

manufactures of Havre, Honfleur, Bolbec, Eu, Fécamp, and Dieppe, were most thriving. They made double and single grounds, guipure, and a kind of thick Valenciennes, such as is still made in the little town of Honfleur and its environs. In 1692, the number of lace-makers at Havre and its environs was not less than 22,000. Corneille,³ 1707, declares the laces of Havre to be "très-recherchées;" and in an engraving, 1688, representing a "marchande lingère en sa boutique,"⁴ among the stock in trade, together with the points of Spain and England, are certain "cartons" labelled "point du Havre." It appears also in the "Révolte des Passemens," and in the inventory of Colbert, who considered it worthy of trimming his pillow-cases and his camisoles;⁵ and Madame de Simiane⁶ had two "toilettes garnies de dentelle du Hâvre," with an "estuy à peigne," en suite.

Next in rank to the points du Havre came the laces of Dieppe and its environs, which, says an early writer of the eighteenth century, rivalled the "industrie" of Argentan and Caen. The city of Dieppe alone, with its little colony of Saint-Nicolas-d'Alhiermont (a village of two leagues distant, descendants of a body of workmen who retired from the bombardment of Dieppe),⁷ employed 4000 lace-makers. A writer in 1761⁸ says: "A constant trade is that of laces, which yield only in precision of design and fineness to those of Mechlin; but it has never been so considerable as it was at the end of the seventeenth century. Although it has slackened since about 1745 in the amount of its productions, which have diminished in value, it has not altogether fallen. As this work is the occupation of women and girls, a great number of whom have no other means of subsistence, there is also a large number of dealers who buy their laces, to send them into other parts of the kingdom, to Spain, and the islands of America. This trade is

³ "Dictionnaire géographique," T. Corneille, 1707.

⁴ "Gravures de Modes." Arch. Nat. M. 815-23.

⁵ "1683. Deux housses de toile piquée avec dentelle du Havre deux camisolles de pareille toile et de dentelle du Havre."—*Inv. fait après le decedz de Monseigneur Colbert.* Bib. Nat. MSS. Suite de Mortemart, 34.

⁶ "1851. Un tour d'autel de dentelle du Havre."—*Inv. des meubles de la Sacristie de l'Oratoire de Jésus à Paris.* Bib. Nat. MSS. F. F. 8621.

"1681. Une chemisette de toile de Marseille picquée garnie de dentelle du Havre."—*Inv. d'Anne d'Escoubleau de Sourdis, veuve de François de Simiane.* Arch. Nat. M. M. 802.

⁷ "Les ouvriers n'étant apparemment rappelés par aucune possession dans cette ville, lorsqu'elle fut rétablie, ils s'y sont établis et ont transmis leur travail à la postérité."—*Peuchet.*

⁸ Point de Dieppe appears among the tickets on the already quoted lace boxes of 1688.