

MUSIC.



HOW many people play the piano know that 13 different kinds of wood are used in its manufacture? According to a maker of this now almost indispensable article of household furniture, the mystic number 13 comprehends the wooden make-up of that instrument. First, there is Michigan pine, straight of grain and lacking sap, which commends it for piano cases. The Vermont maple, hard and fine grained, is utilized for the pin blocks, into which the tuning pins are driven.

Indiana ash forms the top. Where a wood which will sustain a greater strain and at the same time present a finer grain, is required, cherry is brought into use.

Indiana again comes to the front on white wood, of which the legs and pedals are made. The ease with which it can be carved makes this wood especially desirable for this purpose.

For the sounding boards and variously connecting parts, spruce, largely supplied from the Adirondacks, is in chief demand.

As ebony is the hardest known wood and presents a strong contrast to ivory, it is well adapted for the black keys. Madagascar is the chief contributor of this wood.

New England cedar supplies a flexible and elastic material for hammer stems.

In the "action," or working parts of the instrument, it is necessary that a wood not apt to retain dampness and susceptible of taking a high finish,

should be employed, and in the apple tree the piano-maker finds just what he wants.

White holly, which grows out West, forms the part of the key beneath the

ivory, and basswood is also used about the keys.

And now comes the outside—the hull—the veneer of this wonderful instrument. A vast number of fancy



MRS. OSBORNE, THE WOMAN WHO STOLE THE JEWELS.