day is good pay for a man's work, it will be easy to understand the scrapings, toil, trouble, and years of labor the attainment of such an object costs. The head is the most peculiar part of the capôête, and resembles, as much as anything, an exaggerated type of the style called 'pumpkin.' It juts far out beyond the wearer's face, and is stiffened with canvas, so that it moves neither to the right nor left, and when in motion gives the strange appearance of an animated head and cloak walking off independently of any external power. When two capôêtes meet, the heads form a sort of arch, beneath which the happy possessors, entirely hidden from the outside world, can safely carry on the most delicate and secret conversation as securely as if lodged beneath their own roof. In years gone by it was the favorite disguise of Lisbon assassins — so much so that the Government was at last forced to forbid its being worn in that city. It has long since completely disappeared from the Continent, and is to be found only among these islands, a relic of the long past.

Space forbids me to go into the folk-lore of these islanders; but it is a rich field, and will repay the looking up, so closely connected is it with that which pervaded Southern Europe four hundred years ago.

J. T. G.

The Copper-Smelting Works at Lota, Chili.

The little town of Lota is situated on a bay of the same name, about two hundred miles south of Valparaiso. The metallurgical works and coal-mines, to which it owes its importance, are owned by Madam Cousiño, a wealthy Chilian widow, and most of the inhabitants are in her employ. The copper-works are situated on the shore of the bay, at the foot of a steep hill. The buildings are large, open sheds, under which are over one hundred reverberatory furnaces, arranged in pairs on either side of a central flue, which leads to a tall chimney. The assay office is in a stone building at the southern end of the works. The chemist is a German. He uses the cyanide volumetric method for copper in slags, etc.; also the Swansea fire assay, and the ordinary gravimetric methods.

The ore used is the ordinary sulphuret of copper and iron, and they employ the silicate and carbonate ores, chrysocolla and malachite, for fluxes. The ore is low grade, carrying upward of five per cent copper. It is roasted in stalls mixed with the proper proportion of the fluxing ores, and smelted to a matte. This is roasted, and run to black copper, which is refined in hollow bed reverberatory furnaces in the ordinary manner. The only point about the process, that struck me as peculiar, was the entire absence of cupola or blast furnaces, all the operations being conducted in reverberatories of various patterns. The manager, who came from Swansea, Wales, claimed that the reverberatory gave better satisfaction, as they were situated, with less loss of copper.

The work goes on day and night, there being three shifts in the twenty-four hours. The workmen are all natives. They do very good work, and receive about fifty cents per day, also getting a cottage and their coal free of charge.

The slag from the works is cast into blocks, and used to build sea-walls, piers, etc. The refined ingot copper is shipped to England in sailing-vessels. The coal used at the works is obtained near by, one of the mines being in the hill back of them, so that fuel costs only the expense of mining.

The coal is a high-grade lignite, resembling very much the coals from Oregon and Washington Territory. Some of the coal-mines extend out under the sea, and not long before my visit an earthquake fissured the rock above one mine to such an extent that the sea rushed in, drowned several unfortunate miners, and ruined the mine. The largest mine is worked from a vertical shaft about four hundred feet deep, and a number of seams are worked at different levels by the pillar and stall system. A large Cornish pump keeps the mine free from water. A flat wire rope is used for hoisting, with a compensating drum. The coal is mined into iron cars, holding about five hundred kilos. These come upon the cage, and are run to the