

JOANNE GUIDE BOOKS

THE CHATEAUX
OF THE LOIRE



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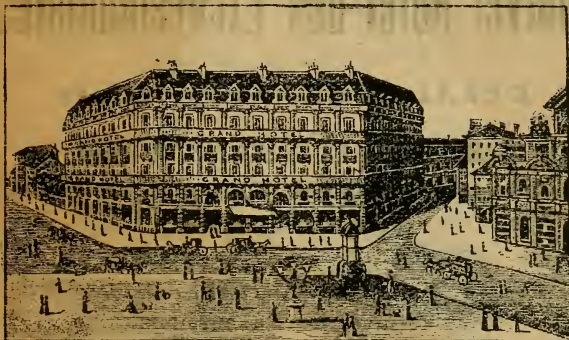
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CHAMBRE NOIRE

GARAGE POUR AUTOS

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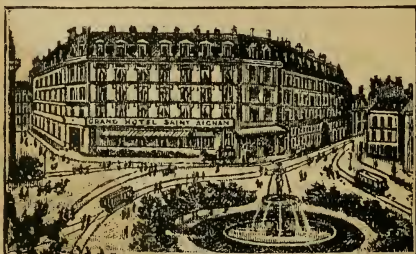
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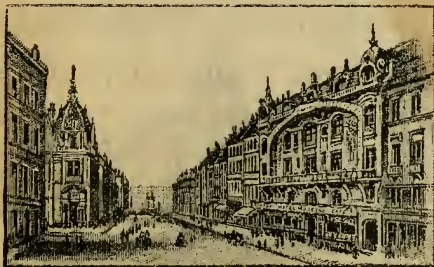
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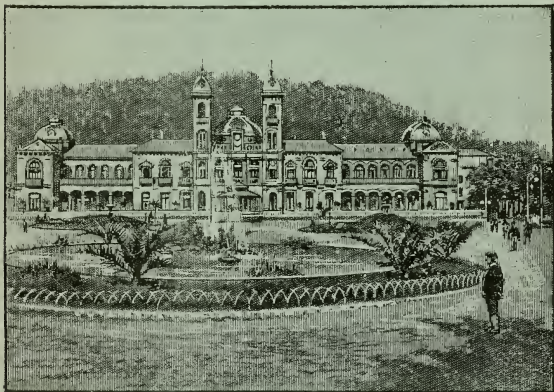
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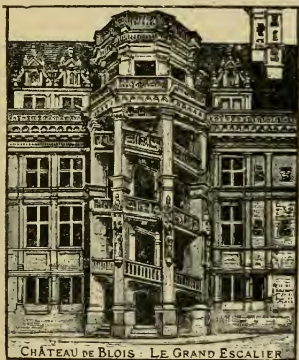
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by **Marcel Monmarché.**



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HACHETTE & COMPANY

PARIS

79, Boul. Saint-Germain

LONDON

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1909

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ALPHABETICAL INDEX

OF THE CHATEAUX DESCRIBED IN THIS VOLUME

Aiguesvives.....	21	Landifer.....	28
Amboise	55	Langeais	100
Angers	60	Lavardin	103
Ardenne [Ch. d'].....	29	Liget [Le].....	22
Azay-le-Rideau	67	Loches	106
Azay-sur-Indre.....	22	Lude [Le].....	112
*		Luynes	115
Baugé.....	28	*	
Bazouges-sur-le-Loir.....	30	Ménars.....	18
Beaugency.....	17	Montbazou.....	22
Beaugerard	69	Montigny-le-Gannelon.....	32
Blois	36,	Montoire.....	31
Bonnaventure [La].....	31	Montrésor	117
Bourdaisière [La].....	53	Montreuil-Bellay.....	27
Brézé.....	27	Montrichard.....	20
Brissac	79	Montsoreau.....	25
Bury.....	19	Moulin [Ch. du].....	18
*		*	
Chambord	80	Plessis-Bourré [Le].....	29
Champigny-sur-Veude.....	24	Plessis-lès-Tours [Le].....	50
Chanteloup [Pagode de].....	10	Plessis-Macé [Le].....	29
Châteaudun	85	Plessis-ô-Mer [Le].....	28
Châteauneuf-sur-Loire.....	13	Poissonnière [La].....	30
Chaumont	88	Ponts-de-Cé [Les].....	28
Chenonceaux	91	*	
Cheverny	94	Reignac.....	22
Chinon	96	Rochambeau.....	31
Chissay.....	20	Rochecotte.....	23
Chisseaux.....	20	Roche-Racan [La].....	54
Cinq-Mars.....	23	Rougemont.....	32
Coudray-Montpensier [Le].....	24	*	
Coudreaux [Ch. des].....	32	Saint-Aignan.....	21
Courcillon.....	54	Saumur	119
Couzières.....	22	Selles-sur-Cher.....	21
*		Semblançay.....	54
Durtal.....	29	Serrant	123
*		Source [La].....	15
Flotte [La].....	30	Sully.....	14
Fréteval.....	32	*	
*		Talcy.....	17
Gaudinière [La].....	32	Trèves.....	18
Gien.....	14	*	
Guiche [La].....	19	Ussé	125
*		*	
Herbault.....	42	Valençay	127
*		Vaujours.....	54
Islette [L'].....	23	Vendôme	129
*		Verger [Le].....	29
Jalesnes.....	27	Villandry	133
Jarzé.....	29	Villesavin.....	18

TABLE OF CONTENTS

*Shewing the arrangement
of the principal divisions of the work.*

I. Journey by railway	1
Excursion Cards.....	1
Circular Tickets.....	2
Advice to travellers.....	3
From Paris to Tours via Orleans.....	4
From Paris to Tours via Vendôme.....	5
From Vendôme to Château-du-Loir.....	6
From Blois to Romorantin and Valençay.....	6
From Tours to Valençay.....	6
From Tours to Loches and Montrésor.....	7
From Tours to Chinon and Port-Boulet.....	7
From Tours to Le Lude and to La Flèche.....	8
From Tours to Angers.....	9
II. Journey by road	9
Circular tour from Paris to Paris, going by the Valley of the Loire and returning by the Valley of the Loir, including the descrip- tion of the less important Châteaux and interesting spots.....	9
III. Blois as excursion centre	36
Practical information.....	36
The town.....	38
Around Blois.....	41
IV. Tours as excursion centre	43
Practical information.....	43
The town.....	45
Around Tours.....	50
V. The Principal Châteaux , described and arranged in alphabet- ical order, for easy reference and consultation.....	55

MAPS AND PLANS

Itineraries of the Excursion Cards.....	viii
Itineraries of the Circular Tickets.....	2
Châteaux of the Loire, route map.....	8
Itineraries of Paris to Orleans.....	10
Map of the Orleans, Bourges, Auxerre region.....	10
Map of the Blois, Tours, Angers, Le Mans region.....	18
Plan of Orleans.....	11
Plan of Blois.....	37
Plan of Tours.....	42
Plan of Angers.....	65
Plan of Chartres.....	33
Itinerary of Paris to Chartres.....	34

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<p>alt..... altitude.</p> <p>apart..... apartments.</p> <p>Av..... Avenue.</p> <p>Boul..... Boulevard.</p> <p>breakf..... breakfast.</p> <p>c..... century <i>or</i> centimes.</p> <p>carr..... carriages.</p> <p>cent..... centigrades.</p> <p>cl..... class.</p> <p>double b.... double-bedded.</p> <p>E..... East.</p> <p>ea..... each.</p> <p>elect..... electric.</p> <p>Fahr..... Fahrenheit.</p> <p>fr..... franc <i>or</i> from.</p> <p>ft..... feet.</p> <p>h..... hour, hours.</p> <p>inhab..... inhabitants.</p> <p>k..... kilometre (about 1,093 yards or $\frac{5}{8}$ of a mile).</p> <p>kilog..... kilogramme (about 2 lb. 3 ozs).</p>	<p>l..... left.</p> <p>min..... minute</p> <p>morn..... morning.</p> <p>N..... North.</p> <p>no..... number.</p> <p>p..... page.</p> <p>pass..... passenger.</p> <p>p. d..... per day.</p> <p>pens..... pension.</p> <p>per pers.... per. pers.</p> <p>priv..... private.</p> <p>r..... room.</p> <p>restaur.... restaurant.</p> <p>S..... South.</p> <p>sep..... separate.</p> <p>single b.... single-bedded.</p> <p>T. C. F.... Touring Club de France.</p> <p>telegr..... telegraph.</p> <p>teleph..... telephone.</p> <p>vols..... volumes.</p> <p>W..... West.</p> <p>w. i..... wine included.</p>
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The districts of the Châteaux of the Loire described in this volume are included in the sectional maps of the « Nouvelle Carte de France dressée par le Service Vicinal ». Each sheet, 80 c., or folded and bound in stiff cover, 4 fr. 05.

The towns, villages, etc., are printed in various types according to their administrative importance, and the populations and altitudes are given in figures. New editions of the different sheets are frequently being issued. These contain the most recent physical and political changes, thus keeping the maps well up to date. The survey is eminently suited for walking, driving, motoring, riding and cycling purposes, and will prove of great service to tourists and visitors.

The size of each sheet is 11 inches by 15 inches, representing an area of about 20 miles by 17 miles, on a scale of $\frac{1}{100,000}$ = nearly 1 1/2 milles to an inch. (For the divisions of the sheets, see *Index Map*, post free on application).

GENERAL INFORMATION

French Money.

The following are the principal coins in circulation in France :

Copper.	APPROXIMATE VALUE		Silver.	APPROXIMATE VALUE	
	English s. d.	American dols. c.		English s. d.	American dols. c.
5 c. (or « sou »).	0 0 ¹ / ₂	0 01	50 c.....	0 5	0 10
10 c. (« 2 sous »).	0 1	0 02	1 fr.....	0 10	0 20
			2 fr.....	1 7 ¹ / ₂	0 39
			5 fr.....	1 0	0 96
1 c. and 2 c. pieces are likewise in use, but are rarely seen by visitors and tourists.					
Nickel.			Gold.		
25 c.....	0 2 ¹ / ₂	0 05	10 fr.....	8 0	1 92
			20 fr.....	16 0	3 81
			40 fr., 50 fr. and 100 fr. coins are likewise issued.		

The Banque de France issues Notes of 50 fr. (£2. or 9 dols. 60 c.), 100 fr. (£4. or 19 dols. 20 c.), 500 fr. (£20 or 96 dols.) and upwards, which are legal tender throughout France. The average value of the English sovereign is about 25 fr. 15 c., but the rate varies slightly and the general practice in shops and hotels is to allow for it only 25 francs. The full value, however, can generally be obtained by effecting the exchange at one of the leading money-changers' or Tourist's Offices in Paris. The American currency is less complicated.

Ten American cents may be considered as a fair equivalent for 50 c.; 20 cents for 1 fr., and a dollar is very nearly equal to 5 fr. In large sums, however, a hundred American dollars would be reckoned as 520 francs.

N. B. — Visitors and tourists should note carefully to discriminate between the 25 c. Nickel piece and the 2 franc Silver piece, as they are somewhat similar in colour, size and appearance.

Principal French Weights.

A **kilogramme** (usually called a « kilo. ») equals one thousand grammes, and weighs, approximately, two and one-fifth pounds avoirdupois. A **livre** is a demi-kilo., equal to about one and one-tenth of an English pound.

A **gramme** equals the twenty-eighth part of an ounce avoirdupois. An English penny weighs nearly ten grammes.

French Liquid Measures.

A **hectolitre** equals one hundred litres or twenty-two English gallons. It is the wholesale standard for wines, oils, etc. A **décalitre** equals ten litres or two and one-fifth gallons. The **litre** (the most frequently used measure) is equal roughly, to a pint and three-quarters. Four and a half litres make a gallon. Beverages and other liquids are usually sold by the litre and **demi-litre**. An English pint is a little more than half a litre, and a quart, rather more than a litre. Smaller liquid measures are the **décilitre** (wineglassfull) and the **centilitre** (small dessert spoonful).

French Lineal and Square Measures.

A **kilomètre** equals one thousand mètres or, approximately, three-fifths of a mile. Five kilomètres equal, roughly, three miles; eight kilomètres, five miles; a hundred kilomètres, sixty-two miles. An **English mile** is slightly over a kilomètre and a half.

A **mètre** equals ten décimètres or, approximately, thirty-nine and a half inches, or about a yard and a tenth. Eleven mètres, therefore, equal roughly twelve yards.

A **décimètre**, equal to ten centimètres, is about four inches. The width of this page is about one **décimètre**.

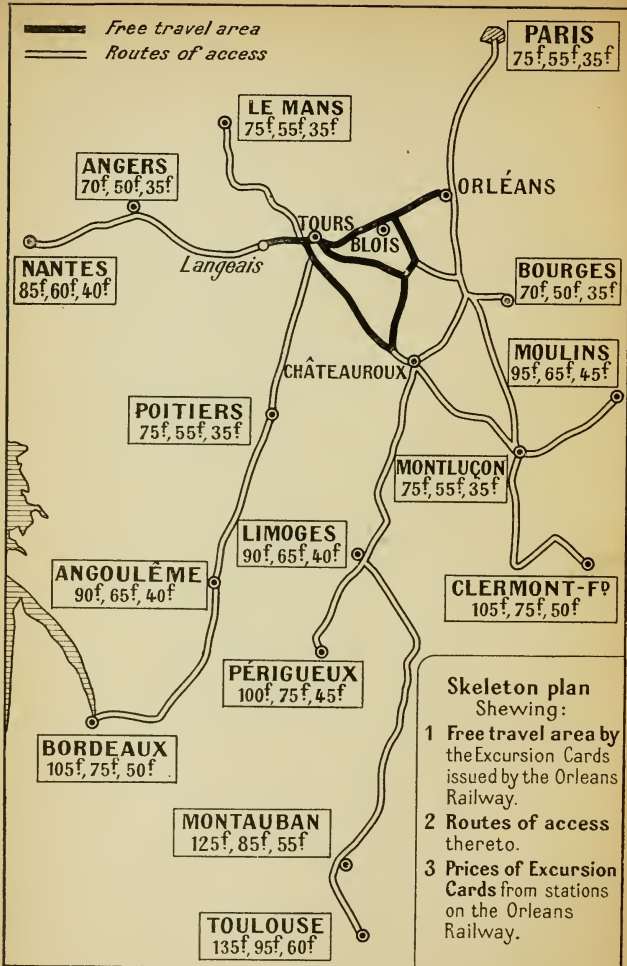
A **centimètre** is rather less than half-an-inch. An **English foot** is just over thirty centimètres, and an **English inch** is a fraction over two centimètres and a half.

A **hectare** equals nearly two and a half acres. A **centiare**, or **square mètre**, equals nearly one and a fifth square yard.

MOTOR CARS, ETC., ENTERING FRANCE (General Note).

When the Car is accompanied by a *Tryptique* or *permis libre de circulation*, that is to say, by a document certifying that the duty has been deposited in England, or is being returned to France and the owner is in possession of a *permis de réserve de retour* (certificate of exemption from duty within a period of twelve months, and issued on the shipment of the Car from France), the Car requires only verification by the Customs, no duty being payable. For Cars unaccompanied by the « *Tryptique* » or Certificate, duty at the rate of 50 fr. per 100 kilog. (say, £1 per cwt.) must be deposited on Cars weighing not less than 125 kilog. (2 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lbs.), or 120 fr. per 100 kilog. (say, £2, 8 s. 9 d. per cwt.) on Cars weighing less than 125 kilog., and a receipt (*quittance de consignation*) obtained. Electric Accumulators, whether fitted or not to a Car, are separately taxed at 16 fr. 50 c. per 100 kilog.; an Electric Car, therefore, pays two separate duties, one on the Car itself and the other on the Accumulators. The duty on Motor Cycles is the same as on Ordinary Cycles, viz., 220 fr. per 100 kilog. (say, £4. 9 s. 5 d. per cwt.).

When the duty has been deposited, care must be taken of the receipt as it is required for presentation to the Customs for the recovery of the deposit on the Car being shipped from Franco. Visitors to France taking a Motor Cycle with them can obtain a *permis de circulation* when passing their Machine through the Customs at a charge of 60 c., and this permit is available for three months, Visitors remaining more than three months must have affixed to their vehicle a *plaque de contrôle*, which can be obtained of any Collector of Taxes on payment of the tax required, viz., 12 fr. for a Cycle with one seat, 24 fr. for two seats, or 36 fr. for three seats. Owners and drivers of Motor Cars should make themselves conversant with the regulations to be observed in driving their vehicles in France; full particulars will be found in the Guide Books of the Automobile Club, or the Automobile Club de France, the address of the latter being 6, Place de la Concorde, Paris.



ITINERARIES OF THE EXCURSION CARDS.

I. THE JOURNEY BY RAIL

The journey to the Châteaux of the Loire can be made entirely, and very conveniently, by rail. Below, will be found : 1. Particulars of the Excursion Cards and special Tourist Tickets issued by the Orleans Railway Co.; 2. Advice as to the use of these tickets and programme of the journey; 3. A brief description of the lines which run to the Châteaux.

EXCURSION CARDS

Free Circulation Cards for the Châteaux region are issued at all times of the year. They are available for 15 days (exclusive of the days of departure and arrival) and can be extended for one or two further periods of 15 days each, on payment of 15 0/0 on the original fare for the first extension, and 10 0/0 for the second.

These tickets entitle the holder : 1. To travel at will on the lines from Orleans to Tours, Tours to Langeais, Tours to Buzançais, Tours to Gières, Buzançais to Romorantin, and Romorantin to Blois; — 2. To travel from the station of departure to the free excursion region, and back.

The annexed map indicates : — 1. (thick black line) the area of free travel; — 2. (names enclosed in squares) the principal departure stations where Excursion Cards can be obtained, with the 1st., 2nd., and 3rd. class fares; — 3. (double lines) the routes by which holders of Excursion Cards travel to the free travel region.

Excursion Cards should be applied for in Paris at least 6 hours before commencing the journey, and at other stations, 5 days in advance. The application should be accompanied by a photograph measuring about 3 centimetres by 2 centimetres (= about 1 1/5 in. by 4/5 in.).

Excursion Cards can be obtained at all other stations on the Company's lines beside those indicated with fares on the map, and such Cards are issued under one of the following conditions : — 1. If the departure station on one of the specified routes, is situated between two of the stations indicated with fares on the annexed map the cost of the Excursion Card is the same as for the further of these two stations. 2. If the departure station on one of the specified routes, is between the free travel area and one of the stations indicated with fare on the annexed map, the cost of the Card is the same as for the station indicated. 3. If the departure station is outside one of the specified routes, a supplementary ticket to any particular station on the routes, can be obtained at a reduction of 40 0/0 off the ordinary fare.

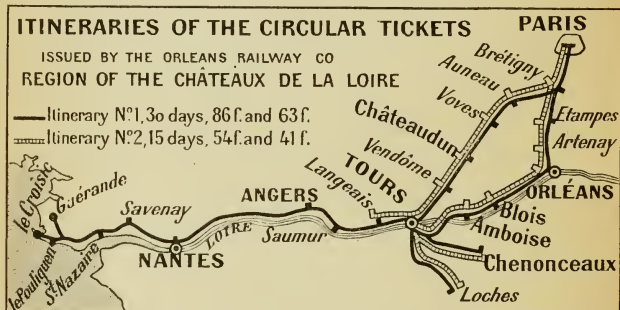
In addition to the Individual Cards, Family Cards are issued at a reduction of 10 0/0 on the 2nd. Card, 20 0/0 on the 3rd. Card, 30 0/0 on the 4th. Card, 40 0/0 on the 5th. Card, 50 0/0 on the 6th. Card, and so on.

Children under three years of age travel free; for children from 3 to 7 years of age, Excursion Cards are issued at half-price and a reduction of 50 0/0 off the ordinary fare for the supplementary tickets.

CIRCULAR TICKETS

Itinerary No. 1, visiting the Châteaux of the Loire and extending as far as the inland watering places of the Loire-Inférieure : — *Paris, Orleans, Blois, Amboise, Tours, Chenonceaux* and return to *Tours, Loches* and return to *Tours, Langeais, Saumur, Angers, Nantes, Saint-Nazaire, Guérande* and *le Croisic*; return to *Paris* via *Blois* and *Vendôme* or via *Angers* and the Etat Railway of France (without breaking the journey on the latter), with option of travelling between *Nantes* and *Saint-Nazaire*, either going or returning, by the steamboats of the C^{ie} des Messageries de l'Ouest. 1st. class 86 fr., 2nd. class 63 fr. — Available for 30 days.

Itinerary No. 2, confined to the Touraine : *Paris, Orleans, Blois, Amboise, Tours, Chenonceaux* and return to *Tours, Loches* and return to



Tours, Langeais, and return to Paris via Blois-Vendôme; — 1st. class 54 fr., 2nd. class 41 fr. Available for 15 days.

Conditions. — These tickets are obtainable all the year round : — In Paris, on application at the stations of the Quai d'Orsay, Pont Saint-Michel or Austerlitz, or at the branch offices of the Orleans Railway Co. For departures from other stations, applications should be made of the station master, *three days* prior to the day of departure.

The availability of the tickets for the first itinerary can be extended for 10 days on payment of an additional 10 0/0 on the fares quoted above. This extension can only be granted for *three such periods at most*, the extra charge for each extended period being 10 0/0 on the original fare. Applications for extension must be made and the surcharge paid before the expiration of the time for which the ticket is available, allowance of course being made for any extension of time which may have already been granted and paid for. The extension can be affected at any of the stations on the route. Passengers have the option of making one single payment for an extension of 2 or 3 periods of 10 days, provided that the total extension, including any which may have already been paid for, does not exceed 30 days in all.

Tickets for supplementary journeys at reduced prices. — Return tickets, 1st. or 2nd. class, at reduced prices, are issued from any station on the Orleans Railway to any other station in the itinerary of the Circular Ticket or *vice versa*.

These tickets are issued either at the commencement of the journey so as to enable the holder to reach the itinerary of the Circular Ticket of which they form the complement, and for which application should be made at the same time, or during the progress of the journey so as to reach places outside the itinerary of the Circular Ticket or the Excursion Card.

The availability of Special Return Tickets for supplementary journeys expires on the same date as the Circular Tickets in conjunction with which they are issued. Three days' grace, however, is allowed for return tickets issued at the commencement of the journey, to enable holders to reach the itinerary of the Circular Ticket.

ADVICE TO TRAVELLERS

The two Circular Tickets indicated above, and particularly the Excursion Cards now issued by the Orleans Railway Co., offer every convenience to visitors to the Châteaux of the Loire.

The 15 days, during which the tickets are available, are amply sufficient for all who do not propose to spend their time in profound archeological or artistic research. These 15 days may be employed in the following manner :

1. PROGRAMME FOR A 15 DAYS TOUR

1st. day. — Leave Paris by a morning express. — Lunch at Orleans, visit the town, and stay the night there.

2nd. day. — In the morning, journey by tram from Orleans to Cléry. Afternoon, train to Blois, breaking the journey at Beaugency (or from Cléry the train can be taken to Meung direct : 5 k. by road).

3rd. day. — At Blois.

4th. day. — From Blois, excursion to Chambord, Cheverny and Beauregard by carriage (an entire day; lunch at Chambord).

5th. day. — From Blois, carriage excursion into the forest of Blois, and to Bury, returning by la Guiche and Chouzy.

6th. day. — From Blois to Saint-Aignan or Montrichard (whichever preferred) by the first morning train; from Saint-Aignan or Montrichard to Valençay either by rail, all the way (changing trains at Gièvres), or preferably by Selles-sur-Cher where lunch is taken and whence a carriage drive can be made to Valençay. Return from Valençay to Blois by train (change at Romorantin). All the tickets for this excursion are outside the Circular Tour.

7th. day. — Start from Blois in the morning. — Stop at Onzain to visit the Château de Chaumont. — Stop at Amboise, visit the town and the Château. — Sleep at Tours.

8th. day. — At Tours.

9th. day. — From Tours, excursion to Chenonceaux by rail.

10th. day. — From Tours, excursion to Loches by rail.

11th. day. — From Tours excursion to Langeais by rail, and from Langeais, carriage-drive to Ussé and Azay-le-Rideau.

12th. day. — From Tours, excursion to Chinon by rail (State Railway,

— additional fare to pay, as this is not covered by the Circular Ticket).

13th. day. — From Tours to Vendôme, visiting Vendôme.

14th. day. — From Vendôme, excursion into the valley of the Loir and to the ruins of Lavardin and Montoire, either by rail (return ticket to Montoire, in addition to the Circular Ticket fare), or by carriage (much to be preferred, as it affords the opportunity for enjoying the scenery of the valley).

15th. day. — Leave Vendôme by early morning train. — Lunch at Châteaudun and visit the town. — Return the same evening to Paris.

The above programme is drawn up with ample latitude. In limiting oneself, however, to visiting only the more important places, and starting full early each morning, the visits to the Châteaux could easily be accomplished within a week, as follows :

2. PROGRAMME FOR A 7 DAYS' TOUR

1st. day. — Leave Paris by the morning express. — Lunch at Blois, visit the town and stay the night there.

2nd. day. — From Blois, excursion to Chambord, Cheverny and Beauregard, by carriage.

3rd. day. — Leave Blois in the morning. — Stop at Chaumont (Onzain station) and at Amboise. — Sleep at Tours.

4th. day. — Tours, visit the town in the morning, excursion to Chenonceaux in the afternoon.

5th. day. — From Tours, excursion to Loches.


6th. day. — From Tours to Langeais by rail. — Lunch early and from Langeais to Ussé and Azay-le-Rideau by carriage. — From Azay-le-Rideau (4.0 o'clock train, fare in addition to the Circular Ticket) to Chinon by rail. — Dinner at Chinon and return the same evening to Tours.

7th. day. — From Tours to Vendôme by the first morning train. — Lunch at Vendôme and leave for Châteaudun where a stay may still be made for 3 hours, and return to Paris the same evening.

This programme could even be restricted to 6 days by the following arrangement : Leave Paris by an evening train so as to sleep at Blois ; visit Blois the following morning, Chambord in the afternoon, then, from the 3rd. day, continue as above.



JOURNEYS BY RAILWAY


1. FROM PARIS TO TOURS, VIA ORLEANS


 238 k. ; Single tickets, 26 fr. 65, 18 fr., 11 fr. 75 ; journey in 3 h. by « rapide » trains, 3 1/2 to 4 h. by express (itinerary covered by the Circular Tickets).


To be visited : Blois (1 day), Chambord, Cheverny, Beauregard (these 3 Châteaux, can be visited together in one day's carriage drive from Blois. Tourists who are pressed for time, can visit Blois and Chambord in 1 day and omit Cheverny and Beauregard) ; Chaumont, Amboise (1 day).

Leave Paris, by the *Quai d'Orsay* station (other Paris stations : *Pont Saint-Michel* and *Austerlitz*). — Valley of the Seine (l. bank) as far as


(23 k.) *Juvisy* , then the valley of the Orge. — On the r., towards (32 k.) *Saint-Michel*, the Tour de Monthléry can be seen. — 36 k. *Brétigny*  for Vendôme, See No. 2, below). — A descent to (44 k.) *Bouray*, into the pretty valley of the Juine as far as :


60 k. *Étampes*  (on the r. the Tour Guinette above the station: the town on the l.). — Monotonous journey across the great bare plain of the Beauce then through a corner of the Orleans forest before arriving at :

123 k. *Les Aubrais* , station for the express trains for (2 k.) *Orleans* (See p. 12), which is passed on the l. — The line then follows the valley of the Loire (on the l.) but at a distance and hidden from view, as far as Blois. — 143 k. *Meung* (See p. 16). — 150 k. *Beaugency* (See p. 17; fine view of the town on the l.). — 163 k. *Mer* (See p. 17). — 167 k. *Suevres* (See p. 17). — 173 k. *Ménars* (See p. 18). — On the l., view of Blois and of the François I facade of the Château.


182 k. *Blois*  (See p. 36). From Blois, visit Chambord, Cheverny and Beaugard. — On leaving Blois, the line overlooks the Loire on the l. (magnificent view), then descends very gradually into the vale where the embankments hide the river from view. — 199 h. *Onzain*, station for *Chaumont* (See p. 88); the Château is seen in the distance on the hill to the l.).

214 k. *Anboise* (See p. 55; view of the Château on the l.). — Bridge over the Loire (beautiful view) between (227 k.) *Vouvray* and (228 k.) *Montlouis* (on the l. by the side of the river). — To the l. caves and dwellings cut into the chalk cliffs (a characteristic feature of the Touraine district).

235 k. *Saint-Pierre-des-Corps* , station for express trains for Tours (Passengers for the express change trains for Tours). The « trains omnibus » (stopping at all stations) continue as far as Tours.


238 k. *Tours* .

2. FROM PARIS TO TOURS, VIA VENDÔME

 248 k. Same fares as No. 1, above (Itinerary covered by the Circular Tickets).


To be visited : *Châteaudun*, *Fréteval*, *Vendôme* (By leaving Paris in the morning, *Châteaudun* can be visited and *Vendôme* reached by 4.30 p. m.).

36 k. from Paris to *Brétigny* as No. 1, above. — Ascend the pretty valley of the Orge (little Alps of *Sainte-Chéron*). — 60 k. *Dourdan* (on the l.). — Beyond (65 k.) *Saint-Mesme*, and pass through the Beauce valley as far as *Bonneval*. — 81 k. *Auneau*. — 103 k. *Voves*. — 125 k. *Bonneval* where the valley of the Loir is reached and crossed (pretty view of the town on the l.). — Bridge over the Loir at (133 k.) *Marboué* (on the r.), then a pretty view of the valley of *Châteaudun* on the r., and of the Château in front.

137 k. *Châteaudun*  (See p. 85; town on the r.). — Valley of the Loir to beyond *Vendôme*. — 150 k. *Cloyes* (See p. 32); on the r. the town in the valley; beautiful Château de *Montigny-le-Gammelon*, on the hill. — 163 k. *Fréteval* (See p. 32; ruined keep on the l.).

180 k. *Vendôme* (See p. 129). — The railway winds round the town (fine view on the l.), crosses the Loir, overlooks the valley (on the r.), then passes away. — 210 k. *Châteaurenault*, valley of the Brenne. —

Descent into the valley of the Choisille (on the r.) to (238 k.) *in Memo-rolle*. — 242 k. *Fondettes-Saint-Cyr*. Bridge over the Loire (fine view of Tours on the l.); the line then curves round the town passing close to the Château of Plessis-lès-Tours (on the l.).


248 k. *Tours*  (See p. 43).

3. FROM VENDÔME TO CHATEAU-DU-LOIR


 58 k., State Railway (not covered by the Circular Tickets).

To be visited : **Le Gué-du-Loir (La Bonnaventure)**, **Rochambeau**, **Lavardin**, **Montoire** (A whole day's excursion from Vendôme); **la Poissonnière** (station of *Pont-de-Braye*; literary resort). — The best way to visit *La Bonnaventure* and *le Gué-du-Loir*, from Vendôme, is to take the steam tram from Vendôme to *le Gué-du-Loir*.

This line continues to descend the charming valley of the Loir. — 11 k. *Thoré-la-Rochette*, station whence may be visited the Château de *Rochambeau* (See p. 31) and the charming situation of the *Gué-du-Loir* with *la Bonnaventure* (See p. 31). — Beyond (15 k.) *Saint-Rimay*, a view of *Lavardin* on the l. — 18 k. *Montoire*, whence may be visited (2 h.) *Lavardin* (See p. 103). — 24 k. *Trôlé* (See p. 31). — 32 k. *Pont-de-Braye* (junction with the main line of the State — Paris-Bordeaux Railway).

58 k. *Château-du-Loir*  (crossing of the State Railway with the line from Tours to Le Mans, See n° 8).

4. FROM BLOIS TO ROMORANTIN AND VALENÇAY

 76 k., Orleans Railway (not covered by the Circular Tickets).

To be visited : **Cheverny** (generally visited by carriage from Blois), **Le Moulin** (by the *Mur* station; — can be omitted by tourists who are pressed for time), **Valençay** (a day's excursion, there and back, from Blois).


Beyond (5 k.) *la Chaussée-Saint-Victor*, the line crosses the Loire over an iron-bridge, then over the vale on a long viaduct and passes *la Sologne*.

21 k. *Cour Cheverny*, railway station at 1,500 m., *Cheverny* and its Château (See p. 94). — 37 k. *Mur-de-Sologne*, railway station on the r. (5 k.) *Lassay* and the *Château du Moulin* (See p. 18). — Bridge over the *Sauldre*.

49 k. *Romorantin*, where trains are changed for the branch line from *Argent* to *Le Blanc*. — 60 k. *Gièvres*, where the line from *Tours* to *Vierzon* is crossed. — The train passes through the valley of the *Cher*. — 63 k. *Chabris*.

76 k. *Valençay* (See p. 127).

5. FROM TOURS TO VALENÇAY

 96 k., Orleans Railway (covered by the Circular Tickets as far as *Chenonceaux*).

To be visited : **Chenonceaux** (a half-day's excursion, there and back from *Tours*); **Montrichard**, **Saint-Aignan** (a whole day, there and back, from *Tours*); **Valençay** (the whole in 2 days, there and back, from *Tours*).

3 k. *Saint-Pierre-des-Corps*. — Follow as far as Gièvres the line from Vierzon which ascends continuously the charming valley of the Cher (r. bank). — **12 k.** *Veretz* (See p. 53). — On the l., the Château de la Bourdaisière (See p. 53). — **25 k.** *Bléré* (See p. 20).

32 k. *Chenonceaux* (See p. 91). — **39 k.** *Montrichard* (See p. 20). Two tunnels under the Montrichard hill. — **44 k.** *Bourré* (See p. 21). — **50 k.** *Thésée* (See p. 21). — **57 k.** *Saint-Aignan* (See p. 21). — Bridge over the Sauldre. — **71 k.** *Selles-sur-Cher* (See p. 21).

80 k. *Gièvres*, whence we branch southwards on the line from Argent to Le Blanc.

96 k. *Valençay* (See p. 127).

6. FROM TOURS TO LOCHES AND MONTRÉSOR

 **47 k.**, as far as Loches, Orleans Railway; **22 k.** from Loches to Montrésor, local railway (the latter not covered by the Circular Tickets).

To be visited : **Montbazou** (a walk or short journey from Tours); **Loches** (a day's excursion, there and back, from Tours); **Montrésor** (a half-day's excursion from Loches).

The line crosses the Cher, ascends to the S. on a plateau, then descends into the valley of the Indre, and rises again to (17 k.). *Montbazou* (See p. 22). — **22 k.** *Esvres*. — The line crosses the Indre, rises to the plateau of Sainte-Marie, then descends again into the valley to get to Loches (fine view on the r.).

47 k. *Loches* (p. 106). — The short line of Montrésor crosses the valley of the Indre, and passes through the forest of Loches to the valley of the Indrois at (59 k.) *Génilé*.

69 k. *Montrésor* (See p. 117).

7. FROM TOURS TO CHINON AND PORT-BOULET

 **65 k.**, State Railway (not covered by the Circular Tickets).

To be visited : **Azay-le-Rideau**, **Ussé** (from Rivarennés station or by carriage from Azay); **Chinon** (the visit to all three from Tours and return journey can be made in one day, by going first to Azay whence a carriage can be taken to Ussé, the carriage returning to the Rivarennés station, from which Chinon can be reached).


The line crosses the Cher, mounts the plateau then descends towards the Indre to :

26 k. *Azay-le-Rideau* (See p. 67; 1,500 m. from the station). — Bridge over the Indre, descending by the bank of the river. — On the r. the *Château de l'Islette* (See p. 23), is seen. — The train emerges into the valley of the Loire. — **33 k.** *Rivarennés*, whence can be visited (6 k. W. S. W.) the *Château d'Ussé* (See p. 125). — Journey through the *forêt de Chinon*, very beautiful. — Emerge into the valley of the Vienne through a tunnel 920 m. long.

50 k. *Chinon* (See p. 96). — A branch line, some 15 k. long, which crosses the Loire, connects Chinon with :


65 k. *Port-Boulet*, station of the main line from Tours to Saumur and Angers (See No. 9).

8. FROM TOURS TO LE LUDE AND LA FLÈCHE

 96 k., Orleans Railway (not covered by the Circular Tickets).

To be visited : **Le Lude** (*A whole day, there and back from Tours*).


The line crosses the Loire below Tours (fine view on the r.) and ascends the valley of the Choisille. — 13 k. *Mettray*. — Beyond (28 k.) *Neuillé-Pont-Pierre*, a descent is made into the vale of the Escotais (on the r. the Château de *la Roche-Racon*, See p. 54) and the train emerges into the valley of the Loir which is crossed on arriving at :

49 k. *Château-du-Loir* . — 61 k. *Aubigné*, where the Le Mans line is left to take the train for La Flèche, and to continue to descend the valley of the Loir.

69 k. *Le Lude* (See p. 112).


96 k. *La Flèche* (See p. 30), where a return to the valley of the Loire can be made either by the line to (53 k.) *Saumur* (visit the Châteaux of *Landifer* and *Baugé*), or by the line to (49 k.) *Angers* (visit the Châteaux of *Buzonges* and *Durtal*).

9. FROM TOURS TO ANGERS

 106 k. Orleans Railway (covered by the Circular Tickets No. 2 as far as Langeais only).

To visit : **Villandry** (*Savonnières station, walk or short excursion from Tours*), **Cinq-Mars** (*of secondary importance*), **Langeais** (*half-day's excursion, there and back, from Tours; or a whole day by including a carriage drive to Ussé and Azay-le-Rideau*), **Saumur** (*half-day*), **Angers** (*whole day*).






The line descends continuously into the valley of the Loire. — 11 k. *Savonnières*, station for (3 k. W.) *Villandry* (See p. 133). — Bridge over the Loire, at the mouth of the Cher (l. bank); on the r. the square brick Roman tower of Cinq-Mars (r. bank). — 18 k. *Cinq-Mars-la-Pile* (See p. 23). — On the r. are numbers of houses and caves embedded and carved in the cliffs.

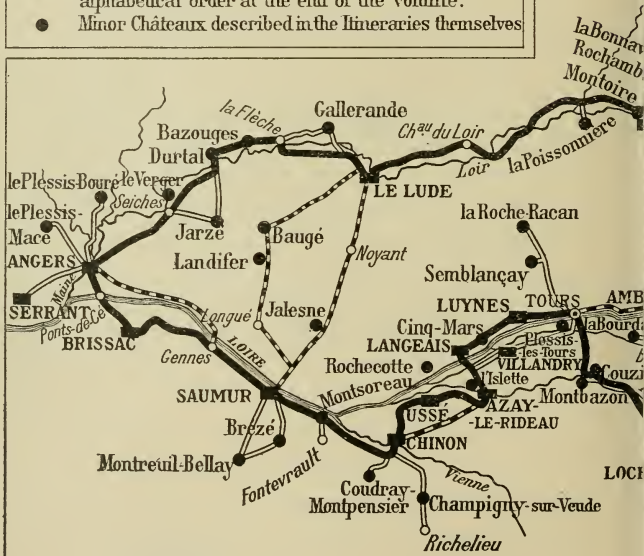
23 k. *Langeais* (See p. 100; view on the r.), whence a carriage drive can be taken to (13 k.) *Ussé* (See p. 125) and return by *Azay-le-Rideau* (See No. 7). — 32 k. *Saint-Patrice* for (1 k. W.) the *Château de Rochecotte* (See p. 23). — 44 k. *Port-Boulet*,  for Chinon (See No. 7).

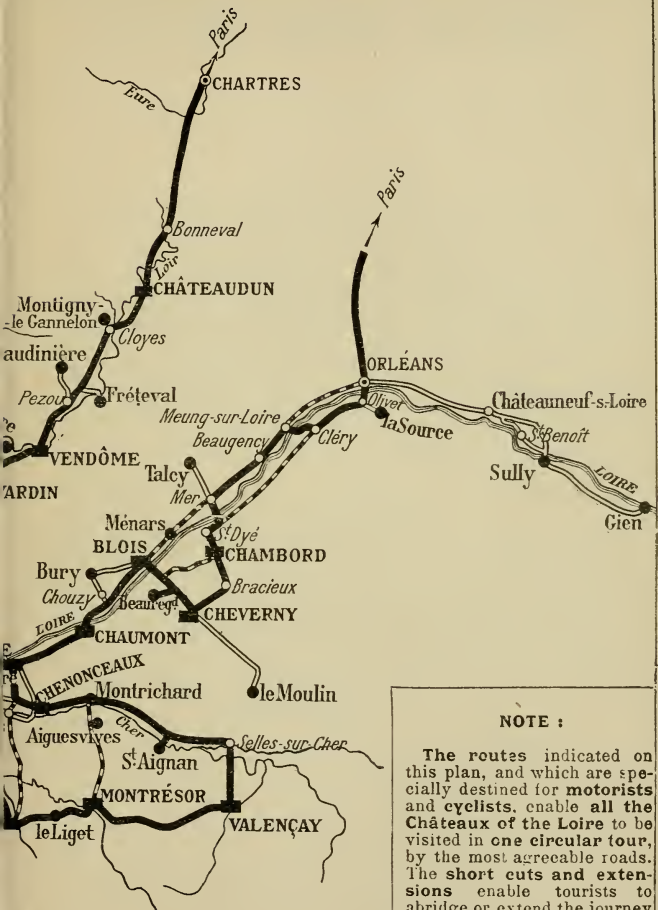
62 k. *Saumur* (See p. 119). — At (93 k.) *la Bohalle*, the line turns away from the Loire, and passes through the vast slate quarries of (99 k.) *Trelazé*.

106 k. *Angers* (See p. 60).

PLAN OF THE ROUTES FOR VISITING THE CHÂTEAUX OF THE LOIRE

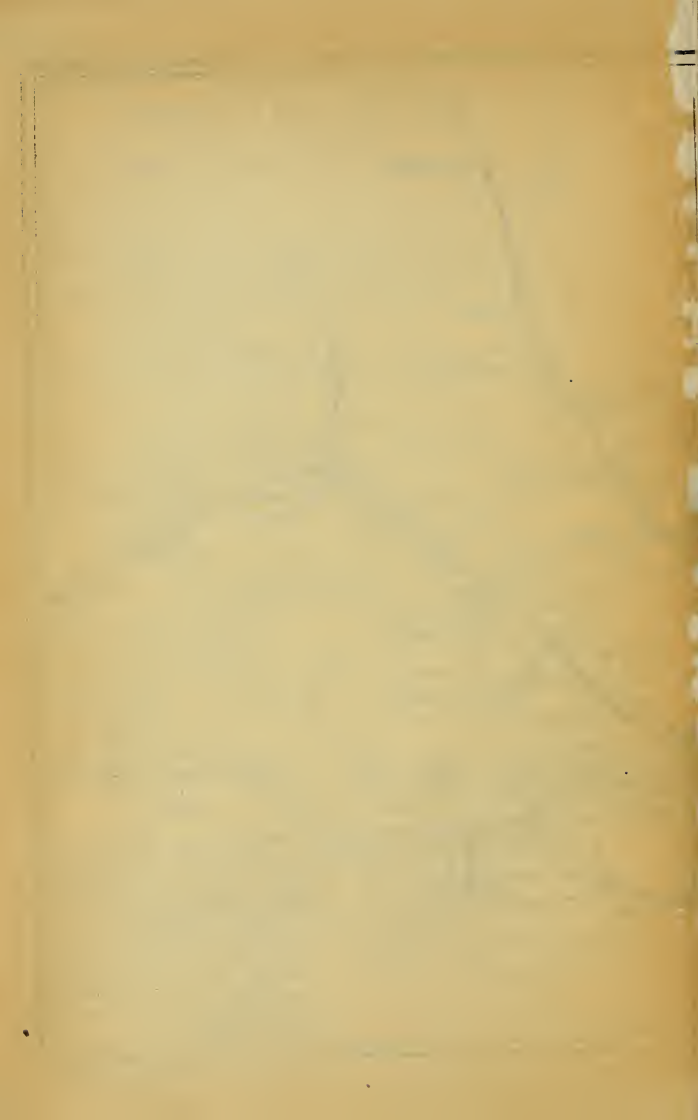
-  Model-tour for visiting all the more important Châteaux and the principal sights of the district.
 -  Short cuts enabling tourists to abridge their journey, in case of need, according to the time at their disposal.
 -  Extensions enabling tourists who can spare the time, to make supplementary excursions.
- ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
-  The more important Châteaux described in alphabetical order at the end of the volume.
 -  Minor Châteaux described in the Itineraries themselves





NOTE :

The routes indicated on this plan, and which are specially destined for motorists and cyclists, enable all the Châteaux of the Loire to be visited in one circular tour, by the most agreeable roads. The short cuts and extensions enable tourists to abridge or extend the journey according to the time at their disposal.



II. THE JOURNEY BY ROAD

CIRCULAR TOUR

From Paris to Paris, going by the Valley of the Loire
and returning by the Valley of the Loir.

This itinerary, arranged for cyclists and motorists, enables the traveller to visit by the most pleasant roads, all the Châteaux of the Loire in one circular tour. To meet all requirements, we have indicated, in connection with the model-tour, certain short cuts which enable visitors to abridge the journey, if desired, and, some extensions which offer, especially to motorists, the opportunity of completing the journey by a few interesting, supplementary excursions.

This itinerary includes the description of the minor Châteaux and of the localities en route. For the more important Châteaux, reference should be made to the special articles devoted to each, and arranged, in alphabetical order, at the end of the volume.

The distances in kilomètres are indicated, generally, in connection with the model-tour.

The « abridgements » and the « extensions » (printed in the shortened lines), have their distances shown independently.

From Paris to Orleans (See the special map). — **A. 113** k. by the « Route Nationale », the simplest and most direct route. Formerly, paved throughout with stones, this road was considered impracticable. Recently, however, the stones have been removed from Montlhéry onwards, except on the portions through the towns, boroughs, etc. (the paved section from Paris to Montlhéry has been provided with cycling tracks by the French Touring Club. The paved road is good from Longjumeau which can be reached via Châtenay, Verrières and Palaiseau). It now forms a magnificent motor road almost continuously in long straight lines, and very level except at a few steep inclines between Paris and Etampes.

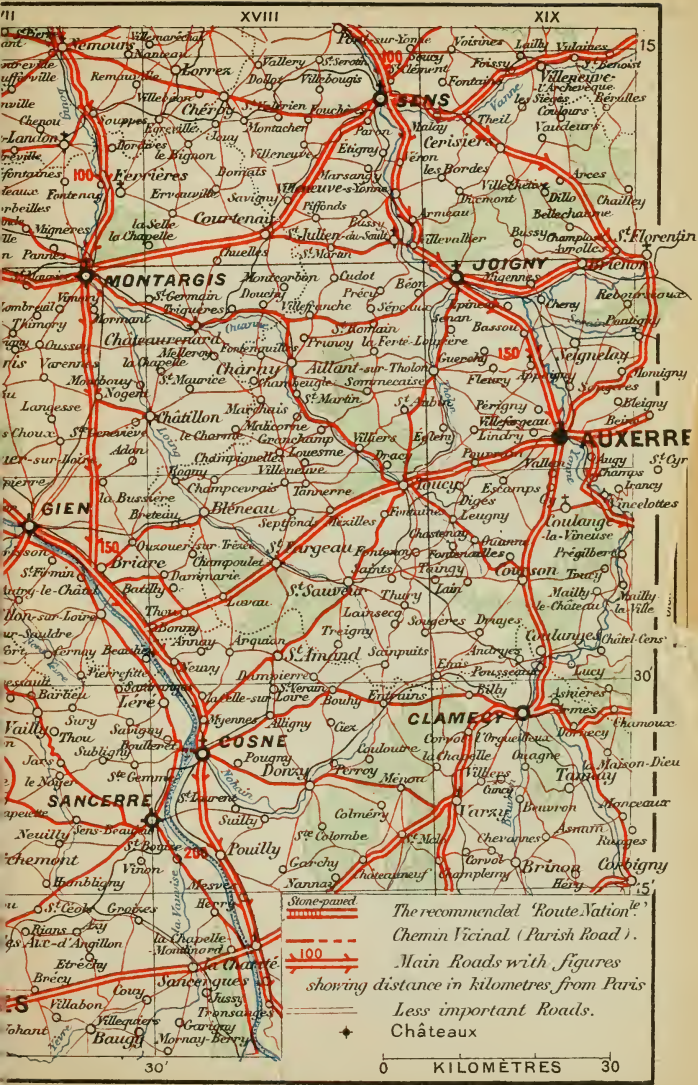
Leave Paris by the Porte d'Orléans. — 4 k. *Bourg-la-Reine*. — 7 k. *Antony*. — Descend the valley of the Yvette to. — 13 k. *Longjumeau*, chief-town of the canton, with 2,343 inhab. (hotels: *Saint-Pierre*; *du Cadran*). Church of the xiii and xiv c.; monument to Adolphe Adam, the famous composer of the « Postillon de Longjumeau ». — Ascent and plateau. — 20 k. *Montlhéry*: celebrated tower of the xiii-xv c., remains, of an ancient, powerful Castle, on a hill commanding an immense horizon (the ascent can be made). — Descend into the valley of the Orge at:

26 k. **Arpajon**, chief-town of the canton with 2,975 inhab. (hotels: *du Lion-d'Argent et de la Fontaine réunis*). Church of the xii and xv c. Fine ancient timber constructions in the place du Marché (on the l. by the *rue Guinchart*). The long stone-paved street of the town can be avoided by taking to the r. immediately in front of town gate (two pillars of the xviii c.), the boulevard which curves round it. — Ascent





The figures XV-16 correspond to the numbers of the sheets of the map of France of the French 'Service Vicinal'. Scale: 100,000 (Hachette and C^o)



Stone-paved
 Chemin Vicinal (Parish Road).
 Main Roads with figures showing distance in kilometres from Paris
 Less important Roads.
 Châteaux

0 KILOMÈTRES 30

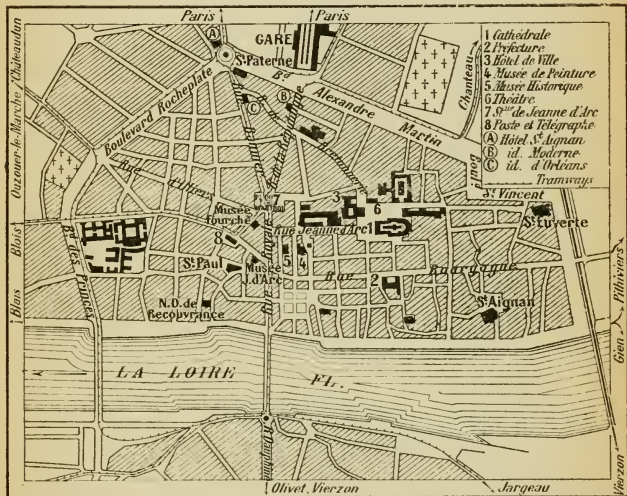


which is now used as the Elias-Robert Museum, and the Hôtel de Ville, likewise in Renaissance style and part of which is ancient.

