.

H. W. HARRIS.

Counterfeit Russian Notes.

Manchuria is full of Russian counterfeit notes, mostly three-ruble notes, which come from Japan and Shanghai and are manufactured very skillfully. They are usually distributed among the rural population. As such notes might depreciate Russian paper money and injure Russia's credit in Manchuria, strict orders have been given by financial authorities to take immediate measures to destroy such notes and to imprison persons who distribute them.

RICHARD T. GREENER.

BEAT LONDON LANDLORDS

Numerous Persons in British Metropolis Never Pay Rent—Advantage in Law's Delays.

Many people in London make a business of living rent free. "It is almost incredible," said the head of a large firm of house agents to the London Express representative the other day, "the number of persons who never pay rent from one year's end to another. Their method is, either by bogus references or by impressing a sense of their bona fides on a house agent, to obtain the lease of a house, most frequently over £50 a year in rent, and when the landlord applies for his rent to defy him. When he attempts to eject them by legal process they stay until the very last day the law allows, and then clear out bag and baggage, and start the same operations elsewhere. As they always furnish on the hire system, default is of no service to the landlord.

"Their object of taking houses of a rental over £50 is to get above the jurisdiction of the county court, which is more summary in its methods than the high court."

To a smaller extent the delay involved in ejectment by county court action is also taken advantage of by exploiters of the law's delays, but these methods are not so impudent as that of "jumping" a house, which is sometimes adopted.

Not long ago a house owner, on looking through his morning paper, observed that a man who had been charged with assault was reported to live at one of his houses, which he had supposed to have been vacant for 12 months. On investigation he found that it was occupied by a tenant, who refused to clear out.

The usual legal form had to be gone through, and it was a month before the landlord got repossession. Similar cases have happened where the "jumper" has gone the length of taking in lodgers, or even of selling the house.

Landlords sometimes prefer to buy a tenant out rather than invoke legal process; and a quicker procedure for ejectment than the courts allow would be welcomed by landlords and house agents.

CORINTHIAN CANAL AVOIDED.

Waterway Cut Four Miles Through Solid Rock That Ships Seldom Use.

"Speaking of canals," said an engineer in Corinth, "a very interesting canal and one not much heard of is that connecting the Gulf of Corinth and the Gulf of Aegina in Greece. It is some older than any we have in the western hemisphere, also. For Pericles, tyrant of Corinth, proposed to cut through the isthmus as long ago as 600 years before Christ. Superstition stopped him, however. Julius Caesar and Calligula took it up again when Rome had hold of Greece, but it was too much for them. Then came Nero, and he went at it with vigor, but the work stopped when he died. Others kept stumped away at it for the next several hundred years, but it was not until 1881 that real work of the Nero energy was put upon it. Then Gen. Turr, aid-de-camp to Victor Emmanuel of Italy, organized a company and worked on till the money gave out in 1890, the chief obstacle being some kind of a flint which dynamite couldn't break.

"About \$10,000,000 was spent up to 1890, and then Mr. Snygros took hold, organized a new company with \$365,000 working capital, and finished the job in 1893. It is only about four miles long, but it is 65 feet deep at bottom, about 80 at water line, 26 feet and 3 inches deep in water, and it is cut nearly all the way through solid rock, rising at some points for 269 feet above the canal. It is like a canyon, and ships do not take kindly to it, the entrance being bad, a strong wind blowing through it as through a great air shaft, and there is at times a strong reverse current. It is an interesting trip through the canal and it saves 123 miles of very rough water and 20 hours of time; but so far skippers prefer to go around the peninsula rather than through the canal, though with some changes which will be made it is believed the canal will become of general use as soon as a few ships begin to use it and remove the prejudice now existing against it."

Animals Become Insane.

Insanity in the human subject is supposed by some to have no analogue in the lower animals. Yet many cases, according to Dr. Snellison, will lead to the permanent loss of self-control. Cattle driven from the country through a crowded town will often work themselves into a frenzy. Horses have gone mad on the battlefield. At Balaklava an Arabian horse turned on its attendant, threw him down and, kneeling on him, attacked him like an infuriated dog. An instance is related of a doctile horse suddenly going mad on a hot day. Everything that came in its way it seized in its teeth and shook it as a terrier does a rat. A scientist of authority even goes so far as to prove by what appears to be incontrovertible evidence that cats, dogs and monkeys have been observed to have delusions very similar to those of insane people.—London Globe.

