Porcherie; 29 M. *Masseret.* — Beyond (31½ M.) *Malons-la-Tour,* where there is a ruined tower, we enter the valley of the Vézère.

36½ M. **Uzerche** *(Hôt. Pommarel),* a town of 4350 inhab., is picturesquely situated about ¾ M. to the S. of the station, on a steep hill washed by the *Vézère.* It contains an interesting Romanesque *Church* and several castellated *Mansions* of the 12-16th centuries. Uzerche claims to be the Uxellodunum of antiquity (comp. p. 107).

The railway next traverses a more undulating country, crosses three bridges (the third spanning the Vézère), and threads a tunnel. — Beyond (41½ M.) *Vigeois* (3266 inhab.) we enter a wooded rocky gorge in which there are eight tunnels, with a bridge after the first and a ruin, to the right, after the last. Between (46½ M.) *Estivaux* and (51 M.) *Allassac* there are four tunnels and a bridge, still in the gorge of the Vézère. We then quit that river.

54 M. **Donzenac** *(Hôt. du Commerce; des Voyageurs),* with 3240 inhab., picturesquely situated to the left, has an interesting *Church* (12-14th cent.) and several quaint houses.

57 M. *Ussac.* We cross the *Corrèze* and join the following railway, then that from Périgueux (see below). — 61½ M. *Brive* (R. 5).

b. Viâ St. Yrieix.

63½ M. Railway in 2½-3½ hrs. (fares as above).

Limoges, see p. 39. — This line diverges to the left from the preceding after crossing the Vienne (see p. 105). — 6½ M. *Beynac.*

12½ M. *Nexon* (3155 inhab.), with a church of the 12th and 15th cent., and a château in the style of the 16th century. Line to Périgueux, see p. 42.

18 M. *La Meyze;* 21 M. *Champsiaux.* 26 M. **St. Yrieix** *(Hôt. du Faisan),* a town of 8700 inhab., where the first French quarries of kaolin or porcelain clay were discovered in 1765, possesses an interesting church of the 12-13th cent., with a single nave and three choirs. Tramway to Périgueux, see p. 45.

31½ M. *Coussac-Bonneval,* with a château of the 15-16th cent., to the left; 35 M. *St. Julien;* 38 M. *Lubersac;* 42 M. *Pompadour,* with a château presented by Louis XV., with the title of Marquise, to his mistress, Antoinette Poisson. The *National Stud Farm* here is one of the most important in Europe. — Then, after three viaducts (180, 120, and 60 ft. in height), the line descends, crossing several affluents of the Vézère, to (48½ M.) *Vignols-St. Solve.* At (52 M.) *Objat* we join the line from Thiviers (p. 42). Beyond (56 M.) *Le Burg* and (58 M.) *Varetz* we cross the *Vézère* and its tributary the *Corrèze.*

63 M. **Brive** *(Buffet; Hôtel de Bordeaux; de Toulouse),* an ancient town with 16,800 inhab., where Gundebald was proclaimed king of Aquitania in 585. It was the birthplace of Cardinal Dubois and Marshal Brune and has a statue of the latter. The chief local trade is in truffles. In the middle of the town stands the Romanesque and Gothic church of *St. Martin* (11-12th cent.), recently restored.

From Brive to *Tulle*, *Clermont-Ferrand*, etc., see R. 36 b; to *Thiviers*, p. 42.

From Brive to Périgueux (Coutras, Bordeaux), 45 M., railway in 1 3/4-2 3/4 hrs. (fares 8 fr. 10, 5 fr. 45, 3 fr. 55 c.). This line soon enters the valley of the *Vézère*, which it crosses and follows for a considerable distance. 13 M. *Terrasson*, a small commercial town with a Gothic church and the ruins of an abbey; 20 1/2 M. *La Bachellerie*, a large village on a vine-clad slope, beyond which we quit the Vézère; 36 1/2 M. *St. Pierre-de-Chignac;* 39 M. *Niversac*, where the line to Agen (p. 101) diverges. — 45 M. *Périgueux*, see p. 43.

II. From Brive to Aurillac.

64 1/2 M. Railway in 2 3/4-4 1/4 hrs. (fares 11 fr. 85, 7 fr. 95, 5 fr. 15 c.). From Brive to (17 1/2 M.) *St. Denis-près-Martel* we follow the Capdenac and Toulouse line (p. 112); from St. Denis to (47 M.) *Aurillac* the route ascends the interesting *Valley of the Cère.*

Beyond Brive, where the most interesting and picturesque part of the route begins, the train passes through two tunnels; the second (1550 yards long), the *Montplaisir Tunnel*, is the longest on the Orléans Railway system. — At a distance, first on the left and then on the right, are the ruins of the Château de Turenne (see below).

73 M. *Turenne*, 1 1/4 M. to the E. of the small and ancient town of that name. This was the capital of the 'vicomté' from which the celebrated Marshal Turenne (d. 1685) took his title. The ruins of his *Château* consist of two imposing towers situated on high and precipitous rocks; the older of the two (13th cent.) is round, the other (14th cent.) is square.

76 M. *Quatre-Routes.* Farther on, to the left, is the plateau on which stands the village of *Puy-d'Issolu*, the probable site of the Celtic town of *Uxellodunum*, taken by Cæsar B. C. 50 (see also pp. 106, 114, 236).

80 1/2 M. **St. Denis-près-Martel** *(Buffet; Hôt. Vayssière,* at the station, moderate), a village in the valley of the Dordogne.

From St. Denis to *Capdenac* and *Toulouse*, see p. 112; to *Le Buisson* viâ *Sarlat*, see p. 102.

The railway to Aurillac ascends the valley of the *Dordogne*, then that of the *Cère*, which becomes highly picturesque beyond Bretenoux, where it is more than 1300 ft. above the sea-level. — 84 1/2 M. *Vayrac.* Beyond (88 M.) *Puybrun* we cross the Dordogne by an iron bridge, to the right of which is a suspension-bridge. On the right also appears the château of *Castelnau* (see below). — 91 M. *Bretenoux*, a village, at one time fortified, on the left bank of the Cère.

The ***Château of Castelnau** (12-15th cent.) is a picturesque ruin on a steep rock, 1 3/4 M. to the S.W., commanding a fine view (key at the 'presbytère' of Castelnau). The village *Church*, dating from the 14th cent., contains stalls and an altar-piece of the 15th century.

A Diligence (1 fr.) plies from the station of Bretenoux to **St. Céré**, a small town, 6 M. to the S.E., dominated by the ruined *Tours de St. Laurent* (12th and 14th cent.).

Another Diligence plies to **Beaulieu** *(Hôt. de Bordeaux)*, a little town on the right bank of the Dordogne, 3 1/2 M. to the N., with a fine Roman-

esque **Church* of the 11-13th centuries. — Thence an interesting expedition may be made into the desolate upper valley of the Dordogne, which winds at the bottom of a deep ravine between wooded rocky heights.

After a short tunnel, the railway approaches the *Cère* and the valley contracts. — 93½ M. *Port-de-Gagnac*; 97 M. *Laval-de-Cère*. Then six tunnels and a bridge over the Cère. — Beyond (103 M.) *Lamativie* the valley becomes a wooded rocky gorge, 980 ft. deep, in which the railway passes through 17 tunnels before the next station. The gradients are steep and the sustaining-walls and other examples of railway engineering are interesting. Views to the left.

112 M. *La Roquebrou* (Hôt. Rieu), a small shoe-making town on the right bank, has a ruined castle and a Gothic church. A narrow-gauge line is to be constructed hence to Limoges (p. 39), viâ Tulle (p. 236).

The valley now expands. The line recrosses to the right bank by means of a viaduct 80 ft. in height, and gradually quits the river.

115½ M. *Miécaze* is the junction for the line from Aurillac to Montluçon viâ Eygurande (p. 228). In the distance, to the left, appear the mountains of Auvergne. Then the view opens on the right. A viaduct, 110 ft. in height, is crossed to the following station.

119 M. *Viescamp-sous-Jallès*. Thence to (146 M.) *Aurillac*, see p. 261.

16. From Brive (Limoges) to Toulouse.

a. Viâ Cahors and Montauban.

133 M. Railway in 4-6¾ hrs. (fares 24 fr. 20, 16 fr. 35, 10 fr. 70 c.). — From *Limoges*, 197 M., in 6¼-10½ hrs. (fares 35 fr. 60, 25 fr. 5, 15 fr. 70 c.). — From *Paris*, 445 M., in 13½-22⅓ hrs. (fares 80 fr. 30, 54 fr. 20, 35 fr. 35 c.).

