

the persevering exertions of M. Ernest Lefébure it is about to be reorganised in the original seat of its industry. In January 1874, with the assistance of the mayor, he made a search in the greniers of the Hôtel Dieu, and discovered three specimens of point d'Argentan, in progress on the parchment patterns. One was of bold pattern, with the "grande bride" ground, evidently a man's ruffle; the other had the barette or bride ground of point de France; the third bride picotée, showing that the three descriptions of lace were made contemporaneously at Argentan. M. Lefébure has set up in the convent of St. James, in the city, a workshop for making point de Argentan, the pupils under the direction of the most skilful lace-workers of Paris.

Some years since the nuns of the hospice offered to exchange a quantity of point d'Argentan and old guipure for a small sewing-machine, which proposal was rejected.

The author of a little pamphlet on point d'Argentan¹² remembers having seen in his youth in the Holy Week, in the churches of St. Martin and St. Germain, the statues of the apostles covered over from head to foot with this priceless point

Point d'Argentan disappeared at the Revolution, though a few specimens were produced at the Exhibition of Industry in 1808. Embroidery has replaced this far-famed fabric among the workers of the town, and the hand-spinning of hemp among those of the country.

¹² "Légende du Point d'Argentan," M. Eugène de Lonlay.