Good Care of Sick Dogs.

The Dogs' Protective league has arranged with veterinary surgeons throughout England to set aside a certain hour in each week when poor people may present their dogs for advice and treatment. The league also trains nurses for attendance on dogs.

Hospitals in Cairo.

Within the last few years the various colonies of Europeans in Egypt have built their own hospitals. There are now in Cairo French, German, Austrian, Anglo-American and Italian hospitals.

HANDY WITH TORPEDOES.

The Japanese Won the First Battle from the Chinese in 1894 with Them.

The first battle of the Chinese-Japanese war was fought July 24, 1894, in the harbor of Asan, on the west coast of Corea, south of Chemulpo, the scene of the destruction recently of two Russian warships by a Japanese fleet. In the battle of Asan the Japanese sank an English transport, Kow Shing, with 1,700 Chinese soldiers on board. There had been no declaration of war, says the Chicago Daily News.

The Japanese commanders recognized the English flag and requested that the English commanders leave the vessel. The Chinese officers forbade them doing so under penalty of death. The Japanese sent officers to the ship and repeated the demand and then began firing. Capt. Galworthy and his officers leaped overboard to swim to the Japanese cruiser. The Chinese treacherously fired upon the Englishmen. The Japanese opened with their broadside battery and machine guns. The missiles swept the decks of the transport. The Japanese then fired two torpedoes, both of which struck and exploded. The transport's prow rose, its stern went down and almost immediately the vessel sank.

The Chinese fought the guns until the vessel went down. The shots were aimed too high to damage the Japanese. Some were fired directly at the struggling Chinese soldiers in the water, the Chinese saying that they would all die together. The boats of the transport, in which scores of soldiers and officers were trying to escape, were sunk by the Japanese. The Kow Shing was conveyed by the Chi Yen and the Kootson. Both vessels engaged the Japanese. The fight continued more than an hour, when the Chi Yen raised the white flag. The Japanese boat ceased firing and approached. Suddenly the Chi Yen discharged torpedoes and began to flee again. The torpedoes did no damage. The fight raged more hotly than before, until the Chi Yen turned and ran. The Japanese cruiser chased the Chinese, but failed to capture her. The Kootson tried to escape, but ran aground and was captured.

On the same day the Japanese cruiser Yoshino fought the Chinese Chi Yen and consort So Keang at sea. The Chinese were disabled, but fought stubbornly and would have captured the Japanese vessel had not relief appeared. The Chi Yen was able to escape to Walsweil. The So Keang was captured.

NOISY CLOCKS ARE LIKED.

Those That Keep Good Time Wouldn't Sell in Africa—Didn't Tick Loud Enough.

A Birmingham clockmaker recently found that a certain rick was doing a large trade in cheap clocks sent out to the wilds of Africa, says the New York Herald. He obtained a sample clock and found that there was a large profit in their manufacture. Investing a large sum of money in making a still better clock, he shipped thousands of them to the same market. Strange to say, his sales were very small, while his rival, turning out a cheap and inaccurate timepiece, was selling all he could make.

Finally he found the key to the mystery. Savages like noise. The clocks made by the original exporter had a particularly loud and aggressive tick. His imitator had made a better clock, and it was almost noiseless, and the savages would have none of it.

The remedy was simple. The next shipment of clocks to the Guinea coast ticked louder than anything ever heard there, and all went well.

Another instance of the peculiar knowledge required for the foreign trade is that of a firm which had a large shipment of crackers returned to it from the Turkish port whither they had been sent.

The reason was found to be that the crackers were decorated with pictures of animals, and no true Mohammedan will buy the image of a living thing.

Women Sold by Auction.

An auction of unmarried ladies used to take place annually in Babylon. In every district they assembled on a certain day of every year all the virgins of marriageable age. The most remarkable was first put up, and the man who bid the largest sum of money gained possession of her. The second in personal appearance followed, and the bidders gratified themselves with handsome wares according to the depth of their purses. But alas! it seems that there were in Babylon some ladies for whom no money was likely to be offered, yet these also were disposed of, so provident were the Babylonians. When all the beautiful virgins were sold, the crier ordered the most deformed to stand up; and after he had openly demanded who would marry her with a small sum, she was at length adjudged to the man who would be satisfied with the least, and in this manner the money arising from the sale of the handsome served as a portion to those who were either of disagreeable looks, or that had any other imperfection. This custom prevailed about 500 years before Christ.—N. O. Times-Democrat.

