

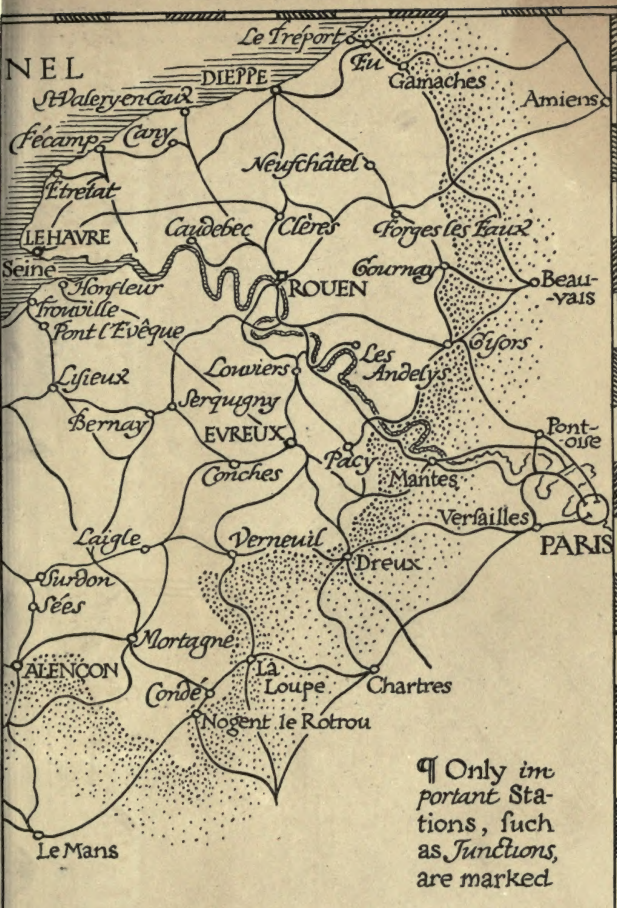


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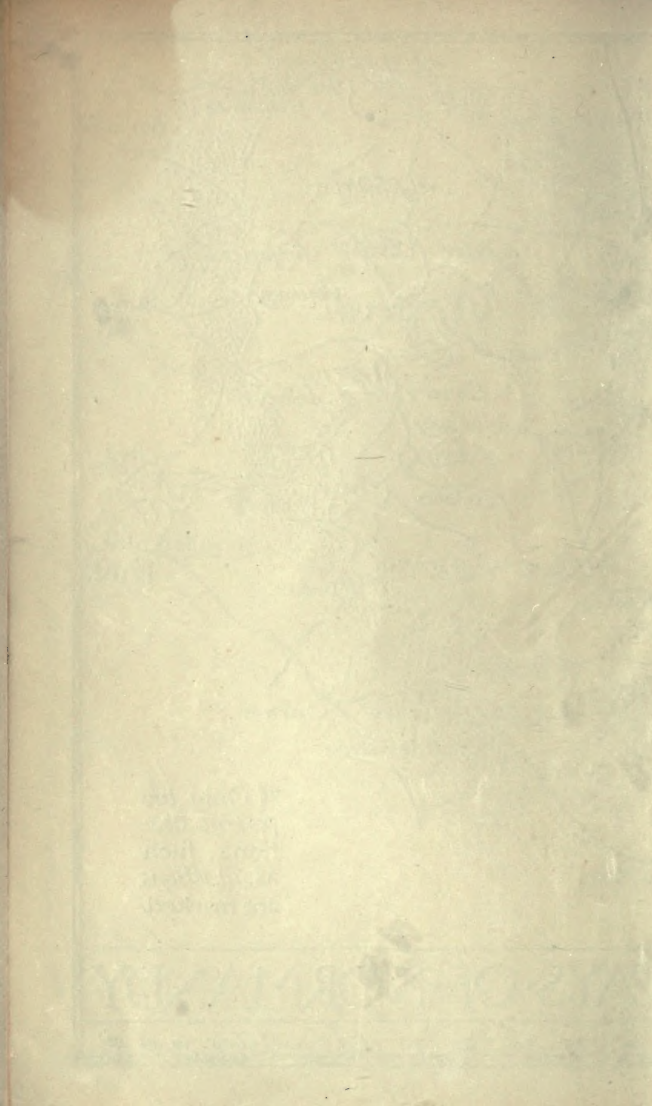
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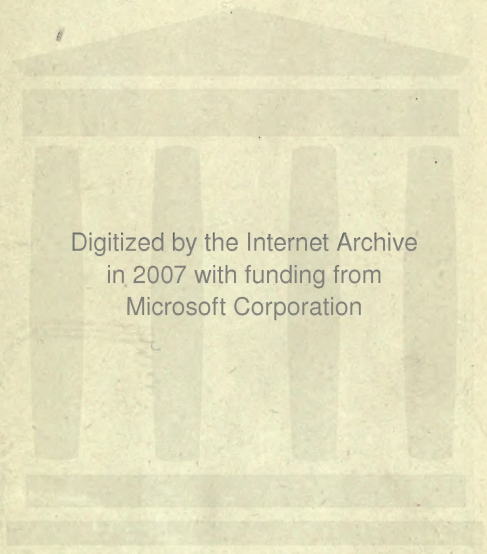


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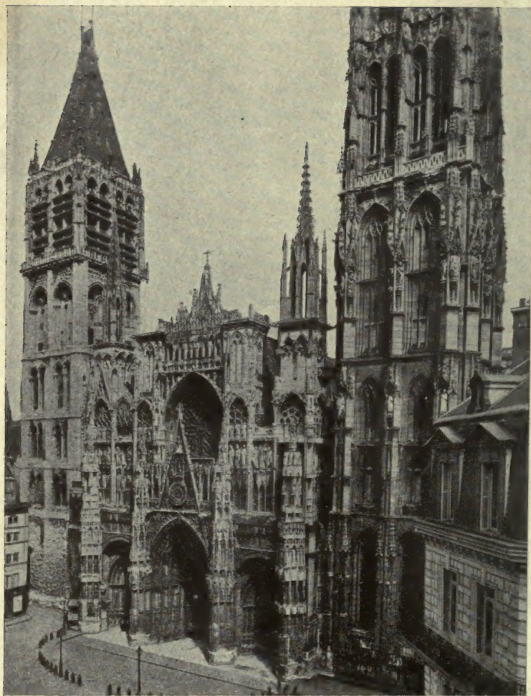
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NORMANDY

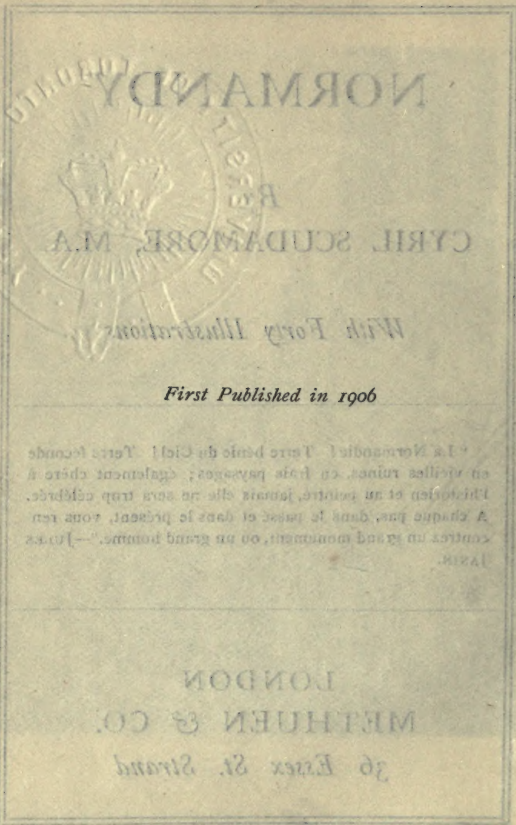
By
CYRIL SCUDAMORE, M.A.

With Forty Illustrations

"La Normandie! Terre bénie du Ciel! Terre féconde en vieilles ruines, en frais paysages; également chère à l'historien et au peintre, jamais elle ne sera trop célébrée. À chaque pas, dans le passé et dans le présent, vous rencontrez un grand monument, ou un grand homme."—JULES JANIN.

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NORMANDY

CYRIL SCUDAMORE, M.A.

With Forty Illustrations

First Published in 1906

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PREFACE

THE writer of this little book has found time during recent summers to visit nearly every place of importance in the large quadrilateral, extending from Dieppe to Cherbourg on the north, and from Alençon to Mont St. Michel in a southerly direction. He is therefore enabled to vouch for the accuracy of the information here provided. But he would not omit to acknowledge his indebtedness to many of those who have previously travelled the same field as himself. The works of the eighteenth-century Ducarel, of Hairby and Musgrave, who visited Normandy in the forties and fifties of the last century, and of Mrs. Macquoid—whose *Through Normandy* is assuredly one of the most charming of travel books penned in recent years—have been constantly before him; while the Rev. Percy Dearmer's attractive and erudite volume in the Highways and Byeways Series has been specially helpful regarding architectural details which may have escaped the notice of such authorities as Whewell, Parker, and Petit (G. Bell & Sons).

In dealing with the history and architecture of Mont St. Michel, the beautiful and exhaustive work of M. Paul Gout, *Histoire de l'Architecture Française au Mont St. Michel* (Aubancier & Cie., Paris) and Mr. Massé's charming monograph (G. Bell & Sons) have been of great assistance, while the *Géographie Pittoresque de la France* (Flammarion), valuable if only on account of its admirable illustrations, has been consulted for some of the preliminary information, especially as regards the section dealing with geology and rivers. The excellent *Guide Joanne* (Hachette & Cie.) has also been found most useful for reference. Allusion has been made to other authorities in the course of the work. The writer's thanks are due moreover to Major T. E. Compton for his lucid description of the town of Rouen, in writing which he has availed himself partly of the exhaustive and admirable work of Mr. T. A. Cook (Dent & Co.). The Editor of the *Field* has kindly accorded the writer permission to reprint an article on "Angling in Normandy," which he had previously contributed to the pages of that journal (June, 1905).

It remains only to acknowledge the courtesy of Messrs. Neurdein & Cie. of Paris, who have supplied the photographs, which lend a special charm to this little volume.

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*The Illustrations are from Photographs
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I
INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

“The inhabitants of Normandy have to this day a tradition that when the English were obliged to forsake that province they left behind them many valuable treasures.

“The fact is true and Normandy is filled with them. These treasures are magnificent palaces, stately castles, beautiful churches and sumptuous monasteries, together with a variety of monuments of almost every kind, all of which plainly evince the splendour and piety of their respective founders.”

Thus wrote Dr. Ducarel 150 years ago, and the English tourist in Normandy to-day will find little reason to dissent from his statement. But the learned doctor, whose journey was undertaken with the object of studying the ancient buildings of the country, has omitted to refer to the fact that its gems of architecture are set in a framework of scenery of rare beauty, such as finds its counterpart in the more lovely landscapes of the opposite coasts of Devonshire and southern England generally. Extending as it does 150 miles from east to west, and 120 miles from north to south, it would be difficult in any quarter of Europe to discover so much beauty and diversity of landscape in combination with such perfection of architecture, in a land

NORMANDY

so steeped with the historic associations of the past. In whichever direction the traveller may turn his steps, whether to the larger towns with their beautiful churches and picturesque old houses, or towards the sea-coast with its charming little watering-places with their pleasant sands, or to the more unfrequented portions of the country, where woodland and meadow clothe with delightful verdure the banks of the clear meandering streams so abundant in Normandy, everywhere he will come upon the unexpected, at one time an ancient church, or the ruins of a famous castle, or perchance some feature of interest, in the kindly inhabitants of the country themselves. For cycling or motoring the roads are excellent, while the railways and diligences will enable those of even moderate means to transport themselves throughout the greater part of the province with comparative ease and comfort.

The choice of routes will usually depend upon the time which the traveller may have at his disposal. If he can afford to devote six weeks to the work, he may see much, but not all, of that which is best worth seeing in Normandy, and in that case it is immaterial at which of the three ports he may land, whether Dieppe, Havre or Cherbourg. But those who are pressed for time would do well to plan carefully their route before starting, and to make up their minds as to whether their destination be West or East.

By the former route, *via* Southampton and Cherbourg, or by Southampton, Jersey and Granville, it will be possible to visit within three weeks, among other places, Mont St. Michel, Avranches, Coutances, St. Lo, and Valognes, Bayeux, Caen, Falaise, the charming valley of the Vire, the de-

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

lightful hill scenery of Mortain and Domfront, and possibly the old towns of Argentan and Alençon with the magnificent cathedral of Sées, while by the Havre or Dieppe routes, the old capital of Rouen, the interesting towns of Evreux, Les Andelys and Lisieux, and the watering-places of Fécamp and Étretat are more readily accessible. By taking the convenient little steamers from Havre, the traveller will find no difficulty in bringing within the scope of his programme a trip to that most interesting of rivers, the Seine, or a visit to the Conqueror's three towns, Caen, Falaise and Bayeux.

In the matter of expense Normandy will compare favourably with other countries; although not so low as in Belgium and Brittany the hotel tariffs are by no means excessive, from 7 to 10 francs a day being the usual terms at the ordinary hotels, although the charges at the more luxurious establishments of Trouville, Étretat and Dieppe, during their short summer season, will be found to amount to perhaps double of this.

The hotels are usually clean and comfortable and the fare good. Cider is provided free of charge, but water, though sometimes good, should never be taken except with caution. Should a cycling tour be contemplated, it may be found convenient to send the bulk of one's luggage on beforehand from the hotel. The carriage of the bicycle by rail is a matter of small moment, as only 10 centimes for registration should be paid.

If the traveller decide to make use of the railway alone, he will sometimes find it convenient to write to the Manager of the Compagnie des Chemins de Fer de l'Ouest, Gare St. Lazare, Paris, five days

before he requires the ticket, inclosing 10 francs, (which will be returned at the end of his tour), indicating his route and the towns at which he wishes to stop. A considerable reduction is granted on tickets thus issued. A passport is of course unnecessary, but this or a C.T.C. ticket is desirable in order to prove one's identity, when applying for letters at the Poste Restante.

The people of Normandy are invariably courteous, and those who are unfortunate enough to have no knowledge of French will generally find someone who understands a little English, at most of the hotels on the beaten track. The traveller who contemplates a long stay, and who is likely to make any considerable digression from the usual routes, will do well to provide himself with Joanne's *Normandy*, 7.50 francs (Hachette & Cie.), which in addition to its completeness of information, contains many excellent maps. Adolphe Joanne's small geographies of the separate departments by the same publisher will also be found extremely useful. Good cycling maps for the district are obtainable in most of the larger towns—those of the Carte de France are admirable—while the cycling routes given in the *Guide Vélocipédique*, "La Normandie et les Plages Normandes," by Baroncelli, will be found very comprehensive.

The following list of head-quarters is recommended whence excursions may be made, radiating on all sides.

SEINE-INFÉRIEURE

Rouen.—Thence Bon-Secours, La Bouille, Petit Couronne, Jumièges, Boscherville, Duclair, Caudebec, St. Wandrille, Yvetot.

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Havre.—Thence Gravelle, Honfleur, Lillebonne, Tancarville.

Étretat.—Thence Fécamp, Petites Dalles, St. Valery, Valmont, Cany, Veulettes.

Dieppe.—Thence Arques, Puys, Pourville, Varengeville, Tréport, Eu, Mers, Veules.

EURE

Evreux.—Thence Louviers, Gaillon, Vernon, Les Andelys, Gisors, Verneuil, Conches, Beaumont-le-Roger, Bernay.

Honfleur.—Thence Pont Audemer, Brionne.

CALVADOS

Lisieux.—Thence Pont l'Évêque, Trouville, Deauville, St. Arnoult, Houlgate, Villers-sur-Mer, Villerville.

Caen.—Thence Ouistreham, Dives, Norrey, Douvres, Creully, Courseulles, St. Aubin, Langrune, Luc-sur-Mer, Lion-sur-Mer.

Bayeux.—Thence Arromanches, Port-en-Bessin, St. Honorine-des-Perthes.

Vire.—Thence Bénv Bocage, St. Sever, Thury-Harcourt, Falaise.

ORNE

Argentan.—Thence Écouché, Sées, Alençon, Mortagne, Soligny, Bellême, Laigle, Mortrée, Carrouges.

Domfront.—Thence La Ferté-Macé, Bagnoles.

MANCHE

Avranches.—Thence Mortain, Pontorson, Mont St. Michel, Lucerne.

INTRODUCTION
NORMANDY

Granville.—Thence St. Pair, Villedieu, Montmartin, Coutances, St. Lo.

Valognes.—Lessay, St. Sauveur le Vicomte, Barneville, Carteret, Carentan, St. Vaast-la-Hougue,

Cherbourg.—Martinvaast, Nacqueville, Tourlaville, Flamanyville, Diélette, Barfleur.

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 Seine to the south. Its length from Paris to the junction of
 the Seine is 71 miles.

II

is so called from the fact of being parallel to the
 coast. Its length from Paris to the junction of the
 Seine is 71 miles.

DIVISIONS AND BOUNDARIES

Normandy consists of five departments formed
 in 1790. Seine-Inférieure, Eure, Calvados,
 Manche, Orne.

SEINE-INFÉRIEURE

owes its name to the situation which it occupies at
 the mouth of the river Seine. Its greatest length
 from Cap de la Hève to Gournay is 71 miles, its
 breadth from above Eu to below Elbœuf is 60
 miles. It is bounded on the N. by the Channel,
 on the N.E. by the department of the Somme,
 on the E. by that of the Oise, on the S. by those
 of Eure and Calvados.

Chief town—Rouen.

EURE

This department derives its name from the river
 Eure, which enters it to the S.E. of Evreux. It
 is in the shape of a heart, and is bounded on the
 N. by Seine-Inférieure, on the N.E. by the depart-
 ment of the Oise, on the E. by that of Seine-et-
 Oise, on the S.E. by Eure-et-Loir, on the S.W.
 by that of Orne, on the W. by Calvados. Its
 length from Les Andelys to Pont Audemer is 70

NORMANDY

miles, its breadth from Evreux in the direction of Rouen 40 miles.

Chief town—Evreux.

CALVADOS

is so-called from the bank of rocks parallel to its coast. Its length from Vire to Lisieux is 65 miles, its breadth from the Roches de Grandcamp to the S. of Vire is 40 miles. It is bounded on the N. by the Channel, on the E. by the department of Eure, on the S. by that of Orne, and on the W. by that of Manche.

Chief town—Caen.

MANCHE

derives its name from the sea which washes its shores. It is 95 miles in length from Cap de la Hague to Avranches. Its breadth varies from 19 to 35 miles. It is bounded on the N. and W. by the Channel, on the E. by Calvados, on the S.E. by Orne, on the S. by Mayenne, on the S.W. by Ille-et-Vilaine.

Chief town—St. Lo.

ORNE

This department takes its name from the river Orne which rises almost in the centre. Its greatest length from Domfront to Mortagne is 85 miles, its breadth from Argentan to Alençon 45 miles. It is bounded on the N. by Calvados, on the N.E. by Eure, on the S.E. by Eure-et-Loir, on the S. by Sarthe, on the S.W. by Mayenne, and on the W. by Manche.

Chief town—Alençon.

III.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

SEINE-INFÉRIEURE

The district termed the Pays de Caux, between the Seine and the valley of the Bresle, forms a number of cretaceous and jurassic plateaux of the average height of 300 feet. These elevations are broken and isolated by the little streams which have here hollowed out a bed. The soil is well cultivated and productive of cereals, but perhaps the greatest charm of this country consists in its orchards which, as every one is aware who has made the journey from Dieppe to Rouen in spring, present a wealth of blossom unsurpassed even in the apple-growing districts of our own land. The Pays de Bray, which extends from Neufchâtel towards Beauvais for a distance of 44 miles, with a breadth of 10 miles, is a jurassic formation in the middle of a cretaceous region.

It is a charming country of hill and vale, the elevations rising to some 600 and 750 feet, and includes many clear streams bordered by fertile meadows with fine orchards and is celebrated for its abundance of cattle and dairy produce. The Norman Vexin lies between the Andelle and the Epte. This too is a plateau with the average

NORMANDY

height of 660 feet. A large part of the department is covered by forests, among which we may mention those of Arques near Dieppe, the Fôret d'Eu on the E., that of Eawy in three groups to the N. of St. Saens, the Fôret de Roumare on the hills to the right of the Seine, and the great Fôret de Brotonne with its beautiful beeches in the semi-circle formed by the Seine between Landen and Vieux Port. The highest point in the department is situated near Conteville and Rouchois, S.W. of Aumale. The lowest point is to be found at the mouth of the river Seine.

Rivers.—All the rivers of this department belong to the basin of the Channel, which they gain directly by the little coast streams or indirectly through the Seine. The small coast streams are the pellucid Bresle, which flows through pleasant meadows past Aumale, Blangy, Eu and Tréport; until it finds a haven in the Channel, the Yères which reaches the sea near Criel; the Arques, beloved of anglers, which flowing beneath the walls of the famous castle enters the Channel at Dieppe; the Eaulne which passes Londinières and Auvermeu and receives the Bailly; the Béthune which passes near Neufchâtel; the Scie which waters Longueville and enters the Channel at Pourville; the Saâne which receives the Vienne and after passing Bacquerville falls into the Channel near Quiberville. The clear Veules ornaments the charming watering-place which bears its name. The Durdent, another well-known trout stream, passes Cany and finds an outlet near the pleasant watering-place of Veulettes. At Fécamp we find a river formed by the union of two streams, the Ganzeville and Valmont.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The Seine, from which the department is named, receives at Rouen the Aubette and Robec and a little below, the Cailly; the Austreberthe and the Fontenelle which passes near the ruins of the monastery of St. Wandrille, the Ambron at Caudebec, the Bolbec which flows through the city of the same name, passes Lillebonne and under the name of the Commerce enters the estuary of the Seine, the Lézarde which flows through Montivilliers and receives the streams of Rouelles and Saint Laurent, before reaching the sea at Harfleur.

The Seine, as we know, is a magnificent river 480 miles in length, receiving twenty-six tributary streams and passing through some thirty towns, including several of great importance. Only 31 miles of its course however belong to Seine-Inférieure; but this portion between Pont de l'Arche and Havre is replete with interest. There is indeed scarcely a league of its course, hardly a forest or valley, cliff, castle, château or cathedral on its banks, but retains some association with bygone ages. The river is navigable throughout the department, and a journey by steamer from Rouen to Havre should be undertaken by all who admire beautiful scenery. The steamers go every other day, during the summer months, leaving the Quai de la Bourse at Rouen and arriving at the Quai Notre Dame at Havre some six hours later, the return journey being effected in about an hour less.

Leaving Rouen the steamer passes on the right the wooded hills of Canteleu with its charmingly placed château and the little village of Croisset nestling at its feet. Opposite, on the left bank, is Petit Quevilly with the Romanesque chapel of St. Julien. Below is Dieppedalle with its timber-yards and

curious caverns, and beyond opposite to Biessart is Petit Couronne famous as the residence of Corneille. Following the beautiful curving stream between the Fôret de Roumare (right) and the Fôret de Rouvray (left) we arrive at the island of Val de la Haye, with its column commemorative of the transferring of the remains of Napoleon I. to the little steamer which was to convey them to Paris in 1840, after which we pass Hautot, Soquence and Sahurs with their interesting modern châteaux on the right, and Moulineaux on the left bank of the river, above which, obtaining a glimpse of the ruined castle of the famous Robert le Diable, we reach La Bouille with its reminiscences of the Franco-Prussian War. After La Bouille, leaving the château and quarries of Caumont, the river makes a huge bend past the Fôret de Maunay, passes Bardouville with its château, Ambourville and Berville on the left, with Quévillon and Saint Martin de Boscherville with the remains of the famous abbey on the right, and arrives at the little port of Duclair on the tributary Austreberthe. Thereupon, describing another curve past the Château de Landin we remark Jumièges and the ruins of its picturesque abbey on the right. Beyond on the same bank are Yainville and Guerbaville-la-Mailleraye. Passing the valley of St. Wandrille the hills on the right bank become higher and more wooded and soon, in the centre of one of the most charming views on the Seine, we find ourselves in front of Caudebec, uplifting its gothic steeple from amid a group of clustering houses and fine trees.

Here the strange spectacle of the *mascaret* or tidal wave described on page 117 may be observed in all its grandeur at the spring or autumn equinox.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Leaving Caudebec and passing the little chapel of Notre Dame de Barival we reach Villequier, with its beautiful château and church spire in a rich background of foliage. Here the river expands. Further on, to the left, are Vatteville, the Forêt de Brotonne, Aizier and Vieux Port. On the right are Norville with its ancient church and fifteenth century castle, and St. Maurice d'Ételan. Below on the promontory at the extremity of the curve is Quillebœuf, with its little fishing port and old castle and opposite to the right is Lillebonne noted for its Roman remains, and lower down at the end of the deep indentation formed by the river, tower the high cliffs and grey battlements of the ancient castle of Tancarville with their rich background of oak woods. Beyond on the opposite bank is Berville where the Seine mingles with the waters of the ocean. Opposite are Sandouville with its Roman camp, the point of Hoc and the spire of Harfleur. Crossing the mouth of the Seine we pass Honfleur and the coast of Calvados to the left and passing the Château of Orcher and the church of Graille on the right enter the port of Havre.

There are other rivers in the department of Seine-Inférieure which are tributaries of the great river, but find an outlet in other departments. Such are the Epte which waters Gournay, the Andelle which passes through Forges-les-Eaux, and the Puchot at Elbœuf.

EURE

At the base of the soil of this department we find a cretaceous formation, except on the borders of Calvados where the jurassic system appears.

Above the cretaceous formation coarse limestone is found on the banks of the Eure and Epte which with their rich meadows and woodland scenery recall many a beautiful English landscape. Eure is a country of plains divided into plateaux running from S. to N. The district of Andelys forms one of these, inclosed by the rivers Epte, Andelle and Seine. Its average elevation is from 300 to 360 feet, with a culminating point of 531 feet to the N.W. of Lyons-la-Forêt. To the S.E. of the department between the Seine, Eure and Avre is the plateau of St. André rising to the height of 690 feet in the S. The western plateau includes the Forests of Breteuil and Conches, the central plain of Neubourg and the low-lying but verdant pastures of the Roumois. The highest point in Eure is in the Pays d'Ouche between the Rille and Charentonne. A considerable proportion of the department is covered by woods and forests. Of these the Fôret de Lyons in the neighbourhood of Andelys, the Fôret de Pont de l'Arche and those of Louviers, Montfort, Evreux and Vernon, may be noticed in addition to those already mentioned. The wild boar and even the wolf still find a home in their recesses.

Rivers.—All the streams in the department except the Calonne and Eure reach the sea by means of the Seine. About 40 miles of the river belong to Eure. It receives in succession the Epte, the pretty trout-stream which touches St. Clair and Gisors, and is joined by the Troëne and the Réveillon and the Levrière; the Gambon which enters Grand Andelys, and falls into the river at Petit Andelys, the Andelle, the Eure which rises in Orne, passes through Pacy-sur-Eure,

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Louvièrs, and throws itself into the Seine above Pont de l'Arche after traversing a distance of 45 miles in this department. The Eure receives the Avre which waters Verneuil and Nonancourt, and the Iton which divides at Evreux into three branches.

The Rille waters Beaumont-le-Roger, Brionne, Montfort and Pont Audemer, where it becomes navigable. Among its tributaries are the Sommaire, the Charentonne and the Gueil which passes Bernay, the Véronne; the Tourville and the Sebec.

Musgrave's charming description of the Rille at Pont Audemer may be quoted as typical of so many of the streams of Eure and Calvados. "I have traced many a river of England, of Europe, I may say, into pleasant retreats, 'Full of fresh verdure and unnumbered flowers,' but to ramble at noontide or sunset in the valleys of the Rille, the Vire or the Ante as at Pont Audemer, Vire and Falaise, is a privilege to be gratefully remembered among the many, in which wanderings through beautiful lands initiate the discursive tourist. Above the town, in the gorges of mountainous hills—where the river becomes now a rushing torrent, now a brawling stream, or an abounding tide pursuing its course unchecked by fallen rocks and contracted channels—the voice of the Rille is heard in the far-off woods and loftiest heights. Below the town and its bridges, the gentle river its ready visit pays from mill to mill, and, giving motion to every broad and busy wheel, whose working may be heard for many a rood beyond the picturesque homesteads, it glides along,—a silent placid stream,—at the foot of the greenest and most pastoral slopes, enriched with orchards of abundant

produce, and crested by timber-trees which mark the line of road along the côtes or hills halfway between their summits and towing-path below. An evening stroll along these banks, till the glow-worms begin to glisten and the clear deep-toned bells of St. Ouen toll forth the Ave Maria, or a tranquil walk at midday in the shade of those oaks and beeches, amid the ceaseless hum of noon-tide insects, the lowing of kine and the echoes from the tanneries, whose hundred wheels are then revolving in the din of flooding water-power, is a luxury never to be forgotten."

CALVADOS

The different divisions of Calvados correspond with clearly defined geological formations. Thus the Norman Bocage, which includes the arrondissement of Vire, and portions of those of Bayeux, Falaise and Caen, belongs to the primary formations of the adjoining parts of Brittany. This Bocage or woodland country as seen on the road from Vire to Caen is perhaps as delightful as any to be met with in Normandy. The panorama of hills and valleys, woods and orchards, as viewed from the vicinity of the village of Béný Bocage, offers a scene of rural loveliness scarcely to be equalled elsewhere even in the most favoured counties of our own land. The hills of Normandy cross the Bocage from S.E. to N.W., including a line of heights which enter the department near the lofty town of Falaise and continue through Thury-Harcourt, Aunay-sur-Odon and Caumont, attaining at Mont Pinçon an elevation of 1085 feet. Another chain running parallel with the first but

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half its length, attains a height of 1100 feet at Chaulieu. Slate and sandstone occur at Falaise and on the banks of the Orne; granite at Vire. The Bessin shows jurassic formation and is composed of a Permian band of clay connected with a parallel band of liassic limestone. It reaches a height of 450 feet in the neighbourhood of the Forest of Cerisy.

The Campagne de Caen is a large plateau of oolite with few eminences but attractive owing to the somewhat English aspect of its well-watered meadows. To the E. of the department, the higher portions of the plateau, covered by the Forest of Touques, vary between 420 and 435 feet.

Perhaps the most beautiful part of Calvados, with the exception of the Vire and the Bocage districts, is that on the very borders of Orne, between Condé-sur-Noireau and Falaise. The railway journey between these two points is as picturesque as anything in Normandy.

Rivers.—All the rivers of Calvados reach the sea, either by the estuary of the Seine or by the coast. Into the estuary fall the Morelle, which separates the two departments of Eure and Calvados and the Claire at Honfleur. Coast-rivers: The Touques, which flows through Lisieux and Pont l'Évêque, and enters the sea near Trouville. It receives the Orbiquet and Calonne.

The Dives, leaving Orne, crosses Calvados from S. to N. with many windings. On its banks are Saint Pierre-sur-Dives and Mézidon. It enters the Channel between Dives and Cabourg. Among its tributaries are the Ante at Falaise, the Vie, the Ancre and the Divette.

The Orne, which rises in the department of that

name, passes Thury-Harcourt and Caen. Among its tributaries are the Baize, separating Orne from Calvados, the Noireau, and the Odon.

Other rivers are the Seulles passing Tilly and Creully, and the Vire, which, entering the pretty valleys sung of by Olivier Basselin, finds its way into the sea over the rocks of Grandcamp. Among its numerous tributaries are the Virène, the Allière, the Dromme and the Aure, on which is Bayeux, with affluent the Aurette. The Aure and Dromme united, lose themselves in the Fosses du Soucy and reappear after a subterranean course of two miles at the foot of the cliffs of Port-en-Bessin thus forming a portion of the lower Aure.

MANCHE

Starting from the mouth of the Sienne on the W. coast S. of Coutances and reaching the left bank of the Vire a little below St. Lo, and descending it as far as the Grèves des Veys, one follows a line which divides the department into two distinct regions from a geological point of view. The district S. of this line forms a zone of Cambrian slate streaked with Silurian bands with blocks of granite and syenite.

One of these bands extends from Montmartin-sur-Mer to Cerisy-la-Salle, another begins a little beyond Granville, passing between Gavray and Percy in one direction and between Villedieu and Bénv Bocage in the other. The granite shows itself almost in a straight line from Avranches towards Mortain, above which it reappears again, from the left bank of the Tard towards Vire. Finally a third band of the same formation extends E. from Coutances on its hill towards St. Lo, on the high

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ground, and also towards low-lying Carentan. It is in this southern portion that the highest point is to be found,—1104 feet,—at the Signal-de-St. Martin-de-Chaulieu. The hill of Mortain in the lovely country which has been termed the Norman Switzerland, rises to a height of 951 feet. The north of the department has a zone of Permian formation. Lias shows itself between the E. coast and the railway from Paris to Cherbourg as far south as Valognes, then pliocene appears and afterwards Silurian, extending as far as the W. coast. Another Permian zone appears in the flat but pleasant country round Valognes, continued to the N. by Cambrian slate forming a band, encircled by Silurian zones, and terminated at one extremity by the cliffs of Barfleur on the E. and those of Cap de la Hague on the W. The hills round Cherbourg rise to an elevation of 540 feet and slope from N. to S.

Rivers.—The last 30 miles of the course of the Vire serves as boundary to Calvados and Manche. Its tributaries here are the Sacre, the Torteron and the Dolée which joins it at St. Lo. Other important streams are the Taute which crosses the plain of Carentan and falls into the Channel at Grand Vey, the Sinope which falls into the sea at Quinéville, and the Divette, which finds an exit at Cherbourg.

On the W. coast are the Diélette, the Gerfleur which flows into the harbour of Carteret and the Grise which enters that of Portbail, the Soulle which passes Coutances, the Boscq which flows into the harbour at Granville, the Sée which passes Avranches and enters the bay of Mont St. Michel, the Sélune, which rises S. of Barenton and with

the Cance and Canson contributes so greatly to the charm of the Mortain country, and finally the Couesnon, which, passing Pontorson, falls into the bay of Mont St. Michel.

Speaking generally from the point of view of scenery, the rivers of Normandy would appear to constitute its special charm. There is scarcely a district where the landscape is not enlivened by the presence of some placid river or purling trout-stream. Of our own counties, Devonshire perhaps compares most nearly with Normandy in this respect.

ORNE

Geologically this department falls into three divisions—Central, E., and W. The first-named, of jurassic formation, runs parallel with the railway from Caen to Mans, and extends from the N., passing between Écouché and Argentan in a southerly direction towards Sées and Alençon. This region includes the lowest ground in the department. Another district parallel with the last-named runs E. with wooded hills which continue to rise gradually until they reach the plateaux dominating Merlerault, Courtomer, and Moulins-la-Marche (963, and 927 feet) in one direction, and that of Mortagne (765 feet) in the other.

The northern portion of this division belongs to the tertiary-eocene, the southern to oolite and cretaceous formations. To this belong the hills of Perche which in conjunction with those of Normandy form the water-parting between the basins of the Seine and Loire. This water-parting, commencing at Rémalard on the E., and terminating

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near Tinchebray on the W., divides the department into two portions horizontally.

The third and western district takes the form of a basin of which Domfront and its charming outskirts occupy the centre, though Domfront has itself an elevation of more than 600 feet. This portion of the department is one of the most picturesque in Normandy, presenting as it does a landscape in which woodland, rocks, and water blend together in delightful harmony. The forest of Écouves includes the highest point in the N.W. of France, *viz.*, 1251 feet. The soil of this western division is of primary formation, though one finds there granite, porphyry, slate and sandstone in addition. The soil of the meadows is clay, while peat also is to be met with in marshy places.

Rivers.—The rivers of this department flow into the Channel or by joining the tributaries of the Loire ultimately find their way into the Atlantic Ocean. The Orne which gives its name to the department rises near Sées and for a time forms the boundary between the departments of Orne and Calvados. Among its confluent are the Don, the Baize, and the Norreau. Portions of the Dives and the Touques, the Iton and the Rille belong also to this department.

Among the streams connected with the basin of the Loire are the Mayenne and the Sarthe, which when united form the Maine. Both rivers have numerous tributaries watering a well-wooded and fertile country.

The first of the Yères is the Yères de la Rivière, which is a small stream that flows into the sea at the mouth of the river. The second is the Yères de la Mer, which is a larger stream that flows into the sea at the mouth of the river. The third is the Yères de la Vallée, which is a stream that flows into the sea at the mouth of the river.

IV

COAST SCENERY

If we follow the coast westwards from the Bresle at Tréport, we pass the mouth of the Yères below Criel, near the cliffs of Mont Jolibois (315 feet), and the little watering-places of Berneval and Puys with their pleasant sands and arrive at Le Pollet, which may be considered a suburb of the mediæval town of Dieppe, being only separated from that city by its port and the mouth of the river Arques. After Dieppe, where the cliff crowned by the old castle rises to the height of 280 feet, we descend to the valley, at the foot of which flows the Scie. Beneath a pine-crowned hill lies Pourville with its beautiful villas and much-frequented sands. A little beyond is the lighthouse of Ailly and the charming village of Varangeville with its celebrated Manoir d'Ango. Passing St. Marguerite and the watering-place of Quiberville, at the mouth of the Saâne, we come to St. Aubin-sur-Mer on the Dun, amid quiet wooded surroundings, and Veules renowned for water-cress and sea-bathing, whence after a walk over cliffs of a moderate height we reach the old historic harbour of St. Valery-en-Caux, situated between two white cliffs.

To this succeed the quaint little Veulettes at the mouth of the pretty trout stream, the Durdent, and

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Petites Dalles and Grandes Dalles with their pebble strands, the port of Fécamp with its lighthouse and white cliffs (325 feet) and Yport, a pleasant fishing village beautifully placed between the woods and sea. Beyond is the little watering-place of Vaucottes, from which we ascend to Vattetot and crossing the gorges of Bénouville and the Curé arrive at Étretat, which not only by the colour of its cliffs here tinged with red, but by the shape of the projecting rocks of the Porte d'Aval, recalls those of Teignmouth and Dawlish on the coast of Devon. The cliff of Antifer rises to an elevation of 378 feet and from here to Cap de la Hève, a distance of 13 miles, an altitude of 300 feet is maintained.

Bruneval, well sheltered in its delightful valley, the fishing village of St. Jouin and the beautiful gorge of Cauville are perhaps the only spots of interest between Cap Antifer and Cap de la Hève (341 feet), after which, passing St. Adresse and Frascati with their sands we arrive at Havre. Crossing the Seine we enter the department of Calvados at Honfleur, well sheltered from westerly gales by Cap de Grace (290 feet). The 9 miles of coast between here and Trouville have a background of wooded hills, among which nestle châteaux and hamlets. Having passed Villerville with its pebble strand and Hannequeville with its cliffs full of fossils, and the crags known by the name of the Roches Noires, we reach Trouville beloved by Parisians, with its port at the mouth of the Touques, and Deauville situated on the left bank of the same river.

Leaving Bénerville under the shadow of Mont Canisy, we arrive at the fashionable watering-place

of Villers-sur-Mer, at the extremity of a charming valley, surrounded by green hills. The sands on this portion of the coast are excellent. From Villers to Houlgate the coast is skirted by cliffs known as the Vaches Noires, interesting to the geologist from the strange admixture of fossil animals and plants inclosed in the clay. Houlgate and Beuzeval, two delightful watering-places separated by the Drochon, are succeeded by the mediæval port of Dives, on the river of the same name. On the sands accumulated at the mouth of the river is the pine-encircled watering-place of Cabourg, whence passing Home-Varaville and Franceville among the sand-hills, we come to the port of Ouistreham, united to that of Caen on the river Orne by a canal 9 miles in length.

From here to Saint Côme de Fresné, the coast offers a succession of sands with occasional marshes, dotted here and there with charming little watering-places such as Riva Bella, Colleville, Lion-sur-Mer, Luc-sur-Mer, St. Aubin-sur-Mer, opposite which commence the Roches du Calvados, a platform of calcareous formation, 10 miles in length which terminates at the Tête du Calvados, N.E. of Arromanches.

Courseulles with its oyster-parks and Saint Côme, Ver and Asnelles with its firm sands, must also be noticed not only on their own account, but for the charming country which forms a background to the two places last mentioned, and the vicinity of the Châteaux of Creully, Fontaine Henri, and Magny. After leaving the little port and watering-place of Arromanches we pass the cliffs of Longues and Marigny, and come to Port-en-Bessin at the mouth of the Drome, followed by St.

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Honorine-des-Perthes with its curious spring, at which place the cliffs begun at Cape Mauvieux give place to sands, as far as La Percée, from which point chalky cliffs extend to Le Hoc. After the fishing village of Grandcamp fronted by the bank of rock of the same name, the coast bends towards the mouth of the Vire. Having crossed this river, we find ourselves in the department of Manche, which commences with the Bay of the Veys common to both departments. Here the Taute as well as the Vire finds its outlet towards the sea. In the low-lying meadows on the banks of the latter stream begins the peninsula of the Cotentin. Between the Vire and Taute are the polders of Brévands; opposite the dunes of Ravenoville are the Îles St. Marcouf, fortified by the first Napoleon. Higher up is the little watering-place and port of Quinéville on the banks of the Sinope, and further on St. Vaast with its oyster-beds, attached to the famous La Hougue by a narrow fortified tongue of land. In front is the island of Tatihou, and beyond is the river Saire, dominated by Mont la Pernelle with its extensive view.

From here to Barfleur the coast is skirted with reefs; the wreck of the *White Ship* will occur to every reader of English history. Close to the point of Barfleur is the lighthouse of Gatteville, whence the land curves in a westerly direction. The coast is specially broken, as far as Cap Lévi, where it takes another curve inward, the Île Pelée and the strong port of Cherbourg, occupying the centre of the bend. Passing the fort and lighthouse of Querqueville, Urville and Landemer with their pretty sands, and the port of Omonville, we arrive at Cap de la Hague and rounding the promon-

tory and skirting the little port of Goury and the Bay of Écalgrain find ourselves on the high cliffs of Jobourg (470 feet).

Diélette, the only respectable port between Cherbourg and Granville, next claims our attention; beyond this commence the granite cliffs of Flamanville, with their singular caverns. The granite cliffs terminate at the watering-place of Carteret and are succeeded by sand hills, almost as far as Granville. Beyond Carteret, whence Jersey may be reached by steamer, are the port and watering-place of Barneville, the harbour of Surville, and the watering-places of Agon-Coutainville, and the port of Régneville at the mouth of the Sienne. At Granville, the seventh port of France, situated on the Boscq, we are once more on the rocky coast and in connection with Jersey. Opposite are the Îles Chausey some 300 in number, of which the greater part are submerged at high water. Beyond Granville are the delightful sands of Saint Pair and Jullouville. On turning the point of Carolles, a fine view is obtained of the Bay of Mont St. Michel, in the centre of which the dark Mount looms above the grèves with its attendant Tombelaine a little to the north.

V.
ANGLING

Although Normandy cannot be said to offer such great advantages for the fisherman as those afforded by the adjoining province of Brittany, there are, nevertheless, many delightful streams which will well repay the angler for his toil. Salmon are almost non-existent, nor is that beautiful fish the grayling, so common in many of the rivers of Belgium and Germany, to be found in Normandy. Its speckled *confrère*, the trout, is, however, to be met with in most of the rivers which find their outlet in the English Channel. Chub, dace, and other coarse fish are only too much in evidence, especially in the rivers of Eure and Seine-Inférieure; but the pike, that scourge of many of our English trout streams, is fortunately of comparatively rare occurrence. The fly-fishing capabilities of Norman waters are too little known to English fishermen, and one can hardly imagine a more delightful experience for the angler-bicyclist than to explore the many beautiful streams, which are quite unvisited except by the native fisherman or poacher, provided with the rudest implements of the craft. It is more or less by hazard that one discovers the whereabouts of good fishing in Normandy. To cite one instance of this, whilst stay-

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ing in Ireland some years back, I chanced to notice an account in the *Field* of that pretty stream the Epte, which flows between Gisors and Vernon in the department of Eure. Proceeding thither and taking up my residence at M. Allard's little inn at St. Clair, I was abundantly rewarded by the capture of numerous trout, all taken with the fly, whose average of more than a pound in weight gave ample testimony to the excellence of the stream in question.

The three ports by which Normandy is entered have trout fishing in their immediate vicinity. That near Dieppe, under the shadow of the historic ruins of Arques, is very accessible from the town in ten minutes by rail. By staying at the Grand Hotel, Dieppe, one may obtain free trout fishing (only the artificial fly being permitted) on the hotel water, 2½ kilomètrés in length, on the Varennes, between the villages of Arques and Martigny. If the fisherman choose another hotel in Dieppe or takes up his abode at Lecourts's pleasant little inn by the riverside at Martin-Eglise, a daily 5 fr. ticket will enable him to fish the same stream. Quite near Martin-Eglise, on the river Arques, a few season tickets at 50 fr. each are said to be obtainable from the two small fishing clubs, who have rented between 4 and 5 kilomètrés on the riverside. Two keepers have been engaged for the protection of the water by the Dieppe Fishing Association, which, according to the circular issued by its president, M. Etienne Mallet (see *Field*, Sept. 24, 1904), and as has been confirmed by information obtained by me on the spot, appears to be doing excellent work. Further information may be obtained from the

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secretary of the Société des Pêcheurs à la Ligne pour Dieppe, 7, Quai Berigny, Dieppe.

There is also good trouting at St. Marguerite, near Offranville, in the same district, while the Bresle, which flows into the sea at Tréport, though nearly all preserved, is an excellent river for the dry-fly fisherman. At Havre the trout fishing is limited to the Lézarde between Montivilliers and Rolleville, though permission must be obtained, as is elsewhere generally necessary, from the millers and other riparian proprietors. The flies for the Lézarde should be small and the tackle very fine. At Cherbourg the Divette contains trout, but the angler will do well to proceed to Valognes and fish the Sinope near St. Martin Audouville, though the river is somewhat overgrown with weeds; or the Saire, which falls into the sea at Reville, near St. Vaast la Hougue, where, in addition to trout, he may possibly meet with salmon. Some sport may be found on the Léz and Celune, in the neighbourhood of Avranches; Tirepied, Brécey, and Cuves on the former river, and Ducey and Les Biards on the latter, which may be approached by diligence from Avranches, being among the most favourable localities.

But these are but a few of the charming rivers of Manche, which are practically unvisited by the English angler. I have taken large trout below Lisieux, in Calvados, in the Touques, a river which seems well adapted for heavy fish. Pont l'Évêque is another good station on this somewhat sluggish stream. Its tributary the Douel near Blangy is said to be full of trout. Cany, in Seine-Inférieure, is a good centre, the trout in parts of the Durdent

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being lusty and strong. Permission to fish the better portions of the stream is, however, difficult to obtain, although there is some fair free fishing in the vicinity of the quaint little watering-place of Veulettes. The Risle, in Eure, contains large trout at Pont Audemer, easily reached from Havre by crossing to Honfleur, while the Epte between Gisors and Vernon, the Iton near Evreux, and the Eure in the neighbourhood of Louviers deserve a visit, if only on account of the charming scenery to be met with on their banks. La Graverie, in Calvados, close to Olivier Basselin's lovely town of Vire, and Harcourt, near the historic city of Caen, are likely spots for trout. Most of the trout streams in the vicinity are, however, preserved by the proprietors. Mézidon, too, on the Dives, is another good centre.

Coarse fish are numerous in most of the rivers mentioned, and much amusement may be derived by attending the various "concours de pêche" organised by the inhabitants of the different towns on the occasion of an annual holiday. The close time varies according to the department, and information on this point should be obtained from the prefecture of the department. The angler will be well advised to bring with him a good selection of English flies, those sold in the French tackle shops being usually so large as to negative any prospect of successful sport. A polite application to the millers and other owners of property for permission to fish will rarely meet with any other than a courteous response.

VI

CLIMATE

The climate of Normandy is free from extremes of heat and cold, but it is at the same time damp and subject to sudden changes of temperature. Speaking generally it is less cold in winter and cooler in summer than that of Paris. More rain falls on the coast than in the interior. The average number of wet days in the year at Rouen in Seine-Inférieure is 121, in Calvados 135, while in Eure, which has but a small extent of coast, it is 118, as compared with 100 in the inland department of Orne.

Manche favoured by the influence of the Gulf Stream, and the genial S.W. breezes, enjoys a milder climate than the rest of Normandy, myrtles, camelias and fuchsias blossoming in the open air. The marshy character of the ground in the neighbourhood of Carentan gives rises to ague, but in other respects Normandy is healthier than the rest of France and possesses a climate which compares very favourably with that of the southern counties of England.

VII

FLORA AND FAUNA

FLORA

The flora of Normandy much resembles that of Kent and Sussex, with the difference that the flowers are larger and that the plants come into bloom somewhat earlier. Among the more interesting plants may be noticed :—

The great English Sundew (*Drosera longifolia* or *Anglica*), which is found in marshes in several localities, though its hybrid with the common variety occurs only in the Doville Marsh near Haye du Puits in Manche. It should be looked for in July and August.

Parnassia palustris, with its lovely white blossoms, so interesting to observe from the changes which occur in the arrangements of the stamens, from the time it opens until it fades, may be found in the moist hollows among sandhills in the neighbourhood of Gisors, Fourges, Menneval, Argentan and the Forest of St. Evroult, but appears to be unknown in Manche.

The *Lentibulariaceæ* or Butterworts are widely spread, but are not so common as in the Lake country or in the Peak district of Derbyshire, where *Pinguicula vulgaris*, with its large violet

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flowers, gives beauty to the most desolate spot. In Normandy its blossoms may be observed in marshy ground near Gisors, Fourges, Percy and Frenouville.

The swampy land near Caen, Falaise, Vire, La Trappe and Alençon is a good hunting ground for other plants of this order, notably *Utricularia minor* and *Pinguicula Lusitanica*. The ivy-leaved Bellflower (*Wahlenbergia hederacea*), one of the most beautiful and, where found, one of the most abundant marsh flowers, seems only to be met in Lower Normandy, as it requires a certain amount of lime in the soil.

In Seine-Inférieure and Eure it is absolutely unknown. The *Lobelia urens* or Purple Lobelia, only met with in one locality in England, in the county of Devon, is fairly common in Lower Normandy but unknown in Seine-Inférieure and very rare in Eure, where it may be looked for in the marshes of Vernier and Thiut-Signol.

The cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*) will be readily found in the peaty soil of Vire, Fourges, Lessay, Gorges and elsewhere.

The orchid tribe is widely represented in Normandy, as might be expected from the calcareous nature of much of the soil. *Orchis fusca*, the rare hybrid of *Orchis purpurea* and *Orchis militaris* may be found on the hill slopes of Dieppedalle in Seine-Inférieure and at Vernon in Eure. The Monkey Orchid (*Orchis simia* or *Tephrosanthos*), though scarce is somewhat more widely spread than the preceding, and may be found at Orcher, Tancarville, Vernon, and in the vicinity of Pont Aude-mer, Alençon and Sées.

The very rare hybrid, *Orchis Beyrichii* occurs in Eure at Beccal, near Louviers, and at St. Didier.

The brown-topped orchid (*Orchis ustulata*) is unknown in Seine-Inférieure, rare in Eure, but somewhat common in Calvados. *Orchis Morio*, a curious variety of the Helmet orchid, has been found on the cliffs of Carolles in Manche, while the very rare hybrid *Orchis alata* may be observed at Beuvillers near Bayeux. The very scarce Spider-orchid (*Ophrys anthropophora*) rather larger than the English plant, may be met with at Aumale in Seine-Inférieure, at Vernon in Eure, and at Honfleur and Aubigny near Falaise in Calvados.

Among ferns the Sea Spleenwort (*Asplenium marinum*) occurs in the damp clefts of the cliffs of Étretat, Vierville, Carteret, Granville and the Îles Chausey.

A single plant of *Asplenium Cermanicum* was once discovered by Lenormand, at Vire, this is probably a hybrid of the rare Forked Spleenwort (*Asplenium septentrionale*), which exists at Vire, Maizet, Clécy and Berjou.

The extremely rare narrow-leaved Bladder Fern (*Asplenium angustatum*) has been met with in Manche, at Brillevast, Montebourg, and in the vicinity of Cherbourg.

The scarce Filmy Fern (*Hymenophyllum Tunbridgense*), has been found together with the equally rare Wilson's Fern at Mesnil-au-Vâl near Cherbourg, and also at Mortain, Briquebec and Brix.

The beautiful *Osmunda regalis*, though sufficiently uncommon, may be noticed in marshy spots near Eu, Epouville, Falaise, Vire, Alençon and Mortain, while the brittle Bladder Fern (*Cystopteris fragilis*) may be sought for among the walls and rocks of Caumont, Orbec, Bretteville, Mortain and elsewhere.

FLORA AND FAUNA

Among other plants the extremely rare parasite *Monotropia hypophagos* should be looked for under beech trees in the forest of Arques, its congener *Hypopitys* is more abundant and may be found in the woods near Eu, Tancarville, Vernon, Evreux, Lisieux, Falaise and elsewhere.

The Snake's Head Lily or Fritillary is extremely local, as in England, but may be remarked in the damp meadows near Eu.