On leaving Etampes, there is a steep rise to the plateau of Beauce, then a level road all the way to Orleans.

65 k. *Angerville* (hotels: *de France*; *des Voyageurs*; bust of the famous agriculturist, Tessier † 1837). — 78 k. *Toury* (church of the xiii c., curious porch). — 93 k. *Artenay* (hotel *de la Fontaine*). — 99 k.

ORLÉANS



Chevilly. — Beyond this, the road enters the forest of Orleans. — 104 k. *Cercottes*. — Arrive at Orleans by the long *faubourg des Aydes* (Monument in commemoration of the battle of 11 Dec. 1870) and the *rue du Faubourg-Bannier*.

B. 129 k. (recommended to motorists; no stone-paved roads), by: — 16 k. *Versailles*; — 29 k. *Saint-Remy-les-Chevreuse*; — 36 k. *Limours*; — 43 k. *Angervilliers*; — 47 k. *Saint-Cyr-sous-Dourdan*; — 52 k. *Dourdan*; — 55 k. *Les Granges-le-Roi*; — 63 k. *Authon*; — 74 k. *Pussay*; — 79 k. *Angerville*, where the « route nationale » is joined, or the journey can be continued by: — 84 k. *Andoyville*; — 88 k. *Alainville*; — 92 k. *Acquebouille*; — 107 k. *Les Bordes*; — 111 k. *Saint-Lyé*, and. — 126 k. *Fleury-les-Aubrais*.

C. 125 k. by: — 12 k. *Villeneuve-Saint-Georges*; — 19 k. *Draveil*; — 23 k. *Ris*; — 25 k. *Orangis*; — 29 k. *Bondoufle*; — 34 k. *Vert-le-Grand*;

37 k. *Vert-le-Petit*; — 41 k. *Saint-Vrain*; — 45 k. *Bouray*; — 48 k. *Janville*; — 60 k. *Etampes* (whence the « route nationale » can be followed); — 70 k. *Saclas*; — 80 k. *Auvery*; — 88 k. *Acquebouille*, then as No. 2 above.

113 k. ORLEANS, 68,614 inhab., on the r. bank of the Loire (for more complete details see Joanne's Handbook on *Orleans*, in French, 50 c. Hotels: *Saint-Aignan*, pl. Gambetta; *Moderne*, 3, rue de la République; *de la Boule-d'Or*, 9, rue d'Illiers; *Central*, 79, rue du Colombier; *d'Orleans*, 100, rue Bannier; *Sainte-Catherine*, 68, rue Sainte-Catherine; *du Loiret, du Berry*, opposite the station; restaurant *Jeanne-d'Arc* and principal cafés, place du Martroi.

Principal sights: — *Place du Martroi* and *Statue of Joan of Arc*; — *Sainte-Croix Cathedral*; — *Hôtel de Ville*; — *Musée de Peinture, the Fourché Museum, the Joan of Arc House and Museum, and the Musée historique*; — the *Saint-Aignan, Saint-Paul* and *Saint-Euverte churches*.

Itinerary through the town: — Arriving from Paris, the faubourg Bannier and the rue Bannier lead straight to the place du Martroi, which can be reached, likewise, direct from the station by the new *rue de la République*.

The **place du Martroi**, the heart and centre of the town, is adorned in the centre by an equestrian **statue of Joan of Arc**, by Foyatier (1855), with 16 bas-reliefs in bronze by Dubray. Joan of Arc « Maid of Orleans », relieved the town from the seige by the English, May 8, 1429, and the event is commemorated every year by the celebrated *fête de Jeanne d'Arc* (May 8). On the S. side of the place stand two large buildings: the one is the ancient Chancellor's Office of the Duchy of Orleans (1759), the other is used as the Stock-Exchange and Chamber of Commerce (restored in 1900). Eastward, looking on to the *place Saint-Pierre*, is the *Saint-Pierre-du-Martroi church*, a brick edifice of the xvi c. (interesting paintings).

To the S. W., the short *rue de la Hallebarde*, containing (No. 4), the **Fourché Museum** (fine collection of paintings, drawings and objects of art. Admission free, daily, on application to the concierge) brings us opposite the Chief Post Office (*Hôtel des Postes*). Turn to the l. down the *rue du Tabour* (*ancient houses*) in which will be found, at No. 35, *Joan of Arc's house* or *maison de l'Annonciade*, where the Maid alighted on her arrival in the besieged city (it is now a Dominican Convent. In the court-yard is a fine modern well with wrought-iron casing and a statuette of Joan of Arc), and at Nos. 13 and 15, the **Joan of Arc Museum** (open to the public in Thursdays and Sundays; admission on other days on application to the guardian), containing a remarkable collection of documents and objects of art referring to the heroine, and occupying a *picturesque house* of the xv-xv c., said erroneously to have belonged to *Agnes Sorel*.

The rue du Tabour runs into the **rue Royale** which connects the place du Martroi with the **Loire bridge** (9 stone arches; 333 m., 1751-1761; fine view of Orleans; on the l. bank, *statue of Joan of Arc*, by Gois, 1804), passing on the r., the **Saint-Paul church** (xvi-xvii c.); the *chapel of N. D. des Miracles*, formerly the resort of Orleans pilgrims, and the sanctuary where Joan of Arc returned thanks after the relief of Orleans; the house supposed to have belonged to François I (1536-1550), at the corner of the rues N.-D.-de-Recouvrance and the Chèvre-qui-Danse), and the *N.-D. de Recouvrance church*, rebuilt between 1515 and 1519.

Left of the rue Royale, the fine **rue Jeanne-d'Arc** affords a full perspect-

ive view of the front of the Cathedral. To the right of this street, in the *rue Sainte-Catherine*, is the **Musée historique** (Thursdays and Sundays from 1. 0 to 4. 0 p. m.; on other days, ring at the small door in the *rue Ch.-Sanglier*), containing an important collection of antiquities and objects of art and occupying the ancient *hôtel Cabu* (1540), often called, in error, the *house of Diane de Poitiers*. On the opposite side of the *rue Sainte-Catherine*, is the beautiful **hôtel des Créneaux** or *old Hôtel de Ville* (fine front of 1498, by the architect Viart; restored), adjacent to the square tower of the **Belfry** (1453), which with various annexes now forms the **Musée de peinture** and also the *Natural History Museum* (open to the public on Thursdays and Sundays from mid-day or 1. 0 p. m. to 4. 0. or 5. 0 p. m.; admission at other times by applying to the concierge; entrance in the *place de la République* which opens on to the *rue Jeanne-d'Arc*).

The **Cathedral**, founded in 362 by St. Euverte and St. Aignan, was being rebuilt in Gothic style from 1287, but was burnt and destroyed to a great extent by the Calvinists in 1568 before it was completed. In 1601, the rebuilding was again undertaken, which lasted until 1829. It is in a rather beautiful Gothic style, excepting the facade, a majestic piece of work, though mixed in style, erected under Louis XV and Louis XVI by Gabriel (in the int., some handsome stained-glass windows representing the *Life of Joan of Arc*; *Tomb of M^{gr}. Dupanloup*, by Chapu; 1887).

To the l., on the *place de l'Etape*, the **Hôtel de Ville** is a charming Renaissance building in stone and brick (In front of the main steps, a *statue of Joan of Arc* by Princess Marie of Orleans. Apply to the concierge for permission to visit the *salle des Mariages* [Marriage Hall], where King François II died in 1560, the *salle des Fêtes*, etc.).

S. of the Cathedral, in the *rue Pothier*, is the old *Salle des Thèses* of the University (1411; can be seen on application to the concierge of the Préfecture).

In the E. quarter of the town, can still be visited the **Saint-Aignan church**, a much mutilated building of the xv c. over a curious **crypt** of the ix to the xi c., and the **Sainte-Euverte church** (now a school chapel), built in the xii c., but entirely remodelled in the xv c., in Flamboyant style.

From Orleans to Gien (64 k. E. S. E). — To visit : *Châteauneuf, Germigny-des-Prés, Saint-Benoit, Sully, Gien*. — Leave Orleans by the faubourg Bourgogne; ascend the valley of the Loire on the r. bank. — 5 k. *Saint-Jean-de-Braye*. — 12 k. *Pont-aux-Moines*, where the Orleans Canal is crossed. — 17 k. *Saint-Denis-de-l'Hôtel*, connected by a suspension bridge to **Jargeau**, 2,377 inhab., on the l. bank (hotels : *Cheval-Blanc, Boule-d'Or*). Proceeding along the *grande rue*, facing the bridge, we get to the *place du Martroy* where can be seen the *statue of Joan of Arc*, who was wounded at the battle of Jargeau (the work of Lauson, 1898), and further, to the l. the church of the xi c. (nave), xii c. (principal door) and xv c. (choir with stalls).

25 k. **Châteauneuf-sur-Loire**, 3,450 inhab. (Hotel, *Feuillaubois*). Arriving from Orleans we pass in front of the gate of the park (200 hect.: admission free), in which stood the **Château** built by Phélypeaux de la Vrillière († 1681). There still remain an octagonal rotunda, a main building, some fine arched stables, a large orangery, and four detached buildings in the fore-court. To the r. of the gate, the *rue de Jargeau* leads to the *chapelle de la Bonne-Dame*

(Romanesque door). Beyond the Château in crossing the town, we pass the church containing the magnificent marble **tomb** of Phélypeaux de la Vrillière. At Châteauneuf, the *workshops* of the engineer, F. Arnodin, inventor of *transborder bridges*, may be visited.

- At 1 k. from Châteauneuf, the direct main road to Gien is abandoned on the l. to follow on the r., the road to Saint-Benoît. — 29 k. *Germigny-des-Prés* (rare **Carlovingian church** of the ix c., unfortunately, almost entirely altered beyond recognition; in the apsis, a piece of ix c. **mosaic work**, unique in France : The ark of the Covenant supported by cherubims).
- 31 k. **Saint-Benoît-sur-Loire**, 1,442 inhab. (Hotels : *du Grand-Saint-Benoît*; *du Loiret*; *de l'Abbaye*), a decayed town formerly celebrated for its **Abbey**, founded in the vii c., destroyed in 1792. All that now remains is the Romanesque **church**, one of the most remarkable in France, 95 m. in length, and in the shape of an archiepiscopal cross (2 transepts). Note in the facade, the central « tour Saint-Michel » (dismantled), beneath which is a porch or narthex with 3 naves and magnificent capitals of the xi c.; the side N. portal of the xiii c. In the 1st. transept, r. side, is the tomb of King Philippe I. re-constructed in the xiii c.; choir stalls of the xv c.; apply to the vicarage to visit the **crypt** of the xi c. containing the remains of St. Benoît in a magnificent modern shrine. — 41 k. *Saint-Père*. — Cross the Loire over a suspension bridge to enter.
- 41 k. **Sully-sur-Loire** (hotel *de la Poste*), a small town of 2,497 inhab. (*old houses*) on the l. bank of the Loire. The **Château** (property of the Comtesse de Béthune-Sully who seldom resides there. Permission to visit the int. is difficult to obtain; apply to the steward) is specially interesting for its outside massive appearance emerging from deep ditches which separate the building from the town. On the N. side, stands the main building (xiii-xiv c.) crowned with machicolations, surmounted with very pointed roofing (magnificent wooden structure) and flanked at each gable by 2 fine round towers. The E. wing, at right-angles with the main building, completed, likewise, with a machicolated tower was built in the xvii c. by the celebrated minister of Henry IV, Maximilien de Béthune, Marquis of Rosny, better known under the name of Sully, after having acquired this fief which was raised, for him, into a duchy in 1606. His statue adorns the courtyard, which a sixth lower tower flanks at the S. W. corner. The Middle-Ages building is untenanted and very delapidated in the interior. The E. wing, the only one which is fitted up and furnished (fine tapestries) communicates by a bridge with a flower-garden, likewise surrounded by ditches where have been recently discovered the foundations of a round keep. The ditches are continued to the E. by a long canal of 800 m., with a noble perspective view along the side of the park.
- From Sully, Gien can be reached by the r. bank (via *Ouzouer* and *Dampierre*, same distance), or remaining on the l. bank : — 47 k. *Saint-Aignan-le-Gaillard*. — 51 k. *Lion-en-Sullias*. — 56 k. *Saint-Gondon* (church of the xi-xii c.; artificial moat and remains of fortifications; houses of the x cv c.). — 61 k. *Poilly*. — Cross the Loire (stone bridge of the xvi c.) to enter :
- 64 k. **Gien**, 7,914 inhab. (hotel *de l'Écu*), very picturesquely built in amphitheatre form on the slope of the hill above the r. bank of the Loire and dominated by an imposing **Château** (now a Court of Jus-

tice and Sub-Prefecture), rebuilt in 1494 by Anne de Beaujeu, in brick and stone, with elegant staircase turrets. — Numerous ancient houses in wood and stone, notably in the lower street parallel to the Loire (very picturesque). — Important china and earthenware factory (public not admitted).

From Orleans to Meung. — Below will be found a picturesque itinerary which affords the opportunity of a visit to Olivet, the source of the Loiret and Cléry; but the route may be shortened by following the direct road on the r. bank of the Loire by : — 6 k. *la Chapelle-Saint-Mesmin*; — 11 k. *Fourneauux*; — 13 k. *Saint-Ay*; — 14 k. *Cropet*; — 18 k. Meung (*See below*).

Leave Orleans by the *Loire bridge* (1751; 333 m. long; panoramic view of Orleans; at the extremity, a statue of Joan of Arc, by Gois), and follow the wide rue Dauphine, which crosses the *faubourg Saint-Marceau* (on the left, a modern Romanesque church; steeple surmounted by a statue of Joan of Arc), then the Olivet road, and enter by a bridge over the Loiret (charming spot).

117 k. Olivet (rural restaurants : *Paul Forêt*, an Orleans celebrity on the l. bank, 1,300 m. above the bridge; the journey, there, can be made either by boat from the Paul Forêt pier, near the bridge, or by the road on the l. bank; lunch 2 fr. 50, din. 3 fr. and *à la carte*, matelotes [fish stew], free of charge: *Closerie des Lilas*, *Eldorado*, near the bridge). — In the church, partly Romanesque, is a fine painting by Hallé. — Renowned for its cheeses). — The *Château de la Source* (3 k.) may be reached by taking to the l. in the borough, the beaten track on the l. bank of the Loiret. But a more pleasant way to get there is to hire a boat by the side of the bridge, l. bank (1 fr. 50 per hour : — 2 hours suffice for the journey there, visit to the source, and the return journey) and to go up the river about 2 k. 250 (delightful trip) as far as the *Lorette bridge*, where it is necessary to leave the boat. Thence climb, to the r., the slopes on the l. bank to get to the road which runs along the plateau. Following this road to the l. for some 15 min. (1,200 m.) the gate of the *Château de la Source* is reached (for admission, apply to the guardian; gratuity expected). The *Château*, a vast edifice, was rebuilt in 1632. It belonged in the xvī c. to Cardinal Briçonnet. Lord Bolingbroke lived here in retirement in 1720; and in 1722 Voltaire visited him at the *Château* and read to him the *Henriade*. In 1815, the Prince of Eckmühl settled at la Source after the battle of Waterloo, and signed the disbandment of his army, as decided upon at the council held at Angerville.

The *Loiret* which is only some 12 k. long, takes its source in the park at the foot of the *Château*, from two different springs. The first forms a little circular basin called the *Abime* or the *Bouillon*. A little further on the *Loiret* widens into a semi-circular basin hollowed out artificially and called *le Miroir* because it reflects the facade of the *Château*. Close to the outlet of the basin, right in the very bed of the river, the second spring, called the *Grande Source*, can be seen.

On returning to Olivet (we do not reckon the 6 k. trip to La Source), follow to the W. the high road along the plateau on the l. bank of the Loiret. — 122 k. *Saint-Hilaire-Saint-Mesmin*. — 125 k. *Saint-Fiacre*.

130 k. Cléry (hotels : *de la Belle-Autriche*; *de la Belle-Image*, a brick-built house of the xv c. supposed to have belonged to Louis XIV). — The *Notre-Dame Basilica* (to visit royal vault and the treasury, apply

at the vestry), rebuilt entirely by Louis XI as the result of a vow made at the siege of Dieppe, is a very beautiful edifice in Flamboyant Gothic style (xv c.), with triple nave, transept, apse and deambulatory (on the N. flank, a square tower of the xiv c.).

On the l. of the nave, the **tomb of Louis XI.** destroyed at the Revolution, has been rebuilt in 1894 in marbles of different colours. On the upper table, supported by four columns, there has been reinstated the remarkable *statue* of the king kneeling, executed by Michel Bourdin, in 1622, and accompanied by four little angels, the whole being in white marble. M. l'abbé Saget, rector of Cléry, the restorer of the tomb, discovered and unearthed, in 1889, the *royal vault* situated beneath, and still containing, in a sepulchral trough made in one piece, the remains of king and of his wife, Charlotte de Savoie, which it was believed to have been desecrated and cast to the winds by the Huguenots at the end of the xvi c.

An adjacent vault (flat modern tombstone) contains the vault of *Tannequy du Chastel*, killed at the Siege of Bouchain, May 29, 1477, when fighting by the side of Louis XI. On the right of the nave, a flagstone with inscription covers the *heart of Charles VIII* (a second inscription is placed on an adjacent pillar). One of the sons of Charles VIII lies in the same vault.

In the r. aisle is the *chapel of Saint-Jacques or de Pontbriand* (xvi c.; statues in wood of *St Jacques* and of *St Sébastien*, of the xvi c.; specimens of lapidary work); *salle capitulaire*, or small vestry (pretty door of the xv c.); *chapelle des Duvois-Longueville* (xv c.), where lies the body of the celebrated companion of Joan of Arc and of several members of his family (the construction of the vault is extremely curious).

In the choir, is a monumental *grand altar* of the xix c., bearing the miraculous statue of *N.-D. de Cléry* in massive oak of the xiii, the shrine of a very ancient pilgrimage and of the special devotion of Louis XI. Above the grand altar are three stained-glass windows of which the one in the middle (xvi c.) represents Henri III founding the Order of the Holy-Ghost; *choir-stalls* carved with the initials of Henri II.

In the vestry (magnificent carved stone *door*), are old carved oak cupboards with armorial bearings and in the *treasury*: chasubles of the xv and xvi c.; a magnificent modern *monstrance*, in xv c. style, covered with jewels and ornaments offered to N. D. de Cléry; a fine private collection of antiquities brought together by M. l'abbé Saget, etc.

Close to the church, is the *House of Louis XI*, built in brick, restored in 1651, and now used a school.

From Cléry to Chambord, variation of route : 32 k., by the direct route of the l. bank passing through : — 8 k. *Lailly*; — (17 k.) *Saint-Laurent-des-Eaux*; — 22 k. *Nonan*; — 26 k. *Muides* (See below); — 32 k. *Chambord*.

At Cléry, take the Meung road on the r. of the church. — 154 k. Suspension bridge over the Loire.

135 k. Meung, 3,048 inhab. (Hotels : *Saint-Jacques*; *de la Gare*). In the centre of the town are the *place du Martroi* and a remarkable *church* of the end of the xii c., with Romanesque spire (stone steeple, more modern).

This spire is connected by a curtain with a fortified tower of the xiii c. which formed part of an ancient château of the Bishops of

Orleans, rebuilt in the xvi and xvii c.. Through the *rue Jehan-de-Meung* and the *rue Porte d'Amont*, we arrive at the picturesque *Porte d'Amont*, and the *place du Mauvas* (statue of *Jehan de Meung* by Desvergnès). Leaving the town by the *rue d'Orleans*, we follow the main road on the r. bank of the Loire, passing over a rather monotonous plateau.

142 k. Beaugency, 3,635 inhab. (hotels : *Saint-Etienne*; *Ecu de Bretagne*), on the r. bank of the Loire. In the centre, is the *place du Martroi* (at No. 29, a wooden house; the old *Saint-Etienne* church, xi c.), whence the *rue du Martroi*, the ancient *porte Vendômoise* or *tour de l'Horloge*, and the *rue du Change* lead to the *Hôtel de Ville*, a charming restored Renaissance building (in the int., 8 panels of ancient embroidery, very remarkable). From the *place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville*, through the *rue des Chevaliers*, we reach the *place du Petit-Marché* (in the l. at No. 2, *rue du Puits-de-l'Ange*, a Romanesque house of the Good Templars), then the *Place Saint-Irmin* (statue of the liberator Joan of Arc by Fournier, 1896; *Saint-Irmin's* tower, of 1530, the remains of a church). On the r. the *rue Porte-Tavers* runs along the front of the hospital (main buildings partly of the xvi and xviii c.; chapel of the xv c.) and leads to the *porte Tavers* (xii c. remains of the fortifications) and to the *Petit Mail* (fine view from the terrace), whence a descent is made to the *quai de la Loire*. Close to the bridge (140 m.; 26 arches of various periods, many of which are the pointed-arches of the xiv c., 8 in wood and a modern arch in iron) the old abbey, the *Notre-Dame* church and the ancient *Château* can be visited.

The abbey, founded before the x c., was burnt down in 1567, with the exception of the abbot's house and the *Tour du Diable*. The buildings, rebuilt in the xvi and xviii c., are now private property. The church of *Notre-Dame*, an ancient abbey, built in the xi and xii c., and burnt in 1567, was repaired in 1579. The facade is flanked on the r. by a tower of the xii and xiii c. The int., carefully restored, has retained its Romanesque character. The arches only have been re-made in Gothic style, at the end of the xvi c.

The ancient *Château* is now partly used as a *Dépôt de Mendicité* (Poor-House). The detached building on the r., on entering the forecourt, was constructed in 1410 by the celebrated Dunois. The room attributed to Joan of Arc (immense chimney-piece adorned with carvings) leads to the *oratoire de Jeanne d'Arc* or *de Dunois*. Spiral staircase of 1530. Chapel of the xiv c.

The *Tour de César* (adjacent to the *Dépôt de Mendicité*; for admission, apply to the concierge), a keep of the xi c. much dilapidated, was, formerly, between 35 or 10 m. high (in one of the windows, are the remains of a fresco of the xii c.).

145 k. Cross the Tavers vale (at 1 k. in the l.; pretty fountain of the *Eaux-Bleues* and brook *Fontenils* or *Sables mouvants*, [Quicksands]).

155 k. Mer, 3,587 inhab., in the valley of the *Tronne* (hotel *du Commerce*). Church with fine tower of the commencement of the xvi c.

Talcy (8 k. N. W.). : fine *Château* of the xv and xvi c., presenting an imposing aspect with its square keep and its main buildings flanked with towers. It played an important rôle during the religious wars, especially in 1562 when Catherine de Médicis held here with the Huguenot leaders, the « de Talcy » conference.

From Mer to Blois, 19 k. by the direct route passing through : — 5 k. *Suèvres* (at the *Saint-Christophe* church, is a curious W. gable of

the x c.; Saint-Lubin church rebuilt in the x c. on the ruins of and with the remains of a Roman temple); — 8 k. *Cour-sur-Loire* (on the l. is a church of the xv and xvi c. with a tower of the xii c., and interesting stained glass window of the xvi c.).

11 k. **Ménars**, formerly the seat of a Marquisate which Mme de Pompadour bought in 1760; but the present **Château** (Property of M. Watel; public not admitted to the interior) was not built until 1764, after the death of Louis XV's mistress, by her brother, M. de Marigny after the plans of Gabriel and Soufflot. The Château is surrounded by an immense park and is renowned in particular, for its terrace gardens overlooking the Loire and its grand avenue of linden trees (admission on Wednesday afternoons; or at other times by special authorisation); — 15 k. *La Chaussée-Saint-Victor*; — 19 k. Blois.

From Mer, descend towards the Loire (3 k.) and through a fine avenue of poplars we come to the suspension bridge which leads across to the l. bank to: — 160 k. *Muides*. In the town, take to the l. the Chambord road, which soon enters (about 1,500 m.) the park, by the *Pavillon de Muides*.

166 k. CHAMBORD (See p. 80).

From Chambord to Blois, two routes: — 1. **17 k.** by the valley of the Cosson: (1 k.) *la Chaussée-le-Comte* (exit from the park), (6 k.) *Huisseau-sur-Cosson*, (13 k.) *Vineuil* (on the r.) and (14 k. 5) *Saint-Gervais*; — 2. **19 k.** by the (2 k.) *Pavillon de St-Dyé* (exit from the park), (1 k. *Maslives*), (7 k.) *Montlivault* (church with high tower) and the **embankment of the Loire** which is followed for 11 k. 'fine views) as far as the Blois bridge.

From the Château de Chambord take, southwards the Bracieux road which passes through, for some 7 k., the beautiful forest of Boulogne (the exit from the park of Chambord is made 4 k. from the Château, at the *Pavillon de Bracieux*). On emerging from the forest, descend into the valley of the Beuvron — 174 k. *Bracieux*. Turning to the W., follow the valley of the Beuvron, where we pass on the r. (2 k. 5. from Bracieux) the old road of the *Ponts d'Ariau* and, in the other side of the valley, the pretty **Château de Villesavin** (property of the Comte de Bizemont, admission on presentation of private card), an elegant construction built in 1537 by Le Breton, Sire of Villandry, Financial Secretary to François I (on the facade are modern inscriptions inverse; a fine Italian basin of the xvi c.). — 177 k. 5. *Tour-en-Sologne*. — 182 k. 5. *Cour-Cheverny*, in the valley of the Conon, which cross.

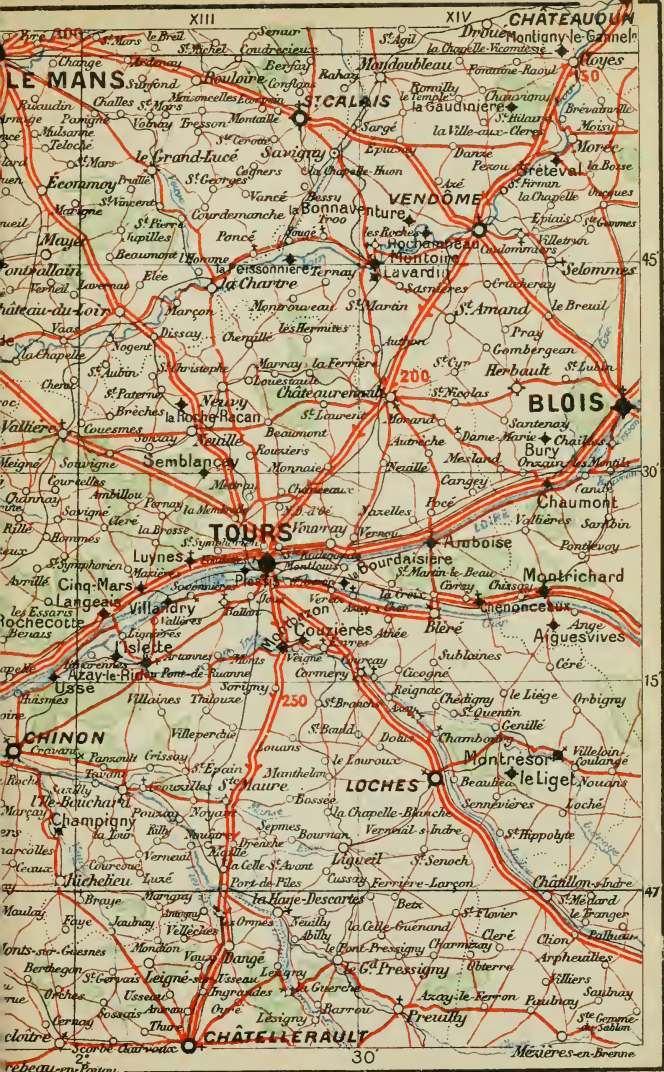
184 k. CHEVERNY (See p. 94).

Château du Moulin (22 k. S. E., *good excursion*). — Follow the Romorantin road as far as (15 k.) Mur, then turn to the r. towards (20 k. 5) *Lassay*. At 1500 m. W. S. W. of the village, the fine **Château du Moulin** (property of M. de Marcheville; visitors admitted) was built in 1480 by Pierre du Moulin, who saved the life of Charles VIII at the battle of Fornoue, and whose tomb is in the *church* of Lassay (xv-xvi c.; large fresco representing St. Christophe and in the back ground, the Château). This Château, built in stone and brick after the plans of Jacques de Persigny, is surrounded by a vast moat with drawbridge and defence towers, presenting a delightful and complete specimen of an early Renaissance Manor. It has just been





The figures XV-16 correspond to the numbers of the sheets of the map of France of the French 'Service Vicinal'. Scale: 100,000 (Hachette and Co.)



restored by M. Genuys. Note, particularly, the *salle des Gardes* (fine pointed converging arches supported by a unique octagonal pillar in the centre; spacious chimney-piece with andirons of the period); the *salon* (re-constructed chimney-piece: painted joists of the time of François I); the *chapelle* (fine statue in stone of St. Catherine, from the Michel Colomb school), a beautiful *stone well* of the xv c., in the garden, etc.

Returning to Cour-Cheverny, we follow in a N. W. direction the Blois road. — 189 k. Cross the Beuvron and dive into the **forest of Russy** which the road passes through in a straight line for 5 k. — At 2 k. 200 from the Beuvron (Guard-House) an avenue 1,300 m. long opens in the l. which leads to the.

192 k. 5. CHATEAU DE BEAUREGARD (See p. 69).

On emerging from the forest of Russy, the road descends into the valley of the Loire, leaving *Saint-Gervais* on the l. and passing through the faubourg of Vienne, we arrive at the Blois bridge.

198 k. BLOIS (See p. 36 for the town and p. 71 for the Château).

From Blois to Chouzy, via Bury (19 k.; *deviation of route, recommended*). — Leave Blois by the Victor-Hugo and Medicis avenues. — 2 k. 3. The road then enters the magnificent **forest of Blois** which it passes through in a straight line for more than 6 k. — At about 5 k. 5 from Blois, a road, some 200 to 300 m. in the l. leads to an enormous oak called the Louis XIV Oak, on the right of which is another called the « Quatre Fils Aymon ». — 9 k. At the exit of the forest, a steep descent is made into the valley of the Cisse, which is crossed at the N. end of *Chambon* (wall of the church of the xi and xii c.).

10 k. *Bury*, hamlet, at the foot of the hill on which stands the imposing ruins of the **Château de Bury**, built about 1515 by Robertet, Minister of Finance of François I, who owned also the hotel d'Alluye at Blois. The château was abandoned in the time of Louis XIV. At the present time, the ruins, overgrown with luxuriant vegetation, have all the appearance of a more ancient construction. The present owner has built near the ruins a modern country house, which tends to mar their picturesque effect.

From Bury, we return to Chambon and follow the winding road which descends into the valley of the Cisse and passes before the old **Abbey de la Guiche** (now private property), founded in 1272 by Jean I of Chatillon. Comte de Blois (remains of the xiii c. cloister and the Gothic buildings; fortified door of the xiv c.; in a modern chapel are the restored tombs of the founder and of Guy de Chatillon). Further on (18 k.), Chouzy is reached, which is traversed to rejoin (19 k.) the main route of the r. bank of the Loire, 11 k. from Blois (See below).

Leaving Blois by the quai de la Loire, we follow the beautiful road which skirts the r. bank of the river. — 209 k. *Chouzy* (500 m. on the r.). — 215 k. *Pont d'Ecure* (suspension bridge) giving access to *Chaumont* on the l. bank.

216 k. CHATEAU DE CHAUMONT (See p. 88).

Continue along the l. bank of the Loire. — 220 k. *Rilly*. — 223 k. *Mosnes*. — 229 k. *Chargé*.

233 k. AMBOISE (*See p. 55*).

From Amboise to Tours. — 1. **26 k.**, by the *route of the r. bank*: (3 k.) *Nazelles*; (8 k.) *Noisay*; (12 k.) *Vernou* and (16 k.) *Vouvray*. — 2. **22 k.** by the *route on the l. bank*: (5 k.) *Lussault* and (12 k.) *Montlouis*.

From Amboise to Chenonceaux, take the direct road, which crosses to the S. E., the forest of Amboise, and reaches the valley of the Cher at (10 k.) *Civray*, 2 k. from (12 k.) *Chenonceaux*. But the Bléré road which only extends the journey by some 2 k., enables one to see the Pagoda of Chanteloup. It is for this reason that we give it below as the real tourists itinerary.

Leave Amboise on the S. side by the Bléré road to ascend towards the forest of Amboise which covers over 12,500 acres of the plateau lying between the valleys of the Loire (N.) and of the Cher (S.). — 235 k. 2. At the entrance of the forest on the r., an avenue of 800 m. leads to the **Pagoda of Chanteloup**, a curious pyramid with colonnades, 39 m. high, the result of a fancy of the Duc de Choiseul, who erected it from 1775 to 1778, in memory of the homage received by him when he was exiled (1770) for having displeased Mme. Dubarry. The golden ball on the top is 162 m. above the level of the sea. Returning to the Bléré road, we cross the forest for 4 k., and descend then into the valley of the Cher, at **241 k.** *La Croix* (Romanesque church).

Bléré (1 k. to the r.; hotel du *Cheval-Blanc*) is joined to La Croix by an avenue, 1 k. long and a bridge over the Cher. — Church with 3 naves of the xii to the xv c. with steeple and stone spire. — On the place de la République is the *chapelle du Marché*, of 1526, much mutilated. — Passing through Bléré, and following to the l., the road on the l. bank of the Cher as far as the first turning on the l., which crosses the river, we regain at Civray the route on the r. bank, having made a small detour of 2 k.

At la Croix take to the left the road which re-ascends the valley of the Cher, along the slopes on the r. bank. — 245 k. 5. *Civray* (church, partly of the x c.). — On the right will be seen the avenue of the Château de Chenonceaux, before entering the village of

247 k. CHENONCEAUX (*See p. 91*).

From Chenonceaux to Loches, 26 k. by: — 1 k. *Chenonceaux station* (pass over the level crossing); a little further, bridge over the Cher). — 3 k. *Francauil*; — 9 k. *Luzillé* (turn to the r. for the church); — 16 k. 5. *Saint-Quentin*, where the Indrois is crossed to reach the forest of Loches; — 20 k. *Pyramide de Saint-Quentin*, a forest cross-road. Emerging from the forest, we descend to the Indre and cross the river. — 26 k. *Loches*.

From Chenonceaux continue to re-ascend the r. bank of the Cher. — 249. *Chisseaux* (church with Romanesque apse; Renaissance Château). — 252 k. *Chissay* (fine Château of the xv, xvi and xvii c.).

256 k. Montrichard, 3,000 inhab. on the r. bank of the Cher (hotel de la *Croix-Blanche*). — Fine church, *Eglise de Nanteuil*, xii to xv c. with shrine of the Virgin in a pretty chapel of the xv^e c. On the hill overlooking the town are the remains of the Château with a big oblong keep and counter-forts of the xii^e c.

From Montrichard to Loches, 31 k., by: — the Cher bridge and, further

on, the road to the r.: — 2 k. *Faverolles* (on the r.); — 5 k. On the l. a road leads to (2 k. 5 recommended) **Aiguesvives**, a charming property replacing a monastery of which there remains a remarkable church in ruins, of the xii c. (statue of the Virgin); — 11 k. *Mont-Poupon*, a Château, near which the Chezelles brook is crossed; — 15 k. *Le Liège*; — 20 k. *Génillé*, where the valley of the Indrois is crossed previous to passing through the forest of Loches for 6 k. — 31 k. Loches.

From Montrichard, continue to remount the right bank of the Cher. — 259 k. *Bourré* (famous free-stone quarries). — 265 k. *Thésée* (on the l. before arriving at the village, is a curious Gallie-Roman monument in ruins). — 273 k. Turn to the right along the Saint-Aignan road which crosses the Cher.

274 k. Saint-Aignan, 3,208 inhab., on the slopes of the l. bank of the Cher (hotels: *Saint-Aignan; de la Gerbe-d'Or*). — Remarkable church in the xii c. style; chapel of the xv c., with paintings of the period; crypt of the xi c., with curious paintings. — Pretty Renaissance **château** situated, with the ruins of an earlier feudal Château, on a high terrace overlooking, on one side, the valley and, on the other side, the town. The ascent to the Château is made from the church by means of a flight of over 100 steps. A bridge over a deep moat, connects at the W. end, the court of honour with the park, to enter which permission can easily be obtained. The Château, an ancient fief of the Beauvilliers, now belongs to Comte G. de la Roche-Aymon. A very fine antique sarcophagus is shown to visitors. — In the town are numerous, ancient houses in wood and in stone.

After having visited Saint-Aignan, we return to continue, from the spot where we left it, the main road on the r. bank of the Cher, which a little further on, runs in front of the old *chapelle Saint-Lazare* (xii c., very dilapidated) and passes through Noyers; then it diverges from the Cher to ascend to the plateau. — 288 k. Having descended from the plateau, the Sauldre is crossed. Some 1,500 m. further on, we cross the Berry canal, and then, the Cher (bridge xv and xvi c.) to enter:

290 k. Selles-sur-Cher, 4,164 inhab., on the l. bank of the Cher (hotel: *du Lion-d'Or*). — The fine **Saint-Eusice church** with choir over Romanesque crypt and transept: triple nave of the xiii-xv c. — *Château* built in the reign of Henri IV, on the banks of the Cher. — Fine old houses of the xiii-xvi c.

Leaving Selles by the S. we rise 102 m. to descend again towards the Fouzon (81 m.) which is crossed at: — 293 k. *La Vernelle*. — Undulating road. — 297 k. *Fontquénand*. — Pass through, for 4 k., the *forest of Gatine*.

304 k. VALENÇAY (See p. 127).

Leave Valençay by the W. S. W., keeping along the S. edge of the forest of Gatine. — 316 k. *Luçay-le-Mâle*, in the valley of the Modon (fine *Château* of the xv c.). — 328 k. *Nouans* (fine church of the xiii c. with remarkable arches and a large Byzantine crucifix). — 332 k. 5. *Coulangé* (old church of the xi c.). — 334 k. *Villeloin* on the Indrois (church of the xi and xii c.; ancient abbey xv-xvi c.).

336 k. MONTRESOR (See p. 117).

Cross the Indrois to follow in a W. direction the road to Loches. — 341 k. *La Couroierie*, old fortified house with fine machicolated tower

and Romanesque chapel (pointed arches), formerly a dependancy of Le Ligot. Cross the Aubigny brook to enter the *forest of Loches*. — 342 k. **Chartreuse du Liget** (private property, but gardens open to the public), founded about 1176 by king Henry II of England. There remain the entrance portal, the cloister wall, the ruins of the church covered with ivy and a few of the residential buildings, now enlarged. About 1 k. further on, a road leads, to the **chapelle du Liget** (400 m. distance on the l.), a graceful rotunda contemporary with the Chartreuse (6 fresco subjects of the xiii c.: Christmas; Presentation, Descent from the Cross; Burial of Christ; Death of the Virgin Mary; Tree of Jesse). — 345 k. *Pyramide des Chartreux*, forest cross-road. — 351 k. 5. Beaulieu (*See p. 107*).

353 k. LOCHES (*See p. 106*).

The road to Tours descends by the l. bank, the pretty valley of the Indre. — On the l. are the Châteaux of *Le Puits* and *Murray*. — 359 k. We must leave, here, the main direct road to (15 k.), Cormery, hard and monotonous over the plateau, to follow on the r., the delightful road (scarcely more than 1 k. long) which crosses the railway and continues to follow all the way the l. bank of the Indre. — 359 k. 5. *Chamboury*. — 363 k. *Azay-sur-Indre*, at the foot of a fine **Château** of the xv c., charming situation. — 366 k. Reignac, on the other side of the Indre (church partly of the x c., Château of the xv and xvii c.). — 370 k. *Pont de Courçay* (r. bank; charming situation, rocks with numerous caverns; rural restaurants).

374 k. Cormery (*hotel du Croissant*). Remains of a Benedictine **Abbey** founded under Charlemagne: refectory of the xiii c. and part of the cloister. **Church** of the xi and xii c. At 1,500 m. on the r. bank of the Indre, Romanesque church and fine Romanesque steeple of *Truyes*.

From Cormery to Tours, 18 k., by the direct road. — In going by Montbazon as recommended by us (*See below*), the journey is only prolonged by 5 k.

Cross the Indre and 1,500 m. further on, leaving on the r. the direct road to Tours, take on the l. the Montbazon road which continues to descend the valley of the Indre (r. bank). — 379 k. *Esves*. — 383 k. On the r. **Château de Couzières**, inhabited since the xvi c. by the Dukes of Montbazon, and reconstructed in the first half of the xvii c. It was here that the interview and temporary reconciliation between Louis XIII and his mother, Marie de Medicis, took place.

385 k. Montbazon (*hotel du Croissant*), in a charming situation on the l. bank of the Indre, overlooking which are the remains of a **Château**, and, notably, a vast rectangular keep, with counterforts of the xii c., which has been surmounted (1866) by a Virgin in bronze. — Recrossing the Indre, we ascend in a N. direction to go straight across the plateau of Champeigne, then descend towards the Cher which cross to enter Tours by the avenue de Grammont.

397 k. TOURS (*See p. 43*).

From Tours to Villandry (16 k. W. S. W., *good excursion*). — Leave Tours by the rue Saint-Sauveur and beyond (2 k.) the *pont Saint-Sauveur* over the Cher, take the first turning on the r. which follows at some distance the l. bank of the Cher and passes through (12 k.) *Savonnières* (celebrated caves). — 16 k. **Villandry** (*See p. 130*).

— From Villandry, the journey may be continued to (9 k.; 25 k. from Tours) *Lignières* whence either Langeais (3 k. N.; 28 k. from Tours) or Azay-le-Rideau (6 k. S.-E.; 31 k. from Tours) can be reached.

Leaving Tours by the Pont de la Loire and the quai de Portillon to the l., continue along the r. bank of the river at the foot the *Saint-Cyr* hill. — 400 k. Pass under the *De la Motte bridge* (Railway from Tours to Le Mans and Vendôme) to the mouth of the Choissille. — 407 k. *Port de Luynes*. Leave the embankment of the Loire to reach on the r.

408 k. LUYNES (See p. 115).

From the small town of Luynes, a direct road running along the foot of the slopes rejoins the main route on the bank of the Loire at: — 411 k. 5. *Pont-de-Bresme* (Château d'*Andigny*). — Continue along the riverside at the foot of the slopes on which is soon seen, on the r., the famous *Pile de Cinq-Mars*, a solid square tower of Roman origin and of unknown purpose, 29 m. high. — The road turns away from the Loire.

416 k. **Cinq-Mars-la-Pile**, at the foot of a hill dominated by two towers of the ancient *Château*, razed by order of Richelieu after the execution of the famous Cinq-Mars (church of the x and xii c., stone spire of the xv c.).

From Cinq-Mars to Villandry. — From Cinq-Mars, pedestrians and cyclists can reach (5 k.) Villandry in the following manner. Near the Cinq-Mars station pass under the railway so as to keep along to the l., the side of the embankment. After passing under the railway a second time, follow to the r. a lane leading to the *foot way* built for pedestrians along the side of the railway-bridge. Having crossed the valley, turn to the r., to pass under the railway a third time and follow the road which, through a little wood ends at the Cher. Continue to the l. along the river bank (small Manor of the xvi c.) as far as the Villandry ferry. — From Villandry, one can get back to (12 k.) Langeais via (9 k.) *Lignières*.

From Cinq-Mars to Langeais, the road follows, at some distance from the Loire, the foot of the pretty chalk-cliffs into which are cut a number of caves and dwellings.

421 k. LANGEAIS (See p. 100).

From Langeais to Saumur, 41 k. by the direct road on the r. bank of the Loire, at 1 k. on the r. of which (8 k. from Langeais) is *Saint-Patrice* and the *Château de Rochecotte* (property of the Marquis de Castellane; may be visited when the family are absent), which contains a collection of fine paintings including valuable works by Dutch artists of the xvii c., and a beautiful copy of the Sixtine Madonna in a chapel built on the site of Talleyrand's chamber.

Pass over the suspension bridge of Langeais, and continue through the vale immediately in front where an ancient bed of the Cher is crossed. — 424 k. *Lignières* (on the l. is the road to Villandry, 9 k.). — Ascend to the plateau lying between the Loire and the Indre, then descend towards the Indre and re-ascend by the r. bank. — 427 k. 5. On the r. between two arms of the Indre is the charming *Château de l'Islette*, of the Renaissance (property of M. Courcelle).

430 k. AZAY-LE-RIDEAU (*See p. 67.*)

From *Azay-le-Rideau*, short-cut : 21 k. by the direct road, uneven, crossing the fine domanial forest of **Chinon** which spreads over the plateau between the Indre and the Vienne. The following itinerary, with less uneven roads, and only some 6 k. longer, enables one to visit *Ussé* :

The lane and the bridges which traverse the humid valley of the Indre before reaching *Azay*, lead to the hamlet of *la Chapelle* whence take the road on the r. which runs along the foot of the slopes on the l. bank, and passes shortly, with the Indre, into the spacious valley of the Loire where it takes a turn to the W. keeping always on the l. bank of the river. — 440 k. *Rivarennnes*.

445 k. USSÉ (*See p. 125.*)

3 k. beyond *Ussé*, turn to the l., and ascend in a S. direction. — 449 k. *Huïsmes*.

447 k. CHINON (*See p. 96.*)

Château du Coudray-Montpensier (9 k. S. W., by the bridge, the faub. *Saint-Jacques, Saint-Lazare* and *Seuilly*), a vast construction of the xv c. flanked with machicolated towers and built on a hill between the valley of *Seuilly* and the valley of *Négron*. At *Seuilly* can be seen the farm of *la Devinière* where *Rabelais* was born, and the ruins of the Abbey where he commenced his studies.

From *Chinon* to *Richelieu* (21 k. S. E., good excursion). — 2 k. *Saint-Lazare*; turn to the l. — 5 k. *Ligré-Rivière* Station (1 k. on the l., *Rivière*, with a remarkable church of the xi c.; choir erected over a crypt, nave adorned with restored paintings, baptismal font of the xiv c.). — 6 k. 5. After having crossed the *Veude*, turn to the r.

15 k. **Champigny-sur-Veude**, ancient seigniory owned successively by the families of *Beauçay*, *Artois*, *Anjou*, *Beauvau*, *Bourbon-Montpensier*, *Orleans*, and *Richelieu*. It reverted in the middle of the xvii c. to the *Orleans* family, then again to the *Richelieu*s in the xviii c. The **Château** of the xvi c. was pulled down by *Richelieu*, who viewed with disfavour the pre-eminence of *Champigny* in the *Richelieu* domains. The *Comte de la Roche-Aymon* has now restored what was still remaining : the old *stables*, the *pages'* apartments and the **Sainte-Chapelle** (can be visited any day), commenced in 1508, completed from 1520 to 1543, and presenting a mixture of Gothic and Renaissance (in a chapel on the r. are the remarkable remains of the broken tomb of *Henri de Bourbon-Montpensier*: statue of the duke, of the xvii c., in the middle of the church). All over the church are to be seen various curious inscriptions armorial bearings, coloured escutcheons, partly mutilated during the Revolution, and, notably, eleven admirable stained-glass windows, all arranged alike : at the bottom, effigies of members of the family of *Bourbon-Montpensier*, of *Vendôme* and of the *Roche-sur-Yon*; above an incident in the life of *Saint-Louis*; and a titled-subject representing the *Passion of Jesus Christ*, at the top.

21 k. **Richelieu** (*hotel du Faisan*), a curious small town of 2,281 inhab. : on the *Mable*, entirely rebuilt on a regular plan and in a uniform style by *Cardinal Richelieu* at the commencement of the xvii c. The

wall, the moat around which has now been converted into gardens, forms a regular quadrilateral with 6 gables of which 4 still exist. In the int., notice the hall in wood, and the Notre-Dame church in Jesuit style. The sumptuous Château built by the Cardinal at the S. of the town, was demolished at the commencement of the xix c., there now only remain an outbuilding, two greenhouses and the canal which wound round the buildings. — Good excursion to (7 k. S. from Richelieu) **Faye-la-Vineuse**, an ancient, small and walled-in town and barony, built on an eminence (extensive view with the beautiful *Saint-Georges church*, ancient chapter-house of the xii c., skilfully restored (the aisles and transept have parapets adorned with battlements; very curious crypt).

Leaving Chinon by the pont de la Vienne and the faubourg Saint-Jacques, the valley is crossed by a lane. — 459 k. *Saint-Lazare*: turn to the r. along a pretty road which descends into the valley, at the foot of the hills on the l. bank. — 467 k. *Thizay*. — 471 k. *Saint-Germain-sur-Vienne* (church of the end of the xii c.).

474 k. Candes, in a magnificent situation at the confluence of the Vienne and the Loire. *Château* of the xv c., now a gendarmes barracks. Remarkable church of the xii and xiv c., built on the site of the cell in which St. Martin died, about 100 (exquisite side porch of Saint-Michael).

475 k. Montsoreau (hotel *Lion-d'Or*), confined between the Loire and some fine chalk cliffs. The *Château*, of the xv c. (altered almost beyond recognition and converted into dwellings), stood formerly on the bank of the Loire from which, however, it is now separated by the road. The facade looking towards the river is adorned with machicolations and flanked by towers. Overlooking the forecourt is a Renaissance turret with exquisite mouldings and arabesques (allegorical bas-reliefs, of which one representing monkeys is surmounted by the device « *Je le ferois* »). The *Dame de Montsoreau*, made famous by Dumas' celebrated novel, was the wife of Jean IV of Chambes who was, in Anjou, the most atrocious perpetrator of the Saint-Bartholomew massacres. In the town is a church of the xii c. and ruins of two others of the same period.

Fontevrault (4 k. S.; steam-tram; *good excursion*), celebrated for its **Abbey** (now a central Reformatory) founded in the xi c. by Robert d'Arbrissel and which included a monastery for men and a convent for women under the sole authority of an abbesse. The Plantagenets who became kings of England, greatly favoured Fontevrault. Many of them expressed a desire to be buried in the church. Some of the highest aristocracy became members of the Fontevrault order: fourteen of the abbesses having enjoyed the title of princess and many being of royal blood.