The *New Railway to Toulouse viâ Cahors and Montauban*, built in 1880-91 at the cost of about 62,000*l.* per mile, the final link being the line between Limoges and Brive viâ Uzerche, not only supersedes the old line viâ Capdenac, but also shortens the route by 21 M., while its gradients and curves are much less abrupt than those of the older line. There are 19 tunnels (about 5½ M. in aggregate length), 11 viaducts, and a bridge, and about 30 M. of curves. The most interesting part of the line for engineers is near Souillac (p. 109). The work was executed for the French government by the engineers MM. Lanteirès and Pihier. The country traversed is not very fertile and is scantily wooded with chestnuts, and has no considerable elevations.

Brive, see p. 106. — The line to Cahors diverges to the right of those to Tulle and Capdenac and ascends towards the *Causse de Martel* ('causse', see p. 269), between the Corrèze and the Dordogne. Several tunnels (the first 1150 yds. long) and viaducts are traversed. — 5 M. *Noailles* (655 ft.), to the left, has given name to a well-known noble family. Fine view to the left. Before and after (8 M.) *Chasteaux* tunnels are traversed. The railway soon quits the basin of the Corrèze, and descends rapidly towards the Dordogne. Tunnels and viaducts follow each other in rapid succession, presenting constructions of considerable interest to engineers. The last viaduct

is also used by the railway to St. Denis-près-Martel, which joins ours on the left. Fine view of the valley of the Dordogne.

23 M. **Souillac** (410 ft.; *Lion d'Or*), a manufacturing town with tanneries and 3218 inhab., lies $^3/_4$ M. to the left of the railway. Near the end of the main street is an ancient ruined church, and behind it a handsome *Parish Church*, formerly belonging to an abbey. The building is in the Romanesque-Byzantine style of the 12th cent., with domes and transept, and has an apse with semicircular apsides In the interior, beside the main portal, is a fine bas-relief, and some paintings on the vaults of the choir and transept.

To *Le Buisson* and *St. Denis-près-Martel*, see p. 102.

Two curved viaducts and a tunnel follow; view to the left. — At (26 M.) *Cazoulès* (330 ft.) the line to Le Buisson diverges (p. 102), and soon afterwards we cross the *Dordogne* and begin to reascend. — 30 M. *Lamothe-Fénelon* (472 ft.) recalls the famous Périgord family, better known under the single name Fénelon. Archbishop Fénelon was, however, born at Lamothe-Salignac. — Tunnel, 700 yds. long. — 33$^1/_2$ M. *Nozac* (570 ft.).

36$^1/_2$ M. **Gourdon** (690 ft.; *Hôtel de l'Ecu*), with 4834 inhab., is situated to the right, on a hill commanding a fine view. The town is dominated by the *Church of St. Pierre* (14-15th cent.), with two W. towers. Another church dates from the 13th cent.; and the chapel of Notre-Dame-du-Majou is a pilgrim-resort. Remains of fortifications, an ancient gate, etc. may be seen.

Beyond a tunnel and a long and deep cutting lined with masonry, we begin to descend, but beyond (41 M.) *St. Clair* (555 ft.) we reascend. The *Tunnel de Marot* (1130 yds. long), before the next station, presented considerable difficulties in construction, as beds of quicksand were found here. The same also occurred in two tunnels immediately beyond (44$^1/_2$ M.) *Dégagnac* (740 ft.). — At (47$^1/_2$ M.) *Thédirac-Peyrilles* the railway reaches its highest point (1570 ft.), before passing from the basin of the Dordogne into that of the Lot, an affluent of the Garonne. The *Tunnel de Roques* (1 M. long) is the longest on the line, and also offered considerable difficulty in construction. It is followed by a deep cutting with massive retaining-walls, the sloping sides of which are 180 ft. high. — Beyond (52$^1/_2$ M.) *St. Denis-Catus* (685 ft.) are a tunnel and viaduct. — 56$^1/_2$ M. *Espère*. Farther on, to the right, is the fine 13th cent. *Château de Mercuès*, belonging to the bishopric of Cahors. A final tunnel now admits us to the valley of the *Lot*, which flows on the right. On that side also is the Monsempron-Libos railway, to which the line from Brive descends, traversing a stone embankment, $^1/_2$ M. long, with 33 arches more than 50 ft. high. We now cross some old fortifications and enter —

62 M. *Cahors* (390 ft.; Buffet). Continuation of the railway to Toulouse, see p. 112.

Cahors. — **Hotels.** Des Ambassadeurs (Pl. a; B, 3), Boul. Gambetta to the left from the Rue du Lycée, indifferent; de l'Europe (Pl. b; B, 3) near the end of the Rue du Lycée. — **Cafés** in the Boul. Gambetta. — **Post & Telegraph Office** (Pl. B, 3), Rue du Lycée, near the hospice.

Cahors, formerly more important, is now a town of but 15,369 inhab., to which the opening of the new direct line from Paris to Toulouse may perhaps restore some of its old prosperity. It was the old capital of the country of the *Carduci* and afterwards of *Quercy,* and it is now the chief town of the département of the *Lot*. It was occupied for a time by the English and taken by Henri IV. when king of Navarre. It formerly possessed a university founded by Pope John XXII. (Jacques d'Euse, 1244-1334), who was a native of the town. Clement Marot (1495-1544) and Léon Gambetta (1838-1882) were also born here.

Cahors is picturesquely situated on a peninsula on the right bank of the *Lot,* its E. side especially, away from the railway, being adorned with ruins and ancient monuments, which lend it much interest.

The station is in the new quarter Des Hortes (Hortus), where, however, some Roman remains have been found, including a theatre finally destroyed in 1851. We follow the avenue to the right, as far as the Rue du Lycée, which leads to the left to the town.

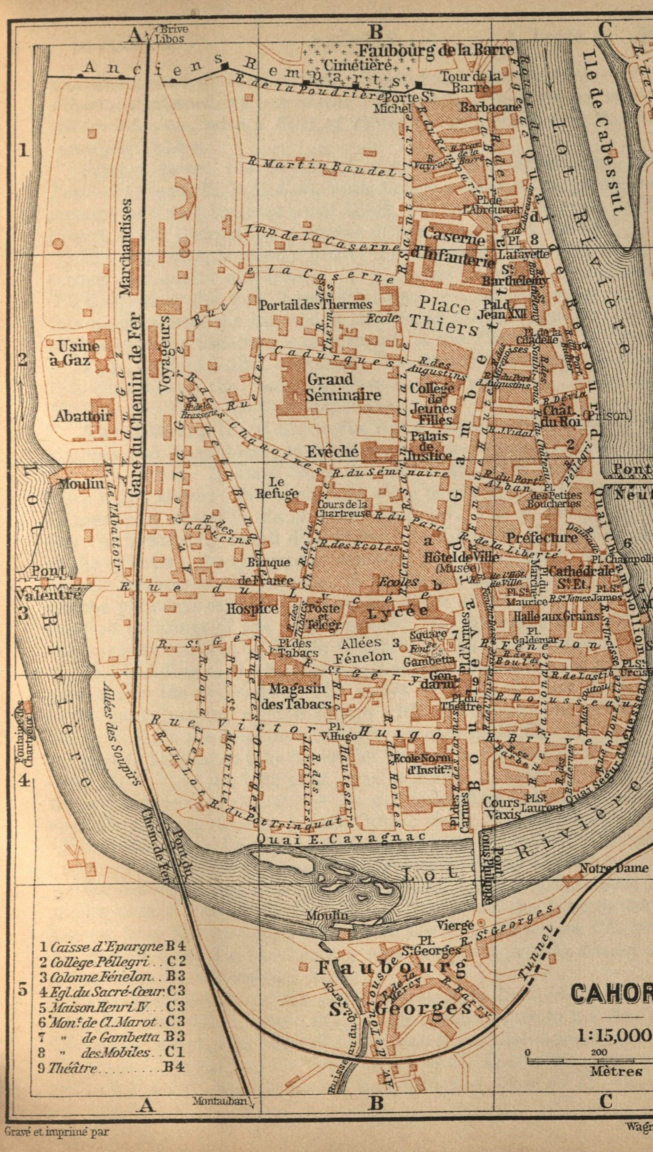
The ***Pont Valentré** (Pl. A, 3), to the right, at the beginning of the Rue du Lycée, is a remarkable monument of the 14th cent., with three towers, the two at the ends being machicolated. By means of gates, a barbican on the left bank, etc., it was converted into a strong fortification. It has recently been restored.