Further information on the botany of Normandy may be found in the complete and interesting *Flore Populaire de Normandie*, by M. Charles Joret (Caen), or the *Nouvelle Flore de Normandie*, by M. Corbière, published by Lanier of Caen.

FAUNA

The fauna of Normandy are the same as those to be met with in England, with the exception that the wild boar and wolf are still to be found, especially in the forest west of Rouen and Louviers.

The name of loup or wolf occurs not unfrequently in the names of places and churches, notably in the case of the Church of St. Loup at Bayeux, where the Saint is represented as hurling a furious wolf into the Dromme. Stories of wolf-hunting are numerous, thus, in the reign of Louis XV., we hear of a distinguished hunter being selected to rid a district of the ravages of a monster, who had wrought such destruction amongst the peasantry that their morning and evening prayers were terminated with the supplication, "From the beast, Good Lord, deliver us".

The Count of Roncherolles, who lived at Vire, is said when dying to have observed, "A great

consolation to me is the fact that latterly I have been able to run down and kill an old wolf". As late as 1841, the Conseil Général of Manche advertised rewards of from 30 to 100 francs for the destruction of these animals between Coutances and Avranches.

The birds of Normandy, again, differ little from those of our island, though that beautiful bird the Golden Oriole is more frequently seen, and this too is the case with the Hoopoe and rarer kinds of hawks. The Eagle Owl, so scarce in England, is by no means so uncommon in Northern France. Of snakes, the viper is fairly plentiful in the woods and on the hill-sides of Normandy. No one who is interested in natural history should fail to visit the collections in the museums at Rouen and Havre, that in the former town giving a specially good display of the birds of the department.

INDUSTRIES

VIII

INDUSTRIES

METALS AND MINERALS

Seine-Inférieure is without coal mines, but possesses stone quarries situated for the most part on the banks of the Seine. Potteries are numerous, while important glass works are found at Havre and its outskirts.

In *Calvados* coal is found about Littry and in the valley of the Tortonne and L'Esque. Iron is found in the Bocage St. Rémy and a few other places. There are stone quarries at Thury-Harcourt and Martigny, marble at Laize-la-Ville, Fourneaux and Vieux. In addition to these there is abundance of granite, slate and lime.

Bayeux manufactures china, Caen, Lison and Jurques make all kinds of pottery, while Argences has a special glass factory for imitation pearls, making as many as one million a day, at a cost of £8000 a year. These are exported to India and China.

In *Manche* granite is worked at Cherbourg and Tournelville, marble and building-stone at Montmartin-sur-Mer, kaolin at Pieux and talc at Greville.

In *Orne* iron is worked at Messu, granite at Alençon and Fresnes.

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AGRICULTURE

Seine-Inférieure is one of the best cultivated and most flourishing departments in France, thanks to its numerous agricultural societies and the natural fertility of the soil, especially in the districts of Caux and Bray, due no doubt to the numerous streams which water its valleys. The soil produces abundance of cereals and a fair quantity of flax, while beetroot for sugar, and potatoes are largely cultivated. Market-gardening is much in evidence in the neighbourhood of Havre and Rouen. The cider produced by the numerous orchards, so lovely in spring, is the chief drink of the country. Yvetot is noted for apple-sugar, Gournay for butter and Neufchâtel for cheese. Horses and cattle are reared in abundance.

The department of *Eure* is also devoted to agriculture and cattle-breeding. Two-thirds of its surface are under plough for cereals. Beetroot is increasing in quantity, while hemp and flax are also sown. Dyer's weed and teasel are much in favour with a view to the factories of Louviers and Elbeuf. Cider is made in abundance. The Norman and Cotentin breeds of cattle are frequently crossed with the Durham variety, while the sheep are often improved by a strain of merino. The horses of Dangu are justly celebrated.

Calvados is more especially a pastoral district. The E. and N.W. districts raise large quantities of cattle. Its production of butter, eggs and cheese amounts to more than £4,000,000 per annum, of which a tenth part finds its way to England from the port of Honfleur. The best butter comes from

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the neighbourhood of Bayeux, Trivières and Isigny. The cheeses of Camembert, Pont-l'Évêque and Livarot have gained a special notoriety. The horses of Caen and the surrounding plains are excellent. Many are used for cavalry mounts, but many besides are exported.

Calvados produces much cider and perry as well as a kind of brandy termed "Calvados". Honey is also abundant. The limestone plains of the centre grow wheat, oats, barley and rye; flax and beetroot are little cultivated.

Manche is specially devoted to "la petite culture" and cattle-rearing. Market-gardening is a feature in the district of Montmartin-sur-Mer and the Val de Saire. Apple orchards are very numerous while the fig and plum are also much cultivated. Butter is largely made at Valognes and in the neighbourhood of St. Lô and Cherbourg. Poultry too and eggs and honey form a considerable portion of its commerce.

Lastly *Orne* is renowned for the attention which it devotes to horse-breeding. Pin-au-Haras and Briant are especially famous in this connection. The towns of Alençon and Mêle have well-attended horse-fairs, at which the three breeds of the department may be observed, the "percheron" being that which finds most purchasers in Europe. Cattle too are bred in large quantities, dairy-farming being particularly flourishing.

TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

In *Seine-Inférieure* woollen and cotton manufactures flourish at Rouen, Bolbec, Lillebonne, Malaunay, Pavilly and Elbœuf. The Elbœuf

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woollen industry produces between two and three million pounds sterling per annum. Bolbec is especially connected with the manufacture of handkerchiefs and Dieppe with lace-making.

In *Eure* some sixty factories are devoted to cotton and woollen manufactures, particularly in the valley of the Andelle. Sheets and cashmeres are made at Louviers and Pont Anthon, mattresses at Evreux, carpets at Gaillon, frocks and caps at Bernay.

In *Calvados* the cotton and woollen mills are worked by numerous streams such as the Noireau, Vire, Orbiquet, Touques and Dives. Cotton fabrics are made at Orbec, Clécy, Condé-sur-Noireau, Breuil, and Falaise, woollen at Auquainville, Falaise, Glos, Livarot and Orbec. Cloth is made at Lisieux, Vire and Caen, while Falaise, Caen and Lisieux manufacture hosiery.

In *Manche* the textile industries are on the downward grade; Cherbourg, St. Lo, Coutances and Granville produce woollen goods, and Avranches hosiery.

In *Orne* these trades are in a flourishing condition, especially at Flers, Saint-Paul, and La Ferté-Macé, which have cotton factories. Alençon makes cloth in addition to its famous lace.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

In *Seine-Inférieure* there are important distilleries at Rouen, Harfleur and Beuzeville. At Fécamp is manufactured the famous liqueur known as Benedictine. The tobacco factories of Dieppe and Havre occupy some 1600 persons. The iron works at the latter town turn out a vast quantity

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of engines, steel plates and other objects connected with the shipping industry. Rouen possesses important iron and copper foundries, others exist at Harfleur, Bolbec and Elbœuf. Rouen, Havre, Fécamp, St. Valery and Dieppe are occupied with shipbuilding. Ivory carving is also a speciality of Dieppe.

In *Eure*, Les Andelys, Gisors and Pont Aude-mer possess an important basket-making industry. Bernay, Louviers and Evreux manufacture leather goods. Evreux has also large printing-works, and stained-glass window factories.

Calvados has considerable paper works at La Cressonnière, Orbec, Honfleur and Vire, while ships are built at Caen, Honfleur and Trouville.

In *Manche* there are iron and copper foundries at Bion, Cherbourg, Granville and Villedieu. Cherbourg builds ships for the navy, while Barfleur, Granville and St. Nicholas also have shipbuilding yards.

In *Orne* flourmills are specially numerous on the streams of the department. Laigle is a great centre for the manufacture of pins, needles and hardware. Alençon, Laigle and Argentan have tanneries.

the shipping industry. Some of the most important industries are the iron and copper foundries, the glass works, the paper mills, and the textile mills. The iron and copper foundries are located in the north of France, and the glass works are located in the south. The paper mills are located in the west, and the textile mills are located in the east.

IX HISTORY

During the three centuries previous to the invasion of Gaul by the Romans, *Armorica*, as the country now known as Normandy and Brittany was then termed, was inhabited by seven tribes.

The Unelli, whose home was the Cotentin: chief town, first Alana, near Valognes, then Constantia, now Coutances.

The Abrincatui: chief town, Legedia, now Avranches. The Saii, possibly Oxinium, now Sées.

The Bayocasses, who inhabited the Bessin district: chief town, Aregena—Bayeux.

The Viducasses, whose capital was on the banks of the Orne above Caen, where the village of Vieux now stands.

The Lexovii, near the mouth of the Seine: capital Noviomagus, now Lisieux.

The Ebuovices: capital city, Mediolanum Aulercorum, now Evreux.

These seven districts, all south of the Seine, were inhabited by Celtic Gauls, but Neustria north of the Seine was occupied by two tribes of Belgic Gauls, the Caleti in the Pays de Caux, capital first Caletum then Julia bona, now Lillebonne, and the Velocasses, part of whose territory

represented the Vexin, with capital Rothomagus, now Rouen.

The Caleti and Velocasses supported the Bellovaci against Cæsar during the Gallic war after the fall of Alesia.

Augustus, when he divided Gaul into four provinces, included the tribes north of the Seine in the province Lugdunensis (Lyonnaise) with Lyons as the capital. In the fourth century Diocletian made Rouen capital of the Seconde Lyonnaise, which at the end of the same century almost represented the Normandy of feudal times. It was about this period that Rouen became the seat of an archbishop. Of the Roman remains in Gaul the theatre at Lillebonne is the most important. Other evidences of Roman occupation are to be met with at Sainte Marguerite near Dieppe, Sandouville and Boudeville.

In the fifth century Normandy was invaded by the Franks under Clodion and the Huns under Attila. They were repulsed by the Roman general Aëtius, who received assistance from the tribesmen of Northern France. After this the Roman sway seems to have gradually lessened in Gaul and the chief power rested in the hands of the bishop. By the end of the fifth century the Franks under Clovis had established themselves in Normandy and Neustria, of which it was a portion. This became the favourite residence of the Merovingian kings. With them are connected the foundations of a large number of monasteries, including those of St. Ouen, Jumièges, Fécamp, Montivilliers, Mont St. Michel and St. Taurin of Evreux. Christianity had been preached in Normandy as early as the third century by the

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Saints Mellon and Nicaise, and the conversion of Clovis had been the condition upon which the inhabitants of Armorica had agreed to submit to that prince as their sovereign. It is to the period of the Merovingian kings that the stirring episodes of Queen Fredigonda's blood-stained career and the murder of Bishop Prætextatus in Rouen Cathedral belong.

In 841 the Danish invaders sailing up the Seine burnt Rouen and sacked the abbeys of Jumièges and St. Wandrille. Other raids followed in 858. Charles le Chauve and Lothaire besieged the Northmen at Oissel, but being attacked themselves, bought their departure with a large sum of money. On the occasion of another invasion in 861 the sea-king Woland accepted 5000 livres of silver to clear the Seine of his countrymen. He obtained the money, but receiving a larger sum from his compatriots to do nothing, he sailed away with a double fee. Later on the Northmen returned with the celebrated Rollo, or Rolf, who did homage in 912 to Charles the Simple as First Duke of Normandy. Rollo and his subjects then became converts to Christianity. His most celebrated descendant, William the seventh Duke (1035), afterwards King of England (1066), overcame the French king at Mortemer and Varaville.

The more interesting portion of the Conqueror's career is dealt with in the account of the celebrated tapestry at Bayeux.

Later on the duchy became the scene of strife between the Conqueror's sons, and after that, of the struggle between the kings of France and the kings of England as dukes of Normandy.

Louis X. extended the privileges of Normandy

by his Charte aux Normands of 1315, being the confirmation of the old "Custom of Normandy" ascribed to Rollo and traced by records to the Conqueror. It was also known as the "Clameur de haro," and according to some is derived from "Ha Rou," the words of the suppliant to Rollo that wrong was being done.

In 1348 the Black Death made terrible ravages in the country, at Rouen alone it is said that no less than 100,000 persons perished from the scourge. In 1415 Henry V. besieged Harfleur, which however he failed to take. He succeeded better at Rouen in 1419, in spite of the heroic defence made by the citizens under the leadership of Guy le Bouteiller and Alain Blanchart, captain of the Arbalétriers. Pressed by famine the town at length surrendered and submitted to the severe terms exacted by the English king.

In 1430 Jeanne d'Arc, who had been taken prisoner on the 24th of May at the siege of Compiègne and sold to the English, was conveyed to Rouen for trial. Taken through the Rue Verte to the castle of Philip Augustus, she was placed in an iron cage to await her doom. What justice she received, and with what spirit she met the insinuations of her accusers, is well known. The iniquitous sentence was carried out on 30th May, 1431.

In 1449 the English surrendered Rouen, which admitted Charles VII. in great state within its walls. It was in the same town that Louis XII. assembled the Échiquier or Supreme Court, which was destined under François I. to be called the Parliament of Normandy. To the foresight of the latter was due the inauguration of the harbour works at Havre.

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During the wars of religion, Rouen was seized by the Huguenots in 1562. It was, however, retaken by the Catholics, notwithstanding the loss of their leader the King of Navarre. In the reprisals which followed great numbers of Huguenots perished. The struggles in the other departments were equally severe. In Manche the towns of Valognes, Carentan, Avranches and St. Lo were taken possession of by either party, Montgomery, the leader of the Protestants, finding a desperate antagonist in Matignon, the Governor of Cherbourg, to whom he was at length forced to surrender at Domfront, while his fellow general, the heroic Brecqueville de Colombières, perished at the fall of St. Lo in 1574.

In Calvados religious fanaticism was everywhere rampant. Several Protestants had been burnt alive at Lisieux, but their party retaliated by taking Honfleur and Falaise and pillaging the cathedrals of Bayeux and Lisieux. Coligny, after the battle of Dreux in 1560, took refuge at Caen where a Protestant Synod held sway, Henri IV. being obliged to reconquer all these places after his abjuration of the Protestant faith. In Eure the Prince de Condé, by the capture of Rouen in 1562, had driven the Parliament to Louviers. The whole country was overrun by devastating bands of Protestants. Evreux was attacked by Coligny in 1562, and Bernay taken and the priests massacred. The inhabitants of Evreux supporting the Ligue took the castles of Harcourt, Neubourg, and Conches in 1590. But these, as well as the Châteaux of Gisors, Louviers, and Les Andelys fell later on into the hands of Marshal Biron and other officers of Henri IV., who soon after overcame his rival

Mayenne in the great battle of Ivry, 1590. In the department of Orne the towns of Alençon, Argentan and Mortagne suffered much at the hands of the Huguenots under Coligny and Montgomery. The reprisals of St. Bartholomew's Day, so terrible elsewhere, were kept in check in this department by the skill of Matignon, the Governor of Lower Normandy.

The victories of Arques near Dieppe (1589) and Ivry (1590) had enabled Henri IV. to take the offensive and attack Rouen, which had joined the Ligue. But without success. The Norman capital, however, opened its gates to the king, on his abjuration of Protestant faith in 1593. After this came a period of peace and consequent commercial prosperity. Under Louis XIV. the port of Havre was enlarged and fortified by the celebrated Vauban. That of Dieppe was bombarded and destroyed by the English fleet in 1694, but Havre was successful in resisting all attempts at capture. The English, however, in 1755, by their seizure of a number of vessels belonging to the ship-owners of Honfleur dealt a fatal blow to the rising commerce of that town.

The battle of La Hougue in 1692 off the coasts of Manche, in which the gallant Tourville was forced to destroy his own ships, for want of a convenient harbour of refuge, opened the eyes of the French to the necessity of constructing the Digue of Cherbourg, which has proved so magnificent a success. This was inaugurated by Louis XVI. in 1786. In the Revolution, which broke out shortly after, the departments of Calvados and Orne suffered greatly. At Bayeux no less than ten churches were destroyed. The Vendean army

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under La Rochejaquelin met with a vigorous resistance at Granville, and lacking the support of the English fleet was compelled to withdraw (1793).

The same thing happened in 1803, when the English bombarded the town without success. The Chouan revolt of 1799, under M. de Frotté of Alençon, resulted in the occupation of the Châteaux of Flers, Glapion and De la Haye by the insurgents, who were, however, ultimately put down by the orders of the First Consul. Seine-Inférieure, which had been occupied by the allied armies in 1814 and 1815, did not escape unscathed in the more recent Franco-Prussian war. In 1870, the Prussians entered Rouen and occupied Dieppe and Fécamp, in spite of the brave resistance of the French recruits. In Calvados the Germans occupied the neighbourhood of Lisieux but met with a reverse at Theil in the department of Orne.

In Eure, they fared no better at first at Vernon, and were compelled to evacuate the Forest of Bizy. Ultimately, however, after engagements at Étré-
pagny and Bourgtheroulde, the occupation of Rouen in December, 1870, brought about a cessation of hostilities in the department of Eure, which had made itself conspicuous by the courageous defence offered by the inhabitants.

ARCHITECTURE

The enjoyment of a tour in Normandy will be greatly increased if the tourist possess any knowledge, however small, of architecture. A brief outline of some of the characteristics of the Norman type may perhaps be included in the scope of this work. No better exposition of these characteristics exists than that given by Mr. Baring-Gould in his book of Brittany (Methuen & Co.), the substance of which may fitly find a place here. The incursions of the Northmen, in northern France, in the ninth and tenth centuries, had practically put a stop to the building of churches during this period, but in the eleventh century notions of Italian architecture led to the adoption of the Romanesque (French Romane) style, known to us in England by the name of Norman. At first the builders contented themselves with vaulting the apse, in order to protect the altar from injury in case of fire. This compelled them to thicken the walls. Then the side aisles were treated in a similar fashion, and later the nave, when buttresses and last of all flying-buttresses came into use. The flying-buttress may be frequently observed in the case of apses of the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

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Leaving the buttresses and considering the piers and arches. At first the arcades of the nave rested on rectangular pillars ; by degrees the pier became enriched and each such enrichment led to the enriching at the same time of the arches which rested upon them. First the arches were semicircular, next came a pointed arch and with it we arrive at what is termed the first pointed style. This began in the twelfth century and lasted to the beginning of the thirteenth. Next considering the windows. In the Romanesque windows there were only small round windows or bulls' eyes, with the twelfth century lancets were introduced and as glass came into use the lancets became wider with attempts at tracery. This tracery was only tried in two-light windows, by including both under a continuing arch, and placing a circular window in the space above. After this we find a grouping together of three or more lights, with a multiplication of the circles above. This brings us to the second pointed or geometrical style of the middle of the thirteenth and throughout the fourteenth century. In England, York, Lincoln and Exeter, and, in Germany, Cologne, are examples of this Gothic style.

Soon the architect in England as well as in France came to strike his arch from four centres ; the tracery in the latter country became curving and flame-shaped, hence the term Flamboyant. This style, which lasted all the fifteenth century and the beginning of the sixteenth, is termed the Third Pointed or Flamboyant.

It was succeeded by the Renaissance period, due to the influx of Italian artists into France. A reaction had set in, the tracery of the windows instead of being ornamental became poorer and the

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rounded arch was adopted. This style lasted from the end of the sixteenth century to the middle of the seventeenth. Its spires and porches were extremely beautiful. Speaking generally of towers we may notice that the Romanesque tower was usually central, massive and square. Then came the use of the bell-tower at the west end; and latterly the lantern-crowned tower of the Renaissance. The most beautiful steeples in Normandy are those which are met with in the Caen district, of which St. Pierre of Caen is the best-known example. We may here quote Mr. Petit's general description of these steeples:—

“The tower, which is square, whether central or rising from the ground has resting upon a lower stage of less ornament, a tall belfry story also square, without buttresses, or at least any projecting beyond the slope which finishes the cornices of the stage beneath. This belfry has four lofty and deeply moulded arches in each face, of which the outer ones are narrower than the others and unpierced, the two in the middle being open as windows. These are often divided by a mullion. Above is a rich cornice. From the tower rises an octagonal spire, flanked by four lofty pinnacles of open-work, which vary in their plan, some being hexagonal, others octagonal, but always finished with spires. On the cardinal sides are spire-lights rising to the same height with the pinnacles, and often finished at the top with a quadrangular pyramid. The spire in many cases is pierced with foliated openings such as might be described in a circle, the number of cups decreasing according to the size of the aperture. The masonry is also, as usual, worked in scales. The proportions of all

are graceful, though some have a more massive character than others. St. Pierre at Caen has pinnacles of an hexagonal form, but not quite equilateral, in fact one of the angles very nearly coincides with a right angle. Notre Dame, also in Caen, has the hexagonal pinnacle, but set on differently, the face corresponding with the angle of the tower. But the spire with its lights and pinnacles was often added to an earlier tower. This was done with the western towers of the Abbaye aux Hommes at Caen. The details of the northern one are assimilated in some respects to the Romanesque work below, and may in fact belong to the end of the twelfth or an early year of the following century. The pinnacles are octagonal. The plan of this spire has a somewhat oblong form from E. to W. and is not quite equilateral. The southern spire is evidently later, and is remarkable from the plan of the pinnacles, which forms an equilateral triangle; their effect as regards outline, as well as light and shade, is extremely striking. The spire-lights as usual are lofty and exhibit much lightness of construction. The English architect ought to study this class of steeples carefully. He cannot fail to remark the beauty which arises from the fine cluster round the spring of the spire, as well as the simplicity of outline above, there being no spire lights besides the principal ones at the base. Our own finest steeples, Salisbury and St. Mary's, Oxford, resemble them in these respects. He will also observe that even the truncated spires are not without beauty.

“That of Norrey is a very fine object in its present imperfect condition, as also the incomplete steeple of Andrieu.

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“The towers of St. Pierre and Notre Dame in Caen, have pierced parapets, but these in no way affect the general aspect of the composition.

“In these examples the effect of the spire is improved by a low octagonal base, from which it springs.”

IX

ANTIQUITIES

In enumerating the antiquities of Normandy we find ourselves confronted with an extensive list of places which no other country with the exception of Italy can offer.

In Seine-Inférieure we have the magnificent churches of Rouen, notably:—

The Cathedral, eleventh to fifteenth century.
St. Omer, fourteenth.

St. Martin, fifth to sixteenth, and those of St. Pierre and St. Vincent, sixteenth.

Other churches of note in this department are those of:

Caudebec, fifteenth century.
Auzou, sixteenth.

Dieppe, Eglise St. Jacques, thirteenth to sixteenth.

Harcourt, fifteenth and sixteenth.
Mansvilliers, eleventh and twelfth.

Langues, tenth to thirteenth.
Louviers, the remains of the ancient

Abby of St. Georges, eleventh to thirteenth.

St. Wandrille, Chapel of St. Sulpice, eleventh, and remains of ancient Abby, twelfth to sixteenth.

The towers of St. Pierre and Notre Dame in Rouen have pinnacles, but these in no way affect the general aspect of the composition. In these examples the effect of the spire is increased by a low external base from which it rises.

XI

ANTIQUITIES

In enumerating the antiquities of Normandy we find ourselves confronted with an *embarras de richesse* which no other country with the exception of Italy can offer.

In Seine-Inférieure we have the magnificent churches of Rouen, notably:—

The Cathedral, eleventh to fifteenth century.
St. Ouen, fourteenth.

St. Maclou, fifteenth to sixteenth, and those of St. Patrice and St. Vincent, sixteenth.

Other churches of note in this department are those of:—

Caudebec, fifteenth century.

Arques, sixteenth.

Dieppe, Eglise St. Jacques, thirteenth to sixteenth.

Harfleur, fifteenth and sixteenth.

Montivilliers, eleventh and twelfth.

Jumièges, tenth to thirteenth.

Boscherville, the remains of the ancient Abbey of St. Georges, eleventh to thirteenth.

St. Wandrille, Chapel of St. Saturnin, eleventh, and remains of ancient Abbey, twelfth to sixteenth.

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Tréport, sixteenth.

Fécamp, Church of the Trinity, twelfth and thirteenth.

Eu, Church of St. Laurence, twelfth to fifteenth, and Chapel of the College, seventeenth.

Elbœuf, windows in the Church of St. Etienne, sixteenth.

Graville, Church of St. Honoria, eleventh to thirteenth.

Among secular buildings to be specially noted are :—

The Château of Mesnières, sixteenth.

The Château of Dieppe, fifteenth.

The Porte du Port d'Ouest, Dieppe, fifteenth.

The Château of Valmont, eleventh to sixteenth.

The Château of Tancarville, eleventh to sixteenth.

The keep of the Château of Lillebonne, thirteenth, with the remains of its famous Roman Theatre.

The Château of Martainville, sixteenth.

The Tower of Jeanne d'Arc at Rouen, thirteenth.

The Palais de Justice at Rouen, fifteenth and sixteenth.

The Hôtel de Bourgtheroulde at Rouen, fifteenth and sixteenth.

The Grosse Horloge, sixteenth, and Fountain at Rouen, eighteenth.

The Manoir d'Ango at Varengeville, sixteenth.

Nor must we omit

The beautiful carved house of Henri IV. at St. Valery-en-Caux, sixteenth, or that at Caudebec

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in the Rue de la Boucherie, or number 66 Rue du Bac, at Rouen.

Among the churches of Eure, we may notice especially those of:—

Grand Andelys, thirteenth and fifteenth, and Petit Andelys, thirteenth century.

Bermy, Church of Abbey, eleventh, and Notre Dame de la Couture, sixteenth.

Conches, fifteenth.

Evreux, Cathedral of Notre Dame, twelfth to sixteenth, and Church of St. Taurin, eleventh, fifteenth and sixteenth.

Gisors, thirteenth to sixteenth.

Harcourt, twelfth.

Louviers, thirteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth.

Bont Audemer, St. Ouën, eleventh, fifteenth, sixteenth, and St Germain, thirteenth, fifteenth.

Tillières, sixteenth.

Verneuil, eleventh to seventeenth.

Vernon, twelfth to fifteenth.

SECULAR BUILDINGS

Ruins of Château Gaillard at Les Andelys, twelfth century.

Conches, Castle Keep, twelfth.

Gaillon, Château, sixteenth.

Gisors, Château, eleventh and twelfth.

Vernon, Tour des Archives, twelfth.

Calvados is specially rich in churches; we have those of:—

Caen : St. Trinité (Abbaye aux Dames), eleventh, St. Etienne, Abbaye aux Hommes, eleventh and thirteenth, St. Pierre, fourteenth to sixteenth, and St. Sauveur, fourteenth.

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Dives, Church, fourteenth and fifteenth.
 Falaise, St. Gervais, twelfth, thirteenth and
 fifteenth, and that of the Trinity,
 thirteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth.
 Bayeux Cathedral, thirteenth.
 Honfleur, St. Catherine's, fifteenth.
 Lisieux, St. Pierre, twelfth to sixteenth.
 Norrey, thirteenth.

We may notice in addition the Churches of St.
 Pierre Dives, Thaon, Martigny, Vire and Bric-
 queville. Among other structures are the Châteaux
 of Falaise and Caen, twelfth and fifteenth, the
 Maison des Gens d'Armes at Caen, fifteenth, and
 the old houses at Caen, known as the Hotel
 d'Escoville, Hôtel de la Monnaie, and Hôtel de
 Mondrainville, all belonging to the sixteenth
 century.

The house in the Rue aux Fèvres at Lisieux,
 fifteenth century.

The Tour de l'Horloge at Vire, thirteenth.

In Manche are the Cathedral of Coutances,
 thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and Abbey
 of Mont St. Michel, eleventh century, together
 with the Churches of:—

Carentan, fifteenth.

Cerisy-la-Fôret, eleventh.

Lessay, eleventh and twelfth.

Mortain, eleventh and twelfth.

St. Lo, fourteenth and sixteenth.

St. Sauveur le Vicomte, eleventh.

Among Châteaux are those of:—

Bricquebec, fourteenth.

Haye du Puits, eleventh to fifteenth.

Torigny, sixteenth.

St. Sauveur le Vicomte, tenth.

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In the department of Orne are the Churches of:—

Alençon, Notre Dame, fifteenth century.

Argentan, St. Germain, fifteenth to seventeenth, and St. Martin, fifteenth.

Cathedral of Sées, thirteenth to fourteenth.

Domfront, eleventh.

Laigle, fifteenth and sixteenth.

Among secular buildings are the remains of:—

The Castle at Alençon, fourteenth and fifteenth.

The Château of Argentan, fifteenth.

The ruined Castle at Domfront, twelfth.

The keep of the Castle at Chambois, twelfth.

In addition to the above, the prehistoric, Gothic and Roman remains of the country deserve notice.

As in Brittany, dolmens and menhirs are plentiful, especially in the departments of Orne and Manche.

The dolmen, properly speaking, consists of a number of stones, set on end, rudely forming a chamber and covered with one or more capstones. The menhir is a single standing stone. Tumuli and camps, whether Gallic or Roman, will be frequently alluded to in the course of this work.

In Seine-Inférieure we have the famous Cité de Limes at Neuville, a Gallic camp with Roman and Merovingian remains.

At St. Marguerite, near Dieppe, we may see a Gallic-Roman cemetery and Roman villa with beautiful mosaics, in addition to which there is the Roman house and villa at Bordeaux St. Clair, near Étretat, and the Roman camp at Sandouville. In Eure, we find Gallic tumuli at Bérangeville and Brionne (le tombeau du Druide), the mega-

ANTIQUITIES

lith of Gargantua at Neaufles-sur-Rille, the menhir at Port Mort near Les Andelys, Roman camps and entrenchments at Campigny, Ferrières-sur-Rille and Gisay, the remains of a Roman theatre, palace and bath at Old Evreux, of a Gallic-Roman aqueduct at Coulonges, and of a Roman villa at Pitres, where the church rests on a Carlovingian foundation.

In Calvados there are the dolmen at Jurques, and menhir at Livarot, the tumulus and menhir of Pierre Cornue at Condé-sur-Ifs, the tumulus with funeral vaults at Fontenay le Marmion, the old Gallic camp of Mont d'Escures at Commes, and Gallic-Roman fort at Tronquay, besides the Gallic-Roman aqueduct at Glos, and the Carlovingian remains at Saint Jean de Livet.

In Orne we notice, among others, the dolmen termed the "Lit de la Grogne" at Tessé, the Pierre Percée at Lande Saint Siméon, and the two dolmens called the Croûtes at Échauffour, besides those of Céaucé, Coudehart, Fresnai-le-Buffard near Putanges, Longny, Fontaine les Bassets, and Joué du Bois. Of menhirs there are the Affiloire de Gargantua at Cramênil, and Pierre-levée at Silli en Gouffern, Pierre Longue at Hélop, and those of Glos, Joué du Bois. In the forest, near Bellême, we find Gallic-Roman remains, and at Roche Mabile we remark the Gallic-Roman fortifications of the Butte de Chaumont. Besides which there are Roman remains at Carrouges and Planches.

Roman camps may be traced at Cercueil, Le Châtellier, Almenèches, Montmerrei and Saint Cyr-la-Rosière. At Colombiers there is a Roman aqueduct.

In Manche, as in Orne, dolmens and menhirs are

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much in evidence. The former are to be met with at Flamanville, Cretteville and Appeville. There are menhirs at Cérisy la Salle, and Cosqueville, and megaliths at Bricquebec and Brix. At Tóurlaville we remark a Cromlech, a name given in France to a circle of upright stones, and at Lithaire, a logan or rocking-stone. We find ancient entrenchments at Jobourg and Baupte, and Roman camps at Montebourg, Montchaton and Champeaux, and lastly, at Alleaume, near Valognes, the remains of the town formerly known to the Romans as Alauna.

In 1791 we noticed among the dolmens around the "L'abbaye de la Roche" at Tilly, the "L'abbaye de la Roche" and the "L'abbaye de la Roche" which were the remains of the town of Tilly.

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CELEBRATED MEN

Among the many distinguished men who have belonged to Normandy, the following may be mentioned:—

ECCLESIASTICS

Père Brumoy, the Jesuit savant and poet, born at Rouen 1688, and the Abbé Cochet, born at San Vic near Havre in 1812, to whom we are so much indebted for his writings on archæology and his investigations into Gallic and Frankish burial-places.

In the eleventh century the little cathedral town of Sées sent Saint Osmond to England to become Bishop of Salisbury; while the rocky town of Domfront supplied a Bishop of Geneva in the person of Jean Courte-Cuisse, “the sublime theologian,” who died in 1426. The celebrated Capucin preacher and writer, Louis d’Argentan, and Mezerai (born at Ri, 1610), author of the *History of France*, were natives of Orne. The department of Eure produced Geoffroi de Beaulieu of Evreux, the famous preacher, and confessor of St. Louis; while Vire, in Calvados, was the birthplace of Le Tellier, the confessor of another monarch, Louis XIV. Huet, the great Bishop of Avranches, was born at Caen in 1630; while Père Porée, the

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Jesuit master of Voltaire, and writer of tragedies, belonged to the same part of Normandy.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

Seine-Inférieure, as might be expected from its position, gave birth to many sailors of note. Among these were Béthencourt, the "King of the Canaries," born in 1359 at Grainville le Teinturière; Jean Cousin of Dieppe, said to have discovered America before Columbus in 1448; Pierre Belain, born at Allouville in 1585, the founder of the French colonies in the Antilles; and another celebrity of Dieppe, Admiral Duquesne, the famous naval captain of Louis XIV. Jean d'Ango, the great shipowner of Dieppe and friend of princes (1480-1551), must also be included in this category.

Havre supplied two prominent seventeenth century sailors in the persons of the two Aplemons, and a distinguished soldier in Marshal Pelissier, Duc de Malakoff, who came from Maromme in the vicinity of Rouen (1794-1864).

The maritime province of Manche sent forth Antony de Bricqueville (1635), and a yet more distinguished sailor, Admiral de Tourville, born at the castle of Tourville in 1642. Admiral Pléville le Pelley, born 1726, and Baron Hugon, born 1783, were two of Granville's most prominent sailor-citizens. Marshal Coigny, the victor of Parma and Guastella, was born in the same department in 1670, as also was General Valhubert, a native of Avranches, who was killed at Austerlitz in 1805. Marshal Matignon, famous for his campaigns against the Huguenots, was born at Lonray in Orne in 1525, while the Comte de Puisaye, of Vendean fame, came from the beautiful town of Mortagne.

CELEBRATED MEN

The department of Eure can boast of two soldiers, Marshal Gamaches, distinguished in the wars against England in the fifteenth century, and Marshal Annebault, the ambassador of François I. Admiral Chambray, the conqueror of the Turks (born 1687), belonged to Evreux. Dufriche, doctor in chief to the armies in Egypt, and Baron Ernouf, General of the Empire, were both natives of Alençon in Orne. Calvados, in which Falaise the birthplace of William the Conqueror is situated, is also the country of De Bricqueville, the great Calvinist leader (1530), and of General de Caen, who was born at the town of the same name (1769). To the same department belong three noted sailors, Vaugelin (born at Caen in 1726), D'Urville the navigator (born 1720), and Admiral Hamelin, who was born at Pont l'Évêque in 1796.

WRITERS AND ARTISTS

Pierre Corneille, the great dramatist of Louis XIV's reign, was born at Rouen in 1602, the centenarian poet Fontenelle and Gustave Flaubert, the novelist, being natives of the same city. Madeleine de Scudery, the seventeenth-century writer of romance, was born in 1607 at Havre, a town which furnishes a rival to Racine in the dramatist Pradon. At Havre too were born Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, author of *Paul et Virginie*, and the poet Casimir Delavigne, Olivier Basselin and Jean le Houx, the writers of the *Vaux de Vire* and *Chants Nouveaux*, immortalised the charming town and river of Vire in Calvados, where also lived and sang two other poets, Castel and Chênedollé. Val Richer Abbey near Lisieux was the residence of Guizot the historian, while Trouville is con-

nected with M. Thiers, and Étretat owes much of its prosperity as a watering-place to the attention first bestowed upon it by the journalist Alphonse Karr. Malherbe, the father of modern French poetry (born 1555), lived in the Conqueror's town of Caen; Mezerai, the historian of France in the seventeenth century, came from the village of Ri in Orne, while Hébert, the editor of the Revolutionary paper *Père Duchêne*, was born at Alençon in 1759. Valognes in Manche was the birthplace of Tourneur, the translator of Shakespeare (born 1736), and of the chemist Pelouse (born 1807). Octave Feuillet, the novelist (1821-1890), belonged to St. Lo.

MEN OF SCIENCE

Lasalle, the explorer of North America, and the naturalist Pouchet were natives of Rouen. La Morinière, the naturalist and traveller, was born at Dieppe in 1765, Blanchard, the inventor of the parachute, at Petit Andelys, while the botanist Turpin of Vire, De Beaumont, the geologist, and Laplace, the astronomer, must also be reckoned among the luminaries of Calvados. The astronomer Le Verrier, born in 1811, lived at St. Lo.

PAINTERS

Nicolas Poussin, one of the greatest of landscape painters, was born at Villers in Eure in 1594, and his nephew and pupil Letellier at Vernon in 1614. Millet, another charming landscape painter, came from Greville in Manche, while Rouen produced two fine artists in Jouvenet, born in 1644, and Géricault, born in 1791, the latter being known also as the writer of the *Shipwreck of the Medusa*.



ALENÇON : CHATEAU AND PALAIS DE JUSTICE

DESCRIPTION OF PLACES IN NOR- MANDY ARRANGED ALPHABETI- CALLY

CONTRACTIONS

Arr. = Arrondissement.	E. = Eure.
S. I. = Seine-Inférieure.	M. = Manche.
C. = Calvados.	O. = Orne.

Abbetot. See Tancarville.

Agon-Coutainville. M. arr. Coutances. A quaint little watering-place with good sands. Near Agon is the Manoir de la Vallée where Admiral de Tourville was born.

Airan. C. arr. Caen. Population 500. The church has a massive central tower, probably not earlier than the fourteenth or fifteenth century, and a beautiful Romanesque doorway. The building is a fine specimen of the early pointed style; the vaulting abacus is round, but that of the shafts which ornament the lancet windows externally is square.

Alençon. O. Population 17,000. Is situated in a fertile plain near the confluence of the rivers Sarthe and Briante. It is a comparatively modern town, but has an air of prosperity and cleanliness which should make it not unsuitable as a place of residence, though there does not appear to be a

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great deal of animation in this somewhat out of the way spot. The Place d'Armes, a large open square in the centre of the town, is flanked on the one side by the Hôtel de Ville, and upon the other by the Palais de Justice; the latter building together with the prison occupies the site of the old castle, of which a lofty crenelated tower termed "La Tour Couronnée," and a doorway with two round towers, still remain. This castle, built by Ivo de Belesme, was the scene of the fearful vengeance wreaked by William the Conqueror on the men of Alençon. Geoffrey of Anjou had seized both Alençon and Domfront, the latter of which was being besieged by William. Leaving his men to continue the siege of Domfront, William made his way to Alençon and attacked the bridge over the Sarthe. The defenders, with a view to insulting William in his tenderest feelings, spread skins over the bridge, and shouted "Hides for the tanner," thereby making allusion to William's mother, the daughter of the tanner of Falaise. Goaded to madness by the taunts, William ordered the moat to be filled with timber which was set on fire, and thus gained possession of the town. He then ordered the hands and feet of thirty-two of his wretched insulters to be cut off and thrown over the walls of the castle, the garrison of which then surrendered, their example being followed by that of Domfront.

After the battle of Agincourt Alençon submitted to the English. It attained the height of its glory under Duke Charles IV. and his Duchess, Marguerite d'Alençon, sister of King Charles VIII., who kept their court here with almost unequalled splendour.

ALENÇON

The Church of Notre Dame in the Place de la Madeleine has a fifteenth-century nave, the transept, choir and tower belonging to the eighteenth. The rich western façade (fifteenth century) contains six figures intended to represent the Transfiguration. The clerestory contains some good glass. The singular pulpit with date 1536 is said to have been carved by a criminal condemned to death, who was pardoned for this proof of skill. Note too the groined roof of the nave, with its embossed shields and animals. There is another church at the end of the Rue Grande dedicated to Saint Leonard at the beginning of the sixteenth century. Opposite this church may be remarked an old fifteenth-century building.

The Musée in the Hôtel de Ville contains a good collection of the famous Point d'Alençon lace, and various paintings, ancient and modern, together with a number of specimens of the diamants d'Alençon, crystals of smoky quartz, found in the granite quarries to the E. of the town.

Out of the Place d'Armes opens the Rue du Lycée. The Lycée itself is housed in an ancient convent, in the chapel of which is the library of 30,000 volumes, and about 180 MSS., besides some remarkable carvings and sculptures. The Préfecture of Alençon, a most interesting structure of red brick and granite, which, as Macquoid remarks, reminds one a little of Hampton Court Palace, was the former residence of the Intendants of the seventeenth century.

The curious corn-market in the Rue aux Sieurs to the right of the Grande Rue, with its curious glass cupola, is sure to attract attention. The commerce of the town is considerable, and though

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the Point d'Alençon is now little made; the lace and cotton factories are of great importance.

Near the station is a large open space shaded by chestnuts, while a pleasant public garden adorns the right bank of the Briante.

Allouville. S. I. arr. Yvetot. Celebrated for a wonderful oak 46 feet in circumference; within the hollow are two chapels, the lower being dedicated to Notre Dame de la Paix, where Mass is said on days of pilgrimage. The upper chapel, the Chapelle du Calvaire, formerly contained a bed in which a hermit is said to have slept.

The sixteenth-century church close by has a carved door (sixteenth century) in the choir, and some stained glass. In the vicinity is the eighteenth-century castle of Bellefosse.

Almenèches. O. arr. Argentan. Population 800. Has a fine Renaissance church, the remains of the Benedictine Abbey founded by St. Evroult in the seventh century. There is also the Gothic chapel of Pré Salé, a noted place of pilgrimage. Near here are the ruined Châteaux of Pantouillères and Joncheray.

Andelys, Les. E. Le Grand Andelys and Le Petit Andelys are two towns about half a mile apart.

Le Grand Andelys is situated in the valley of the Gambon, and Le Petit Andelys on the picturesque banks of the Seine. On the steep breezy heights above the last-named town arise the ruins of the famous Château Gaillard, and few ruins in Normandy leave a more vivid impression on the mind than the masterpiece of Richard Cœur-de-Lion. The central tower is the most perfect portion of the existing building, its walls showing a thickness of 14 or 15 feet. The defences extend

ALLOUVILLE—ANDELYS, LES

to the edge of a precipice descending abruptly down to the Seine. The view over the river is magnificent, and includes an outlook over some beautiful islands, with charming meadows, skirting the bank beyond. In order to understand the origin of the great fortress it will be necessary to review briefly the history of the two towns beneath its walls.

Le Grand Andelys existed as early as the sixth century, while Le Petit dates only from the twelfth. Queen Clotilda may be considered the foundress of the older town, as she erected a nunnery there in the earlier part of the sixth century. Hither, according to the Venerable Bede, the Anglo-Saxon nobles sent their daughters to be instructed in the duties of their religion or devote themselves to good. The nunnery founded by the wife of Clovis was destroyed during the Norman invasions, and on its ruins rose the collegiate foundation of Andelys mentioned by Orderic Vitalis in the twelfth century. This foundation concerned itself with the service of the churches of Notre Dame of Grand Andelys and St. Sauveur at Petit Andelys, which date from the thirteenth and twelfth centuries respectively. From the commencement of the twelfth century, Andelys begins to play an important part in the history of the bloody conflicts between the Kings of France and England.

Richard, the son of Henry I. of England, on one occasion took refuge in Notre Dame, but was liberated by the King of France. It was at Andelys that Louis VI. found refuge after his defeat by Henry I. on the plain of Brémulle. In 1167 the town was burnt by the French King then in conflict with Henry II., and it remained

a bone of contention until the treaty of Louviers, 1196, seemed likely to afford it a brief rest from trouble. By this treaty Richard Cœur-de-Lion paid homage to the King of France, agreeing that Andelys, belonging to the archbishopric of Rouen, should not be fortified, and that neither king should exercise any right of feudal sovereignty therein. Three months later, Richard, faithless to his oath, began to construct the great fortress which was to protect his domains from the threats of the French monarch. Richard himself was the engineer, and so pressed on the work that in a year, according to some, or in three, as others say, the building was complete. "How beautiful she is, my child of a year," he is said to have exclaimed in an outburst of pardonable pride. In vain Archbishop Gautier protested against this infringement of his rights, and placed an interdict upon the province. The Pope, who supported Richard, compelled the bishop to cede to the king the manor of Andelys, the new castle, and all rights attaching to the domain. Richard, in return, compensated the archbishop with the Castle of Louviers, the town of Dieppe, and the mills on the river Robec. But he had reckoned without his suzerain, and Philip Augustus, seizing Evreux, proceeded to declare war on his rival. "I will take Château Gaillard if it is made of iron," he exclaimed, to which Richard retorted, "I will hold it, were it made of butter". Philip was, however, defeated on the plains of Gamaches, and Richard proceeded to construct a fort in front of Château Gaillard which he named Boutavant. A portion of these defences may still be remarked on the island of Coutant. Soon after Richard perished at the siege of Chalus, and Philip



LES ANDELYS, CHATEAU GAILLARD

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lost no time in availing himself of the opportunity to attack Château Gaillard. Owing to its enormous strength it was impossible to take it by force. The governor, Roger de Lasci, unable to feed the inhabitants of Petit Andelys, who had taken refuge within its walls, turned the hapless non-combatants out of the castle. The besieging army refused passage to the fugitives, who wandered up and down the bare rocks without home or sustenance. Most of them perished before the termination of the siege, which lasted from August, 1203, to March, 1204.

On becoming master of the fort Philip repaired the defences and rendered them even more formidable than before. At the beginning of the fourteenth century the castle became the scene of a terrible tragedy. Marguerite of Burgundy, the youthful wife of Louis X., was shut up in the fortress, probably in one of the caverns in the side of the second fosse, and strangled with her own hair by order of her suspicious husband. The Scottish exile, Robert Bruce, found refuge at Château Gaillard during his exile in 1304.

In 1419, in spite of the courage of the garrison, the fortress was taken by the Duke of Gloucester, while its defences were further strengthened by Henry V. in 1421. It was retaken by La Hire in 1429, but soon after given up to the English in whose hands it remained till 1448.

In 1580 Andelys took the side of the Ligue, and in spite of the favourable conditions granted by Henry IV. to the places which he wished to recover, the town was two years before making its surrender.

But in 1591 the governor sent word to Henry

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IV., who was at Gaillon, to say that he submitted to his mercy. The same night Henry slept in Château Gaillard, which was shortly afterwards dismantled by his orders.

Descending the steep slope of the round fortress, a visit should be paid to the interesting Church of St. Sauveur at Petit Andelys. The probable date of this structure may be placed at about the end of the twelfth century. The choir is at all events the oldest portion of the building, which merits attention as being one of the most perfect examples of its kind extant. Scarcely any church in Normandy shows so thorough an adherence to the original plan of its architect.

It is in the form of a Greek Cross without galleries in the nave or transepts, and is built of stones of moderate size, the exterior being almost without ornament. The inside is somewhat bare, but most admirably proportioned, and with so close an arrangement of pillars as to enable the eye to take in the beauty of the whole of the interior at a single glance. The choir, with its triforium of twin arcades, the lancet windows of the beautiful lady chapel, and the fifteenth-century paintings of the walls, should all be noticed, as well as the handsome chandeliers of chiselled copper belonging to the epoch of Louis XV. If the Church of Petit Andelys is one of the most perfect specimens of French architecture, that of Grand Andelys may rank as one of the finest monuments of Gothic art in Normandy, for although the style is wanting in uniformity, the different architects have nevertheless succeeded in carrying out their conceptions with a very considerable degree of harmony.

The greater part of the building had its origin

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in the thirteenth century, that is to say, the great door, the nave, the choir and the aisles. At the end of the fifteenth century, or perhaps a little later, the S. transept and the door which terminates it were constructed. The chapels on the S. date from the beginning of the sixteenth century, the N. door and the two chapels adjoining from the middle of the sixteenth. The rest of the northern portion belongs to the time of Louis XIV. A complete restoration of the edifice was undertaken in 1860.

The beauties of the church are numerous, but we have only space to enumerate a few of these. The glass windows in the south aisle should be noticed; they include the figures of St. Sebastian and St. John, with an extremely graceful delineation of the Virgin and Child (window 7).

The eighth window bears the date 1540 and contains among other figures an Assumption, and also the deliverance of the monk Theophilus from the devil with whom he has made a compact.

The scenes from the lives of St. Leger and of Queen Clotilda (windows 9, 10, 11, 12) are depicted with great minuteness and effect. The glass in the S. clerestory of the nave also merits attention. The first window, the gift of the Frères de la Charité, represents the Creation; in the lower part the monks are shown carrying a dead body to burial. Note the dress of the Order.

The fourth window, bearing the date 1560, represents scenes from the lives of the patriarchs. It recalls in its fine colouring the beautiful glass work of the "Manna" window at Conches.

These are but a few of the windows in the Church of Notre Dame which number fifty-two

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in all, thirty-five coloured and seventeen in white glass. Besides these there are three large rose-windows.

The windows at Andelys, although not possessing the exceptional merit of those of St. Vincent and St. Patrice at Rouen, St. Foy at Conches, and St. Ouen at Pont Audemer, are nevertheless well worthy of careful investigation. Any one who wishes to meet with a more detailed account of the same, cannot do better than peruse the interesting little pamphlet of Chanoine Porée, sold by Caron in the Place de l'Église at Andelys.

The Renaissance organ-case (1573) with its fourteen panels representing Christian virtues, arts and sciences and mythological dignities is a curiosity in itself. Here we see Astronomy playing the organ, Grammar holding the flute, Arithmetic with the bassoon, Minerva with her concomitants the Owl and the Medusa's head, Geometry with the triangle, Hope playing the guitar, etc., etc. The stalls of the choir with their quaint carvings, its great bronze altar, the elegant sixteenth-century tracing of the triforium, and the beautiful statue called the Entombment in the S.W. chapel, are details which can scarcely escape observation.

At some distance from the Church of Notre Dame is a statue of St. Clotilda surrounded with crutches and ex-voto offerings of every kind, testifying to the efficiency of the waters of the spring which flows beneath. The fountain, though no longer so great an object of veneration as in the Middle Ages, is still the scene of pilgrimage on the 2nd of June as every year comes round. The Saint was supposed to have turned the water of the spring into wine, for the benefit of the workmen engaged

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in building her church, when worn out by their daily toil. It is to commemorate this that the curé pours wine into the spring on the festival of the Saint.

No one who visits Andelys should fail to stay at the celebrated and picturesque inn known by the name of the Grand Cerf. Built in the first half of the sixteenth century, it belonged originally to the family of Val du Viennois, but in 1749 was sold to a pastrycook, who turned the house into an inn.

No hotel in France is better worth seeing, and the writer can answer personally for the accommodation which if not luxurious is at least clean and comfortable. The elaborate carving of the great chimney-piece, the massive beams of the ceiling, the antique furniture of the rooms, all combine to render the hostelry of the Grand Cerf a place which will abide in the recollection of the visitor long after the memory of more pretentious hotels has faded into oblivion.

For years during the last century, the Grand Cerf was the abode of an innkeeper who turned his house into a museum for ancient furniture, china and works of art. The greater part of his treasures were dispersed at his death, and doubtless much of the ornamentation which meets the eye is of comparatively recent date, but this does not affect the incontestably great age of the building itself. The old visitors' book contained among other names of note, those of Sir Walter Scott, Victor Hugo, and Rosa Bonheur.

In the market place in front of the Hôtel de Ville is the statue of the great painter Nicolas Poussin, born at Villers near Andelys in 1594.

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There is a fine picture by the artist of Coriolanus and his mother within the Hôtel de Ville itself. This building was erected on the site of the house of Thomas Corneille, brother of the great poet. The two Corneilles married two sisters at Andelys.

The neighbourhood of Andelys, and especially Château Gaillard, offers much that is interesting to the botanist. *Biscutella Neustriaca*, which exists nowhere else in France, may be found in abundance on the rock of St. Jacques and at Tosny, while *Genista Halleri*, which is not to be met with elsewhere in Normandy, can be gathered on the slopes of Château Gaillard.

Angerville-Bailleul. See Fécamp.

Ango (Manoir d'). See Dieppe.

Argentan. O. Population 6291. Argentan in Orne, on the river of that name, consists mainly of one long street, rising from the river, until it reaches the old Church of St. Germain. This building was commenced in 1424 and finished in 1641. Its double N. porch is a fine example of florid Gothic. On the left is a tower surmounted by a cupola terminated by a lantern, in addition to which there is another tower at the intersection of the nave and transepts. The chevet with its round windows and curious buttresses with quaint pinnacles and balusters is worthy of remark. So too are the picture of the marriage of St. Catherine at the end of the nave, and the large Renaissance organ case. A chapel close to the N. porch contains an inscription to the memory of Princess Marguerite of Lorraine (the foundress in 1517 of the monastery of St. Claire of Argentan), Duchess of Alençon and great-grandmother of Henry IV. ; she took the veil in 1520 and was afterwards content to be known

ANGERVILLE-BAILLEUL—ARGENTAN

by the simple designation of Sister Marguerite. Her tomb seems to have been disturbed in common with others at the Revolution, when in accordance with an infamous decree of the Convention, the leaden coffins at Argentan were melted down to form material for bullets. "No distinction for Marguerite of Lorraine," was the barbarous cry of the mob when the remains of that good woman were scattered forth into the city ditch. Her heart, however, remains in the chapel, as the inscription tells us.