On arriving at Fontevrault, follow an ascending street which ends at a small open place or square whence can be seen on the r. a *house with turret* of the xvi c., the « *mairie* » and the *parish church* (old wooden porches; Angevine arches; altar in gilded wood of 1621 removed from the Abbey. On the l. is the entrance to the central House of Detention (Reformatory) which was formerly the Abbey. Parts of the historical portion are open to the public daily, between 2.0 and 4.0 p. m. on applying to the Director for permission (use the knocker at the big door). The parts of the building occupied by the prisoners can be visited by men only, and even then only

by the authority of the Minister of the Interior or of the Prefect of the Maine-et-Loire. The historical portion, accessible to visitors, includes the church, the cloister, the chapter-house and the Evrault tower.

The **church**, called the *Grand-Moûtier*, consecrated in 1119 by Pope Calixte II. 84 m. long, had originally aisles with groined arches, accompanied by a central nave with carved wooden roof. About 1160, these interior divisions were suppressed, and in their place, enormous pillars were erected (magnificent ornamented **capitals**) on which reposed some delicately pointed arches, and some pendants sustaining a series of four domes. The latter have just been restored as well as the whole of the nave which had been frightfully mutilated and cut up into several stories at the time of the installation of the central Detention House. A fifth dome covers the transept. From 1816 to 1907, the choir and the transept were alone used for public worship, and the altar was placed in the transept against the wall shutting off the disused nave. The recent restoration has now re-established in the church the original arrangements. The choir is surrounded by an aisle giving access to three small apsis; two others lead to the wings of the transept. The tomb of Robert d'Arbrissel, degraded in 1793, is in front and to the r. of the choir. Almost opposite on the l. side was formerly to be seen « the cemetery of the kings », where a great number of people of royal blood were buried. Statues were placed over each tomb. Only four were saved during the Revolution and lay now in the small chapel of the r. transept. The **statues**, specimens of xii c. art, are of *Henry II of England* (2 m. 17 in length), *Eléonore de Guienne* (1 m. 84), *Richard Cœur de Lion* (2 m. 09) and *Isabelle d'Angoulême* (1 m. 80). Three of these statues are in tufa stone, and that of Isabelle is in wood. The paint which covers them is modern (1849).

The **cloister** (above the galleries, a magnificent Renaissance window), is composed of two distinct parts : the S. gallery along the side of the refectory, dates from the commencement of the xvi c., whilst the three others were only erected between 1540 and 1560 under the abbess Louise de Bourbon. The remarkable carvings with which they are decorated have been spoiled by clumsy restorations. The **refectory** covered with well-shaped arches completed about 1515, is now a provision stores (no admission). — The **Chapter House** (paving of the xvi c.), which is entered from the Cloister, by a magnificent doorway (1543), richly sculptured, is divided into 2 naves of 3 bays each. The walls are adorned with pictures (Scenes from the Passion: Portraits of abbesses) of which some are by Thomas Pot (1567). The apartment contains a fine lapidary collection and a Renaissance Music-desk in carved wood.

At the end of the Refectory is the **Evrault tower**, a peculiar construction of the xii c., and now generally believed to have been the kitchen of the Abbey. The newel is an octagonal tower (27 m. high, 11 m. wide) surmounted by a stone roof of the same shape, the angles of which correspond with the middle of the faces of the tower. On this roof is erected a stone steeple having eight sides carved with facets and crowned by a lantern composed of eight small columns. In the middle of each face of the tower is a semi-circular recess, pierced with three rounded-arch windows, walled in.

From Montsoreau to Saumur, the road, followed by the steam-tram, runs along the l. bank of the Loire, at the foot of charming slopes, where the villages of *Turquant*, *Parnay*, *Souzay*, and *Dampierre*, all of which have pretty churches and old Renaissance houses, are partly cut into the chalk cliffs. After having passed a great iron viaduct of the Etat Railway, we pass in front of the church, *N.-D. des Ardilliers* (1534, 1634 and 1654), crowned by a vast dome, and the shrine of a pilgrimage.

487 k. SAUMUR (See p. 119).

Montreuil-Bellay (15 k. S., by road or by the Etat Railway; hotel *de Londres*), chief-town of the Canton, with 2,206 inhab., above the Thouet.

The **Château** (open to visitors when the proprietor is absent) stands within a great surrounding wall, embellished at regular intervals with round projecting turrets. The walls overlook the Thouet to the N. W., and in the other three sides, are separated from the town by deep ditches. These latter are crossed by two bridges. The one on the r. leads by a pointed-arched porch to the *parish church* (*église paroissiale*), the ancient chapel of the Château which has been detached from it by a wall. It is a pretty building of the xv c. (large basin, without ornaments, used as a holy-water font). The bridge on the left leads, through a massive low battlemented tower, to the postern of the Château.

The entrance doorway, under which have been re-installed the old portcullis, opens, between two round towers, into the oldest portion of the building, which dates from the xiv c. and is called the *old Château*. The *Château neuf*, built in the xv c., by the d'Harcourts, and tastefully restored, has on the river side two projecting round towers surmounted by platforms. On the opposite side, an elegant octagonal tower contains a fine *staircase* of which the very steep steps are alternatively in sandstone and limestone. The apartments contain some beautiful old furniture and objects of art. An ancient *oratory* is decorated with frescoes. Behind the Château are the domestic offices in elegant buildings of the xv c. The visit can be concluded by a stroll through the terrace gardens and along the curtains whence a splendid view can be obtained of the Thouet and its verdant islands. At the foot of the Château, note the ruins of two massive walls, embellished with towers.

Besides the Château, there is also to be seen at Montreuil-Bellay: — Remains of the ramparts (xii and xv c.), and, in particular, the *porte Saint-Jean* or Thouars gate adorned with 16 rows of projecting cannon-ball shaped tufa stones; an ancient Benedictine *Priory* with curious gardens and the ruins of the *Saint-Pierre church* (xii-xiii c.); — on the *Mail*, a *monument to Toussenet* and other famous men born at Montreuil-Bellay.

The return journey to Saumur (20 k.) by (7 k.) *Saint-Just-sur-Dive* and (11 k.) **Brézé** (fine Renaissance **Château** restored, and surrounded by a vast park).

From Saumur to Le Lude: A. (50 k., direct road but offering no attractions), by (20 k.) *Vernantes* (at 1 k. W., the **Château de Jalesnes**, xvi and xvii c.; in the church, a cenotaph to the « Seigneur » of Jalesnes, xvii c., and stained-glass windows of the xv c.; steeple

of the XII c., with spire of the XV c.), (27 k.) *Linières-Bouton*, and (31 k.) *Noyant* (*Château du Plessis-ô-Mer*, XVI c.). — **B.** (58 k. *To visit : Châteaux de Landifer and de Baugé*), by (8 k.) *Vivry*, (16 k.) *Longué* (modern church, XIII c. style, dedicated to *N. Dame de la Légion d'Honneur*; handsome stained-glass windows by Lobin); (22 k.) *Jumelles*, (27 k.) *Cuon* (very curious Romanesque church; on the l., *Château de la Graffinière*), (30 k.) *Château de Purpacé* of the XV c.; (31 k.) *Château de Landifer* (800 m. to the l. is a fine Renaissance building, period of Charles IX, restored and completed in recent times with conical roofing); (34 k.) *Baugé*, 13,325 inhab., on the Conesnon (*hotel du Lion-d'Or*; small *Château* of the XV c., built by King René, and now a gendarmes' quarters, with a fine staircase in an angular turret; place and fountain du Roi-René; church of the XVI c.); (50 k.) *Sauvigné-sous-le-Lude*. — For Le Lude (*See p. 112*).

Leaving Saumur by the W. cross the Thouet to follow, in its l. bank., the long *rue de Saint-Hilaire-Saint-Florent*, then the road which runs along the l. bank of the Loire (charming views). — 495 k. *Chênehuttes-Tuffeaux*. — 498 k. *Trèves* (Romanesque church with tomb of the XV c. and magnificent keep consisting of a round tower and an adjoining square tower). — 499 k. *Cunault* (remarkable Romanesque Church, altered in the XII and XIII c. and restored; charming Francois I apartments).

502 k. GENNES (*Saint-Eusèbe church on a hill and Saint-Vétérin church in the vale, both partly before the X c.; at 2 k. W., fine dolmen de la Madelaine; Roman antiquities: remains of a theatre, aqueduct, etc.*).

From Gennes to Angers, we give below the itinerary by Brissac and the Ponts-de-Cé as the real tourist-route. But the direct route, 31 k., is by the suspension bridge over the Loire (very fine view) and the road on the r. bank: — 1 k. *Les Rosiers* (church of the XIII c. with fine Renaissance steeple); — 7 k. *La Ménitvé* (ferry for *Saint-Maur*, on the l. bank, celebrated abbey founded in the VI c. by St. Maur, restored in 1890 by the Benedictine Monks); 11 k. *Saint-Mathurin*; — 17 k. *La Bohalle*; — 20 k. *La Daguenière*, where the road turns away from the Loire to cross shortly the Authion and pass through the famous slate quarries of *Trélazé* (on the r.); — 25 k. *La Pyramide*, whence a long suburb leads to: — 31 k. Angers (*See p. 60*).

At Gennes, we leave the Loire to follow to the W. the road to (18 k.) Brissac, by (11 k.) *Chemellier*.

520 k. BRISSAC (*See p. 79*).

Proceeding N. W., the l. bank of the Loire is again reached at — 528 k. *Erigné* (pretty modern château on the *Roche d'Erigné*, where commences the curious street of the **Ponts-de-Cé**, which crosses the valley for a distance of more than 3 k., and is cut by seven bridges over different arms of the Loire and the canal of the Authion. Note, on the journey from the l. bank to the r. bank: the *Sainte-Maurille church* (XII, XIV and XVII c., fine choir-stalls of the XVI c.); *the statue of Dumnacus*, by David d'Angers, on the bridge of the principal arm of the Loire; a small *Château* of the XV c. (Gendarmes' quarters); and the *Saint-Aubin church* (XII and XVI c.).

536 k. ANGERS (*See p. 60.*)

Good excursions : — 1. **Château de Serrant** (*See p. 123*), at 16 k. 5, S. W. on the main road from Nantes; the Château is on the l. of the main road, some 1,500 m. before arriving at (18 k.) *Saint-Georges-sur-Loire* (hotel de la *Tête-Noire*). The excursion can be made by rail to Saint-Georges station; — 2. **Château du Plessis-Macé**, 14 k. N. W. on the main road from Laval, and (6 k.) *Avrillé*; 1,500 m. before (14 k.) *la Membrolle*, turn to the l. to reach the village of *le Plessis-Macé* (church of the xv c.). The excursion can be made by rail to the Membrolle station (line from Segré) : the Château, formerly the finest feudal ruin of Anjou, was completely restored from 1872 to 1880 (fine collections; Flanders and Gobelins tapestries); the oldest parts and the dungeon are of the xv c.; the chapel, a gem of the Renaissance, was built in the xvi c. by the Du Bellay family. — 3. **Château du Plessis-Bourré**, at 15 k. N. by (7 k.) *Cantenay-Epinard* before reaching which the Mayenne (12 k. 5) is crossed, *Soulaire* and (14 k.) *Bourg*; at 1 k. beyond Bourg, on the Ecuillé road, opens out, on the r., the avenue of the Château, built (1468-1473) by Jean Bourré, Minister of Finance under Louis XI. Its wide moats are crossed by a bridge with 7 arches 43 m. long. At the corners, are 4 fine towers, one of which was used as a keep. On the ceiling of the *salle des gardes* (guard room) are curious paintings of the xv c.

Leaving Angers by the *rue de Paris*, proceed to the N. E. by a very pretty and almost level route. — 545 k. *Pellouailles*. — The Loir is approached at : — 554 k. *Bourg-Joli*. On the r., *Château d'Ardenne*, built in 1864 in Louis XIII style with keep of the xiv c.

556 k. Seiches, to the l., l. bank of the Loir.

Jarzé (10 k. E. of Seiches) overlooking which is a fine **Château** (public admitted), built in 1500 by Jean Bourré, former minister of Louis XI. It was burnt down in 1794 and has since been restored (vaulted cellars and kitchens; small room of the xvii c. with mythological subjects; curious portraits); church of the xvi c. — From Jarzé we reach Durtal (14 k. N.) direct by a fine route crossing the *forest of Chambiers*. Total : 24 k. from Seiches to Durtal by Jarzé, instead of 14 k. by the direct route.

559 k. At 1,500 m. to the l., remains of the **Château du Verger**, built at the end of the xv c. by Pierre de Rohan, Lord of Gyé, partly destroyed in 1776 by Cardinal de Rohan (there still remain the moats, 5 towers, the rooms and stables of the guard; park of 330 acres. Near the Château, in the domain of Sainte-Marie are the ruins of Sainte-Croix priory, xv c.). — 561 k. *Bourg-Neuf*. — 564 k. 5. *Lezigné*, on the l.

570 k. Durtal, chief town of the canton, 3,174 inhab., on the Loir (hotel : *Lion-d'Or*), owes its origin to a Château that Geoffroy Martel, Comte d'Anjou, built, in the middle of the xi c. The present **Château** which belonged to the Marshals of Schomberg, then to the La Rochefoucaulds, and now used as an « Hospice » is an imposing construction of the xvi c. style, built on the slope which dominates the r. bank of the Loir and standing above the town and the river on high walls. Towards the E., two magnificent machicolated towers still remain. A part of the old *walls* of the town is still standing, notably the *porte Véron*. The church of *Notre-Dame* has been rebuilt in the xiii c. style.

Re-ascend the valley of the Loir on the r. bank — 571 k. 5. *Gouis* (Church, xi c., modern Château, Paper Manufactories). — 576 k. *Bazouges-sur-Loir* (fine Château partly xvi and xvii c.; Church, xiii c. wooden arches with xv c. paintings).

583 k. La Flèche, 10,519 inhab., on the r. bank of the Loir (hotels: *de l'Image*; *des Quatre-Vents*). **Prytanée militaire** (military college), built from 1620 to 1653, with a fine chapel and a magnificent park. Modern Church, xiii c. style. Old Château of the Carmes by the side of the Loir bridge. — Cross the Loir bridge and take, to the l. before reaching the station, the Le Lude road. — 593 k. *Thorée*.

603 k. LE LUDE (See p. 112).

Leaving Le Lude by the Loir bridge, follow the route in front which passes through the valley. Climb a long hill, then descend into the valley of the Loir, r. bank. — 616 k. *Vaos*.

625 k. Château-du-Loir (*Grand-Hotel*), chief town of the canton, 4,251 inhab., in a narrow vale. — 627 k. *Coëmon*. Cross the railway, then the Loir and, further on, leave the main road to Tours and take, on the l. the one that reascends the l. bank of the Loir. — 631 k. *Marçon* (from Coëmon to Marçon, the journey can also be made by *Vouvray-sur-Loir* in remaining on the r. bank as far as *Port-Gautier*, where the river is crossed). — 640 k. *La Chartre*. Cross the Loir again, and take on the r., at the *Maladrerie* (*Hospital for Lepers*), the road on the r. bank. — 644 k. 5. *Ruillé-sur-Loir*. — 647 k. 5. *Poncé* (Château of 1834, Renaissance style). — To the l., on the heights is the fine *Château de la Flotte*, almost entirely reconstructed in xv c. style (Richelieu sent Mlle. de Hautefort, mistress of Louis XIII, into exile there).

651 k. Pont-de-Braye, at the junction of the Loir and the Braye.

La Poissonnière (3 k., a nice walk). — Half way between Poncé and Pont-de-Braye, a route which crosses the railway, then the Loir, leads to (2 k.) *Couture* (steeple with indented spire), a village which can also be reached direct from la Chartre (9 k.) by the road on the bank of the Loir. — At 1 k. S. of Couture, at the foot of the hills, stands the **Manoir de la Poissonnière**, Renaissance style, where Ronsard was born in 1521 (apply to the gardener). The exterior facade, on the garden, has recently been built in Louis XII style. The interior facade is covered with ornaments which give it the appearance of a poetical museum. The servants' offices, cut into the rock, have doors decorated with devices and arabesques. For example, on the door of the cellar is: *Sustine et abstine* (Bear and forbear). Close by, on another door: *Cui des videto* (Take care to whom thou givest): in another place, this invocation: *Tibi soli gloria*. At the entrance of the stairs turret, under a bust is: *Voluptati et Gratiis*. The device *Acant partir* (Before leaving) is to be found on almost every window. The great hall contains a magnificent chimney-piece (adorned with « Fleurs de Roncees »; an allusion to the name of Ronsard; above which is the royal escutcheon of France and, lower down, the arms of the Ronsards in azur, with three gold fish, and the device: *Non fallunt futura merentem*: The future belongs to the deserving).

The route crosses the Braye at its opening into the valley of the Loir (delightful situation). — 653 k. *Sougé*.

658 k. Trôô, very picturesque town, partly cut out in the side of the hill which rises above the **church** (Angevine style, end of the XII c.); well famous for its echo; remarkable tumulus laid out as a promenade (very fine view); remains of the ramparts and numerous old buildings. On the l. bank of the Loir is *Saint-Jacques-des-Guerets* (Church of the X and XII c. with curious frescoes). — 660 k. *Saint-Quentin*.

664 k. Montoire-sur-le-Loir, 3,115 inhab. (hotel *du Cheval-Rouge*). In the town, on the r. bank is a modern church (Flamboyant Gothic style) and a fine Renaissance house on the Grand-Place; on the l. bank, in the *faubourg Saint-Outrille* are *Saint-Gilles chapel* with remains of paintings of the XII c. and ruins of the **ancient Château** on the hill.

From Montoire, Lavardin (2 k.) can be reached by two different roads. — 1. Leave the town in a S. E. direction by the *faubourg Saint-Laurent* and cross the Loir on arriving at Lavardin. — 2. Leave the town by the *faubourg Saint-Outrille* and follow the road on the l. bank (not so good, but more picturesque. See p. 103).

666 k. LAVARDIN (See p. 100).

From Lavardin, the Loir must be crossed and, by means of the first road on the r., regain the road from Montoire to Les Roches which skirts the r. bank of the Loir. — 670 k. *Les Roches*, very picturesque town almost entirely cut into the steep chalk cliffs dominating the river. — 671 k. *Croix-du-Ris*: leaving in front the road to Lunay, turn to the r. — The main road soon turns away from the Loir which describes a great bend southwards. The road there passes through the valley of Lunay and does not join the Loir again until Gué-du-Loir is reached. (A less important route, which branches to the r. before descending into the valley of Lunay, follows the entire curve of the Loir; this variation is much more interesting, but 4 k. longer.)

677 k. Gué-du-Loir (Tavern; trout), charmingly situated at the opening of the Boulon valley. Close by is the **Château de la Bonnaventure** (now closed) a mutilated edifice of the Renaissance made famous by the sojourn of Antoine de Bourbon, father of Henri IV, in the XVI c. It is to this period, that the celebrated popular refrain « La bonne aventure au Gué » and the song immortalised by Molière in the « Misanthrope » refer. — The route passes the foot of the Saint-André rocks which are pierced with numerous dwelling caves. — 680 k. *Villiers*.

Rochambeau. Turn to the r. on entering Villiers, cross the Loir, and, on the l. bank (1,500 m.) is the **Château de Rochambeau** with its back to the cliffs. The domestic offices are cut into the solid rock. It is not a very remarkable construction but enclosed by a splendid park. It contains valuable family souvenirs; especially those of the Maréchal de Rochambeau to whose family it still belongs. It is said that one cave in the rocks served as hiding place for the Duc de Beaufort (King of the Halles) when he escaped from Vincennes in 1648. If permission can be obtained to go through the beautiful avenue 3 k. long, leading to the Château at the S. end, a road will be found, on leaving the park, which leads to Vendôme by *Vareunes and Villaria* (l. bank of the Loir).

By a steep descent, the route returns to the banks of the Loir of *Montrieux* and runs along the r. bank as far as :

686 k. VENDÔME (*See p. 130*).

Leave Vendôme in a N. direction, by the faubourg Chartrain, the level crossing at the railway station, and the Bel-Air hill. On the r., Châteaux de *Moncé* and de *La Roche*. — 694 k. *Liste*. — 697 k. *Pezou* (church of the xii and xvi c.; 8 k. N. **Château de la Gaudinière**, modern, built in the forest of Fréteval and property of M. de la Rochefoucauld-Doudeauville). — 701 k. *Fontaine* where we leave at 2 k. 5 to the r. **Fréteval** and its fine xii c. cylindrical **keep** in ruins, on a steep slope cut by a deep ravine (following the curve of the Loir and passing by Fréteval, *Morée* and *Saint-Hilaire*, we regain the main road at la Bourdoisière increasing the distance covered, by 5 k.). — 710 k. On the r., *Château* and glass-factory of *de Rougemont*.

714 k. Cloys (xv c. steeple; xvi c. houses).

Montigny-le-Gannelon à 2 k. N., on the slope of the r. bank of the Loir, is an old enclosed town (Roland door of the xi c.; in the church, the shrine of Ste Félicité) with a fine **Château** reconstructed under Louis XII by Jacques de Renty, enlarged and improved by the Prince de Montmorency-Laval, then restored by the Comte de Lévis-Mirepoix.

725 k. CHATEAUDUN (*See p. 85*).

At 3 k. beyond Châteaudun, leave on the r. the *Château de la Varenne-Hodier*. Cross the Loir on reaching. — 730 k. *Marboué* (xv c. steeple). — 732 k. 5. On the r. is the **Château des Coudreaux** rebuilt under Louis XVI with the exception of the more ancient towers (Clément Marot was received there in the xvi c. by Renée de France, Duchess of Ferrare; It was also owned by Marshal Ney). — 731 k. *Blacey*. — The Loir is crossed again on reaching

739 k. Bonneval, 4,000 inhab. (*hotel de France*). Remains of the *ramparts*. Church, Parisian Gothic style of the xvi c. *Old Benedictin Abbey*, now a lunatic asylum. — Traverse the Beauce district. — 750 k. *Vitray-en-Beauce*. — 755 k. *La Bourdinière*. — 762 k. *Thivars*, where the valley of the Eure is crossed. — 768 k. *Luisant*.

770 k. CHARTRES, 23,219 inhab. on the slope of the Eure (hotels: *du Grand-Monarque*; *du Duc-de-Chartres*; for further details, *see the Monographie de Chartres in the Guide Joanne collection*).

Principal sights: — **Notre-Dame Cathedral** *one the finest cathedrals*. SAINT-PIERRE CHURCH, CHURCHES OF SAINT-AIGNAN AND SAINT-MARTIN-DU-VAL; — MUSEUM FOR PAINTING AND ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM; — **Porte Guillaume**; — *numerous old houses*.

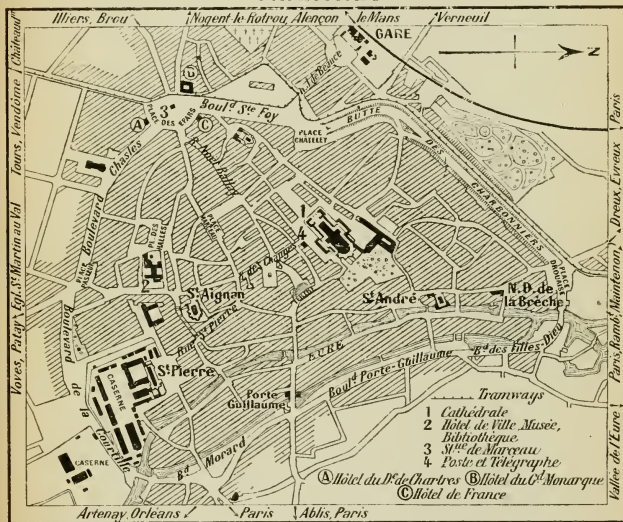
Itinerary. — The central resort in the town for foreigners is the **place des Epars**, adorned with the bronze *statue of Marceau*, by Préault (1851) and situated in the line of boulevards which, completely surrounding the old town, make a fine circular walk called the *Tour de Ville*.

Take, opposite the statue of Marceau, the *rue Delacroix*, then on the l. the *rue Noël-Bulay* (No. 8, *Claude Huvé's house* xvi c.) the *flower market*, the *rue du Soleil-d'or*, then to the l. the *rue Serpente* and the *rue des Changes*, which opens out on the l. on the *Notre-Dame Cloister* (on the corner, xiii c. *house* used as central *Post-Office*).

The **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, one of the monumental marvels of France, is, in its entirety, one of the finest Gothic buildings of the xiii c. The **principal facade** is pierced with three portals (middle of the

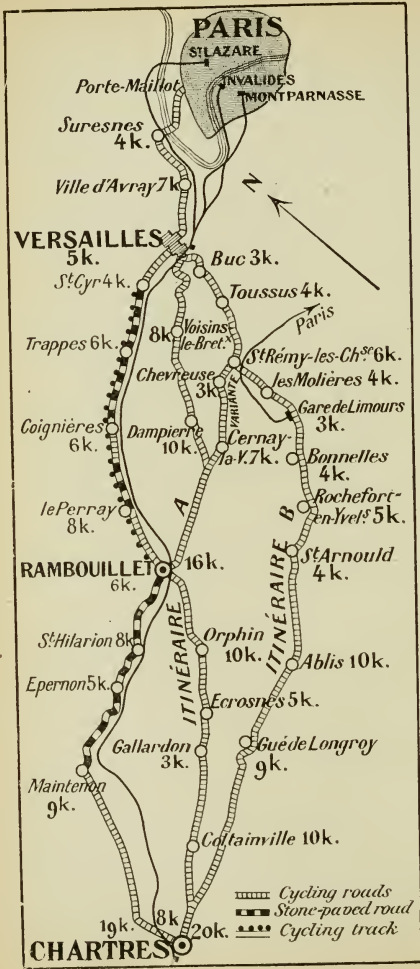
xii c.; 719 statues or statuettes, above which are 3 windows surmounted with a magnificent rose-window, an open balustrade and a gallery (16 statues of kings). It is flanked on the r. by the **old tower** (xii and xiii c.), 350 ft. high, with a splendid angular spire, on the l. by the **new tower** (staircase with 378 steps. For permission to ascend, apply to the concierge in the maison des Cleres on the r. of the Cathedral 115 m. high, the upper portions of which were rebuilt in 1506 by the

CHARTRES



celebrated Jean Texier called Jean de Beauce. Notice also, on the outside, the magnificent facades of the transepts, flanked by uncompleted towers.

In the interior can be seen: the finest series of **stained-glass windows** of the xiii c. in existence; an admirable **chancel screen** in carved stone offering, under rich canopies, 40 groups almost as large as nature (Life of the Virgin and of Christ), executed from 1514 to the beginning of the xviii c. In the choir, are 6 bas-reliefs and Group of the Assumption in Carrara marble, by Bridan (xviii c.). On the l. at the entrance of the pourtour of the choir is the *Vierge du Pilier*, a much venerated statue in wood, painted and gilded, end of the xv c. In the apse, *chapelle de Saint-Piat* (1349). The treasury contains the veil of the Virgin, called *Santa Camisa*. The **crypt**, the largest in France, encloses the celebra-



ted chapel of *Notre-Dame-Sous-Terre*, occupying, it is said, the cavern where the Druids used to pay homage to the « Virgin who was to have a child ».

From the cathedral, return by the rue des Changes and notice on the l. (Nos. 10-11) in the rue de la Poissonnerie, the **maison du Saumon** (in wood, xv c.) and the *Tertre du Petit-Cerf* (fine view; below, at No. 35, in the rue des Ecuyers, Queen Bertha's staircase, xvi c.).

The rue des Changes, continued by the rue des Grenets, leads to the **Saint-Aignan church**. Gothic, of the xv-xvii c. (rose windows xiii c. in the gable; several stained-glass windows of the xvi c.; crypt rebuilt in the xv-xvi c.).

Beyond Saint-Aignan, is the *place de l'Étape-au-Vin* (xvi c. house). There, if we turn to the r., we reach the vast *place des Halles* (passing in front of the *Hôtel de Ville*, formerly hôtel Montescot 1611), which has the library and the **Muséum** (open Thursday and Sunday) from noon to 4 p. m.; and to foreigners every day; 350 pictures) on the 1st floor.

From the place de l'Étape-au-Vin, by descending on the l.

we come into the *rue Saint-Pierre*, where, at No. 16, is the interesting **Musée de la Société Archéologique** of Eure-et-Loir. To the r. is the *place Saint-Pierre*.

The **Saint-Pierre church**, one of the finest of the less important churches in France, and the old abbatial church of *Saint-Père-en-Vallée*, is an admirable specimen of XII to XIV c. architecture, with a remarkable collection of XIII to XVI c. **stained-glass windows**, and 12 magnificent **enamels** of Léonard Limosin (1547) placed in the absidal chapel (open till 8 or 9 a. m.; after which time, ring at the sexton's house behind the apse of the church).

From the *place Saint-Pierre*, the *rue Porte-Morard*, crossing the 2 arms of the Eure (picturesque views), leads to the part of the Tour-de-Ville which runs into the valley beyond the river, and whence we have the most picturesque views of the town dominated by the Cathedral. Along the river there still remain the fine **Porte-Guillaume**, of the XIV c.; whence an ascent can be made direct to the centre of the town by the *rue de la Porte-Guillaume*, the *rue du Bourg* and the *Tertre du Petit-Cerf*. From the *rue du Bourg*, follow to the r. again, the *rue de la Corroirie*, *Saint-André* and *de la Brèche* and visit the old *Saint-André church* (XII c.) and the *Notre-Dame de la Brèche chapel*, rebuilt in 1843; and then rejoin on the *place Irounaise*, the Tour-de-Ville which leads to the l. towards the station and the *place des Epars* by the fine *Butte des Charbonniers* promenade.

Archeologists will visit with great interest, in the suburb *Saint-Briac* (15 min.) the **Saint-Martin-du-Val church** (XII c.; curious crypt with antique crests and sarcophagus), now Saint-Brice Hospital chapel (Apply there for permission to visit).

From Chartres to Paris. Chauffeurs and cyclists follow divers itineraries, all differing but little in distance (86 to 88 k.; See special map):

A. — **86 k.** by: — 8 k. *Cottainville*; — 18 k. *Gallardon*; — 21 k. *Ecrosne*; — 26 k. *Orphin*; — 36 k. *Rambouillet*; — 52 k. *Dampierre*; — 70 k. *Versailles*; — 86 k. Paris.

B. — **88 k.** by: — 20 k. *Le Gué-de-Louroy*; — 29 k. *Ablis*; — 39 k. *Saint-Arnoult*; — 43 k. *Rocheport-en-Yvelines*; — 52 k. *Limours*; — 59 k. *Saint-Remy-lès-Chevreuse*; — 72 k. *Versailles*; — 88 k. Paris.

C. — **87 k.** by: — 19 k. *Maintenon*; — 28 k. *Epernon*; — 33 k. *Saint-Hilarion*; — 41 k. *Rambouillet*; — 47 k. *Le Perray*; — 55 k. *Coignyères*; — 61 k. *Trappes*; — 67 k. *Saint-Cyr* and 71 k. *Versailles* (*national route with sections paved; see map*).

858 k. Total circuit). Paris.

III. BLOIS AS EXCURSION CENTRE

Another very pleasant way of visiting the Châteaux of the Loire district, especially for motorists is, likewise, to take Blois and Tours as excursion centres, and to travel in the localities round about these two towns, both of which offer comfortable accommodation.

All the personal arrangements for these trips are feasible, the roads in these parts being excellent. Making our starting points from Blois and Tours, we confine ourselves to an indication of the most convenient tours for visiting the principal Châteaux.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Railway : — Blois is 182 k. from Paris (Orleans Railway); 2 h. 30 m. to 3 h. by express). — Single tickets, 20 fr. 40, 13 fr. 75, 8 fr. 95. — Return, available for 4 days: 30 fr. 60, 22 fr., 14 fr. 35, with option of extending the availability for two further periods on payment of 10 0/0 for each period.

Excursion trains at very low fares, run frequently during the season: 2nd. cl. 11 fr., 3rd. cl. 7 fr.

Buffet : — at the station.

Omnibuses : — from the chief station to the hotels or private residences, 50 c. with luggage, 70 c.; from the chief station to the Vienne suburban station, 25 c.

Syndicat d'initiative (Organising Committee): — Offices, 4, place Victor-Hugo.

Hotels : — *Grand Hotel de Blois* (bus, 50 c. without luggage; breakf. 1 fr. 50, in the bed room, 2 fr.; lunch, 3 fr. 50, din. 1 fr. wine included; at sep. tables 4 fr. and 5 fr.; r. from 3 fr. 50 to 12 fr.; baths: warmed throughout: elect.; and carriages on hire; with pit, 1, 3-4, and 6, rue Porte-Côté; — *de France* (breakf. 1 fr. 25; lunch, 3 fr., wine included, din. 3 fr. 50; at small tables, 50 c. extra; r. from 3 fr. to 5 fr.; en pension

reduction of 10 0/0 on these prices; baths and shower baths; teleph.; 1; 2; carriages for drive to Chambord), place Victor-Hugo; — *Grand Hotel d'Angleterre et de Chambord* (breakf., 1 fr. 25; lunch, 3 fr.; din., 3 fr. 50; in private apartment 50 c. extra; single bedded r. from 2 fr. 50 to 4 fr.; double bedded r. from 5 to 8 fr.; pens. from 9 to 12 fr. per day; bus, 50 c.; baths and shower-baths; 1; teleph.; 2; carriages for excursions), 1, rue Denis-Papin, near the bridge; — *du Château* (breakf., 1 fr. 25; lunch, 3 fr.; din. 3 fr. 50 table d'hôte; served separately 50 c. extra; single bedded r. 3 fr. to 6 fr.; pens., from 9 fr. per day; bus, 50 c.), 22, rue Porte-Côté; — *Saint-Antoine* (breakf. 75 c., lunch, 2 fr., din. 2 fr. 50, per day 6 fr. 50, 2), 9, rue du Vieux-Pont; — *de la Gerbe-d'Or* (6 fr. 50 per day, 1), 1, rue du Bourgneuf.

Cafés : — *Grand Café*, 31, rue Denis-Papin; — *de Blois*, 5, rue Porte-Côté; — *Français*, at the corner of the rue Denis-Papin and the boulevard de la Saussaye; — *de l'hot. d'Angleterre*; — *du Grand-Tour*, 7, quai de la Saussaye.

Baths : — 3, rue Neuve.

Post, telegraph and telephone : — Chief office (poste restante, teleph. with Paris), place de la République,

near the Préfecture; branch office; 11, quai de la Saussaye.

Chocolate factory : — *Poulain*, near the station; may be visited.

Job Masters : — *Lesourd* et *Hiault*, pl. Victor-Hugo (mail-coach service for Chambord); — *Hervé*, 12, rue du Mail; — *Vee. Girault*, rue de la Fontaine-des-Elus; — *Pailloby*, rue du Pont-du-Gast.

Coach Drive : — service organised by the Syndicat d'initiative from *Blois to Chambord*; departures from place Victor-Hugo every day in summer of 12.30 p. m. by Saint-Gervais, forest of Russy, Mont. forest of Boulogne, Bracieux, Cham-

bord; return by Saint-Dyé and the bank of the Loire (43 k.).

Fare : 4 fr. each person. Tickets of *Hiault's* job-masters, place Victor-Hugo.

Motor Cars : — *F. Nicaise*, 7, quai de la Saussaye and 20, rue Porte-Côté; — *Héault*, 11, rue Denis-Papin (store) and 15, rue Poids-du-Roi (garage, teleph. 1-26).

Photography : — *Habert-Godefroy* (materials, laboratory for the use of tourists), 8, rue Denis-Papin; — *Ch. Bonnet* (apparatus and works), pharmacie du Progrès, 9, rue Porte-Côté.

THE TOWN

BLOIS, chief-town of the dep. of Loir-et-Cher, see of a bishopric pop. 23,972, picturesquely built, in amphitheatre form, on the slopes which, at this spot immediately overlook the r. bank of the Loire, and are divided towards the west by a small valley through which, formerly flowed the Arou, a stream now dried up. On the l. bank, however, the faubourg de *Vienne*, spreads out on level ground over the plain of the Val, which is about 2 k. wide. Here, the Cosson runs parallel to the main river, and, in the distance, the plain is shut in by the slopes of Saint-Gervais, on the summit of which are the forests of Russy and Boulogne. From the valley, the whole town and its monuments can be taken in at one glance. Close to the river, spanned by an ogival stone bridge and lined by a fine row of shaded quays, is seen the Saint-Nicolas church, the Hôtel-Dieu, the College, the Hôtel de Ville; higher up the hill, the Château and the Saint-Vincent church; and finally at the summit, the Cathedral, the Bishop's Palace and its terraced gardens. Most of the narrow winding streets, clambering erratically up the steep slopes of the hill, contain old sculptured houses and curious Renaissance mansions.

The *rue Denis-Papin* which has been cut right through the densest parts of the lower town, in a direct line with the bridge, affords a prospective view of a monumental flight of steps (121 in number) which connects it with the upper town and the houses which spread some distance over the plateau.

Principal sights : — Château and Museum (See p. 72); — **Saint-Nicolas church**, the SAINT-LOUIS CATHEDRAL, the SAINT-SATURNIN and SAINT-VINCENT CHURCHES, the OLD CEMETERY OF VIENNE; **Hotel d'Alluye** and numerous old houses; — PANORAMA FROM THE TERRACE OF THE BISHOP'S PALACE.

Itinerary. — On leaving the Station, situated to the N. W. of the town, follow the *avenue Victor-Hugo* (on the r. the *Bank of France*), at the end of which, note on the l. adjoining the Army Bakery, the **Pavillon d'Anne de Bretagne**, a small and charming edifice of the Renaissance period (formerly within the gardens of the Château which occupied the

whole of the station quarter). Descend by an incline or by steps to the **place Victor-Hugo**, laid out as a square (bust, in marble, of *Augustin Thierry*, the eminent French historian), and bounded on the r. by the François I facade of the Château, the general exterior aspect of which should be examined from here. On the l. is

The **church of Saint-Vincent-de-Paul**, ancient Jesuits church dating from 1626 to 1671 (on the r. and l. of the high-altar, two handsome monuments erected by Mlle. de Montpensier to her father, Gaston d'Orleans).

By a flight of steps from the foot of the Château, an ascent can be made to the *place du Château*: where note the *hotels of Epernon* (No. 20) and of *Amboise* (No. 22), built during the reign of Louis XII: the latter having been inhabited by Cardinal Georges d'Amboise (inscription and handsome kitchen fire-place with three mantel-pieces). At No. 2, an inscription indicates the site of the *église collégiale* of Saint-Sauveur in which Joan of Arc's banner was blessed during her stay in Blois, 25, 26 and 27 April 1429.

For the Château (description, history, museum. etc.), *See*, p. 71.

From the *place du Château*, a flight of steps leads down to the *rue Saint-Martin* (at No. 18, *hôtel de Cheverny*, also called the *Petit-Louvre*, built about 1477, and embellished in the xvi c.), the right end of which runs into the *place Louis XII* (*theatre, market*), which is adorned with the **Fontaine Louis XII** (also called the *Grandes-Fontaines*), a charming monument of the xv c., with niches and balustrades. At the W. corner of the *place Louis XII*, near the theatre, commences the **rue Saint-Lubin** (to the right, at the beginning, is a fine carved-wood house of the xv c.), one of the most interesting in Blois for its old houses (xv and xvi c.) whence (at the foot of the aile Gaston d'Orleans) some steps on the l. lead down to the Saint-Nicolas church.

The **Saint-Nicolas church** was built from 1135 to 1210 for an important Benedictine abbey called *St Laumer*. The choir, the transept and the last bay of the nave belong to the transition period; the lower parts supporting the ogival vaultings, are almost entirely Romanesque. The nave, the first bays of which date from the commencement of the xiii c., is preceded by a severe facade flanked by two towers of different widths, completed in the xix c. On the crossbar, a square tower envelopes a curious ribbed dome with blind arches and statuettes.

In the int.: sculptures and remarkable capitals carved in very hard rock; epitaphs or inscriptions of the xv and xvi c.; in the apse, tomb of Lezay-Marnézia, late prefect of Loir-et-Cher († 1857); in the l. aisle of the choir, an altar-screen of about 1460, the sculptured relief of which depicts incidents in the life of St Mary of Egypt.

The vicarage is situated in the old *hôtel Gaillard* (stair turret and window of the xv c.). Between Saint-Nicolas and the quay, is the *Hospital* which occupies the imposing buildings of the old Abbey of Saint-Laumer, re-built in the xvii and xviii c. and enlarged in 1815. Passing along the quay in the direction of the bridge the *College* is seen on the l. This establishment occupies the buildings (xvii c.) of the Abbey of the Bourg-Moyen, and has had, as pupils, the two historians and brothers, Augustin and Amédée Thierry. A vaulted Renaissance hall is used as the chapel. Further along, in the *rue du Vieux-Pont*, can be seen at the corner of the *rue de la Vieille-Poste*, the *Hôtel de la Poste* (chief Post-Office) in Renaissance style.

The **Loire Bridge** (11 arches) was constructed from 1717 to 1721 by Gabriel and Pitrou. It is ogival in form. Over the key-stone of the central arch stands a Pyramid some 60 ft. high, at the base of which, facing the river, can be seen the arms of France supported by two tritons, the work of Nicolas Coustou.

Beyond the bridge, in the faubourg de Vienne, on the l. bank of the Loire, a visit should be made (along the quay, to the r.) to the *Hospital* and to the Saint-Saturnin church.

The **Saint-Saturnin church** dates from the xv and xvi c. The centre steeple is well worthy of attention. A tower flanks the facade. On the S. side, overlooking the place, is a pretty bell turret of the xv c.

On the r. of the choir, is a picture by Omer Charlet (*Martyrdom of St André*). — At the top of the l. aisle, *Chapelle de Notre-Dame des Aides*, the shrine of a pilgrimage to which Anne of Brittany was much devoted; numerous votive offerings; a curious picture by the Blois painter, Jean Mosnier (1633), representing a prayer offered up by the aldermen to deliver the town from pestilence at the time of the great epidemic of 1631; in the background the town of Blois is depicted.

Facing Saint-Saturnin, is a building of the xv c., forming part of the *Hôpital général* of the xvii c., enlarged in the xix c., and the old *Cemetery of Vienne* (Very curious. Apply at the Hospital for permission to visit), surrounded with galleries with Renaissance pillars and remains of paintings.

Re-crossing the bridge to the r. bank, we leave on the r. the *mairie* (mayor's offices) and the promenade du *Mail* (which is continued by the *promenade des Tuileries* or *du Petit-Pré*) to take in front the *rue Denis-Papin*, then the *rue Foulerie* (first on the r.) and (to the l.) the *rue Fontaine-des-Elus* (at No. 5, *Hôtel de Jossaud*).

Higher up is a cross-road (on the r. *rue du Puits-Châtel*: at No. 7, *Hôtel Sardini*, of the time of Louis XII, with an oratory containing some remarkable frescoes; close by, No. 5, a house of the time of Louis XII restored), whence an ascent to the Saint-Louis Cathedral can be made, either by the steps of the *Grands-Degrès-Saint-Louis*, or by the *rue des Papegaults* (at No. 10, *hôtel Belot*, of the xvi c.), or better still by the *rue Pierre-de-Blois* (old houses), a steep acclivity and paved with bricks which passes, at its upper part, under a dwelling of the xv c., forming a bridge.

The **Saint-Louis Cathedral**, of the xvi c., was partly re-constructed from 1678 after a landslip. It affords a curious specimen of a church repaired under Louis XIV in Flamboyant Gothic style. The porch is Renaissance. The tower, placed to the l. of the facade, dates back to the xii c. in its lower parts; the upper portion dates from 1541 to 1609.

At the foot of the tower, facing the place Saint-Louis, is a *carved inscription* by which Thibault, called the Good, comte de Blois, granted the remission of certain onerous taxes upon the inhabitants and suppressed the misdeeds of delinquents. — In the int., are modern stained-glass windows in the chapelle de la Vierge and large glass-windows in the apse illustrative of the *Life of St Louis*. In the 7th. chapel, r. aisle, are two bas-reliefs in white marble by Lerambert (*Memory and Meditation*), from the tomb of the mother of King Stanislas. In the 3rd. chapel, l. aisle (is the chapelle Ste Anne, the patron saint of the carpenters), magnificent *bâton de confrérie* (staff of brotherhood) in worked wood,

Behind the Cathedral, stands the old *Evêché* (Bishop's house), built under Louis XIV by the architect Gabriel (appropriated by the State in

1906). The fine **Terrasse de l'Evêché**, planted with trees, forms a public promenade whence a **superb panorama** can be seen (particularly recommended at sunset), embracing the lower town, the course of the Loire and the valley, with the enclosing deep masses of trees of the forests of Boulogne and Russy as background.

From the *place Saint-Louis*, the *rue du Palais*, and, on the r., the *rue des Bureaux* lead to the *place de la République* (towers of the old fortifications now enclosed in private grounds) with the *palais de justice* and the *préfecture*, and whence, by the *avenue de Paris*, we can get to the *haras* (paddock), leaving on the r. the *grand séminaire* and the *bar-racks*.

The *rue du Palais* runs into the *rues Beauvoir* (at No. 21, an ancient house) and *Saint-Honoré*, close to the **monumental Staircase** (from the summit is an interesting view; and **Statue of Denis Papin**, in bronze by Aimé Millet) which leads down to the *rue Denis-Papin*.

No. 8 of the *rue Saint-Honoré* is the **Hôtel d'Alluye** (Central Offices of the Cie d'Assurances mutuelles de Loir-et-Cher; for admission, apply to the concierge), a charming Renaissance edifice, built by Robertet, called the Great Baron d'Alluye, Minister and Secretary of Finance under Louis XII and François I, to whom is likewise due the Château de Bury. Of particular interest are: a gallery in the courtyard, decorated with medallions of the Cæsars in terra-cotta; the stair tower, and in a room restored by Duban, a splendid chimney-piece with the arms of France.

Continuing along the *rue Saint-Honoré*, we arrive at No. 4, at the old *hotel Denis-Dupont* of the xvi c., built for the celebrated lawyer of that name, the exterior of which has been completely disfigured (round the courtyard, which should be entered, are interesting carvings, medallions and a curious staircase tower). The *rue Porte-Chartraine*, very steep, passes on to the *rue du Bourry-Neuf*. Leaving these, and turning to the left, we descend again to the *rue Denis-Papin*, which brings us back, on the r., to the *place Victor-Hugo*, leaving on the l. the *rue du Commerce* (at the corner of the *rue Neuve*, is the *hôtel de la Chancellerie* and, further along, in the *rue des Trois-Clefs*, the *Tour d'Argent* formerly the Mint, with octagonal tower of the xiii and xv c.), then on the r. the *rue Chermontou* (at No. 8, *Hôtel de Guise*, decorated in the interior with medallions, now covered over with mortar).

ITINERARIES ROUND BLOIS

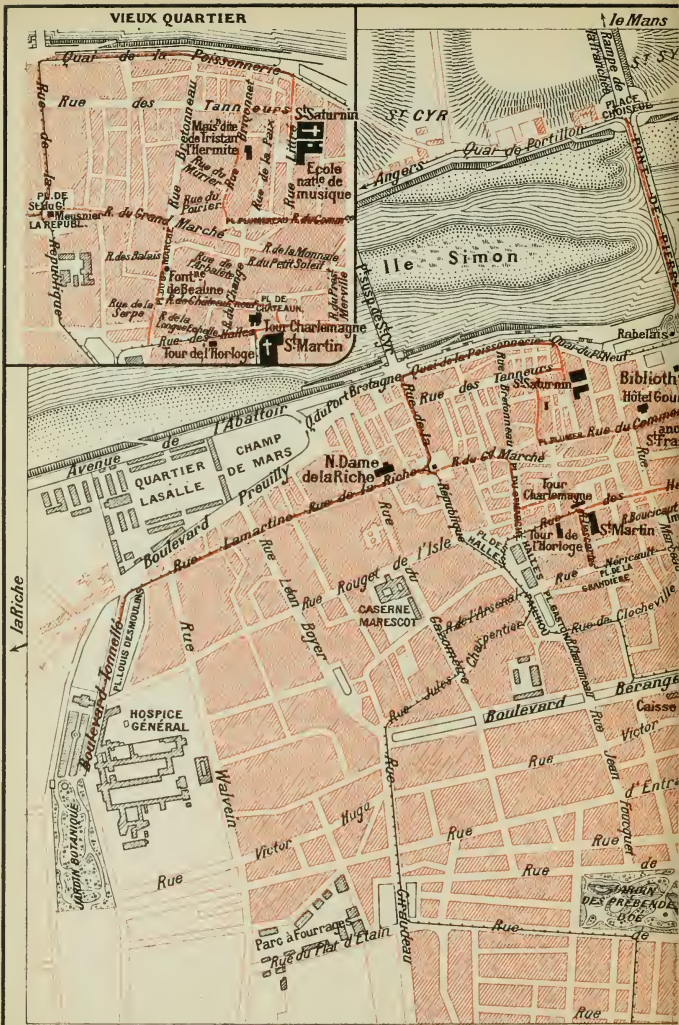
1st Excursion (52 k.). — Leave Blois by the bridge and turn to the left along the embankment on the l. bank for 11 k., then to the r. (12 k.) *Montlivault*, (15 k.) *Maslives*, (19 k.) **Chambord**, forest of *Boulogne*, (27 k.) *Bracieux*, (30 k.) *Tour-en-Sologne*, (35 k.) *Cour-Cheverny*, (36 k.) **Cheverny**, forest of *Russy*, (44 k.) **Beauregard**, (50 k.) *Saint-Gervais*. Return to (52 k.) Blois by the faubourg de Vienne and the bridge (See, for the route, p. 18, for Chambord, p. 80, for Cheverny, p. 94, for Beauregard, p. 70). — *This excursion, called by the Blois coachmen, the « grande tournée », is absolutely classical and essential. It can be made by carriage in a day, by taking lunch at Chambord. The usual charge for a carriage is 18 fr. for one horse, and 25 fr. for 2 horses. Coachmen are nearly always to be found at the station ready to start. Before commencing the journey, be sure to procure the necessary permit to visit Beauregard, from the notary, maitre Lestang.*

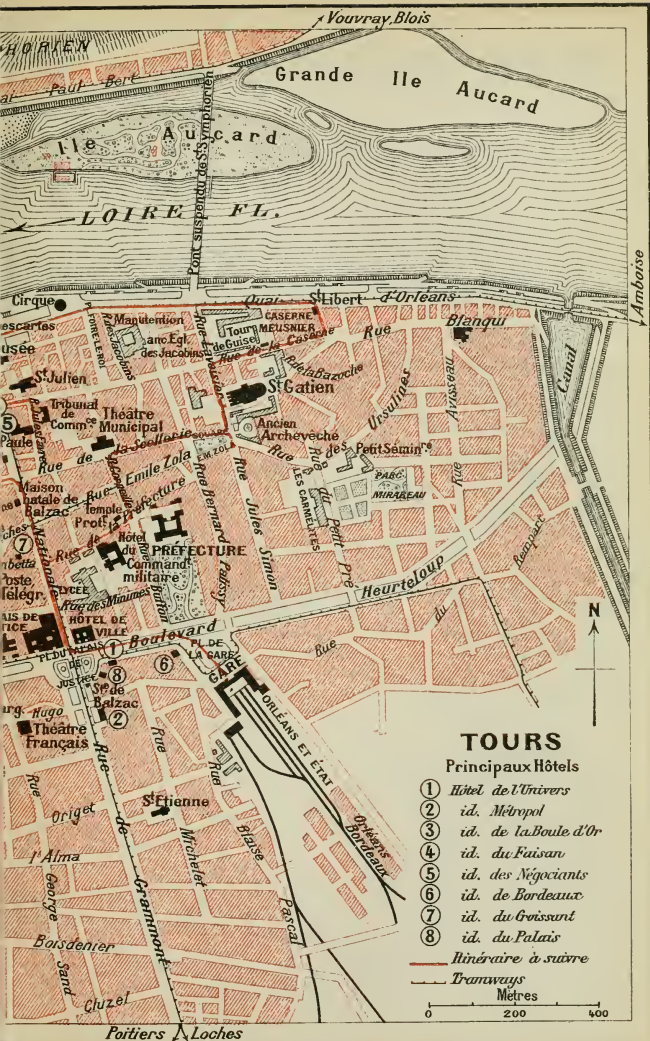
2nd *Excursion* (30 k.). — Leave Blois by the avenues Victor-Hugo and Médicis, **Forest of Blois**, **Château de Bury**, *Valley of the Cisse*, *Abbey of la Guiche*, (19 k.) *Chouzy*, returning to Blois by the embankment on the r. bank of the Loire (For description, See p. 19). — *Bury can be reached by the steam tram running from Blois to Châteauneault.*

3rd *Excursion* (89 k.). — From Blois to (17 k.) *Ecure* by the embankment on the r. bank of the Loire, to cross the *Ecure bridge*, (18 k.) **Chaumont**, the road on the l. bank, (35 k.) **Amboise**, (38 k.) *pagoda of Chanteloup*, *Forest of Amboise*, (43 k.) *la Croix* (near Bléré), re-ascend the valley of the Cher, (49 k.) **Chenonceaux**, (58 k.) *Montrichard*, *Forest of Montrichard*, (65 k.) *Poutleroy* (an ancient Benedictine abbey and famous college), (71 k.) *Sambin*, (77 k.) *Les Montils*, where the Beuvron is crossed, (83 k.) *Chailles*, beautiful descent into the valley of the Loire and return to (89 k.) Blois by the embankment on the l. bank and the bridge (See description of the route from Blois to Montrichard, p. 20; for Amboise, p. 55; Chenonceaux, p. 91).