On the opposite bank are steep rocks. Beneath a rock about 300 paces to the left, behind a mill, is the **Fontaine des Chartreux,** a limpid spring, from which was derived the Roman name of the town, *Divona* ('holy fountain'). The water, when abundant, flows through three basins connected by cascades, and is finally conducted into the Lot. This spring supplies Cahors with drinking-water; near the bridge is the reservoir.

The Rue du Lycée, to the right, beyond the house (No. 11) in which Gambetta was born, leads past the Lycée Gambetta (Pl. B, 3), formerly a convent of the Cordeliers (Franciscans) and a Jesuits' college. The building, which has an elegant brick tower (17th cent.), also contains the *Municipal Library* (18,000 vols.).

The *Boulevard Gambetta,* a little farther on, marks the W. limit of the old town, as the Lot, parallel with it, marks the E. limit. In front is the *Hôtel de Ville* (Pl. B, 3), containing a small *Musée* of art, archæology, and natural history (open on Sun. and holidays from 2 to 4, and to strangers on other days also). It contains Gallo-Roman and Egyptian antiquities, a few sculptures, and some paintings, including: *Robert-Fleury,* Danaids; *A. de Pujol,* Sisyphus; *J. Leman,* Episode at Cahors during the Hundred Years' War; *H. Scott,* Obsequies of Gambetta.

Descending the Boul. Gambetta we pass, on the right, the **Monument of Gambetta** (Pl. 7; B, 3), a large work by *Falguière,* with



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a bronze statue of the dictator. Behind is a small square, with a *Fountain* adorned with a statue of Neptune. Farther on are the *Allées Fénelon*, with a *Bust of Fénelon*, who studied at the university of Cahors.

Farther down, the boulevard ends at the river and the *Pont Louis-Philippe* (Pl. B, C, 4, 5), built below a Roman bridge, the last remains of which lingered until 1868. On the opposite bank, in the suburb of St. Georges, is a *Statue of the Virgin*, by Pradier.

The old town is poorly built, but contains some picturesque corners and quaint old *Houses; e. g.* in the *Quartier des Badernes* (Pl. C, 4), near the Pont Louis-Philippe. — On the other side of this quarter, near the Lot and at the end of the Rue Fénelon, which begins opposite Gambetta's monument, is the *Church of St. Urcisse* (Pl. C, 3), of the 12-13th centuries. The Rue Fénelon runs between this church and the boulevard near the market-place, where also the Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville debouches.

The **Cathedral** (Pl. C, 3), to the right, belongs like those of Périgueux and Angoulême, to the Romanesque-Byzantine period, and has two domes. It dates from the end of the 11th cent., but has been much altered; the choir and some of the chapels having been in great part rebuilt in the 14-15th centuries. The *N. Portal*, on the left, unfortunately much dilapidated, is the most interesting part of the exterior; the tympanum contains fine sculptures. The most notable features of the interior, to which we descend by ten steps, are the paintings of the chapel on the right of the choir, and some restored paintings of the 14th century. On the right or S. side of the nave are remains of Gothic *Cloisters* of the 15th century.

The building to the N. of the cathedral-portal is the old bishops' palace, now the *Préfecture*. The street between the two descends to the quay, passing a small square with the *Monument of Marot* (Pl. 6; C, 3), in the Renaissance style, erected in 1892. The bust of the poet is by Turcan; the bas-relief by Puëch. The adjacent *Pont-Neuf* (Pl. C, 3), of the 13th cent., was so called in contrast to the old Roman bridge (see above). — In the suburb of Cabessut, on the opposite bank, is the fine ruined Gothic choir of a church (Pl. C, 3; 14th cent.) which belonged to a Dominican or Jacobin Convent, destroyed in 1580 by the Huguenot troops of Henry of Navarre.

On the right bank, above the Pont Neuf, are the curious remains of the *Collège Pélegri* (Pl. 2; C, 2), dating from the 14th century. Not far from this spot rises the square tower of the former *Château du Roi* (Pl C, 2; also 14th. cent.), now used as a prison; farther off is the Tour de la Barre (see below).

The Rue Pélegri, or the curious but dirty lane called Rue du Four-Ste. Catherine, beside the Collège, leads hence to the *Rue du Château*, which like the following streets, contains some curious old houses. At the end are the *Church of St. Barthélemy* (Pl. C, 2) and, on the left, the remains of the *Palace of John XXII.*, also of

the 14th cent., with a large square tower. We here reach the upper part of the Boul. Gambetta and the Place Thiers, in front of a barrack. In the *Place Lafayette* (Pl. C, 1, 2), behind the church, is a *Monument to the Soldiers and Militia of the Lot* (1870-71), with sculptures by C. A. Calmon.

Farther on begins the Rue de la Barre, which leads to the *Barbacane*, a guard-house (15th cent.), beside the lofty Tour de la Barre or *Tour des Pendus* (Pl. B, C, 1), which rises on a sharp-pointed rock near the Lot, and is open on the side next the town. Since the 13th cent. Cahors has possessed *Ramparts*, shutting off the peninsula, and still intact but for the opening made for the railway. Near the Barbacane is the handsome *Porte St. Michel* (Pl. B, 1), now serving as the entrance to a cemetery. The massive tower a little farther on is used as a powder-magazine. — The Rue Lte. Claire, on this side of the cemetery, leads back to the Place Thiers, skirting the barrack-wall. In an enclosure on the right is a *Gateway* of Roman baths, known as the Porte de Diane.

Following the Boul. Gambetta to the Hôtel de Ville, we pass the new *College for Girls* and the *Palais de Justice* (Pl. B, 2). The Rue du Séminaire, a little beyond the Palais, and the Rue des Cadurques, on this side of the Collège, lead direct to the station, passing the Grand Séminaire.

Railway from Cahors to *Monsempron-Libos*, see p. 103; to *Capdenac*, see p. 114.

Continuation of the Railway to Montauban and Toulouse.— Beyond Cahors the line passes near the Pont Valentré (p. 110), on the right, crosses the Lot, and leaves the line to Capdenac on the left. We traverse a long curved viaduct. — 65 M. *Sept-Ponts.* Rock-cuttings; lofty viaduct; tunnel. — 67 M. *Cieurac;* 73 M. *Albenque.* — 77½ M. *Montpezat*, an ancient little town, fully 3 M. to the S.W. (diligence), with a fine 13th cent. church, rich in works of art of the 14-16th centuries. Beyond a tunnel and a large viaduct we reach (84 M.) *Borredon.*

87 M. **Caussade** *(Hotels)*, to the left, a town of 3747 inhab., one of the fortresses of the Huguenots. Fine 14th cent. spire.

90½ M. *Réalville.* We cross the *Aveyron.* — 93½ M. *Albias;* 97 M. *Fonneuve.* To the left is the railway to Lexos. We cross the Tarn and join, on the right, the railway to Bordeaux.

101 M. *Montauban* (Ville-Bourbon; see p. 75). Hence to (32 M.) *Toulouse*, see p. 77.

b. Viâ Capdenac.

154½ M. Railway in 5-8 hrs. (same fares). — The traveller should traverse the part of the line between Brive and Lexos by day.

To (17½ M.) *St. Denis-près-Martel*, see p. 107. — We now reach

the picturesque **Valley of the Dordogne*. The line crosses the river and ascends the left side of the winding valley, overhung by rocks more than 600 ft. high. The Buisson line (p. 102) runs on the other side. Beyond (22 M.) *Montvalent*, we reach the *Causse de Gramat*, the rocky and barren plateau which separates the valley of the Dordogne from that of the Célé.

The **Causse de Gramat** is one of the most interesting plateaux in France, from the point of view of hydrology. It contains numerous 'gouffres' or natural wells, which collect the rainfall and discharge it by means of subterranean channels, which eventually return to the surface and form the beginnings of rivers. The most important of these wells is the *Gouffre de Padirac*, 120 ft. in diameter and 200 ft. deep, which lies about 7½ M. to the N.E. of the station of Rocamadour (see below).

28½ M. *Rocamadour*. The village lies 2½ M. to the S.W. (omnibus ½ fr., to the *Château* 1 fr.).