The other church of St. Martin, about half way up the hill from the station to the left of the Hôtel de Normandie, is smaller than St. Germain, but is justly considered the more beautiful of the two. It belongs to the fifteenth century and its choir to the sixteenth. In the chevet note the fine glass depicting the death of St. Martin; other windows too are worthy of remark, notably the Last Supper, the Descent from the Cross, and the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Dermer, quoting M. Palustre, states that the glass at St. Martin led to a school whose characteristics were "the abundant use of a red, lightly oranged, and a certain dryness of design, which does not hinder the elegance of its forms. Besides this red there were abundant blues and purples and pinks."

The beautiful triforium with its open carved panels deserves attention. At the Hôtel de Raveton close to the church, Charles X. stopped on his way to exile. Of the old fortifications some portions still remain, notably the old fourteenth-century castle, which does duty as Palais de Justice and prison, and the Tour Marguerite, named after the princess mentioned above, close to the Rue

Vicomte, which adjoins the Church of St. Germain.

The town, burnt by Henry I. of France, and rebuilt by William the Conqueror, was not unfrequently visited by his successors. In later times it became a stronghold of the Huguenots.

There are some interesting old houses close to the bridge over the Orne, and also near the old market and in the Grande Rue. The district is an agricultural one and the place does not appear to have any special industries connected with it. It is clean and quiet, and being near the interesting towns of Alençon and Sées and the Château of Almenèches merits more attention from the traveller than it seems to obtain.

Argouges-sur-Aure. M. arr. Avranches. Population 1100.

The famous sixteenth-century Manoir d'Argouges with its quaintly-shaped towers and moat is within a drive from Bayeux.

Arques. See Dieppe.

Arromanches. C. arr. Bayeux. Population 500. A pleasant little watering-place nearly $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Bayeux, from which it may be reached by omnibus. Besides the modern church there are the remains of a Gothic Roman aqueduct.

Two miles to the south is Ryes with its eleventh and thirteenth-century church. The striking cliffs at Longues, where there is an old abbey, and Marigny with its eleventh-century church, and Commes with its Roman tower and thirteenth-century choir deserve a visit.

Asnelles. C. arr. Bayeux. A watering-place of 400 inhabitants facing the Rochers du Calvados.

Asnières. C. arr. Isigny. Population 200.

ARGOUGES-SUR-AURE—AVRANCHES

Has a Romanesque church with thirteenth-century spire. Close by is Louvières with Roman nave, thirteenth-century choir, and thirteenth-century tower surmounted by an octagonal spire erected in 1848.

Aunay. O. See Sées.

Avranches. M. Population 7500. Avranches, beautifully situated on a lofty hill between the valleys of the Sées and Sélune, has long been known to English people as one of the most pleasant towns of Northern France. It is true that the English colony has become extremely small of late years, owing to the counter-attractions offered by other towns of Normandy and the adjoining Brittany, but there is a fashion in these things, and possibly Avranches will once more become a favourite with the Anglo-Saxon. The construction of the proposed cliff railway from the station to the town will doubtless be a factor in bringing about this end, while the cleanliness of the town, its central position, good shops and excellent view will do the rest. It is a city of considerable antiquity. Ptolemy the Geographer, writing 150 years after Cæsar, speaks of the town as *Ingena Abrincatuorum* (it being the capital of the *Abrincati*), the former word answering to the Celtic for *Belle vue*. It appears to have been selected by the Romans as a military station, and to have become early the seat of the bishopric of Avranchin, which, after the Revolution, became merged in the See of Coutances. Charlemagne is said to have fortified the place in 800.

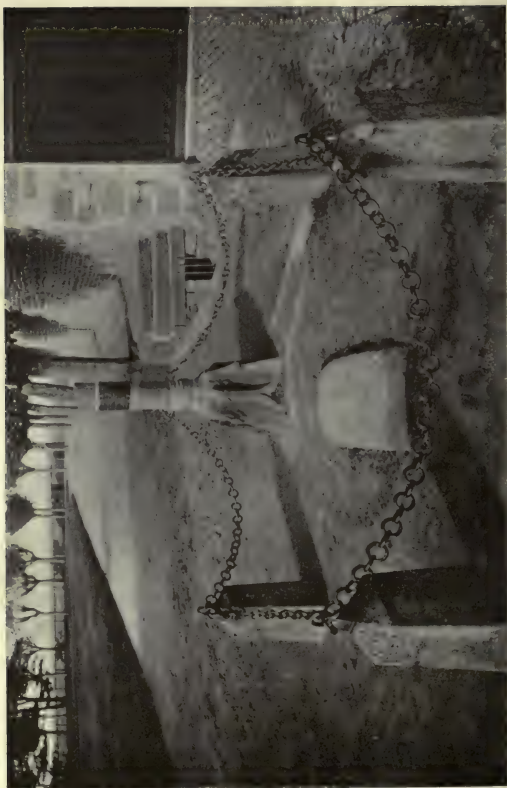
About 1039, during the anarchy which prevailed in the early years of William's reign, a school appears to have been opened at Avranches by the celebrated Lanfranc. "But," as Mr. Freeman

observes, "the glory of Avranches has passed away. From it alone among the seven episcopal towns of Normandy, minster and bishopric have wholly vanished. But for those few years of the life of Lanfranc, Avranches must have been an intellectual centre without a rival on this side the Alps."

Henry I. of England held his court here and repaired and increased the fortifications, while the town is associated with the tragedy of Henry II.'s life, as the inscription on the stone remaining in the Place Huet informs us.

Later on, in July, 1639, the town was occupied by Jean-nu-Pieds, who commanded the Armée de Souffrance of armed peasants who had revolted against the salt-tax. Richelieu, however, despatched Marshal Gassion with 4000 men against the insurgents, who fought with the desperation of despair till only ten survived. Gassion then offered to spare the lives of any who were willing to act as hangmen to the others; one alone was willing to purchase his safety in this cowardly manner.

The carriage road from the station to the town skirts the hill with a circuitous ascent, and a pedestrian will find it much shorter to climb the rather steep path opposite to the station (the site of the proposed cliff railway). To the left is the public garden, with a fine marble statue of General Valhubert (1764-1805), a native of Avranches, who fell at Austerlitz, and on the further side of the garden is the Hôtel de Ville with the public library, including many valuable books and MSS. from Mont St. Michel, amongst which Abelard's famous treatise *Sic et Non* was discovered. On one side of the Jardin Public is the Palais de Justice, formerly the bishop's palace, rebuilt after a fire in



AVRANCHES : STONE OF HENRY II OF ENGLAND

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1899 which destroyed the Musée. The Salle des pas perdus was formerly the bishop's chapel. The old Cathedral of Avranches stood, till 1790, in the Place Huet, which is speedily reached from the public garden. It fell with a sudden crash and scarcely any trace of it now remains except a few fragments, on one of which is the inscription:—

Last Remains
of the
Roman-Gothic Cathedral of Avranches,
Begun about 1090,
and consecrated
By the Bishop Turgis in 1121.

Hard by is the large flat stone of which we have previously made mention, surrounded by posts and chains, close to what is supposed to be a portion of the door of the N. transept. It bears the following inscription:—

On this stone,
Here at the door
Of the Cathedral of Avranches,
After the Murder of Thomas à Becket,
Archbishop of Canterbury,
Henry II.,
King of England,
Duke of Normandy,
Received on his knees,
From the Legates of the Pope,
The Apostolic Absolution,
Sunday, May 22nd,
1172.

The terms exacted from Henry were severe. To acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope, to

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proceed to the Holy Land to wage war against the infidels, to equip two hundred soldiers for service in Palestine, to restore to Canterbury all confiscated Church property, and to rescue Spain from the heathen, if required to do so by the Pope.

Proceeding from the Hôtel de Ville by the Rue des Champs and crossing the Place Carnot, one arrives at the Jardin des Plantes with its magnificent and unforgettable view, considered by many to be the most beautiful in Northern France. It is admirably described by Mrs. Macquoid in her work *Through Normandy*:—

“On the right is the extensive valley of the Sées, a bright river winding and twisting in and out among the trees that border it closely; the sides of the valley are chiefly wooded, but here and there are glimpses of corn-land and meadow, and beyond is the sea with a distant line of coast; to the left is the valley of the Sélune, which takes a straighter course through a rich extent of hilly wooded country, that melts finally into the blue hills of Brittany. But it is the centre of the picture that fixes attention—the Bay of Mont St. Michel; the right bank of the Sées stretches out, making a dark line between the glittering treacherous sand and the almost empty mouth of the river, with its curves and stretches of wet and dry land; and rising from the brilliant line of light on the *grèves* is the fortress-convent, as weird and phantom-like as ever in its distinct mistiness. Beyond it on the right, nearer to the coast, is the dark crouching rock of Tombeleine, and far behind this is a faint line of coast.”

In the lower part of the Jardin des Plantes may be noticed the porch of the little Church of Bouillé

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now swallowed up by the quicksands. To the right is the convent, now inhabited by a community of Ursuline sisters. It was built by the Capuchins, to whom the garden belonged, in the seventeenth century. The grounds, with their beautiful trees and flowers, although not equal in beauty to those of the public garden at Coutances, are nevertheless by no means unworthy of the view.

Some portions of the old defences of Avranches yet remain between the Hôtel de Ville and the public walk termed the Promenoir, notably a tower of the fortifications and the keep of the castle.

The new cathedral, built of granite, in the Place Carnot, is a handsome modern structure in the style of the thirteenth century. Besides this there are two other churches in Avranches, that of St. Saturnin in the Rue des Champs, rebuilt some years back, but containing portions of the older building, and a fourteenth-century bas-relief depicting the Massacre of the Innocents, and the Church of St. Gervais near the Hôtel de Ville built in 1895, in the Greek style with Renaissance façade and carillon.

Industrially the town is noted for its leather trade and nursery gardens. In this connection it may be remarked that in the Rue des Champs lived and died Le Berriays, the author of two or three valuable eighteenth-century works on gardening, the founder of a school of horticulture at Avranches, and the introducer of the famous Louise pear, so named in honour of Madame de Longueville. A talented artist, many of his beautifully executed drawings of trees and fruits found a resting-place in the town library.

In the last century, during the thirties, Avranches

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was the scene of one of the first steeplechases ever run on French soil. An English resident at Avranches, Moggridge by name, being present at a French party, made the wager that he could ride his horse a mile and three-quarters in less than ten minutes. Some French gentlemen at once accepted the proposal, but allowed him twelve minutes for the task, not believing that it could be accomplished within a shorter period. Thousands of enthusiastic spectators assembled to witness the performance, which on a thoroughbred English hunter was accomplished in four minutes and fifty seconds. The *Avranches Journal* of the day thus records the feat:—

“The rider seemed fatigued but not so the horse, who finished with a leap of more than 23 feet over a brook. He had cleared in his progress 15 fences, one of them a hedge 6 feet high, with brushwood on each side. We are informed that some ladies present assured the Englishman that he was the admiration of the whole world.”

Among the excursions which may be made in the vicinity of Avranches are those to the Bois de Naffrée with its charming view of the Val St. Pair; the secluded Bois de Baffé; St. Senier with its wooded ravines and picturesque old mills; Le Quesnoy and the Valley of the Sées, and St. Quintin and the Bois de Quenouailles; while further afield is Granville (20 miles), on the way to which should be visited the beautiful ruins of the twelfth-century Abbey of Lucerne, and Mont St. Michel (15 miles), for which a carriage (15 francs) will be found convenient, unless the traveller should prefer to avail himself of the railway in the direction of Pontorson.



BAYEUX CATHEDRAL

AVRANCHES—BAYEUX

Bagnoles. O. arr. Domfront. Population 520. An interesting little watering-place on the Vée, with hot springs, casino, race-course, etc., much frequented in summer by dyspeptic Parisians.

Barfleur. See Valognes.

Barneville. See Carteret.

Bayeux, in Calvados, on the river Aure. Population 7912. The first visit of the tourist to Bayeux is usually paid to the cathedral or to the equally celebrated tapestry, which finds a home in the Musée of the Hôtel de Ville. The place has been famous since the days of the Conqueror, as the bishopric of his half-brother Odo, who held this important see for fifty years. The cathedral has undergone many vicissitudes. To the first church, built by St. Exupère, succeeded the larger structure of St. Regnobert. Then William's half-brother Odo commenced a second Romanesque fabric in 1047. This was consecrated in 1077, when William was present, but nearly burnt down by Henry I. in 1106. It was rebuilt in 1107, and again burnt in 1159. Of Odo's church only part of the western towers with their chapels, the pier arches of the nave and a portion of the central tower still remain. The rest of the building including the choir dates from the end of the twelfth and the beginning of the thirteenth centuries. The crypt, however, may possibly belong to the earliest church of all. Some French authorities place it as far back as the seventh century, but very probably it is earlier than the first half of the eleventh century. It is in excellent preservation and is supported by twelve pillars with roughly carved capitals. Among the tombs of the Bishops

of Bayeux with sculptured effigies, may be remarked that of Jehan de Boissay.

It was while removing the pavement of the high altar, in order to dig the grave of this prelate, that the existence of the crypt was discovered in 1412. We are informed of this by an inscription over the window. The choir, an excellent example of thirteenth-century architecture, has some handsome well-carved stalls. Medallions of heads of early bishops decorate the choir vault, while the sacristy must be visited, if only for the large thirteenth-century cupboard which it contains. It includes also among its treasures a stole ascribed erroneously to St. Regnobert, and an ivory and gilt casket said to have been taken by Charles Martel from the Saracens.

In the thirteenth-century chapter house is an interesting pavement in the centre of which is a labyrinth. The nave of the cathedral is noticeable for its magnificent carved stonework. The round arches are supported by pillars with richly worked capitals. The spandrels between contain no less than nine different kinds of diapering. There is no triforium gallery, but a trefoil-headed arcade. This portion was probably built by Henry I. The view of the structure from without is very impressive, its two western towers have twelfth-century spires, the centre tower, which is octagonal, was probably restored in the time of Louis XIV. The porch on the S. side, with its sculptures representing scenes from the life of St. Thomas à Becket, must not be overlooked. Its decorations are elaborate in the extreme.

Wace, the author of the *Roman de Rou*, was a canon of Bayeux. According to this poem Harold,

whom the tapestry represents as taking the oath of allegiance to William the Conqueror at Bayeux, took the oath on relics concealed on the altars, on which he swore. Wace dedicated his poem to Henry II., who gave him the canonry of Bayeux as a reward. The allusion to the tapestry brings us to the famous relic, whose possession has perhaps made Bayeux best known to modern Englishmen. Till the middle of the eighteenth century, few even in France knew of its existence. To the monk Montfauçon is due the credit of publishing an account of the tapestry in his great work on French antiquities. In 1803 by Bonaparte's orders it was carried about the departments of France and exhibited on the stages of the theatres of the garrison towns, in order to arouse the martial spirit of the nation then bent on invading England.

To describe in detail each of the fifty-eight scenes depicted on the tapestry would take up much space and would be a work of supererogation in the case of those who understand Latin, as an inscription in that language, possibly by Matilda's chaplain, is given with each. Among the more interesting are the following:—

Scene 4. Harold embarks on his sea-voyage. The travellers are seen taking refreshment. Several are drinking from cows' horns; note the falcons and dogs being placed on board the small boat.

Scene 7. Guy (Count of Ponthieu) arrests Harold.

Two armed men are seen seizing Harold. The Count is on horseback, armed with a long sword.

Scene 10. Duke William's messengers reach Guy. William, hearing of Harold's arrest, sends to Guy to ask for his release.

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Guy has in his hand a formidable little axe. The Duke's messengers have alighted, a dwarf acting as a groom holds their horses. Over his head is written his name Turol.

Scene 13. Guy conducts Harold to William, Duke of Normandy.

Scene 16. Duke William and his army reach Mont St. Michel.

Conan, Duke of Brittany, has declared war against William, who suggests to Harold that he should help him against Conan.

Notice the coats of chain-mail and the helmets with long narrow bar to protect the nose.

Scene 17. They cross the river Couësnon, where Duke Harold drew some of the party out of the quicksand. Harold is depicted in this distinctly amusing picture as carrying one man on his left shoulder and with the right hand dragging another safe to shore.

Scene 19. Duke William's soldiers attack Dinan.

The Norman soldiers below are endeavouring to set fire to the stockades by means of combustibles held up at the end of long sticks.

Scene 21. William knights Harold. Both are in armour of quaint design.

Scene 23. Harold takes the oath of fidelity to William.

William is seen seated on a throne, the English Duke stands before him, bareheaded and placed between two cabinets, within which are relics of saints. He places his hands on these, and appears to be uttering the oath recognising William as successor to Edward the Confessor.

Scene 24. Harold returns to England.

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Notice the heads at the windows and the lady on the balcony evincing pleasure at his return.

Scenes 30, 31. Harold is seated on his throne as King of England.

On the left of the throne is an ecclesiastic, whom the inscription above his head declares to be Stigand the archbishop.

Scene 35. Duke William gives orders for the building of a fleet.

He is seated on his Norman throne and a messenger is entering on the right. A shipwright, axe in hand, is leaving the ducal presence, as if to commence the work of cutting down timber. Groups of men are seen felling the trees, shaping planks, and using the adze to fit out the vessels.

Scene 36. The ships are drawn down to the waterside.

Scene 37. They convey arms to the fleet and a tun of wine.

Scene 38. Duke William with a large fleet crosses the sea and lands at Pevensey.

The ships are seen conveying a large number of horses. The one which carries Duke William has a standard bearing a cross at the mast-head, and a boy blowing a horn at the stern of the boat.

Scene 39. The horses are disembarked.

Note the empty boats on the right, the soldiers having landed previously.

Scene 41. This is Wadard.

The figure is that of a horseman in scale-armour, carrying a sword and immense shield. Apparently in charge of the butchers and cooks, who are preparing to dress the provisions brought in from the farms.

Scene 43. Here they made a repast.

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Two great tables are shown, the first, for want of other furniture, being formed of long, flat Norman shields. At the other, in the form of a horse-shoe, is seated Duke William with his barons. A bishop holding a cup, gives the benediction. Notice the cupbearer below.

Scene 45. Robert issues orders for a deep trench to be formed round the fortified camp at Hastings.

Robert is seen flag in hand, overlooking the work and encouraging the soldiers who are erecting a stockade and digging up the earth.

Scene 47. A house is set on fire.

Scene 48. The army makes a sortie from Hastings and hastens to give battle to King Harold.

William is represented armed in chain-mail about to mount his charger. He holds a long lance in his left hand, while with his right he points out some object to the person holding the horse.

Scene 51. Duke William harangues his army. Note that William's armour here descends to his instep, which is not the case in *Scene 48*. The battle has commenced and the archers in front are drawing their bow-strings.

Notice the arrows in the shields of the English, and the dead and wounded.

Scene 53. At this spot there was a great carnage both of English and Normans.

This probably refers to a portion of the battle-field where, as the historians tell us, a deep trench intervened, into which many of the Normans fell.

Scene 54. Bishop Odo, staff in hand, encourages the troops.

He is supposed to have noticed the confusion at the trench and to have ridden up to rally the cavalry round Duke William.

BAYEUX—BEAUMONT-LE-ROGER

Scene 55. Here is Duke William. William, who was thought to be wounded, reappears raising his visor and encourages his soldiers. On his right is a standard bearer pointing to the duke. The letters above his head, now partly destroyed, formed the word Eustatius, designating Eustace of Boulogne.

Scene 56. The Normans are fighting vigorously, and the army of Harold is cut to pieces.

The Normans have won the day; notice the helpless camp-follower about to be beheaded with his own sword.

Scene 57. King Harold himself was killed. Harold is seen on the ground endeavouring to ward off the blows of a knight who is hacking at his leg; it is said that the Conqueror degraded the cruel knight for this act and dismissed him from his service.

Scene 58. And the English were put to flight. A few English are to be seen making a last stand. There was formerly half a yard more of the tapestry, before some one barbarously cut off the closing scene which is said to have represented the coronation of William as King of England.

Beaulieu. See Caen.
Beaumesnil. C. arr. Vire. Population 320. The fine castle of Beaumesnil with its red-brick front, and carved windows and large gardens, belongs to the family of the writer Xavier de Maistre and dates from the beginning of the seventeenth century.

Beaumontel. See Beaumont-le-Roger.
Beaumont-le-Roger. E. arr. Bernay in the valley of the Rille. The priory, founded in 1080 by the same Roger who built the castle, was later

on bestowed on the Abbey of Bec. Its high walls, supported by huge buttresses, between which are curious fifteenth-century wooden houses, bear witness to its former grandeur. Close by are the remains of the thirteenth-century Abbey Church. The Church of St. Nicholas (fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries) has two fine seventeenth-century doorways and good carvings. Note the wooden figure of a warrior who strikes the hours, in a niche at the base of the roof of the tower. In the Rue St. Nicholas is an old brick house with watch-tower built in the time of Henri IV., once the residence of the Dukes of Bouillon. A mile from the tower is Beaumontel where the church has a remarkable fifteenth-century spire.

Bec-Hellouin. See Brionne.

Bellême. O. arr. Mortagne. Population 3000. Eight miles S. of Mortagne, the picturesque home of the Counts of Perche (afterwards Counts of Alençon) has in addition to several fine old houses a fifteenth-century church, that of St. Sauveur, with beautiful seventeenth-century font and good mosaics, carvings and pictures, notably, "Christ walking on the Sea," by Isabey, and "The Transfiguration," by Oudry. In the Place St. Sauveur is the beautiful gate of the fifteenth-century château. The Chapel of St. Saintin belonging to a former château dates from the eleventh century. A mile off is St. Martin du Vieux-Bellême, with a fourteenth-century church and seventeenth-century manor house. There is an interesting twelfth-century church to be seen in the neighbourhood at St. Cyr-la-Rosière and an ancient priory at St. Gauburge (fourteenth century) with remarkable carvings and ceiling.

BEC-HELLOUIN—BERNAY

Bénerville. See Trouville.

Bernay. E. Population 7966. A charming town on the banks of the Charentonne and Crosnier, surrounded by wooded green hills containing many quaintly-timbered houses of the sixteenth century which with their projecting gables should alone render the town attractive to the stranger.

In the Grande Place stands the old monastery founded by Judith of Brittany, wife of Richard fourth Duke of Normandy and grandmother of the Conqueror. It is a large grey building, with seventeenth-century front and now serves the purpose of tribunal, prison, Hôtel de Ville and museum. The last-named contains Roman and mediæval antiquities, porcelain and pictures.

The church of the abbey, which is entered from the Grande Place and is used as a corn-market and also as a Protestant church, is noteworthy as being one of the earliest Romanesque buildings in Normandy. The date of the nave is anterior to 1040. Its simple square piers belong to the period of 1015-1040, the columns attached to them date from a time some fifty years later. In 1865 some skeletons were discovered during some excavations in the nave by Norman archæologists. One of these was that of a well-dressed woman of tall stature, another held a richly carved crozier of fifteenth-century pattern.

The Church of St. Croix of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries has a tower ornamented with fine carving, a good ceiling and plain mouldings of English pattern. The carved nativity of the altar is a medley of marble, wood and terra-cotta.

Taking the road past the station, we arrive at

Notre Dame de la Couture, the scene of pilgrimage from early times, the slate spire with its four pinnacles is the most salient portion of a building which escaped the fury of the Huguenots, who sacked Bernay in the sixteenth century.

The old-fashioned hostelry, the Cheval Blanc, with its moderate prices, offers a pleasant resting-place for a few days in a very interesting neighbourhood.

No one should fail to visit the wooded heights above the town and realise for himself Madame de Staël's description of the spot as "a basket of flowers," so charmingly do its old houses fit into the clustering framework of their verdant surroundings.

Berneval. See Dieppe.

Bernières. C. arr. Caen. Population 900. Once a Gothic-Roman station, is now remarkable for its beautiful Romanesque church. The steeple at the W. end is one of the loftiest in the department and has a thirteenth-century porch. The nave with vaulting, bisected by an intermediate transverse arch, clearly presents two dates of Romanesque. The choir is thirteenth-century work. Note in the chapel at the end of the left aisle, the Crucifixion painted on wood, of the time of Charles IX.

Beuvreuil. See Gournay.

Beuzeval-Houlgate. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Two charming little watering-places side by side, separated by the little Douet-Drauchon stream, yet differing in one respect; *viz.*, that while Houlgate is the resort of the rich and fashionable, Beuzeval is sought out by those of quieter tastes and more moderate purses. Both have the usual casino and excellent sands.

Bizy. See Vernon.

BERNEVAL—BOSCHERVILLE

Bonneville. E. arr. Evreux. Population 450. Has a fifteenth-century church with sixteenth-century stained glass and the ruins of the Abbey de la Noé founded by Matilda in 1144. Close by at Glissolles is the eighteenth-century château of the Dukes of Clermont-Tonnerre with a good collection of historical portraits.

Bon-Secours. See Rouen.

Boscherville. S. I. arr. Rouen. The Abbey Church of St. Georges de Boscherville is incontestably one of the most perfect specimens of Norman architecture in France. The great abbey founded by Raoul de Tancarville, the Conqueror's chamberlain, in the eleventh century, seems never to have had more than a few monks. Unlike the ruined Jumièges, it remains unimpaired and unaltered, and with the exception of the thirteenth-century turrets of the W. front is entirely Romanesque. The circular W. door with its five sets of mouldings recalls the English rather than the French type of Norman architecture. The vaulting in the choir and aisles is groined in the Norman style but without ribs. In each transept is a gallery as in Winchester Cathedral with picturesque carvings. Before the altar is the tomb (1535) of Le Roulx, the last of the regular abbots. The chapter-house (1211) is an excellent example of the transitional style. Whewell's notes on the abbey and chapter-house may be compared with his remarks on Jumièges, but the date assumed below for the building of the chapter-house is obviously incorrect.

“If we are to reason from the edifice at all, we must allow it to be for the most part of one date and that as has been said the first half of the eleventh

century. Now here we have a great abundance of those things which are an abomination to the supposed first Norman style.

“Zigzags large and small, frets lozenged and embattled, cable-mouldings, studs, etc. The pier arches have rolls, the capitals are sculptured, not without some skill, the triforium is an arcade of small beaded arches. The turrets of the towers have so much of later character, that they will be abandoned by all except the most extravagant maintainers of the precocity of Norman work in Normandy as compared with England, but omitting these, the chapter-house, which is said to have been built by an abbot who was buried there in 1087, is a great advance on anything English which our antiquarians would attribute to such a date. It has very rich and well-executed sculptures of considerable delicacy, six-celled vaultings with double-rolled ribs, and the soffits of the three openings into it also enriched with ribs, in a six-celled arrangement, occupying only the thickness of the wall. The corbel-table from which the vaulting springs has pointed notches, and the windows in the wall-scutcheons of the vaulting have pointed cross-vaulting in two centre compartments, and heads, the vaulting also has pointed cells, being accommodated by diverging cells to three windows at each end. The capitals of the shafts have upright foliage with serrated edges.”

Bouille, La. A charming spot, some 15 miles below Rouen, a favourite place for excursions from that city. The caverns in the neighbouring hillsides are worth visiting. Severe fighting between the French and Germans took place at La Bouille, in the December of 1870.

BOUILLE—BROGLIE

Bricquebec. See Valognes.

Brionne. E. arr. Bernay. Population 3600. Situated in pretty country on the Rille. Has an interesting church of the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries, with a fine altar-screen. On a hill above the town are the remains of a Roman keep.

In the vicinity is the tumulus termed the "Tombeau du Druide". Two and a half miles distant is Bec-Hellouin with the remains of the Abbey of Bec, founded by Hellouin or Herluin, once the abode of Archbishops Lanfranc and Anselm. Employed as a fortress in the Hundred Years' War, sacked by the Huguenots in the seventeenth century, the buildings of the rich abbey passed through many vicissitudes before their destruction at the Revolution, and are now used as a depôt for cavalry. The Abbey Church was destroyed in 1809, its ancient chapter-house being sold eight years later for £68. Of the Gothic buildings only the bell-tower (1467) with its quaintly topped turret and the beautiful abbey gate (1485) now remain. The parish church (fourteenth century) enshrines the tomb of Herluin, and contains a beautifully enamelled "Descent from the Cross" and statues from the ruined abbey.

Brix. See Valognes.

Broglie. E. arr. Bernay on the Charentonne. Is remarkable as the seat of the Dukes of Broglie, whose eighteenth-century château built on the site of an earlier structure, of which some towers are still visible, is situated in a fine park. The castle, which is not shown to visitors, contains a fine library and valuable family portraits. The church, of which the choir and left aisle belong to the twelfth century, has some good glass and mouldings.

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Bruneval-les-Bains. See Étretat.

Bures. S.I. arr. Neufchâtel. Population 400. Has a church of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries with twelfth-century tower and a remarkable fifteenth-century tomb.

Cabourg. C. arr. Caen. Population 1400. A pretty fan-shaped watering-place at the mouth of the Dives ; has a fine Casino and good sands.

Caen. C. Population 45,000. The capital of Lower Normandy, at the confluence of the Orne and the Odon, is one of the most interesting towns in France to the Englishman, not only owing to the beauty of its surroundings and its handsome buildings but on account of its early connection with the history of his own country. In 1015 Richard II., Duke of Normandy, made a grant of the town with a charter to his son-in-law Reynault, and from that time onwards the fortunes of Caen have been regularly recorded. In 1015 it was the residence of William the Conqueror, who ordered the castle with its defences to be built, and it was then that the law of *couvre-feu* or curfew is said to have had its origin. The Pope having ordered William and Matilda to found churches in atonement for the irregularity of their marriage—they were cousins-german—William founded St. Etienne and the Abbaye aux Hommes in 1064, and Matilda the sister-building, the Eglise de la Trinité or Abbaye aux Dames, in 1066. The first abbot of St. Etienne was the celebrated Lanfranc, who four years afterwards became Archbishop of Canterbury. Lanfranc indeed, as Prior of Bec, had previously taken a very strong attitude against William. Mauger, Archbishop of Rouen, having excommunicated the latter for his marriage within

BRUNEVALL-LES-BAINS—CAEN

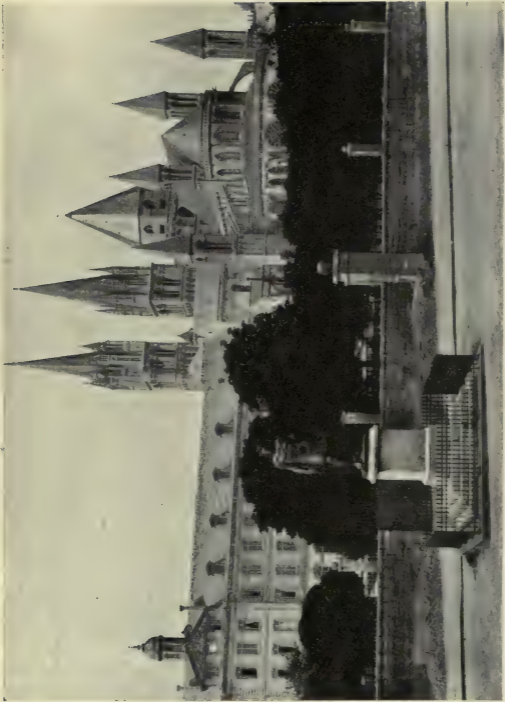
the prohibited degrees, William retaliated by deposing the Archbishop from his See and ordering his supporter Lanfranc to vacate his monastery. The tale has often been told, how the prior on a sorry horse proceeded to obey the injunction of his sovereign. How as chance would have it, he met the angry Duke and disarmed his wrath by his ready Italian wit, "I would obey your command better, if you would give me a better horse". This led to a reconciliation between the two, and to a mission to Rome undertaken by Lanfranc on the Duke's behalf, resulting in a dispensation from the Pope recognising the marriage of William and Matilda, on the condition that they performed some signal service to the Church, whose authority they had set at naught. William's son Robert constructed a canal and finished the fortifications begun by his father. In 1160, Henry II. of England built the Maladrerie de Beaulieu for those afflicted with leprosy, and in 1170 he celebrated Christmas at Caen, and concluded an armistice with France. When his sons rebelled against him he summoned the Archbishops of Tours and Canterbury and the Bishop of Normandy and Brittany to Caen as a council, and excommunicated all who should oppose a reconciliation between himself and his children.

King John granted various privileges to the town in return for a large sum of money. The city had attained such importance by the reign of Edward III. as to be able to supply him with forty vessels of war at the battle of Sluys in 1340. Six years later Caen was captured by Edward III. and the Black Prince, after a gallant resistance by the inhabitants, at which period according to Froissart

the town was "large, strong and full of drapery and all sorts of merchandise". The treasure carried off by Edward to his fleet at Ouistreham must have been very great.

The English held Caen for a long time, but it was taken from them in 1459 by Dunois, who compelled the Duke of Somerset and his garrison to surrender. During the religious wars of the sixteenth century, Caen was stormed and pillaged, the churches with the tombs of their founders suffering great injury. After the Edict of Nantes peace ensued and the town was undisturbed, until the Revocation of the Edict in 1685 brought much trouble to the Protestants of Caen, who constituted the greater part of its trading population; they were forced to fly while their church was destroyed, and its materials were employed for building the chapel of the Hospital St. Louis. The town became the home of the Girondists during the French Revolution, and it was from here that Charlotte Corday started to assassinate Marat. Napoleon, at one time popular at Caen, became so disliked, that on the restoration of the Bourbons, the inhabitants destroyed his bust by Canova, in the Hôtel de Ville. After the Revolution of 1831, the citizens received Louis Philippe with much enthusiasm.

The towers of St. Etienne, which are very fine, and the spacious nave, belong to the older part of the building. The spire of the central tower was destroyed by the Calvinists in 1562. The arches of the nave are extremely massive, those of the large triforium being as wide as those below and two-thirds of their length. In the thirteenth-century choir under a marble slab repose the remains of



CAEN : ABBAYE AUX HOMMES AND LYCÉE

William the Conqueror. The Latin inscription runs as follows:—

Hic sepultus est
 invictissimus Guillelmus
 Conquestor Normanniæ dux et Angliæ
 rex, hujusce domus conditor
 qui obiit anno MLXXXVII.

The story of the death of the great king at Rouen, six months after his mortal injury at Mantes, is well known, but it is the dramatic circumstances attending his interment which most concern us, when viewing the tomb in St. Etienne. At the moment when the clergy proposed to lay him in the vault, a voice rose from the crowd and uttered the cry of "haro". "This land is mine," cried Asselin, son of Arthur. "It was the site of my father's house, the man for whom you pray took it from me by force to build the church. In the name of God I forbid the robber to be placed therein." So the site had to be bought there and then for sixty sous and then followed that loathsome scene consequent upon the insecure nature of the coffin, and the speedy exit from the church of bishops, barons, and all who had come together to the ceremony. In 1562, the tomb was broken up by the Calvinists and the bones dispersed. Later they were replaced in a fresh tomb, which however was again destroyed at the Revolution and now only a thigh-bone of the great monarch, its founder, rests beneath the marble in the Abbaye aux Hommes. A portion of the abbey buildings is now used for the Lycée with its 600 boys. There is some good panelling in the rooms. Matilda's foundation, the Abbaye aux Dames or

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Eglise de la Trinité, at the opposite end of the town, in the Place Reine Mathilde, is supposed to have been founded by the Queen in 1066 a few months before the embarkation of her husband for England. Their eldest daughter Cicely afterwards became abbess of the convent. Nothing remains of the original building except the handsome church of the Trinity. The abbey was richly endowed with estates in England and became the resort of the chief ladies in the kingdom. Robert of Normandy returning from the Holy Land presented to the abbey the Saracen standard taken by him in the battle of Askalon. The church is built on the high ground to the E. of the Eglise de St. Pierre, to the right of the town as seen from the sea, while the Abbaye aux Hommes rises on the left. The building is in the form of a cross and is dominated by three square towers; the W. front is striking. The interior is smaller than that of St. Etienne, while instead of a triforium there is a slight much-ornamented arcade above the circular arches of the nave. Applying at the Hôtel Dieu or hospital at the side of the church, one may obtain access to the lady chapel of the Trinité, whence may be observed through a grating the tomb of the foundress. This is watched by the nuns, who devote their lives to the service of the church and the duties of the hospital. The present tomb is the fourth which has been erected over the grave of this admirable queen. Her death occurred in 1083. Her first tomb was destroyed by a Calvinist mob in 1562, who threw the bones to the right and left in the vault. Collected by the Abbess Ann de Montmorency they were replaced in the vault, over which a mausoleum was

raised by De Tessé in 1708. This however was destroyed by the Revolutionists in 1793, but the remains beneath were left undisturbed. In 1819 Count de Montlivault, Prefect of Calvados, caused the present tomb to be erected, with a long inscription in Latin.

Opposite the Abbaye aux Dames is the picturesque Church of St. Gilles, now closed. This was originally a mortuary chapel founded by William and Matilda for the burial of the poor. The nave was no doubt twelfth-century work, while the beautiful carved doorway dates from the sixteenth century.

The chief church of Caen and architecturally the most perfect is that of St. Pierre in the Place St. Pierre. Its spire and tower were built in 1308, "the former being the best example," according to Mr. Petit, "of a class of spire which, built upon one general principle, seems to have been dispersed through a considerable district round Caen, though not a great number remain without mutilations and several are still incomplete". "Of these," to quote Mr. Petit, "the Church of St. Pierre offers the best-known example; this is evidently of the fourteenth century, but some, that for instance at Barnières, have characteristics of the thirteenth". The tower is admirably proportioned and lighted on each side by four deeply-recessed lancet openings, encircled with ornaments, the octagonal spire 246 feet high, surrounded by graceful turrets, is pierced with open trefoils. Within, the vaulting of the roof with its stalactite-like pendants in the Lady Chapel will probably wake criticism, some looking upon it as the decadence of Gothic art, others as the triumph of the Renaissance period. The quaint capitals on the pillars in the nave will

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also attract the eye, rabbits, a unicorn and a pelican with subjects from old romances—Lancelot du Lac crossing the lake sword in hand, Aristotle on all fours ridden like a horse, and Hippocrates suspended in mid-air in a basket.

The original church was founded at an early period by St. Regnobert, but the tower and spire were built in 1308, under the supervision of the treasurer Nicolle Langlois. The name of the architect is unknown, but tradition ascribes the spire to a certain Huet, ancestor of the Bishop Huet whose name we notice at Avranches in the "Place Huet" of that town. The graceful apse with its five chapels is the masterpiece of Hector Sohier, a native of Caen, who built this portion in 1521. It is placed on piles, owing to the proximity of the river, and until this was covered in about forty years ago, its appearance from without is said to have been extremely beautiful. The carvings on the pulpit and organ-case, the vestry doors and the beautiful high altar merit attention. On the south side of the church is the porch at which criminals condemned to death stopped to make the *amende honorable*, taper in hand and on their knees. The carvings of the great porch date from the fourteenth century. They have, however, suffered much from the fanaticism of the Protestants in 1562.

The Church of St. Jean in the Rue Saint Jean belongs to the fourteenth century, but was restored in 1482. Two unfinished towers crown the building, which is in the form of a Latin cross. The choir dates from the fifteenth century. The windows and the mosaics of the pavement should be noted. Previous to the Revolution the midsummer

fires of St. John's Eve were lighted in front of this church.

Saint Sauveur, once known as Notre Dame de Froide Rue, stands at the corner of the Rue St. Pierre and the Rue Froide. It is composed of two wooden buildings united by a large arch, which cuts out the partition wall, formerly separating the two choirs. Of these the northern, built in 1546, was probably designed by Hector Sohier, whose beautiful work we have seen at St. Pierre. The other with its richly carved windows may be ascribed to the previous century. The fourteenth-century spire is sometimes compared with that of St. Pierre, but is, however, inferior to it in beauty.

Notre Dame or La Gloriette in the Rue Saint Laurent near the Préfecture was founded in 1684, when the first stone was laid by the poet Segrais. It is a Jesuit church of peculiar type. The front combines the Ionic and Corinthian orders. Within is a handsome altar of white marble from the Abbaye aux Dames, with a canopy supported by six columns. Behind the altar are three bas-reliefs representing the Annunciation, Adoration of the Magi and the Purification.

The fifteenth-century church of St. Julian and the eleventh-century structure of St. Ouen in the streets bearing those names are without interest. More worthy of attention are the desecrated buildings which are comparatively numerous. Of St. Gilles mention has been made above. St. Etienne le Vieux in the Rue de Caumont, opposite to the Lycée, was partly built by Henry VI. of England, to replace an older church destroyed by accident during the siege of 1417. It has a good octagonal tower. St. Nicholas, in the Rue Saint Nicholas

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near the Abbaye aux Hommes, was built by the monks of that foundation. De Caumont considers it, with the exception of the tower, as an entirely unaltered church of the eleventh century. It has three Norman apses, the central being ornamented with three arcades. Note the curious western porch and the flamboyant S.W. tower. The building was closed at the Revolution and has since done duty as a stable and a forage store. St. Georges du Château in the Cour du Château, now the barrack Lefèvre was also closed at the Revolution. It dates back to the eleventh or twelfth century but was rebuilt in the fifteenth.

Saint Sauveur au Marché, now the Halle au Blé or corn-market in the Place St. Sauveur, belongs to the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries. It was the scene of a corn riot in 1812 in the days of the first Napoleon, which resulted in the summary execution of eight persons, four of whom were women and one of whom was innocent.

Of St. Paix, St. Martin, and the Eglise Collégiale but few traces remain ; the last named is supposed to have been the oldest of all the churches of Caen. The Church of St. Michel de Vaucelles, in the suburb of Vaucelles, on the hill on the other side of the Orne, presents a curious mixture of styles. The choir, whose Renaissance frescoes should be noted, is fifteenth century, so too the chapels, the nave is sixteenth, while of the towers one is twelfth-century Norman, the other with its cupola belonging to the era of Louis XVI.

The pulpit is a good specimen of seventeenth-century carving, while the flamboyant Gothic tracery of the north door is admirably executed.

The buildings of the University (Rue de l'Odon)

founded by the Intendant Foucault in 1701 are quadrangular in form and equipped with the usual lecture rooms, laboratories, etc. On the second story in the Rue Pasteur is the Natural History Museum, with good collections, that of birds being particularly worthy of notice. The University includes faculties of law, science and letters with schools of medicine and chemistry. Ducarel in his entertaining *Tour through Normandy* gives some interesting particulars with regard to the University, at the time of his visit to the town in 1767.

“Ancient privileges exempt the rector, the chief resident officer, and other officers of the University from several duties and impositions, for which reason many persons of good credit, desirous of obtaining these advantages, not only solicit but sometimes purchase, even the very inferior places such as beadle, sweepers, etc., being well assured, that they will never be called to the performance of any duty, unless the rector should die in his office. In such case the expense of attending his funeral is so enormous that every officer has reason to remember it so long as he lives. To prevent this accident as far as human foresight is able, the University both had recourse to the expedient of choosing the rector for six months only, or even for a shorter time, when he has been in a bad state of health. However a few years since, these precautions proved abortive, by the rector being accidentally killed by the bursting of his fowling piece, and the officers still lament the expense which they all unfortunately incurred on that occasion.”

The Hôtel de Ville, once a Euduaist Seminary,

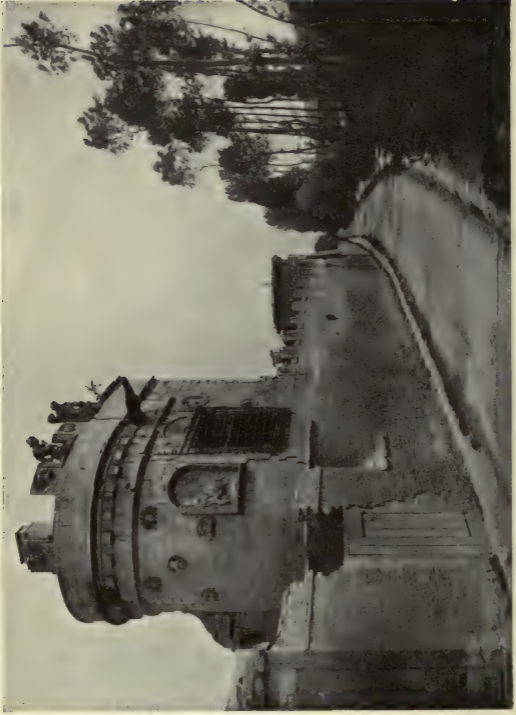
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in the Place Royale, deserves a visit on account of the collection of pictures and the library within its walls. Of the paintings the following are of importance. In the Montaran collection : 10. Van Dyck, Portrait of a young man ; 38. Van der Helst, Portrait of a woman. On the landing: 182. Martin des Batailles, Siege of Besançon by Louis XIV. ; 298. Forestier, Funeral of William the Conqueror. First room : 206. Gérard, Achilles swearing to avenge the death of Patroclus ; 254. Delon, Entrance of William the Conqueror into London. Second room : 102. Erasmus Quellyn, Virgin giving stole to St. Hubert ; 9. Carpaccio, Madonna and child with saints in landscape. Third room : 253. Debon, Battle of Hastings ; 252. Departure of Duke William for England ; 138. Van der Helst, Portrait of a woman ; 106. Attributed to Van Dyck, Communion of St. Bonaventura ; 107. Attributed to Van Dyck, Jesus crowned with thorns ; 88. Paul de Vos, Horse devoured by wolves ; 82. Rubens, Melchisedec offering bread to Abraham ; 87. Snyders, Fight between dogs and bear. Fourth room : 184. Tournières, Chapelle and Racine ; 185. Tournières, Portrait of a magistrate ; Perugino, Marriage of the Virgin (this painting was carried off by the French from the Cathedral of Perugia). Sixth room : 187. Oudry, Boar hunt ; 195. Nicolas Lesueur, Solomon before the ark.

The library contains 100,000 volumes and 500 or 600 valuable fifteenth and sixteenth-century MSS., including the original copy of the poems of Jean le Houx, the poet-lawyer of Vire.

The Museum of Antiquities in the old Collège du Mont possesses many interesting relics of the past. The castle in the Place d'Armes near St.





CAEN: TOWER OF THE GENS D'ARMES

Pierre was built by William the Conqueror and his son Henry I. It was at one time occupied by the English, from whom it was taken by Dunois in 1459. Having been dismantled by order of the Convention it now serves the purpose of a barrack. It still possesses the remains of an eleventh-century chapel and a twelfth-century building, once the hall in which the Exchequer of Normandy held its sittings. The Tour Guillaume le Roy, close to the apse of St. Pierre, in front of the remains of the old fortifications, communicated formerly with another tower on the opposite side of the river, which once ran at its foot. It was the oldest of the twenty towers on the fortified walls of Caen, and has been restored, though not altogether satisfactorily.

One of the most interesting features of Caen is the number of old houses to be met with in various parts of the city. One of these situated among pleasant surroundings is the Tour de Gens d'Armes, 101 Rue Basse, built by Gérard de Nollent in the fifteenth century. It is crowned with battlements, and on the roof are two figures of armed men carved in stone, whence the name. The structure bore at one time the name of the Manoir des Talbotières. Note the sculptured medallions and coats of arms on the outside wall and curtain.

The Cour de la Monnaie near St. Sauveur contains the remains of two old edifices built by Etienne Duval in the sixteenth century, the Hôtel de la Monnaie and the Hôtel de Mondrainville. The first named has two delightful towers, while the latter, once an ancient banqueting-house, is decorated with bas-reliefs of the Renais-

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sance type. The Hôtel de Than in the Rue St. Jean is another Renaissance structure with charming gables, pinnacles and mouldings, restored in 1852. The Hôtel d'Escoville or Hôtel de Valois in the Place St. Pierre is now occupied by the Bourse and Tribunal de Commerce. It was built by the Huguenot family of Le Valois in 1537, and is chiefly remarkable for the elegant winding staircase with its handsome cupolas and the beautifully carved statues, David with the head of Goliath and Judith with that of Holofernes. Note the fine dormer window in the middle of the building.

Other houses of interest are the Hôtel de Loraille in the Rue de Geôle (1468), the Louis XIII. Hôtel de Colomby in the Rue des Cordeliers, and the fourteenth-century Maison des Quatrans, 31 Rue de Geôle.

The Rue St. Pierre possesses some picturesque buildings in numbers 52 and 54, with their beautiful sixteenth-century mouldings and carvings, and 78 with its fine fifteenth-century staircase.

No. 148 Rue St. Jean stands upon the site of the house where Charlotte Corday stayed with her aunt, before the assassination of Marat, while the beautiful stone house of the Renaissance epoch No. 17 Rue de Geôle, and the sixteenth-century building entitled the Maison des Templiers, 78 Rue St. Gilles, are also worthy of remark.

Near the Place St. Martin and Palais de Justice is the Riding School, said to be the finest in France. Caen indeed has always been noted for the excellence of its horses and training establishments. An interesting institution is the Hospital of the Bon Sauveur in the Rue Caponière, which includes not only a lunatic asylum, and a home for the reception

and instruction of the deaf and dumb, but also two boarding-schools for young ladies, and a pension for lady visitors. Some 2000 persons in all, under the care of nuns, find shelter within these comfortable buildings. The community of St. Sauveur had its beginning in the self-sacrificing efforts of two young girls, who devoting themselves to work amongst the poor of Caen in 1720, succeeded in founding the community in 1730. This prospered exceedingly until the Revolution of 1789 swept everything away. Reunited after the storm had subsided, largely owing to the courage of the Abbé Jamet, a pioneer in the teaching of the deaf and dumb, the work has culminated in its present success. The view of the Abbaye aux Hommes from the gardens of St. Sauveur is the best to be met with in Caen. Two well-known men have passed away at St. Sauveur—Bourienne, the trusted secretary of the first Napoleon, and Beau Brummell, whose comet-like career at the English court during the Regency found a sad termination within the walls of a French asylum. He had resided at the Hotel d'Angleterre for some time previous to his removal to St. Sauveur.

At La Maladrerie, about a mile from Caen, is the prison of Beaulieu, with its 1000 male prisoners from the departments of Eure, Calvados, and Manche. Henry II. had founded a hospital for lepers at Beaulieu in 1160, but the disease appears to have died out in the seventeenth century, when the hospital revenues were transferred to the Hôtel Dieu at Caen, and Beaulieu became a penitentiary for malefactors of different kinds.

Allusion has been made previously to the Hôtel Dieu in the Place Mathilde, occupying since 1823

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the buildings of the Abbaye aux Dames. There are some 580 beds in this hospital, which is agreeably situated within a park, from the labyrinth of which one obtains a good view of the valley of the Orne. A pleasant feature of Caen are the public walks situated chiefly in the vicinity of the river. The large green plain termed the Prairie de Caen is fringed on three sides by the well-planted Cours Circulaire, the Cours Sadi Carnot, and the Grand Cours.

Beyond the walls, the Cours Caffarelli on the left bank of the Orne, and the Cours Mondalivet on the right, are lined with double avenues of elms and poplar, affording a grateful shade in the heat of summer.

There is indeed no reason to dissent from Musgrave's judgment pronounced some forty years ago, that the "public promenades of Caen whether in respect of their extent or of the lovely country that they look upon are among the finest in the Empire". Nor indeed speaking generally of the Caen of the twentieth century, could we altogether fail to endorse the statement made by Madame de Sévigné in the eighteenth: "That it is the prettiest town, the most inviting, the gayest, the best-placed, it has the handsomest streets, the finest buildings, the most beautiful churches, meadows, walks"; high praise certainly, but nevertheless taken with some reservation not quite unmerited.

Among the many interesting places within easy reach of Caen is the Abbey of Ardenne, 4 miles to the right of the road to Bayeux. The building is now a farm-house but still gives evidence of its former beauty. Founded in 1121, it includes Richard I. and King John among its benefactors.

Whewell considered this structure as an excellent illustration of the transition from early Gothic to decorative style. The church of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries consists of a beautiful nave flanked with four corner turrets, each containing a staircase.

Ouistreham (8 miles), the ancient port of Caen, with its Roman camp, Ifs (3 miles) and Norrey (7 miles), with their interesting churches, Fontaine-Henri (8 miles), with its singular château, once the home of the Harcourts, Mondeville (2 miles), with its quarries, whence the stone of the Tower of London and Westminster Abbey, and Louvigny (4 miles), with its seventeenth-century castle and fine park, are all worthy of a visit.

We may mention in addition the churches of Lasson, Thaon, Rots and Saint-Contest, while the watering-places of Cabourg, Sallenelles, Lion-sur-Mer, Luc-suc-Mer, Villers, and Courseulles, among others on the adjoining coast, are attainable without difficulty.

The journey from Caen to Havre occupies about three hours, the first hour being down the Orne and the canal. At the mouth of the Orne is Ouistreham, the scene of the last act of the Hundred Years' War, where the English garrison embarked after the surrender of Caen in 1450. The Church of Ouistreham is a fine specimen of Romanesque architecture with a good tower. Although Caen is not strictly speaking an industrial town, but is gradually becoming a port with a fair amount of commerce, it possesses nevertheless factories for furniture, lace, pottery and chemical products. A large quantity of its famous stone is sent annually to England and Germany.

NORMANDY

Situated as it is on a rich and fertile plain, the country produces large crops of cereals, and above all is excellently adapted for rearing the breed of horses for which it is renowned.