What He Took.

Judge: You were present when the assault took place? Witness: Yes, your honor. "And did you take cognizance of the bartender of the place?" "I don't know what they called it, but I took what the rest did."—Tonkers Herald.

Fire-Proof.

Yeast—Aren't you afraid of your wife's certain lectures? Crimzonbeak—Not a bit; you know they are aseason curtain lectures.—Yonkers Statesman.

OLD PANHANDLE FORT

Army Officer Relates Some Interesting History of the Adobe Stronghold.

Away up in the Pan-Handle—in Hutchinson county—is a fortification or place for resting attack called Berts Fort, or Adobe Walls. The scene of an important fight with Indians in the early days, it is also one of the most interesting structures of the kind to be found in this state, says the Dallas (Tex.) News. No one knows who built it, but supposition is that it was the Spaniards who came through that section in the very early days of the white man in the southwest. Adjt. Gen. Hatch, of the United States army, who passed through that country in 1849, says that the walls then appeared old and showed numerous signs of decay.

In the early days Jot Gunter and other surveyors who worked through Hutchinson and adjoining counties, based their field notes on the location of Berts Fort.

The place is situated on the north side of the Canadian river, in Hutchinson county. In 1874 a man named Myers, who had a store at Dodge City, Kan., came across the plains with others, and striking Moores creek at the head, followed it down to the Canadian river, and thence on down to Adobe Creek valley. Here Myers and one Charles Roth established a store, stockade and saloon combined for the purpose of supplying buffalo hunters with provisions and ammunition. There were millions of buffalo, and they were slaughtered by the herd. Fortunes were made in the business—and squandered.

On the night of June 26 a Comanche medicine man gave a "medicine dance." The Cheyennes, Kiowas and Apaches were invited. When they came he told them of this store. Whiskey and ammunition were to be found there, he said. His medicine, he asserted, would put a spell on all within the place when the Indians attacked it. No resistance would be offered. The attacking party might knock the white men in the head at their leisure. They could get plenty of good whiskey and ammunition and "shoot the big guns" until they were tired.

Some of the older warriors were a little suspicious about the power of his medicine. However, they agreed to make the attack. Five hundred picked men set out to accomplish what was called "the easy task."

Within the walls of the fort at the time were some famous frontiersmen. Among them were Bat Masterson, known from the Atlantic to the Pacific; the Shadley brothers, Myers, William Langdon, Charles O'Keefe, Charles Roth, Joseph Langdon, Billy Dixon and John Clinton, who is now city marshal of Abilene, Tex., and others, making 25 in all.

An hour or two before daybreak on the morning of June 24 a remarkable thing occurred. The occupants of the saloon were aroused by the cracking of the cottonwood log which served as ridgepole for the building. It soon after fell in on them, and they called on some of the buffalo hunters to assist in making repairs. Some little time was required to cut a post and place it in position, so they did not go back to bed. Among these was Billy Dixon. At that time he had a camp on Dixon creek in Hutchinson county and the place bears his name to this day.

One of the hunters set out on foot to drive up the horses. Dixon was the first to discover the Indians. The man after the horses soon saw the warriors, and came running back to the building terrorized.

Giving their war whoop, the Indians charged, firing rapidly as they approached. They came so suddenly, and so near, that the hunters who were asleep outside of the building barely had time to get within. The two Shadley brothers were caught and killed. Billy Dixon, who had gone out to tie a favorite horse near by, was one of the last to enter the house. It was at his suggestion that the doors were barricaded with sacks of flour.

Made confident by the superiority of numbers, the Indians attempted to take the place by storm. But they were repeatedly driven back by volley after volley, well aimed, all day until about four p. m. Then the redskins fled to the hills. They took many dead and wounded with them. It is estimated that fully 50 were killed outright. Of these 13 were found on the field.

The defenders lost three men—the two Shadley brothers, and one other man whose name I have been unable to learn. These three got a frontiersman's funeral. They were buried in one grave. The bodies were rolled in blankets, and then covered with dirt. Coffins were out of the question. There was no lumber on the plains. Many a pioneer has been interred in this manner. The writer's father was buried that way in San Saba, county, Tex., in 1855.

Billy Dixon, one of those who participated in the fight, is still alive and still a resident of this county. To him and to Jot Gunter, and others, the writer is indebted for the details of this narrative.

'Twas Greek to Him.