Rocamadour (*Hôt.-Rest. Ste. Marie; Grand-Soleil*, well spoken of; *Notre-Dame*), romantically situated in a ravine, bounded by rocky walls 400 ft. high, to which the houses cling, is one of the most ancient pilgrim-resorts in France, especially frequented in mediæval times. Above the houses are the church and chapels, and still higher is an ancient castle. The name is derived from St. Amadour, a hermit who is said to have lived here in the 1st cent., and is identified with Zacchæus, the Publican.

To reach the church from the lower town we climb two steep flights of steps, with 143 and 51 steps respectively, and another of 75 steps leads thence to the Chapel of the Virgin.

The *Church*, an early Gothic building, consists of two parts, the parochial church, or St. Sauveur, and the subterranean church, or Chapel of St. Amadour. The former has two aisles without transepts; the high-altar stands in the middle of the apse, with a chapel on each side. The walls are entirely covered with paintings, portraits, and inscriptions, commemorating illustrious pilgrims, among them St. Louis, Charles IV., Louis XI., and other kings of France. The Chapel of St. Amadour is smaller than the church above it, but is adorned in the same fashion.

The *Chapel of the Virgin* dates only from the 15th cent. and has been partly rebuilt in our time. Its internal decoration is very rich. The modern stained-glass windows are by Thévenot. On the altar is a small black image of the Virgin, of wood, ascribed to Zacchæus.

There are three other chapels to the right as we ascend. — Opposite the entrance of that of the Virgin are some ancient mural paintings and a huge sword fixed to the wall. This sword is said to be an imitation of Roland's famous 'Durandal', which according to tradition was vowed by the Paladin to the Virgin, brought here after his death, and stolen in the 12th century.

The *Castle*, which stands much higher up, was built in the middle ages to defend the shrines, and has been partly reconstructed. It now serves as a clergy-house. Fine view from the wall and the old tower.

A variety of interesting excursions may be made from Rocamadour: to the numerous 'gouffres' in the vicinity; to several waterfalls; etc.

33½ M. *Gramat* (pop. 3867); 44 M. *Assier*, with an interesting church and the remains of a 16th cent. château. Beyond (48 M.) *Le Pournel* we descend by two tunnels and a viaduct into the valley of the *Célé*, a tributary of the Lot.

56 M. **Figeac** (*Hôtel des Ambassadeurs*, near the market-place; *H. des Voyageurs*, Allée des Platanes, on the left bank of the Célé), an old town of 6680 inhab. on the right bank of the Célé, is badly built, but possesses some interesting 13-14th cent. houses. The Avenue Gambetta leads from the station to the principal bridge and to the

ue Gambetta, which ends at the Place du Marché. To the right of ie bridge is an *Obelisk* to the memory of *Champollion*, the Egyp- ologist, a native of the town (1790-1832).

The *Church of St. Sauveur* (12-14th cent.) has a transept with a entral tower surmounted by a clumsy dome, and a modern W. tower. nside are two fine Corinthian capitals supporting holy-water basins, ie fonts, and, on the right, a large low chapel of the 13th cent., ith aisles, and containing some fine bas-reliefs in wood.

In a narrow street on the left, at the beginning of the Rue Gam- etta, is the *Old Palais de Justice* (14th cent.).

Notre-Dame-du-Puy, in the highest part of the town, beside ie college, is also a church of the 12-14th cent., with a modern teeple. There is no transept, but the aisles extend all the way ound. Its chief attraction is a large and magnificent **Altar Screen* f the latter part of the 18th cent., in perfect preservation and en- losing two pictures and two statues.

From Figeac to *Aurillac*, etc., see R. 40.

We now pass through two tunnels, the first 1350 yds. long, into ie beautiful valley of the *Lot*. On the right is the line to Cahors see below). Beyond another tunnel we cross the river.

59 M. **Capdenac** (*Buffet;* Hotels, near the station, small). The own, which stands some way off, occupying a steep eminence on he right bank of the Lot is another claimant to be the Roman Vxellodunum (pp. 106, 107). In any case it was an important place n the middle ages, and it still has remains of fortifications, pointed ateways, a keep, etc.

From Capdenac to *Rodez* and *Béziers*, see R. 17; to *Aurillac*, see R. 40.

From Capdenac to Cahors, 45 M., railway in 2-4 hrs. (fares 8 fr. 5, fr. 45, 3 fr. 55 c.). This line descends the interesting valley of the Lot, t first on the right bank, at the foot of lofty pointed cliffs. — 8$^1/_2$ M. *Voirac*. Tunnel $^1/_4$ M. long. — 15$^1/_2$ M. *Cajarc*, a small town to the right, vith a ruined château. Then follow a tunnel (350 yds.), a bridge over ie Lot, two tunnels (600 and 120 yds.), and several rock-cuttings. Fine views. — 20 M. *Calvignac*. To the right, farther on, the large *Châ- eau de Cénevières* (13th, 15th, and 16th cent.), on a cliff above the Lot. Tunnel; bridge over the river. — 22$^1/_2$ M. *St. Martin-Labouval*. 25$^1/_2$ M. *t. Cirq-la-Popie*, very picturesquely situated on the left bank of the river, vith a ruined castle (13th cent.) and a fine 15th cent. church. Tunnels nd bridges are numerous on the next part of the line, and the Lot is ordered with steep heights. — 27$^1/_2$ M. *Conduché;* 33 M. *St. Géry;* 34 M. *ers;* 38 M. *Arcambal*, on a height to the left. — 42 M. *Cabessut* is an E. nburb of Cahors, on the left bank of the Lot. Fine view on the right f Cahors, which both railway and river now skirt. To the left is the ailway to Montauban. We cross the Lot, with a view of the Pont Va- ntré (p. 110) to the left. — 45 M. *Cahors*, see p. 110.

Beyond Capdenac the railway ascends considerably, traversing everal small tunnels and viaducts and affording a succession of ie views. 64$^1/_2$ M. *Naussac;* 68 M. *Salles-Courbatier;* 71$^1/_2$ M. *illeneuve*. We now cross the *Aveyron*.

77$^1/_2$ M. **Villefranche-de-Rouergue** (*Hôtel Notre-Dame*), a com- ercial town with 9734 inhab., was a rich and important place in ie middle ages, when it distinguished itself in the wars with Eng-

land. In the 16th cent. it was noted for its devotion to Protestantism. Three times in the 15-17th cent. it was ravaged by the plague, and in 1643 it became the centre of the insurrection of the Croquants, or peasants who revolted against the exactions of the Intendants. The chief sights of the town are the *Church of Notre-Dame* (13-16th cent.), to the right on the way from the station, and an old *Carthusian Convent*, on the left bank, converted into a hospital, with pretty cloisters in the florid Gothic style.

The line next skirts the Aveyron, sometimes on one bank, sometimes on the other. At (84 M.) *Monteils*, the valley becomes highly picturesque, forming a rocky and wooded gorge in which no less than nine bridges and nine tunnels are passed. Then, to the right, we obtain a magnificent view of Najac and its castle.

88 M. **Najac** *(Hôt. des Voyageurs)*, a small town on a height, with a **Castle*, the remains of which are very striking as seen from the valley. To reach it we pass under the line, cross the river a little farther on, ascend by a path to the left, and turn to the right at the top (1/4 hr.). Founded in the 12th cent., the castle was rebuilt in the middle of the 13th. It stands on a bold cliff, washed on three sides by the Aveyron, commanding the valley. It was sold at the Revolution and has since been partly demolished to supply building materials. To inspect the interior we must obtain permission from the 'Frères' (to the left before reaching the castle). The chief part is the keep, which is 100 ft. in height and contains some fine rooms. The two enceintes are flanked with square and round towers, and afford pretty views. — The *Church* dates from the 13th century.

Recrossing the Aveyron and passing under the town by a tunnel, we obtain another very striking view of the castle on the left. Three more tunnels and three bridges are then traversed. At (94 M.) *La Guépie*, the ruins of a 16th cent. château are seen to the left. Beyond it the valley expands. — 100 M. *Lexos* (Buffet).