Campigny. C. arr. Bayeux. Population 280. Has a Renaissance château and a church partly Romanesque and partly thirteenth and fifteenth century.

Canteleu. See Rouen.

Cany. See Fécamp.

Carentan. See Carteret.

Carolles. M. arr. Avranches. A small watering-place with curious excavations and twelfth and thirteenth-century church.

Carrouges. O. arr. Alençon. Population 900. Possesses a fine fifteenth-century castle surrounded by large moats with crenelated keep. The entrance gate styled Le Châtelet with its side towers is very striking. Within is shown the room occupied by Louise XI. in 1473. There are some good portraits of the Le Veneur family.

Carteret. M. Population 600. A pleasant little watering-place sheltered by the cape of that name, is becoming more and more a favourite resort of the inhabitants of Cherbourg, from which it is only 25 miles distant. It is within easy reach of Jersey by steamers, which make the voyage daily in eighty minutes during the summer months. The bathing and sands are good, so too is the hotel, while the view from the summit of the granite cliffs is extremely extensive and picturesque, extending as far as Granville on the S. and including the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, and the fertile hills which skirt the shore in the direction of Barneville.

CAMPIGNY—CARTERET

Near the station is the old twelfth-century church, with stone steeple and a curious carved pulpit of the time of Louis XIV. Between the church and the town of Carteret flows the stream which divides the Valley of the Dunes. The white sandy slopes of the left bank stand out in strange contrast to the slaty formation of the right. Close by is Barneville (population 1000) another charming watering-place with pretty villas and splendid sands. Under the shelter of the dunes of Carteret the fuchsias and fig trees grow in abundance.

The Church of Barneville, which dates from the eleventh-century has a square fifteenth-century tower with battlements, and a Romanesque nave with curiously carved capitals. The choir belongs to the twelfth century. Also on the railway from Carentan to Carteret is Portbail (population 1700) a watering-place on the harbour at the mouth of the Olonde. The country around is broken and wooded.

The church of Notre Dame has a tall machicolated tower painted white as a landmark for sailors, and a good Roman apse. Near the church is a stone bridge leading to the harbour.

The Church of Gouey to the N.E. of the town has a twelfth-century nave and fourteenth-century choir. There are some beautifully carved capitals, and tombs of black marble.

Beyond Portbail is Saint Lo d'Ourville, which possesses the finest sands and safest shore in the department of Manche. Owing to the influence of the Gulf Stream the climate is exceptionally mild.

The little church at Denneville, a mile beyond, deserves a visit on account of its old frescoes.

La Haye-du-Puits (population 1500) near the old Roman road to Cherbourg is 5 miles from Denneville. On a lofty mound may be seen the remains of the old castle dating from the eleventh and twelfth centuries. There is another château of more recent date (sixteenth or eighteenth century) with a large square tower and a Renaissance door. In the modern church may be noted a fourteenth-century tomb. The ancient oak on the S. of the town is nearly 5 feet in diameter.

Following the railway track towards Carentan, we pass Lithaire with the ruins of a fourteenth-century castle, an ancient camp, the chapel of the old Priory of Brocquebœuf and the rocking-stone known by the name of the Logan de Lithaire.

By descending at the station of Baupte, a visit may be paid to Coigny and Franquetot (3 miles) once the seat of the Dukes of Coigny, a family which gave to France one of her most illustrious generals, the victor of Parma and Guastella. Franquetot still belongs to an English branch of the same family. The interior of the castle contains much that is interesting, among other relics being the chest containing the table service of Dresden china which accompanied the marshal on his campaigns.

The old castle of Coigny, a somewhat picturesque building, is now employed to house a school of agriculture and dairy farming.

Carentan (population 4000), the town at which the line to Carteret commences, lies in the fertile marshes of the Cotentin, at the confluence of the Douve and Taute. Once the ancient Gallic-Roman city of Crociatonum, it underwent several sieges during the Middle Ages, being burnt by

CARTERET—CAUDEBEC

Edward III., a few days before the battle of Crecy. It has now fallen on more peaceful days and together with Valognes is one of the great butter-centres of Normandy. It is also famous for its magnificent breed of horses. Its feudal fortifications are now mostly destroyed, but a portion of the old castle of the twelfth and fourteenth centuries, besieged by Edward, still remains.

The church, rebuilt in 1466, has a fine stone spire together with a twelfth-century porch, and curious gargoyles. There is some old fourteenth and fifteenth-century glass, piscinas of the fifteenth century and a pulpit of the seventeenth. The nave belongs to the fourteenth and fifteenth, and the choir to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Caudebec. S. I. Population 2500. The little town of Caudebec is delightfully situated on the banks of the Seine. The artist Vernet is said to have considered the view from its quay as one of the finest in France, on account of the ellipse which the Seine forms both above and below this point; other travellers are equally enthusiastic, Musgrave going so far as to assert that the town seems to have been built on purpose to improve the beauty of the view. It is here and at Villequier that the *mascaret* or tidal wave attains a height of 14 or 15 feet at the period of the spring-tides, and woe betide the small boat which ventures to brave its progress.

At one time there was an island in front of the town called Beleinac. Three beautiful churches were built upon it, but the *mascaret* at length submerged it. A hundred years later, in 1641, the island rose again above the water, only to be swept away once more.

Formerly a strong fortress, the town was taken by the English under Talbot and Warwick in 1419. In the sixteenth century it was ravaged by the Huguenots, but declared for Henry IV. The Duke of Parma, commander of a Spanish force sent in aid of the League, was surrounded here by Henry IV., but escaped by crossing the Seine under fire without however losing either man or gun. Henry IV. is credited with having said that the church at Caudebec was the prettiest which he had ever seen. That it is a charming structure few will deny. Begun in the fifteenth century, its chief glory is its steeple 330 feet high, of octagonal form, with open stonework, the flamboyant tracery taking the form of fleur-de-lis. The flying buttresses are graceful in design. It was begun in 1426. The triple W. porch is richly ornamented with sculptured foliage and statues. Above is a balustrade and a rose-window. Note the perforated gallery continued round the building containing a portion of the Magnificat. Within the church the fifteenth and sixteenth-century glass is perhaps the most striking feature; note too the curiously carved Pieta, the groining of the roof of the lady chapel, with its singular pendant.

Guillaume Le Tellier, the master mason of the church, who died in 1484, is buried in the lady chapel. In the thirty years before his death, he completed the upper part of the nave, choir and adjoining chapels.

The Grande Rue contains some finely timbered old houses, but the most picturesque street in Caudebec is the Rue de la Boucherie near the church, with the little river Gertrude running

CAUDEBEC

through it from end to end. Two thirteenth-century houses, called the *Maison des Templiers*, are worthy of remark, so too the timbered houses in the *Rue de la Cordonnerie* and the *Rue de la Halle*.

There is a charming walk from Caudebec to St. Gertrude (2 miles), with its singular sixteenth-century church, with a curious stone tabernacle above the altar. The tower rises between the choir and the nave, a thing of unfrequent occurrence at that epoch.

A beautiful walk of five miles, partly along the banks of the Seine, brings one to the ancient abbey of St. Wandrille, founded about 648, and known in early times as the Abbey of Fontenelle. The building suffered much at the hands of the Northmen and others, being burnt down more than once. In 1631 its magnificent spire fell with a crash, crushing the nave, aisles, lady chapel and choir stalls. A beautiful cloister, however, still remains. The convent buildings in Italian style have been converted into a modern residence. The Norman refectory with flamboyant windows and fine vaulted roof belongs to the twelfth and fifteenth centuries.

The Parish Church of St. Wandrille dating from the eleventh and twelfth centuries has a beautiful thirteenth-century chapel, and fonts of the same epoch, in addition to a sixteenth-century window. There is some beautiful modern glass.

On the wooded hill above the abbey park is the little chapel of St. Saturnin, an eleventh-century structure with three apses and walls of herring-bone masonry. There is an admirable view from the hill on which the chapel is built.

A delightful walk from Caudebec is that to

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Villequier ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles) passing en route the little Chapel of Barre-y-va, founded in 1260, but rebuilt in the time of Louis XIV. It has been the custom since time immemorial, for the newly-married of Caudebec to make a pilgrimage to the spot on their wedding-day. Near Villequier the river curves into a beautiful bay; the little village on the side of the dark wooded hill clustering round the Gothic spire of the white church forms a pleasing picture. This church of the twelfth and sixteenth centuries contains some restored stained glass of the latter date. In the chapel to the right of the choir is a curious statue of St. Martin.

The château of Louis XV.'s time is placed on rising ground commanding a magnificent view. The *barre* or *mascaret* is seen at its best from the quay of Villequier at the period of the spring and autumn equinoxes. Mrs. Macquoid has given a good description of this phenomenon:—

“The river was smooth as glass till suddenly just below Villequier there appeared first a speck of foam in the midst of the stream, and then the water seemed to rise in its whole width and to roll majestically up to Caudebec, the sides of the wave dashing stones and spray far inshore on either side; the whole mass of water came on roaring and thundering in a wave about six feet high, and swept on as far as we could see, two or three waves followed and these broke furiously over the quay. For about ten minutes the broad calm river was like a stormy sea full of raging foam, wave dashing against wave in struggling fury, and then almost at once the tumult disappeared.”

In 1843, Madame Vacquerie, the daughter of Victor Hugo, was drowned together with her

CAUDEBEC—CHATEAU D'O

husband and child in the river at Villequier, where their remains are interred.

Cérisy-la-Forêt. M. arr. St. Lo. Population 1600. The Abbey of Cérisy was founded in 560 by St. Vigor, Bishop of Bayeux, and rebuilt in 1030 by Robert I. of Normandy. "The church," as M. Petit observes, "has had some modern touches externally, which somewhat disguise its early Romanesque character, the interior is more in its original state. Much of the nave has been destroyed. Of the central tower the lower stage has a Romanesque arcade. The upper stage is probably a modern addition, but still the tower is low and massive. The round arch prevails in the nave, which has triforium and clerestory; the former consists of two arches, under a large one, the whole being much enriched. There appears to have been no vaulting, the shafts dividing the bays run up to the flat ceiling. Westward of the present nave are some early pointed arches, the remains of the part which has been destroyed; there are also some remains of the monastic buildings."

Chambois. O. arr. Argentan. Population 500. Has a twelfth and fourteenth-century château with a twelfth-century keep and Romanesque church, with stone spire. A mile beyond is the Tour d'Aubri-en-Exmes of the time of Louis XII. with battlements and moat.

Château d'O. O. arr. Argentan near Mortrée. The castle occupies three sides of a square. Its N. wing, of which a considerable portion remains, dates from the beginning of the sixteenth century. The S. wing with the exception of one tower is of later date. In the courtyard is a beautiful fifteenth-century door and well-carved columns.

Château-Gaillard. See Les Andelys.

Chausey Iles. See Granville.

Cherbourg. M. Population 43,000. Cherbourg on the Divette, one of the five military ports of France, is generally considered somewhat out of the beaten track of the English tourist in Normandy. Musgrave, Macquoid, and Dermer, the three chief writers on the country, have entirely omitted the place, and the bulk of travellers follow suit. But why? It is the portal to a charming district and leads one speedily to St. Lo, Coutances, Avranches, Mont St. Michel, and many others of the places most worth seeing in Western Normandy. Nor is the town without an interest of its own. Cleaner than most ports, with a few handsome buildings, it deserves a better treatment than that usually accorded to it by the visitor, who, landing by the Southampton boat, inquires at what time the train starts for such and such a place, and then departs without having gathered more than the haziest notion of the historic city. The town occupies the supposed site of the Gallic port of Coriallo, though some writers with less probability have assigned its foundations to Cæsar or one of his lieutenants. During the Middle Ages, indeed, it was known by the name of Cæsariburgus.

Its ancient castle, recorded by Froissart as one of the strongest in the world, has disappeared, though some subterranean passages have been found at a great depth beneath the present streets. Several of our early sovereigns occupied this castle, including the Conqueror and his sons, Richard Cœur-de-Lion and Margaret of Anjou, while the ill-fated Stuart King James II. found a refuge there. The structure, however, was utterly demolished by Louis XIV.

CHÂTEAU-GAILLARD—CHERBOURG

The town has been frequently besieged, by French and English. Du Guesclin attacked it and lost his brother before its walls. After the battle of Formigny, Cherbourg was the last place in Normandy occupied by the English, who surrendered it after a siege in 1450. In 1758 General Bligh attacked the port, rendered defenceless by the demolition of its forts in 1688, and destroyed the docks and arsenals by means of the gunpowder left behind by the French. He also levied a contribution on the town but refrained from otherwise injuring either the inhabitants or their property.

The famous breakwater was commenced in 1784 under Louis XVI., the plan of construction being to place conical boxes in position, and afterwards filling them with stone to leave them to resist the action of the water. Louis took a personal interest in the building, visiting Cherbourg in 1786, and eating his dinner on one of the cones. But the onslaught of the sea was too powerful for the construction, and the Revolution caused a long interruption in the work, until the first Napoleon, discarding the original plans, caused some 200 yards of the breakwater to be raised above the level of the highest tides for a battery of twenty guns. The strength of the sea nevertheless was so great that, in spite of the enormous size of the blocks of granite employed, the fabric was shattered by a succession of violent storms, that of 1808 being terrible in its effects. Of the 263 soldiers and workmen upon the dyke, 194 were drowned by the heavy seas, which swept away the buildings or breakwater. In 1811 it became necessary to lay down between 13,000 and 14,000 cubic yards more of blocks of the largest size procurable, and

in the same year the solid front of masonry, faced with granite, was substituted for the rude accumulations of stone. In that year Napoleon visited Cherbourg and received the Mayor's address:—

“Sire, we have the honour to present to your Majesty the keys of the city of Cherbourg; we shall receive you but badly, but we love you well, and we have come to tell you so”.

The new device seems to have answered, but in 1824 two serious breaches were made in the Digue. Consequently in 1832 another method was adopted, concrete being placed on the sloping heap of stones, from which rose a wall of masonry and granite. The length of the Digue, which was completed in 1853, and which is divided into two portions by the central fort, is no less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, its construction costing £2,680,000.

The Digue mounts no less than 330 guns, and is lighted by three lighthouses, those of the Fort Central, Fort de l'Est, and Fort de l'Ouest. To the right, viewed from the town, is the Ile Pelée, also with its lighthouse. To the right of the Digue in the sea is the Fort National, that of Chavagnac being on the left; further to the left is the Fort of Querqueville. The extent of the roadstead protected by the Digue is 2,500 acres, of which about 500 are suitable as anchorage for ships of the line.

Persons of foreign nationality are not permitted to visit the Port Militaire or dockyard on the N.W. of the town with its three docks, the Avant Port, the Bassin à flot, and the Bassin Napoléon. The dockyard was designed by Vauban, begun by Louis XVI., continued by Napoleon I. and Louis Philippe, and completed by Napoleon III. Queen Victoria was present with the last-named Emperor of the

CHERBOURG

French at the inauguration of the last portion of the work in 1858. The three docks are of great size and extend over 55 acres.

Seven forts defend the entrances in the direction of the sea. The Salle d'Armes and the Naval Museum contain a large number of arms and trophies tastefully arranged. Close to the modern naval hospital is the former hospital, now a barrack, which occupies the Abbaye de Voëu founded by Queen Matilda, daughter of Henry I., in consequence of a vow made when overtaken by a storm off Cherbourg, on the occasion of her flight from Stephen in 1145. The thirteenth-century chapter-house of the abbey is still in existence.

The civil hospital or Hôtel Dieu on the western side of the Avant Port is considered the finest building in Cherbourg. To the N. of it, with a charming outlook on the harbour are the casino and bathing establishment, a handsome building with the usual concert rooms and Salle de jeu and a fine terrace and garden.

To the right of the town is the hill and fort of Le Roule with its splendid view. Below and not far from the railway station, near the somewhat pungent waters of the Divette, and its tributary the Trottebec, is the public garden with its pretty well-tended grounds, and a thirteenth-century doorway which once belonged to the Abbaye de Voëu. At the mouth of the Divette and Trottebec is the commercial harbour, consisting of an Avant Port and a dock 450 yards long, communicating with the sea by a channel, bordered with jetties of granite.

The Hôtel de Ville, containing the Musée, is in the Place d'Armes, situated in the better quarter of the town near the Port Militaire. There are several

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good pictures in the Musée Henri, as the collection is termed after its founder. The following may be noted :—

Third Room : 48. Van Dyck, Meleager and Atalanta. 83. Teniers, Inn scene. 50. Van Eyck, Virgin and Child. 139. Poussin, Pyrame and Thisbe. 35. Murillo, Christ bearing the cross. 61. Jordaens, Adoration of the Magi. 67. Van der Meulen, Charge of cavalry. 33. Herrera, David. 12. Fra Angelico, The entombment. 45. L. Cranach, Frederic III. and John Elector of Saxony. 74. F. Porbus, Francis II. of Medicis and his wife.

In addition to the pictures, there is a collection of objects of natural history and antiquities on the second floor. The library with its rich store of books and MSS. now occupies a building at the corner of the Rue Thiers. In the same quarter in the spacious Place Napoléon is Vél's handsome bronze statue of Napoleon I. on horseback. On the pedestal are engraved the Emperor's words, "I had resolved to renew at Cherbourg the wonders of Egypt". We must not forget that it was the same genius which called into being the great port of Antwerp in the adjoining country of Belgium.

The Church of the Trinity in the Place Napoléon belongs to the fifteenth century, but has been recently restored. Note the Louis Quinze altar, the handsomely carved pulpit, and the paintings and frescoes of the nave and transept. Note too in the first chapel of the left aisle a picture of the holy women at the tomb, attributed to G. de Crayer and Philippe de Champaigne.

The commerce of Cherbourg is extensive. Eggs, butter, poultry, and vegetables find their way thence





CHATEAU DE MARTINVAST

CHERBOURG—CONCHES

in great quantities to England. There is some ship-building and a considerable fishing industry.

Some charming excursions may be made from Cherbourg. Five miles distant is Martinvaast with its delightful sixteenth-century castle and handsome park (the latter only open to visitors on Sundays). There is also an eleventh-century church. Tourlaville ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles), once the residence of the cruel race of Ravalets now belonging to the famous family of De Tocqueville. It is well situated and is a good instance of the feudal castle of the Renaissance period. Querqueville (5 miles) is interesting for its seventeenth-century church and the little cemetery chapel of St. Germain close by, the oldest religious building in Manche. It is in the form of a cross, with three apses of herring-bone masonry and dates from the tenth or eleventh century.

De Tocqueville's fine château (sixteenth century) of Nacqueville is near Querqueville. Other places worth seeing within reach of Cherbourg are St. Pierre l'Eglise (10 miles), church and château, with menhirs in the neighbourhood, Flamanville (15 miles), château and fine cliffs, near the little port of Diélette, Barfleur (16 miles), fort and port, and the attractive old country town of Valognes (13 miles).

Coigny. See Carteret.

Colleville. See Port-en-Bessin.

Conches. E. arr. Evreux. Population 2200. Stands on the summit of a hill, watered by the Iton, and is said to derive its name from the town of Conques in Spain, whence the relics of St. Foy were brought by Roger de Douville (as the place was then called), who founded the abbey in the eleventh century, and changed the name of the town to Conches. The Lord of Conches was by right of birth hered-

itary standard-bearer of Normandy at the battle of Hastings, but the holder of the title is said to have refused to perform the duties of his office, as likely to interfere with his prowess in the battle. The grandson of the first Roger built the castle, which may be reached by following the Rue Sainte Foy above the church. The view from the keep is charming. Adjoining the garden of the castle is the Hôtel de Ville, with a valuable library of old books coming from the Benedictine Abbey of Châtillon (also built by Roger), whose ruins now form a portion of the hospital. The supreme glory of Conches is the Church of St. Foy (rebuilt in the fifteenth century), with its magnificent stained-glass windows. These are in excellent preservation and are enriched with that intensity of colouring which the sixteenth-century artists loved to display. In the choir are depicted various scenes from the life of St. Foy, including her torture by the Proconsul Dacian and martyrdom. In the left aisle are the Nativity, Annunciation, the Presentation in the Temple, and other scenes in the life of the Virgin. In the right aisle are the Baptism of Christ, Moses bestowing the Manna, and the Last Supper. In 1842 the beautiful fifteenth-century spire, which was undergoing repair, was brought to the ground by a terrific thunderstorm, much to the detriment of the rest of the structure. In 1851 it was replaced by the present spire.

Courseulles. C. arr. Caen. Population 1400.

A small port at the mouth of the Seulles, noted for its oyster fisheries and Louis XIII. château.

Coutainville. See Agon.

Coutances. M. Population 7000. Like

COURSEULLES—COUTANCES

several of the towns in this part of France, Coutances is placed on the summit of a lofty hill. In the valleys below flow three small streams, the Souille on the S., the Guerny on the E., and the Bulsard on the W.

A delightful public garden, one of the finest and best kept in France, adorns one of the slopes of the hill. The entrance is in the Rue Quesnel-Morinières, named after the donor of the garden, to whose memory a granite obelisk has been erected within the grounds. The Musée, housed within a sixteenth-century building, the gift of the same benefactor, stands at the entrance of the gardens on the right. It contains a collection of pictures, prints, coins, minerals, and butterflies. On leaving the garden by the lower gate, one obtains a view of the celebrated aqueduct which spans the little Bulsard on the road to Coutainville. It is much overgrown with ivy, which covers almost entirely the five arches which still remain. There were sixteen originally, but of eleven of those, only the piers some twenty feet high are now standing. The supporting buttresses are of great thickness. The aqueduct is said to have been built in the fourteenth century on the ruins of an old Roman structure destroyed by the Normans. As Roman coins have been discovered in the vicinity of the building there are reasonable grounds for supposing that the hypothesis of a Roman origin is correct, though the pointed arches would of course at first sight appear to negative this assumption.

As one of the seven old episcopal cities, Coutances has enjoyed the dignity of a cathedral town from a very early period. Known to the Romans as Constantia it became at the close of their rule the See

of the diocese of Constantinus Magnus or Cotentin. A beautiful cathedral seems to have been built at Coutances by Tancred de Hauteville and his six sons and consecrated in 1056, in the presence of William the Conqueror. This building, however, would appear at some unknown date to have been replaced by the present structure, whose architecture does not point to a period anterior to the thirteenth century. The town suffered much during the Hundred Years' War and the religious wars of the sixteenth century. In 1580, more than 12,000 persons were killed in the Cotentin alone. In 1561 Coutances was pillaged by the Huguenot Colombières, who lit a bon-fire in the cathedral and had the unfortunate prelate Arthur de Cossé led round the town, seated backwards on an ass, clad in petticoat and paper mitre with every indignity. Colombières renewed his acts of pillage in 1566, and the town would probably have suffered equally at the hands of the Catholics, on the occasion of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew in 1572, but for the moderation of its Governor, Marshal Matignon.

The cathedral is the supreme glory of Coutances and the finest conception of Gothic architecture to be met with in Normandy. As Petit says:—

“The cathedral has evidently work of two periods within the thirteenth century and some later additions. The composition of the western steeples is remarkably good. An octagon, rising from a square tower, supports the spire. The corner pinnacles, however, of the tower, which are carried up beyond the spring of the spire, preserve the square effect, but the outline is varied by the spire-lights rising above these pinnacles. A pro-



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jecting turret at the external angle of the tower completes the whole. The central lantern, which is octagonal, is also surrounded by pinnacles. Its height is somewhat more than that of the spring of the western spires."

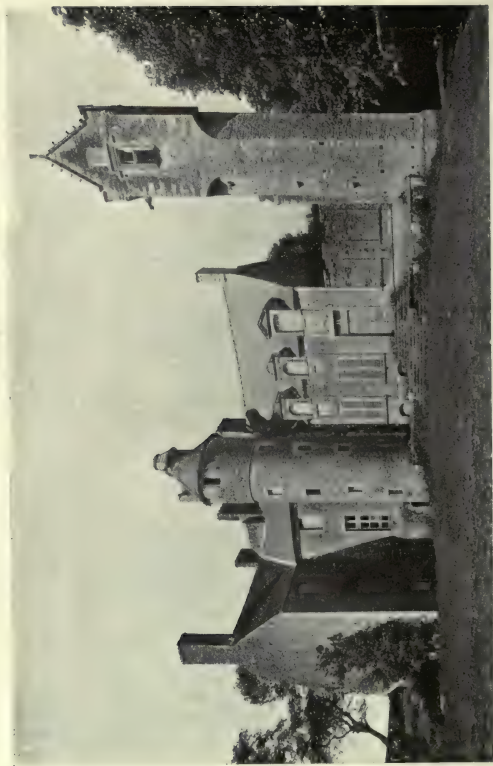
Its towers rise to the height of 250 feet and the dome, termed *Le Plomb*, to the height of 186. It is of the latter that Vauban remarked, "Who was the sublime madman who dared launch such a monument in the air?" *Le Plomb* is octagonal in form, and from its cupola the eye ranges freely over a glorious landscape; to the W. the promontory of Granville, the bay of Cancale, the coast of Brittany and the headland of St. Malo stretching into the ocean, while on the N. Jersey is plainly discernible. The dome is flanked by towers, and contains a beautiful lantern with triforium-like gallery. There is no regular transept but a kind of vaulted chapel instead. The choir has very high pier-arches, but no triforium, the wide apse is formed of narrow and tall pillars. The ambulatory and chapels of the choir are specially handsome, so too the chapels of the nave, with their light screens and beautiful mullioned carving. The windows of the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries are worthy of remark, the scenes from the lives of St. Lo and St. Marcouf being specially vivid. Note too the seventeenth-century organ case, and the Louis Quinze altar of coloured marble. There are some old tombs belonging to bishops of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries in the apse and ambulatory, and in the latter an interesting restored fresco of the fourteenth century. The great charm which pervades Coutances Cathedral consists in the exquisite proportions and refined elegance of the

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interior. There is an utter absence of all that is glaring and redundant and offensive to the most scrupulous taste; externally, too, the perfect and delicate workmanship of its twin spires and its beautiful and symmetrical octagon render it a poem in stone, whose exquisite harmony will long continue to excite the wonder and admiration of successive generations. The episcopal palace (eighteenth century) stands behind the cathedral, near the corn-market, once the church of a former convent.

By taking the Rue Geoffroi de Montbray, to the left of the cathedral, one arrives at the church of St. Pierre, second only in interest to the former building. Built in the sixteenth century it is a good specimen of the Renaissance epoch. The central tower, which was commenced in 1550, and finished by another architect in 1580, has a somewhat stunted appearance due to the shortness of its spire. "An architectural joke," Dermer terms it, "and a very quaint and delightful one too." The western tower, with Renaissance cupolas, contains much beautiful work. The church, ruined by the wars of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, seems to have been rebuilt about the year 1500 by Bishop Geoffroi Herbert. The choir, with seventeenth-century carved stalls, belongs to the fifteenth. In the nave, also fifteenth century, is a pulpit of the seventeenth from the Abbey of Lucerne. The arches of the nave are supported by massive pillars. There is some good painted glass of the sixteenth and the beginning of the seventeenth century. Behind St. Pierre is the Lycée with a seventeenth-century chapel formerly belonging to the Eudistes and built by Eudes, the founder of the order in 1651.





CHATEAU DE GRATOT, NEAR COUTANCES

COUTANCES—CREULLY

There is yet another church in Coutances, that of St. Nicolas, adjoining the Rue Tancrede, the main artery of the town. The porch is almost the sole relic of the old building burnt by the Protestants in 1562. The nave belongs to the sixteenth century, the towers to the eighteenth and the choir to the seventeenth. Behind the choir is a statue of the Virgin, said to be 500 years old and one of the first in which she is represented with the Holy Child in her arms. It was removed from the cathedral at the time of the Revolution. The Palais de Justice (eighteenth century) housed in an ancient abbey of Benedictines, is near St. Nicolas, in the Place Lebrun. In its well-kept garden may be noted the bronze statue of Le Brun (1739-1824), Third Consul with Bonaparte, and afterwards Duc de Plaisance under the Empire.

There are some interesting old houses in Coutances, notably one in the Rue Quesnel-Canvaux, on the right, near the Musée and almost opposite the Hôtel de Ville. It was in this seventeenth-century building, connected with the convent of the Sacré-Cœur, that Admiral Tourville spent his boyhood. Another old structure dating from the sixteenth century may be seen in the Rue Perthuis Throuard, near the entrance of the cathedral on the left.

Coutances is commercially speaking remarkable for its beautifully wrought altar-cloths and vestments, and for the manufacture of parchment. Tanning and leather-dressing flourish in the suburb of Pont-de-Souille, while the district exports eggs amounting to millions annually, mostly *via* Cherbourg to England.

Creully. C. arr. Caen. Population 700. Has

some remarkable tombs in its twelfth-century church. It will be noticed that "the Romanesque nave has the sexpartite, and a bay of the chancel the bisected vaulting" (Petit).

The château, perhaps the most interesting in Normandy, to the N. of the church, belongs to the fourteenth century, with the exception of one corner which dates from the twelfth. On the N. side are some curious vaulted roofs reaching to the floor in a complete semicircle. There is also an interesting fourteenth-century chimney-piece with good mouldings.

The first noteworthy Lord of Creully was Hamon of Morigny, surnamed "Hamon aux Dents," who fell fighting with his brother Guillerin against Duke William at Val-ès-Dunes near Caen. His son Robert FitzHamon, who remained faithful to William, became Earl of Gloucester and Bristol. He built Cardiff Castle, but later on received an arrow wound, which brought on madness, which according to the old chronicle "was a judgment for that he had contributed with all his might to the taking of Bayeux, when the church was destroyed by fire with the rest of the town". He was killed at Tinchebrai in 1016. His daughter married Robert de Kent, bringing to her husband the lordships of Creully and Torigny, as well as the earldom of Gloucester. Robert of Gloucester fortified the castle of Creully, which was one of the strongest in Normandy, until it was dismantled by the English in the fourteenth century. In 1678, the castle and barony became the property of Colbert, the famous finance minister of Louis XIV., who loved to retire to this quiet spot when worn out with the cares and intrigues of statesmanship.

CREULLY—DIEPPE

The Priory of St. Gabriel, near Creully, founded by Robert of Gloucester, has nothing of the conventual church remaining except the choir, which terminates in a semi-circular apse. The vaulting is divided by the transverse arch, the arches being principally semi-circular and much ornamented with the chevron.

Near St. Gabriel is the interesting farm of Brécy, the seventeenth-century home of the Le Bas family, for whom it was built by their relative Mansart. Note the beautifully carved entrance-door, and handsome well. The fine Louis XIII. château of Lantheuil is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Creully.

Cricquebœuf. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Has an ivy-clad Romanesque church and ancient manor house. Rare marine plants are to be found in the mud near the sea.

Cricqueville. C. arr. Bayeux. Deserves a visit on account of its thirteenth-century church and Renaissance château with handsome chimney-piece.

Criel. See Dieppe.

Cuy-Saint-Fiacre. See Gournay.

Dampierre. See Gournay.

Dangu. See Gisors.

Darnetal. See Rouen.

Deauville. See Trouville.

Délivrande. See Douvres.

Denneville. See Carteret.

Diélette. See Cherbourg.

Dieppe. S. L., at the mouth of the Arques. Population 23,000.

The white cliffs of the coast at Dieppe remind one naturally of those on the opposite side of the channel, but if we penetrate into the town itself, we find less to recall the aspect of an English water-

ing-place. In the latter part of the summer the town assumes the garb of a fashionable seaside resort and bathing-place. The large and somewhat expensive hotels on the front are filled with visitors, and the fine casino with its varied amusements is in all its glory. From these one reaches the bench where mixed bathing is permitted. The charming environs of the town are indeed too often ignored by those who mingle with the merry throng on the front, though probably every one contrives to visit at sometime or another the historic château of Arques or the equally famous Manoir d'Ango at Varengeville. The front of the town is somewhat modern in appearance, due no doubt to its having been bombarded by the English in 1694, after their repulse at Brest.

Passing through the Grande Rue with its interesting shops of ivory-ware, for which the town has been celebrated for centuries, one enters the Place du Marché or Place Nationale, with its bronze statue of Admiral Duquesne, the conqueror of De Ruyter. On market days there is much to interest one in the crowds of country-women, tanned, hard-featured daughters of the soil, vending their stores of vegetables and poultry under the shadow of the picturesque Church of St. Jacques. Approaching the building from the E., one remarks the richly decorated mullioned flying-buttresses which almost conceal the body of the church. The fourteenth-century porch is extremely handsome and the rose-window with its adjoining gallery is well worthy of notice. The W. tower is a good specimen of the later Gothic style. Within, the carving of the sixteenth-century screens and the elaborate roofing of the lady chapel should be noted. Behind the

choir is a tablet to the memory of D'Ango (1551), the most celebrated citizen of Dieppe. Jean d'Ango, the shipowner, besides his wealth acquired in trading with the Indies, had increased his resources as farmer-general of the lordships of Longueville, Fécamp and Dieppe. He entertained François I. with great magnificence at Dieppe and received in exchange the title of Viscount and Commandant of the town and castle of Dieppe. But ruin overtook him in his later years, and his possessions, including the manor of Varengeville, became the property of his creditors. The rivalry of Havre and the bombardment by the English seem to have dealt a disastrous blow to the once-flourishing commerce of the town.

Leaving the Church of St. Jacques by the large door, and following the Rue St. Jacques on the other side of the square, one arrives, by the Rue de la Martinière, at the Church of St. Remy. There is little to notice here beyond its tower, the carved capitals of the interior and the tombs of some of the Governors of Dieppe. The church was founded in 1522, and suffered severely in the bombardment of 1694. The chief front was restored as recently as 1862-63.

The castle on the heights above the town, and approached from the harbour by the Grande Rue, dates from the fifteenth century. Here D'Ango died in 1551, and here Henri Quatre took refuge during the wars of the Ligue and received reinforcements of English and Scotch troops from Queen Elizabeth. It was in Dieppe Castle too that the Duchesse de Longueville sought refuge from Mazarin, during the wars of the Fronde, escaping ultimately in man's attire on board an English vessel to Rotterdam.

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The towers (1433) are the oldest portion remaining of the building, which is now employed as an infantry barrack.

The view from this direction over the town and harbour is magnificent. The first Castle of Dieppe was built by Charlemagne, but of the original structure nothing now remains. The town seems to have had a chequered career. In the twelfth century Dieppe was burnt by Philip Augustus, then at war with Richard I. In 1420 it was taken by the English, but retaken in 1433 by Louis the Dauphin, in the reign of Charles VII.

To the enterprize of the hardy sailors of Diéppe there seems to have been no limit. It is claimed for them that they were the first to land in Guinea, at the Cape of Good Hope, and even in America. In 1402 Jean de Béthencourt conquered the Canaries, while to the nautical achievements of D'Ango in the sixteenth century much of the extraordinary prosperity of the town was due.

The Musée in the Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville is worth a visit if only on account of the Gallic and Roman remains discovered in the vicinity. There are indeed traces of a fortified Gallic camp capable of holding thousands of men on the hill above Puy, easily recognised by its green mound of turf and termed the "Cité de Limes". Puy, which is about two miles from Dieppe, is easily reached by an omnibus which starts from the Café de la Bourse, or one may reach it by crossing the Pont de la Poissonnerie to Le Pollet and ascending the Rue de la Bastille, and thence along the cliffs past the Chapel of Notre Dame de Bon-Secours. On the way down to Puy are the turreted château of the late Lord Salisbury and the cottage of the

younger Alexandre Dumas. It is to the last named that Puy owes what celebrity it possesses, for it was through him that the spot became a favourite resort of the Parisians at Dieppe. It now boasts of a casino of its own, and a good hotel in addition to its sands. The picturesque suburb termed Le Pollet is interesting as the home of fishermen and as offering a contrast to the more modern and fashionable Dieppe from which it is separated by the harbour. To reach it, one must cross the Pont de la Poissonnerie, as if going to Puy. The hill above is called La Bastille and is noted as having been occupied by Talbot during the siege of Dieppe in 1442. The inhabitants of Dieppe appealed to Charles for aid, and Louis the Dauphin undertook to raise the siege. Two sorties made by the English were repulsed, and by means of bridges run on wheels and lowered across the fosse the French were enabled to bring their scaling ladders into position for an assault. This was made from six points without success, but a second rush headed by Louis himself was followed up by his whole army with such enthusiasm that the English were forced to surrender. After the fight Louis proceeded to St. Jacques to return thanks for the victory of that day, which was long observed at Dieppe as a glorious anniversary.

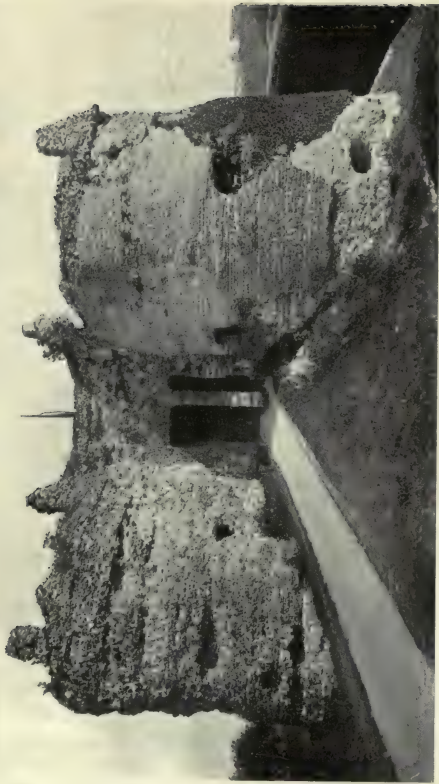
The brick church of Le Pollet is of modern date, but contains one or two mural paintings of merit.

The inhabitants of Le Pollet are extremely superstitious. Mrs. Macquoid quotes some interesting legends as illustrative of the gloomy ideas of the simple fisherfolk :—
 "There had been a terrible storm which had kept the inhabitants awake half the night. Peter

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the sacristan of Notre Dame du Pollet, had fallen asleep, but was awakened by the ringing of the mass bell. He jumped out of bed, thinking he had overslept himself and that the priest had bid some one else ring the bell. When he entered the church he saw the priest already at the altar and a great number of fishermen praying fervently. But as the sacristan gazed at some of the faces around him, he was seized with terror, for he saw only the faces of those who had died. One of these kneeling near him had left home a year and a half before to go fishing and had never been heard of. The dead body of another had been washed ashore, and the sacristan remembered that he had assisted at his burial. Meanwhile the mass proceeded. When the time came for communion, the priest tried to put the Host to his lips but it slipped from his fingers. Then he uttered an alarming cry of distress which was echoed by all the rest, and turning to the sacristan cried out, 'My poor Peter do you not recognise me? I am Regnaud whose ship was wrecked on Monday in Easter week on the rock of Ailly. I had vowed a mass in honour of our Lady, and I forgot my vow. I try now to say this mass myself in order to keep my promise, but each time that I try to communicate, the Host escapes from my lips, and I feel the torments of Hell in my bosom. Tell my son, I implore you, never to forget the masses which he may promise to our Lady.'

No excursion in the neighbourhood of Dieppe is more enjoyable than that which must be made to the historic Château d'Arques. It is easily reached by train in a quarter of an hour, or the four miles may be covered on a good road in a

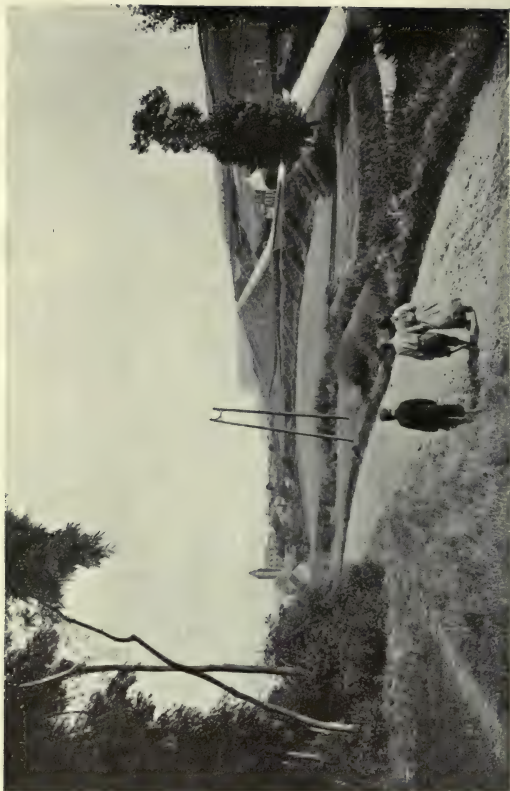


PART OF RUINS OF CHATEAU D'ARQUES

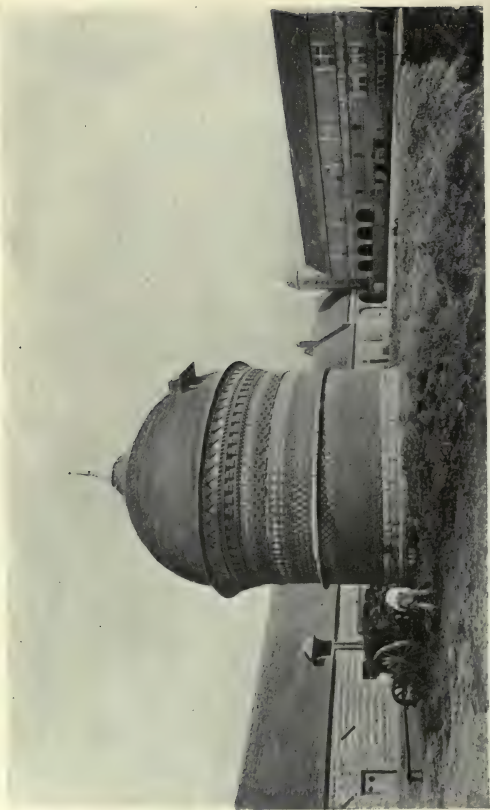
short time by bicycle, passing the handsome Château de Rosendal and taking the route through Bouteilles and Machonville. The castle stands on the high ground in the wooded valley of the Béthune above its junction with the Eaulne. The donjon built by William of Arques, uncle to the Conqueror, still remains. Arques was the ancient capital of the county of Talou. William the Bastard gave the county to his uncle who was afterwards known as William of Arques. As soon as William of Arques had built a strong castle with its enormous fosse, he conspired against his nephew with Henry I. of France and some of the Norman barons. Duke William had placed a garrison in Arques but this surrendered to his uncle. The Duke then made the famous ride from Caudebec described in the *Roman de Rou*, reaching Arques with only six men. Being joined by his loyal subjects of Rouen, he blockaded the castle and succeeded in reducing it by famine in 1053. After William's death, his son Robert gave up Arques to Hélie de St. Saens; it was however seized by Henry I. after the battle of Tinchebrai, and again by King Stephen and afterwards by Geoffrey Plantagenet. The castle was the last stronghold to fall into the hands of Philip Augustus when he took Normandy from King John. In 1419 it yielded to Henry V. of England, but was retaken in 1449 by Charles VII. In 1589 was fought the great battle beneath the walls of Arques, which gave to Henry of Navarre and his small army of Protestants the victory over the apparently overwhelming forces of the Ligue, six times as great, commanded by the Duc de Mayenne. Henry had had the foresight to

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strengthen the fortifications with artillery and it was the use of these guns at a critical moment which decided the fortunes of the day. A modern bas-relief over the entrance gateway commemorates the date of the battle and depicts the victor on horseback. The outer court of the castle was built in the fifteenth century. In entering the chapel on the left one must be careful to stoop for the doorway is exceedingly low. Passing through the second gateway, we enter the original court of the building and approach the square keep, the most perfect type of Norman donjon, as competent critics tell us. A subterranean passage is said by tradition to have reached as far as Dieppe. The fortress was undoubtedly of immense strength until the invention of artillery brought the adjoining hills into dangerous proximity. Like many other mediæval strongholds, Bouillon in Belgium, for example, it has become useless for modern purposes of defence. The view over the green valleys below, broken by their pleasant trout-streams, is altogether charming. Besides the keep there is a collection of objects found in the ruins to be seen in the pavilion, a round structure adorned with portraits of William the Conqueror, François I., and others connected with the Castle of Arques. Below the castle, the sixteenth-century church with its flamboyant architecture should be visited. The Renaissance screen and the carvings in the lady chapel deserve notice. In the Chapel of St. Nicholas is a bust of Henry IV., placed there in memory of the battle of Arques. 1635
Varengville, with the famous Manoir d'Ango, can be visited by taking the omnibus from the Café de la Bourse, and proceeding thither through



TRÉPORT FROM THE ROAD TO DIEPPE



MANOIR D'ANGO, NEAR DIEPPE

DIEPPE

Pourville (2½ miles). Pourville is a pleasant little seaside village, with a small casino and a famous restaurant, that of Graff—a mile and a half beyond is Varengewille. The once-famous Manoir d'Ango now forms a portion of a farmhouse, and has lost much of the splendour which it possessed when visited by François I., and the ambassadors of the King of Portugal. D'Ango, it should be said, had burnt some Portuguese villages and captured some of their richly-laden vessels. Complaint was made to François, who on his own part disavowed the deed. "Go find Ango," he said, "and arrange with him".

The manoir, of Renaissance style (1525), forms a quadrangle and has at one end a handsome dovecote of circular form. The manoir itself is built of red brick diapered with flint; the windows and mouldings are of stone. The large medallions above the entrance and upon the front of the building should be noticed; among them will be observed portraits of François I. and Diane de Poitiers. Within, the stone chimney-piece and the fresco, Moses showing the Brazen Serpent (discovered in 1857), are worthy of notice.

A mile beyond Varengewille is the lighthouse of Ailly (1775); the view from the tower will repay the trouble of climbing the stairs. Beyond this, a mile further across the common, is St. Marguerite with an eleventh-century church and a Roman villa discovered in 1847, with excellent mosaics.

Tréport, a pleasant watering-place of about 5000 inhabitants on the northern boundary of Normandy, may be visited by rail from Dieppe, from which it is some twenty-five miles distant. The cliffs here are very fine; on the summit of one of

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them the Church of St. Jacques forms a conspicuous object. It is a pity that a building so finely situated should lack a spire. Within may be noted an old altar with carved wooden reredos, a stone piscina and a silver lamp in the form of a ship, the gift of Queen Amélie. The fifteenth-century presbytery near the church and the ruins of an old abbey on the road to Eu are also in evidence.

In the dining-room of the Hôtel de France may be seen a picture representing Queen Victoria and Louis Philippe, recalling the visit of the Queen of England to Tréport in 1843. This was on the occasion of her visit to the Château d'Eu, two miles from Tréport. The château was built by Henri le Balafre, Duc de Guise, in 1578, on the site of an older castle belonging to the Lusignans. After the Revolution it came into the hands of the Orleans family. In appearance it is a heavy and unattractive structure of red brick. The chapel contains some fine glass. At the entrance one notices beneath some large beech-trees the inscription placed by Louis Philippe, "It was here that the Guises held their council in the sixteenth century". This is, however, considered doubtful by some, as according to the Mémoires of Mlle. de Montpensier, there was no garden at the period when she purchased the castle.

It was at Eu that the Conqueror received Harold as we learn from the Bayeux tapestry. From the terrace at the end of the grounds a good view extends towards Tréport and the mouth of the river Bresle. The Church of Notre Dame, near the château, with its large flying-buttresses dates partly from the twelfth century. The building

was restored by Louis Philippe, to whom some of the stained Sèvres windows are due. Of the early church in which William the Conqueror was married, only two towers remain, and some round pillars by the choir. The choir itself dates from 1580. The triforium arches of the nave open into the aisles. The pulpit is richly carved. An urn at the entrance of the church encloses the heart of Catherine of Cleves, while the tombs in the crypt are of considerable interest, including that of St. Laurence, Archbishop of Dublin, who died at Eu in 1181, whither he had gone for the sake of acting as mediator between Henry II. and the King of Ireland. Others belong to the counts of Artois and their wives. Notice especially that of Isabella de Melun, with the dogs at her feet, and the charming face of Jeanne de Sèves, wife of Charles d'Artois. In the Chapelle du Collège in the Rue de Collège is the monument of the Duc de Guise, so barbarously murdered at Blois by orders of Henry III., and the tomb of his wife Catherine of Cleves and that of their daughter the Princesse de Conti. The building, originally belonging to the Jesuits, was built out of the materials of the old castle. The Forest of Eu, which is of considerable size, extending as far as 25 miles in one direction, offers numerous excursions, notably to the Mont d'Orléans, from which fine views may be obtained.

Close to Tréport and separated from it by its harbour is Mers, a quiet little watering-place of some 1300 inhabitants, with a good beach and moderate-priced hotels. Another rising little watering-place within the reach of Tréport is Criel near the mouth of the Yères. It has the

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usual casino and tolerable hotels. Besides a sixteenth-century church there are to be seen the ruins of the old Castle of Baile. Other excursions from Dieppe are to Veules (15 miles) noted for its watercress beds, reached by bus from the Hôtel de Normandie, Mesnières (18 miles) with its handsome Renaissance château, once the property of Louis XV., and Berneval (5 miles) with its excellent beach.

Dieppedalle. See Rouen.

Dives-sur-Mer. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Population 1800. Is remarkable as being the port from which the Conqueror set sail for England in 1066. It was formerly a Roman station of importance. The church founded by Robert the Devil was almost entirely destroyed by Edward III. The lower portion of the tower, however, belongs to the eleventh century. Within, above the large door, are the names of the principal Norman knights who left Dives with William for England.

In the N. transept is a "miraculous" crucifix to which attaches a legend of the sea, represented in one of the windows. The quaint sixteenth-century Hostellerie de Guillaume le Conquérant with its museum of curiosities must be visited, as also the old market-hall (fourteenth and sixteenth centuries) with its beautiful roof. The port of Dives must have undergone a striking alteration in appearance since the Conqueror's days, owing to the retirement of the sea, and the partial silting up of the river. A not inconsiderable trade, however, in cattle and poultry is carried on from its present harbour.

Domfront. O. Population 4801. No town in Normandy, with the exception perhaps of Falaise, is more strikingly situated than Domfront, with its old



CASTLE KEEP, DOMFRONT



DIEPPEDALLE—DOMFRONT

stone houses rising in terraces from the hillside over which the ruins of its ancient castle still seem to keep watch. Very beautiful too is the country beneath, reminding one not a little of the Peak country of Derbyshire, with a dash of certain portions of Surrey or of Devon, the eye ranging freely over a vast expanse of green vale, hillside and forest for the distance of at least thirty miles. Dermer calls it a "miniature Switzerland," but this expression seems scarcely suitable to a district where the highest elevation (Mont Margatin on the S.) is little above 1100 feet. Not much of the castle remains. What there is is square in form and was defended by four large towers and a deep moat cut from the rock, which rises more than 200 feet above the valley below. It was founded by the famous William of Bellême, who is supposed to be buried in the church by the river Varenne.

In spite of the strength of the fortress, which stands sheer above the precipice, it was captured by Geoffrey Martel, Count of Anjou, from whom it was taken by William the Conqueror after a long siege in 1049. After his death, the inhabitants, weary of the cruelty of Roger Montgommery, who had married the daughter of William de Bellême, drove out the garrison and gave up the fortress to Henry I. Later on the castle was taken from John by Philip Augustus, who twice besieged Domfront, but was subsequently recovered by the English in Henry V.'s reign in spite of the gallant resistance of its defenders. It was here that the Huguenot general, Gabriel Montgommery, made his heroic defence in 1574 against the royalist troops of Marshal Matignon. Montgommery had entered Domfront with sixty horsemen, in the face of the enemy,

and prepared to defend the town to the last with the help of a few of its inhabitants. Matignon's force amounted to over 7000, while Montgomery's soon dwindled down to less than 200 men. Nevertheless, he succeeded in repulsing all attacks, and it was only when he found himself alone with 15 men of the garrison, most of whom were wounded, and but little powder left, that the brave leader consented to surrender, on the express condition that his life should be spared. Montgomery was then conveyed to St. Lo in the hope that Colombières, who held that town for the Huguenots, might be induced by him to lay down his arms. This Colombières refused to do, and calling out to Montgomery, who was holding a consultation with him at the foot of the wall, and who scarcely deserved the reproof, "Hide yourself from so many brave men, who can see in their former chief only a dishonoured man," continued to defend the walls of St. Lo till he fell pierced by a bullet, his blood splashing over his two young sons, who, however, were spared by Matignon's efforts, in the massacre which followed. Montgomery was then conveyed to Paris, where the vindictive Queen Catherine de Médiçi, disregarding Matignon's promise to his prisoner, refused to spare his life.

Fifteen years before, Montgomery had had the ill-luck in the course of a tournament to inflict by accident a mortal wound upon Catherine's husband, Henri II. It was partly on the charge of killing the King intentionally that the Huguenot leader was condemned to death. Nay, more, his children were to be degraded to villanage. "If they have not the virtue of nobles to raise themselves again, I consent to their degradation," was the reply of the

DOMFRONT—DOUVRES

prisoner, at whose execution the relentless Queen was present.

In the sixteenth century the town was surrounded by 24 towers, of which only 14 remain; most of these are in ruins. One tower, that of Godras, has been restored. The crag called the Tertie Grisière, which faces the castle, had played a conspicuous part in Matignon's assault on the building, for it was on this hill that his cannon were planted. It is also noted as having been the scene of many a hanging, a sort of local Newgate in fact, as the old rhyme testifies—

Domfront Ville de Malheur,
Arrivé à midi, pendu à une heure,
Pas seulement le temps de diner.