Drug Clerk—Well, sir, what is it? Customer—That's what I'd like to find out.

"What do you mean, sir?" "I've got a doctor's prescription here, but I haven't the least idea what it calls for."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

VOYAGES TAKEN BY FOOD.

Good American Articles That Go Abroad and Come Back Something Else.

Tables of exports and imports show queer movements of foodstuffs. Almost every country seems to export some foods and to import the same kind. And many countries import certain kinds of food, for which they themselves are famous, says the New York Sun.

Russia is famous for the production of caviare. Yet a good part of the United States exports to Russia consists of caviare made along the great lakes and Delaware and Chesapeake bays.

England and Germany, both of which are known for their manufacture of cheese, import lots of it from the United States and sell it again as domestic cheese.

Lyons, in France, is distinguished for the production of a hard, red, highly-spiced sausage. There is an American concern that has developed the production of this same kind of sausage to a point where it is as good as the French and cheaper. But the world wants the French sausage.

So the American product goes over the sea to France, and in Lyons it is packed in new wrappers and boxes. Then it is shipped away again to all the countries whose hotels are trying for sausage de Lyon. And a part of these Franco-American sausages find their way back again to the United States, where they began life as plain sausages.

Hamburg is noted for its fine smoked, canned and jellied eels. Where do these eels come from? From the falls of the Nile.

A company of Baltic fishermen has settled in Egypt, catching Egyptian eels in the land of the Pharaohs to be packed in cans with the three towers of the Hamburg coat of arms stamped on them.

American wines are forever traveling to Europe to come back again in a year or two with French, Italian and Spanish labels on them. But wines are not sent on sea voyages purely with the intent to deceive. It is believed by many vintners that a sea voyage improves a fine wine. Therefore ships often carry wine as freight, without unloading it.

Then, again, customs duties and the provisions for keeping liquors in bond often make it profitable to ship wines and brandies to ports where they can be put in bond cheaply until they are wanted.

A person who studies the voyages of sherry, as shown in tables of exports and imports, is amazed to discover that of all unlikely places Newfoundland is one of the great points of import for sherry. Of course, Newfoundland is not wealthy enough to be a sherry drinking country. The wine is simply sent to it to go in to bond.

One of the great national foods of Germany is the goose. Christmas and roast goose in Germany are as inseparable as Thanksgiving and turkey in America.

But the national bird of the Teuton isn't a Teutonic bird at all. Long ago ago it appears, the Germans ate up all their own geese, and now they go around begging other countries for their geese. Russia has thrown herself into the breach, and her peasants are turning into goose farmers. In parts of Russia, near the German boundary, the traveler can see herds of geese now instead of herds of sheep.

How do these goose herds are can be estimated by the fact that more than 7,000,000 of Russian geese were shipped into Berlin alone last year.

Insanity in Various States.

In the New England states there is one insane person for every 550 of population; in New York and Pennsylvania, one to every 424; in Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky and Tennessee, the ratio is one to 610; in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, the same, in the middle west, one to 750; in the southern states, one to 935; and in the Rocky mountain division one to 1,263. The density of population is greatest in New England, and there insanity is most common, and the relative number of insane decreases regularly with the increasing sparseness of population in the several divisions. There is one exception. In the Pacific coast states—California, Oregon and Washington—the insanity rate almost reaches that of New England.

A Typical Bonaparte.

Princess Mathilde was a typical Bonaparte. Beneath the skin of a grande dame there dwelt the soul of a vivandiere. She was generous and tempestuous. Something of a butt in her prime, as a certain rather pronounced passage in Lord Malinesbury's reminiscences shows, she was universally admitted at the same time to possess taste and a knowledge of the arts. It was to her credit, too, that she cared not a snap of the fingers for dynastic disputes. She was on the friendliest of terms with the Duc d'Anguleme, and is said to have tried, but in vain, to conciliate some of the stiffer branches of the puzzle-headed Bourbon family. Altogether, she was a woman who lived every moment of her life.—London Outlook.

At the Concert.

"He—What delicacy! What harmony! What color! It is divine! She—I am so glad you like it, think it exquisite."

"I could listen to it forever!" "Why, what are you referring to?" "That symphony which was just rendered, of course."

"Oh, I thought you meant that beautiful gown in front of us."—Casell's Journal.

Texas Radium Mine.

Vast quantities of earth containing radium compound have been discovered in the Llano mineral region near Austin, Tex.