From Lexos to Montauban, 41 M., railway in 1 hr. 40 min. (fares 7 fr. 40, 5 fr., 3 fr. 25 c.). The line follows the rocky and picturesque valley of the Aveyron, crossing the river several times. Beyond (4 M.) *Feneyrols* is a short tunnel. 8 M. **St. Antonin** *(Hôtel Albouy)*, an ancient town with 4137 inhab., has a curious *Hôtel de Ville* of the 12th cent. and a handsome modern Gothic *Church*. The Aveyron is here spanned by an ancient Gothic bridge. — 12 1/2 M. *Cazals*. 16 M. *Penne*, a picturesque town dominated by the ruins of a 15th cent. château. 20 1/2 M. *Bruniquel* has a château of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, lately restored (visitors admitted). The valley now expands. 24 M. *Montricoux*, with remains of a 13th cent. castle. The train now quits the Aveyron. 28 1/2 M. *Négrepelisse*, a small town on the left bank of the Aveyron, devoted to Protestantism in the Religious Wars, was sacked by Louis XIII. in 1622. — 32 M. *St. Etienne-de-Tulmont*; 38 M. *Montauban-Ville-Nouvelle*. The *Tarn* is crossed. 41 M. *Montauban-Ville-Bourbon* (see p. 75).

Our route now ascends the valley of an affluent of the Aveyron. 106 M. *Vindrac*. In the distance to the left is the town of Cordes.

From Vindrac to Cordes, 3 1/2 M., diligence 50 c., free to travellers to or from Gaillac (p. 118), Albi, and places beyond. Vindrac being only served by a few slow trains, time may be saved by taking a private con-

yance from Lexos to Cordes (7 fr.). — Cordes appears more and more cturesque as we approach it. Below it, at the foot of the hill, is the llage of *Les Cabanes* (Hotel), whence we may ascend direct on foot. By the ad, which winds round the N. side of the hill (to the left), the distance nearly a mile. — **Cordes** (*Hotel*, near the church), with 1995 inhab., rched on an isolated hill, is an ancient and highly interesting town, e general look of which takes us back to the middle ages. It still tains its ramparts of the 13th cent. and several fine houses of the -14th centuries. The omnibus stops at the S. end of the town, not far om the principal gate, which lies to the W. above Les Cabanes. The reet leading from the gateway to the right passes the *Maisons du Grand-uyer*, *du Grand-Veneur*, *du Grand-Fauconnier*, and other interesting ediæval houses, with Gothic windows. The first two are adorned with to-reliefs, while the third, restored and converted into the Hôtel de lle, is specially remarkable for its trefoil and rose windows. The *urch*, in the second of the streets which intersect the town from W. E., also dates from the 13-14th century. It has a fine nave and is deco-ted with polychrome painting and modern stained glass. We may walk und the ramparts, which contain two ancient gateways and command fine view of the valley of the Cérou and the surrounding heights.

We now cross two more viaducts and pass through a tunnel 640 yds. long. Beyond (112 M.) *Donnazac* there is a high viaduct er the Vère, affording a pretty view. 115 M. *Cahuzac*, followed a tunnel 780 yds. long. On the right bank are two châteaux of e 15-16th cent., and on the left bank is another. 117 M. *Tessonnières* (Buffet). Continuation of the railway to Toulouse, see p. 118.

From Tessonnières to Albi, 10 M., railway in 25-35 min. (fares 1 fr. 90, r. 30, 85 c.).

This line enters the valley of the *Tarn* and crosses that stream. M. *Marsac*. To the left is the village of *Castelnau-de-Lévis*, minated by a 13th cent. tower, 160 ft. high. Farther on, also on e left, we see the imposing cathedral of Albi.

10 M. **Albi** (*Hôtel Cassagnes*, Place du Vigan), an ancient town th 20,900 inhab., the capital of the department of the *Tarn*, and e seat of a bishopric, lies on the left bank of the Tarn, and gave name to the famous sect of the Albigenses and to the war which luged the South of France with blood from 1209 to 1229.

From the Gare d'Orléans, which is connected with the Gare du di (p. 118) by a loop-line crossing the river, we enter the town by e Avenue de la Gare and the Avenue Lapérouse, to the left, leaving e Parc Rochegude (p. 118) on the right. The latter avenue ends at e Place Lapérouse, in which stands a bronze *Statue of Lapérouse*, e famous but unfortunate navigator, who was a native of Albi 41-88). — To the left of this Place is the *Palais de Justice*, with cient cloisters. Behind the statue a fine promenade leads to the es and to the Place du Vigan (to the left; p. 117). We follow the eet to the left, on this side of the Palais de Justice, to the —

*Cathedral of St. Cecilia, built between the end of the 13th l the end of the 15th cent., and one of the finest and most re-rkable churches in the S. of France. Its peculiar character is to the fact that it was constructed with the view of serving as

a fortress as well as a church, and to its being entirely of brick, with the exception of the porch. The works which defended the approaches have disappeared as well as the machicolations of the huge W. tower, but the latter, which is destitute of a spire and has no external openings in its lower part, still looks like a keep. The style of the church is Gothic, but its plan is Romanesque. It has a single nave, without aisles or transept, and two choirs. The exterior is very plain, the bare walls, 125 ft. in height, having neither turrets nor sculptures. The **S. Porch*, however, which is the principal entrance, is a magnificent structure of the 15th cent. approached by a double flight of steps and forming a kind of canopy with four arches, surmounted by rich open-work carving.

Interior. After the general heaviness of the exterior, the interior of the church affords an agreeable surprise. The ***Rood Screen* is a marvel of 15th cent. sculpture, considered to be almost without a rival. Its delicate lace-like forms are all the more remarkable from the fact that the stone of which it is made is hard and brittle. The ornamentation also includes statues under beautiful canopies, graceful pinnacles, etc. The *Ambulatory*, or *Cloister* surrounding the choir, is scarcely inferior in richness and beauty; its exterior is decorated with 72 exquisite statuettes of angels and with statues of prophets and other Bible characters. Above the doors are Constantine and Charlemagne, and inside are the Apostles. Both these splendid works were executed between 1473 and 1502, under the direction of a bishop (Louis I.) of the family of Amboise, who was noted for his love of art and good taste, while it was his nephew and successor (1502-13), who employed Italian artists to paint the scenes from the Bible which adorn the vaulting. The style of these paintings, however, is not quite in keeping with that of the building and the sculptures. The sadly damaged paintings in the second choir, representing the Last Judgment, date from the 14th cent., while some of the chapels contain others of the 15th century. The chapels, 28 in number, are inserted between the buttresses of the church in two stages. The pulpit, in stucco and marble, was made by Italians in 1776; the organ-case in 1736. In the chapel of the apse is a fine modern statue of the Virgin.

The *Archiepiscopal Palace* to the N. E. of the cathedral, by the riverside, is a vast building of the 14th cent., in the form of a fortified château with a keep. Higher up are an *Old Bridge* (13-14th cent.) and a modern bridge at the end of the Lices.

The Rue Mariès, behind the E. end of the cathedral, leads to the right to the *Church of St. Salvi*, dating mainly from the 15-16th cent., but standing on foundations of an earlier period. It has a tower of the 13th cent., over the N. transept, and a Romanesque cloister on the S. side, visible from the interior. Following the same street farther we reach the *Préfecture;* thence the street to the left leads to the Lices, the Rue Timbal, to the right, with two Renaissance houses, to the Place du Vigan.

The *Lices* form a boulevard descending to the left to the Tarn, passing the *Lycée* (on the left) and the *Post Office*, and ascending to the right to the allées beginning at the Place Lapérouse.

In the suburb of La Madeleine, on the opposite bank of the river, are the *Church of La Madeleine* (paintings), near the Old Bridge, and beyond it, the *Gare du Midi*, for the line to Carmaux (p. 97).

The *Place du Vigan*, skirted by the Lices, forms the centre of

the town. Here begins the street in which is the *Hôtel de Ville*, containing a small *Art Collection* and a *Museum of Natural History*.

The Boulevard des Lices ends at the Place du Manège, near which, to the left, is the modern Romanesque *Church of St. Joseph*. The Avenue Gambetta, to the right, leads to the *Parc Rochegude*, embellished with a bust of Vice-admiral Rochegude, donor of the park, and with a curious 16th cent. *Fountain*, with bas-reliefs of the 13th cent., from Lisle-d'Albi (see below).

Railway from *Castres* to *Carmaux*, see p. 97. — Another line is to be constructed between Albi and *St. Affrique* (p. 269).