Certainly few criminals have closed their eyes on a more delightful view than that which meets one from the hill. In the plain at the foot of the castle runs the little river Varenne following its rapid course from N. to S., till it finds its way to the Bay of Biscay by means of the Loire. Beside this river and adjoining the railway station is the Church of Notre Dame sur l'Eau with short square-built tower, founded in the eleventh century by William de Bellême, whose reputed tomb is to be seen in the N. transept. The high altar belongs to the thirteenth century.

Domville. See Granville.

Douvres-la-Délivrande. C. arr. Caën. Population 1700. The little town of Douvres has long been famous as a place of pilgrimage, many thousands of pilgrims resorting there every year. The pilgrimage church of La Délivrande has been recently rebuilt, but a little of the old work is left in the arcades to the N. and W. Founded in the seventh

century by St. Regnobert, destroyed by the Northmen in the ninth and rebuilt by Count Baldwin in the eleventh century, it was once more ransacked by the Protestants in 1562. The statue of the Virgin, which was hidden at the Revolution, was restored to its place in the time of Napoleon I. From the year 830 to the beginning of the eleventh century, this statue had been buried beneath the ruins of the chapel, and is said to have been discovered by a miracle, a sheep having indicated the spot by grubbing up the soil, to the shepherd of Baldwin, who at once ordered the chapel to be rebuilt.

Duclair. S. I. arr. Rouen. Population 2000. On the Seine; has a church with Roman tower, Renaissance doorway and fourteenth-century choir. It contains some sixteenth-century bas-reliefs, and Romanesque columns with marble capitals.

Écouché. O. arr. Argentan. Population 1500. Has a fine flamboyant and Renaissance church and old dilapidated market-hall.

Elbœuf. S. I. arr. Rouen. Pop. 21,000. On the Seine; has been famous for its woollen industries since the thirteenth century. Its church of St. Etienne (1517) has some excellent stained-glass of the sixteenth century, depicting not only scenes drawn from the Bible, but the workmen and corporations of the period. Note

- (1) The vaulting with pendants.
- (2) The beautiful Renaissance organ-case.

The Church of St. Jean (sixteenth and seventeenth centuries) has a Renaissance façade and some good sixteenth-century glass. The natural history museum in the Hôtel de Ville, contains good collections of birds and butterflies.



ELBEUF





ÉRETAT

DUCLAIR—ÉTRETAT

Épinay. See Fécamp.

Épouville. See Havre.

Étretat. S. I. On the Channel. Population 2000. This fascinating little watering-place was until a comparatively recent date a mere fishing village, and owes its present celebrity partly to the painter Isabey, who discovered it some fifty years ago. He lost no time in telling other artists, such as Le Poitevin, who made use of the village in his paintings. Then the clever journalist Alphonse Karr wrote of Étretat, and the place at once became famous to the Parisian world. From July to September the town is very crowded, and the casino with its fine terrace is in all its glory. The general appearance of the sea-front somewhat resembles that of a Devonshire watering-place. Except that the cliffs of Étretat are white instead of reddish, one might almost fancy oneself at Teignmouth or Dawlish.

The cliff to the right called the Falaise d'Amont is terminated by an arch, that on the left called the Falaise d'Aval has also an arch or as Dermér expresses it a "flying-buttress," projecting into the sea; beside it is the curious Aiguille d'Étretat, a natural obelisk, some two hundred feet high. In looking towards the Porte d'Aval one is irresistibly reminded of the "Parson and Clerk" at Teignmouth.

The walk along the cliff to the Côte d'Aval is perhaps the most interesting in Étretat. The first cave which we notice in ascending the cliffs is the Trou de l'Homme, after this one finds oneself between two arches, that of the Porte d'Aval above-mentioned, and another termed the Manne Port. Between the two arches a path leads up a

rocky peninsula to the grotto called the *Chambre des Demoiselles*. These, as the legend goes, were three beautiful sisters, who, carried away by the cruel Chevalier of Fréfosse, the then lord of Étretat, refused to have anything to say to that worthy. Mad with rage, he ordered them to be carried to the top of the cliffs, since called the "*Chambre des Demoiselles*," and to be flung down thence in a barrel full of sharp nails. From that time the murderer was haunted by the three white phantoms till he perished from remorse, since which the forms of the fair sisters have ceased to haunt the pleasant cliffs of Étretat.

Some six miles beyond the *Porte d'Aval* is *Cap d'Antifer*, a pleasant walk along the cliffs. *Cap d'Antifer* and its lighthouse may be also approached by boat, in some twenty minutes, if the wind is favourable. Here is the *Roc-aux-Guillemots*, a favourite haunt of that bird, and also of those who like the doubtful sport of shooting sea-fowl.

Beyond is the pleasant village of *Bruneval-les-Bains*, a small hamlet with a good beach and fine cliffs. Close by is *St. Jouin*, where the *Hôtel de Paris* has become celebrated among visitors from Étretat, on account of the collection of pictures belonging to its owner—*Ernestine Aubourg*.

Another pleasant excursion is by the cliff beyond the *Côte d'Amont* to *Bénouville*, about an hour's walk, past the chapel of *Notre Dame des Flots*, and the semaphore. Descending the cliff by a staircase cut in the rock near the *Douanier's* hut, to *Fontaine-aux-Mousses*, opposite which is the *Aiguille de Bénouville*, one proceeds at low water a short distance along the beach, and ascends the cliff again by the *Valleuse de Bénouville*, a kind of



EVREUX CATHEDRAL

ÉTRETAT—EVREUX

spiral staircase, winding round a deep abyss. One can return to Étretat by the village of Bénouville, or one can go on through Vattetot to Vaucottes, a pleasant little watering-place, 4½ miles from Étretat. Another agreeable spot is Yport, a fishing village beloved of artists and lovers of quiet (1½ miles from Vaucottes), situated amidst the woods and on the Channel.

Eu. See Dieppe.

Evreux. Evreux, the chief town in Eure (population 18,000), is situated on the pretty river Iton which here divides into three branches.

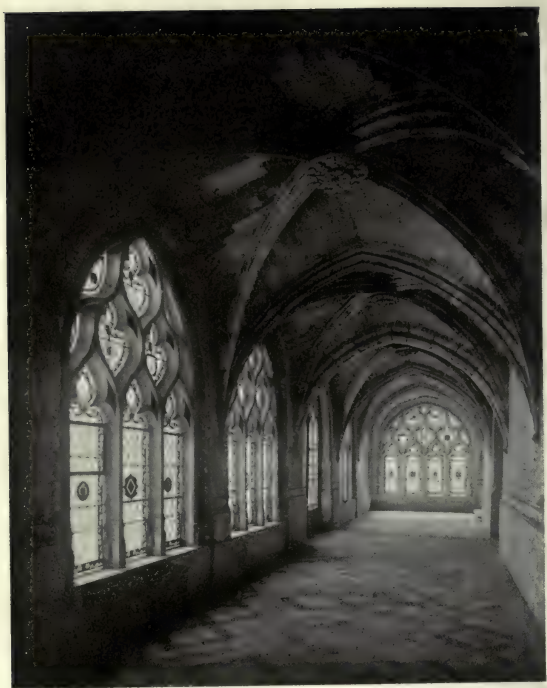
It lies on a plain and is surrounded on all sides by rising ground with a rich growth of forest on the S.W. It is one of the pleasantest and cleanest towns in Northern France, and as such is a favourite place of residence for retired officers and men of business. It is built on the site of the Roman Mediolanum Aulercorum, which was destroyed soon after the arrival of the Franks under Clovis. Since then it has suffered many vicissitudes. At the end of the ninth century it was destroyed by the Norsemen. It was burned by Henry I. of England and again by Philip Augustus in revenge for the treachery of John. Rebuilt by Richard I. it became a bone of contention in the Middle Ages between the Kings of Navarre and France. The inhabitants, according to Froissart, much preferred the rule of the family of Navarre. The town has belonged to France since 1441. The cathedral in the centre of the town is worthy of careful study. It is small, but admirably proportioned though the perfect Renaissance front is out of harmony with the Norman architecture to the W. of the nave, and the fifteenth-century

wooden spire. The latter was erected by Cardinal Balue, the famous primate of Louis XI. To him, also, we owe the S. transept, the sacristy and the beautiful lady chapel. The cathedral dates from 1030, but of the oldest portion only the piers and arches of the four eastern bays of the nave remain. The lower part of the nave probably formed part of Henry I.'s building (1125), while the choir was built between 1298 and 1310, though its beautifully glazed triforium shows work of the fifteenth century. Among the figures there depicted is that of Charles the Bad, King of Navarre, the evil genius of the city of Evreux.

The lady chapel too contains excellent glass, while the admirable sixteenth-century wooden screens of the chapels in the nave as well as those of the choir deserve more than a superficial examination. Particularly notice that of St. Anne's chapel with its oak wreath, that of No. 6 in the northern ambulatory, with quaint figures carved on the panels, and the lovely tracery of the screen of the lady chapel. The rood screen may also be noticed, the rose-windows too of this cathedral are particularly good.

On leaving the cathedral and entering the large open place one remarks the entrance to the episcopal palace, built in 1481 on the old wall of the city. It encloses a hexagonal tower with staircase. This building, however, is not open to visitors.

The old Benedictine Abbey Church of St. Taurin can be reached by following the Rue Josephine from the Palais de Justice as far as the Place Saint Taurin. This saint, the first Bishop of Evreux, is said to have been sent from Rome to



EVREUX : CLOISTER OF BISHOP'S PALACE

preach Christianity to the Gauls and to have driven out from the temple of Diana a demon who had made his home in the city of Evreux. The story may be read in the old painted glass of the church choir (1420). In the southern window of this we see Landulphe, Bishop of Evreux in the seventh century, discovering the relics of St. Taurin. Then follows one of the various legends respecting the saint. The announcement of his birth by an angel, his baptism by St. Clement and St. Denys, his consecration as Bishop of Evreux, his attack on the devil in the temple of Diana, the indignation of the priests who scourge St. Taurin, are all duly depicted as well as his death and burial, when he rises in the tomb to bid farewell to his disconsolate flock. The saint is also credited with having delivered Evreux from a plague of adders and snakes, and it is still asserted by some that these creatures perish at once if brought within the walls of the city. The silver bejewelled ch^âsse containing the relics of St. Taurin is kept in the sacristy. It dates from the twelfth century and is considered the best in France. The Norman triforium in the S. of the nave should be noticed, as also the pulpit, choir stalls and font. The tomb of St. Taurin is in the Romanesque crypt. The church itself was rebuilt in the eleventh century by Richard II. of Normandy. The mediæval buildings of the abbey no longer exist. Near the Hôtel de Ville and Cathedral is the Tour de l'Horlogé built in 1417, containing a bell of the Carlovingian period. The Musée, also in the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville, boasts of a collection of Gallic-Roman remains from Old Evreux including a Juppiter-Stator and Apollo of

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bronze, bas-reliefs from the château of Navarre, armour and tapestry, etc.

The fifth-century city walls may be traced along the boulevards and are remarkable for their thickness. Old Evreux is about 4 miles to the S.E. of the town; the excavations which have been made have led to the discovery of a Roman theatre, baths and other objects of interest.

The Jardin Botanique near the railway station is pretty and well cared for. The cotton industry of the town, the printing works and the stained-glass factory are important, and contribute to that air of prosperity which characterises this pleasant city.

Falaise. C. Population 7657. Falaise, some twenty miles from Caen, must be reckoned among those Norman cities which are "set on a hill," in which respect it may be compared with Vire, Avranches, Domfront, Mortain, and Coutances. To the visitor who approaches it by rail from Vire, it is a fitting terminus to one of the loveliest pieces of railway scenery in France. The striking position of its castle, the picturesque stone houses overhanging the sides of the hill, remind one not a little of Domfront, while the small river Ante, flowing through its maze of tanneries and bridges, finds a counterpart in more than one of the older towns of Normandy.

The historic interest of the place is enthralling. At Caen we stand by the Conqueror's grave, at Rouen we tread near the scene of his decease, at Domfront, Alençon and Argentan we are reminded of William's career as a warrior, at Bayeux we linger over the tapestry woven by the fingers of his industrious consort, but other objects intervene and we

FALAISE

lose sight of the greatest of the Normans. At Falaise, his birthplace, this is quite impossible, everything we see is associated with the recollection of the great monarch. The castle in which he was born, from the window of which Duke Robert obtained his first glimpse of the tanner's daughter, has seen more than its share of fighting. Fortified by the first Dukes of Normandy, and taken by William from its treacherous governor Toustain, it was used as a prison by King John for his unfortunate brother Arthur. During the Middle Ages it underwent numerous sieges. In 1418 during the Hundred Years' War, it was seized by Henry V. who planted his cannon on the steep cliff of Mont Mirat, which overlooks the castle on one side. The town was, however, recovered by Charles VII.

In the wars of the Ligue Falaise was taken and retaken more than once, before it finally fell into the hands of Henry IV. in 1589. The breaches made by his guns are still in evidence by the side of the Tour de la Reine. The donjon built on the very edge of the cliff is a square stone building of massive strength. It communicates by a passage with the Tour Talbot, a huge round tower supposed to have been added during the English occupation (1418-1450) when Sir John Talbot was left here by Henry V. as warden of the Norman marches. Probably, however, as Dermer remarks, it was built at least 200 years before Talbot's time, and belongs like that of Gisors to the class of towers erected by Philip Augustus during his wars in Normandy. The tower is more than a hundred feet high, and the massive walls are 15 feet thick. There are five stories. In the floor of each is a well, the lowest story being a dungeon. There is

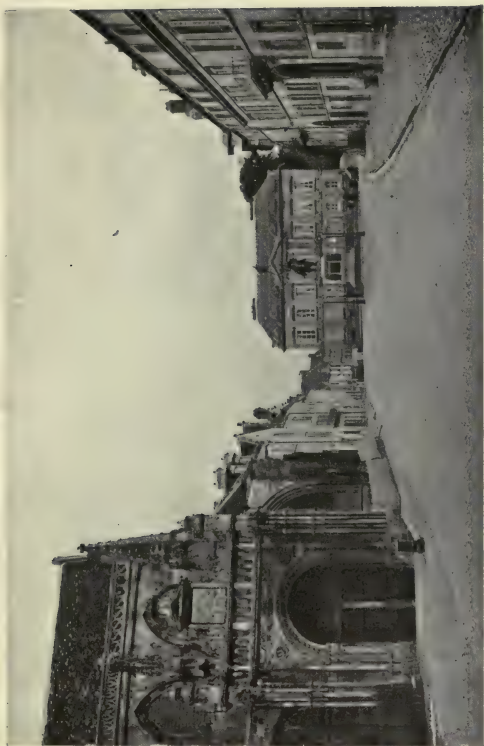
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a delightful view from the roof of the tower, to which, however, access is no longer permitted.

Below the castle, in the Place Guillaume le Conquérant, to the west of the Church of the Trinity, is the handsome bronze statue of the Duke erected in 1851. The sculptor, Louis Rochet, has represented the hero on horseback in full armour with open vizor, as depicted in the Bayeux tapestry, and with uplifted lance he seems to urge his soldiers on to battle. The statue is worthy alike of its subject and of the town which thus honoured its greatest man. In the Church of St. Trinité we find "Gothic traditions and classical detail fighting for mastery". The north porch, of eleventh-century architecture, has been compared to that of St. Eustache in Paris, and combines Gothic shafts, capitals and mouldings with classical consols and pediments, while the round arch is everywhere in evidence. The choir, of good Renaissance work, begun early in the sixteenth century, has been restored in the nineteenth. The transept dates from the thirteenth century, the nave from the fifteenth. Note the chipped caps on the N. piers, with the illustrations of the trades of the period and figures of St. Sebastian and other saints. A peculiar feature in the church is the ambulatory from the choir to the lady chapel, which is raised by steps to admit of the passage of the street below.

The other church, that of St. Gervais, in the upper town is interesting as having been consecrated in 1134, in the presence of Henry I. Its beautiful central tower is Roman, so too is a portion of the nave restored in the thirteenth century. The chapels and choir belong to the sixteenth.

The Church of St. Laurent, in the picturesque



PLACE GUILLAUME LE CONQUÉRANT, FALAISE



suburb of that name, has a Roman doorway and an old picture of the descent from the Cross (1621).

The church of the suburb of Guibray, on the S. of the plateau above Falaise, is Roman, with fifteenth-century tower and porch, and Roman doorway. Note the quaint capitals of the latter. Guibray itself is a commercial suburb, occupied with the knitting industry, and boasts of a famous August fair said to have been inaugurated by Duke William himself. Dermer and Musgrave give lengthy accounts of the scenes which they observed at this festivity; this, however, except in magnitude, appears to differ little from the ordinary fair, whether in Normandy or elsewhere. Musgrave's quotation from the programme of the extemporised theatre is not without interest fifty years after. A short extract must suffice:—

“BILL OF PERFORMANCE

at the

THÉÂTRE DES VARIÉTÉS

In one of the Buildings erected on the Square,
called the Great Fair Field.

THE WAR IN THE EAST

BOMBARDMENT OF THE IMPÉRIAL PORT

of

ODESSA

22nd August, 1854,

BY THE ANGLO-FRENCH SQUADRON

NORMANDY

On the rising of the curtain the theatre will represent the roadstead of Odessa, the town and its fortifications in the background, which will be seen to fall in ruins under the fire of artillery. The spectators will witness the explosion of two powder magazines, the conflagration raging among the storehouses, the barracks and the palace of Prince Woronzow. To begin at seven o'clock in the evening.

Price of the chief seats 25 centimes ($2\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
Second seats 15 centimes ($1\frac{1}{2}$ d.)."

Little doubt but that the visitor to Falaise in 1906 and afterwards will see the representation of the bombardment of another Russian port displayed, with great redundance of picturesque detail.

Commercially speaking the fair is but the shadow of its former self, and is noted chiefly as the rendezvous for the horsedealers of the neighbouring districts. As in Duke William's time, tanning continues to be a prominent industry of Falaise. Hosiery is another mainstay of the town, which appears to enjoy only a moderate degree of prosperity.

Excursions may be made from Falaise to the turreted sixteenth-century Château de Longpré ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile), and to Versainville, with eighteenth-century château, beautiful park, and fifteenth-century church ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles). Another favourite excursion is to the Brèche-au-Diable, a singular cleft in the rock, in the gorge of St. Quintin, a few miles from the town. At the bottom of the steep valley flows the little river Laison, while on the summit of the rock of St. Quintin is the monument to the charm-



THE QUAY, FÉCAMP

FALAISE—FÉCAMP

ing actress of the Comédie Française, Marie Joly, who died in 1798.

There are also noteworthy châteaux and churches at Ussy, Villers-Canivet and La Jalousie, while the lovely valleys of the Orne and Noireau will delight all who admire beautiful scenery.

Fécamp. Population 15,000. S. I. If one were to ask a Frenchman for what Fécamp is best known, he would be almost certain to reply, "For the Benedictine Monastery and its sea-bathing". These, however, are by no means its best title to fame in the eyes of an Englishman, who will prefer to think of it as a town indissolubly connected with the history of Normandy and consequently with that of his own country. From Fécamp Duke Robert and Edward Atheling embarked for England, on the occasion upon which they were stranded on the coast of Jersey. Here, too, the Conqueror was brought up; while his guardian Alan of Brittany is buried at Fécamp. Here William kept his first Easter after the subjugation of England and yet again the same festival in 1075. Taken by the English in 1363, it remained in their possession till 1450. Later on, we find Charles, afterwards Charles II. of England, disembarking at Fécamp, when seeking refuge on French soil in 1652.

Although not possessing the vivacity and lightness of Étretat and Trouville, nor the mediæval and old-world air which surrounds Lisieux and Rouen, there is much nevertheless in the aspect of Fécamp to rivet the attention of the visitor. Not only are there the ancient Abbey Church and the Fountain of the Précieux Sang and the Benedictine Monastery, but the port and river

mouth, with their background of white cliffs, give evidence of a certain degree of life and prosperity which possess an interest of their own. Huge piles of wood which line the quays remind us that the timber trade and shipbuilding are among the chief industries of the Norman town, while those vessels flapping their sails in the bay are about to set out for the cod-fisheries of distant Newfoundland. The views, too, from the cliffs above the casino are worth the climb, and we cannot truthfully endorse the statement of a writer who complains of the dulness of the sea-port of Fécamp.

To the left of the port is a lighthouse with the Chapel of Notre Dame du Salut, built by Henry I. of England—a great place for pilgrimage for the simple fisher folk. Close by where the lighthouse stands a fort was built in 1591, the scene of the bold exploit of Bois-Rosé. This captain of the Ligue had determined to take the fort from Henry IV.'s garrison. Having managed to place two of his men within the enemy's walls he set out one dark night with fifty followers and landed at the foot of the cliff. A rope was let down by the confederates, to which Bois-Rosé attached a strong cable. By this means, not without considerable difficulty, the summit was reached, the sentries overpowered and the garrison made prisoners.

The Church of St. Étienne, close to the station, dates from the sixteenth century. It possesses a singular porch, and some good glass; but the chief glory of Fécamp is the fine Abbey Church of Notre Dame, in the centre of the town. The exterior is not specially striking. Within, the nave is divided into three portions by ten rows of eleven massive pillars. This portion is supposed to be early

FÉCAMP

thirteenth-century work. The choir is transitional, with the exception of a portion of the N., which belongs to the eleventh century. The triforium is circular and apparently belonging to the older church. The Renaissance carvings in the ambulatory are extremely quaint. The coloured clock of 1667, in the N. transept, representing the phases of the moon and the movements of the tides, the "Falling asleep of the Virgin" in the S. transept, and the tabernacle containing the relics of the Precious Blood, behind the lady chapel, must all be noticed.

The first abbey of Fécamp is said to have been founded by St. Wanninge in 650, St. Childemarca of Burgundy being the first abbess of the convent. In the ninth century it was destroyed by the Northmen, and rebuilt by William Longsword at the end of the tenth. Richard the Fearless established a foundation of secular canons in 990, but dismissed them in 1001, and established a Benedictine community instead; his son Richard the Good completed his work. Both are buried, according to their odd whim, beneath the eaves of the abbey church. The buildings of the Hôtel de Ville, in which are the library and museum, were formerly a portion of the convent, as also were those of the electric works which one notices to the left on leaving the abbey. Some ten minutes walk from the Abbey Church is the Fountain of the Precious Blood which is reached by following the Boulevard de la République and turning into the Rue de l'Aumône, where on the left at No. 10 will be found the building which shelters the Holy Spring. The legend, according to Macquoid, is somewhat as follows:—

"Nicodemus, assisting at the descent from the

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cross, collected in a glove the blood which had gathered round the sacred wounds. He kept it thus preserved during his life, but when he was dying he confided the treasure to his nephew Isaac. Isaac was told in a vision that the Romans were destroying everything that came in their way, and fearing for the safety of the relic, he pierced a hole in a fig-tree and placed in it a leaden box in which he had enclosed the relic; he then cut down the tree and threw the trunk into the sea. The trunk was carried by the waves to the valley of Fécamp. The children of a Christian named Bozo and his wife Merca, were playing in the field where the trunk had been washed ashore, and finding three shoots of an unknown tree bearing large leaves they carried one home to their father. Bozo recognised the leaf as that of the fig-tree and planted the young shoots in his garden; he then tried to remove the trunk, but it was too heavy. The shoots grew into large trees and the place where they had been found was entitled the 'Champ du Figuier'. Bozo died, and one winter night an old man came and asked for hospitality from Merca. The night was cold but there was little fuel. The children suggested bringing the trunk of the fig-tree, but Merca said that this would be impossible as no one could move it. The next day the stranger accompanied by Merca's children and servants went to the 'Champ du Figuier'. The stranger raised the trunk without difficulty and placed it on a cart which had been prepared for it. The oxen drew the cart easily till they reached the place where the Abbey of Fécamp now stands, but they could draw it no further, and as they strove the cart fell to pieces, whereupon the

FÉCAMP

stranger knelt down and prayed. Making the sign of the cross on the trunk he exclaimed, 'Happy province, happy place! but thrice happy he who adores the price of the world herein inclosed'. He disappeared, but some centuries after when Duke Richard caused the church of Fécamp to be rebuilt in honour of the relic, now lost under the ruins of the first abbey in which it had been enshrined, on the day of its dedication an angel appeared, bearing in his hands the Precious Blood and having laid it on the altar said, 'Here is the price of the redemption of the world which came from Jerusalem'. He vanished but left the impression of his foot on a stone still to be seen in the Chapelle de la Dormition de la Vierge."

Such is the celebrity of the fountain, that pilgrims visit Fécamp in thousands on the first Tuesday of Trinity and drink the water after worshipping in the abbey at the shrine of the Precious Blood. The abbey of Fécamp, it may be remarked, was exempt from all ecclesiastical jurisdiction except that of the Pope. Among the celebrated men connected with it were Cardinal Balue, the Cardinal of Lorraine, Henry II. of Lorraine and Archbishop Henry of Bourbon. Jean Casimer, King of Poland, was its abbot.

The famous Benedictine distillery in the Rue Théagène-Boufort with its interesting museum should be seen on the way to the sea. The liqueur is supposed to have been invented by a monk of the abbey monastery about 1510, and the receipt is said to have been preserved at the Revolution by the steward of the abbey. Quite two hundred workpeople are employed in the building, many of them being orphan girls under the charge

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of the sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. The museum, which is open to view every day except Sundays and Saints' days, contains many relics from the abbey, carved furniture, ancient books and manuscripts, in addition to church plate and objects of purely ecclesiastical interest. There are many pleasant excursions to be made in the neighbourhood of Fécamp. For example, by taking the Étretat road one may visit the pretty little valley of Grainval returning to the casino by the sands ($1\frac{1}{4}$ miles) or by taking the road towards Rouen, a walk of about 3 miles will bring one to the pleasant wood of Épinay with its pisciculture establishment and sixteenth-century farm, but the chief excursion from Fécamp is to the Château de Valmont about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road through the village of Colleville. The château was once the home of the great Du Guesclin, who received Francis I. here, and the birthplace of Cardinal d'Estouteville. Its keep belongs to the thirteenth century, the rest of the building to the fifteenth. On the opposite side of the river is the ruined abbey, the beautiful chapel adjoining, the Chapelle de Six-Heures, containing three tombs of the Estoutevilles alluded to by Victor Hugo in "Notre Dame de Paris". Behind the altar is a curious sculptured Annunciation. The Abbey of Valmont-en-Caux was founded in 1116 by Nicolas d'Estouteville to fulfil a vow which he had made when in peril in the Holy Land. But being of a miserly disposition, he endeavoured to economise by neglecting to pay the vassals whom he compelled to serve. Legend narrates that his young daughter Marie prevented a just revolt by spending her money on food for the starving workmen. One evening when carry-

FÉCAMP—FLAMANVILLE

ing a store of provisions wrapped up in her dress and a vase of wine in her hand she met her father. He asked what she was carrying so carefully. "Roses and water," she responded. By the working of a miracle it turned out to be as she had said, but he overwhelmed her with reproaches, and threatened that she should end her days in a cloister. "Your will be done," she replied, and as she spoke a halo encircled her head. She then disappeared and it was reported a year after that she had died in a convent of the Carmelites.

Other excursions are to Yport (3 miles by the cliff) and to Angerville-Bailleul (6 miles) through Tourville and Les Ifs—both the château and the church at Bailleul are interesting, the latter containing good glass and a fine sixteenth-century painting on wood. One can return by the valley of Bec-de-Mortagne and that of Ganzeville with its château of brick, built in the style of Louis XIII.

From Fécamp it is 12 miles to Cany, a charming little town situated in the pleasant valley of the Durdent, which contains some good trout especially near the fine château, a mile or so outside the town. The church belongs to the sixteenth century.

The pleasant little watering-places Petites Dalles and Veulettes are within easy reach of Fécamp and Cany.

Ferté-Macé. O. arr. Domfront. Population 8000. Near the beautiful forest of La Ferté. Is an industrial town with a modern church, replacing an older one of which the Roman tower and choir alone remain. There was once a fortress here built by the seigneurs of La Ferté.

Flamanville. See Cherbourg.

Flers. O. arr. Domfront. A manufacturing town of 14,000 inhabitants on the Vère, with large weaving and dyeing industries; has a fifteenth-century castle with ramparts and large park, and a fine public garden.

Fontaine-Guerard. E. arr. Andelys. Originally a nunnery, afterwards transformed into an abbey by St. Louis, the buildings of the abbey of Fontaine-Guérard date from the thirteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. A fifteenth-century chapel in front of the ruins covers an ancient Roman crypt with subterranean passage attached.

Fontaine-Henri. C. arr. Caen. Population 400. Prettily situated on the Mue, owes its name to Henri de Tilly, a twelfth-century baron. Its church dates from the eleventh and thirteenth centuries.

The castle, built at different periods, is in good preservation. The right side, which is fifteenth-century work, is flanked by two square towers, on one of which are remarkable mouldings. The other side, which belongs to the Renaissance, has a high roof with lofty chimney. At the corner of the pavilion is an elegant turret ornamented with medallions. The front is covered with skilfully wrought scrolls, friezes and bas-reliefs. Above a door in the staircase is a figure of Judith holding the head of Holofernes in her left hand, and a sword in her right, with an inscription in verse.

Forges-les-Eaux. S. I. arr. Neufchâtel. Population 2000. One of the oldest French Spas. Is a pretty well-built town celebrated for its iron waters, which, discovered in 1573, attracted many distinguished visitors, including Louis XIII., Ann of Austria, Madame de Sévigné, Voltaire, Napoleon

FLERS—GAILLON

I., and Louis Philippe. The *Établissement des Bains*, situated in a fine park, watered by the *Andelle*, is a modern construction. The handsome casino on a height above the lake and park is replete with all that can furnish amusement to those who come to take the waters. The view from its terrace is delightful.

Fresneau. See *Sées*.

Fumichon. See *Lisieux*.

Gaillefontaine. See *Forges-les-Eaux*.

Gaillon. Gaillon in *Eure* is interesting as having been the seat of the Archbishops of Rouen. Their famous palace has now become a penitentiary.

This was built by Cardinal d'Amboise in 1498, in the reign of Louis XII. Only a portion, however, of the original structure still remains, the entrance porch with its towers, the clock tower and the chapter-house.

Previous to this there was another archbishop's palace at Gaillon in connection with which Mrs. Macquoid quotes a strange legend told respecting its first possessor, Odo, Archbishop of Rouen in the time of Louis XI. Though a wealthy prelate it was Odo's ambition to possess a strong fortress like the nobles around. One day when on a visit to the Bishop of Evreux, he was compelled by a storm to take refuge in the château of Gaillon. Learning that it belonged to the King, who rarely visited the place, he longed to become the possessor of the handsome building. Soon after St. Louis, who wished for more money to continue the Crusade, offered Gaillon to Odo in exchange for some of his wealth. The bargain was struck, and then Louis asked the Archbishop as a duty to

Heaven to accompany him to the Holy War. Odo assented reluctantly. But St. Louis perished of the plague, and the Archbishop escaping from shipwreck returned to France. Soon after, attended by the six suffragan Bishops of Bayeux, Evreux, Lisieux, Avranches, Sées and Coutances, he entered Gaillon with great pomp. That night he occupied the royal chamber, but next morning those who entered the room found only the lifeless body of the new Castellan of Gaillon.

The palace was burnt in 1423 by the soldiers of the Duke of Bedford; and rebuilt with great magnificence in the reign of Louis XII. by Cardinal d'Amboise. Famous architects were summoned, and no pains were spared to render Gaillon a marvel of beauty and magnificence. Ducatel, writing as late as 1767, when the palace was still standing, says:—

“The people of Normandy have formed to themselves so high an opinion of the beauty and magnificence of this palace, that when they endeavour to give you an idea of the utmost elegance of any villa of which they are speaking, they conclude their commendations by saying, ‘In short, sir, it is a little Gaillon’.”

Many well-known names are connected with Gaillon. Cardinal Bourbon, Catherine de Medici, Archbishop Colbert (son of the great minister) and Louis XVI., were all to be found here at one time or another. The last visit of Louis XVI. was in 1786, towards the close of his unlucky reign. One of the finer relics of the palace, a richly ornamented gateway which separated the outer from the inner court, was removed to the courtyard of the Palais des Beaux Arts at Paris.





GISORS: THE RUE CAPPEVILLE

GAILLON—GISORS

Ganzeville. See Fécamp.

Gatteville. See Valognes.

Gisors. Gisors in Eure. Population 4900. In the pleasant valley of the Epte. The remains of its feudal castle and its interesting church of St. Gervais and St. Protais make the little town a very desirable halting-place between Dieppe and Paris.

Situated on the frontier between Normandy and old France, the town has passed through many vicissitudes. Fortified by William Rufus and further strengthened by Philip Augustus who seized the castle, it owed its donjon and chief defences to Henry II. of England. It was in the Champ Sacré, where the railway now passes, that Henry and Philip met in 1188, and received the cross from the Papal legate, thereby pledging themselves to become partners in the Third Crusade. This compact, however, did not last, and Philip took possession of Gisors on the imprisonment of Richard Cœur-de-Lion. It was in retaliation for this that Richard erected his fortress of Château Gaillard (see Andelys). The castle is entered by a small gate leading by a winding staircase into a small court. On the right is the Tour du Prisonnier.

The outer court of large extent is now laid out as a garden, where the band plays on Sundays and festivals. Passing out at the gate on the opposite side, the great height of the walls and immense strength of the stronghold will be realised. In the midst of the large court rises a huge artificial mound on the summit of which is the great octagonal donjon. Beneath the castle is a subterranean passage said to communicate with Neaufles Castle some three miles away.

This is called the Souterrain de la Reine Blanche and thereby hangs a tale. Queen Blanche, mother of St. Louis, while besieged at Gisors made a sortie from the town and was suddenly cut off with her small force. Thereupon as night approached, she betook herself with her followers to the ruined castle of Neaufles. This was surrounded by the enemy, who expected when day broke to easily make prisoners the queen and her small band of attendants. But they reckoned without the subterranean passage, by means of which the queen and her companions were enabled to gain Gisors in safety, and not only that, but returning reinforced, to discomfit their too sanguine antagonists.

There is an excellent view from the top of the keep, which was built by Robert of Bellesme in 1097 for William Rufus.

The round tower on the E. is worth inspecting. Like the dungeon at Loches, it contains its sad memorials of by-gone prisoners in the carving scratched upon its walls. Nicolas Poulain, whose name will be here remarked, is supposed to be the prisoner chiefly associated with the tower. Taken prisoner by Louis XI. at the battle of Guinegate, condemned to be hung and afterwards reprieved, he spent four years in this gloomy cell before the death of the king procured him his release. The Church of Gisors is a singular mixture of architectural style. In the first place we have the thirteenth-century choir supposed to have been built by Queen Blanche, with the tower of the same period. A family of architects named Grappin who resided at Gisors have left their mark very conspicuously on much of the building. To Jumel Grappin is due the chevet completed between 1497

and 1503. The nave was built by Robert Grappin in 1530, but having fallen down owing to its hasty construction, it had to be rebuilt ten years later. Two Jean Grappins followed Robert, to the second of whom is due the S. tower with its Doric and Ionic orders. He would have raised the tower higher had not the Governor of Gisors represented that it might become a source of danger to the castle, in the event of cannon being placed upon its summit in time of war. The N. tower is in the Renaissance style of the François I. epoch. On the upper story is an octagonal lantern, with above it a little drum and cupola. The western porch with its richly carved late Gothic architecture is interesting historically in connection with the conversion of Henry IV. The curé, distrusting the sovereign's recent profession of Roman Catholicism, shut the gates in Henry's face, and it was not until he had knelt before the crucifix, that he was allowed to enter the building which he did with the jocosé remark, "Now I am King of Gisors".

The N. porch too with François I. panelled door is well worth careful study. Dermer—whose account of Gisors generally is excellent—places it above the famous portal of St. Maclou at Rouen. In the chapel near the central doorway is the famous Pilier des Marchands with its quaint figures depicting the different trades; there is some excellent glass in the S. aisle; the organ loft and baptistery are also interesting.

The Renaissance house in the Rue Fossé-aux-Tanneurs, near the Hôtel de Ville, exhibits in its carvings a singular combination of things sacred and profane. The bridge over the river termed

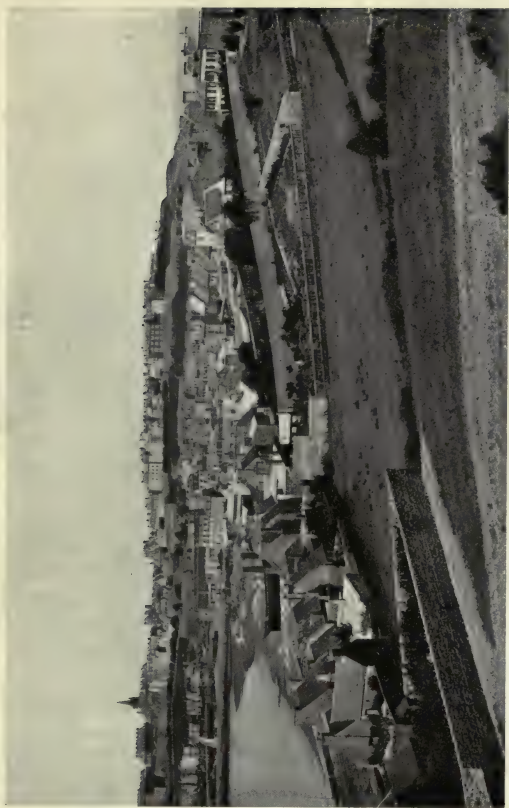
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the Pont Doré replaces the structure, which giving way beneath Philip Augustus plunged that monarch into the waters of the Epte. In gratitude for his escape, he ordered the gate to be gilded, and a coating of gold to be placed upon the image above the gate of our Lady of Gisors, to whose intervention his rescue was attributed.

Close to Gisors is Dangu, once an important fortress on the Epte. The portion of the ancient building which still exists does not date beyond the fifteenth century. The castle once belonged to the Count de Bouteville, who was executed by Richelieu for his duel in the Place Royale at Paris.

Gouey. See Carteret.

Gournay. S. I. arr. Neufchâtel. Population 4500. On the Epte; still possesses the remains and tower of its old ramparts, which are now used as promenades, and several old houses of the Renaissance period. The Church of St. Hildevert dates from the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and has a beautifully carved sixteenth-century organ-case. In the right aisle is the Mater Dolorosa, a painting of the sixteenth century. In the right transept in the "Procession of the relics of St. Hildevert," we notice a view of the town of Gournay. Note the bas-reliefs in the choir. At Saint Germer, four miles from Gournay, is a fortified gate (fourteenth century) belonging to the ancient abbey. Its Gothic and Romanesque church was much injured during the Hundred Years' War. One of its chapels contains a Roman altar. The beautiful Sainte Chapelle adjoining the church is built in the same style as that at Paris. The churches of Cuy-Saint-Fiacre (twelfth century), Beuvreuil (eleventh century with porch of the



GRANVILLE : GENERAL VIEW



GOUEY—GRANVILLE

fourteenth), and Dampierre (twelfth and sixteenth) with its lovely wooden roof are in the vicinity.

Grandcamp-les-Bains. C. arr. Bayeux. Population 1900. A watering-place and fishing village much frequented by artists.

Granville. M. Population 11,667. The entrance into the bay of Granville from Jersey (three hours) is picturesque. On the side opposite the town is the village of St. Pair with its vast extent of sand, and at some distance Mont St. Michel with its adjoining island of Tombelaine rises from the sea, while further to the W. stretches the point of Cancale and the coast of Brittany. The port itself is well constructed and consists of three docks protected by a huge jetty of granite, from the Chausey quarries. These are situated some 7 miles from Granville in the Iles Chausey, a collection of rocks which are plainly visible from the shore and may be visited by a little steamer in fine weather. There are no less than 300 of these islands of which the greater part at high tide are covered by water. Only one, the Grand Ile, is inhabited by some 100 persons. The town itself stands on a rocky promontory formerly called the Roche Lihou, some 100 feet above the level of the sea.

The Church of Notre Dame with its sombre exterior of grey granite and its extremely dark interior, dates from the sixteenth century, the older portions being the tower and aisles, the rest is seventeenth-century work. Notice the size of the choir in proportion to the nave, the mixture of Romanesque, flamboyant and Renaissance styles and the carved foliage of the capitals of the apse. Beyond are the barracks, both old and new, and

further on the lighthouse with an excellent view of the Iles Chausey and the coast. From a military point of view the town has never been particularly important. It can boast, however, of having repelled a bombardment by its English neighbours as well as the onslaught of the Vendéan army 30,000 strong under the heroic La Rochejaquein in 1793. His attempts to storm the fortress failed for lack of artillery. The Vendéans appear on this occasion to have lost some 1800 men.

From the Seigneurs of Granville, who possessed property here in the thirteenth century, was descended the well-known English statesman of that name.

The town fell into the possession of the English after the battle of Agincourt. It was then sold to Thomas Descalles, Seneschal of Normandy and Earl of Scales in England, by Jean d'Argouges, who inherited it through a niece of Earl Granville. The quaint condition of feudal tenure was that a hat of vermilion roses should be presented annually to the representatives of the Granvilles. Earl Scales erected new fortifications and completed the old ones, built a castle and transferred the town to the promontory, but shortly after the French expelled the English from the country. The fortifications were demolished by Louis XIV., but restored in 1720 and further strengthened some years later. The Tranchée-aux-Anglais, a passage between the rocks cut by the English during their occupation of the town in Henry VI.'s reign, is traversed by a small bridge leading from the upper part of the town and quarter of Notre Dame to the casino, a pretty little building of the type

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usually to be met with in French watering-places. Here in the season prevail the ordinary gaieties, concerts, balls and *petits-chevaux*, the concerts being given by artists of more than ordinary merit. As a watering-place, Granville is, however, unpretentious and does not endeavour to rival such places as Trouville, Étretat, or even Dieppe. In addition to good bathing and fair sands it has the merit of being a good centre for excursions to other portions of Western Normandy and the Channel Islands. The sands at the two adjoining parishes of St. Pair and Domville are extremely fine and much frequented. Both of these villages possess churches which repay a visit. That of St. Pair dates from 540, and contains a large fourteenth-century tomb with statues of Saint Pair and Saint Scubilion. The tower and choir are also of long standing. The Church at Domville is partly thirteenth century and may be reached by following the Coutances road, turning to the right on reaching the Hôtel de la Plage. A pleasanter way to Domville, perhaps, is to take the path along the cliffs commencing near the Tranchée-aux-Anglais.

The road to St. Pair (2 miles) lies in the opposite direction and is easily found at the entrance to the Rue Campion. There are many pretty villas in this spot and St. Pair, like its neighbour Jullouville, seems an almost ideal place for children who love the sea-shore. Granville appears to be a much cleaner and probably healthier town than formerly. Hairby writing some sixty years ago comments unfavourably on its dirtiness, but speaks in enthusiastic terms of the beauty of the women: "In no part of Normandy have I seen such lovely women as at Granville." So too Mrs. Macquoid

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writing thirty years later : "The women of Granville are singularly pretty and their costume charming. If only Granville could be purified and its inhabitants could be taught cleanliness, it would be most charming."

So much for the past ; at the present time one may safely assert, that Granville is no dirtier than some other French towns, Lisieux for example, and that there are few towns in Normandy in which female beauty is less in evidence. The jet black hair and black eyes, doubtless of Spanish origin, which characterised some of the Granvillaises of sixty years ago are, however, still discernible in their descendants.

The prevailing impression given by the town is one of commercial prosperity, due not only to its central position but to the excellence of its harbour, which forms a nursery for the fishermen, many of whom are employed on the coast of Newfoundland. A peculiarity of the port is the extreme difference between its high and low tides amounting to as much as 46 feet.

Graville. See Havre.

Hague, La. See Valognes.

Ham. See Valognes.

Hambye. M. arr. Coutances. Population 2060. Beautifully situated in the valley of the Sienne, is about a mile and a half from the famous Benedictine Abbey, founded by Guillaume Pesnel in the twelfth century. The ruins, overgrown with ivy, are most picturesque in their decay. There is a beautiful chapter-house and a mortuary chapel. The church with its huge choir belongs apparently to the end of the twelfth century. The tombs of Louis d'Estouteville and his wife, who restored the





HAVRE : AVANT-PORT

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abbey, were swept away at the Revolution: The ancient castle too has gone, its remains being employed to mend the high road.

Harfleur. See Havre.

Harcourt. C. See Thury-Harcourt.

Harcourt. E. arr. Brionne. Population 800. Has the ruins of the fine castle of the former Duchy of Harcourt, with sixteenth-century keep, and a church with Romanesque choir and fourteenth-century font.

Havre. S. I. Population 120,000. English people are perhaps too apt to neglect Havre as a commercial town of comparatively modern date. This is a mistake, as not only is it in the vicinity of much beautiful scenery and many important relics of the past, but it contains in itself a good deal which is well worthy of remark.

Before 1856, the town was completely surrounded by ramparts. These were removed in that year, and the towns of Graville, Ingouville and San Vic were united to Havre. The chief glory of the place is the magnificent docks, of which the most important are the Bassin de l'Eure, the Bassin de la Citadelle and the Bassin du Commerce. The last named adjoins the centre of the Rue de Paris, and faces the Place du Théâtre or Place Gambetta, and is situated in the more important part of the town.

The tonnage of the port is very considerable, amounting to a quarter or fifth of that of France. The great article of commerce is cotton, but the port is also noted for the number of emigrants who pass through it to America. It is worth while to stand on the jetty of the Avant Port and watch the great Transatlantic liners as they pass, or to make

one's way through the groups of sailors of diverse nationality along the quays, past the small shops filled with a noisy collection of parrots and other foreign birds. Or one may lounge in the Rue de Paris, which leads from the harbour to the Hôtel de Ville, and admire the excellence of the shops and the general air of prosperity which seems to find its centre in this portion of the town.

The creation of the port dates back to François I., the works being commenced in 1517, under the supervision of Guyon-le-Roi commandant of Honfleur. A terrible tide in 1525 destroyed many of the houses round the new harbour. It was here that the 176 sail assembled in 1545, which were destined to attack the Isle of Wight without success. In 1562 the French Protestants summoned the English to their aid and admitted them into the city. They were, however, driven from the town by the Constable Montmorency in 1563.

The port was greatly enlarged by Richelieu, and its prosperity was further augmented by Vauban, who was employed by Colbert to render it accessible to vessels of the largest tonnage. Since then the town has never looked back, and has now a population considerably larger than that of Rouen, its former rival in Normandy.

Close to the Grand Quai are the baths of Frascati, and here too is the Musée (open Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday), which contains a good collection of pictures and antiquities. Of the former the most noteworthy are works of Van Dyck, Cuyp, Poussin, Teniers and Wouvermann. There is also an interesting collection in the Salle du Havre of pictures and engravings of local celebrity, such as the bombardment of Havre by the English

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in 1759. In the basement is installed the archaeological museum with relics of the Roman and Frankish periods, with others of mediæval times.

Following the Rue de Paris from the Grand Quai we pass the Church of Notre Dame, of partly debased Gothic and partly Renaissance architecture (1574-1636). It was in process of building when the English were admitted to the town by the French Protestants in 1562, and guns placed on the tower were directed against the royal camp. After this the walls were levelled so that the town might never undergo a similar danger; a shell preserved within recalls the siege. The large door dating from the seventeenth century is a mixture of Ionian and Gothic styles. At the entrance of the nave may be noted the organ-loft of carved oak, the gift of Richelieu. There is some modern glass in the lady chapel with scenes from the history of Havre, and on the high altar is a seventeenth-century ciborium partly restored, but the church offers little else worthy of remark.

Close to the church in the old Palais de Justice, adjoining the Vieux-Marché, is the museum of natural history (open Sunday and Thursday, 10 to 5). It resembles most collections of the kind but the reptiles appear in unusual profusion. Continuing to ascend the Rue de Paris we reach the Place Gambetta containing the theatre, which occupies the site of that burnt in 1843. Thence at the end of the street we reach the pretty well-tended gardens of the Hôtel de Ville, a handsome modern building of the Renaissance type. Beyond is the fine Boulevard de Strasbourg, one of the great arteries of Havre, leading on the right to the post

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office, bourse and railway station, and on the left to the new Avant Port.

Descending the Boulevard Strasbourg to the left, we come to the pretty square Saint Roch, once a cemetery but now a pleasant public garden with ornamental water, statues, etc. On leaving the Boulevard Strasbourg at the sea, one may turn to the right and proceed along another fine highway, the Boulevard Maritime, in the direction of St. Adresse (2½ miles), and the famous lighthouses of La Hève. (A quicker way would be to take the tramway from the Hôtel de Ville, as far as the Rue des Phares, from which there is a twenty minutes' walk.)

St. Adresse is said to owe its name to a legend. A ship carried by the current to the foot of Cap de la Hève had nearly struck when the sailors, instead of helping the captain to save the vessel, invoked St. Denis the patron-saint of the Pays de Caux. The captain remonstrated. "My friends, you should ask help, not from St. Denis, but from St. Adresse, for Adresse alone can bring us to port." The sailors worked with a will and the name of St. Adresse was given to the village of Cap de la Hève. Others say that St. Adresse is for St. André, the former name of the place.

The little town of some 3000 inhabitants is partly composed of villas situated among trees, in a valley watered by a little stream.

It is a favourite resort on Sundays and holidays for the townsfolk of Havre on their way to the lighthouses of La Hève. The best way to arrive at the latter is to leave the tram at the Rue des Phares, and descending that street make for the ruin called La Solitude, a ten minutes' walk. From

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this point one can go straight up to the lighthouses, passing three farms on the left, another ten minutes' walk. The two towers are white and quadrangular, the northern light being lighted by electricity, and the southern with mineral oil. They were constructed in 1774, but restored and improved in 1844. The light of the northern tower extends for 50 miles, that of the southern but 8. The latter alone is open to visitors who do not mind the climb of 102 steps.

It is necessary to bear in mind that the cliffs in the neighbourhood are very dangerous owing to the treacherous nature of the soil. The view from the lighthouses is magnificent. On the S.W. in clear weather the headland of Barfleur is visible, the scene of the shipwreck of the *White Ship* in Henry I.'s reign. On the S. is Dives and the mouth of the Orne, to the N. Cap d'Antifer and the cliffs of Étretat.

On leaving the lighthouses, it is worth while passing the buildings of the Havre shooting-range, to descend on the right to the Chapel of Notre Dame des Flots, a modern structure (1859), but the object of pilgrimage for sailors of the district. Within area banner of Beauvais tapestry (seventeenth century) and numerous ex-votos.

Cap de la Hève is noted for the quantity of fossils embedded in its cliffs.

Another pleasant excursion from Havre is to Graille, about two miles eastward. The tramway thither from the Hôtel de Ville passes through the Rue Thiers and Rue de Normandie and takes one as far as the town-hall of Graille, from which by climbing a steepish hill one reaches the eleventh-century church of the ancient abbey of St.

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Honoriam. The view from its wooded churchyard over Havre and the mouth of the Seine is admirable. Among the tombstones may be noticed that of Léon Buquet, author of *Poetic Normandy*, and that of two children of the Lefèvre family, with lines composed by their friend, Victor Hugo. It was in searching for the last-named stone that the present writer chanced upon the grave of J. B. Eyries, the explorer of New Guinea (died 1846). The point worthy of notice is the neat little map of that country carved upon the explorer's tomb. The carved corbels on the outside of the church in the shape of all manner of quaint creatures must be noted. Within, the capitals of the nave are equally grotesque. On the left of the altar is the tomb of St. Honoriam discovered in 1867. This is a stone sarcophagus with an opening at the end, through which it was possible to view the relics of the saint. It is said that her remains were removed to Conflans at the time of the Norman invasion, but that the pilgrimages to the Abbey of Graville did not suffer by the change. From Graville one may proceed by tram to Harfleur, or one may go there direct from Havre by rail ($4\frac{1}{3}$ miles).

It is an interesting little town of 2686 inhabitants in a pleasantly wooded valley on the sluggish Lézarde. In early times the chief port in Normandy, it has long since fallen from its high estate, owing to the choking up of the river, and is now merely noteworthy from the point of view of the antiquary. The charming spire of its fifteenth-century church, and the northern porch with its rich sculptures above, render it worthy of a visit.

Harfleur was besieged by Henry V. of England

with 30,000 men in 1415. The garrison is said to have numbered no more than 400 men and yet to have held out for 40 days. Henry then re-peopled Harfleur with his own countrymen, but these were afterwards expelled by the few inhabitants, who remained under the leadership of Jean de Grouchy, whose statue may be noticed on the square. Not far from Harfleur is Château d'Orcher, a charming spot overlooking the Seine. The avenues of beech are extremely fine, making it a pleasant place to while away a portion of a hot summer's day. The view from the terrace over the Seine is one of the very finest in Normandy. Two and a half miles beyond Harfleur is Montivilliers, a town of some 5000 inhabitants on the Lézarde. The country is pretty and some trout-fishing may be had in the river close to the town. The old church, founded by St. Philibert of Jumièges, dates from the seventh century, but was ravaged by the Northmen in the ninth. There is an interesting Romanesque tower near the entrance, and the porch and fourteenth-century window should be noticed. In the market-place is a museum and library containing Roman and mediæval antiquities, as well as valuable books and manuscripts once the property of the abbey.