N. B. — This circuit can be increased at will: — By continuing to re-ascend the valley of the Cher, to beyond Montrichard, as far as **Saint-Aignan** (See p. 21), and by returning direct from Saint-Aignan to (38 k.) Blois, by (17 k.) *Contres*, the circuit covers 114 k. — By continuing still further to re-ascend the valley of the Cher to beyond Saint-Aignan, as far as **Selles-sur-Cher**, whence **Valençay** is visited, and by returning from Valençay to (54 k.) Blois, by (14 k.) *Selles-sur-Cher*, and (31 k.) *Contres*, the circuit covers 160 k.

4th *Excursion* (95 k.). — Leave Blois by the Bourg-Neuf, (6 k.) *Fossé* (12 k.) *La Chapelle-Vendômoise* (on the l. before coming to the village, and near the vale of the Cisse, a fine *Dolmen*), (16 k.) *le Breuil*, (22 k.) *Villeromain*, (32 k.) **Vendôme** (See p. 129), leaving by the faub. des Quatre-Huis, the **valley of the Loir** (r. bank, 35 k.) *Montrieux*, (38 k.) *Viltiers*, (41 k.) *Gué du Loir* and *la Bonnaventure* (See p. 31), (48 k.) *Les Roches* (p. 31), (51 k.) *Montoire* (p. 31), (53 k.) **Lavardin** (p. 103), (58 k.) *Sasnières*, (61 k.) *Ambloy*, (65 k.) *Saint-Amant*, (72 k.) *Gombergean*, (77 k.) *Fraucay*, (79 k.) **Herbault** (château built under Louis XV; in the church, choir-stalls from the Abbey of la Guiche), (81 k.) *Orchaise*, *valley of the Cisse* (spring of Orchaise jutting from a pretty grotto), (86 k.) *Molinuef* (1,500 m. S.). **Bury**, **Forest of Blois**, (95 k.) Blois.





IV. TOURS AS EXCURSION CENTRE





PRACTICAL INFORMATION

For fuller information on the town, consult the French Handbook « Tours » in the Joanne Series of Guides.

Buffet : — at the station

Omnibuses : — from the station to the hotels or private residence 60 c., including luggage; — from the station, on the arrival and departure of all trains, 18 and 72, rue Nationale, Offices : 3, rue Jehan Fouquet.

Syndicat d'Initiative de Touraine : — Office for enquiries, free of charge, 13, rue de Clocheville, near the post-office.

Hôtels : — *de l'Univers* (r. from 5 fr.; lunch, à la carte, din. table d'hôte, wine included, 5 fr.; bath; lift. :  3, boulevard Heurteloup; — *Metropole* * (150 beds; breakf. 1 fr. 50, lunch 4 fr., din. 5 fr. wine included; r. from 5 fr., warmed throughout; elect., lift, bath, teleph.  14, place du Palais; — *de Bordeaux* (r. from 4 fr., breakf. 1 fr. 50; lunch 3 fr. 50; din. 4 fr. wine included; teleph., elect.) 1, place de la Gare; — *de la Boulevard Or* (breakf. 1 fr. 25, lunch, 3 fr., din., 3 fr. 50; r. from 3 to 5 fr.; pens. from 9 fr. per day;   free: carriage drives, teleph.), 29, rue Nationale; — *du Faisan* (breakf. 1 fr. 50, lunch, 3 fr. 50, din., 4 fr.; at sep. tables, lunch 5 fr., din. 6 fr.; r. from 3 to 12 fr.; pens. for a week, 11 fr. per day winter; 12 fr. 50 summer), 17, rue Nationale; — *des Négociants* (8 fr. per day), 19, rue Nationale; — *des Colonies*, 36, rue de Bordeaux. — *du Croissant* (bus, 60 c.; breakf. 1 fr., lunch, 3 fr.; din. 3 fr. 50; single-bedded

r. 3 to 4 fr.; double-bedded r. 6 to 8 fr.; teleph.) 7, rue Gambetta; — *de la Vendée* (lunch and din. 2 fr. 50; pens. 7 fr. per day), near the station; — *Balzac*, 45, rue Nationale; — *Richelieu*, 1, rue Richelieu; — residential hotel *de Grammont*, 16, avenue de Grammont; — *de l'Europe*, 12, place de la Gare.

Restaurants : — *Curassier* (snails a speciality), 71, rue Nationale; — *Lamy*, palais des Fêtes, 18, boulevard Béranger; — *Peuplier*, 14, rue Colbert,

Cafés : — *de la Ville*, 46, rue Nationale; — *du Commerce*, 30 and 32, rue Nationale; — *de l'Hôtel de Ville*, 1, rue Nationale; — *de Bordeaux*, 27, boulevard Heurteloup, and place de la Gare; — *de l'Univers*, 8, place du Palais; — *Molière*, 1, rue Corneille; — *Grand Café* (teleph. chamber), 64, rue Nationale; — *de l'Intendance*, rue des Halles.

Post, telegraph and telephone : — Chief office : Hôtel des Postes, 14 bis, rue de Clocheville; Branch offices : Tours-Gare, rue des Aumônes (teleph.); Tours-la-Riche, 6, rue Frédéric-Sauvage (teleph.); 116, rue de la Fuc (teleph.).

Baths : — *de Grammont* (latest improvements; complete hydropathic installation, vapour baths), 16, avenue de Grammont; — *Richelieu* (full hydropathic treatment), 7, rue Richelieu (entrance by the passage at 23, rue Nationale); — *de la Loire*, quai de la Poissonne-

rie; — *Daubigny*, quai d'Orléans; *Swimming school*, île Aucart and quai de la Poissonnerie.

Lavatories and W. C's: — boulevard Heurteloup, opposite the station; — boulevard Béranger; — place des Halles; — place du Pont; — avenue de Grammont; — — jardin des Prébendes d'Oé.

Théâtres: — *Municipal*, rue de Scellerie; — *Français*, 20, rue Victor-Hugo.

Circus: — quai d'Orléans.

Café-Concerts: — *Alcazar*, rue Nationale; — *de la Scula*, rue Richelieu.

Cabs: — **Stands**: places de la Mairie, de Beaune, du Palais-de-Justice, de la Gare, rue Cornaille, places Châteauneuf, Saint-Eloi, du 14-Juillet, (de la Cathédrale), d'Aumont, du Chardonnet, Saint-Etienne, boulevard Preuilly, rue d'Alma (jardin des Prébendes), boulevard Thiers, at the corner of the rue Hoche. — In summer, from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m., winter, from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m.: 1 horse carriage for 2 people, any distance within the fixed town area 1 fr. per hour; 1 fr. 50 for carriage for 1 people, 1 fr. 20 and 1 fr. 80; after 8 p. m. in winter and 9 p. m. in summer: carriage for 2 people 1 fr. 50 and 2 fr.; carriage for 4 people 1 fr. 80 and 2 fr. 30; within a radius of 6 k. from the centre of the town, carriage for 2 people, per hour 2 fr. 50; for 4 people 2 fr. 80; beyond 6 k. per hour 3 fr.; 15 c. for packages (outside the carriage). The fare for a journey outside the fixed town area is 50 c. per hour more than the ordinary tariff.

Job Masters: *Genest*, 40, rue Marceau; — *Jarry*, 13, rue Jehan-Fouquet; — *Lawin*, 18, rue Gambetta; — *Tortissier*, 33, rue du Cygne; — *Barateau*, 26, avenue de Grammont. — A 1 horse carriage for a drive can be hired for 3 fr. the first hour, 2 fr. each subsequent hour, price for the whole day, by

arrangement. 2 horse carriage 5 fr. per hour. — Horses for riding: *Diard* (riding school), 12 and 45, rue Febyotte.

Motor Cars (sale, repairs, and on hire for excursions, accessoires): — *Dubois*, 58, rue du Gazomètre; — *A. Villeneuve*, 3 and 5, avenue de Grammont; — *Ed. Clément*, 13, rue Richelieu; — *H. Lebrun*, 22, rue Giraudeau; — *Heintz-Bouchardeau*, 114 bis, rue d'Entraigues; — *Bourdeau*, 16, avenue de Grammont — *Prigent*, 9, rue d'Entraigues; — *Tours-Garaye*, 65 bis, rue Victor-Hugo; — *Automobile-Club de Touraine*, 27, rue Victor-Hugo.

Photographer: — apparatus, materials, kodaks, etc.: *F. Lefèvre*, 60, rue Nationale.

Special Productions: Stuffed pork (« Rillettes »); — French plums; — sparkling white wines (Vouvray); — Barley sugar.

Tours Tramways: — 1. **Town Lines** (elect., uniform fare 10 c. including correspondence): — *A. From the Barrière de Grammont to Saint-Symphorien*, by the avenue de Grammont and the rue Nationale, 1,485 m.; departures every 7 1/2 mins. from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. in winter and 9 p. m. in summer); — *B. from the place Velpeu to the Jardin des Plantes* (4,191 m.; same times of departure); — *C. from the place des Halles to the Barrière de Montlouis* (2,450 m.; same times of departure); — *D. from the place des Arts to the place de la Liberté* (3,865 m.; same times of departure); *from the place Choiseul to the place de la Tranchée*, every 15 min. fare, up 10 c., down, 5 c.

2. **SUBURBAN LINES** (starting from the place de la Gare): — *A. from Tours to Saint-Avertin* (elect. traction), 6 k. in 30 min., departures every hour: in winter and every 30 min. in summer; 30 c. — *B. from Tours to Luyes*, 13 k. in about 1 h. departures every 2 h., 60 c.; — *C. from Tours to Fondettes*, 11 k. in about 1 h., departures every 2 h.

55 c.; — D. from Tours to Vouvray, | 2 h. in winter. every hour in sum-
10 k. in about 1 h., departures every | mer 50 c.

THE TOWN

TOURS, chief town of the Indre-et-Loire, archbishopric: pop. 67,601, is built on a strip of alluvial land which stretches out between the l. bank of the Loire and the Cher, above the confluence. On the r. bank of the river, are the pretty slopes of Saint-Cyr and Saint-Symphorien. The Loire is crossed here by two suspension bridges and a fine stone bridge of 15 arches, 434 m. long, constructed from 1765 to 1777.

The fine rue Nationale (still often called the rue Royale), running in a direct line from the stone bridge (Pont de Tours) divides the old town into two distinct halves: the E. portion, containing the Cathedral, the Prefecture, the military Head Quarters, the Lycée (grammar school), the Theatre, etc., is, strictly speaking, the old town of Tours, the Gallic-Roman city, which has now become an aristocratic quarter, with fine quiet streets and almost entirely without shops. The western half, with its labyrinth of small streets is, on the other hand, the district of the markets and a commercial centre; it was the old town of *Châteauneuf* (*Castrum Norun* or *Martinopolis*) which grew round the Saint-Martin's basilica, outside the city walls, and had an independent existence up to 1334. It is now the most picturesque portion of Tours, still full of houses of the Middle-ages, and is certainly one of the most interesting portions of an old town in the whole of France.

Principal sights: — Cathedral of Saint-Gatien, CHURCHES OF SAINT-JULIEN, NOTRE-DAME-LA-RICHE, and the SAINT-MARTIN'S BASILICA; — Museum; — Hôtel de Ville; — Mansions of M. Gouin and Tristan l'Ermite, and numerous ancient houses; — the Fountain of Beaune.

History. — The original town, built on the slopes of Saint Symphorien, bore the Gallic name of *Allionos*. It was transported into the plain on the l. bank of the river, by the Roman emperors, who bestowed on it the name of *Cæsarodunum*, and made it, later (in 374) the chief-town of the third Lyonnaise. From the IV c. it was merely called *Urbs Turonum*: town of the Turones. Christianity was first introduced here in the III c. by Saint-Gatien and preached by Saint-Martin. 3rd. bishop of Tours and the most celebrated apostle of the Gauls. Grégoire de Tours († 595) wrote, here, the first History of France.

Nearly all the kings of France, from Saint Louis to François I, stayed, more or less, in Tours; but Louis XI distinguished himself above all the others by his partiality for his Château at Plessis-îes-Tours, which he made his permanent residence. He established in Tours, manufactories of silk stuffs and cloths of gold and silver. Attracted by the privileges granted to the workmen and manufacturers, the population of Tours rapidly increased. François I commenced in 1520 the fortifications which were only completed under Louis XIII. The Religious wars proved fatal to the prosperity of Tours, and tranquillity was only restored to the town after the reconciliation of Henri de Navarre with Henri III (1589).

In 1870, when the German invasion, necessitated a portion of the Government of National Defence leaving Paris, the members of the « Délégation » came and stayed in Tours (13 Sept. to 9 Dec.), until, after further defeats

of the French forces, they were compelled to seek refuge in Bordeaux. The town was bombarded by the Germans on Dec. 21, 1870.

ITINERARY

The monumental **Railway Station**, constructed from 1895 to 1898 after the plans of Laloux (in the front are *statues of Bordeaux and Toulouse*, by Injalbert, of *Nantes* and of *Limoges*, by Hugues), looks on to the esplanade which faces the *boulevard Heurteloup*, opposite the vast gardens of the Préfecture. The *rue Bernard-Palissy*, on the r. of the Préfecture gardens leads direct to the Saint-Gatien Cathedral.

Proceeding to the l. along the boulevard Heurteloup, we soon arrive at the **place du Palais-de-Justice**, semi-circular in form and laid out with 2 small gardens and **Statue of Balzac** (1890), by Fournier. The line of the boulevards, 2 k. long, formed under Henri IV and Louis XIII on the site of the old ramparts, crosses at this spot, the perpendicular line formed on the N side by the *rue Nationale* leading to the Loire, and on the S. by the *avenue de Grammont* leading to the Cher. The avenue passes, on the l., the *Saint-Etienne church* (modern), and on the r., in the heart of the new district, the *jardin des Prébendes d'Or* (bust of *General Menmier*, by Varenne, 1888; *statue of Racan*, by F. Sicard, 1907). At the corners of the *rue Nationale* are : on the W. side, *the palais de justice*; on the E. the *hôtel de ville*.

The **Hôtel de Ville**, a gorgeous modern edifice, was built after the plans of Laloux, in 1904-5. On the facade, are 4 superb *Atlantes* supporting the balcony, by Fr. Sicard. On the l. pediment, are *statues of Courage and Patriotism* by Jean Hugues; on the r. pediment : *Vigilance and Education* by Gondonnier; on the central pediment : *the Loire and the Cher*, by Injalbert; and *the Day and the Night* on the sides of the clock face, by Carlier.

In the int. (visitors admitted) : — **SALLE DES FÊTES** with panels in the ceiling painted by Schommer (*Royal Residences in Touraine*) and portraits of *Rabelais, Descartes, Balzac and de Vigny* by Anquetin; — **SALLE DES MARIAGES** : 5 canvases by Cormon and triptych by Thirion; — **SALLE DU CONSEIL** : triptych of J.-P. Laurens (*Joan of Arc*); — **CABINET DU MAIRE** and **SALLE DES COMMISSIONS** : paintings of Henri Martin (*Hail to the Aurora; Domestic peace*).

Leaving to the l. the *boulevard Bécanger*, we will follow the *rue Nationale*, formerly called the *rue Royale* (at No. 39, house where Balzac was born), erected on a systematic plan in 1786. Leave on the l. the *rue Gambetta* (*Central Post, Telegraph and Telephone Offices*), and follow to the r. the *rue de la Préfecture*, in which are, the *Lycée* (Grammar School) *Descartes*, the *Hôtel du Commandement militaire* (principal entrance, *rue des Minimes*), the *protestant Temple*, and, lastly, the *Préfecture* (formerly the *Convent of the Visitation*) which opens on to the *Place de la Préfecture* by a magnificent gate of the xviii c. The **Chapelle du Lycée** is the old church of the *Minimes*, the first stone of which was laid, in 1630, by Marie de Medicis (Louis XIII porch carved by three monks, the brothers Andric and the Provençal, Taboué). In the int., are some fine woodwork, choir-rail, and an altar in carved wood of the Renaissance style.

From the *place de la Préfecture*, turn to the l. up the *rue Corneille* which ends at the *rue de la Scellerie*, opposite the **Municipal Theatre** (in the int., picture by G. Clairin). Follow to the l., the *rue de la Scel-*

lerie as far as the *square Emile Zola* (monument to three eminent Touraine physicians, *Bretomeau, Velpeau* and *Trousseau*, by *Sicard* and *Lalou*).

On the E. side of the square is the old *Archbishop's Palace* (Appropriated by the State in 1906. It is proposed to establish a Museum of Fine Arts there), of which certain portions date back to the xiv c., was rebuilt the xvii and xviii c., and rests upon the ancient Gallic-Roman wall, remains of which can still be seen, notably a corner tower which was used as a Treasury in the xii c. The grand porch, with columns of Ionic Order, is adorned with two statues (*Religion, Moses*). The chapel dates from the xii and xvi c.). Worthy of note, at the exterior (behind the Cathedral), is an elegant pulpit or tribune of the xvi c. which was used for the reading of the decisions of the Ecclesiastical Tribunal.

On the r. of the old Archbishop's Palace, at the corner of the *rue des Ursulines* and of the *rue Jules-Simon*, note the charming *modern mansion* built in *Henri II* style, by *Mme. la Vicomtesse du Châtel*.

The **Saint-Gatien Cathedral**, dedicated to the first Bishop of the Turones (about 250), formerly at *St Maurice*, was a prey to a fire caused, in 1166, through a quarrel between *Louis VII, King of France*, and *Henry II of England*. Of the destroyed church, all that remains are the newels of the two towers up to about half their height. The present edifice is almost entirely the outcome of a complete reconstruction undertaken about 1225 and continued up to 1547. The original plans were slightly reduced in the xiv c. during the construction of the transept, the nave and its aisles being erected on a narrower base, so that the four pillars of the crossbars form between them, a trapezium the smallest side of which is turned towards the porch.

The **west front**, built from 1426 to 1547, pierced with three lofty Flamboyant portals, surmounted by a large central window with rose window above, is flanked by two slightly dissimilar towers, of 69 and 70 m. high, each completed by an octagonal story with a double dome in Renaissance style. The choir, completed in 1267, is the most ancient portion of the building.

In the int., the eye is at once attracted by one of the most beautiful collections of **stained-glass windows** in existence. Fifteen of the principal ones date back to the xiii c., and depict historical or legendary episodes. In a chapel of the r. transept, can be seen the remains of a tomb of the same period, and the **mausoleum**, in white marble, of the **children of Charles VIII**, constructed in 1506, in Renaissance style, under the direction of *Michel Colomb*. — The N. tower encloses what is called the **Royal Staircase** built on ribs forming a kind of open-worked vaulting (from the top of this tower, a very extensive panoramic view is obtained). To the l. of the Cathedral, is the charming **Cloister de la Psalette** of the xv c. in Gothic style, with an elegant Renaissance staircase.

To the N. of the Cathedral, in the *Meunier barracks*, stands the *Tour de Guise* (xiii to xv c.), the only remains of the Châtean built by *Henry II of England*.

Return to the *rue Nationale* by the *rue Colbert*, and on the r. side is the **church of Saint-Julien**, of the xiii c. (tower of the xi c.; twin apses of the xvi c.; paintings by *Douillard*; stained-glass windows by *Lobin*; to the N. of the choir, a fine *Chapter House*, of the xii c., now used as a stable).

S. of the *Saint-Julien church* in the *rue Jules-Favre*, are : the *Hôtel de Semblançay* (magnificent facade and Renaissance chapel); the old

Church of Saint-François-de-Paule, from 1675 to 1677, and the *Tribunal de Commerce*, built by Hardouin-Mansart, at the commencement of the xviii c.

The rue Nationale ends in front of the stone bridge (on the r. *statue of Descartes*, by Nieuwerke; on the l. *statue of Rabelais*, by Dumaige). The open space in front of the bridge is bounded on the l. by the *old Hôtel de Ville* (1777-1786), used since 1907 for the *Bibliothèque* (Library); on the r. stands the museum.

The **Museum** is open to the public on Sun. and Thurs. from mid-day to 4 p. m., and every day to foreigners.

Ground Floor. — Barnum and Bailey's elephant, died at Tours in 1891. — Sculpturings and mouldings.

Staircase. — *Baptismal font of the vi c.* — Busts. — *Gaudez*. Louise the flower girl at the head of the women of the Halle (1789).

1st Floor. — ROOM I. — From r. to l. : 171. **Vestier. Portrait of Grenadier Theurel**, died at Tours in 1808, at the age of 108. — *Mouyrot*. Poacher. — *Français*. Evening. — *Feyen-Perrin*. Kwitter of Cancale. — *Damoys*. Pool in Sologne. — *Schwæder*. The Fall of the leaves (marble).

Room II (on the r.) — 46. *The French Corregio*. The Eternal Father adored by the Angels. — 101. *Lesueur*. St Martin's Mass. — 315. *J. Purrocel*. Council of warriors. — 162. *Valentin*. Soldiers playing dice. — 271. *Ch. Le Brun*. The brazen Serpent. — 110. *Van der Meulen*. Siege of Dôle. — 351. *Dietrich*. Scene from Italian Comedy. — 39. *Bungin*. St Zozime administering the sacrament to St Mary of Egypt. — 133. *Oudry*. Bear attacked by dogs.

Room III. — 371. *Rubens*. The mill (landscape). — 103. *Lesueur*. St Louis, dressing the wounds of the ailing. — *Van Goyen*. Sea picture. — *Ad. Brauer*. The Drunkard. — 181-182. Gobelin Tapestries. — 170. *Van der Meulen*. Louis XIV in the Bois de Vincennes. — 236. **Gerard Terburg. Portrait of a Man.** — 221. *Neefs le Vieux*. Interior of a church. — 70. *Houel*. View of the entrance to the wood. — 102. *Lesueur*. St Sebastien. — 184. *Louis Carrache*. St François, in meditation before the Cross. — 231. *Rembrandt* or rather *Ferd. Bol*. Portrait of a young woman. — 193 and 191. *Mantegna*. The Resurrection. Jesus in the Garden of Olives. — 13. *Boucher*. The dying Amintas revived by Sylvia. — 222. *Rubens*. Mars crowned by Victory. — 12. *Boucher*. Sylvia fleeing from a wolf which she has just wounded. — 89. *Largillière*. Portrait. — 223. *Rubens*. Portrait of Alexandre Gouhan and Anne Antoni, praying before the Virgin. — 11. *Boucher*. **Apollon visiting Latone.** — 143. *Raoux*. Mlle. Provost as Bacchante. — *Houdon*. Diana, huntress (bronze).

Room IV or **SCHMIDT ROOM.** — 16. *Bou Boullongne*, the elder. Io changed into a cow. — 147. *J. Restout*. Death of Ste Scholastique. — 38. *Ph. de Champaigne*. The Good Pastor. — 146. *J. Restout*. St Benoit in ecstasy. — 179. *Vignon* (*Claude*), born in Tours. A sacrifice. — Enamels (485. *Jean Raymond*. The Crucifixion; 486. *Jean Laudin*. The badly-trained woman).

Room V (on the l. of Room I). — *Feyen-Perrin*. Velpéau at La Charité hospital. — *Brascassat*. A sheep. — 78. *Jouvenet*. The centurion at the feet of Jesus. — 99. *Lépicier*. Zeal of Matathias. — 43. *M. Corneille fils*. Massacre of the innocents.

Room VI. — 52. *Eug. Delacroix*. Arab tumblers. — *G. Moreau de Tours*. An Egyptian scholar. — *Souillet*. Sand gatherer on the Loire. — *Lazerges*. Kabyles travelling. — 127. *Muratou*. A monk. — *Isebart*. The Rocks of Plougastel.

ROOM VII. — *Louis Boulanger*. Portrait of H. de Balzac. — *Verboeckhoven*. Bulls grazing — *Court*. Balzac when young. — 126. *Muraton*. Penitent young man. — 87. *Lanoue*. View of Capri. — *Bin*. Perseus releasing Andromedas.

2nd. *Story*. — *Natural History Museum* and *Museum of Antiquities*.

Returning to the *rue Nationale*, turn to the r. into the *rue du Commerce* (on the l., on the *place de Beaune*, is the *Hôtel de la Crouzille*, with double gable of the xv c.; at No. 35, is the beautiful **Hôtel Gouin**, of 1440) which leads by the *place Plumereau*, to the centre of the most picturesque quarter of Tours (remarkable **old houses**).

A visit should be paid to 18 *rue Briçonnet* (the entrance is at No. 16; the concierge shows visitors round), the **house** falsely attributed to **Tristan l'Hermite**, the ill-omened executioner under Louis XI (See 'Quentin Durward'), which dates from Charles VIII. In the courtyard will be noticed two graceful arcades, an old *well* with knotted rope (*cordelière*) carved in the stone, elegant windows surmounted with the devices : *Prie Dieu Per* and *Assez au ronset peu vivrons*; and a brick stair-turret 24 m. high. The very picturesque and expansive view obtained from the summit, well repays the ascent. In the same street (No. 31), at the corner of the *rue du Poirier*, there still stands an old *Romanesque house*.

The *rue Briçonnet* ends at the *rue des Tanneurs*, which to the r., leads into the *rue Litré* (*National School of Music*; house of the xv c.), near the *Saint-Saturnin church* (xv c.). Turning leftwards, the *rue Litré* leads to the *quai de la Poissonnerie*, which follow along to the l. as far as the *Saint-Cyr Suspension Bridge*, supported mid-way by the *île Simon*. 2 k. higher up, can be seen the fine railway bridge, *pont de la Motte*, over which runs the line to Vendôme and Le Mans. By following the l. bank of the Loire, and passing by the *Champ de Mars* and the *Quartier Lassalle* (Cavalry Barracks) a visit can easily be made, near the bridge, to the *Priory of Saint-Côme* (church of the xiii and xv c.; refectory of the xii c.), where the arch-heretic, Bérenger died (1088). Five centuries later (1585) the poet Ronsard, who was commendatory prior, expired here also. In a direct line with the Saint-Cyr bridge is the *rue de la République*, in the middle of which stands the *place de la République*, whence to the r., runs the *rue de la Riche*.

The **Notre-Dame la Riche church**, rebuilt in the xv c., but to a great extent destroyed by the protestants in 1562, was restored and embellished in recent times (the choir contains some old painted glass).

On the l. side of the *place de la République*, the *rue du Grand Marché* leads back to the centre of the old quarter, — the *place du Grand Marché*, — in which stands the beautiful **Fontaine de Beaune** constructed in 1510 from the designs of the celebrated Michel Colomb, by his nephew, Bastien François. The *place du Grand Marché* communicates on the S. side with the *places des Halles* and *Gaston-Pailhou* (a vast covered market, ancient houses, etc.).

Starting from the E. side of the *place du Grand Marché* is the *rue de Châteauneuf*, in which is situated the *house of Briçonnet* (first Mayor of Tours in 1462); beside which the grocer's (*épicerie Mirault*) is established in another handsome and ancient mansion. The *rue de Châteauneuf* runs into the *place Châteauneuf* where the picturesque *hostellerie de la Croix-Blanche* occupies the *old hôtel de ville de Châteauneuf* (xv c.). On the l., in the courtyard, the ancient *Saint-Denis church* (xv c.) is used as a

stable, according to tradition, it was in one of the rooms of this building that Joan of Arc took possession of her banner.

The place Châteauneuf adjoins on the S. side the *rue des Halles*, which with the *rue Nationale* are the two most animated streets in the town. The former passes between the **Tour de l'Horloge** or *du Trésor* (xii and xiii c.) crowned by a small dome of the xviii c., and the **Tour Charlemagne** (same period), the remains of the celebrated basilica of Saint-Martin.

St. Martin, having died at Candes about the year 397 or 400, members of his diocese carried his corpse to Tours, where a modest oratory in wood was at first erected over his tomb. St. Perpet, his third successor, erected, in 472, a basilica which, according to St. Grégoire de Tours, was 160 feet long, 60 wide and 45 high under the vault.

Clovis and his successors were profuse in conferring gifts and privileges to the monastery founded near the Basilica which became, from the viii c., the centre of an important town, quite distinct from the ancient city of Tours. Walls were built round it from 906 to 918, and, at first, it was called *Martinopolis*, then, after the xii c., *Châteauneuf*. St. Perpet's Basilica was burnt down in 997, and its successor was no longer existing in the xii c. A third Basilica was commenced in 1175 and continued to the xiii c. It was 114 m. long., 69 m. wide at the transept, and 26 m. high under the central arch. This admirable monument, desecrated by the Huguenots in 1562, shared, later, the fate of the famous Abbey of Cluny; it was pulled down (1802) to make way for a new street; only the two towers and the gallery of a small cloister being spared.

In 1860, researches were undertaken, in accordance with indications supplied by ancient plans, to discover the exact spot where St. Martin lay. The attempt was successful. The tomb of this Performer of Miracles was worthily re-installed and the church re-built.

The new **Saint-Martin's Basilica** is a remarkable construction of the Touraine architect Laloux, designed after the models of the primitive basilicas of the iv c. The nave, completed in 1902, is separated from the aisles by 14 magnificent monolithic cylindrical columns in polished granit from the Vosges district, and covered with rich and original woodwork relieved with gold. The choir, crowned with a splendid dome surmounted by a colossal statue of the patron saint, is erected over a crypt containing the tomb of St. Martin and that of Cardinal Meignan with statue. In addition to the two towers of the ancient Basilica, there still remains a gallery of the *Little Cloister* (*petit cloître*) (1508-1519) hidden in the courtyard of a convent (Apply at 3, *rue Descartes*).

The *rue des Halles* leads back to the *rue Nationale*, leaving on the r. (3, *rue Boucicaut*) the *Tour Foubert* or *de la Tabagie* (xii c.), remains of the ramparts of Châteauneuf.

AROUND TOURS

1. **Château du Plessis-lès-Tours** (⊗, 2 k. W. S. W. of the place du Palais-de-Justice, between the Loire and the Cher; *souvenirs of king Louis XI; well worth a visit.*) — On leaving the electric tramway which, from the station runs as far as the porte Sainte-Anne, follow the 2nd on l. until the Château can be seen, after passing two turnings on the r. On arriving at the entrance of the park, ring for the keeper (*concierge*)

who resides in a small building on r. The Château du Plessis was built by Louis XI, on the site of an ancient castle which he had bought in 1463. It was his favourite residence, and he breathed his last here, on the 30th. August 1483. From that time, the Château du Plessis, abandoned by Louis XI's successors, can only lay claim to two important events. The opening of the States-General which conferred on Louis XII the title of Père du Peuple, was held here in the grande salle, on the 14th. of May, 1506; and in 1589, Henri III and Henri IV held the famous interview which brought together under one flag, against the League, the Reformers and the Royalists. In 1773, Plessis-lès-Tours became a House of Correction (Prison). At the Revolution it was sold as national property. It now belongs to Dr. Edmond Chaurier who has commenced its restoration, and has established there a *vaccination institution* of some interest.

At the bottom of the garden on the r. there still remains a dungeon in which can be seen a stone foundation supporting a staircase, and where, it is said, was placed the iron cage in which Cardinal La Balue was confined. On returning towards the Château, notice the ancient wall of the building, which connected the dungeon with all that remains of Louis XI's residence. In the interior of the Château, built in brick, the ground floor has been restored to its primitive condition. The *Salle des Gardes* (modern chimney-piece in xv c. style) contains a valuable collection of prints and engravings relating to Louis XI and his times, and a curious « vaccination museum ». Other rooms can also be visited (chimney-pieces of the period, remains of carvings, etc.; on the 1st. floor (the room in which Louis XI died), and on the 2nd. floor to which access is gained by a circular staircase whose axle rod spreads out at the top in rebated ribs (beautiful view from the summit).

The underground rooms looking out on to the moat (which has been restored) have been converted into stables.

The magnificent park of Le Plessis was justly called in the xv c. the *garden of France*, a title which geographers and travellers have since extended to the whole of the Touraine.

In the hamlet of Le Plessis, there still exists the first dwelling place of St-François de Paule whom Louis XI summoned to his presence (the ancient chapel, now converted into a coach-house, can be visited). On the bank of the Cher, there remains a well-preserved building which formed part of the old convent of St-François at the end of the xv c.

On the road from Tours to Le Plessis, by the side of the botanical garden, is the *Rabatière* farm, a rather handsome building, constructed in the xv c., and supposed to have been the manor of the famous Olivier Le Daim, barber and minister of Louis XI.

2. **Saint-Avertin** (⊙ 4 h. S. E.; electric tram, 30 c.). — The tramway runs along the avenue de Grammont, through the Octroi Gate, called the *barrière Grammont*, passes, on the l. a vélodrome (cycle track, etc.), then crosses the Cher over a fine stone bridge whence can be seen to the l. and the r. the bridges and viaducts of the Bordeaux-Etat railway. Five minutes from the tram terminus is a seat of the Touring Club on the side of the road, and a spot from which a magnificent view over the valley can be obtained.

4 k. *Saint-Avertin* (rural restaurant *Fougueux*; hotel *du Faisan*), on the l. bank of the Cher at the foot of hills covered with famous vineyards. *Church* with nave of the xi c. and choir of the time of

Louis XI, built over the tomb of its patron, Avertin, a canon of Canterbury who after the murder of the Archbishop, Thomas Becket, came and lived in solitude in this place which was called, at that time, *Venciay* (*Venticacum*), and died here in 1180. The renowned printer, Christophe Plantin, who made his reputation in Antwerp, was born at Saint-Avertin in 1511. From Saint-Avertin it is easy to push on as far as (4 k. E.) Larçay and visit its gallo-roman *castellum* by following the road which re-ascends the l. bank of the Cher.

3. **Saint-Symphorien, Marmoutier, Rochecorbon, Vouvray** (⊗) and ¹⁰⁰9 k. E. of the stone bridge; fine road constructed along the embankment on the r. side of the Loire, through which runs a steam tramway : all the way, 50 c.; minimum fare, 20 c.; for Marmoutier, the tram can likewise be taken from Saint-Symphorien, the terminus being but 15 min. from the abbey). — At the end of the stone bridge turn to the l. — *Saint-Symphorien*, at the foot of picturesque hills. The church with a tapering slate spire, was rebuilt in the xvi c., except the apse and a small steeple with arches (second half of the xii c.). The principal portal is a remarkable specimen of the Renaissance style (1531).

The *rue du Vieux-Calvaire* starts from the N. side of the Saint-Symphorien church, followed by the *rues de l'Ermitage* and *Jeanne d'Arc*, which run along the base of some steep crags, and pass at the foot of the Romanesque church of *Sainte-Radegonde* (supposed *Merovingian cavern* on which stands the old tower of the ancient Abbey of *Saint-Ouen*). The *rue Saint-Gatien* leads, a little further up, to a gate of the xviii c., one of the entrances to Marmoutier. At this entrance, application must be made to visit the caverns, from 2. to 5. p. m. (ring at the small door on the l. of the portal).

If, on the other hand, the tramway line is followed along the Loire embankment, a visit may be paid to the artistic *earthenware factory* of *Sainte-Radegonde*, and 5 min. further on the ancient principal entrance to the abbey is reached (the dwelling is for sale since the expulsion of the Ladies of the Sacré-Cœur who conducted a school there; there is no longer any admission by this door, but by the one indicated above).


The **abbey of Marmoutier** (*Majus Monasterium*), founded by St. Martin, was in the middle ages, one of the most powerful in France. In 1095, Pope Urbain II, preached, here, the first crusade. From the xvii c. it was affiliated to the congregation of Saint-Maur. Its church, one of the finest monuments in Touraine, but now almost entirely destroyed, was built in the xiii c. by the architect Etienne de Mortagne, whose tomb can be seen there. On the Loire side, there still exists the *portail de la Crosse*, a charming specimen of xiii c. art (1220), near to which stand the buildings of the old school with its pretty chapel. The back of the dwelling is commanded by a steep hill, at the foot of which stands a high tower which serves both as steeple and *keep*, the only important remains of the ancient basilica (xii c.) with the r. arm of the transept. An elegant spiral staircase ascends to the curious *Chapelle des Sept-Dormants* (chapel of the Seven Sleepers), cut into the side of the hill in the shape of a cross and preceded by tombs hollowed out of the rock. In this cavern are the graves of the Seven Sleepers, disciples of St. Martin, who all died the same day, as he predicted to them, and whose bodies, left intact, performed miracles. From this chapel, the *Galerie des Solitaires* leads to a monk's cell whence a stone staircase ascends to *St-Leobard's Cell*, likewise hollowed out of the rock (at the

entrance, is the supposed *St. Gatien's Well*). Through an opening leading on to the terrace, a descent is made into the Gallic-Roman cellar dedicated to *St. Patrick*. Then visit a massive rock formerly enclosed in the transept of the basilica and in which is carved a primitive chapel called *Repos de St. Martin*. A damp cell underneath is the place where *St. Brice*, the successor of *St. Martin* in the see of Tours, atoned for his errors. The pavement and some of the bases of the pillars have recently been unearthed. In a cavern, a spring dug out by *St. Martin* is said to possess miraculous virtues. At the top of the hill, stands the *Château de Rougemont*, the former residence of the abbot. The encircling wall of the abbey still shows four cylindrical towers of the xiv c.

At 1 k. 5 beyond Marmoutier, a flight of 122 steps, carved in the rock, lead on to the plateau, opposite the church (xv c.) of the little village of *Saint-Georges*.

6 k. **Rochecorbon**, where, on the ruins of a *Château* of the xii c. and at the top of the hill, stands a peculiar observation-turret (xiv c.), very tall and thin, called the **lantern of Rochecorbon**.

At the entrance of *Vouvray*, on the hill, is the fine *Château de Montcontour*.

9 k. *Vouvray* (hotels : *du Tramway*; *Saint-Eloi*; railway station , Tours to Paris line), chief-town of the canton. pop. 2,350, on the r. bank of the Loire, at the confluence of the Cisse, and at the foot of the hills from which are obtained the most celebrated white wines of Touraine.

ITINERARIES ROUND TOURS

1st. Excursion (71 k.). — Leave Tours by the bridge and the quai de la Loire on the r.; (2 k. 5) *ancient Abbey of Marmoutier* (see above); 6 k. *lanterne de Rochecorbon* (see above); (9 k.) *Vouvray* (see above); (13 k.) *Vernou*; (17 k.) *Noizay*; (22 k.) *Nazelles* (road on the r.); (25 k.) **Amboise** (see p. 55); (28 k.) *pagoda of Chanteloup* (see p. 20); *forêt d'Amboise*; (33 k.) *La Croix, valley of the Cher*. (39 k.) **Chenonceaux** (see p. 91), returning by the valley of the Cher. (43 k.) *La Croix*. (46 k.) *Bléré* and the road on the r. bank which ascends to the heights; (57 k.) *Azay-sur-Cher*, on the r. (Romanesque tower); re-descend to the banks of the Cher. (61 k.) *Veretz* (monument to P.-L. Courier; Renaissance church, modern château, (63 k.) *Larçay* (Gallic-Roman castellum) and (67 k.) *Saint-Avertin* (see above). Return to (71 k.) Tours by the avenue de Grammont.

Variation of route. — The return from Chenonceaux to Tours can likewise be made by the r. bank of the Cher: (45 k.) *La Croix*. (48 k.) *Dierre*, (51 k. 5) *Saint-Martin-le-Beau*, (57 k.) on the r., fine park and **Château de la Bourdaisière** which was owned by Marshal de Boucicaut, and where Gabrielle d'Estrée was born in 1505. Near Veretz station, turn to the right to reach the l. bank of the Loire à (60 k.) *Montlouis* and continue along the riverside as far as (70 k.) Tours.

2nd. Excursion (126 k.). — Leave Tours by avenue de Grammont, the Cher bridge and the route de Bordeaux, (12 k.) *Montbazou*, valley of the Indre, (18 k.) *Esvres*, (23 k.) *Cormery*, (27 k.) *Courçay*, (31 k.) *Reignac*, (45 k. 5) *Beaulieu* (see p. 110), forest of Loches. (55 k.) *Chartreuse du Liget* (see p. 21), (61 k.) **Montrésor** (see p. 117), whence turn north;

(63 k. 5) *Beaumont*, (67 k. 5) *Orbigny*, (74 k. 5) *Céré*, (82 k.) *Chissay*, (92 k.) *Chisseaux*, (94 k.) **Chenonceaux** (see p. 91) and 32 k. from Chenonceaux at (126 k.) Tours as No. 1, above (see description of the route from Tours to Loches and Montrésor, pp. 21 and 22).


3rd. Excursion (101 k.). — Leave Tours by the bridge and the quay on the l. (11 k.) *Iu nes* (see p. 115), (19 k.) *Cinq-Mars* (see p. 23), (24 k.) **Langeais** (see p. 100), cross the suspension bridge and take on the r. the road on the l. bank, (30 k.) *Bréhémont*, (37 k.) *Ussé* (see p. 125), (41 k.) *Huismes*, (49 k.) **Chinon** (see p. 96), forest of *Chinon*, (70 k.) *Azay-le-Rideau* (see p. 68), (76 k.) *Lignéres*, (85 k.) **Villandry** (see p. 133), (88 k.) *Savonnières*; return to (101 k.) Tours by the Saint-Sauveur bridge (for the route from Tours to Langeais, see p. 23).

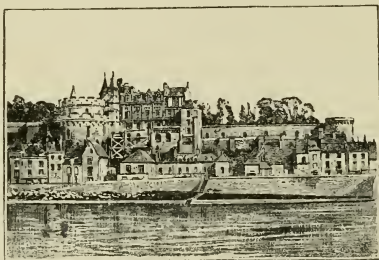
4th. Excursion (116 k.). — Leave Tours by the bridge, the *la Tranchée* slope and take, on the l., the Le Mans road; (7 k.) *La Membrolle*, the vale of the Choisille; (14 k.) *La Pailleterie*, and at the cross road leave the direct route to visit (2 k. to the l.; 16 k. from Tours) **Semblançay** (in the E. of the vale, some fine ruins surrounded by water and rectangular keep of the **Château**, XII and XIII c., formerly seat of a barony owned by Jacques de Beaune, Baron of Semblançay, superintendent of the finances of François I, who was accused of embezzlement and hung in 1527, and whose memory was rehabilitated later; church of the XIII c. with 4 stained-glass windows of the XVI c.); a direct road leads back in a N.-E. direction to the main road; (21 k.) *Neuillé-Pont-Pierre*; (27 k.) cross-road where more picturesque scenery will be seen by leaving the direct route to Dissay and turning to the l. to follow, as far as Dissay, the pretty Escotais vale; (29 k. 5) **Château de la Roche-Racan** (rebuilt in the XVIII c.), birthplace (1589) of the pastoral poet, Honorat de Bueil, Marquis of Racan; (31 k.) *Saint-Paterne* (the church, built in 1768, contains various objects of art, and in particular, a fine Virgin of the XVI c., and group of the Adoration of the Magi removed from the Abbey of *la Clarté-Dieu*: 2 k. W.); (33 k.) *Saint-Christophe*; (38 k.) *Dissay-sous-Courcillon* (at 1 k. E., ruins of the **Château de Courcillon**, where Dangeau was born); bridge over the Loire; (41 k. 5) *Coëmon*, (43 k. 5) **Château-du-Loir**; (53 k.) *Vaas*; (66 k.) **Le Lude** (see p. 112); return by the main road from Rennes to Tours; (82 k.) *Château-la-Vallière*, above a picturesque pool surrounded by forest; (83 k. 5) cross-road whence can be visited (1,500 m.) to the r. the ruins of the **Château de Vaujours** (XV c.); forest of *Château-la-Vallière*; (88 k. 5) *Souvigné*; the de la Motte wood; (109 k.) *La Membrolle*, (116 k.) Tours.

V. PRINCIPAL CHATEAUX


arranged in alphabetical order.

AMBOISE

 Station on the main line from Paris to Tours, 244 k. from Paris, 3 h. by express; 1st. cl. 23 fr. 95, 2nd. cl. 16 fr. 20, 3rd. cl. 10 fr. 55.



Property of the Orleans family.

 Distances : Paris, 226 k.; — Tours, 24 k. via r. bank and Vouvray, 46 k.; 22 k. via l. bank, and Montlouis, 12 k.; — Blois, 37 k.; via Chaumont, 47 k.; —

Vendôme, 51 k., via Châteaurenault, 25 k. — Bléré, 9 k.

From the station to the chateau : 20 min. on foot. see Itinerary further on; or by hotel omnibuses from the station (fare, 30 c.).


To visit : — Open daily from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m.; apply to the concierge. Duration of visit, about 30 min.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Chief town of the canton. (dep. of Indre-et-Loire), Pop. 4,731. on the l. bank of the Loire, at the opening of the charming valley of the Amasse.

Omnibus : — 30 c. for each passenger or baggage.

Hotels : — *du Lion-d'Or*, on the quay close to the bridge (breakf. 1 fr. to 1 fr. 50; lunch, 3 fr.; din. 3 fr. 50; at separate table, 50 c. extra; pens., by arrangement; carriages on hire : drive to Chenonceaux and back, 1 horse, 12 fr., 2 horses, 20 fr.); — *du Cheval-Blanc*, on the quay to the r.

of the Mairie; breakf. 60 c.; lunch and din. 2 fr. 20 wine incl.; r. 2 fr.; omnibus; ; carriages, teleph. 41); — *Saint-Vincent* (carriages and family omnibus), rue de Poëcé, in front of the station; — *de Londres* (breakf. 75 c.; lunch, 2 fr.; din., 2 fr. 50; r. from 2 fr. incl. lights and service; baths facing the hôtel. in the place Saint-Denis.

Café : — *Bellevue* (business rendez-vous).

Poste, telegraph, and telephone.

Livery stables : — *Enault*; — *Robin*, hôtel du Lion-d'Or.

HISTORY

Amboise (Ambatia) existed in the iv c., at the time when St. Martin pulled down, at this place, a pyramid-shaped temple. Clovis and Alarie

held a famous interview here, on the île Saint-Jean. A château already existed on the hill at this period. Louis le Bègue gave Amboise to the Comtes d'Anjou, and Hugues, one of the best known of the counts, united the two seigniories (the Château and the town) which had been formed under his patronage, but which, hitherto, had remained distinct domains. The Comtes d'Anjou were succeeded by the Comtes de Berri.

In 1434, Charles VII. by confiscation, added Amboise to the royal domains : and it was from this time that the Château really attained historical importance. Louis XI lived here, before shutting himself up in Le Plessis-lès-Tours. Charles VIII was born here (1470) and died here (1498); he commenced its reconstruction on his return from Italy and brought from that country various designers of gardens and painters of note. Louis XII stayed for some time at Amboise, and François I spent here a portion of his youth with his mother, Louise de Savoie. In 1515, on the wedding-day of the duc de Lorraine with Renée de Montpensier, he gave a proof of his courage by slaying with one blow from his dagger, a furious wild-boar who had escaped from a courtyard where he had been confined, and had made his way into the royal apartments. In 1539, he received at the Château, a visit from the Emperor Charles-Quint.