Continuation of Railway to Toulouse. Beyond Tessonnières we follow the valley of the Tarn for some distance. — 122 M. **Gaillac** *(Hôt. du Commerce)*, a town of 7700 inhab., is situated on the right bank. The chief street, between the station and the river, passes near the Hôtel de Ville, in front of which is a *Statue of General d'Hautpoul* (1754-1807), then leads to the *Church of St. Pierre* (13-14th cent.) in the Place Thiers, embellished with an ancient *Fountain*, and to the *Church of St. Michel* (also 13-14th cent.). Gaillac also contains some quaint old houses; *e. g.* in the street to the left of St. Michel and in that to the right of the market (Place Thiers). — 121 M. *Lisle-d'Albi*, another little town to the left, has a 14th cent. church, with a brick belfry in the Tolosan style. The line crosses the Tarn. — 131½ M. **Rabastens** *(Hôt. Pongis)*, a picturesque town with 4788 inhab., on the right bank of the Tarn, possesses a Romanesque and Gothic church decorated with frescoes of the 14-15th centuries. — We now cross the *Agout*.

136 M. *St. Sulpice-du-Tarn*, with a church, showing a façade of the 14th century. For the line to Montauban and Castres, see p. 96. Our line quits the valley of the Tarn and runs through a tunnel. Beyond (142 M.) *Gragnague*, the Pyrenees, which in clear weather have already been visible, come prominently into view. 150 M. *Montrabé*. — 154½ M. *Toulouse*, p. 78.

17. From Capdenac to Rodez and to Béziers or Montpellier.

Railway to *Rodez*, 41 M., in 2-2⅓ hrs. (fares 7 fr. 50, 5 fr. 5, 3 fr. 30 c.); from Rodez to *Mende*, 68 M., in 6 hrs. (fares 12 fr. 65, 8 fr. 45, 5 fr. 50 c.). — From Rodez to *Béziers*, 120 M., in 6¼-7¼ hrs. (fares 21 fr. 85, 14 fr. 75, 9 fr. 55 c.).

Capdenac, see p. 114. This line, parts of which are interesting, ascends the valley of the *Lot*, commanding a series of pleasant views. Two tunnels. — 5 M. *St. Martin-de-Bouillac*. To the left, beyond another tunnel, are the ruins of the château of *La Roque-Bouillac*. — 7½ M. *Panchot*. We now quit the valley of the Lot by a tunnel and reach (9 M.) *Viviez*, a small industrial town with coal-mines and zinc works.

A branch-line runs from Viviez to (2½ M.) **Decazeville** (*Hôtel des Houillères*), a town of 8871 inhab., the centre of the coal-fields of the *Aveyron*, which occupy an area of 30 sq. M. and rank third among the coal-fields of France. Here and at *Firmy*, 3 M. farther on, are spots where the coal crops out on the surface of the ground and forms beds more than 130 ft. thick. With these important mines are connected smelting-works, blast-furnaces, foundries, and forges. The town owes its name to the *Duc Decazes* (1780-1860), a minister of Louis XVIII., and the chief promoter of these works, to whom a bronze statue, by Dumont, has been erected here.

The line now ascends considerably. 12 M. *Aubin*, a town of 9050 inhab., with coal and iron mines and iron-works. 13½ M. *Cransac* (Hôt. Sahut, etc.; 4773 inhab.), with mineral springs. About 5 M. to the S. is the handsome *Château de Bournazel* (15-16th cent.). We now traverse a busy district and pass through two short tunnels. 17½ M. *Auzits-Aussibals;* 22 M. *St. Christophe;* 27 M. *Marcillac.* At (30 M.) *Nuces* we reach a high plateau, commanding a fine and extensive view. We then cross a viaduct 115 ft. high and reach *Vanc* and (35 M.) *Salles-la-Source*, a large and picturesque village with fine cascades and grottoes.

41 M. **Rodez.** — **Hotels.** De France, Place de la Cité, R., L., & A. 2-5, B. ½-1, déj. 2½, D. 3 fr., omn. 40 c.; de l'Univers, Boulevard Gally; Biney, Boulevard Gambetta, R., L., & A. 1½-2½, B. ¾, déj. 2½, D. 3 fr., omn. 40 c. — **Buffet*, with R., at the station.

Rodez, a town of 16,122 inhab., the ancient capital of the *Ruteni* and later of the *Rouergue*, is the chief town of the department of the *Aveyron* and the seat of a bishop. It stands on an eminence, the base of which is washed by the Aveyron, ¾ M. from the station.

In the suburb below the town proper a fine *Church of the Sacred Heart* is being built. A street ascends to the left, a little farther on, to the boulevards surrounding the old town, which command fine views. We turn to the right on reaching the boulevards and pass between the Grand Séminaire and a view-point with a small garden, in which a bronze statue (by Puëch) was erected in 1889 to *Monteil* (1769-1850), the historian, a native of Rodez. The seminary-garden stretches from the left side of the boulevard to the ancient rampart. Farther on, near the cathedral, is the *Bishops' Palace* (17th cent.), which still retains a massive mediæval tower and a wall with Romanesque arcades.

The Cathedral or *Notre-Dame* of Rodez is an imposing fabric built between 1277 and 1535. As is the case with most of the churches of Southern France, the exterior is bare and severe in aspect. The W. front, flanked by two massive towers, is without a portal, but has a grand Flamboyant rose-window and a gallery in the same style, surmounted by a Renaissance pediment. The **Tower*, beyond the N. entrance, is square below but above consists of three octagonal stages remarkable for the richness of their decoration and flanked by four turrets with statues of the Evangelists. On the platform is a statue of the Virgin. The interesting side portals, in the Gothic style, are much dilapidated.

Among the chief points of interest in the interior are the *Gallery*, in the Renaissance style, extending into the aisles; the *Rood-Loft*, in the same style, now in the S. transept, but formerly at the entrance to the choir; the fine Gothic *Stalls;* the *Organ-Case* in the N. transept; on the same side, a *Sarcophagus* of the 5th or 6th cent., and a *Virgin* of the 14th cent. in the first chapel on the N. side of the choir; the *Tombs* of the bishops, from the middle ages down to our own time; an *Altar* with a fresco of the 6th cent. in the apsidal chapel; an *Alto-relief* of the Agony in the Garden, and a *Holy Sepulchre*, in the Renaissance style, in two chapels to the right of the nave, one of which is enclosed by a fine screen in the Flamboyant style.

The Rue Frayssinous, on the N. of the cathedral, and the following street lead to the Place de la Cité, in which is a bronze *Statue of Mgr. Affre* (1793-1848), archbishop of Paris, who was born in the district. — The Rue Neuve, to the right, connects the Place de la Cité with the Place du Bourg, before reaching which we pass, on the right, an old *House* with a corner-tower adorned with an Annunciation. Farther on, to the right, at the corner of the Rue d'Armagnac is the *Hôtel d'Armagnac*, a Renaissance edifice, also bearing an Annunciation and numerous medallions. — A little farther down as we come from the Place, is the *Church of St. Amans*, with a Romanesque nave, restored in the 18th century. The Rue d'Armagnac and the following street join the boulevards near the *Palais de Justice*, in which is a small musée. Thence we return to the cathedral viâ the Boulevards Gally and Gambetta (to the right). The former passes the *Lycée*, behind which is a *Fountain*, bearing a *Bust of Gally*, a benefactor of the town. — In the small square in front of the cathedral is a bronze statue of *Samson*, by Gayrard of Rodez.