One of the best views in the vicinity of Havre is that which may be enjoyed from the hillside of Ingouville, which is approached from the Place Thiers, by ascending to the Rue Félix-Faure by the cliff railway from the station in the Rue Saint Thibault. No. 43 in the Rue Félix-Faure is the villa of the late President of the Republic. From the summit of the hill, the eye wanders direct over the town of Havre and the mouth of the Seine.

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Haye-du-Puits. See Carteret.
Hébertôt. See Trouville.
Hève, La. See Havre.
Honfleur. C. Population 9500. Situated at the mouth of the Seine, Honfleur is seen at its best when viewed from the sea. Within the town itself there is little of note beyond the wooden church of St. Catherine; the once considerable port of Louis XIV. having lost its former prosperity and assumed an air of comparative tranquillity. This change in its fortunes is due to the gradual silting up of the harbour, and the enormously increased importance of the neighbouring town of Havre.

Honfleur was built at the time of the Conquest and belonged frequently to the English until 1449. Its position at the base of a group of wooded hills is very attractive and has been compared with justice to the situation of some of the Devonshire coast towns. On the quay stands the Lieutenance, a picturesque building dating from the sixteenth century, which is all that remains of the former fortifications of the town.

The timber church of St. Catherine in the market-place consists of two parallel fifteenth-century naves with an aisle on either side dating from the sixteenth, all of wood. The old choir was pulled down in 1879. The tower of the church is separated from the building and is erected on the other side of the market-place. Like the church it is built of wood, rising from a kind of shed and surmounted by a spire. St. Catherine's contains two notable pictures, Christ bearing the Cross by Erasmus Quellyn, and Christ on the Mount of Olives by Jordaens.



HONFLEUR : ARRIVAL OF HAVRE BOAT



HAYE-DU-PUITS—HONFLEUR

The other church of Honfleur, that of St. Leonard, has a handsome porch. The sixteenth-century houses near the harbour and in the Rue Gambetta are very striking. Doubtless many of these old rotting tenements, as Musgrave observes, were inhabited formerly by proprietors of considerable substance, whose escutcheons bearing very curious heraldic insignia are still visible on porches and keystones.

Honfleur is noted for its timber trade, importing as it does large quantities of wood from the N. of Europe. No visitor to Honfleur should fail to ascend the hill termed the Côte de Notre Dame de la Grace. Leaving St. Catherine and taking the Rue du Puits one follows the Rue des Capucins on the right, till one reaches a path shaded by high trees, when after ten minutes' further climb we reach the top of the hill. Half-hidden among the trees is the Chapel of Notre Dame de la Grace, while from the brow of the cliff a beautiful sight meets the view.

“In front is Havre; its town, its villa-covered cliffs, its vast harbour and forest of masts are all clearly visible without a glass, and by means of the old sailors' telescope on the parapet one sees Cap de la Hève, and the cliffs which extend thence to Cap d'Antifer and the grey jagged crags of Étretat; far away to the left is the boundless wide Atlantic and on the right the broad estuary of the Seine, with its lofty wooded côtes; below is Honfleur, built in a kind of semi-circle, and with a telescope can be seen the opposite spire of Harfleur and above this Château d'Orcher on its lofty cliff” (Macquoid).

The chapel of Notre Dame de la Grace has been the object of many pilgrimages, and is filled

with the ex-voto offerings of many a storm-tossed mariner. The original building is said to have been built by Robert the Magnificent, father of the Conqueror, and to have been destroyed by a landslide. The present structure dates from 1606. Some of the votive pictures dedicated by sailors are most interesting, notice that dedicated by Berneval and the crew of the *Marquis de Bois Martin*.

One may return to Honfleur by a different route, taking the road to the right behind the chapel and descending from Mont Joli by the road which terminates at the Place du Puits.

Hougue, La. See Valognes.

Houlgate. See Beuzeval.

Huppain. See Port-en-Bessin.

Iffs. See Caen.

Ingouville. See Havre.

Isigny. M. arr. Mortain. Population 3000.

On the Aure; one of the great butter-towns of Normandy. Has a thirteenth-century church with good vaulting.

Ivry-la-Bataille. E. arr. Evreux. Population 1050.

On the Eure; was a strongly fortified town during the Middle Ages. It was taken at different periods by Philip Augustus, Talbot, the Regent Bedford and lastly in 1449 by Dunois, who demolished the defences. It received the addition to its name of La Bataille, after the great victory of Henry IV. against the Leaguers (1590). Henry's words to his soldiers before the battle will be remembered:—

“Je veux vaincre ou mourir avec vous. Gardez bien vos rangs, ne perdez point de vue mon panache blanc, vous le trouverez toujours au chemin de l'honneur.”



ABBEY OF JUMIÈGES, ABBOT'S DWELLING

HOUGUE—JUMIÈGES

An obelisk thrown down at the Revolution, but restored by Napoleon I., commemorates the victory. Besides the remains of its fortifications, there are those of its abbey founded in 1071 and a church of the fourteenth century.

Jobourg. See Cherbourg.

Jullouville. See Granville.

Jumièges. S. I. Population 1020. Jumièges situated near the right bank of the Seine is famous for the magnificent views of its abbey which occupies an elevated position on a wooded promontory above the river.

Few, if any, of the ancient buildings in northern France have a greater claim upon our attention. This, the most important in riches and influence of the monastic institutions in Normandy, was founded about the year 655 by St. Philibert. He had passed his youth at the court of King Dagobert, but adopting the monastic life, had become Abbot of Rebas. Banished from there by the monks, who rebelled against the austerities of his rule, he wandered long in search of a site for a new foundation. This he found on the banks of the Seine, where the ruins of a deserted fortress were made over to him by Clovis and his Queen Bathilda. Here rose the Abbey of Jumièges, three churches were built and within ten years the number of monks amounted to 800. Some years after the establishment of the monastery, St. Philibert having offended the powerful Ebrouin, Mayor of the Palace, was deposed by St. Ouen, Archbishop of Rouen, and imprisoned in the tower of Alvaredo in that town. When released he founded the Monastery of Noirmoutiers, but after his reconciliation to St. Ouen returned to Jumièges. Having founded

yet another monastery at Montivilliers near Havre, Philibert died at Noirmoutiers in 684. His abbey prospered exceedingly both in reputation and riches, until the ninth century, when the Northmen under Hastings sailed up the river plundering and destroying everything in their course. The Abbey of Jumièges fared badly at the hands of the invaders, as the *Roman de Rou* relates. The monks, tortured to reveal their hidden treasures, were massacred without scruple, and the abbey and churches became the prey of the flames. For nearly a century a heap of ruins marked the spot.

At length two old monks, the sole remnant of the once-flourishing community, endeavoured to clear away the débris and cleanse the deserted shrine. William Longsword, the second Duke of Normandy, found them thus employed and as the tale goes, after a miraculous preservation from death whilst hunting, gave orders for the rebuilding of the abbey in 930. More than that, he gave much land to Jumièges, though his son Richard the Fearless and Richard II. of Normandy were even greater benefactors than himself. The renown of the monastery became exceedingly great. The scions of noble families in other countries were sent to the seat of learning. Among these was Edward the Confessor, who afterwards appointed Robert, Abbot of Jumièges, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Under Robert the chief part of the Abbey of Jumièges was built (1040-1043). William of Jumièges, the historian of the Conquest, was another abbot and benefactor of the monastery. In 1067, the building was consecrated in the presence of William the Conqueror, who did much for the abbey, and after the conquest, amongst other gifts,

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reserved the Isle of Helling in Norfolk for the benefit of its monks. This brought in a revenue of 1100 gold crowns a year. Later on the monks gave up a great part of their income to contribute to the ransom of Richard Cœur-de-Lion. The recollection of this good deed, however, did not prevent the pillaging of the abbey by the English in the reigns of Edward III. and Henry V. Margaret of Anjou stayed at the abbey, when she took refuge in France, while the heart of Agnes Sorrel, who died at Mesnil close to Jumièges, is interred within its walls. The abbey, like many others, suffered much at the hands of the Calvinists in 1560, and later still at the time of the French Revolution.

In 1793, when the monastery was suppressed, the parishioners of Jumièges refused to exchange their church for the abbey; the result being that its stones were employed for farm buildings and other purposes. The preservation of what remains is due to the efforts of the great antiquary De Caumont and to the care for its well-being bestowed by its recent proprietors. Legend and fact are strongly interwoven in the history of the abbey.

The tale of Les Enervés is inseparably connected with the place, and is too important not to be noticed here. The story goes that on the 18th of May, 658, St. Philibert was informed that a boat had run aground at Jumièges. Proceeding to the shore he found two handsome youths lying in the boat, their arms and legs yet bleeding from a cruel mutilation of the sinews. Received into the abbey and tended by the monks with every care, they gradually recovered from their wounds and became such apt scholars that the abbot determined that

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they should take upon themselves the vows of the monastery. On the day appointed for the profession of their faith, Clovis II. and his Queen Bathilda chanced to arrive at the abbey, and it was then that for the first time Philibert learnt the strange history of his guests. During the absence of Clovis on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the princes had despised the authority of their mother, who hastened to recall the king to control the rebellious youths. King Clovis speedily defeated the troops collected by the princes, who were brought bound into his presence. But the lords of the council refusing to condemn those of royal blood, the queen, moved, says the chronicle, by divine inspiration, decreed that her sons should be punished in this world by the loss of their bodily strength, that their souls might thereby find forgiveness in the world beyond the grave. The dreadful sentence was confirmed by the king and at once carried into execution with all the barbarity of the times. After this the youths were placed in the boat which carried them to Jumièges. The story goes on to say, that overjoyed to meet their sons once more, the king and queen bestowed great gifts and privileges upon the abbey.

A mutilated thirteenth-century tomb in the museum of Jumièges bears witness to the tragic event supposed to have taken place six hundred years before.

Although the abbey church of Jumièges is nothing but a splendid ruin, situated amidst picturesque surroundings, there is much of architectural interest not only in the early Norman remains of the larger church of Robert of Jumièges, but in the little fourteenth-century chapel of St. Pierre, to

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the east of which we observe a portion of the older church built by William Longsword in 930. Some of the original paintings of the early work can still be traced on the W. side, beneath the coating of more recent layers.

Close to St. Pierre is the fifteenth-century chapel of St. Martin, and between St. Pierre and the large church is the thirteenth-century chapter-house. The large vaulted hall called the *Salle des Gardes de Charles VII.* lies to the S. of the church, and parallel with this are a number of vaults which probably served for the purpose of cellars. The W. front of the abbey with its two lofty towers now bereft of their spires, the remains of the central tower, and the well-preserved columns and arches of the aisles, still testify to the former magnificence and abiding beauty of Jumièges of which Mrs. Macquoid has given a charming description: "One is tempted to forget the architectural interest and historical associations of Jumièges in admiration of its exquisite beauty: it is at once so grand and so lovely. The stones, more than eight hundred years old, have the pure creamy tint they must have had at their first erection, and they stand high in the air, towering proudly above the lofty forest trees which surround them and in vivid contrast to the sky above, which had cleared into an intense blue. The aisles are paved with short soft turf, and up the ruined columns had twined ivy and briar, while hoary blossomed clematis wreaths flung themselves down from the Gothic arches still left beyond the central tower. The sun was shining brightly, all the foliage looked exquisitely green and fresh, in mocking contrast with its young life, to the ruined

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stone-work, but the contrast was different from any we had seen before. There is no sober grey tint at Jumièges, the abbey looks destroyed but not decayed, and a feeling of almost keen anguish rises, as one remembers that it is only within the present century, that this magnificent building has been so cruelly injured."

Whewell in his remarks on the question of determining the relative antiquity of different kinds of Norman or Romanesque architecture, previous to any clear appearance of the Gothic, with a view to ascertaining the existence of a well-authenticated style anterior to the Conquest, cites the Churches of Jumièges and St. Georges de Boscherville as its two most salient examples:—

"The abbey church of Jumièges is a magnificent example to start from, on account of its majestic size and solidity, and suits well enough the doctrine of early plainness. The pier arches, plainly rebated, stand on great pilaster masses with half-columns attached in the sides and towards the aisle. Certain vaulting shafts in the front of these piers are obviously later insertions. The bases of the attached columns appear to have consisted of little more than a simple slope, and the capitals are rudely sloped walls with an abacus. There is no ornament in the way of fillet or zigzag mouldings in the old part of the work, except that the top of the clerestory wall and of the western towers have a triple billeted moulding which seems to be old. These towers end in octagonal turrets and have stories of narrow panels and windows which give them a resemblance to the lighter towers of later times. In the interior this church puts me much in mind of my old German

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acquaintances. The pier-masses and the plain pier arches are such as are common in Germany, and we have here, moreover, as well as there, the triforium gallery with the double vaulting for the aisles as at Gloucester, and the vaulted gallery at the west end, as at Laach."

Juvigny-sous-Andaine. O. arr. Domfront. Here are a sixteenth-century château, now a farm, and the lighthouse of Bonvouloir, with two fifteenth-century towers, the remains of an old castle.

Laigle. O. arr. Mortagne. Population 5000. Is situated in a beautifully wooded country near the Rille. It has three churches, all worthy of notice for their antiquity. That of St. Martin (twelfth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries) has a fine Renaissance façade and fifteenth-century tower with Renaissance roof. The apse and clock-tower are Romanesque. Note—

1. The beautifully carved altar screen.
2. The vaulting with pendants in the right aisle.
3. The fifteenth and sixteenth-century glass in the bays of the left aisle.

The Church of St. Jean, built of brick, belongs to the twelfth, thirteenth and fifteenth centuries. It has a curiously wrought Gothic tower and old carvings, while the small church of St. Barthélemy is mainly Romanesque.

The town is noted for its needle and pin factories; and the beauty of the forest and river makes it a pleasant spot for a short sojourn.

Langrune. C. arr. Caen. Population 800. A small watering-place with a casino; has a remarkable church with central steeple, which has been well-described by M. Petit:—

"The earliest part is twelfth century, much is

thirteenth and the upper part of the tower and spire belong to the fourteenth. The composition is that described before, as characterising the steeples of the district, but pinnacles and spire-lights have disappeared and the upper part of the spire is slightly truncated. The jambs of the belfry-arches are clustered with shafts, the architraves richly moulded and the capitals and cornices delicately sculptured with foliage. The spire is also pierced with foliated openings giving it an air of great lightness at a distance. The interior of the belfry is worth notice. A sort of buttress resting on the thicker walls of the tower runs up to each of the angles and sides of the spire. These are pierced below so as to afford a free passage all round. The nave has aisles from which it is divided by massive columnar piers supporting richly moulded arches, some of which are round but most pointed. Above is a triforial arcade, not, however, sufficiently open to form a gallery. The clerestory is a single pointed light in each bay. The whole church is vaulted. The tower piers are clustered with shafts and exhibit the round and square abacus. The chancel is short and forms a polygonal apse, having windows with a single light."

Lantheuil. See Creully.

Lassay. See St. Arnoult.

Lasson. C. arr. Caen. Population 200. On the Orne; has a noteworthy Renaissance castle, presumably the work of Sohier, the architect of St. Pierre at Caen. It is rich in mouldings and friezes, and has a curious kitchen and cellar and octagonal staircase tower. On the chief façade is the famous inscription, over which so many antiquaries have puzzled their brains or given utterance to their



LILLEBONNE : RUINS OF ROMAN THEATRE.

LANTHEUIL—LILLEBONNE

witticisms: "Spero Lacon Bi Asses Perlen". The church at Lasson is partly Romanesque and has a seventeenth-century tower. The Romanesque churches of Le Fresne-Camilly and Pierrepont are in the vicinity.

Lessay. M. arr. Coutances. Population 1300. Possesses in its beautiful church one of the best specimens of Roman architecture in France. It has a fine central tower and a richly decorated doorway with carved fourteenth-century stalls from the Abbey of Blanchelande and the remains of a fourteenth-century tomb. Adjoining Lessay is the Lande de Lessay, a wild desert heath, remarkable for the great fair which was founded in the thirteenth century by the Benedictine monks of Lessay and which is still held annually in the middle of September.

Lillebonne. S. I. Population 6550. Beautifully situated on the Bolbec and surrounded by a circle of wooded hills, is one of the oldest towns in France, and is said to occupy the site of the capital city of the Caletes. Julius Cæsar, or according to some writers, Augustus, is credited with having built a town on the ruins which was named Julia Bona in honour of his daughter. On this site stands the present town. The theatre, almost the only one in Northern Europe, remains to this day the chief evidence of Roman rule.

Excavations were commenced in the year 1812, which brought to light much of what is now visible. The theatre is supposed to date from the second century, and to have been capable of holding 3000 spectators. The stone ranges of seats were mainly employed to build the Abbey of St. Wandrille. Of these there are eight divisions and

seven vomitories. Round the outside of the semi-circle is a vaulted passage which rises to the highest row of seats. Many treasures were discovered in the two wells in front of the amphitheatre, and remains show that Roman roads radiated from the town in all directions.

Some beautiful mosaics and other relics have been found at Lillebonne, some of which may be seen in the museum of antiquities at Rouen. The charming hunting scene unearthed in the year 1870, and supposed to be a portion of the temple of Diana or Apollo, is perhaps the most important of the treasures as yet discovered. That others, perhaps equally valuable, still exist beneath the soil of modern Lillebonne is more than probable.

Of the castle built by William the Conqueror and rebuilt in the thirteenth century by the Harcourt family, little remains beyond the fine circular donjon, with the walls quite 13 feet thick, and some of the old towers. The handsome Norman hall where the Conqueror held his great council in which he decided upon his invasion of England, was demolished by the cotton-spinner who purchased the site of the château. The castle was inhabited in turn by William Rufus, the Empress Maud and Henry II. In 1416 it was taken by Henry V. The view from the summit of the keep is extensive and beautiful.

The church of Lillebonne, restored in the style of the fourteenth century, has a sixteenth-century doorway and a fifteenth-century tower, whose indented spire, though not so beautiful, much resembles that of Harfleur.

Lion-sur-Mer. C. arr. Caen. Population 1300. A charming little watering-place divided

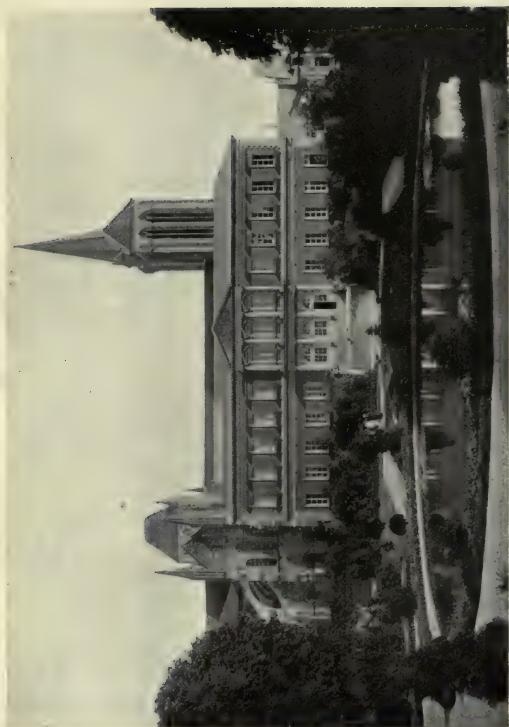
LION-SUR-MER—LISIEUX

into two portions, Le bas Lion near the shore, where are the Établissement de Bains and church, and Le haut Lion on the hill with its Renaissance château with tall slate roof, picturesque tourelles and lofty chimneys. The nave and tower of the church are Romanesque, the choir with fine glass belongs to the fourteenth century.

Lisieux. C. Population 17,000. Lisieux on the right bank of the sluggish Touques, and near its tributary the Orbec, is interesting not so much on account of the beauty of its church architecture, as for the quaintness of its picturesque old houses, which meet one at every turn.

We may compare it perhaps with Chester, but the town on the Dee cannot offer such a feast for the eye as the corbels of the house-fronts of the Norman town afford. The most remarkable of these are to be seen on the south of the Grande Rue, just outside the cathedral of St. Pierre, the five-storied building at the corner being especially worthy of remark. Proceeding thence down the Rue de Boucheries, we observe that some of the houses have bricks between the beams with "her-ring bone" formation, instead of plaster. Then entering the Rue aux Fèves to the right, we find ourselves in the most interesting street perhaps of Lisieux. Halfway down is the Manoir de François I., so called from having been built during the reign of that king. It has another name, that of the Salamandre, for it bears the royal badge among the rich carvings which adorn its beams. Further down, No. 33 must be noted, a structure dating from the thirteenth century. Its high roofs and comparative plainness render it easily distinguishable from the houses of a later period.

These old houses, beautiful even in decay, were at one time doubtless the abodes of wealthy and powerful nobles and citizens, and the town must have been rich and prosperous at that period. Its present aspect is, however, too much in accordance with the stagnation of its commerce, and we are painfully reminded as we walk through its streets of the equally changed fortunes of another old-world city, that of Bruges in Belgium. Curiously enough, in this connection a large number of the factory hands in Lisieux are said to have been imported from the last-named country. The town, formerly Noviomagus, the chief city of the Lexovii, was destroyed in the fourth or fifth century, but rebuilt in its present position in the sixth. After the battle of Tinchebrai Henry I. assembled the barons and bishops of Normandy at Lisieux. In 1204 it was taken by Philip Augustus. In 1415 it was seized by the English, and retaken by Charles VII. in 1448. In 1562 it fell into the hands of the Calvinists who plundered the cathedral. The cathedral church of St. Pierre stands at one end of the market-place and is approached by a broad band of steps. Built at the same time as the Cathedral of Sens—and possibly, according to Parker, by the same architect, the celebrated William of Sens, rebuilder of the choir at Canterbury—it is the earliest Gothic building in France. The western towers, the nave and all eastward as far as the apse, were built between the years 1143 and 1182, and are therefore transitional. The N. tower has fine belfry windows. The S. tower, partly rebuilt, is of sixteenth-century work, its spire belongs to the seventeenth. The central tower is low and massive and forms a lantern to the interior.



LISIEUX : CHURCH OF ST. PIERRE



The arches are mostly pointed throughout. The piers are short cylindrical columns, their abacus, a square chamfered at the angles.

The western façade, as seen from the market-place, is striking. The porches have been drawn and described by Ruskin in his *Seven Lamps of Architecture*. In the interior, the clerestory and eastern portion of the choir were probably added between 1197 and 1214. The lady chapel was built in the thirteenth century by Pierre Cauchon, Bishop of Beauvais, who is best remembered as president of the court which condemned Jeanne d'Arc. In the deed of endowment he mentions that he built the chapel in atonement for his "false judgment in condemning an innocent woman".

It was in this cathedral that Henry II. married Eleanor of Guyenne, a marriage entailing much evil on his country. A portion of the chancel was burnt down in 1226. The glass of the choir was probably destroyed by the Calvinists, of whose fanaticism there are only too many traces in Normandy. In one of the chapels to the N. is a very ancient and curious tomb, while on the southern side may be noticed a singular fifteenth-century bas-relief.

Dr. Whewell in his notes during an architectural tour in Normandy (1835), selects Lisieux Cathedral as a typical instance for a comparison between Early English in its purely English form, and Early French Gothic, a style differing from Early English in some respects by the retention of Romanesque members such as the square abacus, in others by anticipation of decorated features, such as geometrical tracery.

"At Lisieux we have a church which through-

NORMANDY

out and in the closest manner, resembles Early English work. We still find the distinguishing character of French work, the square abacus, but along with this we find the octagonal abacus occupying a large portion of the triforium, and the arcades under the windows in the choir have the round abacus, with foliage, capping mouldings and arch-mouldings, which at home would not be distinguished from English work. The bases of the piers also are of the Early English type or nearly so, with the exception of a square plinth and a curl of foliage on its corners, not common in England though very frequent in France. The general arrangements are strikingly English; thus the triforium has pointed arches on shafts inclosing two pointed arches on shafts, the tympanum pierced with a quatrefoil, the clerestory has single-light windows, the vaulting has transverse and diagonal ribs, with Early English mouldings. Still, however, there are considerable differences. The piers are columns with Corinthianising capitals, and their abacuses are squares with the corners slightly truncated.

“There is a difference in the arch-mouldings, they more resemble a classical architrave than ours do, for instead of a drip-stone, they have a raised edge separated from the receding mouldings of the arch by a fascia-like space. At the west-end interior this architrave is filled with foliage and looks perhaps still more drip-stone like. This west-end inside is a sort of interior porch with a vaulted compartment above, such as at Jumièges, and the outer mouldings of the internal arch of this porch are much enriched, the abacus here has a vertical face, sculptured with arabesques of foliage, like the

north door of Rouen Cathedral west-front. The west exterior end is a very fine Early English front, and like most of our fronts of that kind (Salisbury, Peterborough, Wells), contains some vestiges of the earlier style (Romanesque). Thus while the north tower has beautiful lancet-arch windows of great height, occupying the whole of its side, and divided by a single very tall shaft, the south tower has, on the same parallel with these windows, three stories of small windows, consisting of round-headed openings inclosing pairs of pointed openings, with interpenetrating mouldings."

Ducarel, writing in 1750, mentioned a singular custom with regard to the cathedral of Lisieux. I give the passage with Ducarel's orthography: "The canons of this church, by virtue of a compact between them and the bishop, enjoy the extraordinary privilege of being earls of Lisieux, with the full exercise of all civil and criminal jurisdiction within the earldom, during the vigil and feast-day of St. Ursinus in every year (*i.e.* the 10th and 11th of June). In order to perpetuate this right, two of the canons elected by the chapter for that purpose, having on the vigil of the saint dressed themselves in their surplices, covered with bandaleers of flowers and holding nosegays in their hands, mount on horseback at the great door of the cathedral, and ride to each of the four gates of the city, preceded by two mace-bearers, two chaplains and twenty-five halberdiers armed with helmets and cuirasses, and followed by all the officers of justice, on horseback, clothed in their proper habits, covered with bandaleers of flowers and carrying nosegays in their hands. As soon as these canons arrive at the city gates, the keys are delivered up

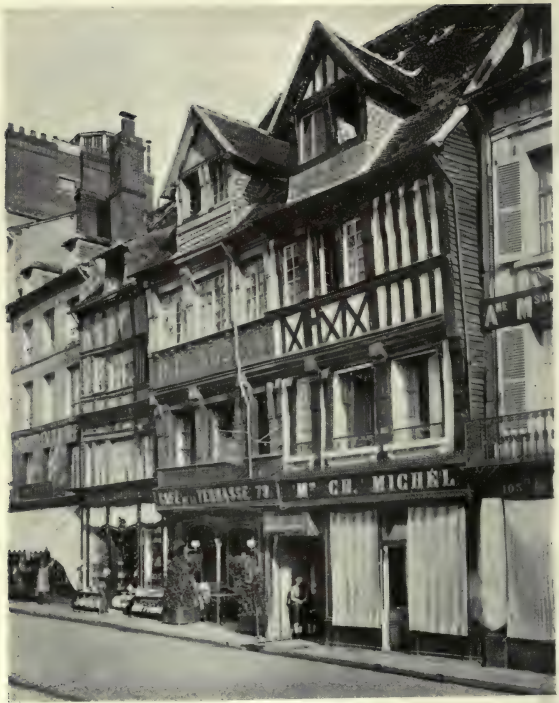
NORMANDY

to them, and they there post a proper guard of their own, in lieu of that of the archbishop, which on the delivery of the keys to the canons immediately marches out.

“All customs payable within the city, and the profits of the fair therein, held on St. Ursinus day, belong to those two canonical earls; in consideration of which, they deliver to each of the other canons a loaf of bread and two flagons of wine, and in case any post or place of profit within the earldom becomes vacant during these two days, they have the sole right of nomination and presentation thereunto.”

Leaving the cathedral one passes through an archway in the old building to the right, formerly a bishop's palace, but now the sous-préfecture, containing a police tribunal and prison. The archway leads into a courtyard surrounded by quaint red buildings with window-mouldings and parapets of stone. The palace was begun by Bishop Cospéan in 1637, the façade belonging to the period of Louis Treize. Close by a flight of steps leads to one of the finest public gardens in France, beyond which is a delightful view over the surrounding country. The gardens formerly belonging to the episcopal palace were converted into their present form during the reign of Louis Philippe. In the centre is a large circular basin of water adapted for a fountain, and under the chestnut and lime trees are groups of statues, many of them casts from the antique. Close to the garden are the Musée and library, the former being open on Thursdays and Sundays from 1 to 4, the latter on other days at the same hours.

The Church of St. Jacques near the Place des



LISIEUX : HOUSES IN THE GRANDE-RUE

Boucheries, which may be reached by descending the Rue de la Paix, is a somewhat plain building, but contains some good sixteenth-century windows, and a painted ceiling. In the chapel of St. Ursin is a quaint old picture, representing how the relics of that saint were brought miraculously into the town in 1055. Before 1789 this picture was the property of the cathedral. By the side of the church is a covered market, and in front of the building at the entrance of the Rue au Char, several old houses of wood.

The beautiful Jardin de l'Etoile, on the road to Pont l'Évêque, the property of shareholders, but accessible to those who are provided with visiting-cards, commands charming views of the surrounding country. Several of the places in the neighbourhood are worth visiting. Marolles with its Romanesque church and sixteenth-century château, Les Pavements (1 mile), an interesting sixteenth-century building now used as a farm, Orbec (13 miles), with its singular Hôtel-Dieu, Fumichon (7½ miles), with its château of different periods of architecture, Beuvilliers (4 miles), with its remains of a feudal manor, and above all Val Richer, once noted for the abbey of which Thomas à Becket was the first abbot. It was to Val Richer that he retired on his exile from England, and some of his vestments are still shown on the spot. Other vestments of the prelate are shown in Lisieux itself, in the chapel of the hospice opposite the top of the Grande Rue. It is probable, indeed, that he resided for some time in the palace. The ruins of Val Richer, which are about 4 miles from Lisieux, have since been turned into the country-house of the famous family of Guizot.

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The country round Lisieux, watered as it is by the Touques and Orbec, presents a verdant and well-cultivated appearance ; the angler may do worse than cast a fly over the waters of the first-named stream, in which trout of considerable size are to be found.

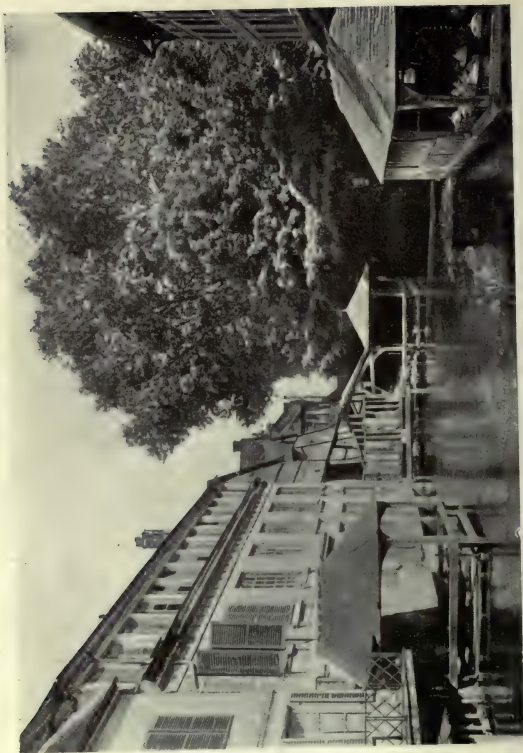
Lithaire. See Carteret.

Longnay. O. arr. Mortagne. Population 2000. Has a fifteenth and sixteenth-century church with high square tower and two seventeenth-century carved altars. The chapel of Notre Dame de Pitié has a sixteenth-century window and beautiful sixteenth-century doorway. There are also the remains of a seventeenth-century château, and the prehistoric monument termed the Pierres de la Roche.

Longpré. See Falaise.

Longueville. S. I. arr. Dieppe. Population 700. Has some ruins of an eleventh-century castle, once the property of Du Guesclin and afterwards of Dunois. The Duchesse de Longueville, sister of the great Condé, brought the castle into prominence in the wars of the Fronde. The station of Longueville stands on the ground once occupied by the Priory of St. Fay (1093) founded by Walter Giffard, Earl of Buckingham, who was buried there. He granted the manor of Newington Longueville in Buckinghamshire to the Priory of St. Fay. Three miles from Longueville is Belmesnil whose church contains some sixteenth-century glass and curious music MSS.

Lonlay l'Abbaye. O. arr. Domfront. Population 2500. Has an interesting church, the remains of an eleventh-century abbey, with Roman doorway, and eleventh-century capitals and carvings. The choir stalls belong to the sixteenth century.



LOUVIERS; HOUSES ON THE EURE

LITHAIRE—LOUVIERS

Lonrai. O. arr. Alençon. Population 500. Has a fine eighteenth-century château with arcaded entrance and good carving in the interior.

Louvières. See Asnières.

Louviers. Population 10,000. In the department of Eure on the river of that name, is an interesting manufacturing town, situated in a pretty valley surrounded by wooded hills.

In spite of its being a place of some importance in the cloth trade, there is a certain air of rural elegance about the little town, due in some measure no doubt to its pleasant streams, shady walks and trim gardens, while a mediæval appearance is imparted by the quaint old houses which are found in the centre of the place and by its beautiful church of *Nôtre Dame*. The town too is not without historic associations. It was at Louviers that Richard *Cœur-de-Lion* signed the treaty with Philip Augustus (1196), by which the latter received Auvergne, the Norman Vexin, Gisors, Vernon, Gaillon, Ivry and Nonancourt, while Richard in return took back Eu, Aumale, Arques, and Neufchâtel; the bone of contention, *Les Andelys*, being handed over to the Archbishop of Rouen. Louviers was taken by the English during the Hundred Years' War in 1346, and again in the following century.

The east end of the church dates from the thirteenth century. The leaden spire of its northern tower was destroyed by lightning nearly two centuries ago. The southern side, which is late fifteenth-century architecture, is the most attractive, though the rich flamboyant porch is terribly overloaded with detail; the fine double canopy should be noted. Whewell's comparison of the archi-

ecture of this church with that of the early English style is worth quoting:—

“The clerestory windows are not threes or fives of lancets, nor do the French *ever* appear to have had these combinations ; they are two-light windows struggling towards tracery by means of circles in the head of the pair, and made into one window by a roll-moulding running round the whole head, which thus assumes a trefoil form. The triforium is a little square opening in each compartment bisected by a shaft, and included in a trefoil panel formed by a roll-moulding ; the square opening admitting daylight. The piers have clear Early English foliage-capitals, but are singularly short, and the arch moulding has an external roll and a truncated edge, but the section has a squareness which in England was soon abandoned for a rich slope of rolls. There are lancet windows in the choir, which however does not appear to be of the same date. The west front of the geometrical tracery style is very good.”

The stained glass in this church is very fine. The figure of St. Christopher in the south aisle should be noted, as also the figure depicted with a soup basin on one of the large piers. The people of Louviers were nicknamed “mangeurs de soupe” because they let their city be surprised in 1591 while they were at dinner.

Louvigny. See Caen.

Luc-sur-Mer. C. arr. Caen. Population 1290. A popular watering-place in front of the Roches de Lion. It possesses the usual casino, a natural history laboratory and a modern church with detached twelfth-century tower.

Lucerne d'Outremer. M. arr. Avranches.

LOUVIGNY—MONT ST. MICHEL

Population 900. Two miles from here charmingly situated on the little river Tard, are the picturesque ruins of the Abbey of Lucerne, founded in 1164. The beautiful square tower, which belongs to the fourteenth century, is still perfect, and the church itself, which is partly twelfth and partly fourteenth-century work, is in fair preservation. The entrance door belongs to the fifteenth century, while the central portion of the abbot's dwelling dates from the eighteenth.

Maisons. See Port-en-Bessin.

Marolles. See Lisieux.

Martainville, Château de. See Rouen.

Martinvaast. See Cherbourg.

Mers. See Dieppe.

Mesnières. See Dieppe.

Mesnil. See Saint Loup-Hors.

Miromesnil, Château de. See Saint Aubin.

Mondeville. See Caen.

Montmartin. See Coutances.

Montebourg. See Valognes.

Montivilliers. See Havre.

Mont St. Michel. M. Population 250. It is difficult to speak of Mont St. Michel without making use of the superlative, for there is little in Europe with which to compare it. Madame de Sévigné termed it "the eighth wonder of the world," while her compatriot Victor Hugo was of the opinion that as the Pyramids are to Egypt so is the tiny city, built on the rock of granite which towers above the sandy stretch bordering the bay, which divides Normandy from Brittany, in comparison with the rest of France. Since the causeway connecting the rock with Beauvoir and Pontorson was built in 1880, the journey to Mont St. Michel has

become simple and unattended with the difficulties and occasional danger inseparable from a passage over the treacherous *grèves*. The most convenient way of seeing the Mount is undoubtedly, avoiding the tedious journey by carriage from Avranches, to take the tramway from Pontorson and to spend one or more nights at one of the comfortable old-fashioned hotels, which under the auspices of the Poulard family await the traveller to the famous rock. Most people seem to prefer the house of Poulard Aîné, where the celebrated omelette is sure to claim their attention.

The history of Mont St. Michel takes us back into those remote ages where legend and reality intermingle in perplexing confusion. One thing, however, is certain, that the position of the rock must have rendered it of great importance even at the earliest period. Tradition asserts that Mont St. Michel was once united to the mainland and covered by forests. The truth of this is amply proved by geology. The Gauls appear to have designated it by the name of Belenus, in honour of the sun, and to have erected there two Druidical menhirs, and maintained a College of Druidesses upon the hill. The Romans in turn replaced this religion by erecting a temple of Jupiter, and naming the mount "Mons Jovis," whence the name Monjou, by which the place was known until a much later date. Roman roads connected Monjou with the mainland until the fourth century, when the mount became isolated at high water. By the beginning of the eighth century, the Bay of Cancale was formed and the estuary had assumed much of its present shape. In the sixth century two hermits, St. Pair and St.

MONT ST. MICHEL

Scubilion, whose monuments we note near Granville, came from Poitou to evangelise the country, taking up their abode on the mount, then called Mont Tombe (from Celtic *tum* or late Latin *tumba*, from *tumulus*, a mound), and the dark rock of Tombelaine, which we see at a short distance from Mont St. Michel. The community thus formed was termed that of the Two Tombes. It was not till the eighth century that the name of Mont St. Michel came into use. According to the oft-quoted legend, St. Aubert, Bishop of Avranches in the time of Childebert II., was commanded by St. Michael in a vision to found a church in his honour. Fearing the wiles of Satan, St. Aubert paid no heed to the vision, which was repeated with the same result. At length St. Michael appearing a third time, pressed his finger upon the bishop's skull with so much firmness that the indentation remained there ever after. Convinced by this token St. Aubert set out for Mont Tumba, followed by a large concourse of people. There as the vision had announced he found a bull tied to a tree. The ground trampled by the bull was to be the site chosen for the church. But an enormous rock baffled the efforts of the workmen, who were endeavouring to prepare the ground. St. Aubert then went into the forest and found a child only a year old. As soon as the infant had touched the rock with its tiny foot, it rolled to the bottom of the precipice. St. Aubert then struck the rock with his crozier, and a stream long noted for its powers of healing gushed forth. The church being finished, the Saint sent some monks to the monastery of Monte Gargano in Italy for a portion of the relics of St. Michael. Tradition asserts that

during their absence the sea swallowed up the forest surrounding the mount, leaving nothing but a sandy waste. The news of the miracles worked round the church of St. Aubert spread rapidly, and the place became the resort of numerous pilgrims whose gifts helped on the extension of the abbey.

The mount was henceforth regarded as being under the special protection of St. Michael, and the place was henceforth named Mont St. Michel au péril de la mer. When St. Aubert died, his skull was carefully preserved in the abbey, until the Revolution, when it was saved by a doctor who presented it to the Church of St. Gervais at Avranches, where it may still be seen with the very curious hole which tradition attributed to the touch of the archangel. King Childebert II., who died in 711, was among the earliest visitors to the shrine, another royal pilgrim being Charlemagne himself, after whose death this part of France was ravaged by the Northmen. Some families sought a refuge on the mount from Hastings and his fierce band of marauders, and it was then that the little town was established, which we find at the foot of the rock.

Later on Rollo, who had become a Christian, re-established the monks whom the barbarians had dispersed. His son William Longsword endowed the abbey with a large estate. The discipline of the monks becoming lax, Richard the Fearless replaced the offenders by thirty others recruited from the Benedictine monasteries of Fontenelle and Jumièges, one of whom, Maynard by name, was elected abbot in 966, being invested with authority not only over the monastery, but over the little town itself. The change worked well and the monastery flourished for twenty-five years under

MONT ST. MICHEL

its new ruler. In the time of his successor, also named Maynard, the abbey was burnt to the ground with the exception of the cell which contained the remains of St. Aubert. These were stolen in the time of the next abbot Hildebert by a monk named Bernier, but were afterwards discovered and preserved as objects of great veneration till the Revolution. Hildebert died in 1017 and was replaced by his nephew Hildebert II. It was while he was abbot that Richard the Good celebrated at Mont St. Michel his marriage with Judith of Brittany and formed the bold project of building on a platform raised to the very summit of the rock. This was the idea of the abbey, as we see it to-day, although as Hildebert's own tenure of the abbey lasted no more than six years, he saw but little of the realisation of his plan.

The work of his three successors, Almond, Théodoric and Suppon, stopped at the choir, which no longer exists. In the time of Suppon, the monastery received from King Edward the Confessor the appropriate gift of the Abbey of St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall. Suppon, by the way, was deposed in 1048 on account of his extravagance. Although begun in 1020, only some of the large pillars and a portion of the substructure had been raised by the year 1060, when the ninth abbot Randolph of Bayeux took in hand the erection of the nave and southern galleries and walls of the fortress. He received considerable contributions from William the Conqueror towards the work. After William's coronation the abbey equipped and sent six ships to the King, with four of the most distinguished of its monks, to become abbots in the land across the Channel. Under Randolph's suc-

cessor, Roger, Henry Beauclerc took refuge from his brothers in the abbey, to which he showed his gratitude by coining pieces of money called "Angelos," stamped with the image of the archangel Michael.

In 1112 a great part of the abbey was destroyed by lightning, but rebuilt by Robert, to whom is due the Crypte de l'Aquilon and the dormitory, which was destroyed in the eighteenth century. In the reign of Henry II., the monks, who had elected three abbots without consulting that sovereign, were punished by the pillage of their monastery, crosses, chalices and sacred ornaments being carried off without scruple. Threatened with excommunication by the Pope, the King hastened to reconcile himself with the clergy, and permitted the election of a former prior of Bec, the famous Robert of Torigny, in 1154, when a golden era began for the abbey. Without troubling himself too much about the plans of Hildebert, Robert limited himself to constructing buildings of more immediate utility for the necessities of his flock. Thus he specially devoted his attention to the southern and western sides of the mount, as being more exposed to the sun, while he was careful at the same time to preserve communication with the existing structures on the N.

Unluckily the most important part of his work, the western towers and porch, have since fallen; only the buildings which lay beneath them still remain. The southern tower contained the library which he had formed, part of which was destroyed. Robert's tomb and body were discovered quite recently in 1875 by M. Corroyer, beneath the ruins of this portion of the building. Close by

MONT ST. MICHEL

were the tomb and remains of his successor Martin de Furmendi. Certain objects of interest discovered in the graves of these abbots will be noticed in the little museum of the Chartrier. Robert of Torigny, unlike our Becket, seems to have possessed the secret not only of winning but also of retaining the affection of that capricious monarch, Henry II.

“Esteemed by Popes, cherished by kings, revered by monks, he was beloved by all.”

Thus in 1156, the Archbishop of Rouen, the Bishops of Bayeux, Coutances and Avranches, we are told, passed four days with him, “without being able to leave him, so saintly and pleasant was his society”. Not only did Robert collect an important library so famous that the Mount received the name of the “City of Books,” but he was himself the author of several chronicles, treatises and commentaries. Many precious MSS. collected or written by him, are to be found in the libraries of Rouen and Avranches. In his time the number of monks was increased from forty to sixty, several nobles being attracted to the monastic life by the fascinating personality of the abbot.

On the death of Henry II., the Bretons under Guy de Touars besieged Mont St. Michel, but failing to take it, set the town on fire and massacred a great number of the inhabitants. The flames from the burning houses destroyed the abbey buildings on the N., to replace which the Abbot Jourdain determined to construct the beautiful Merveille. By the time of his death, in 1203, only the lower story, containing the Cellier and Aumônerie, had been built. His successor Raoul des Isles (1212-18), continued the work, although King John, who had been driven from Normandy, took his revenge

by cutting off the revenues of the abbey. Notwithstanding this, the generosity of the King of France and his barons enabled the monks to set to work and build the next story, the Salles des Hôtes and Salle des Chevaliers. Between 1218 and 1225 a new abbot, Thomas des Chambres, finished the Salle des Chevaliers and dormitory, and began the exquisite cloister which was finished under his successor, Raoul de Villedieu, in 1228. The whole of the Merveille was thus completed within a space of twenty-five years. To Raoul also is attributed the chapel of St. Etienne. Hitherto the approaches of the rich abbey had been unprovided with fortifications. This omission was rectified by Richard Tustin, abbot in 1236, who appears to have been an extremely proud and unpopular ecclesiastic. The first abbot to receive the mitre from the Pope, he took care to have one made of the most costly material, adorned with pearls, and delighted in bestowing his benedictions not only within the walls of the church but in public places as well.

Receiving a handsome gift from Louis IX. on his return from the Crusade, he extended the exterior defences, by building the northern tower on the ramparts to protect the approach to the abbey, which he covered in 1257 by Belle Chaise, containing the Salle des Gardes. In 1300, the bell tower was struck by lightning, the bells being melted and much damage done both to the town and abbey as well. The latter was again struck in 1350 and 1374.

The twenty-fifth abbot, Guillaume le Château, bestirred himself to repair the mischief, employing for the purpose a sum of money contributed by the royal pilgrim Philippe le Bel. It was during

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the reign of this king that Mont St. Michel became a fortress and received a garrison for its protection. In the Hundred Years' War the Abbot Nicholas was created Capitaine of the stronghold. His successor, Geoffroy de Servon, was successful in repulsing several attacks of the English, who had taken up their position on the island of Tombelaine. During his abbacy Tiphaine Raguel, surnamed for her learning Tiphaine la Fée, was brought by her husband Bertrand du Guesclin to inhabit the house which he had built for her on the Mount. In 1386 the great abbot Pierre le Roy comes upon the scene. To him are due the Tour Perrine, behind Belle Chaise, the Châtelet, through which we enter the abbey, and the restoration of the beautiful Tour des Corbins or Chartier. Charles VI. who came on a pilgrimage to the Mount in 1393, recognising the great merit of Pierre le Roy, made him his councillor and sent him on embassies to England, Italy and Spain.

After the battle of Agincourt in 1415, Robert Jolivet, the thirteenth abbot, completed the ramparts and fortifications from the Tour du Nord, as far as the Tour du Roi, at the entrance of the town, and thus enabled the garrison to resist the furious attacks of the English in 1423. Jolivet turning traitor, sold his services to the English after the Treaty of Troyes. The monks in consequence elected Jean Gonault, Prior of the Convent, as their leader with the title of Vicar-General. Gonault proved equal to the occasion and repulsed the great force of Bedford assisted by the treacherous Jolivet with considerable loss. To encourage the heroic resistance of the defenders, Charles VII. granted to Gonault the privilege of coining all kinds of money

on Mont St. Michel. Notwithstanding this, the new abbot Louis d'Estouteville, appointed in 1425, an able strategist, who constructed the barbican, sold freely the sacred treasures of the monastery, as well as those of other foundations entrusted to its safe-keeping. The defenders of the Mount at this critical moment amounted to no more than 833 men all told. Of these 119 were Norman knights, whose names and coats of arms are still to be seen on an emblazoned table in the library of Avranches. The great assault took place in 1434, when Lord Scales and Somerset Governor of Tombelaine, with 8,000 men, attacked the fortress with extreme ferocity. A breach having been made in the barbican by means of the artillery, the English rushed through and endeavoured to scale the town wall, whereupon the garrison lowering the drawbridge threw themselves upon the assailants. Simultaneously other detachments poured forth from the fortresses on the E., and took the main body of the besiegers on the flank. Routed by the vigorous action of D'Estouteville, the English fled, leaving upon the *grève* a portion of their artillery. Two of these canon with their stone projectiles are still to be seen in the Cour de l'Avancée. To reward them for these brilliant feats of arms Charles VII. exempted the garrison from the payment of all dues and taxes. Becoming in turn the aggressors, they seized the fortress built by Lord Scales at Granville, and gave it up to the King of France.

In 1450, the English abandoned all attempts to take the much-beleaguered Mount. Notwithstanding this, the close of the Hundred Years' War saw the abbey almost ruined by the self-sacrificing efforts of its monks.

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But the Cardinal Abbot William d'Estouteville, brother of the valiant Louis, was not slow in obtaining plenary indulgence from the Pope, for all who devoted their goods to the service of the abbey. He was thereby enabled by means of the gifts of the pilgrims, including Louis XI. himself, to undertake the rebuilding of the church, whose choir had fallen with a great crash in 1421. To William is due the crypt of the Gros-Piliers, above which rises the splendid flamboyant choir. In 1469, Louis XI. instituted the military order of St. Michael, 36 in number, chosen from "nobles without reproach". By his orders, too, a portion of the subterranean passages was divided into dungeons. A later abbot, Guillaume de Lamps, added cells beneath the abbot's house. Guillaume and his brother Jean continued to work at the choir, which was finished about 1520, two years after the visit of François Premier. The graves of the two brothers De Lamps were accidentally discovered in 1863.

Soon after the death of Jean, Gabriel du Puy, the lieutenant of François Premier, built the Tour Gabriel, and made other additions to the fortifications. The De Lamps were the last regular abbots of the monastery, and were followed by the commendatory abbots, whose chief aim appears to have been to increase their own wealth, at the expense of the abbey. So much was this the case, that it became a matter of difficulty to get even necessary repairs effected, and both François le Roux and Cardinal de Joyeuse were compelled by decrees of the Parliament of Rouen to fulfil their duties in this respect.

In 1591, the Huguenots attacked the abbey, and

their leader Montgomery, despairing of its reduction by force, made use of the following stratagem, narrated by the monk Dom Huynes in his history of the Mount, which I quote from Mrs. Macquoid's version :—

“The Calvinists having captured one of the garrison and put a cord round his neck, told him that they would grant him his life, if he would promise to betray the abbey to them. The poor man accepted the offer and arranged that they were to assemble at the foot of the staircase of the fountain St. Aubert, and that he would then introduce them into the crypt by means of the great wheel used to mount provisions. If God had not changed the heart of this soldier, the Mont St. Michel had been lost. But he repented and gave notice to the governor, who resolved to put to the sword all these enemies. That day the air was so full of fog, that the French reached the foot of the rock without fear of discovery. Then climbing up into the wheel, they began to enter one after another and were received with open arms. They were conducted into the large hall, and there the better to deceive them, were made to drink a taste of wine to give them courage to kill the monks; then they were ushered into the guard-room and each was run through the body with a halberd; and thus were put to death 98.

“The commander of this illustrious company, becoming very much surprised that so great a number of soldiers, all chosen men, made no noise, called out that, if all was going well, they should fling a monk from the window. The soldiers of the garrison thereupon turned a prisoner into a monk, shaved him and put on him an old habit,

and after sending a sword through his body flung him down from the rock. But Montgommery still doubted and was resolved to discover the truth. He bade his page mount the wheel, who seeing none of his own people, cried out 'Treason, treason!' and let himself drop to the ground. At this the Calvinists taking alarm, climbed down the rock again as quickly as they could, while those above sent after them a discharge of musketry and stones, of which some of them were found dead on the sands, and those whom they had left in pledge in the château were thrown down after the metamorphosed monk, and all were buried next day at fifteen paces from the Poulains."

The crypt of the Merveille, containing the Cellier and Aumônerie, derives its name, the Montgommeries, from this striking incident. The Poulain, referred to above, was a lift moved by a huge wheel for raising provisions for the fortress from below. It has since been removed to the other side of the abbey building. Some years ago a quantity of human remains were discovered in the ground at the foot of the Merveille, doubtless those of the unfortunate followers of Montgommery. In 1615, Henri of Lorraine, a child of five years old, was appointed commendatory abbot by Louis XIII. His brother Charles of Lorraine, Duc de Guise, repaired part of the abbey and especially the western portion, on which the arms of the Lorraines may still be seen. In 1622, the want of discipline and extravagance of the monks brought about a necessary change. Cardinal de Bérulle finding his efforts in reform useless, replaced the monks by the Benedictines of St. Maur, under whom the internal rule of the monastery was in the hands of priors. The

newcomers, excellent as ecclesiastics, seem to have been neglectful of the artistic charm of their building, and did much to spoil the beautiful refectory by dividing it into two stories.