In 1560, the protestants, alarmed at the ascendancy of the Guises over the young king, François II, conceived a plot to take the Guises prisoners, to remove the king to Blois, and to hand over the government to the Bourbons who would convene the States-General. The moving spirit in this famous « Conjururation » was the Prince de Condé, but the ostensible leader was La Renaudie, a Perigordian nobleman. Warned in time, the Guises hastened to leave Blois and brought the young king to Amboise where any attempt by surprise was less to be feared. The conspirators, nevertheless, marched upon Amboise. The duc de Guise, with a strong patrol attacked and beat them in detail. La Renaudie was killed by a shot near Chateaurenault. The Guises thought all danger passed and proclaimed a general amnesty, which, however, was almost immediately revoked, for on March 19, a final rally of the « conjurés » attempted to seize the town. The fighting re-commenced, and Condé, who had gone over to the Court party, either with a view of averting suspicion or of assisting the Huguenots, — found himself obliged to steep his sword into the blood of his vanquished and disarmed accomplices. The Château d'Amboise then became the scene of a frightful massacre. Over 1,500 soldiers were taken prisoners and hung, some from gibbets, others even from the balcony of the Château, which to this day is called the « balcon des Conjurés ». Driven by the stench of so many dead bodies, the Court hurried away from the scene of these horrors, and the great historical annals of Amboise were brought to a close with this blood-stained page. The kings never returned and the Château became a state prison and place of exile for high personages in disgrace. The following were detained here, successively : the Cardinal de Bourbon, the Prince de Joinville, César de Vendôme, and Alexandre, both sons of Henri IV and Gabrielle d'Estrées, Fouquet and Lauzun. In 1762, it was given to the duc de Choiseul by Louis XV, then bought back, to be handed over to the duc de Penthièvre in exchange for his rights over the principality of Dombes. Louis XVI confirmed the elevation of Amboise into a duchy. Napoléon gave the Château up to his old colleague at the consulat, Roger-Ducros, who, to avoid the expenses of the establishment, pulled down part of the building, and barbarously mutilated the remainder. At the Restoration, it came into the possession of the duc d'Orléans, who was heir to the duc de Penthièvre. Louis-Phi-

lippe had the chapel admirably restored. Abd-el-Kader was confined in the Château for five years (1847-1852). The Château now belongs to the Orleans family to whom it was given back in 1872. They have undertaken its restoration and have established there, under the name of Hospice d'Enghien et d'Orléans, a home and retreat for their old servants.

ITINERARY

From the station, situated in a suburb, on the r. bank, follow the *rue de Pocé*, then the *rue de Blois* on the r. (small church, *N.-D. du Bout-des-Ponts*, of the xv c.; on the opposite side, in the wall of a house situated on the r., before coming to the bridge, is a bas-relief in Renaissance style, representing the Charity of St. Martin). Cross the two arms of the Loire, divided by the *île Saint-Jean*, formerly called *île d'Or* (on the l., an old chapel of the XIII c. now used as a barn). It is from this spot that the most **comprehensive view of the Château** can be obtained. The terrace supported by a strongly-built wall immediately overlooks the houses on the quay. In the centre can be seen the principal facade of the King's apartments and to the l., stands the great *tour des Minimes*.

Having crossed the Loire, turn to the l. along the quay and, by the first turning on the l., at the corner of the Hotel de Ville, a small square is reached whence an incline, to the l., leads up to the entrance of the Château. After passing through a first door, which the visitor himself can open, the entrance to a long and sloping vaulted corridor is reached, where the guardian will be found. This second incline leads to the terrace level, now converted into a public garden, whence a lovely view, on the r., can be seen over the Amasse valley, the town, the forest and the Chanteloup Pagoda (to the S. W.).

The **Château d'Amboise** is situated on a plateau making an angle to the N. W. over the Loire, to the S. W. over the Amasse valley, and occupied, in succession, by Gallic, Roman and Feudal edifices but upon which, at the present time, no building earlier than the xv c. can be seen. This plateau forms a high terrace supported by massive walls with a round tower at the angle and two enormous towers, the *tour des Minimes* over the Loire and the *tour Hurtaut* over the Amasse, both of which contain winding inclines of so great a width that horses and carriages can ascend to the summit. Of the Château proper, there remain but the superb King's Apartment, adjoining the *tour des Minimes* facing the Loire, a rectangular building of the time of Louis XII, and the Saint-Hubert chapel, now isolated but formerly coming between the buildings of Louis XI and the Queen's apartments both of which have disappeared.

A visit is first paid to the **chapelle Saint-Hubert**, a real gem of Gothic architecture, due to Charles VIII; the facade looks on to the garden, and the apse, supported by a strong counterfort, projects beyond the ramparts. On the exterior, notice: the lintel over the doorway, a triple high-relief (*the Vision of St. Hubert, the Legend of St. Christophe and St. Antoine*); above, in the tympanum, the Virgin between Charles VIII and Anne of Brittany, modern carvings; the sceptle with gilded stag-horns arranged in the form of a crown. The inelegant coloured window panes were put in during the reign of Louis Philippe.

The Château d'Amboise possessed formerly another chapel, much bigger, dedicated to St. Florentin. Leonardo da Vinci, whom François I

brought to Amboise, was buried there in 1519. Some bones and the fragments of a stone grave discovered here several years since, were believed to have been the remains of the painter and his tomb. The government at the time (1869) erected on the spot a small monument (bust of Leonardo da Vinci). The discovered bones were enclosed, in 1874 in a leaden casket and deposited under the flagstones of the Saint-Hubert chapel (l. side of transept).

The **Logis du Roi** (King's Apartments) was commenced by Charles VIII immediately after his marriage in 1491: a dainty open-work gallery skirts the bottom ledge of the roof from which emerge four charming dormer-windows richly adorned with pinnacles. The *salle des États* (State-room) occupies the whole of the floor beneath. This was partitioned off into apartments for Abd-el-Kader during his captivity, but has quite recently been restored to its former condition. It is divided into two naves the roofs of which are supported by four round columns covered with ermines, fleurs-de-lys, and adorned with ornamented capitals. The windows open on to the *balcon des Conjurés* (Conspirators' balcony), the iron-work of which is a masterpiece of xv c. craftsmanship.

Underneath, the *salle des Gardes* (Guardroom), occupied by aged people (public not admitted) leads on to an open gallery with arches, called the *salle des Gardes d'été* which is enclosed by a pretty balcony of open stonework.

The **Tour des Minimes**, adjoining the Logis du Roi, was used as an approach to the Château, thanks to an arch-covered slope, with pointed-arched windows, which winds round a central hollow newel (pretty roof) and is graduated so slightly that horses and light vehicles can ascend without difficulty. The tower is crowned by two parapets with battlements from which magnificent views of the Loire are obtainable.

The **Tour Hurtault** or *de César* situated near the ancient *Logis de la Reine* (Queen's Apartments), facing the Amasse, possess likewise a sloping spiral carriage-way the upper part of which is covered with wood, but below, the ancient pointed arches are again to be seen. On the door leading to the garden are some pretty arabesques.

Crossing to the N. the old royal garden, now arranged in quincunx form, a rather elegant door can be seen, surmounted by the porcupine of Louis XII against which Charles VIII is said to have struck his face and thereby caused his death. This tradition, however, is incorrect. The door to which the historians of the time refer was situated not at the N. E. end of the Château, but on the S side, at the entrance to the subterranean gallery leading from the underground apartments of the Logis de la Reine to the moat dug out across the plateau to separate the Château proper from the old farmyard. It was in this moat that the game of tennis was first played.

On coming out of the Château, a short walk should be made in an easterly direction, to visit, at the bottom of a courtyard belonging to a *marchand de vin* (wine-shop keeper) near the *quai des Violettes*, the subterranean caverns known as the *Greniers de César* (Cæsar's Granaries) although their construction cannot have been earlier than the xvi c.

OTHER SIGHTS

The *quai d'Amboise* is lined, especially at the foot of the Château, with a great number of houses of the xv, xvi and xvii c., most of them,

however, being disfigured and much transformed. Prominent on this quay are the hôtel de ville, the Saint-Florentin church, and lower down the river, the promenade of the *Mail* where an *obelisk* has been erected in 1835 to *Chaptal*.

The *Hôtel de Ville*, on the quay, was, originally, a private house built (1500-1505) by Pierre Morin, treasurer of France and mayor of Tours. Later on, the house was designated as the *palais ducal*, as Choiseul made it a court for the administration of his seigniorial justice, a prison and the office of Accounts. It was skilfully restored in 1890. By applying to the concierge, one can visit, inside, some interesting rooms: the *salle des mariages* (several pictures, fine chimney piece with the arms of Pierre Morin), a chamber containing statue of the Virgin, xiv c., formerly placed at the door of the clock-tower; the mayor's study, the council-chamber (two fine chimney-pieces), etc. Near the hôtel, has been erected (1896) a bronze *bust of Ch. Guinot*, statesman († 1893).

The *Saint-Florentin church* (1473-1484) was built by order of Louis XI. Its Renaissance steeple is built in a slanting direction on the facade side.


The *rue Nationale* starts from the right-hand side of the small market-place at the foot of the Château, and passing under an ancient doorway (xiv or xv c.), leads to the suburb of *Saint-Denis-Hors*, whose church, fine specimen of the Angevine style (xii c.; ornamented capitals of great interest), was re-modelled in the xv c. and restored in the xix c. Entrance by the S. side (charming Romanesque door elegantly carved). The church contains a nave, a left-aisle and a double-aisle on the r. Over the l. aisle is a fine stained-glass window by Lobin; and over the 2nd. aisle on the l., a fine *holy-sepulchre* of the xvi c. of which the statues are mostly portraits of the family of la Bourdaisière who had it erected. In the adjacent cemetery is the tomb of Choiseul.

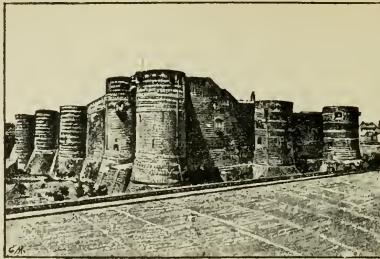
From the Château, by following the *rue Victor-Hugo* and the *rue* or *chemin du Clos-Lucé*, the manor of *Clos-Lucé* is reached (public not admitted), partly re-built in the xvii c., and restored in recent times: the oratory is still preserved. Leonardo da Vinci died at Clos-Lucé, on the 2nd. of May, 1519.

Not far from Clos-Lucé, at the foot of the hill on the r. bank of the Amasse, can be seen the pretty *Château Gaillard*, of the time of Charles VIII, restored by M. Fleurquin, its present owner. Louis XII gave this property to the clever Italian gardener, Pacello da Mercogliano; it belonged afterwards to René de Savoie (his arms are carved out over an outer door) and to Cardinal Charles de Lorraine (1566).

The attention of archeologists is directed to the numerous interesting remains of ancient monuments, among others: — the ancient *convent des Cordeliers* (Franciscan convent), at the end of the *rue de Tours*, of which the main building, the cloister and the chapel still exist almost intact (in a separate building, some curious paintings of the xv c.); — the supposed *house of Joyeuse* (in the street of the same name), a charming dwelling of the time of Charles VIII, carefully restored by its present proprietor, M. Charpentier; — In the courtyard of Penet's butcher-shop, are some beautiful windows with cross-bars of carved stone of the Renaissance period.

ANGERS

 344 k. from Paris via Orleans and Tours (Orleans Railway), in 4 h. 10 m. by train rapide; 1st. cl. 34 fr. 50, 2nd. cl. 23 fr. 30, 3rd. cl. 15 fr. 20; — 308 k. via Chartres and le Mans (West of France Railway),



National property (Ministère de la Guerre).

in 4 h. 40 and 5 h. 1/2 h., by express train; same prices.

Distances : — Paris, 302 k. ; — Saumur, 47 k., via le Menitré, 25 k. ; Saumur, 48 k. ; via les Pont-de-Cé, 6 k., et Gennes, 33 k. ; — Saumur, 54 k. ; via Beaufort, 28 k., et Longué, 38 k. ; — Baugé, 40 k., via Seiches, 20 k. ; — La Flèche, 47 k., via Seiches, 20 k. ; — Segré, 36 k., via Le Lion d'Angers, 22 k. ; — Chi-

traubriant, 75 k., via Condé, 40 k. ; — Nantes, 89 k., via Saint-Georges, 58 k., Varades, 39 k., and Ancenis, 42 k. ; — Nantes, 105 k., via les Ponts-de-Cé, 6 k., Chalonnès, 29 k., and Saint-Florent-le-Viel, 50 k. ; — Cholet, 55 k., via les Ponts-de-Cé, 6 k., et Chemillé, 34 k.

From the station to the Château : — 10 min. on foot, by the *rues de la Gare, Hoche*, and the *place de l'Académie*; cabs on hire at the station stand.

To visit : — *The Château d'Angers* is chiefly interesting for its general outside effect. To visit the interior, apply to the concierge, at the entrance on the r.


PRACTICAL INFORMATION




Pop. 82,935, chief-town of the dep. of. Maine-et-Loire, bishopric, on both banks of the Maine, a beautiful river formed above the town by the junction of the Loir, the Sarthe and the Mayenne, and which flows some 8 k. below into the Loire. The town properly so-called, is on the slopes and the plateau of the l. bank. On the r. bank is the district of *la Doutre*.

Buffet : — at the Saint-Laud station.

Omnibuses : — from the hotels to the Saint-Laud station.

Syndicat d'Initiative (Organising Committee) de l'Anjou : — Enquiry office, 4, place de la Gare.

Hotels : — *Hostellerie du Cheval-Blanc* * (famous restaurant; teleph. 1-51; lift; , 12, rue Saint-Aubin,

in the centre of the town; — *Grand Hotel* (115 r., from 3 to 15 fr.; lunch, 3 fr.; din. 4 fr.; restaurant; teleph. 2-04; lift; central heating apparatus; , place du Ralliement; — *d'Anjou* (bus., 50 c.; breakf. 1 fr. 25, lunch, 3 fr.; din., 4 fr., single-bedded r. 3 to 6 fr., double-b. r. 6 to 10 fr.; pens. from 9 fr. 50; elect. light; teleph. , 1, boulevard de Saumur; — *Saint-Julien* (lunch or din., 2 fr. 25; r. from 2 fr. 50 to 6 fr.; pens. 7 fr.), place du Ralliement; — *de France* (breakf. 75 c., lunch, 2 fr. 50; din. 3 fr., at sep. table, 50 c. extra; r. fr. 2 to 3 fr.; pens. 7 fr. 50), 20, rue Denis-Papin, facing the Saint-Laud station; — *du Faisan* (bus. 60 c., breakf. 1 fr., lunch, 2 fr. 50, din. 3 fr.; r. 2 fr. to 5 fr.; , 3,

rue Freslon; — *des Voyageurs* attendant at the station; breakf. 1 fr., lunch, 2 fr. 50., din. 3 fr.; r. 2 to 6 fr., pens. from 7 fr. 50; teleph. 0-38; 1. 1., place de la Gare; — *Hondet*, 8, rue Boisnet; — *Restaurant du Château* and furnished apartments (breakf. 60 c., lunch from 1 fr. 50, din. from 2 fr., r. from 2 fr., pens. from 6 fr. 50), 2, boulevard du Roi-René.

Cafés : — *Gasnault*; — *du Ralliement*; — *du Grand-Hotel*; — *de France*, all in the place du Ralliement; — *du Boulevard*, boulevard de Saumur; — *du Commerce*, 17, quai National.

Theatre : — place du Ralliement.

Circus : — quai National.

Café-concert (Music-Hall) : — *de l'Alcazar*, 36, rue Saint-Laud.

Post, telegraph and telephone : — Chief office, place du Ralliement (through telephone to Paris, from 8 a. m. to 3 p. m.).

Baths : — 48, boulevard du Roi-René; — 9, rue Saint-Maurille; — 2, boulevard de Saumur (hydropathic), near the Hotel de Ville.

Cabs : — Stands in the boulevards, place du Ralliement, and at the railway stations. Fares. within the 'commune' (borough) boundary, per hour, 1 horse : 1 fr. 50, at night (10. 0 p. m. to 6. 0 a. m.) 2 fr.; 2 horses : 2 fr. and 3 fr. Any distance between the 'octroi' barriers, 1 horse : 75 c., at night 1 fr. 50; 2 horses : 1 fr. 50 and 2 fr. 50. Any distance within the 'commune' boundary, 1 horse : 1 fr. 25, at night 1 fr. 75. 2 horses : 1 fr. 75 and 2 fr. 75. — Beyond the 'commune', per day, 1 horse, 15 fr.. 2 horses, 20 fr.

Motor-Cars : — *Fevillaron*, 49, rue Boisnet; — *Gillouard* (Peugeot agency), rue de la Gare (Saint-Laud); — *Grégoire* (Brasier agency), 25, boul. Ayrault, 4 bis, rue Buffon; — *Maisongrande, Guerrier et C^{ie}*, 3 bis, av. de Contades; — *Malinge* (Panhard agency), 23, rue Paul-Bert.

Electric Tramways : — 1. *From the caserne du génie to the Saint-Laud station and the place Ney*; — 2. *From the Saint-Laud station to the octroi of the route de Paris by the boulevards*; — 3. *From the Saint-Serge station to the butte du Pelican*, plying to and fro and bringing the Saint-Serge station in correspondence with the first two lines; — 4. *From the place du Ralliement to the place Lyonnaise*; — 5. *From the place du Ralliement to the faub. Saint-Jacques*; — 6. *From the place du Ralliement to the Madeleine*; — prices : 10 c. and 15 c. — Departures every 6 to 15 minutes, according to the lines and the time of day.

Tramway of the Ponts de Cé and Erigné : from the pl. du Ralliement to the rue Pascal, 10 c.; to the chemin du Bourg-la-Croix, 15 c.; to the mairie of the Ponts-de-Cé, 20 c.; to Erigné, 25 c. Departures every 20 min. from 7. 0 a. m. to 8. 20 p. m.; last journey from Erigné, 9. 0 p. m.

Tramway of the Pyramide-Trélazé : from the pl. du Ralliement to the Madeleine, 10 c.; to the Eclateries, 15 c.; to the Pyramide, 20 c.; Trélazé, 25 c. Departures at 6.30 a. m., 7. 10 a. m., then every 20 min. until 7. 50 p. m.

Steamboats : — The « Hironnelles » company's boats for *Château-Gontier* leave the quay Gambetta, daily, from Mar. 15 to Oct. 15, at 6. 0 a. m., every alternate day in winter. Departures from Château-Gontier at 1. 0 p. m.; duration of journey, 4 h. 45; Fares, 3 fr. and 2 fr. — Short trips between Angers, *Bouchemaine* and *la Pointe*, Sundays and fête days from Palm-Sunday. Departures from Angers, every 2 hours, from 9. 0 a. m.; from la Pointe, from 10. 0 a. m.; in August every hour; starting from the ponton de Ligny. Fare, 40 c. — Boat trips on the Sarthe, between Angers, *Port-Champs-Bas* (25 c.), the *île d'Amour* (40 c.), *Port-*

Launay (50 c.), *Ecouflant* (50 c.) and *vice-versa*. Sundays and fête days from Palm Sunday to the 30 Oct. Departures from Angers at 5.0 a. m. and every 2 hours from 9.0 a. m.; from *Ecouflant* at 6.0 a. m. and every 2 hours from 10.0 a. m. — Service from Angers to the *Port de*

l'Ile and to *Epinard*, every 2 hours from 10.0 a. m. Departures from *Epinard* every 2 hours from 9.0 a. m. to 9.0 p. m. Fare, 50 c. — Steamboats on hire; office at the pontoon bridge of the quay *Gambetta*.

HISTORY

The *Château d'Angers* stands on the site of the primitive curial palace of the Roman times where the magistrates forming the *curia* of *Juliomagus* used to meet. It was built by *St. Louis* at the time when the town still existed. In 1585, it was taken by surprise. *Henri III* as soon as he had regained it, decreed its demolition « from the *porte Toussaint* to the *port Ligny* ». With the exception of the *N. tower* which was, no doubt, spared, on account of the windmill which stood on top, the whole was almost entirely razed to the curtain (1589). Fortunately, the work of destruction was interrupted by events. The valiant captain *Pierre de Donadieu*, *Sire of Puicharic*, made use of the material derived from the demolition of the towers, to widen the platform and put the *Château* almost in the condition in which it is seen at the present day. The great bastion, however, has been pulled down to make way for the present boulevard.

It was at the *Château d'Angers* that *Henri IV* signed, on the 5 April, 1598, the agreement which put an end to the *League* by uniting *César de Vendôme*, the natural son of the king and *Gabrielle d'Estrées*, with the daughter of the *duc de Mercœur*.

In recent times, up to 1856, the *Château* served as a prison and house of detention. It is now used by the army (*dépôt* for arms for the reserves and powder-magazine).

ITINERARY

On arriving at the station, by the *rues de la Gare* and *Hoche* and the *place de l'Académie*, we emerge at the foot of the *Château*, on the *boulevard du Château*.

At the corner of the boulevard and the *place Marguerite d'Anjou*, in front of the *Château*, stands the statue of **King René**, by *David d'Angers*. The lower pedestal is decorated with 12 bronze statuettes: *Dumnacus*, defender of the *Andes*, 51 B. C.; *Roland*, *comte d'Anjou*, *Roncevaux*, 778; *Robert le Fort*, conqueror of the Normans, *Brissarthe*, ix c.; *Foulques Nerra*, born in the x c., † 1040; *Foulques V*, king of *Jerusalem*, 1142; *Henry II*, *Plantagenet*, xii c.; *Philippe-Auguste*, who united *Anjou* to the French crown, 1205; *Charles d'Anjou*, king of *Sicily*, 1220-1285; *Louis I*, *duc d'Anjou*, 1339-1384; *Isabelle de Lorraine*, first wife of *René*, 1410-1453; *Jeanne de Laval*, second wife of *René*, 1433-1498; *Marguerite d'Anjou*, queen of *England*, 1425.

The **Château d'Angers** is built in a schistous rock overlooking the l. bank of the *Maine*, and its walls, made of the same sombre material, prolong the escarpment which serves as a course. Although the tops of its towers have been removed, its bastions knocked down and its moat partly filled up, its appearance, especially on the river side, is formidable and imposing. Its encircling wall forms an irregular pen-

tagon, flanked by 17 large round towers. At the N. angle stands the high *tour* called *du Diable, du Nord* or *du Moulin*.

Passing round the Château by the place Marguerite d'Anjou, an ascent can be made on the N. side to a terrace wedged between the town and the Château, called *le Bout du Monde* (World's End) from which a fine view of the Maine is obtained. The drawbridge, giving access to the old fortress, opens on to this esplanade.

The only objects of interest in the interior are the *chapelle* of the xv c. (now a shop) built by Yolande d'Aragon, in the entrance court, and an *apartment* of the xiv and xv c. where, it is said, King René was born. From the summit of the ramparts, a beautiful panorama may be enjoyed. A visit can also be made to the vaulted rooms of one of the towers, all of which are similarly constructed.

THE TOWN

For more complete details see the « *French Handbook on « Angers »* » in the « *Guides Joanne* » Series.

From the boulevard du Roi-René, enter the old town by the *rue des Lices* overlooking which, on the l., is the **tour Saint-Aubin**, of the xiii c., which formed part of the *Abbaye de Saint-Aubin* whose buildings (xvii c.) altered in the xix c., are now used as the **Préfecture** (in the court-yard, on the l., a fine doorway and magnificent colonnade of Romanesque arches; a metal gate removed from the Abbey of Fontevrault. In the ancient sacristy, now the Archives chamber, are some fine wainscotings of the xvii c.).

Facing the Préfecture is the *rue Saint-Martin* running into which is the *impasse des Cloîtres-Saint-Martin*. On applying (No. 5) at the *externat* (day school) *Saint-Maurille* permission can be obtained on certain days to visit the ancient church of **Saint-Martin**, a rare edifice, much mutilated but carefully restored quite recently by the abbot, M. Pinier, the superior of this institution (important remains of a building in small stones; Carolingian lantern-tower covered by a dome of the xi c.; choir and chapel of Notre-Dame-des-Anges, of the end of the xii c.).

The *rue Saint-Martin* crosses the *rue Saint-Aubin*, which leads to the *place Sainte-Croix* and the Cathedral. On the *place* can be seen the **maison Adam** (xv c.) and (No. 19) the old *hôtel de Thévaille* (xvi c.). Other ancient houses exist in the *rue de l'Oisellerie* (No. 5 of the xvi c.; No. 7, end of the xv c.) and *rue Baudrière* (*tour de Villebon*) remains of the old wall, xiii c.).

The **Cathedral of Saint-Maurice** is an interesting edifice of the xii and xiii c. Its interior length is 91 m., and, at the transept, 56 m. wide. Three towers grace the facade; the S. tower (69 m.) and the N. (65 m.) being crowned with stone steeples, both re-built in 1831. At the base of the central tower which was added in 1540 (Renaissance), is an imposing row of eight armed warriors. The nave, 26 m. high is without aisles, and is formed, like the choir and the transept with vast sections of cross-vaultings, bulging out like cupolas and remarkable for their boldness and their curves. Two vast chapels have been added at the bottom of the nave. The one on the l. (xv c.) contains a *Crucifixion* by David; the one on the r. dates partly from the xiii c.

In the int. : Rich **stained glass windows** (some in the nave date from 1170); antique green marble basin for holy water presented by King René; high-altar (1699); canopy (1757); statue of St Cecilia (in the choir)

by David; in the vaults, the tombs of King René and his wife, Jeanne de Laval; *Tapestries* of the xiv to xviii c.; tomb of Bishop Claude de Rueil (xvii c.), of Mgr. Angebault (statue by Bouriché) and of Mgr. Freppel, by Falguière.

The **Bishop's Palace** (appropriated by the State in 1906; public no longer admitted), adjoining the Cathedral, was mainly rebuilt, in the xix c., in the Romanesque style, but on the ground floor is preserved a fine Romanesque gallery which has been converted into a chapel; and above is the synodal hall (end of xii c.), and a *staircase* of the Renaissance.

Starting from the place Sainte-Croix is the *rue Toussaint*, so called from the *old abbey* of that name, which is now occupied by the Army bakery (fine staircase and cloister of the xvii c.). The ancient **church of Toussaint**, one of the finest ruins in Anjou, was built in the xiii c. in the Angevine and Norman styles (the apsis and the beautiful rose-window were re-constructed in the xviii c., in the original form). To visit the church, apply to the concierge of the museum.

On the l. of the *rue Toussaint* is the *rue du Musée*. The entrance to the Museum of Painting and Sculpture faces the *temple protestant*, the ancient chapel of the priory of Saint-Eloi, founded in the xii c., and of which there still remain a few Romanesque portions with curious capitals.

The **Musée de peinture et de sculpture** (open daily to foreigners; to the general public on Sund. Tuesd. and Thurs. at 4 o'clock) occupies with the *Bibliothèque* (Library of 70,000 vols.), the **Logis Barrault**, built about 1500 by Olivier Barrault, mayor of Angers. It includes: 1. The David Museum, on the ground-floor; 2. The Natural History Museum, on the 1st. floor; 3. The picture galleries on the 2nd. floor.

The **David d'Angers Museum**, devoted to the works of the famous sculptor, David d'Angers, contains six prize works sent from Rome from 1811 to 1815, some 50 or 60 statues, 70 bas-reliefs, 150 busts, 19 statuettes, 500 médaillons and numerous drawings. A collection of works of various sculptors completes this artist's museum which has no comparison except with the museum of Thorvaldsen in Copenhagen.

The **picture galleries** comprise 6 rooms and include works by *Ribera, Jordaens, Murillo, Snyder, Fr. Boucher, J.-B. Pater, Eug. Devéria, P. Flandrin, C. van Loo, Gide, Vien, Chardin, Coypel, Restout, P. Mignard, Raphaël, Greuze, Français*, etc. One room is specially set apart for the Angevine painter, *Bodinier*.

Returning to the place Sainte-Croix, the place du Ralliement can be reached by the *rues Chaperonnière* and *Chaussée-Saint-Pierre*.

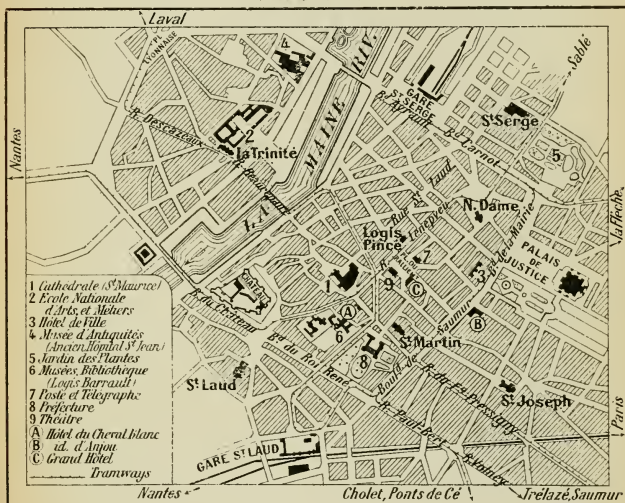
The **place du Ralliement** (chief post-office; Grand-Hotel; cafés, stand for carriages; central point for the electric trams) is bounded, on one side, by the *theatre* (paintings by Lenepveu and Dauban). Close by, at the commencement of the *rue Lenepveu*, is the **hôtel d'Anjou** or **Pincé**, a Renaissance construction, partly re-built, and which contains the *cabinet Turpin de Crissé* (Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Middle-Age and Renaissance antiquities; paintings; and a vast fresco; *Entry of François I to Angers in 1518*, by Lenepveu).

From the place du Ralliement, through the pretty *rue de l'Alsace*, we arrive at the *boulevard de Saumur*, a favourite resort of the Angevines (note the fine statue group, *Fine Arts, Commerce and Agriculture*, by Maindron, in the fronton of the *Club building*), which leads on the l. to the *place de Lorraine* (*statue of David d'Angers*, by Louis Noël; at

the corner of the *rue David*, the *hôtel Lantivy*, xvii c.), and to the promenade du **Mail** (opposite the *hôtel de ville*, formerly the college d'Anjou, 1691). By the side of the gardens stretches out the *Champ de Mars* (*palais de justice*) and further on the *place du Pélican* (on the l. in the place des Halles, a new Gothic church, *Notre-Dame*), at the end of which is the principal entrance of the **Jardin des Plantes** (statue of *Chevreul*, by Guillaume: fine green-houses).

At the west-end of the gardens is the *grand séminaire*, an ancient

ANGERS



Benedictine monastery of the vii c., re-built at the end of the xvii c., enlarged in the xix c., and attached to which is the **Saint-Serge church**, of the end of the xii c. or commencement of the xiii c. (choir of admirable lightness in Plantagenet style), and a triple nave of the xv c.

Pass round the *Saint-Serge railway station*, to cross the *Maine* by the *Haute-Chaine bridge*, almost facing which will be seen the *old Hôtel-Dieu* or **hôpital Saint-Jean** in the square (roman baths and various architectural relics). The **great hall**, an admirable example of early Gothic, is divided into 3 naves. Of the three galleries of the *cloister* which still exist, two date from the xii c.; and the third is of the Renaissance period. The great hall, the cloisters and the chapel are now used as the **Archaeological Museum**.

The *rue Gay-Lussac*, on the l. of the hospital leads to the old **Saint-Jean granaries** (curious *cellars* carved out of the slate stone) which serves as an annexe to the archeological museum, and to the *tertre* (mound) *Saint-Laurent* (*crucifix* in a miniature Gothic building).

The hôpital Saint-Jean faces, on its river side, the *champ de foire* which is likewise bounded by the **Ecole Nationale d'Arts et Métiers**.


This establishment occupies the old Abbey of the Benedictines of Ronceray (founded about 910), which was rebuilt under Louis XIV and has since been enlarged. (The public are no longer admitted to the old abbey **church of Ronceray**, consecrated in 1028 and repaired in the beginning of the XII c.)


The **church of La Trinité**, contiguous to the Ronceray building, is an edifice of the XII c. which a radical restoration has made almost new again (two Romanesque doorways; Romanesque tower of the XVI c. and modern date; in the interior: curious arches over the nave; *winding staircase*, in wood, of the Renaissance period, at the bottom of the nave; high-altar, ornamented with bas-reliefs in gilt wood of the XVI c.; *crucifix* by the Angevine sculptor, Maindron; on the l., below the nave, a staircase passing under the choir of the adjacent Ronceray church, to a small crypt with 3 naves containing a bronze statue of the Virgin (XI c.), the shrine of a pilgrimage, called *Notre-Dame du Ronceray*).

Close to the Trinité church is the *place de la Laiterie* (*fountain* with *bust of Dr Garnier*), whence can be visited, at 23. *boulevard Descarcez*, the old *hôtel des Pénitentes*, or *Maison de la Voûte* (arched-house), a pretty specimen of XV c. and early Renaissance.

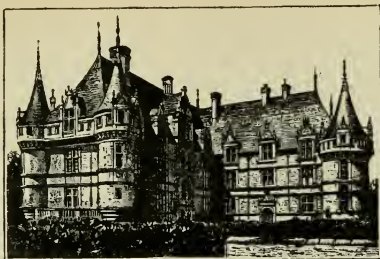
From the Trinité church, the *rue Beaurepaire* (at No. 67, *Simon Poisson's old chemist shop* of 1582) leads old the *pont* (bridge) *du Centre* or *Grand Pont* (*statue of Commander Beaurepaire*, the work of Max. Bourgeois), whence the *rue Baudrière* (on the r. the *Pied-Boulet fountain* of 1586, and curious perspective of the old steps carved in the *Saint-Maurice hill*) brings one back to the centre of the town.

AZAY-LE-RIDEAU

 *Station on the line from Tours to Chinon (Etat Railway), 26 k. from Tours. 1st. cl. 2 fr. 65, 2nd. cl. 1 fr. 95, 3rd. cl. 1 fr. 30.*

 *Distances: — Tours, 25 k.; — Chinon, 21 k. by the forest; 27 k. by Rivarennnes, Ussé and Huismes. — Langeais, 9 k.; — Montbazou, 21 k. (valley of the Indre).*

From the station to the Châ-





National property (Administration des Beaux-Arts).

teau: —
About 1,800 m. from the station to the Château; On leaving the station, descend to the r. as far as the road and proceed in all. direction as far as the town. The omnibus from the hôtel du

Grand-Monarque meets all trains. To visit: — Open daily from 9 a. m. to 5.30 p. m. from June 1 to Sept. 30; and from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. from Oct. 1 to May 31. Apply to the concierge.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Chief-town of the canton; pop. 2,282, (Indre-et-Loire), on the r. bank of the Indre. — Omnibus, 50 c. — *Hotel du Grand-Monarque* (breakf, 75 c., lunch, 3 fr., din., 3 fr. 25; r. from 2 to 6 fr.; pension by arrangement; omnibus, 50 c.; elect. light all night; baths, teleph.;  , workshop for repairs; accumulators for electric-motors), rue Nationale, with carriage for

drives. — N. B. Besides the interest which the Château offers. Azay-le-Rideau is a very usual starting point for the excursion to Ussé (15 k.; carriage 12 to 15 fr.); a circular trip is often made from Azay-le-Rideau by Ussé and Langeais (total 39 k., in about 5 h.; carriage 18 to 20 fr., See p. 100). A carriage from Azay to Langeais direct, (10 k.) costs from 8 to 10 fr.

HISTORY

The first Château of Azay-le-Rideau is believed to have been constructed about 1255 by a certain Hugues Ridel or Rideau (Ridelbus), whose name is still given to the locality. It is said that in 1417, the Dauphin Charles (afterwards Charles VII), on his journey from Chinon to Tours, was, when passing in front of the Château, insulted by the Burgundy garrison who were staying there; and that he then took the Château by assault, exterminated the defenders, and burnt the town, which on account of this act was called (Azay-le-Brûlé [Azay-the-Burnt]).

In reality, nothing absolutely certain is known about Azay-le-Rideau before its acquisition and reconstruction in 1518 (?) by Gilles Berthelot, who, at first, was « Conseiller-Secrétaire » of the King, and later, Treasurer-General of Finance. Gilles Berthelot having been involved in the degradation — quite unmerited, — of Semblançay, François I confiscated

the Château, which, since then, has passed into many different hands. Among other proprietors of the XVII c., may be mentioned, *Henri de Berninghem*; who built the stables and the servants' quarters, and adorned with paintings, the grand apartments called the king's chamber (*chambre du roi*), because *Louis XIV* slept there. The Château was owned finally by the *Biencourt* family and the last important event in its history is its occupation by the Germans in 1870-71.

In 1905, the State bought *Azay-le-Rideau* from the *Marquis de Biencourt* for 200,000 fr. (£ 8,000). The *Marquis* had already sold the furniture and other artistic objects, and the greater portion of the park was not included in the acquisition and purchase by the Government. The *Administration des Beau-Arts* has taken possession of the Château, and has now installed therein a *Renaissance Museum* under the direction of the Curator, *M. L. Xavier de Ricard*.

DESCRIPTION


The **Château d'Azay-le-Rideau**, one of the purest creations of the early Renaissance period is, as regard size, a comparatively simple and modest construction. but being built entirely at one time, it is one of the most graceful of buildings, completely harmonious in style. It is, moreover, charmingly situated. Its white architecture stands out in the midst of delightful verdant country moistened by the cool waters of the *Indre*. Arriving at the Château from the direction of the town, we cross the bridge and enter the Court of Honour which is bounded on the opposite side by the main building with its beautiful Staircase Facade. On the r., the court is bounded by a wing running at right angles to the main building and ending with a big tower. Four smaller projecting turrets flank the exterior corners of the Château, but it is impossible to walk round the exterior as the river skirts it on three sides.

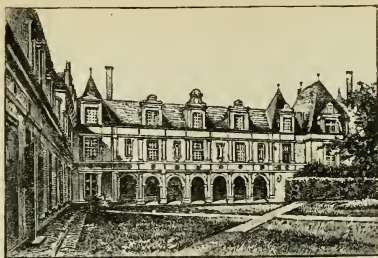
In the interior, which is in process of being restored to its primitive state, special attention should be directed to the *Grand Staircase* with its straight and parallel flights under elegant rampant arches and panels filled with medallions. Four of the rooms have already received exhibits sent from the *Louvre* and *Cluny* museum, as well as various private gifts, to form the commencement of the *Renaissance Museum*.

OTHER SIGHTS


The church of *Azay-le-Rideau*, a building of the xi, xii and xv c., is particularly remarkable for its ornamental decoration and the detailed embellishments of the façade (xi c.). On the right, forming the cross-bar, is the seigniorial chapel (funereal inscriptions of the *Biencourt* family) of the xvi and xvii c., leading direct with the park of the Château, and which belongs likewise to the State.

BEAUREGARD

 The *Château de Beauregard* is 1 k. from *Cellettes* station, situated 8 k. from *Blois*, on the local line of *Blois* to *Montrichard* and *Saint-Aignan*. The visit to *Beauregard* is generally included in the carriage drive from *Blois* to *Chambord*, *Cercy* and *Beauregard*, see p. 41.



Property of the Comte de Cholet.

 **Distances :** — *Blois*, 8 k.; — *Cellettes*, 1 k.; — *Cercy*, 8 k.; — *Chambord*, 16 k.; — by *Mont*, 6 k.; — and *Huisseau-sur-Cosson*, 10 k.

To visit : — Permits to visit the *Château* have now to

be obtained from *Maitre Lestang*, Notary of *Blois*.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Beauregard forms part of the commune of *Cellettes* (1 k.; post and telegraph office), in the valley of the *Beuvron*.

HISTORY

The *Château* was built about 1520 by *François I*, as a hunting seat. It was partly reconstructed by *Du Thiers*, Secretary of State under *Henri II*, and belonged, at the commencement of the XVII c., to *Paul Ardier*, likewise a Secretary of State, who decorated the grand gallery with its celebrated historical portraits. Transformed at different periods by successive owners, the *Château* has been restored, since 1850, by the Comte de Cholet, who under the direction of the architect de la *Morandière*, has, to a great extent, re-imparted to the building its original Renaissance character.


DESCRIPTION

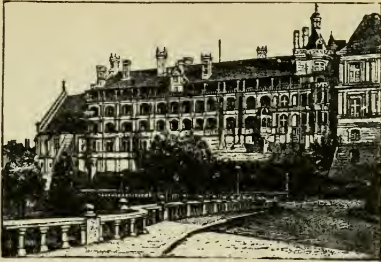
The *Château de Beauregard* is most pleasantly situated in the middle of a beautiful park, at the S. end of the forest of *Russy* and on the heights which descend gradually on the S. towards the r. bank of the *Beuvron*. It owes its name (*Beauregard*) to the charming view which it offers over the valley and the town of *Cellettes*. The *Château* consists of two projecting pavilions connected by a main building with an open arched gallery running along the ground floor.

The *Historical Portrait Gallery*, on the 1st. floor, 28 m. long and 7 m. wide, is decorated with 363 portraits of historical celebrities, many of whom are not to be seen anywhere else. The subjects are all grouped in chronological order by reigns, from *Philippe VI de Valois* (1328-1350) up to *Louis XIII* (1610-1643) when this gallery was painted. Running along beneath the ogee are some very curious allegorical paintings with devices and emblems referring to the kings whose portraits are

above. These paintings are by a Blois artist, Jean Mosnier, who also decorated Cheverny. Note the ceiling with its painted joists, and particularly the **paved floor**, in blue enamelled earthenware, depicting an army in order of battle at the time of Louis XIII. At the side, is a *chamber* with carved and gilded oak woodwork, and oak panels with the escutcheon of the Du Thiers in the centre. In the chapel, is a fine primitive Flemish picture.


BLOIS

 Station on the main line from Paris to Tours (Orleans Railway), 182 k. from Paris, 2 1/2 to 3 h. by express; 1st. cl. 20 fr. 40, 2nd. cl. 13 fr. 75, 3rd. cl. 8 fr. 95.



34 k.; via Herbault, 16 k.;— Vendôme, 31 k.;— Châteaudun, 55 k., via Oucques, 27 k.

From the station to the Château:— 5 min. on foot by l'avenue and the place Victor-Hugo.

 Distances:— Paris, 193 k.;

— Orleans, 57 k., via Mer, 18 k., Beaugency, 31 k.; Meung, 43 k.;— Gien, 114 k., via Bracieux, 19 k., Neung, 41 k., Lamotte-Beuvron 60 k.;— Romorantin, 41 k.;— Valençay, 54 k.; via Selles-sur-Cher, 40 k.;— Saint-Aignan, 38 k.;— Montrichard, 31 k.;— Tours, 59 k., by the r. bank of the Loire;— Châteauneault,

Property of the State (Administration des Beaux-Arts).

To visit:— The guard-

dians of the Administration des Beaux-Arts, show visitors round. When the numbers are large the visitors are conducted in parties. Duration of visit about 1 h. (Château and museum). For practical information and description of the town, see the chapter: « Blois as Excursion Centre », p. 36.

HISTORY

The name of Blois, *Belsum* or *Blœsi* in Roman times, apparently owes its origin to the Celtic word *bleiz*, wolf. Blois became, under the feudal system, the centre of a powerful comté whose owners added to their domains the Dunois, Vendômois and Chartrain districts, and even at certain periods during the XI and XII c., the Champagne country. The most famous of the first counts was Thibaut I, the Trickster († 978). One of the Comte de Blois, Stephen, ascended the English throne in 1135 and reigned nineteen years. The family of the first counts became extinct in 1241 and was succeeded by the family of Châtillon which, in turn (1391), was succeeded by Prince Louis, then duc d'Orléans, and second son of Charles V. After the assassination of this prince, his disconsolate widow, Valentine de Milan, who had adopted the device « Nothing more for me; for me, more is nothing », shut herself up in the Château de Blois, in a room draped with black, where she died on the 4th of December 1408, relying for the protection of her family, less upon her own son Charles than upon an illegitimate son of her husband, the celebrated Dunois called « le bâtard d'Orléans ». It was, in fact, Dunois who held the Château during the final period of the Hundred Years War, whilst Charles d'Orléans, more a poet than a soldier, allowed himself to be taken at Agincourt and consoled himself in captivity, which lasted till 1440, by composing pretty verses. It was under the government of Dunois, and in this very Château, that the « Praguerie » was organised in 1439. On his return from

England, Charles resided at Blois of his own free will, and in 1462 his wife gave birth there to the child who was destined to become, from 1498 to 1515, King Louis XII.

The history of the Château de Blois in the XVI c. is to a great extent that of the whole of France. Louis XII preferred residing here to Paris and signed at the Château several celebrated decrees and treaties, the majority of them relating to the affairs of Italy. Anne of Brittany died at the Château in 1514. As long as Queen Claude, daughter of Louis XII and wife of François I lived, the latter king decided to remain at Blois. He received, here, the Emperor Charles Quint, but left the Château towards the end of his life for Chambord, Fontainebleau and Villers-Cotterets. Under Henri III, Blois was again the scene of eventful episodes. It was at this Château that the king reunited the States-General of 1576 and 1588. With the latter, the most tragic event in the history of Blois is connected. Henri III, afraid of the power and ever-growing popularity of the duc de Guise, had him assassinated almost under his very eyes (Dec. 23. 1588). At the same time, he had his brother, the cardinal de Lorraine, thrown into a dungeon where he was murdered the next day. Catherine de Médicis, who was at that time very seriously ill, died a few days later. These two murders remain a mournful souvenir of the Château which the kings of France henceforth abandoned. Louis XIII had his mother, Marie de Médicis, shut up here; but she succeeded in escaping after being in captivity for two years (1617-1619). Gaston d'Orléans, brother of Louis XIII, who several times had been forced to leave the court, retired to Blois where he formed an entirely provincial kind of court for himself. He wished to gather round him the most brilliant talents, but only succeeded in securing writers and artists of very ordinary merit with the exception of François Mansart, who consented to take charge of the architectural works. The death of Gaston (1660) interrupted these constructions. It was here, shortly afterwards, that Louis XIV, when passing through Blois, is said to have seen Mlle. de la Vallière for the first time.

After Gaston d'Orléans, the Château of Blois was no longer used as a residence except by the two princesses: Marie Casimire, widow of King Sobieski of Poland, and the mother of King Stanislas, who died here in 1722. After them, the governors of Blois and the intendants of the Orléanais would not condescend to reside at the Château, which was allowed to go to ruin and was even partly mutilated.

Louis XVI converted it into barracks (1788), and the work of devastation was only stopped thanks to the designation of the Château, in 1841, as an historical monument to be kept in repair out of public funds.

Then the complete restoration of the Château commenced, under the direction of Duban, and was continued by M. de Baudot. The trial of seventy-two prisoners, implicated in a conspiracy and attempted outrage, was the last important event which took place at the Château of Blois.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Blois**, situated to the W. of the town, on a promontory formed by the junction of the valley of the Loire and the ravine of the Arron, is a quadrilateral, uncompleted on the S. side, surrounding a vast Court of Honour and consisting of four distinct parts. The oldest portion, containing the Salle des Etats, dates from the XIII c. The principal gate leads direct to the chapel and E. wing which were built by Louis XII in late Gothic style. The N. wing in which is dis-

played all the architectural luxury of the Renaissance, was built under François I., and the W. wing, commenced by Gaston d'Orléans in 1635, had François Mansart as its architect. Completely restored since 1845 by Duban and de Baudot, the Château is now almost in the same state that it was in the middle of the xvi c., except the building of Gaston, which has replaced the wing erected by Charles d'Orléans, father of Louis XII.

Whether we arrive from the station by the avenue Victor-Hugo or from the centre of the town by the rues Denis-Papin and Porte-Coté, the approach to the Château is made by the place Victor-Hugo, overlooking which, in all its majestic grandeur, is the exterior facade of the imposing François I wing, built upon massive supporting walls. This facade should first be examined, with its two Italian loggias gracefully adorned by depressed arches and surmounted by the beautiful attic balcony running beneath the roofing. Note also, on a level with the balcony the picturesque row of gargoyles, and, lower down, the small projections which afford a pleasing break in the regularity of the *ensemble*. On the r. an ancient tower, the *Tour du Moulin*, has been likewise embellished with galleries of the xvi c., and in recent times, the roofing and bell tower have been restored. Further to the r., can be seen the narrowest side of the buildings of Gaston d'Orléans. On the l. is the building containing the Salle des Etats.

An incline for vehicles at the foot of the Château and a staircase for pedestrians, to the l., lead from the place Victor-Hugo to the place du Château which extends to the E. of the Château, and which formed the ancient forecourt, formerly fortified. Looking on to the 'place' is the entrance to the Château through the Louis XII Wing.

The exterior of the **Aile Louis XII** (Louis XII Wing) facing the 'place', presents a charming facade in stone and red and white lozenge-shaped bricks, completed in 1503 and flanked on the r. by the gable (modern) of the Salle des Etats. The *portal* is surmounted by a Flamboyant niche with a background of blue dotted with fleurs de lis and containing a gilt stone equestrian statue of Louis XII, a modern piece of work by Seurre. Note also the open-work balcony, the beautiful dormer windows and the curious *little figures* carved as brackets at the angle of the windows. The porcupine, emblem of Louis XII, can be seen above the main-door and above the charming little door immediately to the r. The arched passage through the big doorway leads direct to the courtyard which, on entering, offers a fine prospect of the constructions of different periods surrounding it. The interior facade of the Louis XII Wing is supported by a long open gallery of which the three-centred arches are supported by alternating round and quadrangular columns covered with ermine and fleurs-de-lys or delicate arabesques (magnificent capitals).

Under this gallery is the *Salle des Gardes de Louis XII* (fine chimney-piece rebuilt by Duban; statues and pictures). In the adjacent rooms the *Daniel Dupuis Museum* (open to the general public on Sundays, from 1 to 4 p. m.; foreigners admitted every day), contains all the work of the famous engraver of medals of this name, born in Blois (1849-1899).

The gallery leads by the r. and l. to two pavilions containing the staircases crowned with remarkable vaultings. To the r. in the courtyard, a more simple *gallery*, running at right-angles to the Aile Louis XII, and called after *Charles d'Orléans*, is adorned with lapidary

a sculpture work among which can be noticed some relics of a magnificent fountain in white marble with the arms of Louis XII and Anne of Brittany, removed from the old gardens of the Château. The gallery adjoins the **chapelle de Saint-Calais** (modern tiled paving with the arms of France and Brittany; and a curious echo), from which Gaston removed three bays of the nave, and which has been restored and decorated by Duban. It likewise forms part of the buildings of Louis XII.

On the opposite side of the courtyard, the **Aile de Gaston d'Orléans**, the work of François Mansart, the classic style of which contrasts strikingly with the adjoining Renaissance buildings, is remarkable for its staircase frame (the steps have never been made: the staircase is in wood) crowned, in the interior, by an imposing double-storied cupola. It contains on the 1st floor the *Public Library* (40,000 vols.) and the *Salle des Fêtes* of the town (2 beautiful Gobelin tapestries designed by Lebrun). Gaston d'Orléans had undertaken to carry out the total reconstruction of the Château in the same style. Fortunately, he died before being able to realise his schemes.

Passing between the Chapelle Saint-Calais and the Aile de Gaston, we can proceed to the *terrasse du Foix*, which dominates from a great height on the W. side, the old moat of the Château and on the S. side, the lower town, the Saint-Nicolas quarter and the course of the Loire (very fine view). On this side, there still exists the big *Tour du Foix*, the remains of the ancient fortress, upon which tradition places the observatory of Catherine de Médicis. The terrace, having recently been excavated, led to the discovery of the lower story of the Renaissance buildings destroyed and partly buried by Gaston d'Orléans.

On the r. of the courtyard, the **Aile de François I** is an enlargement and a transformation of the old feudal castle, of which traces can still be seen. This transformation, evidently resumed at various periods, was effected between 1515 to 1524. The Renaissance style is, here, to be seen in all its brilliancy.