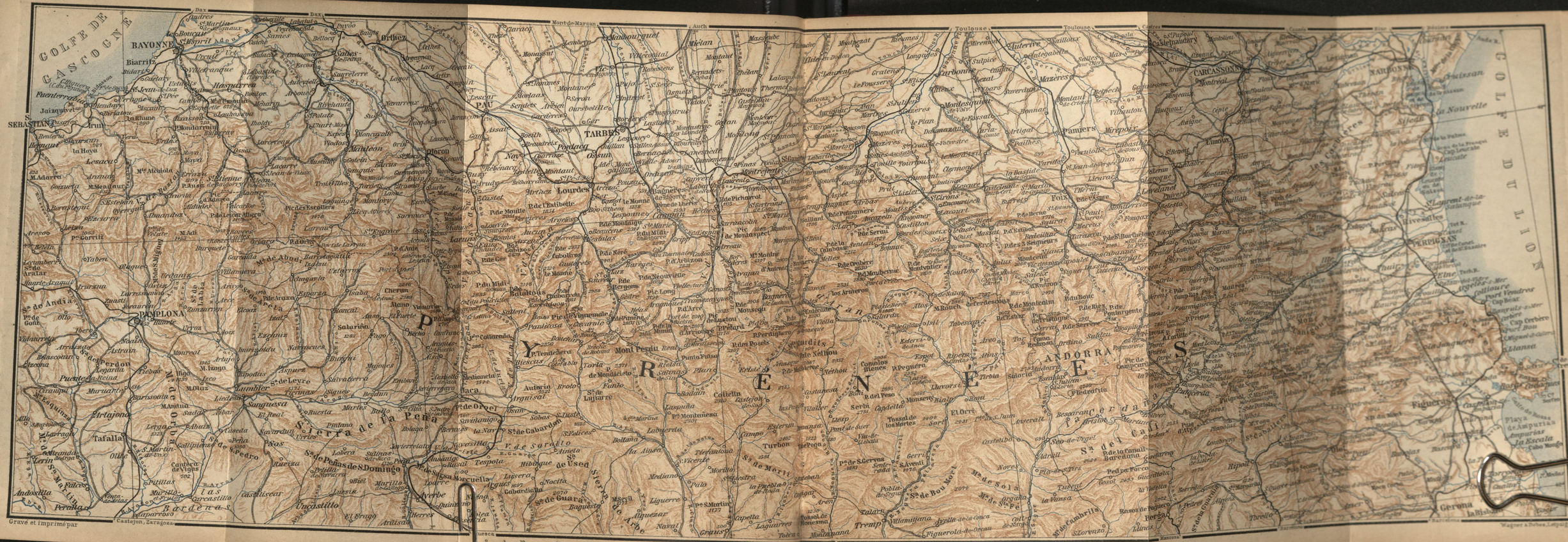
A railway is being built from Rodez to *Carmaux* and *Albi* (p. 97). — A public conveyance plies to (16½ M.) *Espalion*, by an uninteresting route, except near Espalion (see below).

The line now ascends the valley of the *Aveyron*, crossing the river several times and traversing a partly wooded district, with coal-mines. 46 M. *Canabols;* 47½ M. *Gages.* — 52 M. *Bertholène*, below the station, to the left, dominated by a ruin.

A Diligence plies hence to (11 M.) Espalion, viâ *Gabriac*, a large village halfway, on an eminence, near which is a pilgrimage-chapel. We join the road from Rodez about 1¾ M. before Espalion. The road descending in windings affords fine views of the *Valley of the Lot*, with its châteaux (see below), and of the Monts d'Aubrac (p. 266). — **Espalion** *(Hôtel de France)*, a picturesque old town with 3667 inhab. and an ancient château, is situated in the deep valley of the Lot, above which rise the picturesque ruined châteaux of *Calmont-d'Olt* and *Roquelaure*. — Conveyance from Rodez, see above. — An attractive road runs from Espalion to (13½ M.) the station of Campagnac (p. 267) viâ the ravine of the Lot till beyond (2½ M.) *St. Côme*, and thence viâ (3 M.) *Lassouts* and (3 M.) *Ste. Eulalie*, 1¾ M. to the S.W. of St. Geniez-d'Olt (p. 267).

55 M. *Laissac;* 59½ M. *Lugans*, with a château, to the left; 61 M. *Gaillac;* 64 M. *Recoules.*

At (69 M.) *Sévérac-le-Château* (p. 267) we join the direct line from Clermont-Ferrand (Paris) to *Béziers*, see R. 42.


GOLFE DE GASCOGNE
BAYONNE
Biarritz
Dax
Orthez
PAU
TARBES
Lourdes
Mont-de-Marsan
Auch
Toulouse
Castres
CARCASSONNE
Pamiers
Foix
PERPIGNAN
Figueras
Gerona
la Bisbal
la Escala
Cabo Norfeu
Cabo Creus
Cabo Cerbere
Port Bou
Llansa
Rosas de Fuigcerda
Puigcerda
Seo de Urgel
Tremp
Balaguer
Lerida
Fraga
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Estella
Tafalla
Olite
Puente la Reina
Aoiz
Lumbier
Roncesvalles
Irurita
Elizondo
Vera
Lesaca
Echalar
Maya
Pic d'Anie
Pic d'Arbizon
Pic du Midi de Bigorre
Pic du Midi d'Ossau
Pic de Monné
Pic de Monaspet
Pic de Nethou
Pic de Maladetta
Mont Perdu
Pic de Posets
Pic de Monsegu
Pic de Cotiella
Pic de Turbon
Pic de Salvaguardia
Pic de Cadi
Pic de Campcardos
Pic de Canigou
Pic de Finestrelles
Pic de Costabona
Pic de Bastiments
Pic de Carlitte
Pic de Nouvielle
Pic de Long
Pic de Lavedan
Pic de Pimené
Pic de Viscos
Pic de Troumouse
Pic de Gabietous
Pic de Batoua
Pic de Bergons
Pic de Cabaliros
Pic de Cabrioules
Pic de Lustou
Pic de Lavedan
Pic de Lauleton
Pic de Perdiguero
Pic de Monné
Pic de Nethou
Pic de Maladetta

II. THE PYRENEES.

18. From Bayonne to San Sebastian 123
From St. Jean-de-Luz to the Rhune. 124. — From Hendaye to Fuentarabia. The Haya. 125.

19. From Bayonne to Toulouse 127
I. From Bayonne to Pau 127
From Puyôo to St. Palais and to Mauléon, 127.
II. From Pau to Toulouse 132
Grotto of Gargas. Encausse, 137.

20. From Pau to Oloron. Vallée d'Aspe 138
St. Christau, 139 — Lescun. Pic d'Anie, 140. — From Urdos to Gabas. From Le Somport to Gabas, 141.

21. Eaux-Bonnes, Eaux-Chaudes, and their Environs 141
I. From Pau to Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes 141
II. Eaux-Bonnes 142
Excursions. To Eaux-Chaudes. Pic de Ger, 144. — Pic de Goupey. Lac d'Anglas and Lac d'Uzious. Grand Pic de Gabizos. From Eaux-Bonnes to Argelès (Cauterets), 145.
III. Eaux-Chaudes 145
Excursions. Grotto of Eaux-Chaudes, 146. — Gabas and Bious-Artigues. Pic de Biscaou. Pic du Midi d'Ossau, 147. — Lac d'Artouste. Pic d'Arriel. Pic Palas. Pic de Balaïtous. Baths of Panticosa, 148.

22. Cauterets and its Environs 148
I. From Lourdes to Cauterets 148
St. Savin. Beaucens, 149.
II. Cauterets 149
III. Excursions 153
To the Monné. To the Cabaliros, 153. — Lac Bleu or Lac d'Illéou. Lac de Gaube, 154. — Péguère. Vignemale, 155. — Valley of Mercadaou. Pic de Chabarrou. Pic d'Araillé and Pic de Labassa, 156. — Valley of Lutour. Pic d'Ardiden. To Gavarnie by the mountains, 157. — Pic de Viscos. To Luz-St. Sauveur over the Col de Riou, 158.

23. Luz, St. Sauveur, and their Environs 158
I. From Lourdes to Luz and St. Sauveur (Barèges) 158
II. Luz and St. Sauveur 159
III. Excursions 160
Pic de Viscos, 160. — Pic de Bergons. Pic de Néré. Cirque de Gavarnie, 161, 162. — Brèche de Tuquerouye. Brèche de Roland and Col du Taillon. Pic du Marboré. Mont Perdu, 163. — Vignemale. Piméné. Cirque de Troumouse, 164.