In 1721, Maurice de Broglie obtained the abbey which he held for thirty-nine years, in exchange for 600 bottles of Burgundy. It was in his time that Dubourg was confined in the famous cage of wood and iron, in which he remained for a year. Several of these cages existed in France, said to have been constructed by the orders of Louis XI. at the suggestion of his victim and favourite, Cardinal Balue. Of these, those at Loches and Plessis les Tours are perhaps the best known. In the latter cage at the last-named place, the cardinal spent eleven years of his chequered career. Dubourg, whose real name was Victor de la Castagne, had been kidnapped in Holland by the orders of Louis XIV., and shut up in the cage at Mont St. Michel in 1745, for having distributed libellous pamphlets against the French Court. Notwithstanding some compassion shown to him by the monks, who endeavoured to feed him with beef tea through a tube, the wretched man ultimately succeeded in starving himself to death in his narrow cell.

The last abbot was Cardinal de Montmorency-Laval, Bishop of Metz, who retired at the Revolution of 1789, when the vestments and sacred vessels were removed from the monastery, the valuable manuscripts being placed in the library at Avranches.

During the Reign of Terror, 300 priests of the neighbouring dioceses were imprisoned in the dungeons of Mont St. Michel, to which the Con-

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vention gave the name of Le Mont Libre. The greater portion of the building was then turned into cells and workshops.

In 1818, under Louis XVIII., the abbey became an ordinary gaol, and remained so till 1863, when the prison was suppressed. In 1865, the Bishop of Coutances installed the Missionary Fathers of St. Edme within the much-impaired building. Finally in 1872, the Government took the structure into its own hands with a view to its future restoration and maintenance as one of the historical monuments of the country.

Having thus far described the history of the building, we will now proceed to survey the more prominent features of the Mount, commencing with the abbey.

This is entered by following the Chemin de Ronde as far as the châtelet which consists of two towers in the shape of cannon, beneath which is the gloomy staircase which gives access to Belle Chaise, the original entrance, through a portcullis, to the tower, before the construction of the châtelet. Here is the Salle des Gardes in which visitors to the Mount, with the exception of the royal family of France, were compelled to lay aside their weapons.

Note (1) the large fifteenth-century chimney, with window-seats for the soldiers on watch ; (2) the fifteenth-century doorway constructed by Pierre le Roy to connect Belle Chaise with the Merveille.

Above, connected by a winding staircase, is the Salle du Gouvernement or Salle des Officiers, in which the officers of the garrison were wont to assemble. After the Salle des Gardes the visitor

proceeds to the terrace of Beauregard or Saut Gautier, as it is called, after a certain Gautier, who as one mediæval legend runs, foolishly precipitated himself from the rock in order to show his affection for his lady-love. Others say that Gautier was a young sculptor imprisoned in the reign of Francis I., to whose talent is due the decoration of the Renaissance doors at the end of the choir. It is further asserted that, thwarted in the execution of some of his cherished plans, he hurled himself from the rock in a fit of melancholy.

The view from the platform extends over the coasts of Normandy and Brittany with Mont Dol, no less than seventeen church towers being said to be visible. On the same level as Saut Gautier is the Terrasse de l'Ouest affording another fine view of the coast and *grèves*.

The abbey church, now in the hands of the restorers, is entered from the platform Gautier, by a doorway to the south of the nave. This was formerly divided into seven bays, three of which were destroyed by the great fire of April, 1776. The opening was closed in 1780, by a front in which the Greek style of architecture was interwoven with the Roman with so poor an effect, that its sole merit, as M. Deschamps du Manoir aptly expressed it, is to render complete the course of architecture which one may pursue at Mont St. Michel. The original wooden roof destroyed by fire, was replaced, after the conflagration of 1834, by lath and plaster. Above the aisles is a fine triforium, each bay being divided into two portions, subdivided again by a central pier. The pillars and arches which support the tower have suffered from fire and have been restored. Upon the tower



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is a wooden steeple bearing the gilded statue of St. Michael, the work of the sculptor Frémiet. The flamboyant choir (1452-1521) rests on the site of the Roman structure fallen in 1421, and was commenced by Guillaume d'Estouteville. Its windows were finished and filled with stained glass by André de Laure (1482-1499). It was completed, as we have before noticed, by Guillaume de Lamps and his brother Jean. The Renaissance doorway in the first bay on the N., is worthy of notice.

The first chapel contains two Renaissance panels, the Resurrection and the Expulsion from Paradise.

In the second chapel note the crosses composed of diamond-shaped pieces of black marble inserted in the pavement.

The fourth chapel, that in the centre of the apse, called the Chapelle des Trente Cierges, contains a piscina and beautifully wrought columns. The tombs of the De Lamps were formerly in this chapel.

The sixth chapel gives access by means of the door on the right to the triforium, crypt and the bridge leading to the abbot's dwelling.

The view from the summit of the delicately carved Escalier de Dentelle is extensive and beautiful, on the N. the Point of Granville, on the E. Avranches, on the S.W. Mont Dol and the town of Dol, on the W. Cancale and Jersey.

Speaking generally the choir of Mont St. Michel is the culminating triumph of the flamboyant style, and being chastened, as M. Petit observes, by the hardness of the material, has both externally and internally a very pleasing effect. There are some, it is true, who like M. Corroyer in his *Gothic*

Architecture, attempt to disparage the choir on the ground of "an excessive accumulation of detail, and a tendency towards mannerism, the certain sign of impending decadence," but even thus, he is charmed with the "carving of the granite and ornamental sculpture and the marvellous skill in execution shown by the masons".

The S. transept has remained untouched in the general alteration of the structure. The wall to the S. is divided by a huge central column from which spring two rounded arches supported by pillars with massive capitals. In the eastern half of the wall is a door communicating with the upper story of the abbatial building. Note the carved granite panel with five crosses above the door. On the W. wall once stood a panel recording the names of the knights who fought so successfully against the English in 1434.

In the chapel of St. Martin, below the chapel of the Trinity are buried Conan, Duke of Brittany, and Roland, Archbishop of Dol. Here a mill worked by horses was set up by Guillaume de Lamps and later on a huge cistern was built within. The transepts, including the space below the tower, measure 120 feet, with a width of $25\frac{1}{2}$ feet and a height of 40 feet. The N. transept is irregular in shape. Its north wall shows thirteenth-century work and is lighted by four pointed lights with three circular windows filling up the space between the pointed lights and the mouldings of the arch above.

Leaving the church we proceed to the Merveille, which includes all the buildings to the N. of the island. On the ground floor are the Aumônerie and Cellier, above are the Salle des Hôtes

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and Salle des Chevaliers, and on the third and highest story the beautiful cloister and refectory. The whole of the Merveille, as we mentioned above (page 216), is supposed to have been completed within a space of twenty-five years. This, as Mr. Massé points out, is not impossible, but would negative "the long-cherished French belief that in Gothic architecture France was always well in advance of her contemporaries and neighbours, after the manner of a capable instructress". For an analysis of the various theories current, the reader cannot do better than consult Mr. Massé's exhaustive and illuminating work.¹

The main purpose of this convent building is sufficiently shown by its massive exterior. Strength first and beauty afterwards seems to have been the maxim of those who constructed this wonderful pile. In this they were abundantly successful, for the Merveille was never taken. Its exquisite proportions together with the marvellous beauty and sublime grandeur of the exterior have rendered the Merveille, as M. Gout observes, "the finest ornament of architecture in the whole world". The cloister, the most beautiful portion of the building, was begun by Thomas des Chambres about 1220 and finished by Raoul de Villedieu in 1228. It is impossible to imagine any creation of stone more delicate than the carving of the foliage and flowers which fill up the spandrils of the arches. The employment of a rose granite from the quarries of the Abbey of Lucerne greatly enhances the effect. The arches themselves are of Caen stone which admits of the finest carving. There are 220

¹ *Abbey and Town of Mont S. Michel*, by H. J. L. J. Massé (G. Bell & Sons, 1902).

columns arranged in pairs, beneath a beautifully groined vault. To the south is the lavatory in which the monks were accustomed to wash on Thursdays, and in which the dead were prepared for burial.

To the N.E. is the Chartrier in which the documents belonging to the monastery were kept, and which now contains many objects of interest connected with the abbey, leaden discs from Robert de Torigny's tomb, pieces of vestments and other relics.

The refectory, built in 1225 by Thomas des Chambres, has been restored. Its windows are long and narrow and deeply set in the wall. The old timber roof destroyed by fire has given way to another construction. In the seventeenth century the building was used as a dormitory by the monks of St. Maur and was divided into two stories, which were later on used as prison cells. The windows at the ends of the refectory should be noted, as also the pulpit on the S. wall, for the brother who read aloud at meals. Note too the shaft which served for the lift which conveyed provisions from the kitchen. The famous Salle des Chevaliers, begun by Raoul des Iles in 1215, and finished by Thomas des Chambres in 1220, lies beneath the cloister. It is composed of four splendid naves and is supposed to have been the meeting place for the assemblies as well as the daily work-room of the monks. On the N. are two large fireplaces with huge canopies. The columns which support the cloister are beautifully wrought. On the south is a raised gallery communicating with the Promenoir de Roger and with the handsome hall built by Raoul des Iles in 1215, known

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by the name of the Salle des Hôtes. This contains two large fireplaces and is lighted by nine windows. That on the S. side faces the Tour des Corbins with its wonderful staircase. The original purpose of the room is uncertain, but it was used as a refectory in the seventeenth century, when the portion with the two fireplaces served as a kitchen. In the eighteenth century it became a sail-cloth factory, a jailers' room and finally a soldiers' dormitory. The Cellier is below the Salle des Chevaliers and connected with it by a staircase. It is lighted by five windows; it was outside the second of these that a movable platform was fixed, together with the wheel, to which allusion has been made on page 221.

Next to the Cellier, and beneath the Salle des Hôtes, is the Aumônerie, where the monks received and assisted the poor. It is 112 feet in length by 33 feet and is divided into two naves by six massive piers. The Crypte des Gros Piliers beneath the choir of the church is usually visited before the Cellier and Aumônerie. It was used as a chapel and formerly contained a wooden statue of the Virgin, which had escaped the fire of 1112. The massive yet graceful piers support the pillars of the choir above. The great engineer Vauban is said to have expressed his admiration for the strength of these substructures.

The Charnier or burial-ground of the monks is below the three bays of the nave which have disappeared. Near the Charnier in the chapel of the Trente Cierges, in front of the thirteenth-century chapel of St. Etienne, is the huge wheel formerly worked by the prisoners, who walked within, and serving to bring provisions into the building.

The Crypte de l'Aquilon (so called from its northern aspect), reached by a staircase from the Promenoir, was constructed in the time of Roger II. (twelfth century) and is divided in two by three large pillars and a smaller one. The windows were partially bricked up at the period when the abbey was used as a prison. The vault is groined and unsupported by ribs. The pillars with their ornamental capitals have a pleasing effect, as also the staircase, which together with the crypt has figured in the scenery of the opera of Robert le Diable. The Promenoir, which was the earlier cloister of the abbey, is a double gallery with four columns, about 97 feet in length. It dates from the twelfth century, being the work of Roger II. The groined vault is supported by ribs, which give it a somewhat lighter appearance than in the case of the Aquilon.

At the end of the Promenoir is the gallery containing the cage constructed by the order of Louis XI., of which mention has been made on page 222, in connection with the unfortunate Dubourg. The cachots or cells of Mont St. Michel bear witness to the barbarity of a former age, and it will surprise no one to learn that only one prisoner is credited with having escaped from the Mount alive. This was the artist Colombat, who was imprisoned in 1832 for a political offence. Ordered to restore the paintings in the church, he found himself provided with a rope and lantern, of which he determined to avail himself to the full. Lifting up the paving-stone of his cell he found himself at the mouth of a kind of well, one of the ancient oubliettes of the fortress. Into this he descended only to find himself among the skeletons of former

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prisoners who had met with a horrible death in this dungeon from which there was no possibility of escape. Later on Colombat succeeded in getting away by means of a subterranean passage leading to the *grèves*. He took refuge in Jersey and returned to France after the political amnesty of 1848. He died in 1881, at Caen, where he had opened a café, appropriately named, "A la Descente du Mont St. Michel". Barbes, another political offender imprisoned in 1839, made a futile attempt to escape by lowering himself from the platform of Saut Gautier. His rope proved to be too short, and the unfortunate man breaking his leg was easily recaptured. Pardoned at the request of Victor Hugo, he was liberated in 1854, and banished to Holland. The socialists Blanqui and Bernard, incarcerated in Mont St. Michel as the result of revolutionary efforts in 1839, employed their enforced leisure in writing accounts of their captivity.

Another noted prisoner was the scientist Raspail, imprisoned in 1831. Episodes in the history of the abbey, with representations of the prisoners in their cells, are reproduced at the Musée, near the abbey, which contains besides the instruments of torture and other objects of interest found within the fortress or among the *grèves*. A walk through the town itself along the ramparts will be enjoyed by all who visit Mont St. Michel.

Passing the Tour du Roi and entering the town by the Porte de l'Avancée, after a glance at the English cannon (Les Michelettes), we reach the barbican where is the Hôtel Poulard Aîné of omelette renown. Beyond this is the Porte du Roi and guard-room. Note the remains of the

portcullis projecting from the arch, leading into the town with its single street and quaint old houses and inns.

After the post-office we arrive at the parish church, with a Black Madonna and fifteenth-century carvings from the abbey. At the top of the street is the house built by Du Guesclin for his wife Tiphaine. Steps on the left of the street lead to the abbey; leaving this by the door to the N. of the barbican of the châtelet and proceeding along the ramparts to the left, we reach successively the Tour Claudine and the Tour du Nord (1255) with its splendid view. Next come the bastion of the Tour Boucle and the Tour Boucle itself, the Tour Basse (below the pathway), the Tour de la Liberté, and the two Tourelles, Du Guet and De l'Arcade with their guard-rooms, and finally the Tour du Roi commanding the Porte du Roi and the Porte de la Ville.

To the W. of the Mount beyond the barracks is the Tour Gabriel (sixteenth century) on which a windmill once stood, but which is now used for a lighthouse. The chapel of St. Aubert (thirteenth century) may be reached from this direction.

The lion-like granite rock of Tombelaine is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles distant from Mont St. Michel. Though smaller, Tombelaine is somewhat longer than the Mount. It is covered with scanty vegetation, among which the ruins of its former buildings are yet discernible. A chapel was built here in the tenth century, and a priory erected by Bernard du Bec in the twelfth, for the monks who ministered at the shrine of St. Marie la Gisante de Tombelaine, which became a great resort for pilgrims. During a portion of the fourteenth and fifteenth

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centuries, Tombelaine was in the possession of the English, but was retaken by the French after the battle of Formigny. Sold as national property in 1793, it passed through several hands, until it finally became the property of the Moidrey family of Pontorson, its present owners.

Morsalines. See Valognes.

Mortagne. O. Chef-lieu-d'arr. Population 4300. Situated on a hill like so many towns of this beautiful department; saw much fighting in the time of the Ligue, being taken and sacked twenty-two times in a space of less than four years. It had been taken previously by the English in 1424. It is now chiefly remarkable for its great December horse fair.

The church (1494) has a noteworthy N. door with sixteenth-century carvings. Note within—

1. The Renaissance roof of the nave with pendants.
2. The carved choir stalls.
3. The sixteenth-century window in the left aisle, Salome dancing before the head of St. John the Baptist.

The Portail St. Denis is the only remaining portion of a fort built in 1411 by Duke Jean IV. The Trappist monastery at Soligny (7 miles) is within reach of Mortagne by rail. It occupies the site of an abbey founded in the twelfth century by a Count of Perche, who had lost his wife in the wreck of the *White Ship*. Reformed in 1666, by the Abbé la Rance, it became a model of austerity, only field-labour being permitted to the monks. James II. of England was a frequent visitor to the monastery, which fell on evil days at the Revolution, being suppressed in 1790 by a decree of the

National Assembly when the church was destroyed. The monks were restored and the monastery rebuilt in 1814.

Mortain. M. Population 2212. It should be noted that there are two stations for Mortain, viz., Mortain-Bion on the line from Domfront to Avranches and Mortain-Neufbourg on the railway from Fougères to Vire. The latter is the nearest to the town and the cascades, but fortunately omnibuses are to be found at either station.

Mortain being no great distance from Domfront can be easily seen in the same day. It may be doubtful as to which of them offers the finest scenery, though if the view from Domfront be wilder, most people will probably agree that Mortain is the more alluring of the two. As Dermer remarks, Mortain is almost the best place in Normandy for a lengthened stay, and the Hôtel de la Poste which faces the church is excellent in its way. It has, too, the advantage of being central for this part of Normandy, Vire, Avranches and Granville being all within easy distance. Perhaps the most remarkable of its many lovely features are the delightful cascades which add a charm to the Cance, which flows through the town, which is wanting in other rivers of Normandy. Mrs. Macquoid's description of these waterfalls is too good not to be requoted, although on the occasion of her visit there was probably more water in the river than in the summer of the year 1904: "From the abbey we went to the cascades. They are grand from here, dashing furiously from the heights above, on to the next ledge of rock, and then rebounding, the water seems to fall with double force on the next, till it reaches a meadow far

MORTAIN

below the immense height of rock from which it descends. The rocks look like the turrets and battlements of a ruined castle, as they jut out among the trees in constant variety of colour and form. We found our way after some climbing up and down to the smaller falls. The scene here is very lovely. The place is surrounded by huge rugged crags, some of which look exactly like the ruins of an old castle; near these, shadowed by trees, is a quiet pool of water and close by some smaller cascades dash from the rocks and form a mass of seething foam, across which a little bridge is carried, and then down rushes the water into the mass of verdure below."

The Castle of Mortain, now destroyed, stood below the cascades on the left bank of the river and commanded by the hills on the N. and S. The town was of some importance in feudal times and was about the period of the English Conquest annexed to the crown of England. It seems to have suffered terribly during the wars of the Ligue, being taken and pillaged twenty-two times in the short space of three years. On the right of the road to Vire, a little beyond the town, is the little seminary, a large square building containing the Abbaye Blanche, founded in 1105 by William of Mortain, the Conqueror's nephew, for nuns of the Cistercian order. The word "Blanche" is supposed by some to be connected with the white collars worn by the nuns. At the Revolution, the abbey was destroyed in common with most religious institutions in France, but has since been converted into a seminary or school for the education of youths destined for the priesthood. Little is left of the original building except the church

NORMANDY

built in 1120. This has been restored, but part of the cloister and the sacristy belong to the twelfth century, while the chapter-house dates from the thirteenth.

To the E. of the seminary extends a line of rocks, on the summit of which, 1000 feet above the sea, rises the Chapel of St. Michel which was rebuilt in 1852. This is best reached by following the path behind the church. The view from the height on which the chapel stands is extremely fine, extending as far westward as Mont St. Michel, if the day be clear.

The church of Mortain, or the Collegiate as it is sometimes called, was founded by Robert de Mortain in 1085. Only the S. porch with its richly ornamented carving belongs to the first building, the rest of the church is later and transitional. The tower with its extremely long narrow windows is placed by Parker at about the year 1250. It stands apart from the church, after the fashion of the Campaniles of Italy. There are no transepts in the church, the pointed arches of which spring from pillars instead of piers. The capitals and mouldings are Norman and all the windows are lancets.

A tradition, probably erroneous, associates the edifice with thirty-two builders who completed the structure in thirty-two years. The choir contains some 58 stalls with fifteenth-century carvings. The town, like those of Domfront and Vire, is built upon the side of the hill. The view from the top of the road in front of the seminary is certainly one of the most delightful in Normandy. No one should visit the country without finding his way to this most charming of neighbourhoods.

MORTAIN—NORREY

- Mortemer.* See Neufchâtel.
- Mortemer, Abbey of.* See Rouen.
- Mortrée.* See Sées.
- Motteville.* See Pavilly.
- Nacqueville.* See Cherbourg.
- Neubourg.* E. arr. Louviers. Population 2700. Formerly a town of importance, taken by Henry I. of England in 1118, and afterwards burnt by King John, it is now chiefly known for its corn-market, the largest in the department. There is an interesting Gothic church and a castle with high fifteenth-century walls and machicolated towers where the first operas played in France were performed in the reign of Louis XIV. Within is a beautiful thirteenth-century door with capitals.
- Neufchâtel.* S. I. arr. Neufchâtel. Population 4500. The castle of Neufchâtel, founded by Henry I. of England, was dismantled after numerous sieges by Henri IV., in 1595. Few traces of the structure remain. The Romanesque church with sixteenth-century tower has a mutilated fifteenth-century doorway. The choir is thirteenth-century work, the organ-case seventeenth. The Musée and library are housed in the abbey of the Bernardines, in the former are Roman and Gallic weapons, bas-reliefs, vases, etc., in the latter a thirteenth-century bible in manuscript, ancient seals, etc. The town is renowned for its little cream cheeses known as Bondons. Seven miles from Neufchâtel is Mortemer, the scene of the Conqueror's victory over the French, 1054. The ruined castle dates from the twelfth century.
- Neuville.* See Port-en-Bessin.
- Norrey.* Near Caen (Orne). Dr. Whewell thus describes the church at Norrey:—

“A country church which is as genuine and beautiful a specimen of Early English as England itself can supply—a miniature cathedral (for though only a village church it may be so termed).

“The choir of this church with its transept is in perfect preservation, the nave is very plain, and has no aisles and few windows, having been apparently a good deal injured. The choir, small as it is, has a splendid effect. All the mouldings are deep, free, and repeated after the Early English fashion, so as to give the greatest strength of line to all the parts. The piers, the pier-arches, the wall-arcades, the bands of ornaments under the strings, the windows in the side aisle, formed by piercing the centre light of a triplet on shafts, the capitals, the beautiful sculpture, the bases, the external slopes of the window-sides, the dripstones running horizontally as strings, the triangular heads of the buttresses, their plaited set-offs, the polygonal turrets terminated by pyramidal caps and enriched by shafts at their angles, everything in short brings before us the purest and simplest kinds of Early English architecture. Even, perfect, and free-cut toothed ornament is to be found, which hitherto we have never seen. It occurs in the exterior moulding of the south porch, of which the mouldings in other respects resemble those of Ardenne. The choir consists of three well-proportioned stories, the pier-arch being supported by small clustered piers, which, however, are not free, and have certain fillet edges between them, not corresponding precisely to anything in our Early English piers. In the apside, where the narrow arches require narrower piers, these consist of two columns set double in the direction of the wall.

“The triforium is four pointed beaded panels on triple shafts (not detached from each other), and the clerestory is a single window without shafts, but with a roll. The aisles are eminently rich, having lines of arcades with bold free mouldings, and above these a line of sculpture of considerable breadth, very well executed, fanciful, and varied. The most curious parts of the church are two polygonal apse chapels, which open into the aisles in the usual manner, with diverging vaulting: cells from shafts into their angles. These chapels have the wall string and its accompanying sculpture and have moreover very good piscinæ, the shaft having below it a well-cut string of foliage; they are roofed with curious pyramidal stone roofs, very tall, as if those had belonged to a much higher church. There is also a good porch under a triangular pediment, containing a double door with a straight head and niches in the tympanum.

“The part of the church which first attracted our attention by its remarkable appearance at a distance, and induced us to visit Norrey, was the tower, a tall free story on clustered shafts, with the daylight seen through its lancet windows.”

Dr. Whewell's interest in Norrey church was attended with inconvenient consequences to himself and party, for as he relates:—

“A sergeant-major of the national guard of Norrey considered our attentions to his church to be alarming, and declared us his prisoners, and as the mayor of that place was from home, being gone to market to sell his corn, we were, after a delay of an hour and a half, marched under a guard of three sabres and two fowling-pieces to the next village, Brettville, where the mayor was

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reasonable enough to decide that antiquaries were not dangerous people, and dismissed us to the no small indignation of our convoy."

Mrs. Macquoid quotes a tradition relating to this church, similar to that of the apprentice's window in the church of St. Ouen, at Rouen. The master of the architect of Norrey had built the tower of the church at Brettville close by, and fearing that the tower of Norrey would throw his own work into the shade, was seized with such violent jealousy that he flung his pupil down from the top of the scaffolding.

This is said to be the reason why the tower at Norrey was left unfinished.

O, Château d'. See Sées.

Omonville. See Cherbourg.

Orbec. See Lisieux.

Orcher. See Havre.

Ouistreham. See Caen.

Pavilly. S. I. arr. Rouen. Population 3000. In the pretty valley of the St. Austreberthe, on the rail from Rouen to Havre, is reached soon after crossing the great viaduct of Barentin (540 yards long). It has a thirteenth-century church and eleventh-century chapel, the remains of a famous nunnery founded by St. Philibert in 660. Here too is the fifteenth-century château of Esneval. At Motteville, the next station, may be seen a Romanesque church and sixteenth-century castle.

Périers. M. arr. Coutances. Population 2800. The fine fourteenth and fifteenth-century church has a fifteenth-century tower with modern spire, and choir with beautiful stained-glass windows.

Petit Couronne. See Rouen.

Petit Quévilly. See Rouen.



PONT AUDEMER : REMAINS OF THE CHURCH OF SAINT-SEPULCHRE

CHÂTEAU D'O—PONT AUDEMER

Petites Dalles. See Fécamp.

Pollet, Le. See Dieppe.

Pont Audemer. E. Chef-lieu-d'arr. Population 6000. Picturesquely situated on the Rille, with its many tanneries, can boast of two interesting churches. That of St. Ouen, although unfinished, is one of the most beautiful in Normandy. The choir dates from the eleventh century, although the greater portion of the building belongs to the sixth. There is a handsome triforium, and good carving. Note especially the chapel of the baptistery with its charming balcony and the exquisite windows of the Renaissance period. That in St. Catherine's chapel in the N. aisle in three divisions represents :—

- (1) Adam and Eve and Abraham.
- (2) Moses, David and Isaiah and the burning coal. Elijah and the Raven.
- (3) The Church represented by a kneeling female figure.

In the S. aisle :—

- (1) The Brotherhood of the Holy Sacrament.
- (2) The Annunciation and Entombment (1516).
- (3) Christ on the Lake and the deaths of St. Peter and St. Paul.
- (4) Lives of St. John the Baptist, St. Nicholas and St. Eustace.
- (5) Death of the Virgin Mary.
- (6) St. John the Baptist. 1535.

The Church of St. Germain in the S. of the town belongs to the eleventh, thirteenth and fifteenth centuries. In the apse is a beautiful window of the fifteenth century. The tower with its fine double window dates from the thirteenth. Note the ox's head carved on the N.

wall, said to commemorate an incident in the building of the church.

Pont de l'Arche. E. arr. Louviers. Population 2000. On the Seine, which is crossed by a bridge of nine arches (1858). Owes its name to the bridge constructed by Charles the Bald which was rebuilt in the fifteenth century and destroyed in 1850. The town was formerly one of the keys of Normandy, and as such underwent numerous sieges. The fifteenth and sixteenth-century Gothic church contains some good glass, and a seventeenth-century organ-loft and altar-screen, the organ itself being the gift of Henri IV. Note the exquisite gallery above the five beautiful windows on the S. side.

Pont l'Évêque. C. Chef-lieu-d'arr. Population 3000. At the confluence of the Touques and the Calonne. Owes its name to a bishop of Lisieux who built a bridge over the former river. As early as 1230, in the *Roman de Rose*, we find mention of its cheeses of which there is now an enormous output. The church with square tower with huge buttresses has some good sixteenth-century glass.

Pontorson. M. arr. Avranches. Population 2500. At the mouth of the Couesnon, some 5½ miles from Mont St. Michel. Has an interesting church of which, as M. Petit remarks, "the nave is without aisles, and vaulted in nearly square compartments with diagonal ribs; the transverse arches are pointed. The capitals and the transoms of some of the doors, which are round-headed, are enriched with grotesque sculpture. The W. front forms a sort of porch with a large open archway. In the real W. wall of the nave is a round-headed door with a window above. The front is flanked

PONT DE L'ARCHE—QUILLEBŒUF

with square turrets. The central tower is massive and appears to belong to a later style as does the chancel which has aisles." The nave and porch are obviously Roman, the rest is mainly transitional and thirteenth-century work. Note the Renaissance bas-reliefs of the Ascension and the large Renaissance altar screen.

Port-en-Bessin. C. arr. Bayeux. Population 1500. A small fishing village at the mouth of the Drome with a fine mediæval bridge and an eleventh and twelfth-century church. Roman and Gallic remains have been discovered at Le Castel in the vicinity. Two miles from Port-en-Bessin is Le Cavalier, an old Roman camp. Neuville with its ancient priory, Huppain with a church with Roman nave and thirteenth-century choir, St. Honorine des Perthes with thirteenth-century church and eighteenth-century château and Colleville with six-storied Roman tower and eighteenth-century castle are also in the neighbourhood. The Fosses du Soucy, the caverns in which the Aure disappears after receiving the waters of the Drome, are below the Château of Maisons (fifteenth century), where the church with Romanesque nave is worthy of notice.

Pourville. See Dieppe.

Puys. See Dieppe.

Querqueville. See Cherbourg.

Quiberville. S. I. arr. Dieppe. Population 300. A small, rising watering-place 9 miles from Dieppe, with a small stream, the Saâne, which the sea-trout ascend. The church contains a thirteenth-century baptistery, and a fourteenth-century tomb.

Quillebœuf. E. arr. Pont Audemer. Population 1300. Ruined by the religious wars of the

fifteenth century Quillebœuf was rebuilt in the reign of Henri IV., receiving the name of Henri-copolis. Its fortifications were, however, destroyed during the regency of Marie de Médici. The church has a Romanesque nave, central tower and doorway. The castle belongs to the end of the sixteenth century.

Quinéville. See Vialognes.

Regnéville. M. arr. Coutances. Population 1600. An interesting little port on the Channel 6 miles from Coutances with fourteenth-century church with singular tower. Of the old château fortified by Charles the Bad, only a few ramparts and underground passages remain.

Riberpré. See Forges.

Rolleville. See Havre.

Romilly-sur-Andelle. E. arr. Andelys. Population 1700. Has a church with curious construction under the central tower, the arches, very plain, rest on brackets of considerable projection.

Rouen. S. I. Population 117,000. Rouen is a thriving modern city devoted to cotton spinning and weaving and to the making of pocket handkerchiefs, but containing within itself what has been epigrammatically described as "a museum of antiquities".

Thanks to the French Government and to the city authorities, the many monuments of architectural and historic interest—many indeed having associations especially interesting to Englishmen—which for generations have attracted travellers to Rouen, are carefully preserved. But otherwise here as in most other ancient towns the picturesque is gradually being improved away to make room for a vastly increased population and modern needs. Boulevards mark the ancient walls and straight

QUINÉVILLE—ROUEN

avenues, along which the latest electric tramcars swiftly glide, cutting through and mercilessly destroying the charm of old-world, narrow, winding streets.

At the top of the Rue de la République (the very name of this broad new street is almost a vandalism) the Musée Départemental d'Antiquités affords perhaps the only means of thoroughly appreciating what Rouen was like before it became a manufacturing town, and well repays an early visit. Here may be seen façades, wooden pillars and other carvings rescued from old houses before they were destroyed, and among many other most interesting objects, plaster casts of the Bourgheroulde stone carvings, which commemorate the Field of the Cloth of Gold. These casts show us what the carvings were like when first executed in 1530 before Time's destroying hand had obliterated so many of their details.

It has always been the fashion to go into ecstasies in print over Rouen, and it must be confessed that there are things there which fully justify the ecstatic frame of mind; but it is good perhaps to realise before arrival that, as a whole, *old Rouen* exists no longer. The straight new streets, Jeanne d'Arc, Grand Pont, Thiers and the Rue de la République cut it into bits. The Rue des Carmes, although the tramways run up it, retains certainly somewhat of its mediæval aspect, and the part of the town between that street and the Rue Jeanne d'Arc, and again that part between the Rue Jeanne d'Arc and the Rue du Vieux Palais, and even the Place de la Fierce de St. Romain south of the cathedral may deceive you for a time that "Old Rouen" is still with you; but the four modern streets already named and the boulevards surrounding them will be constantly

bringing you back with a shock to the realities and to the banalities of this progressive age.

There are, however, happily, many curious old streets left where you can wander and, if of a sufficiently imaginative temperament, fancy yourself living in the Middle Ages. The Rue de la Vicomté, for example, which besides being a nice clean street as well as old, has the further advantage of not being cut by any of the modern routes. It leads from the quays to the Rue de la Grosse Horloge. In addition to the last-named famous street, of which more hereafter, the following are among those that are the least unaltered :—

Rue des Carmes and Rue Ganterie leading into it; Rue des Vergetiers leading out of the Rue de la Grosse Horloge near the clock; Rue des Charrettes; Rue aux Juifs and Rue de St. Romain, the former running by the Palais de Justice and the latter by the north wall of the cathedral.

Rouen was once, 1800 years ago, the chief town of a Roman province. As early as the second century, there was a bishop of Rouen. The foundations of the first cathedral were laid in the fifth century and those of the Abbey Church of St. Ouen about the same time. The bishops of those days if not appointed by, were submissive to, the Roman Emperors. It was not until the time of Clovis, one hundred years later, that the church began to play that potent part in politics, which has had so much influence, both progressively and retrogressively, in shaping the destinies of France and of Europe. Little remains in Rouen above ground to remind us of those early days; but beneath the choir in the Church of St. Gervais (a brand new structure in the Norman style) is the oldest crypt in France, containing moreover the

tombs of two of the earliest bishops of Rouen ; St. Mellon and St. Avetien ; but you will search the church in vain to find the entrance.

A cunningly devised door, part of the woodwork of the choir, which the sacristan unlocks from above, admits you. The lighted candle which he provides shows you a long and winding flight of steps down which it is necessary to descend. In the crypt itself one small Norman window allows some feeble rays of sunlight to penetrate from the outer world. As already stated, two saints lie buried here, bishops of Rouen ; and the bones of another Saint and Bishop, St. Victrice the builder, lay here for three centuries when they were removed elsewhere. The afternoon is the best time to visit this ancient shrine as the sacristan is more likely to be at leisure then. It should on no account be missed. The crypt is dedicated to St. Gervais, and it was in the abbey of that name, possibly on the floor above this very crypt, that William the Conqueror breathed his last. An inscription recording the Conqueror's last words has now been placed above the south door of the modern church. Truly an historic spot !

The crypt walls show distinct signs of Roman building, which fact increases, if possible, still further the interest associated with it, for otherwise there would be no trace in Rouen of the Roman occupation, except some tombs, mosaics, coins, etc., found in the department and preserved in the Musée d'Antiquités.

Under Clovis, who was baptised into the Christian faith about the year 500, when St. Godard was the fourteenth Bishop of Rouen, the town was administered by a Merovingian Governor, which form of government continued under his son

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Clotaire. But on the death of the latter the Empire of Clovis was broken up and divided among his grandsons. Chilperic, who ruled over the northern part, lived much at Rouen, and it was during the reign of this king, in the year 586, that a tragedy occurred which sent a thrill of horror through Christendom. The Bishop Prætextatus was assassinated on the steps of the altar of Rouen Cathedral. Chilperic about the year 570 had married a daughter of the King of the Visigoths whose capital was at Toledo. This unfortunate lady, failing to please her lord was soon after found strangled in her bed. Her fate exemplifies the violent methods of those picturesque days, and the blood feud it gave rise to produced one of the most dramatic periods in the history of Rouen.

His wife being dead, Chilperic, whose domestic arrangements bear a somewhat striking resemblance to those of our own King Henry VIII., for he had already divorced his first wife, married forthwith a sort of early Anne Boleyn, a maid of honour of the name of Fredigonda. Brunehaut, wife to his brother Sigebert, King of Eastern Gaul was sister to his murdered Spanish Queen. She swore to avenge her sister's death and incited her husband to make war on Chilperic. They took Paris and Rouen and even besieged Chilperic and Fredigonda at Tournai.

But the latter was a prodigy of boldness, wickedness and genius, and is said to have gained several battles in person. At this critical stage of the war she managed to procure the assistance of Sigebert, and eventually drove the invaders south of the Loire.

The Bishop Prætextatus, who had been obliged by circumstances to give some assistance to Brunehaut, had thereby incurred the unquenchable hostility of Fredigonda. Terrible and relentless, this woman who to achieve her ends would stop at nothing, who in order to secure the succession for her own son murdered or caused to be murdered her husband and her three stepsons, who compassed the death of almost every opponent except that of her rival Brunehaut, was not likely to be deterred either by the sacredness of the bishop's office or by the holiness of his life from removing him for ever from her path. Her hired assassin struck the blow as the bishop knelt in prayer before the altar, gaining thereby for Prætextatus martyrdom; and for his royal mistress the execration of posterity.

Throughout the Middle Ages the chief weapon of high politics was assassination, but in the days of Fredigonda methods were more open and more barbarous. One would be gratified to read that she also was made to suffer. But no, she appears to have died in peace in 597, while her rival, Brunehaut, also, though in a lesser degree, a great queen and a great sinner, having been taken prisoner in 613 by Clotaire II. (Fredigonda's son) is said to have expiated her crimes first by being exposed on a camel to the derision of the camp and then by being dashed to pieces tied to the tail of a wild horse.

In the next century St. Romain, who is the patron saint of Rouen, pulled down and destroyed the last traces of paganism in Normandy. At Rouen he is said to have destroyed the temples of Venus and Adonis. The legend connected with his name is precisely the same in origin as that of St. George

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and the Dragon; namely, the fight and final victory of a purer and more civilised religion over the older and less enlightened faith. The *Privilege* of St. Romain will be referred to later in connection with the Chapelle de la Fierde de St. Romain, which stands in the Place de la Haute Vieille-Tour.

Charlemagne visited Rouen in 769, and left in his will a legacy to the town. The Rouen of those days was confined roughly speaking—

On the N. by the Rue aux Fosses Louis VII., a street parallel to and S. of the Rue Thiers.

On the S. by the Rue aux Ours.

On the W. by the Rue Jeanne d'Arc.

On the E. by the Rue de la République.

I would strongly advise every one visiting Rouen to provide themselves with a good map and to study it beforehand. That in the *Guide Joanne* is good enough, but a still better one is on sale for a few pence published by the *Journal de Rouen*.

We now come to the historical connection of England with Normandy. Rouen was plundered by the Danes in 841. In 912, the Viking Rollo the Northman or Norman, was baptised by the archbishop and received from the King of the Franks recognition as the first Duke of Normandy. Normandy under its dukes increased in power and importance until the time when William the Bastard, lineal descendant of Rollo, conquered England. As already stated the Conqueror died in Rouen in the Priory of St. Gervais, but he was buried at Caen, where his tomb, desecrated by the Protestants in the sixteenth century, may still be seen.

Normandy as an appanage of the English Crown gradually declined in power. In 1150, Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou, husband of Matilda,

the Conqueror's grand-daughter, and father of Henry II. of England, governed. It was during his government that Rouen was attacked by the King of France, and "Rouvel," the big bell, which even now hangs in the belfry of the Grosse Horloge, saved the town. Matilda, whose first husband had been the Emperor Henry V., is buried in Rouen Cathedral where her tomb is shown. Richard Cœur-de-Lion the next Duke, whose tomb is also in the cathedral received his crusading sword and banner at Rouen. This ceremony must have taken place in the old Norman cathedral, of which the Tour St. Romain (N. tower of the present façade) is a remnant. His weak successor, King John, of Magna Charta fame, was unable to withstand the power and resources of Philip Augustus King of France (fifth in the line from Hugh Capet). The Château Gaillard, built by Richard Cœur-de-Lion, the most important fortress in John's French dominions, surrendered in 1204, and with it fell Rouen and the whole of Normandy. Henceforward the history of the town, which up to this date has been in turn the seat of government of a Roman province, the central fortified stronghold of the Merovingian and Carolingian dynasties, the capital of a Duchy, at first independent, and then an appanage of the crown of England, becomes entirely associated with the history of France.

Of the Norman or Romanesque architecture in Rouen besides the crypt of St. Gervais already mentioned, the remains that will repay a visit are:—

- (1) The Church of St. Gilles founded 1176. Unfortunately the W. front and many of the windows have been restored in the Gothic style but the pillars, arches and vault remain.

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(2) The Chapelle St. Julien, Rue de l'Hospice, Petit Quévilly.

(3) The old apse attached to the church of St. Paul which is said to stand on the very site of the Roman Temple of Adonis destroyed by St. Romain.

(4) The lower part of the N. tower of the cathedral (Tour St. Romain) belonging to the older cathedral finished in 1063.

The Church of St. Gilles is in the suburb of Mont aux Malades. The best way to walk to it is by the Rue St. Maur, which starts from the Rampe Bouvreuil opposite to the Lycée Jeanne d'Arc, in the boulevard of that name. One can also get there from St. Gervais by a very steep and stony path, but in either case inquire for Mont aux Malades. A visit to the Chapelle St. Julien should be made by *voiture*.

The Church of St. Paul is on the river front towards the Mont St. Catherine, just S. of the barracks on the Champ de Mars. Mr. Théodore Cook in his admirable and exhaustive book on Rouen has made a curious mistake in explaining the reason why the new church of St. Paul is almost at right angles to the old Norman apse. He says on page 99: "The apse is directed to the east of summer while the new church points to the east of winter". Whereas in reality as regards the apse the exact opposite is the case. The apse points to the S. of the true E. and is therefore in the direction of the sun's rising in winter. Moreover the church instead of pointing to the E. either of summer or of winter, if the direction of the sun's rising is to be considered the E., points S. by W. This is purely an astronomical question and

does not in the least affect the value of his book as a guide to everything that is worth seeing in Rouen; but with these facts before us Mr. Cook's ingenious explanation cannot, I fear, be accepted. It would appear to be very probable that it was found impossible to build a church of the required size on this site in any other way without demolishing the apse. Whatever the reason, there can be no doubt that the Church of St. Paul at Rouen points to the S. instead of to the E.

Rouen Cathedral as we see it at the present day was begun very early in the thirteenth century, after the older building had been almost entirely destroyed by fire in the year 1200. Certain earlier work which escaped the flames crops up here and there, notably the lower part of the Tour St. Romain; but all through the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries the work continued, and even as late as the sixteenth century when the central porch was finished. The following are the approximate dates and architectural styles of the principal features:—

The nave, choir and transept, all of which are said to have been finished when St. Louis visited the town in 1255, together with the four square turrets, the Portail aux Libraires and the Portail de la Calende are of the thirteenth century, and, therefore, should be early French, but they have many features of a decorated character, and may therefore be classed as transition from Early French to decorated. The portails, however, which are respectively the N. and S. doors of the transept, continued to be embellished up to the fifteenth century. The lady chapel (Chapelle de la Vierge) and the tabernacle work are of the fourteenth century and are therefore decorated.

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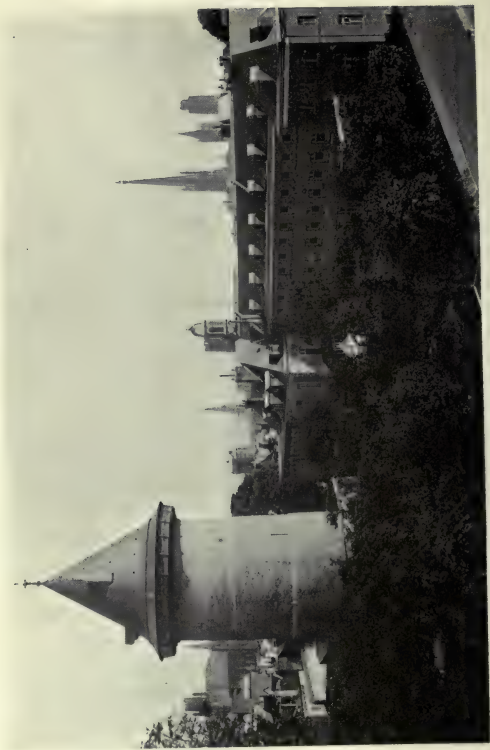
The Tour de Beurre (the S. tower), the rose-window of the west front and the great central tower are of the fifteenth century, and are therefore flamboyant, which style corresponds as to date and in a limited degree in other respects, with our perpendicular.

The central porch and pinnaced buttresses are of the sixteenth century and are therefore Renaissance or transition between flamboyant and Renaissance.

The cathedral tombs in the Chapelle de la Vierge also belong to the sixteenth century. That on the S. side, the work of Roland le Roux of Rouen, is the mausoleum of the Cardinals d'Amboise. The statue on your right hand is that of the first and greater of the two, who governed France under Louis XII. and did much for Rouen, not only from an artistic point of view, but also materially in providing the town with a good water supply and improved system of sanitation. The statue of the other cardinal is attributed to Jean Goujon who was in Rouen in 1540. The tomb on the N. side of the chapel is generally accepted as his work. It was erected in 1541, by the notorious Diane de Poitiers, mistress of Henri II., in memory of her husband Louis de Brézé, Grand Seneschal of Normandy.

The appearance of the cathedral as a whole suffers from admixture of style; but the intrinsic beauty of its parts, such for example as the W. front and both N. and S. towers, the transept doors, the decorated windows and the clustered arches in the nave is remarkable. Moreover it is interesting and not without value to the student of architecture to be able to note and compare so many different styles in one and the same building.





ROUEN : TOUR JEANNE D'ARC

The plan adopted in this chapter is to take the principal objects of interest in Rouen in more or less chronological order. By this method it is thought that not only do they stand out more clearly as landmarks of history, but the reader, should he be interested in architecture, is better able to follow its development from the eleventh to the sixteenth century, or in other words from Norman to Renaissance.

The Tour Jeanne d'Arc, which was originally part of the Castle of Bouvreuil, the donjon keep, is of the early thirteenth century, the castle having been begun by King Philip Augustus somewhat later than the cathedral. It was here in this very donjon keep that Jeanne d'Arc was imprisoned in 1431. The tower as we now see it was restored some thirty years ago, but so carefully that not only is much of the original masonry preserved but its appearance as it stands to-day must be much the same as that of 700 years ago. It shows us what a fortified tower looked like before big guns were invented. The object of the wooden hoarding projecting beneath the turret was for hurling stones and other missiles on to the heads of the besiegers.

The castle itself of which this interesting restoration is a remnant was demolished in 1610. The Tour Jeanne d'Arc stands high up on the rising ground N. of the Jardin Solférino and is easily recognised. It is in the Place Bouvreuil, and the street of that name leads into it from the gardens.

The romantic and truly marvellous story of Joan of Arc, who of all the heroines of history was perhaps the most courageous, truthful and devoted, has attracted the attention and fired the imagination of every

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writer of a book on Normandy; but as it can be read in any history either of England or of France, I do not propose to linger over memories which connect the name of Jeanne d'Arc with Rouen and which can never be pleasant reading for any English man or woman. She was burnt in the Market Place at the bottom of the Rue de la Grosse Horloge. The Place de la Pucelle where her statue stands, seems to have been originally so named owing to a fountain having been erected there to her memory, as far back as the time of the great Cardinal d'Amboise, about the year 1500.

Next to the cathedral in importance and exceeding it in interest from an artistic standpoint, is the Abbey Church of St. Ouen. The present church is the fifth or sixth that has stood on the same site. It was begun in 1318 and finished about the year 1525. The original W. front has unfortunately disappeared having been replaced in 1846 by a modern Gothic erection with two spires, which calls forth from the æsthetic observer almost as much lamentation and invective as the rest of this remarkable structure claims from him joyful and enthusiastic praise.

The tower has been rightly described as "exquisite, fairylike, a gem of architecture". It was completed towards the end of the fifteenth century and is therefore flamboyant. The interior, which is of immense size, being over 400 feet long, 80 feet wide, and 100 feet high, is recognised throughout the civilised world as an almost perfect specimen of the decorated and flamboyant styles, a culminating triumph, as it were, of Gothic architecture. The triforium is of glass. The clerestory is unusually large and lofty and the number of windows and the



ROUEN : APSE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. OUVEN



prevalence throughout of beautiful coloured glass add much to the sublime effect of the whole. Perhaps, in one way we may be almost grateful to the architect who perpetrated the modern W. front; for the contrast between the stiff newness of the exterior façade and the harmonious grace of the fourteenth and fifteenth-century interior, toned down and rendered uniform by age, may have something to do with the absolute rapture with which it is invariably greeted. Historically St. Ouen is also of interest. It was during the English occupation, which lasted for 31 years, from 1419 to 1449, after the memorable siege of Rouen by Henry V., that the nave was begun; and the French architect De Bernard was chosen by the English. This was in the year 1432, the year after Jeanne d'Arc's execution. The ceremony of the so-called Abjuration, in which the unfortunate maid was brought for the time to abjure her mission, was conducted in the cemetery of St. Ouen.

In 1485, Charles VIII. of France held a great and brilliant reception within the abbey, after which he confirmed the charters of the town. Henry VII. of England, then the banished Earl of Richmond, was among his suite.

What mutilations there are in this beautiful edifice were done by the Protestants in 1562; but it was also used as an arm manufactory by the Revolutionists in 1793.

Immediately E. of the cathedral is the Church of St. Maclou so named from a Scotchman, who became Bishop of Aleth in the sixth century, and to whom a shrine was afterwards erected at Rouen. The present church dates from 1437; and although St. Vivien, which will be referred to next,

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may have been begun earlier, it was not completed till long after, whereas this beautiful church was finished in 1470. It is therefore one of the most perfect specimens of the later flamboyant style in Normandy. The W. front is a marvel in plan, in construction and in ornamentation. The latter is perhaps somewhat excessive, and personally I prefer the earlier Gothic work (of Salisbury Cathedral for example), which depends more for its effect upon proportion, and less upon ornamentation. Not that the proportions of St. Maclou are bad; on the contrary they are upon the whole extremely beautiful.

The celebrated carved doors and the exquisite organ-staircase are its greatest treasures. The former are attributed to the sculptor Jean Goujon. The spire is modern. It is relatively a very small church being only 157 feet long, but about 80 feet wide and high, less than half the size of St. Ouen, although the difference in height is not so marked as the difference in area. Height, indeed, is a characteristic of French mediæval architecture and proportion is often sacrificed to it. Hence the enormous flying buttresses observable in the exterior of St. Ouen, for example, necessitating a mass of ornamentation to hide their native ugliness. It must be confessed, however, that in this particular case their general effect seems to add to the beauty of the structure.

The Church of St. Vivien, up the Rue eau de Robec due E. of St. Ouen is worth a visit if only on account of its square tower with octagonal spire, which is of the fourteenth century. The organ-loft is by Anguier. The glass is modern. This church stands in a quaint old Place which like so

many others in Rouen takes its name from the sacred edifice which adorns it.

The Church of St. Laurent (in the Rue Thiers at the southern end of the Musée Bibliothèque Jardin Solférino) although the nave is said to be of the fourteenth century, was a fine example of Renaissance architecture; but the whole fabric is now almost a ruin with the exception of its beautiful tower. This latter was begun in 1502 and is to my thinking one of the most exquisite of Rouen's works of art.

Close to the ruined church of St. Laurent behind the northern end of the Musée Bibliothèque stands the Church of St. Godard, in which may be seen at the E. end of the N. aisle the representation of St. Romain and the Gargouille. The date of this window is 1555, and the other stained-glass windows, all of which are good, are of about the same date. The pillars of the nave are graceful.

The Church of St. Vincent in the Rue Jeanne d'Arc, close to the Tour St. André, about 200 yards from the river, is another and more important Renaissance edifice. The exact date is uncertain, but 1511 would seem to be a fair mean to take for the date of its commencement. The choir was finished in 1530 and the western porch later. The high open triforium and clerestory is a characteristic of the later French Gothic. The figure of the salt porter, placed on the buttress on the S. side of the choir, commemorates certain rights of toll in cargoes of salt coming up the river, which used to be held by this church.

The Tour St. André, close by the remains of a church of that name, is a very fine example of Renaissance architecture, a mixture of Gothic and

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the classical styles, which in France has often a very pleasing effect. It dates from 1541.

In the Place de la Haute Vieille-Tour, into which the Rue de l'Épicerie leads from the cathedral S. door (Portail de la Calende), is the Chapelle de la Fierie de St. Romain. This is a little open chapel (Renaissance) dating from 1543, built expressly for the annual ceremony of the Privilege de St. Romain which lasted for six centuries from the year 1200 to 1790. The privilege was exercised by the canons of the cathedral and consisted of the right of releasing a condemned criminal on each Ascension day. The fortunate one was selected by a committee of the chapter-house, who were permitted to visit the prisons and to interrogate the prisoners. This committee took depositions made before the crucifix, and then on Ascension Day the chapter chose the favoured man or woman by vote. The final ceremony took place before the archbishop in the Chapelle de la Fierie.

How the privilege came to be connected with the name of St. Romain is by no means clear, except that as early as the tenth century, he had become the patron saint of Rouen and therefore if the church by tradition could claim such a right, it might be expected that St. Romain would be brought in in some way, in order to strengthen it and to ensure its continuance. The legend is as follows:—

St. Romain taking with him a condemned criminal went forth to free the country from a terrible dragon, yclept the Gargouille.

The Saint returned to Rouen in triumph, the condemned criminal leading the now gentle and reformed dragon with the bishop's stole. So awed,

not to say stupefied, was the beast at the sight of so much piety, that St. Romain and the condemned criminal found no difficulty in pushing him into the river where he was drowned. Thus was Rouen freed from the wiles and wicked doings of the old Gargoyle or dragon, by which mythical terror Paganism has universally been symbolised throughout Christendom.

It is probable that the privilege of the cathedral chapter existed before the legend, and that the latter was adopted by the church in order to surround the ceremony with a religious atmosphere and to give the rite a sacred as well as a traditional sanction.