The visitor will have already inspected the exterior facade which looks on to the place Victor-Hugo. On the interior facade, he will notice the beautiful cornice by which it is crowned, surmounted by an elegant open balustrade with the initials of François I and Claude de France, and the dormer windows decorated with charming statues of children. But that which, above all, compels admiration is the **Grand Staircase**, one of the finest Renaissance masterpieces, projecting beyond the facade in an open octagonal tower with large rampant bays, and marvellous sculptural decorations.

The style of the cornices of the Aile François I, has induced M. Léon Palustre to believe, that the author of this masterpiece is probably the architect Viart, who, in 1515, had already constructed the greater portions of the Hôtels de Ville of Orleans and Beaugency. But the only names that are known with certainty, are those of François de Pontbriant, Superintendent of works for the Louis XII and François I Wings until 1619, and Jacques Sordeau, Master of Works of the latter Wing from 1515 to 1519. When transforming the exterior, François I spared one of the towers of the old fortress, of which the cells are still used as prisons. He preserved, likewise, on the western side, the buildings dating prior to Louis XII, and lining the terrace called the *Perche aux Bretons*, pulled down later by Gaston d'Orléans, and the grand hall of the xiii c. called the *Salle des Etats*, situated between the new Wing and the Louis XII Wing.

Ascending the grand staircase of François I (note the groined roof, the frieze-panels of the door, and the newel of the staircase) a visit is made on the 1st. floor, to the **Appartements de la Reine** celebrated by the sojourn there of **Catherine de Médicis**. On the courtyard side are a first *Salle des Gardes* (?), formerly divided into two, which accounts for there being two fireplaces and two stone doors admirably carved; a second *Salle des Gardes* which has been painted in a dark and severe colour, with a very plain fireplace. From this room, through a charming doorway adorned with a salamander, we reach by the exterior facade the *Galerie d'honneur de la Reine*, decorated like the rooms which cannot certainly be ranked among Duban's best work. Continuing by the same facade, are, successively : a small chamber, called by the guardians the *Cabinet de Toilette de Catherine de Médicis*, and cut into the ancient tower of the castle (walls 2 m. thick, where can be seen the old walled-in staircase of the fortress); the *Bedroom of Catherine de Médicis*, where she died on January 5. 1589; her *Oratory* with a pretty apsis projecting beyond the facade (modern stained-glass windows by Lavergne; and a superb stone pendentive); her *Cabinet de Travail* (delightful carved woodwork in which can be counted no less than 237 differently ornamented panels which concealed secret cupboards; a ceiling re-made by Duban. According to a false tradition, Marie de Médicis is said to have made her escape in 1619 by the window of this chamber). From Catherine de Médicis' cabinet de travail an exit is made to the exterior balcony winding round the *Tour du Moulin*, remnant of the original Château (xiii c.) and which ends to the W., the François I wing. The cell can be seen, still armed with a heavy iron door, where Cardinal de Guise was assassinated the day after the murder of his brother. On the ground floor of this tower is a deep ditch in which according to legend, underground dungeons were said to have been built.

Ascending to the 2nd. story by the staircase named after the *Quarante-Cinq* (where, it is said, passed the assassins of the Duc de Guise), to visit the **Appartements de Henri III**, we first see, looking on to the courtyard, the *Salle du Conseil* (2 magnificent chimney pieces) where the Duc de Guise attended a council to which Henri III summoned him, in order to have him assassinated; the *Salle des Gardes* (2 very plain chimney pieces); thence pass along the exterior facade into the *Galerie d'Honneur* or *du Roi*, formerly divided into 5 small rooms one of which was the oratory where Henri III placed two monks to pray during the assassination of the Duc de Guise, and another room being the wardrobe chamber where the king had the corpse of the duke hidden. Continuing, a visit is made to : the *Cabinet neuf*, where the king remained during the assassination of the duke; the *king's Bed-room* to which Guise, stabbed by the assassins in the room adjoining, returned and fell dead at the foot of the bed. It was then that Henri III, emerging from the « cabinet neuf », pushed the corpse aside with his foot, saying : « He seems greater in death than in life ». — We pass through two other rooms, and emerge on to a charming gallery winding round the *Tour du Moulin* from which a most curious prospect of the François I Facade and its gargoyles is obtained.

After retracing one's steps, a visit is made, between the François I Wing and the Louis XI Wing, to the **Salle des Etats**, 30 m. long, 22 m. wide and 18 m. high. A row of seven fine columns of the xiii c., sur-

mounted by six ogival arches, divides the hall into two naves covered by a double wooden vault, arrayed with fleur-de-lys painting. A mean staircase has replaced the wooden one of two stories by which the King descended into the hall when the States-Councils were held.

The **Museum** (open to the public on Sundays from noon to 4 p. m. On other days, ring for the guardian and ascend the staircase to the S. of the gallery) is situated on the 1st. and the 2nd. floors of the Louis XII wing, formerly the apartments of the King and of Anne of Brittany, where will be noticed some valuable chimney-pieces in stone carved and painted, and re-constructed in recent times. We mention below the more important works :

1st. Floor. — 1st. Room. — 116. *Ulysse*. Henri III and his minions. — 265. *Fragonard* (?). *Love vow*. — 491. Procession of fools under Henri III : This curious wood engraving was discovered attached to the beam of a house in process of demolition at Blois ; its real subject is a satirical allegory relating to the death of François I and to the corporeal dangers of love ; at the foot of the engraving are some lines of poetry. — *Arial*. Charlotte Corday. — 33. *Diaz*. In the woods. — 68. *Ingres*. The *Madonna with candelabra*, sketch after Raphaël. — 106. *Ary Scheffer*. *Death of Eurydice*. — 27. *G. de Crayer*. The Queen of Sheba offering presents to King Solomon. — 17. *Busson*. *Autumn in the Vendôme district*. — *Sauvage*. Saint-Gilles Chapel at Montoire. — 37. *Ducis*, François I equipped as a knight by Bayart. — 29. *Daubigny*. Saint-Siméon at Hontfleur. — (After) *Rembrandt*. Jean Sobieski. — On the side of the windows, a fine collection of **Medallions of Nini**, terra cottas executed in the xviii c. at the Château de Chaumont (See p. 88).

2nd. Room. — Portraits of local celebrities, notably of Father Monsabré. — 247. *French School*. The Rape of Europa. — 110. *Unknown* (xvii c.). Portrait of a woman. — Portrait of Cardinal Fesch. — *Flemish School* (xvii c.). The Horse of Troy. — 203. *Spanish School*. The Ascension (on copper). Marble bust of the conjurer, Robert-Houdin, born at Blois, by *Dantan le Jeune*. — 32. *Delfosse*. Alms.

3rd. Room called the **HISTORICAL PORTRAIT ROOM.** — 224, 227, 228. *French School* (xviii c.). Mme. de Grignan, P. de Beauvillier, Duc de Saint-Aignan, Louis XV. as a child. — 91. *Nicolas Mignard*. Louis XIV, as a child. — 219, 226, 225, 175. *French School*. Louis XIV. Mme. de Montespan, Mlle. de Blois. The Duc de Vivonne, Marshal of France. — 212. *Unknown*. Pope Alexandra VII. — 166. (After) *Van Dyck*. Gaston d'Orléans. — 221. (After) *Rigaud*. The Minister Chamillard. — 20. (After) *Porbus*. Henri III. — 211. Denis Papin, copy of the original which is at the University of Marbourg. — 171. *French School*. Colbert. — 89. *Ch. Martin*. Marie de Médicis and Louis XIII as a child. — 116, 229, 173, 231, 230, 167. *French School*. The poet Ronsard. Stanislas Leczinski. Louis II, Duc de Vendôme, Washington. The Marshal of Saxe, Louis XV at twenty-five years of age, Marshal Berthier. — In the middle, Henri IV, as a child, by *Bosio*.

4th. Room. — 201. *Spanish School*. Flowers and fruit. — 50. *Luca Giordano*. Hercules and Omphale. — *Couderc*. Burgundian's workshop. — (After) *Meissonier*. At the painter's. — (After) *P. Delaroche*. Murder of the Duc de Guise. — 10. *Interrupt*. Henri III pushing with his foot the corpse of the Duc de Guise. — 91. *A. de Médine*. Assassination of Cardinal de Lorraine. — 86. *Luminais*. The Family of the shipwrecked fisherman.

— 21. *Cicèri*. Landscape. — 81. *Leronte de Roujon*. View of Avignon. — 16. *Ad. Brune*. Faunus and Bacchantes. — 25. *Coupin de la Couprie*. Valentine of Milan at the tomb of Louis d'Orléans. — 39. *Carolus Duran*. Hercules at the feet of Omphale. — *Boissard*. St. Louis carrying relics. — Sculpture : *Blanchon*. Pay-day. — In the window : Chinese ornaments, statuettes.

5th. ROOM, called the ROOM DES PRIMITIFS. — 151. *Flemish School*. Suzanne at the bath. — 205. (After) *Ribera*. Martyrdom of St. Bartholomew. — 130. *German School*. The Virgin with the goldfinch. — Flemish Tapestries of the xvi c. — 200. *Spanish School*. Ste. Thérèse and St. Dominique (on marble). — 148. *Q. Metzys* (School of). The usurer. — 213. *Unknown*. A dream. — 104. *Rondinello*. Circumcism. — 163. Front of Altar (Louis XIII, Anne of Austria and Gaston d'Orléans worshipping). — 140. *Unknown* (xvi c.). Rape of Europa. — 150. *Flemish School*. Portrait of a woman. — 107. *Lo Spagna*. The Triad. — 1. *Bagnacavallo*. Madonna. — 121. *Byzantine School*. The Virgin and the child Jesus. — Sculpture on slate of the xv c. (Adoration by the Shepherds). — Bas-relief in wood and shrine of the xv c. — Furniture of the time of Henri II. — Plaques from antique chimney-pieces. — **Virgin in terracotta** of the xvi c. — Bust of Ronsard and inscriptions from his tomb.

6th. ROOM. — 103. (After) *Murillo*. St. Elizabeth of Hungary. — 80. *Hip. Lecomte*. Joan of Arc and Charles VII. — 97. *Minet*. The grass of Saint-Sabin. — 269. *Baron Gros*. Portrait of a woman. — 11. **Fr. Boucher**. Psyche receiving divine honours (sketch in black and white). — 238. *Toqué*. Portrait of a woman taking a cup of coffee. — 31. *Diaz*. People with a dog.

7th. ROOM (DE RANCHOUP). — 133. *Raphaël. School*. The Virgin, child Jesus and St. John. — 47. *Fyt*. Dogs and game. — 200. *Dutch School*. Interior of a tavern. — 102. **Reynolds**. Head of a woman asleep. — 113. **G. Terbury**. The message. — 10. *Rosa Bonheur*. Child guarding the sheep. — 92. *Mécl*. Gipsies playing cards. — 87. *Carlo Maratta*. The Child Jesus adored by the angels. — 248. **Nattier (?)**. Head of a woman. — 26. *A. Coppel*. The Toilet of Venus. — 157. *L'Albane*. Venus in the bath. — 270. *Mme Lebrun*. The Princess of Lamballe (?). — 56. *Le Guerchin*. St. Guillaume, Duke of Aquitaine, receiving the religious coat (sketch). — 198. *Dutch School*. The wise and foolish Virgins. — 189. **Leonardo da Vinci (?)**. The Colombine. — 35. 36. *J. Dubuisson*. Portraits. — 204. *Spanish School*. St. Francois d'Assise. — 46. *Furini*. David and Goliath. — 51. *Van Goyen*. Dutch Landscape. — 239, 240. Two fine copies after *Fr. Boucher*. — 12, 13. *Le Bourguignon*. Cavalry charge. — 14, 15 (on copper). *Brueghel de Velours*. The horseman's halt. View of a Flemish village. — 22. **Fr. Clouet (?) Marguerite de Bourbon** (on ivory). — 187. **Ph. de Champaigne (?)**. The Abbot Baignoux. — 95. *Jean Mosnier* (Blois painter, xvii c.). Allegory. — 286. *French School*. Job and his friends. — 98. *Ch. Parrocel*. Cavalry shock. — 72. **Jeaurat**. The interrupted bargain. — 267. *Prud'hon (?)*. The Genius of Poetry crowning Racine. — 135. *Italian School*. Venus and Love. — 101. *Le Guide*. Nymph and Love (copper).

8th. ROOM. — Carved table of the xvi c. — Embroidery of the xvii c. — 70. *Jadin*. Heads of dogs. — Pastels and water-colours. — (After) *Ph. de Champaigne*. Christ leaving the forum.


9th. ROOM. — Historical portraits of personages of the xv, xvi and xvii c. — 144. **Clouet**. (School of). Ball at the court of Henri III. — 162.

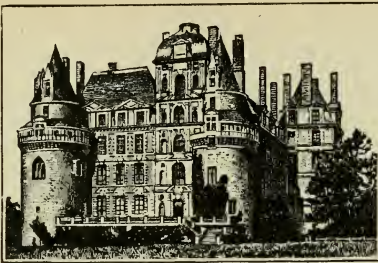
170, 174. French School (xvii c.). Mme. de Saint-Germain and her son. Mlle. de Bourbon-Montpensier. Henri de Beaumanoir. — *Mignard* Mme. de Montespan and the Duc du Maine. — 254. *Jouvenet fils*. Mme. de Pompadour in 1756

2nd. Floor. — In these rooms are exhibited: — Gallic-Roman pottery and glassware found at Meung, Soing, Gièvres, Thésée, etc. (La Saus-saye Collections); collections of engravings, coins, ethnography, etc.


The *Société d'Histoire Naturelle* has installed a valuable collection in the ground floor of the Gaston d'Orléans wing.

BRISSAC

 *Brissac* is 1 k. from *Quincé Brissac* station, situated 20 k. from *Angers* on the *Poitiers* line (*Etat-Railway*).



Property of the Vicomtesse de Trédern.

 **Dis-**
tances : —
Angers, 47
k.; — *Dou-*
lu-Fontai-
ne, 23 k.; —
Cholet, 2 k.;
— *Saumur*,
40 k.

To visit :
— apply to
the *concier-*
ge.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Brissac is a small town of 952 inhab., situated on the slopes of the bank of the *Aubance*.

Hotels : — *du Commerce*; — *de la Poste*.

Post, telegraph and telephone office.

HISTORY

Brissac was created a duchy in 1620, in favour of *Charles de Cossé, Marshal of France*. From 1610 to 1620 a whole colony of artists were brought to *Brissac* for the rebuilding of the *Château* under the direction of *Jacques d'Angluzé*, son of the architect of *Fontainebleau*, assisted by the architects *Hutin, Corbineau, Malherbe* and the painters *Pottier, Gillion, Gasselín*, etc. The old *Marshal* left, at his death (1621), this sumptuous dwelling to his descendants who own it still.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Brissac** consists of two main buildings forming the two sides of a court erected above the gardens. The principal facade is terminated by two machicolated towers, the remains of a castle of the xiv c. The second building faces the town and is terminated by a massive pavilion in the *Louis XIII* style.

Striking features of the interior are the vast apartments with gilt or painted joists, the carved doors, a *Salle des Gardes*, a *Gallery of Ancestors* (valuable-pictures) and an *Oratory* (statues of *David d'Angers*).


In the park to the S., on an eminence, beyond the *Aubance*, stands the *Mausoleum*, a monument in classical style (family vaults of the *Cossés*; statues and old tombs).

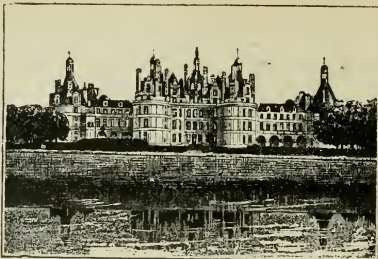
OTHER SIGHTS

The **Church of Brissac** (xvi c.) contains some beautiful windows (at the end of the choir are stained glass panes representing the *Passion* with the portrait of the *Marshal de Cossé* kneeling, and his wife).

The tower (clock of 1574) was rebuilt in 1808.

CHAMBORD

 The greatmajority of visitors to Chambord alight at the Blois station whence the journey is made by carriage (see below). The following stations, however, are nearer to the Château: 1 Mer



Property of the Princes of Bourbon-Parme.

(11 k. N.) on the main line from Paris to Tours (Orléans Railway, 163 k. from Paris); 2 Mont (8 km. S. W.) or Bracioux (7 k. S.) on the short local line from Blois to Lamotte-Beuvron).

 Distances : — Blois by the


valley of the Cosson. 17 k.; — Blois, by Mustives, Montlivault and the embankment of the Loire, 18 k.; — Blois, by the Russy and Boulogne forests. 20 k.; — Mer, by Muides bridge 11 k.; — Bracioux, 8 k.;

— Cherveny, 18 km.

To visit : — Visits lasting about 30 min. are conducted by guardians who are in attendance daily at all hours, except on Sundays before 9 a. m. and fête days before mid-day.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Close to the Château, has grown a little village of 211 inhab., centre of a commune of 428 inhab. which includes a park enclosed by a wall some 35 k. round. — Post and telegraph office of Saint-Dyé-sur-Loire (5 k.). — Hôtel du Grand Saint-

Michel, breakf. 75 c.; lunch 3 fr., din. 3 fr. 50; single-bedded r. 2 fr. 50, double b.-r. 4 fr. 50; pension from 8 fr. per day; . — Public and private carriages for drives from Blois to Chambord. (See below.)

HISTORY

Chambord, an ancient hunting-seat of the Comtes de Blois, was rebuilt from 1519 by François I. It is said that 1800 hands worked at it during 15 years. The question of ascertaining who was the architect, is one that has remained obscure for a considerable time, but there is no doubt he had the assistance of various collaborators. The names of Maître Pierre Nereu, called Trinqureau, Maître Denis Sourdeau and Maître Jean Gobereau appear as Frenchmen in the first direction of the works.

Further, in the « Compte des Bâtimens du Roi » (published by L. Labordé) one finds the name of the Italian, Dominique de Cortone, called le Boccador, who was one of the leading architects of the old Hôtel de Ville in Paris. It is probable that François de Pontbriand, Governor of Loches and Blois, to whom the carrying out of the work was entrusted, gave his general advice and that François I, in particular, must certainly have had a hand in the conception of a work which was to make him.

according to his own idea, one of the greatest builders in the Universe.

And lastly, when Pierre Neveu died in 1540, the Château not then having been completed, « Maitre J. Coqueau took his place, retaining as his subordinates, Denis Sourdeau and Jean Gobereau, and was consequently able to modify, at least partially, more than one detail » (P. Gruyer).

It would be difficult to explain the predilection of the monarch for the site of this splendid residence, did we not know that this prince loved hunting and, likewise, the Comtesse de Thoury who dwelt in a neighbouring Château. He received Charles Quint here in 1539, and stayed here himself especially during the latter years of his life. King Henri II continued his father's work without, however, being able to bring it to a completion.

After him, the court dwelt at times at Chambord, but did not undertake any important works of construction Louis XIV held some brilliant fêtes here, and had the apartments transformed in accordance with the taste of his time. He attended, here, the first performances of Molière's Monsieur de Pourceaugnac (1669) and Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme (1670). King Stanislas of Poland who resided at the Château during eight years (1725-1733), filled up the moats. Marshal de Saxe, to whom it was presented in 1748, mutilated it likewise. Napoleon after having formed, here, the 45th cohort of the Legion of Honour, made a gift of the Château to the Prince de Wagram, whose widow, being unable to keep up the establishment, obtained permission to sell it, in 1821, after having cut down the timber. Chambord with the whole of the commune was then purchased for the sum of 1,542,000 francs (about £ 60,000), raised by means of a national subscription proposed by Count Adrien de Calonne, and was presented to the duc de Bordeaux who had just been born and who assumed, in consequence, the title of the Comte de Chambord. It is well known how vehemently Paul-Louis Courier objected to this project, and in 1832, the Government of July endeavoured to sequester the property. But after a litigation of over 20 years' duration, the rights of the duc de Bordeaux were finally and definitely recognised. The general restoration of the Château, commenced by the Prince, is, since his death (Aug. 24, 1883), being continued by his successors, who devote about 50,000 francs (£ 2,000) annually to the work. The domain brings in about 135,000 francs per annum.

FROM BLOIS TO CHAMBORD

The journey from Blois to Chambord can be made by **three different routes** : 1. **16 k.** by the **Valley of the Cosson** (the shortest way). — Having crossed the Blois bridge, follow, straight in front, the Saint-Gervais road (on the l. is the old roadway of the Ponts Chartrains, partly destroyed, of the xiv c.), then to the l. the road ascending on the l. bank the Cosson vale. We leave Vineuil on the other side of the river, and then pass through (6 k.) Chiteau (10 k.), Huisseau-sur-Cosson and at (12 k.) the *Chaussée-le-Comte*, go through the park of Chambord for 4 k., to reach the Château. At Chiteau, the valley can be crossed so as to visit, on the r. bank of the Cosson, the little **Château des Grotteaux**, which dates from the commencement of the xviii c. It was the retreat of the wise Guillaume de Ribier, Councillor of State under Louis XIII, who has engraved, all over the place, various sayings and inscriptions (a fine Flanders tapestry and several pieces of furniture removed from Chambord).

2. **18 k., by the embankment of the Loire** (*fine views of the river*). — After crossing the Blois bridge, turn to the l., at the entrance of the faubourg de Vienne to re-ascend the **embankment**, which is more than 7 m. in height, nearly 8 m. wide, and lined with poplars. Destined to keep the river from overflowing, it provides, also, the foundation for the roadway. It was constructed under Louis le Débonnaire, and assumed its present form under Philippe le Bel. On the slopes of the r. bank, the *Chaussée Saint-Victor* can be seen, then (5 k.) we pass under the Romorantin railway bridge which extends into the vale by a long viaduct. Further on, we leave on the r. *Léry, Saint-Claude*, and the *Château de Nozioux*. On the l., on the opposite bank, are *Saint-Denis, Ménars*, and its *Château*, then *Couv-sur-Loire*.

At 10 k. from Blois, we turn to the r. through open, level country, and pass through (11 k.) *Montlivault* (church with high steeple; *Château* where Louis XIII stayed), then (14 k.) *Maslives*. — 15 k. 5. Enter the park of Chambord and follow along a wide avenue whence the view of the *Château* is very fine indeed.

3. **20 k., by the Forests of Russy and Boulogne** (*a lovely journey through magnificent woods*). — From the Blois bridge follow, straight on, the road to *Saint-Gervais*, where the plateau is mounted to reach (3 k. 5) a magnificent avenue cut straight through the forest, from which an exit is made to pass through (10 k.) *Mont*. Beyond this village, the Forest of Boulogne is re-entered finally. — 16 k. Penetrate the park of Chambord to the *Bracieux Pavilion* whence an avenue leads straight to the N. of the *Château*.

Advice to Tourists. — The route by the Loire embankment is the one we most recommend as it offers a fine view over the river which it skirts. The route by the forests provides a magnificent trip through some delightful woodland. The journey there can be made one way and the return by another.

The route by the Cosson valley is the least beautiful but the shortest. Tourists pressed for time should avail themselves of it for the return journey. Have it well understood with the driver, who, moreover, is accustomed to making these arrangements, as to the route to be taken for the journey there and the return. A carriage for Chambord, 4 seats, costs from 12 fr. to 15 fr.

If time permit, it is advisable to hire a carriage for the day (18 fr. for 1 horse, 25 fr. for 2 horses. Drivers ready to start, are to be found at the station), and after visiting Chambord, return by Cheverny (*See p. 94*) and Beauregard (*See p. 69*). This is what is called, in Blois, the *grande tournée*. By leaving at 8 o'clock in the morning and lunching at Chambord, it becomes easy to return to Blois in time for dinner. In order to visit Beauregard, it is necessary to obtain, at Blois, an authorisation from the notary, maître Lestang. The *Syndicat d'Initiative* organises every summer a *daily mail-coach service from Blois to Chambord*, going by the Forests of Russy and Boulogne and returning by the Loire valley (total distance, 43 k.). Departures at 12. 30 p. m., from the place Victor-Hugo, returning about 6. 30 p. m. Fare 4 fr. Seats on the coach can be booked at Hault's, carriage proprietor, 5, pl. Victor-Hugo.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Chambord** considered as the Marvel of the Renaissance, stands in the middle of a vast wooded park of nearly 14,000 acres

enclosed by a wall of 35 k. (6 gates), the wall itself being constructed in the heart of the great forest of Boulogne.

The Château forms a square, 156 m. long by 117 m., the corners of which are flanked by four prodigious towers, 19 m. 51 cm. diameter. The buildings surround a second edifice which is also square and flanked with towers similar in shape to the preceding, but loftier. On the N. side, the facades of the two squares become merged into one, which is thus flanked by four towers. The buildings on the S. front have only one story and were formerly covered with terraces, showing beneath the central apartments. In the xvii c. these buildings were, unfortunately, covered with inappropriate roofing which the restoration, now being carried on, will ultimately suppress. The chief exterior characteristic of the Château de Chambord is the striking simplicity of the lower parts in comparison with the profusion of ornaments adorning the upper portions : tall chimneys, dormers, spires, bell-turrets, the sculpture of which recalls that of the François I Wing of the Château de Blois.

Chambord appears, therefore, in its entirety like « a Gothic château bedecked in Renaissance fashion ». The rigid simplicity of the walls « with barely the slightest of embellishments » supporting these elaborate roofings, has given rise to the picturesque simile of « a breast-plated horseman wearing the large feathered felt-hat of François I ».

The wonder of Chambord is its **grand staircase**, famous not only for the beauty of its architecture which is similar to that of the François I wing at Blois, but also for the arrangement of its double spiral staircase so contrived that two parties may pass up and down respectively at the same time, without meeting each other. It is situated in the very centre of the main building at the junction of the four halls (« salles des gardes ») which branch from it like the arms of a Greek cross. Recent researches prove that these halls were originally divided off into three stories. Later on, the removal of the intervening ceilings gave them a very lofty appearance. The ceilings have now been re-installed, except in one of the arms of the cross, to show the effect of the arrangement. The top vaultings, with depressed arches, of these four halls, are decorated with 400 escutcheons of various designs prominent among which are the Salamander of Francis I, the letter F with crown, and the cordelier. Above the vaultings, where the double staircase ends, the lantern commences. It is 32 m. high and its effect is most charming. It consists of eight arches accompanied by columns and pillars, of about 8 m. high, supporting another and loftier crowning decorated with a balustrade and composed of eight counterforts each of which is adorned with the letter F and a gigantic Salamander. These flying-buttresses support the upper portion of the newel of the Grand Staircase. Within this newel is a smaller and single spiral staircase which leads to a belvedere surmounted by a bell-tower, both of extreme delicacy and with a profusion of detail. Crowning the whole, is a colossal fleur-de-lys in stone, at least 1 m. in height. In the corners, formed by the junction of the facade and the two side wings of the entrance court, are two fine open staircases (furnished with windows to secure their preservation). The Château contains in all, 13 large staircases and 365 rooms with fireplaces.

The interior of the Château is entirely bare, with the exception of the apartments of Louis XIV. which were furnished and fitted up at the time of the Restoration for the Comte de Chambord. The furniture.

moreover, and the various gifts presented to the prince which were then deposited there, offer but little artistic interest. The visit to the interior can be made as follows :

Ascend the Grand Staircase, and notice, in going up, the different stories of the four Salle des Gardes forming the cross branching from the staircase.

In the W. room on the first floor, is a monumental *stove* in Saxony faience, brought here by the Marshal de Saxe, removed during the Revolution, and re-purchased by public subscription. — The N. hall is the theatre where Molière performed.


At the top of the Grand Staircase, pass out on to the vast terraces at the foot of the great lantern the whole of which commands admiration as do, likewise, the rich details of the chimneys and roofings. From this spot can be seen the whole domaine of Chambord (14,000 acres, of which over 11,000 is woodland). On the E. side, is the main building containing the apartments of François I (elegant staircase). On the S. side, are the servants rooms built by Mansart and the ruins of the buildings erected for the troops of the Marshal de Saxe. Re-descend into the Château to visit the **Chapel**, commenced by François I and completed by Henri II (pulpit of the time of Louis XIV, adorned with tapestry worked by Madame Royal during her imprisonment in the Temple. At the end of the altar is some tapestry, worked and presented to the Comte de Chambord by the ladies of Limousin), then the **Apartments of Louis XIV** : — **DINING ROOM** (small artillery museum presented as a toy to the young Comte de Chambord; *portraits* of Mme. de Maintenon, by *Rigaud*, of Mme. de Lafayette, of Louis XIV at the passage of the Rhine, of Turenne, of Condé, of Racine, by *Largillière*; *marble table* upon which the Marshal de Saxe was embalmed and on which stands the bust of the Marshal; the Battle of Fontenoy, painting by *Bertrand*); — **RECEPTION SALOON** (pictures : Louis XIV by *Rigaud*, over the fire-place; the Comte de Chambord on horseback; two portraits of Anne of Austria, by *Lebrun* and by *Mignard*; two Sevres Empire vases; statue in terra-cotta of Mme. Elizabeth by Masson); — **BEDROOM** (Louis XIV ceiling and beautiful woodwork; the Comte de Chambord at 28 years of age in bronze by *Gérard*, his statue at 8 years of age, his bust at 50 years of age; marble statue of Henri IV, copy by Bosio; Louis XIV, by *Van der Meulen*; Marie Leezinska, by *Van Loo*; Henri III, by Clouet; chimney-piece with Venetian plate-glass); — **BED-CHAMBER** or Chamber of the Tapestries (*Bed* presented to the Comte de Chambord by the ladies of Poitou en 1879); — **COUNCIL CHAMBER** (tapestries presented to the Comte de Chambord by inhabitants of the Blois and Limousin districts; one of the tapestries represent the Vow of Louis XIII by Ingres; throne presented by inhabitants of the Blois district); — and finally the charming **Study (Cabinet de Travail) of François I** with carved walls and vaultings, which was turned later into the oratory of Marie Leczinska (ancient folding door). It was on one of the window-panes of this room that, according to a tradition, François I scratched, with the diamond of his ring, the famous couplet :

Souvent femme varie,
Bien fol est qui s'y fie.

(Woman changes often,
Fool is he who trusts her)


On a height overlooking the Château stands the little parish church; completed in 1855.

CHATEAUDUN

 Station on the line from Paris to Tours via Vendôme 137 k. from Paris in about 3 h.; 1st. cl. 15 fr. 35, 2nd. cl. 10 fr. 35, 3rd. cl. 6 fr. 75.



Property of the Duc de LUYNES.

 Distances: — Paris, 136 k.; Chartres, 47 k., via Bonnerai, 14 k.; — Pithiviers, 76 k., via Oryères, 29 k.; and Janville, 40 k., Orléans, 47 k.; — Beaugency, 42 k., via Binus, 22 k.; — Blois, 55 k., via Oucques, 28 k.; — Vendôme, 39 k., via Cloyes, 11 k.; — Saint-Culais, 54 k., via Droué, 21 k., and Mon-

doubleau, 37 k.; — Nogent-le-Rotrou, 60 k., via Courtaulin, 16 k., and Authon, 42 k.; — Nogent-le-Rotrou, 54 k., via Brou, 21 k.

From the station to the Châteaudun: — Take the hotel omnibus at least as far as the Place du 18-October, centre of the town, the distance from the station being somewhat long. See the itinerary below.

To visit: — Apply to the concierge; about 20 min.


PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Châteaudun, the chief town of the arrondissement (Eure-et-Loir), pop. 7,147, is built on a plateau at the top of a steep promontory, above the l. bank of the Loir. Rebuilt on a geometrical plan after the fires of 1723 and 1870, the town has, as a centre, the vast rectangular place du Dix-Huit-October, from which the principal roads radiate.

Buffet: — at the station.

Omnibus: — 30 c.; 50 c. with over 30 kilogr. of luggage; 50 c. for Saint-Jean and Saint-Aignan.

Hotels: — de la Place (omnibus): — 50 c. including one trunk;

breakf., 1 fr.; lunch 3 fr.; din. 3 fr. 50; at separate table: lunch 4 fr.; din. 4 fr. 50, r. from 3 fr.; pension 8 fr. per day; , 28, place du Dix-Huit-October; — du Bon Laboureur, 61, rue Gambetta.

Cafés: — de Châteaudun, 3, rue d'Orléans; — Français, 2, rue de Chartres.

Post, telegraph and teleph. office: — at the Caisse d'épargne, place du Dix-Huit-October.

Job Masters: — Deschamps; — Renaudy.

Motor cars: — Bourbon, 39, rue de Chartres; — Vannier, place du Dix-Huit-October.

HISTORY

Châteaudun, of Gallic-Roman origin (Castrodunum), was in the middle ages, the capital of a county called le Dunois, which had feudal Lords as far back as the X c. It was acquired in 1391 by Louis d'Orléans whose natural son, Jean, Comte de Longueville et de Dunois, also called the

Bâtard d'Orléans, became, under the name of « Dunois », one of the most celebrated military officers of the XV c. Burnt down in 1590 by the Leaguers, and by accident in 1723, Châteaudun was almost entirely rebuilt after this last disaster, from the plans of the architect, Hardouin. But in Oct. 1870, the town, having been attacked by 40,000 German troops, against whom some 900 National Guards and Franc-tireurs bravely offered a stubborn resistance for nine hours, was again pillaged and burnt.

As a reward for its heroic defence, the town was permitted to inscribe the Legion of Honour in its arms. Its device is : *Extincta revivisco*.

The Château of the Comtes du Dunois was built about 940 by the celebrated Thibaut le Tricheur, rebuilt, in the XII c. and XV c. by Dunois, and enlarged at the end of the reign of Louis XII, by François II of Orléans-Longueville.

DESCRIPTION

From the station, the *avenue Florent-d'Illiers*, then at its extremity on the l., the *rue de Chartres* lead to the *place du Dix-Huit-Octobre* (beautiful fountain constructed in 1860 in the purest Renaissance style, *Hôtel de Ville* with modern pictures, among others the final épisode of the battle of the 18th. October 1870, by *Philippoteaux*, the Apotheosis of Châteaudun by *Lechevallier-Chevignard*, etc.). At the N. W. corner of the « place », the *rue Touffaire*, passing between the *College* (on the l.) and the *Musée de la Société Dunoise* (on the r.), leads to the *promenade du Mail*, which overlooks the Loir (splendid view; *Monument of the Defence of Châteaudun*, a fine group in bronze, by *Mercié*). Following to the l. this promenade, then crossing obliquely the *place Saint-André*, we reach the *rue de Luynes*, which descends to the Château in passing along to the l. the *square Saint-Lubin*.

The **Château de Châteaudun**, built on the ridge of the plateau, and supported by walls and counterforts descending perpendicularly to the level of the river, overlooks the valley from a great height.

Still intact on its exterior, but unfortunately uninhabited and much delapidated in the interior, this Château is composed of buildings of three different periods. The most ancient portion is the magnificent and imposing **keep (donjon)**, cylindrical in form, and Romanesque in style, erected by Thibaut le Tricheur (966-978), according to an inscription placed over the door, but re-constructed certainly in the XII c. Its diameter is from 16 to 17 m., and its height, including the roof, is 48 m. The Château was supplied with water by two wells, one of which has its mouth in a gallery on the first story of the tower, and the other at 1 m. from its base.

Adjoining the keep, is the **Sainte-Chapelle**, flanked sideways by a square tower, and built in 1461 in the style of the latest ogival period by the celebrated Dunois, who was also responsible for the contiguous wing. A second wing at right-angles to the main building, on the r. hand side, was added at the commencement of the XVI c. by François II of Orléans-Longueville who has displayed thereon all the elegance of the early days of the Renaissance. Note, particularly, the beautiful staircase pavilion. At the angle of the two wings another grand staircase, built by Dunois, belongs likewise to the Flamboyant Gothic style.


The visit to the Château can be made in the following manner : commence by going on to the *terrace* whence the view below looking over the valley is very fine indeed. Passing, then, on the ground floor,

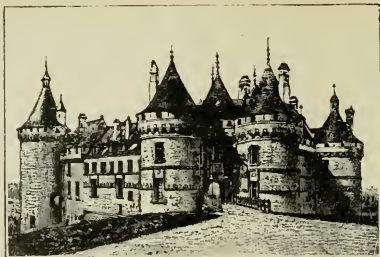
through the Renaissance wing, an ascent is made to the second story by the *Grand Renaissance staircase*, remarkable for the variety of its arabesques. Descend again to visit on the ground floor, a room with a fine fireplace, the *salle des Gardes* (immense chimney-piece), then in the basement, the *dining-room* of the guards (wide vaulted ceiling with slightly depressed arches), the big *kitchens*, the *pantry*, the *bakery*, and in a second basement, two rooms, one of which has a vaulted roof supported by columns. In re-ascending, the *prisons* and *cells* can be visited, then we arrive at the foot of the *Gothic staircase* which is almost as wide as the Renaissance one, but without any interior ornament. — Thence pass into the *Sainte-Chapelle*, curious for the arrangement of its unsymmetrical arches imitating, from pure fancy, those of the Dunois chapel in the Clery basilica. It contains three fine stone statues of the xv c. They are, starting from the l. side, those of the Saints Elizabeth of Hungary, Agatha, Barbe, Catherine, Agnes, then those of St. John the Evangelist, the Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist, Ste. Madeleine, St. François d'Assise, Ste. Marguerite; a statuette of Dunois; the statues of the Saints Jeanne, Mary of Egypt, and in the r. transept, that of a little girl borne by a dragon (this latter has reference to a legend according to which the daughter of Dunois, having fallen from a lofty tower, was miraculously supported in her fall by a dragon). The r. wall of this same transept is covered with a large and curious fresco of the xv or xvi c., restored, and which represents the **Last Judgement**. — From the chapel, by a third staircase, of the xv c., in a turret, ascend to the hall of the *tribunal révolutionnaire* where can still be seen the president's seat and the traces of a painting which depicted the revolutionary emblems.

OTHER SIGHTS

The *church of the Madeleine*, of the xiii and xv c., formerly forming part of an abbey, the vast buildings of which are now converted into the Hôtel-Dieu, the tribunal, the prison, and the sub-prefecture. — The *Saint-Valérien church*, of early ogival style (pretty Romanesque doorway; stone spire of the xv c.; legendary fresco of the xvi c., in 15 pictures). In the cemetery, is a pretty portal of the xv c. from the old chapel of *Notre-Dame de Champé*.


CHAUMONT

 **On-**
zain, sta-
tion (4 k.)
on the main
line from
Paris to
Tours (Or-
léans Rail-
way), 197 k.
from Paris;
1st. cl. 22
fr. 50, 2nd.
cl. 14 fr. 90,
3rd. cl. 9
fr. 70.



Property of Prince Amédée de Broglie.

the Loire
and Veuves:
— Tours :
41 k. by the
l. bank of
the Loire,
Amboise,
Lussault
and Mont-
louis (mid-
dling road,
level); 44
k. by the r.
bank of the
Loire, Veu-
res, Amboi-
se, Nazelles,
Noizay,
Vernou and

 **Dis-**
tances : —
Blois, 18 k.

by the Ecure bridge and the r. bank
of the Loire (fine and level); 21 k.
by the l. bank of the Loire, Candé
and Chailles (long hill between
Candé and Chailles); — Amboise :
17 k. by the l. bank of the Loire,
Rilly, Mosnes and Chargé; 18 k. by
the Ecure bridge, the r. bank of

Vourray level, excellent).

From the station to the Château :
— 1,500 m. — no omnibuses.

To visit : — Admission daily from
9 a. m. to 6 p. m. from Jan. 1 to July 31.
Thursday afternoons only from Aug. 1
to Dec. 31. Apply to the concierge.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Chaumont is a village of 1,135
inhab., on the l. bank of the Loire,
wedged in between the river and
the wooded hill which surrounds
the Château. It is connected with
the station and town of Onzain

(3k.) by the Ecure suspension bridge
and a beautiful avenue of plane
trees (1,500 m.).

Hôtels : — de l'Avenue du Château
or Méchain.

Post, telegraph and teleph. office.

HISTORY

Originally a feudal fortress, founded in the Xc. by a Danish cavalier
named Gelduin, the Château of Chaumont belonged in the XVc. to the
Amboise family. Pierre d'Amboise, having taken part in the League called
« le Bien public » (the Public Weal), Louis XI punished him by confisca-
ting and pulling down Chaumont. Later on, however, he gave back the
domain to his old enemy and authorised him to reconstruct the Château.
Pierre d'Amboise died in 1473 without having been able to take advantage
of the permission. It was his son Charles who commenced the present
magnificent Château in the transition style between the military architec-
ture of the middle ages and the early Renaissance. Charles II of Amboise,
who succeeded his father in 1481, received, at Chaumont, King Louis XII
and his uncle, the celebrated Cardinal Georges d'Amboise.

In 1560, Catherine de Médicis, purchased Chaumont but did not reside
there. The Queen-Mother, all powerful since the death of Henri II, forced
her old rival Diane de Poitiers to give her Chenonceaux, which she had

long coveted, and accept Chaumont in exchange. Diane de Poitiers abandoned Chaumont herself for Anet. The Château then passed in turn to the families of Bouillon, Turenne, La Marck, Sardini, Roffignac, Saint-Aignan and Rochecouart. In 1739, it was acquired by Nicolas Bertin de Vaugien, who pulled down the wing looking over the Loire so as to obtain a clear view of the valley. In 1758, a new proprietor, Jacques Le Ray, set up a pottery manufactory at Chaumont under the direction of the celebrated Italian Nini, who made those charming medallions in terra cotta which have now become so rare and so much sought after. Franklin was received at Chaumont, and his portrait executed by Nini. Later, the son Le Ray gave refuge there to Mme. de Staël who was pursued by the hatred of the Emperor.

Towards 1833, the Château became the property of the Count of Aramon, who undertook the first serious restoration, and collected the greater part of the furniture and artistic objects which now embellish the historical apartments. This furniture decoration, therefore, though not authentic, is very precious and in perfect taste. Prince Amédée de Broglie, who bought Chaumont in 1875, has had the restoration continued by the architect Sanson and the sculptor Margotin.

DESCRIPTION

The road which leads from the Onzain station to (1.500 m. S. W. or to the l.) *Chaumont*, passes over a level crossing of the railway and lined with superb poplar trees, continues on to the village of *Ecure* where it crosses the river over a suspension bridge of six spans (on the r. is a stone to commemorate the flood of 1856 which swept away the village of *Ecure*). Having crossed the bridge (on the l., are the remains of the ancient *Saint-Martin's Priory*), turn to the r. to follow the long street of the village in which, on the l., not far from the hotel, is the gate of the park (vehicles not admitted) whence a gentle sloping alley leads up to the Château. Further on in the village, is a pretty modern church of the xv c.

The **Château de Chaumont**, in which are blended the later Gothic and early Renaissance styles, is admirably situated above the village on the wooded slope overlooking the l. bank of the Loire and commanding a superb view of the course of the river. It consists of three irregular main buildings partly enclosing an interior court which opens on to a terrace on the Loire side, and has, on the exterior, four machicolated towers, two of which flank the entrance gate. Over the battlements of the r. tower can still be seen some figures that have been taken as cabalistic signs, and which are falsely attributed to Ruggieri. A drawbridge provides access to the gateway beneath which is a piece of old mosaic work representing a wildboar.

From the drawbridge, can be seen in a stone medallion (recently restored) which decorates the gateway, the initials of Louis XII and Anne of Brittany. On the top of this medallion, some armorial bearings are incrustated over the towers guarding the gateway : on the l. those of Georges d'Amboise surmounted by the cardinals' hat ; on the r. those of Charles d'Amboise who commenced the present Château after 1473. A frieze winding round the two towers and running along the wall bears, likewise, letters C elegantly entwined (the initials of Charles d'Amboise and his wife Catherine de Chauvigny), and some volcanoes, an allusion to the name of Chaumont (*Chaud-mont* = Warm-hill). Here

and there, can also be seen some D's attached, standing for Diane de Poitiers. Having passed through the gateway, we leave, on the l., a painted gallery, and find ourselves in the Court of Honour (beautiful well), a vast quadrilateral surrounded on three sides by the main buildings. Formerly the fourth side was, likewise, enclosed by buildings and flanked by two towers which were pulled down in the xviii c. to make room for the existing terrace overlooking the valley.

The *gallery* is composed of depressed arches supported by square, thick-set pillars with elegant capitals. The carved counterforts supporting the *grand staircase* show, also, many graceful details.


The left wing, inhabited by the proprietors, is not open to visitors.


Ascend the STAIRCASE OF HONOUR of the Louis XII style, to the first floor of the r. wing, in which are the historical apartments. The only rooms which can be visited are : — 1. *SALLE D'ARMES* : ceiling painted in 1559, with the arms of Chaumont and Amboise; an Italian bench in carved wood, 1530; Gothic lantern in wood; beautiful Flemish tapestries of the xvi c. (*Hannibal crossing the Alps*; *Judgment of Paris*); Arms and armour of the xv and xvi c.; Renaissance andirons in bronze; old pictures and antique furniture; — 2. *COUNCIL CHAMBER* : Pavement in coloured faïences of Palermo representing a hunting subject; magnificent Brussel tapestries, xvi c., depicting *the Days*; on the mantel of the fireplace is a fresco (re-painted) : *Fortune*; table and chest of thé xvi c.; Italian earthenware, one piece of which dates from 1621; — 3. *BEDROOM* attributed to CATHERINE DE MÉDICIS : Baldachin bedstead, a prie-dieu, wedding-presents and toilet-table said to have been owned by Catherine de Médicis (these articles never belonged to her, but they are very fine and are of the period; See « History », above); French tapestries of the time of Louis XII; medallions and two glasses engraved by Nini; scene of the Passion in carved wood; — 4. *CHAPEL* (no admittance, but it can be seen from the pulpit communicating with Catherine de Médicis' chamber) of the xv to the xvi c., except the roof which is more modern; two carved altar-screen shutters: hat of Cardinal d'Amboise; beautiful modern painted windows; flemish paintings on wood of the xv c. on the r. and l. of the altar); — 5. *Room* attributed to RUGGIERI, the astrologer of Catherine de Médicis (this room is in one of the corner towers, with wall 2 m. 50 in thickness) : chimney-piece in Delf earthenware; portrait of Ruggieri and two portraits of Catherine de Médicis; picture, on wood, of the xv c.; antique cylindrical chest; a dish by Bernard Palissy, one of his first attempts; Beauvais tapestry of the xvi c.; model of the Château (restored); from the chamber of Ruggieri, a private staircase ascends to the Platform of the tower which, according to legend, was used by him as an observatory; — 6. *CHAMBER* attributed to DIANE DE POITIERS (situated in the entrance-tower) r. hand side. The entrance is gained by a low door from the *salle d'armes*, with her portrait, above the fire place, and on the l., a medallion by Jean Goujon; bed (re-constructed), furniture and tapestry of the xvi c.; various interesting objects of the xv and xvi c.

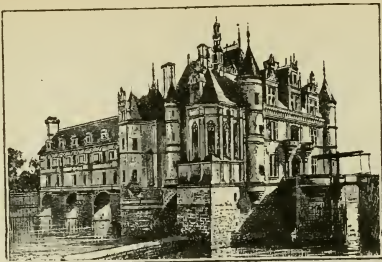
On the r. of the avenue preceeding the entrance, is the *promenade des Mottes* or *Mail de la Reine*; on the l. is a wild ravine, crossed by a rustic bridge.

After the Château has been visited, permission can be obtained to walk round the park and enter the stables, remarkably arranged, and the *riding-school* fitted up in the old furnace chamber of the potter, Nini.

CHENONCEAUX

 *Station on the Tours to Vierzon line (Orléans Railway), 32 k. from Tours.*

 **Distances :** —
Tours, 31 k.;
— Amboise, 13 k.; —
Blois, 40 k.,
by Montrichard, 9 k.;
— Loches, 32 k.,
by Bléré, 7 k.



Property of M. Terry.

— *The station of Chenonceaux is 1 k. E. of the village. The omnibus of the hotel du Bon-Laboureur meets all trains.*

To visit :
 — *Open daily from 10 a. m. to noon and from 2 p. m. to 6 p. m. Admission 1 franc.*





From the station to the Château : | *Apply to the concierge.*

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Chenonceaux is a village of 326 inhab. in the valley of the Cher (r. bank).

Omnibus : — 30 c. (return 50 c.).

Hotels : — *du Bon Laboureur and du Chateau* (omnibus 30 c., 50 c. return. breakf. 1 fr.; lunch, 2 fr. 50 and 3 fr.; at separate table : 3 fr. 50; din. 3 fr. 50; r. from 1 fr. 50 to 1 fr.;

pens. 7 fr. per day; teleph.  ; carriage (horse) for Amboise, 12 fr., Loches and Chaumont, 25 fr.); — *du Touriste* (breakf., 75 c.; lunch 2 fr. 25; din. 2 fr. 50; r. from 1 to 2 fr.; pens. 6 fr. per day;  ; garden and arbours. near the Château. — *Hotel-restaur. de la Gare.*
Post and telegh. office.

HISTORY

In 1496, Thomas Bohier, Receiver General of Finances in Normandy, acquired the domain of Chenonceaux from the de Marques family who had owned it since the XIII c. and commenced building a splendid residence on the site of a fortified mill, in 1515. He died, however, in the Milan duchy in 1523, without being able to complete the main building. He had engraved, in the ornaments of the tower of the Château, this prophetic device : « S'il vient à point, me souviendra » (« If completed, remember me »). The works were then continued under the direction of his wife, Catherine Briconnet. Her son was obliged to surrender Chenonceaux to the king in order to pay the debts contracted by his father, and the Constable of Montmorency took possession of it, in the king's name, in the year 1535. Francois I often came here to hunt. Henri II gave it to Diane de Poitiers, who had the arches of the bridge on the Cher built by Philibert Delorme. At the death of the king, however, she found herself obliged to give Chenonceaux to the Queen-Regent, Catherine de Médicis in exchange for Chaumont. Catherine de Médicis continued the construction : In 1560, she had constructed, by Philibert Delorme, a long gallery

on the bridge erected by Diane, then some magnificent stables to the r. of the court of honour. It was her favourite residence. She bequeathed it to Queen Louise de Vaudémont, wife of Henri III, who passed there, in mourning, the last years of her life, and died there in 1601. Chenonceaux belonged afterwards to the dukes of Vendôme, to Marie-Anne de Bourbon, grand-daughter of the Great Condé, to the Dowager-Princess of Condé and to the duc de Bourbon, who, in 1730 sold it to M. Dupin, Farmer-General. During this long period, it had been almost entirely abandoned by its proprietors. M. and Mme. Dupin revived its ancient splendour and received, there, the cream of contemporary society: Fontenelle, Montesquieu, Buffon, Condillac, the Abbot of Saint-Pierre, Bolingbroke, Voltaire, Mesdames de Boufflers, du Luxembourg, de Rohan-Chabot, de Forcalquier, de Mirepoix, de Tencin and du Dessant. Rousseau, entrusted with the education of M. de Chenonceaux, only son of M. Dupin, also came to Chenonceaux (1747) as he relates in his Confessions. Mme. Dupin had proved herself worthy of so much esteem and sympathy that the Revolution allowed her to live in peace at Chenonceaux, where she died, aged 93, in 1799.