24. Barèges and its Environs 165
I. From Lourdes to Barèges 165
II. Barèges 165
III. Excursions 167
Pic de Néré. Pic du Midi de Bigorre, 167. — Lac Bleu. Pic d'Ayré. Pic de Néouvielle, 168. — To Bagnères-de-Bigorre viâ the Col du Tourmalet, 169.
25. Bagnères-de-Bigorre and its Environs 169
I. From Tarbes to Bagnères-de-Bigorre . . . 169
II. Bagnères-de-Bigorre 169
III. Excursions 172
To the Monné. Pic de Montaigu. Vallée de Lesponne and Lac Bleu, 172. — Pic du Midi de Bigorre. Pène de Lhéris. To Bagnères-de-Luchon viâ the Col d'Aspin, 173.
26. Bagnères-de-Luchon and its Environs 174
I. From Montréjeau (Tarbes) to Bagnères-de-Luchon 174
To St. Bertrand-de-Cominges, 174.
II. Bagnères-de-Luchon 175
Cascade de Juzet and Cascade de Montauban. Castelvieil, 178.
III. Excursions 178
Lac d'Oo, 178. — Port d'Oo, 179. — Portillon d'Oo. Pic de Ceciré. Pic de Monségu. Le Monné, 180. — Pic d'Antenac. Superbagnères. Vallée du Lys and Rue d'Enfer, 181. — Lac Vert. Pic de Bacanère and Pic de Burat. Poujastou, 182. — Port de Vénasque and Port de la Piquade, 183. — Col de la Glère. Pic d'Entécade. Pic de Néthou (Monts-Maudits). Pic Posets, 185.
27. From Boussens (Toulouse or Tarbes) to Aulus viâ St. Girons 186
Excursions from St. Girons. Roche du Mas, 186. — Vallée de l'Arac. Seix. Pic de Montvallier, 187. — Excursions from Aulus, 188.
28. From Toulouse to Foix, Tarascon, Ussat, and Ax . 188
From Tarascon to Vicdessos, 190. — Montcalm and Pic d'Estax. Grotto of Lombrive, 191. — Excursions from Ax. Pic St. Barthélemy. To Quillan. To Puycerda and Bourg-Madame, 192. — To Andorra, 193.
29. From Carcassonne to Quillan. Upper Valley of the Aude. Valley of the Rebenty 194
Rennes-les-Bains, 194.
30. From Narbonne to Perpignan 196
Estagel, 197. — From Perpignan to Canet, 199.
31. Excursions from Perpignan 199
I. From Perpignan to Port-Bou (Barcelona) . . 199
Excursions from Collioure. Excursions from Banyuls, 200.

II. From Perpignan to Prades and to Puycerda . 201
From Prades to Le Vernet, 201. — Canigou. To the Baths of Molitg, 202. — Planès. Font-Romeu. Puigmal, 203. — From Bourg-Madame to Les Escaldas. Puy de Carlitte, 204.
III. From Perpignan to Amélie-les-Bains and La Preste 204
Col du Perthus. Figueras, 204. — Excursions from Amélie-les-Bains, 205. — Col d'Ares. Col Pragon. Pic de Costabonne, 206.

18. From Bayonne to San Sebastian.

34 M. Railway in 1 3/4-3 3/4 hrs.; fares about 6 fr. 25, 4 fr. 25, 2 fr. 75 c.; to *Hendaye*, on the frontier, 22 M.; thence to *San Sebastian*, 12 M. — French money is accepted at San Sebastian, the *franc* and *centime* corresponding to the Spanish *peseta* and *centimo*.

Bayonne, see p. 66. — This route is highly attractive. The train traverses a short tunnel, crosses first the *Adour* by a bridge commanding a fine view, and then beyond a second tunnel, the *Nive*. To the left diverges the line to Pau (p. 127) and to St. Jean-Pied-de-Port (p. 69). — 6 M. *Biarritz*, Station de la Négresse, nearly 2 M. from the Baths (p. 68). To the right, a little farther on, we have a view of the *Lac de Mouriscot* and the sea; and beyond another short tunnel we reach (9 M.) *Bidart* and approach the coast, enjoying a fine view of the sea. 10 1/2 M. *Guéthary*, a small bathing-place, beyond which the mountains dominated by the Rhune (p. 102) appear to the left.

14 M. **St. Jean-de-Luz.** — **Hotels.** D'Angleterre, on the beach, R., L., & A. 3-10, B. 1-1 1/4, déj. 3, D. 4, pens. in summer 10-14 fr.; *de France, near the church, moderate; de la Poste, Rue Gambetta 85; de Paris, at the station. *Furnished Apartments* may also be obtained. — *Café Suisse*, in the Maison Louis XIV. — *Post and Telegraph Office*, Rue St. Jacques, near the Boulevard. — *Sea-Baths*. Bathing-box 25, costume 20, towel 5 c., etc.

English Church *(Ch. of the Nativity)*: Chaplain, Rev. *Th. J. Cooper*, B. D., 65 Rue Gambetta.

St. Jean-de-Luz, a quiet little seaport and bathing-resort, with 3856 inhab., is situated on a bay at the mouth of the *Nivelle*.

From the 14th to the middle of the 17th century, the town enjoyed considerable prosperity, with at one time a population of 12,000, one fourth of whom were engaged in the whale-fishery of the Bay of Biscay and in the cod-fishery on the banks of Newfoundland. But with the disappearance of the whale from the bay, the loss of Newfoundland by France, and the encroachments of the sea which impaired the safety of the port, the place rapidly declined. Vigorous attempts have been made to protect the entrance of the bay by breakwaters, but so terrible is the sea on this iron-bound coast that in a storm of 1822 it completely annihilated a breakwater 150 yds. long, 16 yds. wide at its base, and 11 yds. high. Since 1876 still more considerable works have been carried out at the headland of *Socoa*, and so far they have successfully resisted the sea. — In 1660 the town witnessed the marriage of Louis XIV. to the Infanta Maria Theresa.

The town itself is of little interest to strangers. Near the harbour, to the right as we arrive, is the Place Louis XIV., with the *Maison Louis XIV.*, in which the king lodged on the occasion of his marriage. The somewhat peculiar edifice, with its two square corbelled towers, dates from the 16th century. Farther on, to the left, is the *Château de l'Infante*, a large mansion of the 17th cent., with square towers at the corners, and a double tier of arcades on the façade. It contains two paintings by Gérôme, illustrating the marriage (visitors admitted). — On the left side of the Grande Rue or Rue Gambetta is the 13th cent. *Church of St. John.* Like all Basque churches, it has galleries in the nave for the men, the area being reserved for the women. In the interior is a large gilded reredos, in the Spanish fashion, adorned with twenty statues.

The Rue Garat, passing the E. end of the church, leads direct to the *Bay* with the *Bathing-Place.* The bay is almost circular in shape, partly enclosed by a breakwater and piers; it is bounded on the right by high cliffs, and on the left by the little harbour of Socoa. The beach is good, but slopes rapidly and is covered with shingle. There are two *Casinos*, one in the middle of the bay, the other at the end to the right, whence the Boulevard Gambetta (in which a picturesque *Moorish Villa* attracts attention) leads back to the Rue Gambetta.

Socoa may be reached by following the Route d'Espagne, between the Maison Louis XIV. and the station, and then turning to the right. Turning to the left at the little harbour of Socoa, we may proceed to the main breakwater.

From St. Jean-de-Luz to the Rhune, an easy and interesting excursion, viâ *Ascain*, 3½ M. to the S.E., in the valley of the *Nivelle.* The ascent takes 2½ hrs. and may be made on horseback. Beyond the village we ascend to the right for ½ hr., by the N. slope of the mountain; then turning to the right we reach (½ hr. more) a chalet; in another hour we turn to the left beyond a second chalet, and zigzag to the top. The **Rhune** (2950 ft.), the first mountain of any importance at the W. end of the Pyrenees, on the frontier of Spain, affords a splendid *View, extending over the valleys on the N.W. to the Atlantic and from W. to E. over a succession of mountains beginning with the Haya and ending in the Pic du Midi de Bigorre (p. 167), about 90 M. in a straight line. The Rhune, on which there are still remains of fortifications, was the object of desperate encounters in 1813, at the close of the Peninsular War. It was not taken, but General Clauzel had to abandon it when his position was turned on the E. by the Spaniards and threatened on the W. by Wellington.

The line next crosses the Nivelle, passes (15½ M.) *Urrugne* and runs through a tunnel, ¼ M. long, into the valley of the *Bidassoa*, which affords a magnificent view. To the left, on Spanish territory, is the Haya, with its three peaks (see p. 125); to the right the mountain of Jaizquivel rising above a handsome modern château, the beach of Hendaye, the wide but sandy bed of the river, and the picturesque Fuentarabia (see below).

22 M. **Hendaye** *(Buffet; Hôtel de France, du Commerce,* both good but expensive; *Hôtel de la Gare),* the last station on French

soil, a large but uninteresting village, 1/2 M. to the left, below the station. The liqueur manufactured here is celebrated. The *Sea-baths* (Hotel & Casino) are situated 1 1/4 M. farther on, at the mouth of the Bidassoa. The beach is good, but not much frequented.

Excursion to Fuentarabia. It is shorter to start from Hendaye, crossing the Bidassoa, than from Irun, but we must ascend to the village to hire boats and there strike a bargain with the boatmen (1 fr. a head there and back is double the amount paid by the people of the place). The *Bidassoa* is here about 1/2 M. wide, and 2 1/2 M. at its mouth a little way off, near *Cap du Figuier*, which is in Spain. The navigation is, however, impeded by sand-banks. This river forms for 8 or 9 M. the boundary between France and Spain. