

Notes

practically died out in France, especially the finer makes of Chantilly, although Caen and Bayeux were responsible for some of the best work which went under the name of Chantilly. Belgium is now the home of its production, which, unfortunately, is not very great, owing to the work being so trying.

To the collector looking for this kind of real lace, a few hints may be useful. It is more difficult to distinguish between the hand-made and the machine work in "black" lace than in "white." A fairly safe test is the edge or purling; in the former the "loops" or "picots" will be found to be part of the lace, but in the imitation this will be found to be sewn on, and can be easily pulled away. With the better imitation this is always the case, especially in the "needle-run," which is the nearest to the genuine pillow-made article; in this the net and design are made on the machine, then the gimp or outlining of the design is run in by hand, hence the term "needle-run" lace—this is not worth collecting. In the commoner makes the loops will often be found to have been cut, owing to the carelessness of the operator in dividing the strips when taken from the loom, settling at once that it is of no value.

The accompanying photograph is of a very good specimen of real old Chantilly, possibly one hundred years old; it was evidently made for exhibition. The design is unique, having almost every flower produced most naturally, the whole looking like a beautiful picture. It is entirely made on the pillow, and must have taken years to complete.

"DAME FASHION," responsible for so many freaks in the way of ladies' dress,

has ordained
Real Lace— that black
A Hint to lace is "old-
Collectors looking," so

that now-a-days one rarely sees the lovely black Chantilly lace used which was so much prized by our grandmothers and great-grandmothers. Now is the time for the collector, as real black lace can be bought for a mere song. It has only to become fashionable again, and the genuine old stuff will realise big prices.

To-day the industry of fine lace-making has



A SPECIMEN OF OLD CHANTILLY LACE