Chenonceaux, after having belonged, for about twenty years, to Mme. Pelouze, daughter-in-law of the celebrated chemist, who had bought it from M. le comte de Villeneuve, nephew of Mme. Dupin, became in 1888 the property of the Crédit Foncier who sold it in 1891 to a wealthy American, M. Terry. The restoration of the Château, entrusted to the architect Roguet and still incomplete, has already cost more than two million francs.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château of Chenonceaux** is celebrated as much for its charming Renaissance architecture as for the originality of its situation across the bed of the Cher. Access thereto is gained from the r. bank, towards the village of Chenonceaux. A magnificent avenue of plane-trees passing over the level railway crossing leads to the gates of the park (325 acres), where visitors must alight from their vehicles.

The avenue of plane-trees is continued through the park and ends at the fore-court of the Château, the entrance to which is guarded by two sphinxes, on the right of which stretches out the *Domes buildings* (servants apartments and stables), commenced by Philibert Delorme, and curious for the shape of its roofing.

A draw-bridge gives access to the rectangular terrace surrounded by a wide moat of running water which indicates the perimeter of the ancient Château of the de Marques family. Of this former Château there only remains, on the right side of the terrace, but the **keep** (*donjon*), a fine round tower of the xv c., renovated in Renaissance style by Bohier. The tower (store for sale of souvenirs, etc.) is occupied by the concierge who shows visitors round the Château. To the r. and l. are two pretty formal French gardens running along the r. bank of the Cher.

From the terrace, a few steps and a bridge bring the visitor to the Château de Bohier built on the solid foundations of the old mill, which are sunk right into the bed of the Cher and divided into two massive-abutments by a narrow archway. This Château forms a vast square pavilion flanked at each corner by a bracketed turret in which is displayed a wealth of early Renaissance ornament; on the E. façade (above stream) the chapel and a small outbuilding depending there-

from, form a double projection enclosing a little terrace on the ground floor. Each story is divided, according to a very simple plan, into four large rooms.

The **Great Gallery**, built by Philibert Delorme, adjoins the S. facade of Bohier's Château with which it forms a striking contrast by the sobriety of its classical style. 60 m. high and two stories high, it stands on five arches separated by abutments on each of which is a semi-circular turret rising up to the level of the first story. It was intended to terminate the Gallery on the r. bank of the Cher, by a big pavilion similar to Bohier's Château at the other extremity, but the death of Catherine put an end to this project.


A visit to the interior of the Château can be made as follows : — At the entrance (pretty carved panels on the xvi c. door); — **vestibule** roofed with prismatic ribs, passing through the middle of the Château de Bohier; — on the l. a pretty *door* (St. Thomas and Ste. Catherine, patron saints of Bohier and his wife) gives access to the dining-room, formerly the **Salle des Gardes** (ceiling with painted joists shewing the initial letter of Catherine de Médicis; chimney-piece with the arms of the Briçonnet family; Flemish tapestries representing the Rape of Helen); a *door* in carved wood (xvi c.; St. Hubert) connects the dining-room with the **Chapel** (painted windows of 1521). — Further along the vestibule to the l. is the **Chamber of Diane de Poitiers** (fine carved chimney-piece; Flemish tapestries of the xv c.; Italian library; Education of Love by *Correggio*; following on, the **CABINET VERT** has retained its decoration of the time of Catherine de Médicis (Henri II furniture; two studies of heads by *P. Veronese*; The Queen of Sheba, Venetian School) and is continued by a small cabinet projecting over the river (ceiling divided into wooden compartments) — Having returned to the vestibule, visit, on the r. hand side, the **Chamber of François I** (chimney-piece in carved stone; Italian piece of furniture of the xv c.; Louis XIII furniture; window-panes of the archives with valuable autographs; Diane de Poitiers by *le Primatice*; Marie de Médicis by *Ph. de Champaigne*; Louis XV, by *Van Loo*; the Three Graces by the same). — Pass along the lower story of the gallery where can be seen the old ceiling, with its mournful decoration, of the room of Louise de Vaudémont, widow of Henri III. Visitors are no longer admitted to the upper story, formerly decorated by Mme. Pelouze in deplorable taste and known by the name of *Galerie Louis XIV*. This gallery is now divided into compartments. Applications can still be made to visit, in the two piers supporting the Bohier's Château, the oldest portion (xiii c.) of Chenonceaux (vaulted kitchens, small vaulted room formerly used, apparently, as a prison, the Queen's baths, bakery and dining-room).

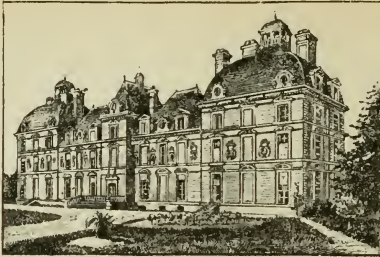
OTHER SIGHTS

The *church* of Chenonceaux is a small and very modest building with a Renaissance door, next to which is an important building of the xvi c. called *Maison des Pages de François I*.


The *Etablissement Horticole Mechin* is celebrated for its grapevines and especially for its collections of peonies (Apply at the mansion).

CHEVERNY

 *Station of Cour-Cheverny (1,500 m.) on the Blois to Romorantin line, Orleans - Railway, 21 k. from Blois. — A carriage is generally taken from Blois to Cheverny, visiting Chambord and Beauregard at the same time, making a delightful run through the forests of Boulogne and Russy (see Information, p. 41).*



Property of the Marquis de Vibraye.

 *Distances : — Blois, 44 k.; — Chambord, 47 k., by Brucieux, 9 k.; — Romorantin, 28 k.; Selles-sur-Cher, 28 k., by Contres, 9 k.; — Saint-Aignan, 25 k., by Contres, 9 k.*

To visit :

— Visitors are admitted between 1st. of April and 1st. of Oct.: apply to the concierge.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The station, post, teleg. office and inns are at *Cour-Cheverny* 1 k. from Cheverny.

Hotels : — *des Trois Marchands* (carriages on hire); *des Voyageurs*; — *de la Croix-Blanche*.

HISTORY

The seigniory of Cheverny was, from the XIV c., the property of the Hurault family. At the beginning of the XVI c. Raoul Hurault had a Château built on the site now occupied by the servant's rooms. The illustrious chancellor, Philippe Hurault, born at Cheverny in 1528, promoted this domain to a viscomity. This son was made Comte de Cheverny and it is he who built the present Château in 1634. After having passed through many hands, Cheverny was re-purchased by the Marchioness Hurault de Vibraye in 1825 and thus returned to the family who had founded it and who still own it. The Marquis and the Marchioness of Vibraye reside at Cheverny every autumn with their son and daughter-in-law. The Comte de Vibray owns a pack of staghounds and hunts the stays in the surrounding forests.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Cheverny** stands in the middle of a large park laid out in English fashion, and faces an avenue some 6 k long. « It is », says La Saussaye, « a noble, regular and magnificent habitation. Its architecture inclines, in many details, to the Renaissance periods and by its general aspect, to the style which reached its apogee in the reign of Louis XIV. » The pavilion erected at each extremity of the building has a domed roof crowned by an open cupola or lantern.

According to Félibien, the architect of this beautiful monument came from Blois, and was called Boyer.

In the interior can be seen : — On the ground floor to the r., a *gallery* and a *dining-room*, the panels of which are decorated with curious paintings by the Blois artist, Jean Mosnier (xvii c.). These were restored in recent times, and represent Scenes from the *Life of Don Quixote*. In the dining-room, note, in addition, the leather hangings by Cordoue, a magnificent sideboard, a chimney-piece of the time of Henri IV and a beautiful painted ceiling; on the l., is an *antichamber*, a large and a small *drawing-room*, a *billiard-room* and a *gallery* adorned with beautiful furniture and artistic objects, notably the family and historical portraits by Porbus, Clouet, Mignard, Rigaud as well as two canvases by Hubert Robert. — On the 1st. floor are the *King's Apartments* which comprise : the *Salle des Gardes* (armour, admirably preserved paintings; over the mantel piece, adorned with carvings, coarsely executed but bold in outline, are paintings representing the Life of Adonis; Flemish tapestry depicting the Rape of Helen); the *King's Chamber*, to the r. of the *Salle des Gardes* (paintings due, like all the others in the Château, to the Blois artist, Jean Mosnier, and representing the History of Perseus and that of Theagenes and Charicleia; beautiful tapestries; antique furniture; amongst others, an old strong bed and the travelling chest of Henri IV.


Note the charming carved panels of the staircase, which runs up the centre of the main building and ends on the 2nd. floor at the *chapel* (Admission to visit is difficult to obtain). This chapel contains a black marble table on which can be read the beautiful epitaph of Chancellor Hurault, and an inscription in French verse taken from the Saint-Calais chapel (Château de Blois).

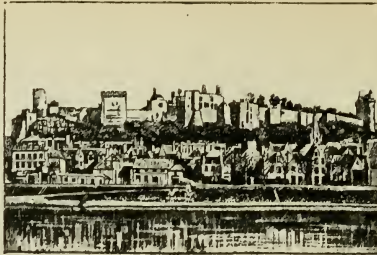
A pleasant promenade can be made in the park which is embellished by a vast lake called le *Miroir*.

OTHER SIGHTS


Cheverny church (facing the entrance to the Château) is partly surrounded by an old and picturesque wooden gateway. Here, can be seen, at the top of the r. aisle, some interesting marble memorial tablets of the Hurault family.

CHINON

 *Station on the Tours to Sables line (State Railway), 50 k. from Tours, 1st. cl. 5 fr. 10, 2nd. cl. 3 fr. 80, 3rd. cl. 2 fr. 45.*



Property of the town.

 **Dis-**
tances : —
Tours, 46
k.; *via*
Azay-le-Ri-
deau, 21 k.;
— Tours, 51
k., *via* Ussé,
13 k., Rivarennés, 18 k. and Azay-
le-Rideau, 27 k.; — Langeais, 27 k.,
via Ussé, 13 k. and Bréhémont, 21 k.;
— Langeais, 36 k. *via* Ussé, 13 k.,
and Azay-le-Rideau, 27 k.; — Bour-
gueil, 17 k., *by* the Port-Boulet bridge;
— Saumur, 29 k., *via* Montsoreau,
17 k.; — Loudun, 24 k.; — Châtelle-
rault, 49 k., *via* Richelieu, 20 k.; —
Loches, 64 k., *via* Sainte-Maure, 32 k.

From the station to the Châ-

teau : — 15
min. on foot,
or by the
hotel omni-
buses, from
the station
to the place
de l'Hôtel-
de-Ville,
centre of
the town, by
the avenues
Alsace-Lor-
raine, Sol-
férino, the
place Jean-
ne-d'Arc
and the
quays.





From the place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville,
a roadway, which opens to the r. of a
house with an old sun-dial ascends
direct to the rue du Puy-des-Bancs,
which forms a terrace with the side of
the hills (very fine view) and leads
to the Château on the l. (10 min.).

To visit : — Open daily from 9 a.
m. to 6 p. m. Gardens from 1 p. m.
to 7 p. m. from Apl. 1 to Nov. 1. The
concierge shows visitors round.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Chinon, chief town of the arron-
dissement (Indre-et-Loire), 5,813 in-
hab., is beautifully situated at the
foot and on the slope of the hills
of the r. bank of the Vienno on the
summit of which are the ruins
of an immense Château. A fine
quay has replaced the old ramparts
that were at the edge of the river.
A stone bridge, supported by a
shaded island, connects the town
with the *fauboury Saint-Jacques*,
on the l. bank. The narrow, wind-
ing streets have still some curious
houses with turrets (xv and xvi c.)
and interesting strolls are made
here by artists.

Omnibus : — 30 c.; with 30 kilogr.
of luggage, 50 c.

Hotels : — *de France* (bus, 40 c.
per person, 50 c. incl. luggage;
breakf., 75 c., lunch, 2 fr. 50, din.
3 fr., at sep. tables 50 c. extra; r
from 2. to 7 fr.; pens. 7 fr. 50 per
day; ; ; brake), place de
l'Hôtel-de-Ville; — *de la Boule-*
d'Or (bus, 30 c.; breakf., 75 c.,
lunch 2 fr. 50, din. 3 fr.; r. from
2 fr.; ; ), 18, quai Jeanne-
d'Arc; — *du Lion-d'Or, de l'Union*,
both place Jeanne-d'Arc.

Café : — *de la Paix et du Commerce*.
Post, telegraph and telephone.
— 26, quai Jeanne-d'Arc.

Job Masters : — *F. Bossard*,
Lorito, both place de l'Hôtel-de-
Ville; — *Guellerin*, 51, rue du Fau-
bourg-Saint-Jacques.

Motor-Cars and Cycles : *Audouire-Petit*, stores at quai Jeanne-d'Arc, work-shop and garage, 8, quai Pasteur (cars for hire, repairs, fittings); — *Lenoble*, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville; — *Malézy* (agency

Peugeot), 20, rue du Commerce; — *Schmitt-Lambert*, 11, rue du Commerce.

Photography: — *Materials*, *Audoucet*, chemist, rue and place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville.

HISTORY

The site of the Château of Chinon (Caïno) was originally a Celtic « *Oppidum* », and afterwards, a Roman « *Castrum* ». Several railways connect it with Tours, Saumur, the He-Bouchard, etc. In 427, St. Brice founded a parochial church here; later, St. Merme created a monastery and built, here, a second church, which was afterwards converted into an ecclesiastical college. Clovis made Chinon one of the fortresses of his kingdom.

In the X and XI c. Chinon was the property of the Comtes de Blois, one of whom, Thibaut III, had to surrender it to Geoffroy Martel (1044), Comte d'Anjou. It was thus that in the XII c., the town became part of the possessions of Henry II Plantagenet, King of England. This monarch preferred Chinon to all other continental towns; he often resided at the Château, died there in 1189, and was buried at Fonterrault (see p. 25). According to local tradition, his son Richard, Cœur de Lion, mortally wounded at the siege of Châlus in Limousin, was conveyed to Chinon and died there also. It is certain, however, that he was, likewise, interred at Fonterrault where his statue and tomb are still to be seen. When Philippe Auguste reunited Touraine to France, Chinon only surrendered after a twelve months' siege (1204-1205).

Under Philippe le Long (1324), 160 Jews, accused of having poisoned the wells of the town, were burned on an island of the Vienne. In 1428, Charles VII assembled the States-General here whilst the English were besieging Orleans. It was here, also, where Joan of Arc was first introduced to the King, and where she decided to relieve Orleans.

Under Louis XI, Philippe de Commines was governor of the Château and of the town. In 1631, Chinon became the property of Cardinal Richelieu whose descendants retained the seigniorial rights until the Revolution.

Rabelais, according to some writers, was born at Chinon, but according to others, his birthplace is in the domain of the Devinière, close by.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Chinon** is composed of three fortresses quite distinct from each other, separated by deep ditches, and erected in one straight line from E. to W., on a lengthy oblong plateau surrounded by escarpments overlooking the r. bank of the Vienne.

The **Château de Saint-Georges**, the least ancient and yet the most dilapidated of the three, a sort of advanced fortress, was added in the XII c. to the original Châteaux by Henry Plantagenet (Henri II of England). It stands outside and in front of the present encircling wall, on the E. side. The ruins can be seen on the r., when arriving at the Châteaux by the rue du Puy-des-Banes. All that remains is the surrounding wall, which has been razed to the level of the interior ground. Vineyards now occupy its site.

Beyond the ruins of the Château Saint-Georges, we arrive at the second or Middle Château, by an elegant viaduct thrown over a deep

ditch. Facing the viaduct, the entrance doorway opens into the beautiful **Pavillon de l'Horloge** of the xiv c. (Ring at the bell for admittance).

The **Château du Milieu** (Middle Château), built on the ruins of a Roman *Castrum*, remains of which have been discovered, shows portions of the xi, xii and xiii c. building, but it was restored under Charles VI, Charles VII and Louis XI.

Its enceinte almost rectangular and very long, has been converted into laid out gardens; on the summit of the ramparts overlooking the town and the valley, stood the *Grand Logis*, a royal dwelling of which only the walls, xii to xv c. remain (the best preserved portions are the chimneys). It was in this *Grand Logis* that Henry II of England died (1189). Charles VII and Louis XI also resided here. In the Grande Salle du Trône (of which only the W. gable and a vast chimney-piece remain). Joan of Arc was introduced to Charles VII (8th. March 1429). After her interview with the king, until the 20th. April, the date of her departure for Orleans, she occupied a tower of the Château du Coudray, under the guard of Guillaume Bélier, a lieutenant of the captain of Chinon. In front of the wall opposite the town, stands the *Tour des Chiens*, and at the N. W. corner, the *Tour d'Argenton* (prison cells).

The *Grand Logis*, flanked by a square tower at its exterior corner, is separated by a deep ditch from the third fortress, the **Château du Coudray** (to the W.), to which access is gained by a bridge. Its walls likewise laid out as gardens, have the form of a trapezium flanked with formidable towers. At the corner of the ditch stands the magnificent *Tour de Boissy*, of the xiii c. (salle de garde containing a cannon of the xvi c.), polygonal and oblong in form, terminated by a platform with battlements which is a fanciful restoration. In the middle of the front looking towards the ditch stands a fine circular keep (*donjon*) of the xiii c. Notice, also, should be taken of the *Tour du Moulin*, at the S. W. corner, the tallest and slenderest of all of them (on the ground floor, is a pretty arched room enclosing a Gallic-Roman stela, some stone cannon-balls and lapidary remnants), which served at times as a watch-tower, and a bastion of the xvi c. Part of the curtain on the W. side dates back as far as 954, the period when the original Château du Coudray was built by Thibaut le Tricheur. The other towers are of the xii c., and have been razed to the level of the terrace, where a well, some 47 m. deep has been dug out.

The Château de Chinon has been restored in certain parts (the S. curtain and the *Tour Saint-Martin*) by Joly-Leterme.

On leaving the Château, after having crossed the bridge of the Pavillon de l'Horloge, the **Echo** can be reached in 10 min., by taking immediately to the l., the road which passes between the Château du Milieu and the fort Saint-Georges. At the Octroi Offices, where the main road is rejoined, ask for the road to the Echo. Curious effects are obtained; sounds are repeated up to nine syllables.

ITINERARY OF THE TOWN

Coming from the station by the avenues *Alsace-Lorraine* and *Solférino*, we come out at the E. end of the town, on to the place *Jeanne d'Arc* (equestrian statue of Joan of Arc, in bronze, by Roulleau, 1893). Here, commences the *quais de la Vienne*, shaded by beautiful plane trees (on the r., a turret crowned by a pyramid; towards the river in the midst of flower-beds, is a bronze statue of Rabelais, by Emile Hébert). Opposite the

statue, a street leads to the place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, shaded by chestnut trees. If we continue along the quay, we arrive at the bridge, whence, by the *rue Carnot*, then to the r., the *rue du Commerce*, we can reach the *place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville*, by this way, also (in the middle, in front of the *hôtel de ville*, is a cast iron fountain, showing the Three Graces).

From the place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, we can visit the **rue Voltaire** which has an almost uninterrupted line of **curious old houses**.

The **Saint-Maurice church** (to the l., below the *rue Voltaire*) presents a charming nave in the Plantagenet style (grand modern fresco), to which on the r. has been joined, in the xvi c., a nave covered by a fan-tracing vault. The steeple, with two stories of Romanesque windows, is crowned by a stone spire of the xv c.

The vaults, of the xii c., are interesting for their ornamental keystones, painted and gilded, and for the carved statuettes at the spring of the ribs. The choir is flanked by two chapels, adorned, like itself, with polychromatic paintings. The one on the r. was enlarged in the xvi c., in the style of the more recent nave, to which it serves as an extension. Notice, also, the ancient windows, and a 'Descent from the Cross' attributed to Rubens.

From the place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, runs in an E. direction, the **rue J.-J. Rousseau**, whence descending to the r. in the direction of the river, are the *rues de la Lamproie* (at No. 15, is an inscription pointing out the site of Rabelais' house in the xvi c.), *Marceau* and *Philippe-de-Commines*. At the corner of the latter, stands a wooden house in which is carved the **Stoning of St Stephen** (much mutilated).

Lower down, in the same street, the **Saint-Etienne church**, with a unique nave, was commenced under Charles VII and completed by Philippe de Commines (his arms on the facade). The principal portal divided into two bays, is particularly rich in ornament.

In the interior is a marble statue of Joan of Arc by Sicard; altar with screen of the time of Henri IV; flat tombstone of the xiv c.; apply to the sexton to see the celebrated cope, of Arabian origin (x or xi c.), called the **Cope of Saint-Mexme**.


The **museum of Old Chinon** (open daily from 10 a. m. to 11 a. m., and from 1 p. m. to 3 or 4 p. m. Admission 25 c.) installed in an old mansion, 86, *rue J.-J. Rousseau*, contains a collection of retrospective art and of local history. It was formed in 1906 by the Society *des Amis du Vieux-Chinon*.

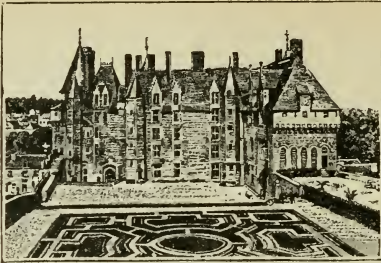
The *rue J.-J. Rousseau* is continued past the **Saint-Mexme church**, an old Church-House which, since 1789, was no longer used for worship. All that now remains of the building is the narthex, its two towers and the central nave, now used as a school. The facade shows some curious remains of carvings and ornaments of the first half of the xi c. The l. tower is Romanesque and has preserved some curious frescoes of the xi c. The r. tower, which is entirely of the xv c., contains interesting paintings of this period. In the central nave will be noticed the small stones used for the building and the windows joined together by a cordon of mouldings.

In the *rue J.-J. Rousseau* and in those which branch therefrom are several *ancient houses*, some of which in stone, and skillfully restored, present many beautiful Renaissance details.


At the back of the town some immense quarries, called *Les Valains* (beautiful stalactites) can be visited. But it is unwise to venture there unaccompanied by a guide.

LANGEAIS

 *Station on the main line from Paris to Nantes, by Orléans and Tours (State Railway), 261 k. from Paris in 4 h. by express. 1st. cl. 29 fr. 45, 2nd. cl. 19 fr. 75, 3rd. cl. 12 fr. 85.*



— 40 min. on foot; leaving the station, turn to the l., cross la place du XIV-Juillet and take the rue Gambetta on the l.

 **Distances :** — Paris, 256 k.; — Tours, 24 k.; — Saumur, 41 k.; — Azay-le-Rideau, 9 k.; — Ussé, 4 k.; — Ussé, 23 k., via Azay-le-Rideau, 9 k.; — Villandry, 12 k., via Lignéres, 3 k.

Property of the Institut de France.

To visit : — The concierge shows visitors round every day from 9 a. m. to 11 a.

m. and 1. 30 p. m. to 6 p. m. (4 p. m. in winter). The Château is closed from Dec. 15 to Feb. 15; entrance 1 fr. per pers., for the benefit of the Institut de France. Apply to the concierge.

From the station to the Château :

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Langeais is a small town of 3,550 inhab., chief town of the canton (Indre-et-Loire), on the r. bank of the Loire, at the opening of the Roumer vale.

Hotels : — *du Lion-d'Or* (lunch, 3 fr.; cabs on hire); — *de l'Écu de France*.

Post, telegraph and telephone.

N. B. — Apart from the interest which the Château itself offers, Langeais is an excellent starting place for visiting Ussé and Azay-le-Rideau, by making a circular trip of 38 k. : after crossing the Langeais suspension bridge, take to the r. the road which descends the l. bank of the Loire and passes through (6 k.) *Bréhémont*. — 12 k. 5. Take to the r. the avenue du (13 k. 5) Château d'Ussé (See p. 125). From there, by (19 k.) *Rivareanes* and the l. bank of the Indre we reach (29 k.) Azay-le-Rideau (See p. 67), whence, by the r. bank of the Indre and (36 k.) *Lignéres*, a direct return to 38 k. Langeais is made (unless the return journey be made by the Azay-le-Rideau to Tours railway). Carriages can always be hired at the hôtel du Lion-d'Or; Fare for this excursion 18 fr.; time about 5 h.

HISTORY

Langeais existed as far back as the V c. when it was known by the name of Alangavia. The old Château, was built in 990 by Foulques-Nerra, Comte d'Anjou, and the new edifice was erected by Jean Bourré, minister of Louis XI about 1450. Among the important historical events which took place there, mention must be made of the drawing up of the Customs of

Touraine by order of Charles VIII, and, most important of all, the marriage of Charles VIII with Anne of Brittany (Dec. 16. 1491).

The domain of Langeais has been the property, among others, of: in 1270, Pierre de Brosse, barber and minister of Philippe the Bold; in 1466, Francois d'Orleans, son of the celebrated « batarde »; then the families of du Bellay, d'Effiat, barons of Cinq Mars; and finally of the Duc de Luynes, to whom it belonged at the outbreak of the Revolution. Langeais is now the property of M. Jacques Siegfried, who has had it restored by the architect Lucien Roy, furnished it in the style of the period and presented it to the Institut de France reserving the usufruit for himself and his wife during their lifetime:

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Langeais** is composed of two distinct parts. On the little promontory cut by the valley of the Roumer, there still remain the ruins of the old keep ('donjon') of Foulque Nerra, the oldest of the French 'donjons'. At the foot of the hill is the Château of Jean Bourré, an imposing construction of the middle of the xv c., which retains all its defensive equipment and the stern aspect of a feudal fortress. It is composed of two wings forming an open angle on its interior side looking towards the hill of the 'donjon'. The exterior perforated by uncommon windows, crowned by machicolis and a covered watch-balcony running round, of 135 m. in circumference, is flanked by three enormous and magnificent towers with conical roofs. From the town, some steps and a drawbridge give access to the entrance made between two of the towers. The interior facade, more exposed, has a less austere appearance, with its lofty dormer windows and the three turrets with angular spires. Being absolutely intact, the Château de Langeais offers not only the greatest interest for its architecture; its irreproachable furniture in the taste of the period, and the artistic objects which M. Siegfried has collected there, have, likewise, re-impacted to the Château its animated character of former times, and form with its architectural setting a complete and harmonious *ensemble*.

The visit to the interior can be made as follows: — 1. VESTIBULE: Tapestries of the xv c.; a shrine in gilded wood, of the xiii c.; — 2. ROOM: tapestries of forest scenery of the xv c.; panels from Moulin-la-Marche (Orne); Virgin of the xv c.; chest in carved walnut wood: Flagellation, in wood of the xv c.; — 3. SALON DES FLEURS: andirons of Jean Goujon; woodwork and cupboard copied from the models of Saint-Germain-l'Auxerrois; credence table from the Aoste valley; screen of Louise de Vaudémont; book of Anne of Brittany; — 4. BILLIARD ROOM: paintings and frescoes, copy from Coucy; door of the xv c.; — 5. DINING ROOM, formerly the *Salle des Gardes*: beautiful paving; superb chimney-piece due to Francois d'Orléans, Francois I andirons; two choir stalls of the xv c. removed from Arques; bronze mortar of 1535; Italian tripod in iron of the xiii c.

1st. Floor. — 1st room: bed, credence table and virgin of the xv c.; tapestry of the xv c.: The Crucifixion; fragments of German tapestry; painting on wood of the xv c.: The Kiss of Judas; tapestry of 1527: St John the Baptist and St Saturnin; Flamboyant Gothic chest; picture of Henner; — 2nd. room: bed, copy from the xiii c.; chest of the xv c.; Spanish tapestries, xv c.; GRAND SALON, where the marriage of Charles VIII and Anne of Brittany was celebrated; seven tapestries of

1535; Spanish choir-stalls, xv c.; bust in bronze of Charles VIII on a fine credence table; Louis XII and Anne of Brittany, painting on wood; music-desk and light-holder, iron work of the xv c.; Gothic chest; Anne of Austria cushions; picture by Henner: Madeleine.


2nd. Floor: — 1st room: tapestry of the xvi c.; tapestry with the arms of Croy; Siena cabinet xvi c.; cupboard xvi c.; Spanish chest; — 2nd room: credence table and Flemish triptych xv c.; Italian cradle; old chest; copy of the Virgin in the Chair, of Raphaël; model, in cardboard, of Cologne cathedral.

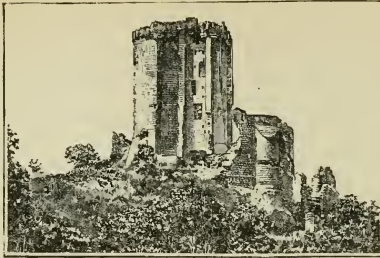
3rd. Floor. — 1st room: tapestry depicting a rural fête; andirons with the Montmorency arms; chest and choir-stall xvi c.; Gothic bedstead. Then pass through the *GRANDE SALLE*, covered by a wooden arched ceiling which extends over the Grand Salon and the Salle des Gardes, pass right round the exterior side of the Château by the *covered watch-balcony* which runs above the machicoulis (curious views over the town and the valley). Having come to its end, visit two more rooms: — 2nd. room: Spanish tapestries, xv c., depicting The Creation, The Temptation of Adam and Eve; door-curtain representing Louis XI and his astrologer; 3rd. room (underneath): bedstead xv c.; tapestries of 1450 from the Abbey of Ronceray of Angers; choir-stall xvi c. — An exit is made on to the curtain enclosing the garden, on the side of the valley.

OTHER SIGHTS

Opposite the Château, the first *house* on the l. on coming out, was inhabited by *Rabelais*. The street opening on the same side ascends to the *church* of the ix and xii c., restored in recent times, except the steeple and the apsis. On the r. commences the *rue Anne-de-Bretagne*, at the end of which can be seen to the l. the fine *suspension bridge* over the Loire.


LAVARDIN

 *Stopping place on the Tours to Sargé line (State Railway) 56 k. from Tours. — At 2 k., Montoire station on the Tours to Sargé line and by Blois, Vendôme and Château-du-Loir line.*



Property of the commune.

The most agreeable way of getting to Lavardin is to make a delightful trip by road through the charming valley of the Loir, from Vendôme to Montoire.

 **Distances :** — *Montoire, 2 k.; — Vendôme, 17 k., by Saint-Rimay and the route of the l. bank of*

the Loir; — Châteauneault, 18 k., by St-Arnoult and Authon; — Blois, 43 k., by Sasnières, 5 k., Ambloy, 8 k., Saint-Amand, 12 k., Gomburgeau, 19 k., 5 and l'Herbault, 26 k.; — Tours, 47 k., via Châ-

teaneault, 18 k.: — Château-du-Loir, 41 k., via Montoire, 2 k., Trôo, 8 k., Pont-de-Braye, 15 k., and la Chartre, 26 k.

To visit : — *Ask for the keys at the tavern (Auberge Jacquet) where a guide, candles and matches can also be obtained.*

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Lavardin is a village of 100 inhab., built in amphitheatre form in a bend of the steep slopes, which dominate the l. bank of the Loir, at the great curve formed by the river between les Roches and

Montoire. — Post and telegraph office at *Montoire*, 2 k.; — *Jacquet* tavern at the entrance of the town by the side of the bridge (famous for white wine, and dainty dishes of fried-fish).

FROM MONTOIRE TO LAVARDIN

The majority of tourists go to Lavardin from Montoire (2 k.). They have the choice of two roads. — The first continues along the rue St-Laurent, in which is situated the hôtel de ville, re-ascends the r. bank of the Loir which it crosses at the entrance of the village by a viaduct of nine arches spanning a marshy prairie, and then over an old bridge of three arches. — The second, less suitable for vehicular traffic, but more shaded and more picturesque, affords a delightful walk to pedestrians (30 min.). It starts from the faubourg Saint-Outrille and is bounded by the l. bank of the Loir on one side and steep slopes on the other (numerous caves many of which are used as dwellings. The most remarkable, called the *Grotte des Vierges*, near Lavardin, has some fine apartments divided into two stories). On approaching Lavardin, the escarpment is broken by the opening into the *Reclusages* vale; the inclines of which also contain numerous caves. The vale, is ended some 200 on 300 m.

from the road by a wall of rock forming a kind of circus over 10 m. high, from which a cascade and stream flow into the Loir.

HISTORY

The fortress of Lavardin was rebuilt in the XI and XII c., completely re-modelled at the end of the XIV c. Jean VIII of Bourbon, who had the grand staircase reconstructed, died here suddenly on the 6th. Jan. 1477 whilst in the act of reading a letter from Louis XI, a letter which according to the chroniclers, is said to have concealed some subtle poison. In 1589, Lavardin was occupied by the Leaguers, who again took possession of it in 1590. The same year, the Prince of Conti, lieutenant of Henri IV, forced the fortress to capitulate and had it dismantled.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Lavardin**, the finest feudal ruin of the valley of the Loir, stands majestically above the l. bank of the Loir, on the extremity of a promontory cut by a deep ravine in which, all huddled together, are the houses of the valley.

The fortress, 190 m. in length, and covering an area of 10 to 12 acres, is surrounded by a triple wall forming three pedestals or ledges, overlooking which is a fourth on which rests the keep. There are still remains of the first wall near the old entrance gate of the Château, close to the road from Montoire. The towers of the entrance gate (xiv c.) have been partly preserved and the ruins of two others are still to be seen on the r. of the lane leading into the ruins. Opening on to the second ledge are some caves which have been cut into the rock.

The third wall, of which some ruins still exist, protected the residential quarters. Access is gained thereto by an incline emerging close to a big round *tour* (xiii and xiv c.), which stands on the E. point of the pedestal. Among the ruins of the residential quarters, notice the magnificent *Staircase of Honour*, built by Jean VIII de Bourbon in the xv c. Some of the steps are 3 m. in width, and prominent in the lower part is a polygonal pillar adorned with a carved niche.

On the first story, the staircase ends at a doorway with Tudor arch decorated with elegant mouldings.

The pedestal, upon which the keep is built, is raised about 14 m. above the preceding ledge. Access was probably gained thereto by a staircase starting from the square terrace to which in another part, the « *Staircase of Honour* » led. A vaulted room extended under this terrace, the groins of which rested on a central pillar.

Of the **Keep** or '*Donjon*', there still remain the W. wall, a part of the E. wall, and the S. wall which is joined to the two former. This imposing mass is still some 40 m. high. On the ground floor, the interior has retained on its three sides the groins and springs of an arched roof of the xiv c. The door is adorned with the arms of Bourbon-Vendôme. On the first floor was the Great-Hall (11 m. long by 7 m. wide). Notice, there, the beautiful Gothic window and a chimney-piece decorated with a fleur-de-lys escutcheon, supported by two angels. On the second story is preserved a chimney-piece and half of its vaulted roof with rich ribs resting upon brackets adorned with escutcheons. The third floor must have formed two rooms, as evidenced by the two fireplaces still partly in existence. Finally, on top of the keep walls is a Roundway or watch-gallery set off with machicoulis (xv c.), and bounded by a parapet with


battlements. The ascent to the Roundway is now made by ladders, and at the summit a very extensive view can be obtained.


Of the three towers which flanked the keep on the W. side, two still remain : the *Tour des Oubliettes* (three floors of low vaulted rooms, having been used as cells, and cess-pools, which, in error, were thought to have been deep dungeons) and the N. W. tower, called the *Tour du Guet* or *Watch Tower*.

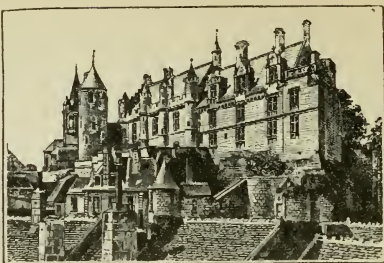
OTHER SIGHTS

In the village, can be seen some old houses (one of the xiii c., others of the Renaissance). The **Romanesque church** dates from the commencement of the xii c. In the facade and in the exterior walls will be noticed several sculptured stones in bas-reliefs. A staircase of the xiv c. leads above the first vault of the steeple, in which is an interesting although much delapidated chapel (remains of frescoes).

LOCHES

 *Station on the Tours to Châteauroux line (Orleans Railway), 41 k. from Tours, 1st. cl. 5 fr. 25, 2nd. cl. 3 fr. 55, 3rd. cl. 2 fr. 30.*

 *Distances : — Tours, 39 k.; — Tours, 42 k., via Reignac, 44 k.; — Anboise, 32 k., via Bléré, 24 k.; — Blois, 62 k., via Montrichard, 31 k.; — Saint-Aignan, 38 k., via Montrésor, 17 k.; — Valenay, 48 k., via Montrésor, 17 k.; — Châteauroux, 68 k.; — Preuilly, 35 k.; — Châtellerault, 52 k., via Ligueil, 17 k., and la Haye-Descartes, 30 k.; — Chinon, 64 k., via Sainte-Maure, 32 k.*



The King's Apartments (now a sub-prefecture).

From the station to the Château : — About 15 min. on foot; the *avenue de la Gare*, ends at the *place de la Tour*, take, on the l. the *rue des Moulins*, then, on the r. the *Grande-Rue*, continuing by the *rue du*

Château which leads up to the door of the Château.





To visit : — The *enceinte of the Château* forms a district of the town (open from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.; admission to the Château 50 c.; to the Keep (Donjon) 50 c. Sundays and Fete days, half-price. Tickets obtained at the Château; apply to the *concierge*.)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Loches, chief town of the *arrondissement Indre-et-Loire*, 5,115 inhab. is built in amphitheatre form on the l. bank of the Indre, at the opening of a little vale and overlooking a large and fresh valley of meadow land. It is one of the most curious and most picturesque towns of France. A long lane crossing the valley connects Loches with Beaulieu.

Omnibus : — From the station to any part of the town, 30 c.; for *Beaulieu*, 50 c.

Hotels : — *Grand-Hôtel de France* (bns 30 c.) *Château*, 50 c.; breakf. 1 fr., lunch and din. 3 fr.; at sep. tables 50 c. extra; r. from 2 fr.;

baths; ; ; reading room; coffee room; modern comforts, *rue Pieoys* and *rue de la République*; — *de la Promenade* (bus, 30 c.; breakf. 1 fr., lunch, 2 fr. 50; din. 3 fr.; at sep. tables 50 c. extra; r. from 1 fr. 50 to 3 fr.; T. C. F. ; ; brake for excursions, 3, *rue de Tours*, near the station; — *de la Gare*.

Café : — *de la Place*.

Post, telegraph and telephone.

Job Masters : — *Giboureau*; — *Meriguy*; — *Moreau*; — *Ripeau*.

Mechanicians : — *Dolet-Souvant*, *Marché-au-Blé*; — *Desplaces*, 10, *rue de Tours*; — *Daillet*, *rue Lamblardie*.

HISTORY

Loches (Luccæ) occupied, possibly, by the Romans, grew around a monastery founded in the V c. by St. Ours of Cahors. Since the end of the VI c. it has been defended by a Chateau. Occupied by the Franks after the battle of Vouillé, united again to Aquitania in 630, retaken and pillaged by Pépin and Carloman in 742, it became, under Charles the Bald, the seat of an hereditary government which passed by alliance to the Anjou family (886) and remained in their possession until 1205.

Loches had been given to France in 1193 by John Lackland (afterwards king of England) without informing Richard Cœur de Lion who seized it on his return from the Crusade in 1194.

In 1204, Philippe Auguste laid siege simultaneously and for nearly a year, both to Chinon and *Loches*. After having recovered the latter town, he gave it as a fief to Dreux de Mello, Constable of France.

The Chateau subsequently became a state-prison and royal residence. From time to time, Charles VII sojourned there with Agnes Sorel who was buried in the Chapter-House. Louis XI enlarged and « perfected » the prisons. Marie de Médicis, having escaped from Blois, fled to *Loches*, Feb. 23, 1619, and the duc d'Épernon, governor of the Chateau, supplied her with the means to reach Angoulême.

Loches is the birth place of the poet Alfred de Vigny (1799-1863).

DESCRIPTION

The **Château of Loches** was, in the middle ages, one of the most important fortresses of France. It is built on the summit of a hill forming a headland between the valley of the Indre and a side valley. A hollow and a ditch also separate the hill on the S., from the slopes of *Bellébat* and *Vignemont* which are pierced in every direction by ancient quarries. Its outer wall is nearly 2 k. in circumference and takes the form of an elongated ellipse running from N. to S. In the interior, houses have been erected forming a quarter separated from the rest of the town.

The entrance through the circular walls is by a gateway in an irregular and massive construction flanked by two xv c. towers. From there (ignore the numerous recommendations placed on the wall and which only tend to bewilder the tourist. Better to follow the itinerary given below) follow, straight on, the *rue Foulques-Nerra*, then to the r. the *rue du Donjon* followed by a promenade which bears the name of *boulevard du Donjon*. At the end of this promenade on the S. side of the encircling wall is the most remarkable part of the Chateau, the part in which is situated its most important defence works. It is known by the name of the « **Donjon** » and forms a special enceinte which can only be visited accompanied by the guardian (Ring at the little door opening on to the promenade): a double wall connects this enceinte with the big outer gate of the Chateau. A narrow space separates the « donjon » from the S. front of the main outer wall. This front, built in the xiii c., and through which a door was made which opened on to the country, is flanked by three big towers called *tours à bec*, the shape of which instead of being round, forms a curvilinear angle. This innovation, of which, *Loches* offers perhaps the oldest example, shows the starting point of the modifications which ended by converting, in the xv c., the flanking towers into bastions.

In the « donjon » is the oldest military work of the Chateau : it is

really the *keep* itself, supposed to be of the XII c., and formed by two rectangular constructions, the smaller of which adjoins the larger one. The outside measurement of the larger rectangle is 25 m. 33 by 14 m. and 40 m. in height. It is flanked by two counterforts in the form of half-columns. The smaller keep, in the same style, has in length and breadth half the dimensions of the larger building; but, formerly, it attained the same height.

The keep was divided into four rooms on the top of each other, the floors and ceilings of which are demolished. The second story of the small tower was used as a chapel. The frescoes can still be seen in a niche which sheltered the altar. The fine Romanesque keep became a state prison in which were confined, among others : Jean, duc d'Alençon, who was guilty of inciting the Dauphin, son of Charles VII to revolt; Pierre de Brézé and Philippe de Savoie, under Louis XI.

To keep under his hand the prisoners who angered him most, Louis XI commenced a second keep called the *Tour Ronde* or *Tour Neuve*, the entrance of which was by a separate corridor. This big round tower, flanked with annexes which gave it an irregular form, protected on the W. side, the second wall which, on this same side, is joined to the first.

Visitors are admitted to the vast halls (fine chimney-piece) reserved for people of distinction, the *prison* supposed to have been occupied by the *duc d'Alençon*, the *Salle des Gardes* and the *Salle de Question*, in which can be seen various instruments of torture. In the basement, a round room, ventilated by inadequately small loop holes, contained the famous cages invented under Louis XI by Cardinal La Balue who « had the first taste » of them. These cages were 2 m. 66 wide and the height of « a man and a foot in addition » according to Commynes, who was also confined in one under Charles VIII. with Geoffroy de Pompadour, Grand Chaplain of France, and Georges d'Amboise, who was at that time Bishop of Montauban. From the top of the tower, which can be ascended, a beautiful view of Loches, Beaulieu and the valley of the Indre can be enjoyed.

The real *cells* of Loches occupy the under basement of a XV c. construction called the *Martelet*, the upper stories of which are destroyed. The cell of Ludovic Sforza, called the *Moor*, is shown, which he occupied for 9 years and which he adorned with paintings, a sun-dial and various inscriptions. In several places his portrait will be noticed. He died in 1510 from the effects of joy at regaining his liberty after 10 years' captivity, in a top room of the tower. Beneath these cells run subterranean buildings still more gloomy, notably the *Bishops' prison* under François I (chapel carved in the wall; entrance to the oubliettes) and the *cell of the Comte de Saint-Vallier*, father of Diane de Poitiers.

The inscriptions which can be read on the cells of the Round Tower, of the *Martelet* and some other buildings are not the least curious features of Loches. In a corridor leading to the Round Tower this ironical invitation can be read :

ENTRÉS, MESSIEURS, CHEZ LE ROY NOSTRE MESTRE (Enter, Gentlemen, to the King, our master). In addition, there are lamentations many very touching, philosophical reflexions on adversity, prudence or discretion and, among others, these words engraved probably by Commynes :
DIXISSEME ALIQVANDO PENITVIT TACVISSE NVNQVAM.

From the keep, proceed along the *mail du Donjon*, then to the r. the *rue Thomas-Puctus* leads to the *Collegiale Saint-Ours*, the central apsis

of which rests on the E. rampart. This edifice, now the parish church, was formerly called *Notre-Dame*. It has only assumed its present name since the Revolution, after the destruction of the Saint-Ours church which stood under the King's Apartments, in the special enceinte called the *Petit-Fort-Saint-Ours*. In front of the building, is a porch, with ribs added in the middle of the *xii c.* style, which opens at the sides by two small doors. An *antique altar*, in the shape of a round column and ornamented with various carved subjects, serves as a holy water font. The main door of the church, with semi-circular arch and dating from the *xii c.*, has a magnificent archivolt with figures and allegorical subjects. The first bay of the nave, forming an interior vestibule, belongs, it is said, to the building which Geoffroy Grise-Gonelle, Comte d'Anjou had consecrated in 965. It is surmounted by a massive clock tower, the upper story of which, octagonal in form, dates, like its stone spire, from the commencement of the *xii c.* The nave, properly so-called, with two perfectly square compartments, is covered by two stone pyramids having eight sides (they were formerly conical in shape outside) which forms the exterior roofing. The building of these pyramids was carried out or inspired by Thomas Pactius, prior of the Chapter († 1168) who called them *dubes* (*dubæ*). A steeple, surrounded by four bell-turrets, crown the central tower which is square in shape from top to bottom. The two small aisles of the nave, added later, date from the *xii* and *xv c.* The *choir stalls* (*xvi c.*) and the *tabernacle* (*xvii c.*) are worthy of attention. In the l. apsidiole is the chapel of *N.-D. de Beautertré* with stained glass windows relating to this ancient pilgrimage. In the r. apsidiole is the chapel of the Virgin with stained glass windows relating to the *Sash of the Virgin*, a unique relic preserved in the *Treasury* for which the church was built. Apply to the sexton to visit the Treasury (It contains also a reliquary bust of St. Ours, etc.) and a small crypt with wall painting (St. Brice).

From the St. Ours 'collégiale', the *rue Charles VII* leads, on the r., to the door (ring and apply to the concierge on the l.) of the **Château Royal** or *King's Apartments* built at the N. point of the enceinte overlooking the Indre, now used as a sub-prefecture. It was inhabited by the Kings of France : Charles VII, Louis XI, Charles VIII and Louis XII. In its present state, the exterior, dates from the first and last of these monarchs.

Outside, will be noticed a magnificent *chestnut tree*, planted, it is said, by François I and in the interior : the *Oratory of Anne of Brittany*; a curious bracket or capital with ornaments, near the lodge of the concierge, and, in particular, in the basement of the highest tower, the **tomb of Agnes Sorel**, surmounted by a *statue* of the *xv c.* Two angels are kneeling at the sides of the head of the deceased whose feet rest upon two lambs.

Vast *subterranean* buildings, part of which are probably prior to the middle ages, run under the King's Apartments. Some of them communicate with the private enceinte called *Petit-Fort-Saint-Ours*, which protected the royal dwelling on the town side.

From the King's Apartments re-descend to the outer door of the walls by the *rue Lansyer*, where can be visited with interest, the **Musée Lansyer**, bequeathed by this painter to his town of adoption and containing the greater part of his work and studies. From the garden (2 small cannons given to the town by the duc d'Épernon) of the museum building, ascend one of the towers of the Château gate (very fine view of the town and the valley).

After having visited the Château de Loches, it is worth while to walk round the exterior and inspect its different aspects. In the S. moat, which separates the keep from the Bel-Ebat hill, a visit can be made, at a gardener's named César, to the revictualling galleries (cleared in 1892) which connected the 'Donjon' with the outside. One should not fail to climb the Vignemont hill which affords a very fine view of the Château in its entirety. In the part occupied formerly as a cemetery, stands the *Chapelle de Vignemont* an ancient leper's hospital (Frescoes of the XII or XIII c.).

ITINERARY OF THE TOWN

From the station, by taking to the l. the *rue de la Filature*, we arrive at the **Porte des Cordeliers**, fine construction with turrets of the XV c. Leaving on the l. the *rue des Ponts*, 1 k. long, and leading to the promenade du *Grand-Mail* promenade (fine view of the royal Château) and to Beaulieu (See below), we pass under the Cordeliers gate, follow to the r. the *rue des Moutins*, then, to the l. the *rue Saint-Antoine* which passes at the foot of the **Tour Saint-Antoine**, remains of a demolished church. This Renaissance edifice (Gothic base), erected from 1519 to 1530, has a balustrade forming figures and letters and is completed by a cupola restored at the end of the XIX c. In the *rue Saint-Antoine*, the *hôtel Rouillon* of the Renaissance can also be seen.

Retracing one's steps as far as the *porte des Cordeliers*, we take, immediately opposite this gate, the *Grande-Rue* (Renaissance house), which leads to the *place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville*.

The **Hôtel de Ville**, charming Renaissance building, built from 1535 to 1543 by the architect Jean Beaudoin, and recently repaired, adjoins the **porte Picoys** of the XV c. (pretty niche of the Renaissance). In the interior, are some beautiful rooms (in the vestibule, stove, in faïence of the XVIII c., from Le Liget; original designs of the Tours caricaturist Borie) contains the *Library* (an important collection of works removed from Le Liget; fine manuscript of the Life of Job; curious illustrated geography). By the gate and the *rue Picoys*, which continues on, we descend into the modern town situated to the N. and at the foot of the old town, in a little vale which opens into the slopes of the l. bank of the Indre. In this quarter is the *palais de justice* on a vast 'place' opposite the *Saint-Autoine Church* where a visit should be made to inspect the magnificent **triptych** representing **The Passion** brought from the Carthusian Convent of Le Liget and attributed to the Jehan Fouquet school.