Of the other churches in Rouen, St. Patrice and St. Eloi must be noticed. Both are of the same date as St. Vincent. St. Patrice is off the Rue Jeanne d'Arc up the Rue de St. Patrice which joins the former street north of the Jardin Solférino. There are two windows here which are said to have been removed from the old church of St. Godard. All the windows are fine, that at the end of the lady chapel, *Le triomphe de la loi, et de grâce*, dated 1538, is by Jean Cousin.

St. Eloi is in the square of that name (Place St. Eloi) close to the Place de la Pucelle just S. of the market-place. It has a fine S. door and the W. front, with its rose-windows will repay inspection. Moreover it is the Protestant church of Rouen.

The extraordinary number of churches to the population in mediæval times—for there were more in Rouen then even than there are now—is perhaps to be explained by the fact that in those days everybody *had* to go to church. For if they did

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not they stood in danger of being burnt. The Inquisition looked after the matter.

It is now time to give a short description of the Rue de la Grosse Horloge and of the buildings other than of worship which lie in its vicinity.

Although the clock and belfry are more than 500 years old and the bell "Rouvel" more than 600, having been recast and hung here about the year 1250, the gateway itself dates from 1529, and all the houses and buildings of interest in the neighbourhood belong to the same century and are therefore either transition from flamboyant to Renaissance, or as in the case of the Bureau de Finances solely Renaissance.

The view down this historic street, which takes its name from the historic clock and clock tower, affords one of the most quaint and charming pictures to be found in any city.

The gateway was constructed, as already stated, in 1529. It is of great beauty and interest, the vault and sides are carved, the subject being "The Good Shepherd". In the basement of the tower is a sculptured fountain dating from 1728, representing the myth of Arethusa the nymph and Alpheus. Arethusa was changed by Artemis into a fountain to save her from the attentions of the river god Alpheus. This myth reminds us of a similar one of Daphne, the dawn, changed into a flower to save her from Phœbus Apollo, which may be seen depicted upon a splendid Gallic-Roman floor-mosaic in the Musée Départemental d'Antiquités. In the case of the belfry fountain, Alpheus is obviously the river Seine.

The Rue de la Grosse Horloge is to-day, as it has always been, the central street, if it is not now



ROUEN : RUE DE LA GROSSE-HORLOGE



as it used to be the main artery of the life of Rouen. Looking down the vista of gables and red roofs, of dormer windows and lattice panes we forget for the moment the factory chimneys, the straight new avenues and modern boulevards, by which the old street is surrounded and cut in twain, and can almost fancy ourselves in the mediæval town of Henry V., or of Francis when, 100 years later, surrounded by knights and cardinals, he rode forth to meet the King of England on the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

The façade of what used to be No. 129, La Maison de Diane de Poitiers (the house of the Court beauty whose kneeling figure is sculptured in the Louis de Brézé tomb in the cathedral) is now in the little open space in which is the Tour St. André.

This front, a mass of carved wood, is a marvelously well preserved example of Renaissance house architecture of the early part of the sixteenth century. No. 127 Rue Grand Pont, or what used to be No. 127, for the old figures are still to be seen over the entrance, is the ancient Bureau de Finances, a very fine and purely Renaissance building in the later style which resembles the Italian. It stands in the Place de la Cathedrale opposite the W. front at the corner of the Place and of the Rue du Petit-Salut. It is to be regretted that the necessities of the case, as it must be supposed, require that the Rez-de-Chaussée should be occupied by shops, one of which, if I remember rightly, is either that of a grocer or a pastry-cook or something of that kind.

The Bureau de Finances was built by Roland le Roux about the year 1540.

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But the house which probably of all others interests English travellers the most, is the Hôtel du Bourgheroulde in the Place de la Pucelle, which is reached from the market-place by the Rue de la Pucelle. This house was commenced in 1486, and with the exception of the gateway, the façade of which has disappeared, it is in a very satisfactory state of preservation, the interior being used as a bank. It is here, in the courtyard, that the famous meeting in 1520 of the Kings of France and England is commemorated on a series of carved panels beneath the windows of the wing on the left hand as you enter. There are five panels in all, the third or central one representing the actual meeting of the monarchs attended by their respective retainers. Henry is shown on the left and Francis on the right.

On the second panel Cardinal Wolsey is seen riding on a mule preceded by knights and a chaplain bearing a cross. All these pictures are carved on the stone of the walls. They were, it is thought, copied by Rouen sculptors from a tapestry, which has long since perished.

Plaster casts of these panels are on the walls of the inner court of the Musée Départemental d'Antiquités and should certainly be seen, because in the second original panel the figure of Cardinal Wolsey cannot be clearly distinguished. Indeed, if it were not for the printed explanation affixed to the wall both the second and the third panels are so worn that they would be almost unintelligible.

Very few other representations of the Field of the Cloth of Gold are in existence, but there is a picture of the gorgeous affair in Hampton Court Palace.

Above the same windows, carved also on the stone, are a series of pictures which illustrate a very different subject. They also are much worn, especially the first and second. With the lapse of time (they were probably executed about the same period as the lower panels 1530-1540) their meaning came to be entirely forgotten, and it was only comparatively recently that some words found on the stone furnished the key to their interpretation.

They were intended to represent in allegory ideas suggested by Petrarch's *Triumphs*:—

- (1) Love conquers the world.
- (2) Chastity conquers love.
- (3) Death conquers chastity.
- (4) Fame conquers death.
- (5) Time conquers fame.
- (6) *Divinitas seu eternitas omnia vincit.* (The Divine Being or the Eternal Essence overcometh all things.)

On the inside of the entrance gate the carved medallions of Henry VIII. and Francis I. are wonderfully well preserved.

The house is a beautiful one in the transition style between Gothic and Renaissance. It should have been referred to before the *Bureau de Finances* and the old No. 129 of the *Rue de la Grosse Horloge*; as both it and the *Palais de Justice*, a short description of which follows, are of a somewhat earlier style; but the former houses were described in connection with the famous street.

The *Palais de Justice*, erected in the days of Louis XII. by Roland le Roux, in 1499, is a magnificent building of the latest flamboyant Gothic.

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It is extremely effective and being judiciously restored, is classed as one of the finest buildings in Europe. The façade of the central part seen from the end of the Rue Thouret, is one of the many pretty old-world views which greet us in walking up and down the Rue de la Grosse Horloge.

It has two wings ; that on the left of the courtyard as you enter is the Salle des pas perdus, so called because of its size. At the further end of this great hall is the "Table de Marbre" around which the members of the jurisdiction "Des eaux et forêts" used to sit of which jurisdiction the great Corneille was once an *avocat*. Behind the exquisite octagonal turret which juts out from the main building is the "Grande Chambre" of the Cour d'Assises.

The Palais de Justice is by far the best example in Rouen of a mediæval non-religious structure, just as St. Ouen is incomparably the finest of its many fanes.

The Hôtel de Ville is a fair specimen of what the eighteenth century produced, that century of decadence in every form of Art.

In summarising the most accessible and at the same time characteristic architectural monuments in Rouen, the following may possibly be accepted as types.

Norman. Tour St. Romain (N. tower of the cathedral) lower part.

Early French Gothic. Tour St. Romain (upper part).

Decorated. St. Ouen (although mixed with flamboyant).

Flamboyant. St. Maclou, Palais de Justice, Tour de Beurre.

Transition. Hôtel du Bourghtheroulde.

Renaissance. Bureau de Finances, Church of St. Vincent, Tour St. André.

Nearly all the churches and buildings to which attention has been drawn, with the exception of St. Ouen, are either flamboyant or Renaissance. In fact, as the reader will have observed, there is comparatively little in Rouen earlier than the fifteenth-century, but no city in France has a greater wealth of the later Gothic marvels, gathered together in so small an area, than the town which was once the capital of Normandy and is now the *Chef-lieu du département de la Seine-Inférieure*.

The environs of Rouen are full of beauty and interest. Bon-Secours (2 miles) and the Côte St. Catherine with their lovely views over the city and the winding Seine should above all be visited. The first-named has a modern Gothic church in the thirteenth-century style, which cannot fail to please. Darnetal (2½ miles), with the tower of Carville, from which Henri IV. is said to have reconnoitred the Ligueurs, and La Bouille (14 miles), a favourite river-resort of the inhabitants of Rouen, with its reminiscences of the Franco-Prussian war, and the pretty adjoining church of Moulineaux (thirteenth century), are noted for their historical associations. Mortemer, with its ruined church and famous abbey, and Canteleu (4½ miles) with its Louis XIV. château with its beautiful gardens and interesting fifteenth-century church must be sought out. Nor should Petit Quévilly (2 miles), with the ancient Hospice of St. Julien with its twelfth and thirteenth-century paintings, and Grand Quévilly and the eighteenth-century Château de Montmorency be forgotten. The house of Corneille at Petit Couronne (5½ miles)

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will not be overlooked by admirers of the poet. Inherited by Pierre Corneille from his father in 1639, it was sold after his death but purchased in 1874 by the Department, and converted into a museum in which furniture, books, portraits and other objects connected with the author of *The Cid* have found a home. The Renaissance Château de Martainville (10 miles), with its beautifully carved door and old rooms and furniture, is also within a drive of the city, while speaking generally the number of pleasant walks and rides in the neighbourhood of Rouen are practically unlimited.

Rugles. W. E. arr. Evreux. Population 1770. In the valley of the Rille. The Church of St. Jean, now used as a store, has a sixteenth-century door and fifteenth-century roof, the apse being probably ninth-century work. The parish church beyond the river has a thirteenth-century nave and is flanked by a fifteenth-century tower. The Chapel of the Sacré Cœur on the right has a remarkable sixteenth-century roof with pendants.

Ryes. See Arromanches.

Sainte Adresse. See Havre.

Saint Arnoult. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Near Trouville; has a ruined priory belonging to the eleventh and fifteenth century; above on the summit of Mount Canisy is the ruined Château de Lassay built in three months in the reign of Louis XIV. by the Marquis de Lassay, who had foolishly boasted of his castle in Normandy, which up to that period had been non-existent.

Saint Aubin. C. arr. Caen. Population 268.

RUGLES—SAINTE GAUBURGE

750. A pleasant little watering-place between Langrune and Bernières, much frequented by bathers during the season.

Saint Céneri-le-Gerei. O. arr. Alençon. Population 250. Picturesquely situated on a peninsular formed by the Sarthe, a favourite resort of landscape painters, derives its name from an Italian, who is said to have established himself here as a hermit in the seventh century. The town which sprang up round his tomb became an important feudal stronghold in the time of the Conqueror, and later during the Hundred Years' War, but only a few traces of this castle remain. The tower of the church is one of the best examples of Romanesque architecture in existence. Some thirteenth-century frescoes in the tower and transept should be noticed. Some way beyond the church is the chapel of St. Céneri, with a block of granite to the left of the altar which though possibly a menhir, is regarded by pilgrims as the bed of the Saint. There is also a statue of St. Céneri representing him clad in cardinal's cap and gown, with St. Mamert standing by.

St. Clair. E. arr. Andelys. Population 400. In the charming valley of the Epte; has a thirteenth-century church and the ruins of a château and the hermitage where St. Clair is said to have suffered martyrdom in 881. There were capital trout in the river, when the writer spent a month at Bordeaux St. Clair some ten years back, but permission to fish is probably more difficult to obtain now than formerly.

Saint Gabriel. See Creully.

Sainte Gauburge, Abbey of. See Bellême.

Sainte Honorine-des-Perthes. See Port-en-Bessin.

Saint James. M. arr. Avranches. This English-sounding place, in a lovely country, has a Romanesque church bearing traces of fifteenth and sixteenth-century work and the remains of the old castle built by the Conqueror to keep the Bretons in check. On the E. is the later sixteenth-century castle of the Counts of St. James.

Saint Jouin. See Étretat.

St. Lo. M. Population 11,121. This pleasant town on the right bank of the Vire is easily reached from Granville or Cherbourg. Like most of the towns in this part of Normandy it is situated on the brow of a hill, a position originally selected for defensive purposes, which were frequently put to a test in mediæval times.

Charlemagne founded here the abbey of St. Croix in the ninth century, and fortified the river-side as a protection against the incursions of the Normans. The town and castle which grouped themselves round the fortifications received their name from a former Bishop of Coutances, St. Lo or Laudus, a native of the district.

In 890 the town was taken by the Northmen, who demolished the fortifications, which were not renewed until Duke Robert established his residence at Saint Croix in 1025. A cathedral was then built on the spot where an ancient chapel had stood, and replaced afterwards by the present structure which was consecrated in 1202. It has however undergone many changes since that period. The castle is mentioned among those fortified by Henry I. in 1090. Geoffrey Plantagenet took it from the partisans of Stephen de Blois in 1141.



SAINT-LO : CATHEDRAL

SAINTE HONORINE—ST. LO

In 1203 the stronghold was seized by Philip Augustus and in 1346 it fell into the hands of Edward III. In 1417 it was handed over to the English under Gloucester, from which time till 1449 it remained in the possession of the English. During the religious wars of the sixteenth-century it was sacked, pillaged and burnt, and rebuilt by Huguenots and Catholics in turn, being finally taken by assault by Matignon in 1575 in spite of the gallant resistance of the Huguenot Colombières and his devoted band of followers. On this occasion the women of St. Lo fought with desperate bravery, pouring hot oil and pitch on the besiegers, by whom however they were mercilessly cut down when the fortress was at length taken by assault. The fortifications were finally demolished in 1811. Among the defences constructed by Marshal Matignon, who bought the barony of St. Lo, is the tower in the garden of the Préfecture which contains the archives of the Department. Besides this there remain the Tour de la Rose, and the Tour des Beaux Regards, which played so important a part in the assault of the 10th of June, 1575. For it was here that Matignon's artillery effected the breaches by which the town was taken.

The Place des Beaux Regards, from which an excellent view is obtained, is in front of the Church of Notre Dame, and may be reached by the Rue Torteron on the S., with the remains of its ancient gate, or by the winding road on the W. side of the hill facing the river. It is adjoining the Place des Beaux Regards that we note the fine old timber house called the Maison Dieu (No. 4 Rue du Poids-de-Ville). But St. Lo is particularly rich in picturesque old houses, and the view from the

river bank in front of the railway station, which includes also the remains of the fortress and the fine cathedral with its two spires, gives an excellent idea of the beauty and old-world air of the mediæval town.

The Rue des Images and the Rue des Prés, adjoining the Place des Beaux Regards, may be especially cited for their quaint and interesting houses. The chief beauty of the cathedral consists in its twin towers which, somewhat resembling those of Coutances and Sées, lend an additional charm to the landscape. They belong to the seventeenth century, while the towers below are of different dates and character, that on the right being fifteenth or sixteenth and that on the left thirteenth or fourteenth-century architecture.

Within the church, the chancel arch has been cut away in such a manner as to open out the E. end of the building, while on the N. separated from the ambulatory by pillars, appears a chapel instead of the transept which one might expect in an ordinary church. Some of the glass is good; one window, containing the arms of France, Dauphiné and Berry, is said to have been given by Louis XI. in 1472, on the birth of his son the Duc de Berry. Others maintain that the gift was a reward to the townsmen of St. Lo for a successful defence against an attack by the Bretons.

The fifteenth-century stone pulpit outside the church (opposite the Rue de la Pompe), with its high canopy, must not escape notice. The Place de la Préfecture, which is reached from Notre Dame by following the Rue Carnot on the left, contains three recent buildings, the Hôtel de Ville, Préfecture and Tribunal Civil. Within the Hôtel



SAINT-LO : CHATEAU LA VAUCELLE

ST. LO—SAINT LOUP-HORS

de Ville is the library and a curious marble pillar of Gallic-Roman origin known by the name of the *Marbre de Torigny*. On the stone rests the bust of the astronomer *Le Verrier* by *Pradier*. Close to the *Hôtel de Ville* is the *Musée* belonging to the *Archæological Society of Manche*. The building of the “*Archives*” adjoining the *Préfecture* has been noticed above. Several documents bear the signature of *William the Conqueror* and his knights. The *Church of St. Croix* may be reached by following the *Rue de la Préfecture* and the *Place de Soleil-Levant* to the *Champs de Mars*, a large square surrounded by trees.

The *Church of St. Croix* was the first church of the abbey of *St. Croix* founded by *Charlemagne* in the ninth century. Destroyed by the *Northmen* it was entirely rebuilt in 1860. Some portions of its original architecture however remain. The site of the abbey buildings near the church, at the *Champs de Mars*, is now occupied by the celebrated *haras* of *St. Lo*, which supplies the French cavalry with excellent horses.

The walks round the town are charming, particularly those along the banks of the *Vire* and upon the wooded cliffs above that pleasant stream. Excursions, too, may be made to *Saint Pierre de Sémilly* on the E. (4 miles), with its old castle, or to the wood of *Montcoq* on the N. (4 miles), with its views of the valley of the *Vire* and the *Châteaux Sainte-Marie* and *Pallièrè*.

Commercially *St. Lo* is of some importance for its cloth factories.

St. Lo d'Ourville. See *Carteret*.

Saint Loup-Hors. C. arr. *Bayeux*. The church with twelfth-century tower has a fine thir-

teenth-century credence table and altar screen. Near here is the thirteenth-century manor of Mesnil now a farm.

Sainte Marguerite. See Dieppe.

Saint Pair. See Granville.

Saint Pierre Eglise. See Valognes.

Saint Pierre de Sémilly. See St. Lo.

Saint Quintin. See Falaise.

Saint Romain de Colbosc. See Tancarville.

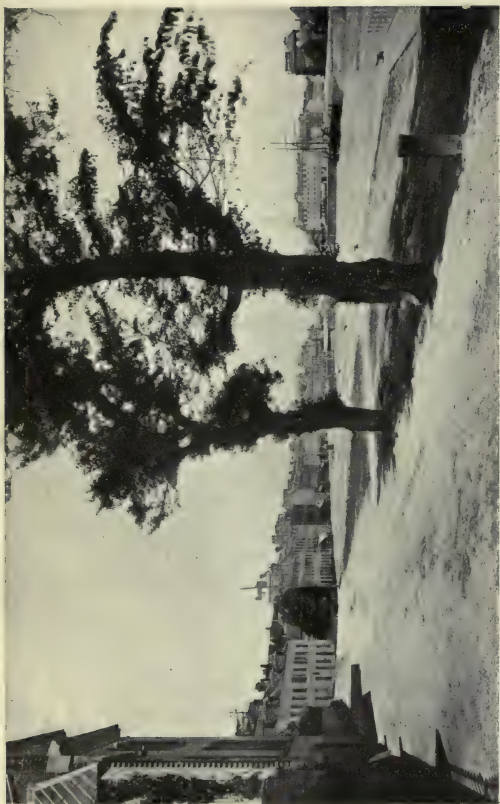
Saint Sauveur le Vicomte. See Valognes.

Saint Sever. C. arr. Vire. Population 1400.

On the borders of the forest of that name, was so called after a Bishop of Avranches, who founded a monastery there in the sixth century. This became a Benedictine Abbey in the eleventh. Of the church, a transept and two bays of the nave (thirteenth and fourteenth century) still remain. Some of the glass belongs to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The buildings of the monastery, which now serve the purpose of town hall, school, and police station date from the time of Louis XIV.

Saint Vaast-la-Hougue. See Valognes.

Saint Valery-en-Caux. S. I. arr. Yvetot. Population 4000. A pleasant watering-place and port placed between white cliffs. Is best known perhaps to the visitor as possessing a fine timber house near the sea, where Henri IV. is supposed to have stayed; behind it is the hospital, once a convent, with seventeenth-century cloister. At St. Valery lived Mademoiselle de Breauté, a lady remarkable for her marvellous beauty and acts of charity. Annoyed at the attention which she attracted, she prayed, so runs the legend, that the fatal gift might be removed. This came to pass, but her admirers remained and so too the saying, "Quand tu seras



SAINT-VALERY-EN-CAUX : QUAYS AND DOCK



SAINTE MARGUERITE—SÉES

belle comme Mademoiselle de Breauté". The parish church a mile from the shore dates from the fifteenth century and has been restored. During the Middle Ages St. Valery was a harbour of much greater importance than at present.

Saint Wandrille. See Caudebec.

San Vic. See Havre.

Sassetot. See Fécamp.

Sées. O. Population 4000. One of the seven cities of Armorica, is situated near the source of the Orne in open country between Argentan and Alençon, some ten miles from the former town. Under the name of Sagium it seems to have been a town of some importance in the time of Cæsar, who praises the pacific character of its inhabitants. It has undergone vicissitudes at different epochs, and has been occupied in turn by Normans, English and Huguenots, the last of whom sacked it on more than one occasion. Its magnificent cathedral dates from the thirteenth century, though there appear to have been earlier churches in the fifth, tenth and eleventh centuries.

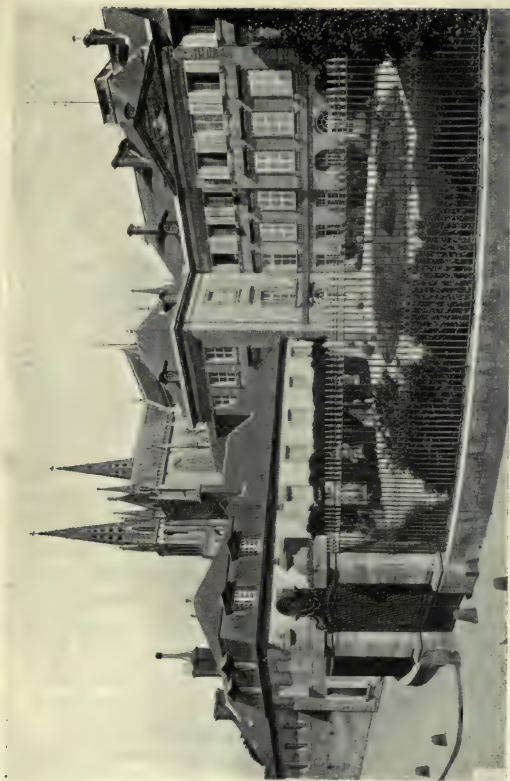
The porch has suffered not only from the mutilation due to Huguenot and Revolutionary zeal but from the clumsy hand of the restorer. Notwithstanding this the W. front with its two lofty spires, still presents the most striking appearance. The towers are more than 240 feet high and belong to the thirteenth century. They are reached by 132 steps. Within the church are three naves, separated by twelve pillars leading to a transept with two rose-windows and the choir of basilican shape, formed by nine arcades and containing five chapels with excellent stained-glass.

Behind the high altar, notice the marble bas-

relief—the removal of the relics of St. Gervais and St. Protais. Also worthy of note are a marble Christ of the fourteenth century and a marble Virgin of the thirteenth, and the curious corbels at the entrance to the choir. The choir of Sées, which was rebuilt in 1260, is one of the most entrancing combinations of stone and glass work to be found in France. Even the choir of St. Ouen at Rouen, which it much resembles, is considered by M. Viollet-le-Duc as inferior to that of Sées. Anything more beautiful than the stained-glass and exquisite proportions of this portion of the building it would be impossible to devise. It is a pity that this fine cathedral should have been left unvisited by such architectural authorities as Petit, Whewell and Dermer. For my own part, I prefer Sées to Coutances, notwithstanding the shortness of its nave, which is at present undergoing much-needed repairs.

The bishop's palace adjoining the cathedral is one of the finest of the kind in France. It is of comparatively recent date, having been built about the time of the French Revolution. It has a good garden and library and constitutes a most pleasant retreat for a prelate who should chance to be at the same time a scholar and a friend of quiet.

Other interesting buildings at Sées are the two Seminaires, the smaller of which preserves in its museum a coining-mill of the time of Trajan, and the Hôtel de Ville, a modern building in front of which is the bronze statue of Conté, a native of the neighbourhood, who becoming distinguished as chemist and mechanic was sent by Bonaparte to study the archæology of Egypt. Of him it was said, "He has all the sciences in his head, and all



SÉES : BISHOP'S PALACE

SÉES—SERQUIGNY

the arts in his hand".¹ He is also remembered as the introducer of improvements in the manufacture of lead pencils, whereby he gained for himself a considerable fortune.

The town of Sées is not unpleasant, though its hotels appear to be inadequate. The neighbourhood offers some interesting excursions, among which may be noticed the forest of Écouves with its Gallic-Roman and mediæval associations, Boitron (on the road to Essai), with its remains of a castle erected by the English in the Hundred Years' War, and the old town of Essai (7 miles), with picturesque ruins.

Three miles from Sées on the road to Mortagne beyond the sources of the Orne, is Aunou with its old church dedicated to Sainte Eualie, and its interesting bas-reliefs and Pietà of the fifteenth century. Half a mile further, at the farm of Fresneau, is a thirteenth-century house with chapel transformed into a barn, the remains of a residence of the Knights-Templars. Mortrée, five miles from Sées on the road to Argentan, is remarkable for the Château d'O, a good specimen of the architecture of the François I. epoch. Not far from this is the Château de Blanche-Lande, with its three lakes. Cæsar's camp in the same neighbourhood should be visited.

Senneville. See Fécamp.

Serquigny. E. arr. Bernay. Population 1300. On the Charentonne. The church has a Romanesque porch and Renaissance chapel. The castle with side towers and drawbridges dates from the

¹ Much valuable information regarding Sées and its environs may be found in a little book edited by S. G. and published by Radigney of that town.

seventeenth century. Near here is the old camp of Saint Marc.

• *Soligny-la-Trappe.* See Mortagne.

• *Sottevast.* See Cherbourg.

• *Sotteville.* See Cherbourg.

• *Tancarville.* S. I. Population 900. Possesses in its ancient castle one of the most lovely ruins on the Seine, whose waters spread here to a breadth of more than two leagues.

Few places in Normandy are more interesting from their associations with the past. The noble and turbulent race of Tancarville, hereditary Chamberlains of Normandy, held the castle founded by Tancrede in the tenth century, till 1320, when it became in turn the property of the families of Melun, Harcourt, Montmorency and La Tour d'Auvergne. Thanks not only to its advantages of position, but also to the privileges granted by William the Conqueror to Raoul de Tancarville, his former tutor, the founder of the Abbey of Boscherville, the place was of great importance to the Dukes of Normandy and their successors the Kings of France.

It was one of the Lords of Tancarville, Robert, who was hero of the famous duel with the Sire de Harcourt in the presence of the Kings of France, England and Navarre, which excited the admiration of the royal spectators to such a degree, that the King of France terminated the contest in order to spare the lives of the combatants. The old castle was burnt by our Henry V. in 1437, and but a small portion of the present building is older than the fifteenth century. Part of the castle was rebuilt by Louis de la Tour d'Auvergne, Comte of Evreux, in 1710.

SOLIGNY-LA-TRAPPE—TANCARVILLE

Among the celebrated personages connected with Tancarville at one time or another, are the heroic Dunois, the fair Agnes Sorrel, the unhappy Mary, Queen of Scots, who spent a portion of her childhood beneath its roof, and John Law of Lauriston, author of that colossal bubble, the Mississippi scheme, who purchased the castle, in which he resided for several years. The Duchesse de Nemours penned her well-known memoirs under the shade of the lime trees which formerly adorned the terrace. The castle was much damaged and plundered at the Revolution when it received from the people the name of the Port aux Bourreaux.

The castle itself stands on the cliff which forms part of the Nez de Tancarville. The two fifteenth-century towers adjoining the entrance were formerly used as prisons and for the lodging of the captain of the castle. Within the gate is the garden of the modern castle of 1710, and scattered around are the remains of the more ancient structure. The picturesque Tour de l'Aigle overhanging the road and the village of Tancarville is round outside the walls, but triangular within the inclosure. Here the castle archives were preserved, and on the second story two pieces of artillery and an old oak chest are to be remarked. The four-storied Tour Carrée, the oldest portion of the castle, dating from the twelfth century, stands at the corner nearest the Seine and the modern château. Facing the Tour Carrée is the Tour Coquesart, a triangular tower sixty feet high, once five storied but now in ruins. Looking up from within, will be noticed the groined ribs of its vaulted roof. The ivy-covered Tour du Diable between the Coquesart and the gateway contains a terrible cachot, whence according to the legend, the

Evil One was exorcised by the Curé of Tancarville. The remains of the chapel with its pointed arches, and of the Grande Salle with its fireplaces, between the Tour Carrée and the Tour Coquesart, and the ruined donjon behind must not escape notice.

The view of the Seine from the terrace is extremely good. The white-topped cliff overhanging the river on the side of the gorge opposite to the castle, is called the Pierre-Gante, or Pierre du Géant, for here the giant Gargantua of legend was supposed to sit while he washed his feet in the river which swept below. One of the best views of the castle is to be obtained from the summit of this rock.

Among the interesting places round Tancarville are St. Romain de Colboac, with its twelfth-century leper's chapel, now a farm building, containing some old paintings; the old castle of Grosménil, the feudal ruins of Château Robert, and the Church of St. Jean d'Abbetot, three miles from St. Romain, with its curious frescoes. The drive from Tancarville to Lillebonne through the valley of the Bolbec is extremely beautiful.

Tatihou. See Valognes.

Thaon. C. arr. Caen. Population 600. The old church, not used now, is purely Romanesque, and as M. Petit observes, the four-sided pyramids which crown its central tower may have suggested the spires of Rozel and Colombières in the neighbourhood.

Thury-Harcourt. C. arr. Falaise. Population 1200. On the Orne, once the seat of the famous Norman family of Harcourt, has a seventeenth-century château and Romanesque church with beautiful thirteenth-century font.





TROUVILLE

TATIHOU—TROUVILLE

Tillières-sur-Avre. E. arr. Evreux. Population 1100. Charminglly situated on the Avre; has a church built by Jean le Veneur, Bishop of Evreux. The roof is beautifully ornamented with pendants and carvings. There are also the ruins of a castle.

Tombelaine. See Mont St. Michel.

Torigny. M. arr. St. Lo. Population 2000. The château, now the town hall, built by the famous Marshal Matignon in the sixteenth century, became afterwards the property of his descendants, the Princes of Monaco, and was eventually acquired by the town. It contains some portraits of the Matignon family and some pictures by Van Dyck, Le Brun and Le Duc, as well as some Gobelin tapestry. Its two churches are both partly Romanesque.

Touques. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Population 1200. A small port at the mouth of the river Touques, has two churches, those of St. Thomas and St. Pierre, the former of which was founded by Thomas à Becket. Portions of the latter belong to the twelfth century. The sixteenth-century manor of Mautry at the entrance of the town and the ruined castle of Bonnevillè on the hill beyond, once a favourite residence of the Conqueror, are worthy of remark.

Tourgéville. See Trouville.

Tourlaville. See Cherbourg.

Trappe, La. See Mortagne and Valognes.

Tréport. See Dieppe.

Trouville. C. Population 6300. Trouville on the Touques is *par excellence* the fashionable watering-place of Northern France. Her existence as such dates only from the middle of the last cen-

tury when the painters Isabey and Mozin, and the writings of Alexandre Dumas, first drew the attentions of the Parisians to the charms of the little fishing village which has since become the rendezvous for a short three months of all that is wealthiest and brightest in French society. To the visitor in May or even in June, the town presents an almost deserted aspect, but with July the butterfly emerges from its chrysalis, the casino opens its doors, and fashion and gaiety enjoy their brief flutter by the shores of the summer sea. Marvellous toilettes bedeck the *plage*, toilettes which are changed several times a day, three times being the least number recognised by the unwritten laws of the giddy throng, double that figure and even more being not unfrequent.

The casino, which opens annually on the 15th of June, is naturally the centre round which the gay world rotates. It offers the usual distractions with concerts, plays, *petits chevaux* and dances, *ad libitum*. The excellence of the sands renders the bathing all that can be desired, while the August regattas which attract a large number of French and English yachts contribute much to the gaiety of the town. The place itself as viewed from the sea is altogether charming; wooded cliffs dotted with picturesque houses and villas affording a pleasant background to the ever-varying kaleidoscope of the promenade and *plage*.

Of history the town has little to record, though it was at No. 5 Rue des Rosiers that Louis Philippe took refuge previous to his escape to England on the outbreak of the Revolution of 1848, while the veteran statesman Thiers found repose in the summer of 1872 at the beautiful Chalet Cordier, near the Hôtel des Roches Noires.

TROUVILLE

There are two churches in Trouville, Notre Dame de Bon-Secours near the casino, and that of Notre Dame des Victoires in the Rue Tostain facing the harbour. The latter is remarkable for a marble altar from the ruins of Pompeii, and some good frescoes by Barenton. The former has a fine pulpit and some good modern glass by Duhamel of Evreux. The port formed by the Touques, with the handsome Quai Tostain, divides Trouville from the adjoining town of Deauville, and constitutes the centre of the fishing industry, which is considerable, some 80 or 90 vessels finding occupation in the trade. Deauville (3000 inhabitants) is of recent growth; it is full of beautiful houses and villas, and offers in its comparative tranquillity a contrast to its more animated sister Trouville. It owes its origin, under the second Empire, to the Duc de Morny, after whose death it was almost deserted. Now, however, chiefly owing to the policy adopted of building houses less ambitious in design, a new era of prosperity has arisen for Deauville, which possesses in addition to its racecourse and polo ground, the advantages of a good *plage* and handsome casino. Its "terrace," more than a mile in length with beautiful artistic villas, belonging to the wealthy Parisians, is the most noteworthy feature of the little town. Connected with Deauville are the two quiet little watering-places of Tourgéville and Bénerville, the former of which has an interesting church (twelfth and eighteenth centuries). A pleasant drive may be taken from Trouville through the forest of the Touques to the Château d'Hébertôt, which was built by the Nolents in the time of Louis XIII. and later on came into the possession of the family of the famous

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D'Aguesseau. The Château of Glatigny with its façade of carved wood (sixteenth century) and dormer windows must not be overlooked.

Ussy. See Falaise.

Valmont. See Fécamp.

Valognes. M. Population 6000. Valognes on the Merderet is a clean well-built town, whose fine old houses still bear witness to its former prosperity.

Previous to the Revolution the town was the residence of more than one hundred families of distinguished birth and fortune, and since that period it has been the home of many of the old noblesse. The decline of Valognes may be accounted for by the disappearance of its glove and cloth factories, but it is still important as the centre of a rich and prosperous agricultural district. The town is ancient, for it was built not far from the site of the Roman Alana whence it derives its name. A fortified stronghold under the Norman dukes and French monarchs, it was here that William the Conqueror received the news of a conspiracy on the part of the barons of the Cotentin and Bessin to compass his death which enabled him to escape to Falaise. Edward III. took Valognes without resistance, spent one night there and then pillaged and burnt the city. Henry III. possessed Valognes, which for some thirty years continued under English rule. It had its share in the fighting during the wars of the sixteenth century and in 1588 took part with the League. Later on its castle, contemporaneously with that of Cherbourg, was completely destroyed under Louis XIV. Of the convent of the Capucins and Cordeliers and the abbey of

USSY—VALOGNES

Benedictine Nuns, which existed at Valognes previous to 1792, only the latter remains, transformed into the hospice which we notice in the Rue des Religieuses.

Leaving the station one enters the town by the Rue Thiers, which leads to a large square with trees on two sides, termed the Place du Château. Here in the old theatre is the library including in addition to its books, some ancient sarcophagi and other interesting antiquities, with a seventh-century altar from the church of Ham. The college, formerly a seminary for the education of the lower ranks of the priesthood, is also in the Place du Château, whence descending the hill one finds oneself in the centre of the town and close to the Church of Notre Dame. This is a structure of somewhat singular appearance, with steeple, tower and central dome almost touching one another. The dome (1612) is said to be the only Gothic dome in France. The western Renaissance doorway is handsomely ornamented. The interior contains good glass and carving. The angels' heads in the left transept belong to the fifteenth century. The wainscoting in the choir is also worthy of remark. A short distance from the town, in the suburb of Alleaume, are the ancient ruins known by the name of the Vieux Château, and about half a mile further are the scanty remains of an amphitheatre and baths, portions of the Roman Alauna, supposed to have been destroyed in the third century, after the reign of Severus. Various coins and medals have been found among the ruins.

The village of Alleaume has a fourteenth-century church with a celebrated statue of the Virgin.

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The country round Valognes is pastoral, and consists almost entirely of meadows, teeming with cattle, watered by pleasant streams and inclosed by hedges, in which respect it bears much resemblance to our English Midlands. Many English and Scotch families derive their origin from the neighbourhood of the Cotentin, as the northern peninsula of France is termed. At Brix, for example, seven miles from Valognes, stood the castle of the family of Robert Bruce, although of this little beyond a subterranean passage still remains. This castle, built in the twelfth century by Adam Bruce, a name corrupted into Bruis or Brix, was destroyed in the thirteenth by Philip Augustus. The church was built in the sixteenth century with the stones of the dismantled Château Adam, and stands upon the eastern extremity of a rocky hill above the small and beautiful river which flows at the base. The view from the tower is exceedingly fine. Here grew during the earlier portion of the last century a beech of more than 20 feet in circumference. Among other English families whose names occur in the district, are those of Beaumont, Neville, Bohun, Percy and Greville.

Numerous excursions may be made from Valognes. At the little town of Bricquebec (population 3000) five miles to the W., is an interesting fourteenth-century castle with a donjon tower in the form of a decagon 80 feet high, with spiral stone staircase giving access to the summit, from which one of the finest views in Normandy may be obtained. The castle was formerly the home of the noble families of Bertram and Estouteville, from the latter of whom it was captured by Henry V. after the battle of Agincourt. Some oubliettes

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were discovered within the walls at the commencement of the last century, and in one of these were the remains of a victim of feudal tyranny, with a flat silver bottle full of wine by his side.

About a mile from Bricquebec is the Trappist Monastery of Notre Dame de Grâce de la Trappe, which is best reached by crossing the railway near the station and then turning to the right. The monastery was founded in 1823. A visit may be recommended to that portion in which the well-known cheeses are manufactured. The inmates of the building are bound by their vows to silence, and to the observation of extremely rigid regulations as regards food and sleep.

“Sins must be expiated either by penitence in this life or by fire in the next,” is one of the mottoes of this order of stern ascetics. In the neighbouring forest is the hill of the “Grosses Roches,” supposed to have been the work of Druids. The stones are beautifully grouped and the view from the summit is worth the journey.

The little seaport of St. Vaast-la-Hougue (population 3000) is about 12 miles to the north of Valognes. It has fallen from its former estate, as previous to the rise of Cherbourg it was the most important port in the Cotentin. It is well situated in a fine bay between the island of Tatihou and the peninsula of La Hougue. It was here that Edward III. landed his troops previous to Crecy in 1346, but La Hougue will be best remembered for the great naval battle of 1692, when the English and Dutch ships under Admirals Russell and Rooke defeated the expedition which Louis XIV. had planned for the restoration of James II. to the English throne. The famous French Admiral

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Tourville found himself utterly outmatched by a fleet about double that of his own in number. Macaulay in his *History of England* has left us a stirring account of this memorable engagement. James II. and his marshals Berwick and Bellefonde looked down upon the conflict from the cliffs above. Only a portion of the French fleet escaped in the direction of the Raz Blanchard, the rest, together with some 300 transports, collected for the purpose of invading England, were burnt by the English off La Hougue. Round the island of Tatihou and in the Bay of Croc are extensive oyster beds. No one is permitted to enter the fort which is near the bathing-place. Hard by is Vauban's Tower built by the great engineer after the battle of La Hougue, evidences of which are even yet discernible at low water in the shape of pieces of anchor chains, cannon shot and the like.

Barfleur with 1200 inhabitants is about 7 miles to the N. of St. Vaast. It has a seventeenth-century church and small sands. In the days of the Norman kings the usual port of communication between Normandy and England, it is now of little account. It was on a reef between Barfleur and Gatteville that the *White Ship* struck in 1120, when Henry I.'s only son and all but one of his companions perished, victims to the carelessness of a drunken crew. The splendid granite lighthouse of Gatteville is 2 miles from Barfleur. It is 235 feet in height and offers an admirable view from the upper portion, even the distant lights of the Isle of Wight falling within its scope. The Church of Gatteville, which has been restored, dates back to the twelfth century.

Near St. Pierre Eglise, midway by road between

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Barfleur and Cherbourg, is the château of the De Tocquevilles. The great French writer, Alexis de Tocqueville, author of the *French Revolution* and *Democracy in America*, is buried in the churchyard. There is a celebrated menhir, the Pierre Longue, in the neighbourhood of St. Pierre, where the church with thirteenth-century tower and Roman porch is worthy of remark.

The little watering-place of Quinéville (population 450), a few miles S. of St. Vaast has prettily wooded walks and good sands. Near the road from the station which crosses the Sinope, a pretty trout stream, is the thirteenth-century chapel of St. Michel. The church, built on a hill, though modern, possesses the remains of the aisle and tower of a Roman structure. There is an eighteenth-century château here and a curious hollow monument some 27 feet high and 30 in circumference, termed the Grande-Cheminée; opinions vary with regard to this, some considering the stone to be of Roman origin, while others believe it to be a twelfth-century oven, belonging to the castle.

St. Sauveur le Vicomte (population 2500), which may also be visited from Valognes (10 miles), is situated on the Douve and is remarkable for its handsome château. Once the property of the Harcourt family it was presented by Edward III. to his able general Sir John Chandos who built the great donjon tower. The castle now serves as a hospice and orphanage. The seventeenth-century abbey buildings are occupied by the Sœurs de la Miséricorde, who rebuilt the twelfth-century church, which had been destroyed in the Revolution. Another Benedictine foundation, that of Ham, is to be seen near Montebourg (population

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2000) a few miles from Valognes. The nave and doorway of Ham church belong to the twelfth and the choir to the thirteenth centuries. Note, too, the altar with its old inscriptions. The church of Montebourg itself, with fine steeple, dates from the fourteenth century. The site of the abbey founded by the Conqueror, is occupied by the school of the Frères de la Miséricorde. On the brow of the hill of Mont-Castre, adjoining the town, may be noted the remains of a Roman camp.

Val Richer, Abbey of. See Lisieux.

Varengeville. See Dieppe.

Vaucottes. See Étretat.

Ver. C. arr. Bayeux. Population 800. A small watering-place with vast sands; has an eleventh-century church with fine tower of four stories, and stone roof. Here too is the fourteenth-century farm of La Jurée. A few miles off is Meuvaines with a Romanesque church, with an interesting doorway.

Verneuil. E. arr. Evreux. Population 4400. On the Avre; is one of the most interesting towns in Eure and possesses several good specimens of Gothic architecture, notably the Church of the Madeleine (eleventh to seventeenth centuries), with its magnificent richly-decorated tower (1506), with its two-storied lantern. There is a curious seventeenth-century pulpit and some good fifteenth-century glass. In the vestry is the monument to the Comte de Frotté and his companions, who were shot by the Revolutionists near Verneuil in 1799.

The Church of Notre Dame (twelfth and fourteenth centuries) has a Roman font and picturesque sixteenth-century steeple. The old Church of St.

VAL-RICHER, ABBEY OF—VERNON

Jean, now used as a market, has a good fifteenth-century tower, while that of St. Laurence has a sixteenth-century door.

The Abbey Church of St. Nicolas contains some beautifully enamelled reliquaries of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Of the old fortifications only the lofty donjon or "tour grise" now remains. The old fifteenth-century houses at the corner of the Rue du Canon and the Rue Pont-aux-Chèvres should be noticed. Historically, Verneuil is remarkable for the Duke of Bedford's victory over the troops of Charles VII. in 1424.

Vernon. E. Population 9000. Is a pretty little town on the banks of the Seine with Gothic church of Notre Dame with twelfth-century choir and fourteenth-century nave, the chapels being of fifteenth-century architecture. The church was founded by William de Vernon whose handsome tomb of white marble formerly stood in the choir. This with other monuments for which the building was noted was destroyed at the Revolution. The illustrations in Ducatel's eighteenth-century work give us some idea of their beauty. One monument of marble, that of Marie Maignart, still remains. There is some good carving and tapestry, and the organ-loft and the altar from the Chartrreuse de Gaillon are worth attention. The central tower of the building is almost swallowed up by a large flamboyant nave; the Eastern apse is semi-circular.

The town was formerly a portion of the patrimony of the family of Vernon, from whom the noble English family of that name are descended. In 1190, in accordance with a treaty between Richard I. of England and Philip Augustus, the

town with its castle and other dependencies was granted to Philip, in exchange for other lands. The palace of Vernon, now destroyed, frequently formed a portion of the appanage of the Queens of France.

The ancient castle which was held by the service of finding sixteen knights for its defence seems to have been a structure of great strength. Of this little remains beyond a few walls, subterranean passages and the Tour des Archives, a building remarkable for its great height and the thickness of its massive walls.

There are a few picturesque old houses in the town which is well laid out and pleasant in aspect. In addition to the stone quarries on the opposite side of the river it possesses a considerable industry in its large factory for the construction of artillery carriages, etc. A handsome stone bridge connects Vernon with the attractive village of Vernonnet on the further side of the Seine. This little spot is interesting also for its twelfth-century donjon, and the fine porch of its sixteenth-century church. In the Avenue Ardèche is a conspicuous monument to the Gardes Mobiles of the Ardèche who fell in the Franco-Prussian war.

The famous Château de Bizy, close to Vernon, once the property of the Comtes d'Eu and afterwards of the Duc de Penthièvre, was destroyed at the Revolution. The present handsome building was built in 1866. The park itself, however, still remains.

Vernonnet. See Vernon.

Versainville. See Falaise.

Veules. See Dieppe.

Veulettes. See Fécamp.



VILLERS-SUR-MER

VERNONNET—VIRE

Vierville. C. arr. Bayeux. Population 380. A small watering-place with good sands. The church dates from the fourteenth, the castle from the seventeenth century.

Villedieu. M. arr. Avranches. Population 3300. Prettily situated on the Sienne, has a fifteenth or sixteenth-century church, built of granite; like so many in this department, with a central tower of flamboyant work of considerable richness. Note the curious picture, the Adoration of the Sacrament.

Villequier. See Caudebec.

Villers-Camivet. See Falaise.

Villers-sur-Mer. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Population 1500. A charming little watering-place near Trouville, from which it is reached by a branch line. The contrast of the sands with the green hills which rise like an amphitheatre behind the little village is very effective. In the wood of the château, on the W. of the town, are the remains of some fortifications of feudal times. The quaintly shaped rocks called the "Vaches Noires," with their singular admixture of shells and petrified substances, extend from Villers to Houlgate.

Villerville. C. arr. Pont l'Évêque. Population 1100. Another of the little watering-places in the vicinity of Trouville; has excellent sands and the usual casino. A portion of the choir of the church is Romanesque.

Vire. C. Population 6157. It is difficult to speak of Vire except in the superlative. Situated as it is in the lovely Bocage country, on a considerable eminence whose base is watered by the pleasant streams of the Vire and the Virene, it is hard to recall any town in Normandy, with the single exception of Mortain perhaps, which seems more

perfectly to harmonise with a high ideal of rural beauty. There are the factories it is true, for Vire is a somewhat important centre in the cloth and woollen trade, but while these have undoubtedly done some injury to the town itself in appearance, it cannot be said that they have done much to impair the essential charm of its surroundings. *Castrum Viriense* or *Vira*, as the old town was termed by the Romans, derives its name from the beautiful stream on which it is situated.

The date of the foundation of the old castle which crowns the hill above the town is unknown. Only a portion of the ruins remain, standing in a kind of public garden laid out with pleasant and well-wooded walks extending down to the water's edge. The building, which must have been of great strength originally, was repaired by Henry I. of England, and underwent great changes of fortune, being in turn the prey of Bretons, French and English.

In 1285 the city was surrounded by strong walls, and such was its importance that Edward III. demanded it as a ransom for King John who had been made prisoner at Poitiers. Under Du Guesclin it became with Caen a garrison town against the English, into whose power it subsequently fell.

In the fourteenth century Charles V. banished several of the inhabitants of Coutances from their city. These settled at Vire and brought with them the woollen industry which has never left the town.

The place was pillaged by Montgomery's Huguenots in 1568 and again by the royalists at a later period. The fortifications were destroyed by Richelieu's orders in 1630.

Below the castle on the W. is the lovely valley

which Olivier Basselin, the poet-fuller of Vire, has rendered for ever famous by the Vaudeville (a corruption of the words Vaux-de-Vire), light songs of which he appears to have been the originator. Olivier's house, or that which tradition assigns to him, may be easily reached in a quarter of an hour, by taking the Rue des Moulins at the foot of the castle grounds and proceeding along the banks of the stream, until one arrives at the little bridge, close to which will be seen the old house, at which the poet-miller worked and sang. Basselin is said to have lived in the fifteenth century, about a century before Jean le Houx, a poetical lawyer of Vire who collected and published Olivier Basselin's poems. Basselin's songs, which dealt with warlike and festive themes, seem to have been very acceptable to his fellow townsmen; but little is known of the writer, beyond the fact that he is said to have fought at the battle of Formigny. His most frequently quoted poem, though this is sometimes ascribed to Le Houx, is the cheerful song addressed to his own red nose:—

Beau nez, dont les rubis m'ont cousté mainte pipe,
 De vin blanc et claret,
 Et duquel la couleur richement participe,
 Du rouge et violet.
 Grand nez, qui te regarde à travers un grand verre
 Te trouve encore plus beau;
 Tu ne ressemble pas au nez de quelque hère
 Qui ne boit que de l'eau.
 Un coq'-d'Inde sa gorge à toi semblable porte;
 Combien de riches gens—
 N'ont pas si riche nez!

Another of the special sights of Vire is that which must strike the eye of every stranger who ascends the hill from the station and glances to the

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right, namely the quaint Tour de l'Horloge, which reminds one somewhat of the famous tower at Rouen. The lower portion belongs to the thirteenth century and once formed part of the fortifications of the town. The top is crowned by a cupola, and there is a painted statue of the Virgin with the inscription "Marie protège notre Ville". Close by is the Church of Notre Dame constructed of dark stone. The nave belongs to the thirteenth, the S. transept to the fourteenth, and the lady chapel to the fifteenth centuries.

In the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville is the library, with its large collection of books and manuscripts, many of them relating to this portion of the country, and adjoining is the Musée, with pictures and collections of objects of natural history and antiquities, particularly those connected with the neighbourhood of Vire. In the public gardens behind the Musée may be noted a good statue of Marshal Matignon. There are several old houses scattered about Vire, and the town as well as its outskirts offers many quaint nooks and corners for the pencil of the artist or the camera of the photographer.

Yport. S. I. arr. Havre. Population 1800. A delightful little watering-place with casino, in a valley running down to the sea, which but for the mud would be a formidable rival to Étretat.

Yvetot. S. I. Chef-lieu d'arr. Yvetot. Population 7700. A small cotton town in the centre of the Pays de Caux; has its chief title to fame in Béranger's well-known lines:—

Il était un roi d'Yvetot,
Peu connu dans l'histoire

YPORT—YVETOT

Se levant tard se couchant tôt.
Dormant fort bien sans gloire
Et couronné par Jeanneton
D'un simple bonnet de coton.

Doubtless an allusion to the fact that during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the Lords of Yvetot had the empty title of king.

Some good seventeenth-century carving may be seen in the church.

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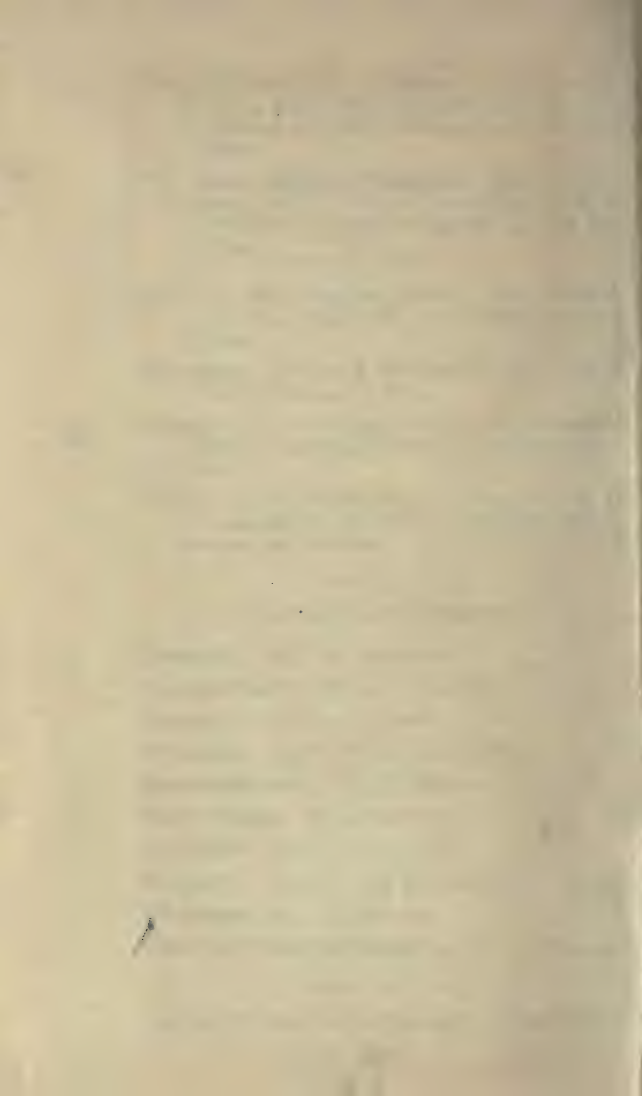
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