

day, fresh sprigs of lavender and rosemary are laid upon it until the day of mourning comes, when the white marriage garment leaves its resting-place once more to deck the lifeless form of her who wore it in the hour of joy and hope.

POITOU.

Lace was made at Loudun in the seventeenth century, but the fabric has always been common.

“Mignonettes et dentelles à poignet de chemises, et de prix de toutes espèces,” from one sol six deniers the ell, to forty sols the piece of twelve ells.

Children began lace-making at a very early age. “Loudun fournit quelques dentelles communes,” says the government reporter of 1803.¹⁸

Peuchet speaks of lace manufactories at Perpignan, Aix, Cahors, Bordeaux, &c., but they do not appear to have been of any importance, and no longer exist.

With the exception of the Valenciennes-making town of Bailleul (Nord), the lace of industry of France is now concentrated in the provinces of Normandy, Auvergne, and Lorraine.

¹⁸ “Descr. du Dép. de la Vienne, par le Citoyen Cochon. An X.”