The *Grande-Rue* is continued on the other side of the *place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville*, by the *rue du Château* which mounts a steep ascent and possesses some beautiful Renaissance houses. The most remarkable, called the **Chancellor's Office** (*Chancellerie*) (nos 10, 12, 14) dates from the reign of Henri II (1551) and shows, among other carvings, some heads of victims and a group depicting Hercules before Dejanira and the Centaur Nessus; here and there are the royal devices: *IVSRTIA REGNO, PRUDENTIA NVTRISCO*.

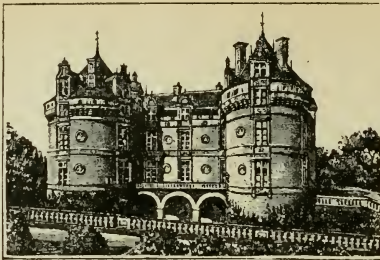
The visit to Loches is completed by a visit to **Beaulieu**, a small town of 1,562 inhab., situated 1 k. E. of the other side of the valley. The *rue des Ponts*, which connects the two towns and crosses the railway, leaves on the r. opposite the *Ecole Normale* for teachers, the *Château de Sansac* an elegant Renaissance construction (1529) recently restored.

The **Abbey church** of Beaulieu built by Foulques Nerra from 1008 to 1012, and since repaired is a remarkable Romanesque edifice, partly in ruins since the xv c. Of the nave, there only remains intact the N. wall and the steeple, magnificent construction of the xii c., with arches, dormer windows, bell turrets and octagonal stone spire.


The E. end of the nave and the transept with its apsidoles are occupied by the present church, the choir of which is partly rebuilt in the xv c. style, with beautiful Flamboyant windows (modern stained glass windows). This part has been recently restored. The ruins of the original apse can still be seen at the foot of the Gothic apsidole. In the gable at the exterior of the N. crossbar, are carved three large allegorical bas-reliefs. Prominent inside, are the Renaissance choir stalls with a magnificent abbatial seat. In the r. crossbar an arcade marks the spot where, inside the wall, are preserved the remains of Foulques Nerra. The Abbey buildings now the mayor's offices and schools were rebuilt in the xviii c.; the abbatial apartments of the xvi and xvii c. contain a curious exterior pulpit. Opposite the abbatial church is a small *house* with turret of the xvi c. The old *Saint-Laurent Church* on the l. of the steeple (to visit, apply to the sexton for the key) is an elegant specimen of Plantagenet style (end of xii c.). — Remains of the old *Saint-Pierre* church. — Queen's Apartments called *Agnes Sorel's house*. At the extremity of the town on the Montrésor road is the *Tour Chevallon* (end of the xii c.; subterranean buildings from the top of the tower is a superb view of Loches).

LE LUDE

 *Station on the Aubigné to La Flèche line, branch line of the Tours to Le Mans (Orléans Railway), 76 k. from Tours.*



Property of the Marquis de Talouët-Roy.

 **Distances :** — Tours, 50 k. by Château-Lavallière, 16 k.; — Tours, 62 k., by Château-du-Loir, 21 k.; — Le Mans, 40 k.; — La Flèche, 20 k.; — Saumur, 50 k., by Noyant, 16 k.; — Baugé, 24 k.

From the station to the Château :

— 10 min. on foot, by the Boulevard Fisson in front of the station, then to the r., the Champ de Foire, the rue Basse on the l., and then the rue Dorée on the r. The omnibus can be taken from the hôtel du Bœuf to the

station for all trains.

To visit : — Apply to the concierge, on the l. of the portal. The visit lasts about 20 min. 1 h. must be added if a tour round the park is included (splendid promenade).

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Le Lude is a small town of 3,635 inhab., chief of the canton (Sarthe) on the l. bank of the Loir.
Omnibus : — to the station, 30 c.
Hôtel : — du Bœuf.

Post, telegraph and telephone offices.

Mechanicians : — Caillaud, 4, rue du Bœuf; — Connier, 23, rue Basse; — Motors recharged at the electric works (Leroy, engineer).

HISTORY

Le Lude, an ancient seigniory of Anjou, whose origin dates back to the Xc., passed successively into the families of Beaumont (XI c. to 1253), of Brienne (1253 to 1378) and of Vendôme. Finally, in 1457, Le Lude was acquired by Jehan de Daillon who undertook the reconstruction of the present edifice and who has left interesting souvenirs in the district, Born at Bourges in 1423, on the same day as Louis XI, he was the faithful companion of his childhood, but in 1453 he left the war-like Dauphin and attached himself to Charles VII. Succeeding to the throne in 1461, Louis XI wished to be revenged on the traitor and put a price on his head. But Jehan de Daillon, it is said, escaped the anger of the king, by hiding in a cave where he lived seven years, fed by a devoted peasant-woman of the vicinity. Jehan Daillon' cave, indicated by a commemorative inscription, is still to be seen 5 k. S. E. of Le Lude and about 300 m. to the r. of the road to Tours, on the l. flank of the Maulne vule. Pardoned, finally, in 1468, the unfortunate proscrip't then enjoyed a brilliant

destiny. It was then that he turned his attention to transforming the old fortress of Le Lude into a pleasant county manor. Chamberlain of Louis XI, he died governor of Dauphiné at Roussillon (Isère) in 1482. His son greatly activated the works of the Château. Le Lude was promoted successively, on behalf of the Daillon family, to a count's demesne in 1545, and then a duchy in 1675. Henri de Daillon, first Duke of Le Lude, died, however, without issue in 1685; and the title lapsed with him. Since 1798, Le Lude, has been the property of the Talhouët family who have restored it splendidly in recent times and who reside there eight months out of the year. The domain of Le Lude is now one of the finest landed properties in France; it spreads over 12,000 acres, about half of which is covered with timber. The Marquis de Talhouët-Roy hunts in these woods.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château of Le Lude** is built on the bank of the Loir, between the river and the town, whence entrance to the park is gained by a fine modern *portal* in Renaissance style (If closed, ring at the concierge's lodge, on the l.).

Built on the foundations of an ancient Feudal fortress, of which vast and curious subterranean apartments still exist, the Château is surrounded by deep ditches laid out as gardens, except on the Loir side, where it looks on to a terrace advancing in buttresses as far as the river. The building forms a quadrilateral, incomplete on the W. side and flanked at the corners by four enormous round towers with machicolis. The three wings envelope a Court of Honour enclosed on the W. side by an arched portico preceded by a bridge over the ditch and which forms the principal entrance from the town. The N. and oldest wing dates back to the end of the xv c. In the facade is a fine equestrian statue of Jehan de Daillon under a beautiful archway. The S. wing, which is the most remarkable, looks towards the park with a charming **François I facade** decorated with medallions and delicate sculptures. Léon Palustre considers it as one of the most beautiful specimens of French Renaissance and believes it to have been built between 1520 and 1530. The E. facade, leading to the terrace by a wide flight of steps, dates from the time of Louis XVI. It affords a powerful contrast with the two wings which it adjoins. It is crowned by a richly carved fronton recently repaired bearing the Talhouët arms.

In the interior, on the ground floor, can be visited : — 1. **FRANÇOIS I WING** : the *vestibule* (fine modern staircase, Renaissance style), the *dining room* (tapestry work of the xvi c.) and the *salon library* (marble bust of cardinal de la Tour d'Auvergne; Gobelin tapestries) adorned with rich woodwork and monumental chimney-pieces; a charming little *oratory* decorated entirely with remarkable *wall paintings* of the xvi c. (biblical subjects and history of Jehan de Daillon) due probably to Italian artists and restored in 1854; — 2. **LOUIS XVI WING** : the *small salon* (valuable salon furniture in finely worked Beauvais tapestry); — the *grand salon* (furniture, pictures and valuable artistic objects); the *billiard room* (family portraits); — 3. **xv c. WING** : a magnificent *Galerie* or *Salle des Fêtes* (fitted up and furnished in modern style) and the *Bibliothèque* (Library) *de la Tour* (beautiful Book of Time (*Livre d'heures*) manuscript on vellum of the xvi c. adorned with 49 miniatures). — From the vestibule, situated at the end of the *salle des Fêtes*, a *staircase* in carved stone with pendentives (at the bottom of the stairs, is a remark-

able *statue of an angel*, in bronze, of the xv c.) leads to the upper stories where are usually shewn some richly furnished apartments (Empire room, Louis XV room, etc.), and, notably, the *chamber* in which Henri IV and Louis XIII slept.

A turret-staircase called the *vis* (screw) leads down to the moat in which, under the entrance bridge, can be seen a stone tomb with sleeping figures of the xv c.


A walk round the *Park* which runs along the l. bank of the Loir for nearly 2 k. is recommended. Permission is easily obtained. Note, close to the Château, the fine main building of *la Régie*, older than the Château, with octagonal turret to the N. gable, and fine ogival arched stables on the ground floor. The English garden is laid out on the grand terrace, lined with an elegant stone balustrade adorned with a fine marble group of the xvi c., executed by an Italian (*Hercules and Anthea*), and large marble *vases* of the same period. The terrace overlooks the lower or French garden, the river and immense meadows. Further on, the park forms a magnificent wood. The central avenue ends at the beautiful *Porte des Tourelles*, flanked by two round towers, re-constructed in the xvi c. style and which opens on to the main road to Tours. Having reached the *Tourelles*, descend by an alley on the l. to the Loir and return by the delightful road along the side of the river, shaded by big trees and affording in front very picturesque views of the Château. At a junction of the roads, notice an old *Cross* in carved stone. On the opposite bank, the *Malidor* meadows (grazing ground, etc.) spread out like an immense green carpet, where can be seen the small *Malidor manor* of the time of François I, now a guard-house.

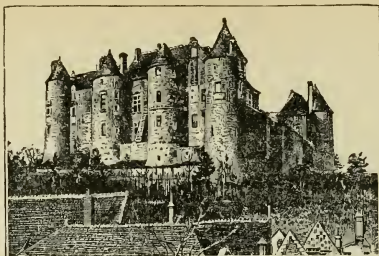
OTHER SIGHTS

On leaving the Château, we see on the r., at the entrance of the *rue de la Gendrottière*, a charming Renaissance *house*, unfortunately much delapidated (remarkable carvings), attributed to **Jehan Gendrot**, a master-mason, formerly master of the works of King René d'Anjou, who superintended, at the end of the xv c., the works of the Château of Le Lude. In an adjacent street running down to the Loir bridge, can be seen an ancient gable of the xv c. decorated with delicate carvings and a bust in a medallion which is supposed to have been the overseer's house. Several other *ancient buildings* are to be seen in the streets of Le Lude.

By the *Grande Rue*, we can reach the *place du Mail*, near which is a vast *hospital* which belongs, despite its date (xviii c.), to the Renaissance style (In the *chapel* are vaults of the Talhouët family). Thence, we can return direct to the station by the boulevard Fisson.

LUYNES


 *Luynes is connected (11 k. E.) to Tours by a steam tram which follows the road on the l. bank of the Loire. It leaves the place de la Gare every 2 h. The journey, which takes about 1 h., costs 60 c.*



Property of the Duc de Luynes.

Château-la-Vallière, 29 k.

To visit :
— *To ascend to the Château, a flight of picturesque steps, near the old market buildings, must be taken which cross the old walls on the way up the slope.*

 **Distances :** — *Tours, 11 k.; — Langeais, 13 k., via Cinq-Mars, 8 k.; — Château-la-Vallière, 29 k., via Cléré, 14 k.; — Le Lude, 45 k., via*

The interior courtyard may be visited daily after mid-day, but not the apartments. Apply to the concierge.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Luynes is a town of 1,846 inhab., 1 k. from the r. bank of the Loire, built in a recess of the hills.

Hôtels : — *de Luynes; — des Voyageurs.*

Post, telegraph and telephone offices.

HISTORY

Luynes, which retains precious souvenirs of the Roman occupation (see below), was called, in the middle ages « Maillé » and was the cradle of the family of this name, who owned it during four centuries (XI c.-1501). Towards 1501, the lands of Maillé, first Barony of Touraine up to 1572, then count's demesne, passed, by marriage, to the house of Laval. It was purchased on Aug. 3. 1619, by Charles d'Albert, favourite of King Louis XIII who created it a dukedom for him. The Château still belongs to his descendants.

DESCRIPTION


The **Château de Luynes** presents a very imposing appearance on the summit of the hill overlooking the town. The first Château was destroyed at the end of the xi c. by the Comte d'Anjou, and was rebuilt about 1106 by Hardouin de Maillé. This second fortress itself gave place in the xv c. to the present Château which was much enlarged and much transformed about 1650 by the architect Le Muet. The exterior shows massive round pepper-box towers with thick-counterforts which give it a formidable but inelegant appearance. On the court side, stands a graceful building in stone and brick, flanked by a fine octagonal staircase turret. of 1465. The l. side of the court is bounded by a terrace

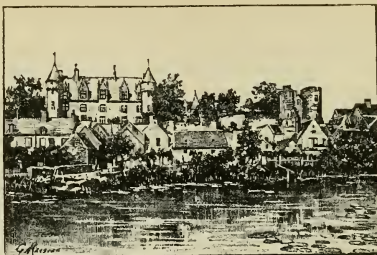
from which a magnificent view of the valley can be enjoyed; on the N. and E. sides, the court is bounded by high walls which can be surmounted by asking for a Guide at the Château. East of the Château, on the plateau, can be seen an old chapel of the xv c., in carved wood.

OTHER SIGHTS


The *church* of Luynes is a modern building with a stone spire and pretty stained glass windows. Leaving the Château by the facade, a *house* of the xvi c. with figures in carved wood will be seen on the l. — *Hospital* of the end of the xvi c. — At 1,500 m. N. of the town can be seen the remains (40 piers and 6 arches) of a Gallo-Roman **aqueduct**.

MONTRÉSOR

 Montrésor is connected with Loches by a local line (22 k. in about 1 hr., 2 fr. 25, 1 fr. 70, 1 fr. 25). — It is much more interesting to journey to Montrésor by the road (17 k.) which crosses the beautiful demes-
nal forest (9,000 acres) of Loches, and permits of a visit, on the way, to the curious chapel and the old Chartreuse du Liget (see p. 22).



Property of the Comte Branicki.

 **Dis-**
tances : —
Loches, 17 k.; — Tours, 55 k., viâ Genillé, 10 k., Azay-sur-Indre, 24 k. and the Indre valley; — Tours, 57 k., viâ Bléré, 30 k. and the Cher valley; — Montrichard, 24 k.; — Va-

lençay, 32 k., viâ Nouans, 8 k., and Luçay-le-Mâle, 20 k.

To visit : — *Open daily from 9 a. m., to 6 p. m. Apply to the valet de chambre.*

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Montrésor is a village of 602 inhab. chief locality of the canton (Indre-et-Loire), at an altitude of 310 ft., built in amphitheatre form on the r. bank of the Indrois.

above and near the confluence of the Olivet.

Hotel : — *de France* (unpretentious).

HISTORY

The Château of Montrésor, the foundation of which is attributed to Foulques Nerra, count of Anjou (X c.), was rebuilt in 1395 and in the early part of the XVI c. In the middle ages, it was the seat of a seigniory which belonged to the families of Palluau, Bueil, Villequier, Bastarnay and Lorraine. It was created a count's demesne in favour of the Bourdeilles family in the XVII c. and afterwards passed into the hands of the family of Saint-Aignan-Beauvilliers.

DESCRIPTION

From the station, follow a road which crosses the Indrois (pretty landscape), then to the r. principal street of the town which runs at the foot of the steep hill on which the Château stands. At the corner of an old turreted house used as a Gendarmes' quarters, take to the l. a road which winds round the base of the rear portion of the Château, then ascend to the r. to the entrance-gate, adjacent to which are two old round towers.

The **Château de Montrésor** has a double encircling wall flanked with towers and surrounding a massive rock which to some extent has been

artificially cut and isolated in the slopes of the r. bank of the Indrois. The interior enceinte surrounds a garden in front of which is the Château proper, looking on to the valley. It is a pretty construction of the commencement of the xvi c., tastefully restored by Comte Branicki.

Notice, in the different rooms, the paintings of great masters, fine wood carving of Pierre Vanneau (end of the xvii c.), the picture of Tony-Robert Fleury depicting the *Massacre of the Poles at Warsaw* on the 8th. of April 1861, various antique furniture, notably an Italian cabinet of the xvi c., and adjacent to the grand salon, the *Treasury of the Kings of Poland* (grand gold dish and silver soup-tureen presented to Jean Sobieski by the town of Vienna, silver-gilt services of Sobieski and of Sigismund II. King of Poland). The Château also contains family portraits and numerous souvenirs or works of art relating to the Polish nationality. In one of the turrets, a white marble urn encloses the heart of Claude de Bastarnay who died in 1567, and is accompanied by an interesting epitaph in prose and verse.

OTHER SIGHTS

The **church**, formerly an ecclesiastical college founded about 1520 by Imbert de Bastarnay, consecrated in 1512 but only completed in 1561 and built near the Château, on the heights, is a very remarkable Renaissance edifice. On the exterior the portal is worthy of special admiration. Notice, in the interior, the fine stained glass windows representing the Passion, some good pictures, choir-stalls of the xvi c., and particularly the magnificent **Tomb of Bastarnay**, partly restored and which was formerly attributed to Jean Goujon. It is a massive square structure adorned with the statues of the twelve Apostles and surmounted with three sleeping figures: Imbert de Bastarnay († 1523), his wife Georgette de Montcheun, and their son, François († 1513).

Re-descend from the church into the main street of the town by a steep alley which passes under the old gate, cut in the rock. — In the flank of the rocks supporting the Château, numerous subterranean caves have been hollowed out. — In the cemetery of the 'commune' a fine *memorial chapel* has been built in 1863 by the architect Roguet for the Branicki family. — At 3 k. from Montrésor, are the ruins of the *Château de Villiers* (xii and xiii c.) partially restored.


SAUMUR

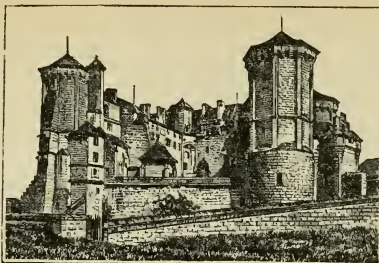
 **Station served:**

— 1^o by the Paris to Nantes (Orléans Railway), 300 k. from Paris in 3 1/2 h. by « train rapide » and 4 1/2 h. (express):

1st. cl. 29 fr. 15, 2nd. cl. 21 fr. 55, 3rd. cl. 14 fr. 05; — 2^o by the Paris to Bordeaux

line (State Railway), 286 k. from Paris in 4 to 5 h. by express, same fares.

 **Distances:** — Paris, 300 k.; — Tours, 66 k., via Langeais, 42 k.; — Le Lude, 50 k., via Noyant, 34 k.; — La Flèche, 53 k., via Baugé, 34 k.; — Angers, 46 k. by the r.



Property of the town.

bank., 47 k. by the l. bank and the Ponts-de-Cé; — Cholet, 65 k.; — Montreuil-Bellay, 16 k.; — Chinon, 29 k., via Montsoireau, 12 k.

From the station to the Château: — Take an omnibus from

the station, which is a considerable distance from the town where access is gained to the Château by the rue Duplessis-Mornay or by the avenue Victor-Hugo.



To visit: — The Château is now (1909) being restored and arranged as a museum.


PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Saumur, chief town of the arrond. (Maine-et-Loire), pop. 16,392, is built between the l. bank of the Loire and the Thouet, above their confluence. To the E., are the Château and picturesque windmills on a ridge formed by the meeting of the two valleys. Opposite Saumur, the Loire is divided by an island on which the *faubourg des Ponts* is built and beyond which, is the neighbourhood of the station, on the r. bank.

Buffet: — at the Orléans station.

Omnibus: — from the stations to any part of the town 50 c.; from the Orléans Railway station to the State Railway station 50 c.

Hotels: — *Budan* ('bus 60 c., breakfast 1 fr. 25, lunch, 3 fr., din. 4 fr.; at sep. table, lunch 4 fr.; din. 5 fr., r. from 3 to 6 fr.); ; ;

brake for excursions), on the quai Carnot, opposite the theatre; — *de la Paix*, 34, rue Dacier; — *de Londres* (breakf. 75 c., lunch 2 fr. 50, din. 3 fr., r. from 2 fr., , 48, rue d'Orléans; — *des Trois-Ancre*s (5 fr. per day); — *restaurant Molière*, rue Molière.

Poste, telegraph and telephone office: — rue du Portail-Louis, at the corner of the rue d'Orléans.

Cabs: — (the journey in the town 1 fr.; per hour in the town, 1 fr. 80; outside the barrier, by arrangement. — The journey to Fontevault, 1 horse carriage, 12 fr., 2 horse carriage, 20 fr. — Stand: place de la Bilange, in front of the theatre.

Job Masters: — *A. Gamon*, 8, rue Beaurepaire; — *Loyau*,

39, rue du Portail-Louis; — *Louis Buzard*, 83, rue d'Orléans.

Motor Cars : — *Constant*, 49, rue Dacier; — *Fleury*, 20, rue Saint-Nicolas; — *Davy*, place Bilange; — *Nossereau*, 6, rue de Rouen.

Steam Trams : — 1. *from the*

Orléans Railway station to St-Hilaire-St-Florent, crossing the bridges and the entire town (4 k., 50 c. and 40 c.); — 2. *from Saumur-Orléans to Fontevrault* (16 k. S.-E. in 1 h. 10 min.; 1 fr. 45 and 1 fr. 10).

HISTORY

The tour du Tronc, built on a mound in the IX c. served, during the Norman invasions, as a place of refuge, for the surrounding population. In 848, Nomenoë, King of Brittany, having burnt down the monastery of Saint-Florent-le-Vieil, Charles the Bald gave the Villa Johannis, situated on the site of the present town, to the monks, as compensation. This demesne was pillaged by the Normans; the monks dispersed and carried away with them the relics of their patron saint to Tournus in Burgundy. These relics remained there until they were brought back by the monk Absalon in 948. It was then that a new monastery was built and a city wall: from which is derived, according to some authorities, the name of the town (Salvus Murus). From the Angevine princes and the Kings of England, the town in the XIII c. passed to the Kings of France; its allegiance to them never wavered, the English never being able to secure the place, even in the Hundred Years' War. The Reformation secured many proselytes to the new faith at Saumur, and, under Henri IV. this town, governed by Duplessis-Mornay, the « Pope of the Huguenots », became the metropolis of Protestantism.

In 1623, the fortifications of Saumur were dismantled, the Château alone being spared. During the Fronde, the town remained faithful to the King. Mazarin and the whole court stayed there in 1652. to operate against Angers which had temporarily risen in revolt. Turenne, abandoning the Fronde, rejoined the court party here. The revocation of the Edict of Nantes checked the prosperity of Saumur and caused it to lose a considerable portion of the population which had then exceeded 25,000 inhabitants. The prosperity of the town did not revive until after the arrival of the Carabiniers de Monsieur (1763) for whom was founded the Riding School from which originated the present Cavalry School. In 1793, the Vendean army, commanded by MM. de Lescure and de la Rochejaquelein, captured Saumur and held it from the 9th to the 24th of June. Under the Restoration, general Berton organised a conspiracy there, which only resulted in the death of the general and his principal accomplices.

DESCRIPTION

The Château of Saumur. admirably situated above the town on the promontory commanding the junction of the Loire and the Thouet, was, no doubt, founded by Foulques Nerra, Comte d'Anjou (x c.), on the site of the Tour du Tronc. But it has been repaired and transformed many times. Its present appearance is that of a monument of the period of transition between the military architecture and that of the Renaissance. After having given shelter to the Governors of Saumur during the xvii and xviii c., it was, under the Revolution, the first Empire and the Restoration, converted into a state prison. Napoléon I imprisoned Royalists there, and Louis XVIII. in his turn, locked up in this Château

the authors of the imperialist conspiracy of General Berton. During the reign of Louis-Philippe, the confiscated arms of the Vendean peasant soldiers were stored here so as to check effectually any attempt at a Chouan rising. Much delapidated by these various manipulations, and deserted, moreover, for some thirty years, the Château de Saumur offered no longer any features of interest save its fine exterior outline. The Ministry of War, who controlled the property, received a proposal from a would-be purchaser who wished to pull it down: another scheme submitted was to establish there a factory for the production of game-shot. Fortunately, on the initiative of Dr Peton, Mayor of Saumur, and after long negotiations, it has recently been acquired by the town who, with the help of the Administration des Beaux-Arts, have undertaken its restoration, and propose to install there, a museum. The repairs, commenced in 1906 under the direction of the architects, Magne and Dussange, have led to the interesting discovery of some antique sculpture and mosaic work. It is hoped to complete the restoration by about the end of 1908.

At the present time, visitors can only inspect the exterior portions. A stone bridge, replacing the old draw-bridge, leads to the *Barracks Court* the construction of which dates from Louis XIII. Formerly, in this enceinte, stood the Saint-Florent church of which nothing now remains. An incline and archway, leading through a front building flanked by two turrets, leads to the main court of the Château which formed formerly a complete quadrilateral flanked at the corners by four towers, circular at the base and octagonal in the upper portion.

At the present day, the N. wing no longer exists. In front of the Château, on the Loire side, is a high terrace supported by massive walls. From this terrace and especially from the summit of the N. tower an admirable panorama is obtained over the valley of the Loire.

ITINERARY OF THE TOWN

On emerging from the station, cross the first arm of the Loire by the *pont Napoléon* (1825) in order to pass through the island called *fau-bourgy des Ponts* (*House of Queen Cécile or Queen of Sicily*, 2, rue du Roi René), by the *rue Nationale* which ends at the *Pont-Neuf* or *Pont Cessart* (xviii c.) on the main arm of the river. The *Place de la Bilange* is then reached where the *theatre* stands, behind which is the *square* (close by is the *Saint-Jean church* in the Angevine ogival style, and of xii c.) of the **Hôtel de Ville**, a charming Gothic construction of the xvi c., restored in the xix c. (*Museum of Natural History and Antiquities*, with sculptures of Suc; *library* of 20,000 vols.). The *rue de la Petite-Bilange* on the r. leads to the *Church of Saint-Nicolas du Char-donnet* (end of the xii c.; choir and fine modern steeples), near to which is, enveloped by houses, a fine pyramid of the xii c. which surrounded formerly a burial lantern. To the W. of *Saint-Nicolas*, the **Cavalry School** (for admission apply to the adjutant de service) lines the *place du Char-donnet*, a vast esplanade used as a drill ground. The tilting-matches and school races, here, draw a considerable crowd of spectators.

From the School, by the *rue de Lorraine*, then the *rue d'Alsace* (magnificent *Institution Saint-Louis*, 1872), and the *rue Docteur-Bouchard*, the *Champ de foire* is reached, then the *rue Saint-Lazare* leading on the l. to the **church of Notre-Dame de Nantilly**, remarkable edifice of the commencement of the xii c., the Romanesque nave of which was

flanked by Louis XI with a wide aisle of the Flamboyant style with a small private oratory (delightful carvings) now converted into a chapel with baptismal font (crypt, called Chapel of the Dead; marble bas-relief of the Renaissance; epitaph of Tiephaine, nurse of King René, d'Anjou; crosier of Gilles de Tyr, custodian of the seals under St. Louis; *tapestries* of the xiv, xv and xvi c.; chapel and statue of *Notre-Dame de Nantilly*; shrine of a pilgrimage). Behind the church, is the *jardin des plantes* (school of vine culture).

Follow the *rue du Collège*, then the *Grande-Rue*, parallel to the *rue du Temple* (No. 13 house of the xvi c. and to the *rue des Païens* (Grenetière tower xvii c.), communicating by the *rue du Prêche* (tower of the ancient fortifications) to the lay school for young girls). Having reached *rue Dacier* (No. 3, house of the xv and xvi c. style), turn to the r. towards the *Saint-Pierre church* (xii, xvi and xvii c.; choir-stalls of the xv c.; *tapestries* of the xvi c.). A short road connects the church with the *quai de Limoges* (remains of fortified walls), which leads up the river to the church of *Notre-Dame des Ardilliers* (xvi and xvii c.; pilgrims' shrine) with dome.

[At 2 k. S., is the *Cromlech of Bayneux* called the **Grand Dolmen**. — At 3 k. W. is *Saint-Hilaire-Saint-Florent* (ancient *abbey*; immense caves cut into the cliffs for the champagne-wines of Saumur; an interesting visit.)

rounded by wide ditches filled with water. From the middle of the principal facade, a monumental staircase-bridge (modern) passing over the ditch descends to a garden terrace, the stone balustrade of which, arranged in semi-circular form, advances into a pretty pond.

The N. tower, a half of the adjoining main building, and a part of the l. wing were built in 1546 by Charles de Brie, after the design of Philibert Delorme. The S. tower, as well as the other portion of the l. wing and the remainder of the main building were erected in 1636. The two wings were extended and finished in 1705.


In the interior, notice : — on the r. of the vestibule a large *dining-room* furnished with tapestries; on the l. an *antichamber* hung with two valuable tapestries (figures scattered about with a background of flowers and leaves) made in Tours for Briçonnet whose arms they bear, and who placed them in Chenonceaux; — a magnificent staircase; — on the first floor : the *grand salon* (stone chimney-piece with an equestrian statue), the *library* (very valuable, 20,000 vols; over the fireplace a picture represents the Pretender Charles-Edward giving instructions to Ant. Walsh) and apartments with carved panelled ceilings and numerous works of art : Venetian glass, Flemish and Beauvais tapestries; portraits of Richelieu and Mme. de Theobald de Serrant (by *Hersent*); bust of the Empress Marie Louise by Canova, on a terminal by Boule; a landscape by *Huet* and a church interior by *Peter Neefs*; numerous portraits of the xvii c. etc. The wood-work of the attics is very fine. Precious records among which are Charters relating to the lands of Serrant, signed by Gilles de Retz (1436), King René (1437), Charles VII and Louis XV (1755).

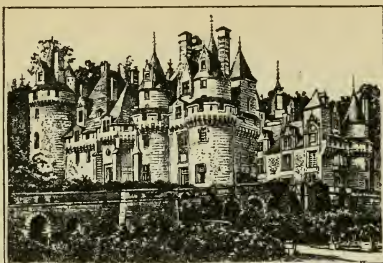
The *Chapel* built on the plans of Hardouin Mansart, contains the **tomb** of the Marquis de Vaubrun, by Coysevox. On the main front, a bas-relief in lead, gilt, represents the battle in which the Marquis de Vaubrun lost his life. This sarcophagus serves as a support for the statues of the husband and wife, larger than the natural size. Above the group is Victory descending from heaven holding in one hand a trophy and in the other a crown which she is about to lay on the head of the warrior.


OTHER SIGHTS

The town of Saint-Georges owes its origin to an *abbey* founded in the xii c. of which two fine buildings of the xviii c. and church of the same period still remain.

USSÉ

 The nearest station is (6 k. E.) Rivarennes, on the Tours to Les Sables line (State Railway) 34 k. from Tours.



 Distances : — Tours, 38 k., by Langeais, 14 k. : — Tours, 39 k., by Azay-le-Rideau, 14 k. ; — Langeais, by Azay-le-Ri-

Property of the Comte de Blacas.

deau, 23 k. ;
— Chinon,
13 k. 1

To visit :
— The Château is only visible on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays after mid-day, from March to July; and on Sundays-only, from 2 to 4 p. m. from August to

HISTORY

The Castellany of Ussé has belonged to the families of Alençon, de Montejean, de Craon, de Bueil, d'Espinay, Bernin de Bourbon, de Rieux, de Lorraine, de Savoie, Racine, Thevin, de Montluc, Fournier de Blomécourt, de Valentinay, de Rohan, Roger de Chalabre, de Duras and de La Rochejaquelein. At first, created a marquisate in 1692 in an ephemeral manner. Ussé was newly created in 1700, with the present title, in favour of Louis Bernin de Valentinay. The Château was rebuilt in the XVI c. by the d'Espinay family, and enlarged by Vauban, whose daughter married a Valentinay.

DESCRIPTION


The **Château of Ussé** is admirably situated on the flank of the hills which confine, on the S., the great valley of both the Loire and the Indre. Backing on to the escarpments on which stand the great forest of Chinon, and surrounded by a shaded park (560 acres enclosed by walls, ponds and woods), its facade looks on to the terraces in tiers, from which can be seen the valley over an immense stretch of country, and at the foot of which runs the pretty river of the Indre. An avenue running straight into the plain facing the Château, joins, at 1,200 m., the embankment on the l. bank of the Loire. The Court of Honour, opening, on the N. side to the terrace, is bounded on the r. and on the l. by two bold groups of towers and pavilions, connected, at the end, by a main central building composed, on the ground floor, of a simple gallery. This building has preserved in the rear, over a narrow passage which separates it from the hill, its facade of the xv c., flanked at the corners by two circular towers of the same period. On the W. side, a less interesting building was added by Vauban to whom are, likewise, due the terraces.

The principal curiosities to be seen in the interior are : a fine stair-

case; a gallery of the xvi c.; the salons, the dining room and the library (fine carved chimney-piece and numerous historical portraits); on the 1st. floor is the *King's Room* hung with old silks (Venetian-glass).

The isolated **chapel**, is a charming small Flamboyant and Renaissance edifice built from 1520 to 1538 by the d'Espinays; the door is surmounted by a bas-relief representing *the Apostles*. In the interior are : fine *choirs stalls* of the xvi c. with friezes covered with arabesques, medallions and figures; doors and François I credence tables; chandeliers in carved wood of the xv c.; triptyches painted on gold, of the xv c.; Virgin in faïence by Della Robia (xv c.); and epitaphs.


VALENÇAY

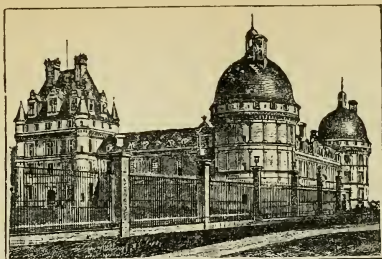
 Station on the Argent to Le Blanc (Orléans Railway) 16 k. from Le Giècres

(connections with Tours 80 k.; and Vierzon 33 k.), at 27 k. from Romorantin (connection with Blois, 49 k.). —

Steam tram

from Valençay to Châteauroux, 50 k. |

 Distances : — Paris, 232 k.; —



Property of the Comte de Talleyrand-Périgord, due de Valençay.

Blois, 54k., via Selles-sur-Cher, 14 k., and Contres, 33 k.; — Châteauroux, 44 k.; — Loches, 49 k., via Lucay-le-Mâle, 12 k., Nouans, 24 k., and Montrésor, 32 k.

To visit :

— Public no longer allowed in the interior; but the park and grounds may be visited.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Valençay is a small town, chief of the canton (Indre), 3,411 inhab., built on the slopes overlooking the l. bank of the Nahou and divided into two parts by a ravine : *La Ville*, adjoining the Château, and the *Bourg de l'Eglise*, parochial centre.

Hotels : — *d'Espagne*; — *du Lion-d'Or*.

Poste, telegraph and telephone office.

Mechanicians : — *Godeau*, place du Marché-au-Blé; — *Guimont-Beaufits*.

HISTORY

Nothing is known of Valençay until the XIII c. After having belonged to the de Valençay, de Bourgogne, d'Etampes and de Lucay families, the property was purchased from the last named in 1805 by the celebrated Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand, who scarcely ever lived there, except towards the end of his life, but who died there in 1838. From 1808 to 1814, he left it at the disposal of Ferdinand VII, King of Spain, who, whilst in exile, received an annual subsidy from Napoleon, who had dethroned him, of 800,000 fr. The estate of Valençay, one of the finest pieces of landed property in France, was partly sold and parcelled out in 1901.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Valençay**, situated on vast terraces overlooking the Nahou valley is a magnificent Renaissance building, begun in 1540 by Jacques d'Etampes from the plans of Philibert Delorme.

The most important and ornamental portion of the Château is the central pavilion or *keep* (fine chimney-pieces). Running from this pavilion

are two main buildings of different sizes, each ending with a circular tower crowned by a dome. The W. one, the much larger of the pair, is called *the Old Tower*, from which runs at right angles, a more modern wing ending in a similar tower called *the New Tower*.


The main road from Blois to Châteauroux running in a direct line through the forest of Gâtine, ends at the principal entrance to the Château to which it serves as an avenue. A gigantic gateway leads to a flower-bed surrounded by chestnut trees and called the *Cour des Ronds* (on the l. the stables; on the r. the entertainment hall); then by a second gate, we enter the *Court* called the *Cours des Orangeries* (the Orangeries constructed by Talleyrand); finally a stone-bridge, passing over the moats laid out in gardens, which surround the Château, precede the vaulted passage running through the keep. This passage leads into the *Court of Honour*, which is bounded by the two wings of the Château forming a cloister on the ground floor. A double staircase in stone, connects it with the *jardin de la Duchesse*, laid out in the French style, and which ends on the S. extremity by a terrace with stone balustrade commanding at a height of 130 ft., the delightful valley of Nahon, very pretty view). A small bridge connects this garden with the *park* which extends to the W. and descends right down to the valley.

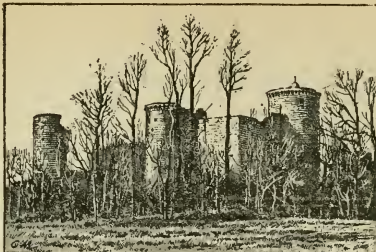
OTHER SIGHTS

In the town, is the *hospice* (convent), the chapel of which covers the burial vault of Talleyrand, the tomb of the Princess Marie-Thérèse-Poniatowska, sister of the celebrated Poniatowski. — *Church*, with choir of the xv c., and modern Romanesque nave.


On the hill facing the Château, in the wood, is the *pavillon de la Garenne*, the hunting-lodge built by Talleyrand and around which are all the stag forests in which the Valeney hounds hunt.

VENDÔME

 *Station on the Paris to Tours by Vendôme line (Orléans Railways) 180 k. from Paris, in 4 h., 1st. cl. 20 f. 15, 2nd. cl. 13 fr. 60, 3rd. cl. 8 fr. 85; — also served by the Blois (34 k.) to Châteaudu-Loir (58 k.) line, State Railways.*



Property of the town.

 *Distances : — Paris, 176 k.; — Châteaudun, 39 k.; — Orléans, 80 k., via Marchenoir, 27 k., and Beaugency, 47 k.; — Blois, 31 k.; — Tours, 55 k., via Châteaurenault, 28 k.; — Châteaudu-Loir, 59 k., via Montoire, 19 k.; — Saint-Calais, 32 k.; — Mondoubleau, 28 k.*


tion. take the town omnibus (30 c.) and alight at the place du Château at the foot of the incline leading to the Château.

To visit : — The courtyard of the Château is a public promenade. The keys of the keep (of little interest) and underground apartments are at the hôtel de ville.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Vendôme, chief town of the arrondissement (Loir-et-Cher), 9,804 inhab., is picturesquely built on the Loir which branches there into a number of arms. On the S. side it backs on to a rugged hill surmounted by the ruins of the Château.

Omnibus : — 30 c., 50 c. with luggage.

Hotels : — du Grand-Cerf (breakf. 2 fr. 50, din. 3 fr., r. 2 fr.,  T. C. F.), 10, rue du Change; — du Commerce (breakf. 2 fr. 50, din.

3 fr., r. from 2 fr.), 24, Grand-Rue; — de Vendôme, faubourg Chartrain; — du Lion-d'Or (from 7 fr. 50 per day), 25, rue Saint-Bié.

Post, telephone and telegraph office : — 50, rue Potterie.

Job Master : — Raoult, 21, place Saint-Martin.

Mechanicians : — Masson, 1 bis, rue du Mail; — Beauclair, place d'Armes; — Rougier, place d'Armes; — Guilbaud, 38, rue [du Change.

HISTORY

Vendôme (Vindocinum) owes its origin to a Gallic oppidum, which was replaced later by a roman fortress, then by a feudal Château. St. Bienheure preached christianity there in the V c. Chief town of a pagus in the VI c., Vendôme became an independent county towards the end of the X c. In 1033, Geoffroi Martel, who usurped the earldom

founded the powerful *Abbaye de la Trinité* there, the abbot of which, from 1093 to 1132, was the celebrated cardinal Geoffroy, one of the most eminent members of the XII c. clergy. The Earldom belonged from 1314 to a branch of the Bourbon family, and was created a Duchy in 1515 for Charles I of Bourbon-Vendôme, paternal ancestor of Henri IV. During the religious wars of the XVI c., the Protestants took possession of Vendôme and committed every kind of excess there. The Leaguers entered there in their turn in 1586. Henri IV had to take up arms to recover his heritage and, having captured the town by storm, had the governor Maillé-Bencheart hanged and the town dismantled. He gave Vendôme, at a later date, to his rightful son, César de Vendôme. In the 4th. year of the Republican Calendar, the Directoire appointed Vendôme as seat for the High Court, to try Babœuf and his accomplices. In 1870, the Vendômois district was the site of numerous combats, and the town itself, attacked, in turn, by the rival French and German armies, was occupied for several months by the Germans. A monument, erected on the plateau to the S. of the Château, commemorates the battles of which Vendôme was the centre.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château** of the Comtes de Vendôme, an imposing feudal ruin, occupied a very strong and natural situation on a plateau which descends very abruptly in the N. side, to the town and the Loir and is cut off, on the W. side, by the ravine of Saint-Lubin and on the E., by a deep moat. From the station or the town, we arrive at the *place du Château*, at the foot of the escarpments above which stand the ruins. On the r., the ascent commences with steps, then an *incline*, executed by César de Vendôme (xviii c.) which penetrates the enceinte of the Château, and, describing a curve, emerges by the *porte de Beauce* on to the promenade winding round the ruins. What remains of the Château, dates, in its oldest parts, from the middle of the xi c. It was repaired and renovated in the xiv, xv, xvi and especially at the commencement of the xvii c. The vast and nearly rectangular enceinte is almost entirely preserved, and the portions overlooking the town and the Saint-Lubin valley, are partly occupied by private owners. The finest part of the ruins comprise : 1. The half of the S. front looking on to the plateau to the E. of the Beauce gate, and which is still flanked by three semi-circular towers; 2. The E. front at right angles, flanked by the Poitiers tower and, at the N. E. corner, by two other towers which frame an old entrance to the Château. Of these six semi-circular towers, the biggest and the best preserved is the *Tour de Poitiers*, which is generally considered as the keep, and which is remarkable for the arrangement of the cells (xvi c.) which it contains.

The terrace of the keep can only be reached by a ladder, whence the view extends as far as the ruined Châteaux of Montoire, Lavardin, Fréteval and the tumular of the Troô. A few bits of wall show the remains of the *Collégiale Saint-Georges*. The Château was abandoned to the destroyers in 1793, and scarcely any architectural details have been spared.

A public *promenade* runs over part of the plateau of the Château, beneath which are some curious *subterranean vaults*. The N. part of the promenade forms a terrace which affords a very fine view over the town and the valley.

ITINERARY OF THE TOWN

The active centre of the town is formed by two fine adjacent 'places', the *Place Saint-Martin* (Renaissance tower, remains of an ancient church; fine wooden-built house; *statue of Marshal de Rochambeau*, 1725-1807), and the *Place d'Armes*, whence a short street, cutting, in two, the Romanesque granaries of the Abbey, leads to the Trinity church.

La Trinité, the finest church of Loir-et-Cher is a vast edifice, completely Gothic, built from the XII to the XV c. The facade is a magnificent specimen of the Flamboyant style. A little in front, to the r., standing by itself, is a magnificent feudal steeple of the middle of the XII c., a prototype of the Old Bell Tower of Chartres, and considered to be one of the finest masterpieces of the transition period (stone spire, 260 ft. high).

In the int., the four first compartments of the nave are of the XV c., the three following, of the XIV and XV c. the last of the XIV c. The gallery of the triforium is remarkable for its height. The nave, accompanied by aisles, has only two side chapels (to the l.), one of which (1515) possesses a fine *baptismal font* in white marble, — modern, in the best Renaissance taste (the pedestal, remarkable piece of carving of the commencement of the XVI c., was removed from the gardens of the Château de Blois). The second chapel dates from 1341. The transept, except a few remains of Romanesque pillars, belongs to the XIV c., as does, likewise, the greater portion of the choir, commenced about 1275.

The two wings of the transept, lower than the rest of the church, are remarkable specimens of the Angevine style of the XIII c. — In the l. wing, a cul-de-lampe represents a lay architect leaning over his compass.

The choir and its chapels have retained some fine fragments of stained glass windows many of which (in the small chapel on the r., and in the lower sections of the big windows) date back to the end of the XIII or commencement of the XIV c. Two altar screens in carved stone of the XVI c. adorn the smaller chapels of the apse. In the 2nd. chapel to the r. of the choir, a curious picture (Life of Jesus Christ in 23 compartments) comes from Saint Wladimir of Sebastopol. The apse is surrounded by a stone enclosure in the most primitive Renaissance style. On one of the panels of this enclosure, are carved (on the l. towards the choir aisle) some tears, a latin inscription and two lines of Greek verse referring to the ancient and celebrated pilgrimage to the relic of *La Sainte Larme* (The Holy Tear) which disappeared at the time of the Revolution. — The carved **choir-stalls** of the XV or XVI c. are very handsome.

In the r. aisle of the nave, a door with panels of the XVI c. leads to the portion still extant of the **cloister**, remarkable for its mullioned arches of the XIV or XV c. Over the cloister is the *sacristie* or vestry-room, an ancient archive chamber (XIII c.).


To visit the primitive *chapel* of the abbey, renovated in the XIII c., the *Chapter Hall* (XV c.) and the main building erected in the XVII c., application must be made at the guard-room of the barracks (*quartier Rochambeau*) of which all these buildings form part.


The vicarage, behind the apsidol, is situated in the old **abbatial apartments** (XV-XVI c.). — To the N. or. l. of the church, another building of the XVI c. was, doubtless, used as a dwelling for one of the dignitaries of the convent. Behind the Trinity church, a bridge over

the Loir leads to a pretty *public garden* (very fine apsidal view of the Trinity church). Following to the l., the bank of the river, we see, soon, the *Arche des Grands-Prés*, the ancient water-gate of the ramparts.

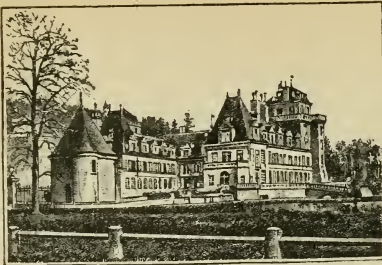
From the place d'Armes. the *rue Guesnault*, the *place du Marché* (*hôtel du Gouverneur*, Renaissance period) and the *rue Saulnerie* (antique houses), lead to the *rue Potterie*, a long street running parallel to the *rue du Change* and which, to the S., ends at the charming **Porte Saint-Georges** (xv c.), now used as the *hôtel de ville* and preceded by a bridge over the Loir (very picturesque view). Towards the N. the *rue Potterie* passes in front of the **Museum** (admission daily, on application to the concierge), where the public library (remarkable manuscripts) and the artistic and archeological collections of the *Société du Vendômois* occupies an elegant modern edifice in Louis XIII style, preceded by a garden with a *statue of Ronsard*, by Irvoy (1872). Beyond the Museum, the *rue Potterie* crosses an arm of the Loir on the bank of which, to the r., is the *hôtel du Saillant* (xvi c.), then skirts the *place de la Madeleine* (church of 1474 with pretty stone crocket spire and stained glass window of 1529). In the *rue Saint-Jacques*, which opens to the r. of the church, is the portal of the **lycée** (1623-1639), formerly the college of the Oratorians, of which the charming **chapel** (1452; stained-glass windows of the xvi c.) of the old Saint-Jacques hospital is still preserved. At the corner of this chapel, we return to the *rue du Change* which leads back, to the left to the Chartrain bridge and towards the station, or on the r., to the place d'Armes.

VILLANDRY

 5 k. from Savonnières, station on the Tours to Nantes line, 11 k. from Tours. The most practical way of visiting Villandry is from Tours by road, 16 k.

 Distances : — Tours, 17 k., by Savonnières,

3 k.; — Cinq-Mars, 4 k., by the footway skirting the railway bridge | from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.: admission 1 fr. Apply to the concierge.



Property of M. Carvalho.

(foot passengers and cyclists only); — Langeais, 12 k., by Lignières, 9 k.; — Azay-le-Rideau, 11 k., by Lignières, 9 k.

To visit : The grounds are open to visitors daily. The Château and the galleries open

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Villandry is a village of 779 inhab., at the foot of the pretty hills on the l. bank of the Cher (which flows here into the great valley of the Loire, 5 miles distant). — Taverns. — Post and telegraph office.

HISTORY

This seigniory was originally called Coulombières or Colombiers. Philippe-Auguste and Richard Cœur-de-Lion signed a treaty there in 1189. Coulombières was created a marquise in 1619 in favour of Balthazar Le Breton, Seigneur of Villandry, and received the latter name by letters patent in July 1639.

DESCRIPTION

The **Château de Villandry** was rebuilt about 1532 by Jean Le Breton, Secretary of State of François I, in the purest Renaissance style. The three facades which envelope the Court of Honour formed an architectural ensemble of the greatest variety. On the ground floor of the side facades, a gallery with admirable porches were to be seen. The principal facade showed three rows of square windows with mullions, and framed by pilasters and capitals of great delicacy. The Marquis de Castellane changed considerably the character of these three facades in the xviii c. He closed up the porched gallery, removed the mullions of the windows, suppressed the crowning of the dormer-windows, and, finally, painted on the wall panels, false windows between the real ones. The present owner, M. Carvalho, has been able to discover the ancient dispositions of the Château despite these xviii century alterations, and the edifice will shortly resume the characteristics it possessed

in the xvi c. The W. facade is also very interesting, although it has likewise undergone many alterations. It ends on the S. side by a big square tower or keep of the xiv c., which is the only portion remaining of the ancient feudal castle. From the platform of this tower, a magnificent view can be obtained over the Cher and the Loire, and in the distance can be seen the Châteaux of Luynes, Cinq-Mars and Langeais. In the xviii c., the Marquis de Castellane embellished the park in various ways and created that delightful succession of terraces which connect the left wing of the Château with the hill. Belonging to the Château, are large gardens, a fine park and important servants' quarters of the time of Louis XIV. M. Carvallo will form in the l. wing of the Château, a *Museum of Ancient and Modern Art*, which will be open to visitors, with a benevolent object.

OTHER SIGHTS

In the village, is a *church* of the xi and xu c., with Byzantine cupola and pendentives, and a stained-glass window representing the Last Judgment with the portrait of Anne Gedouin and a Renaissance subject referring to the Château. — In the public land of the village is *la Pierre aux Joncs*, a Druid stone, some 4 m. high.

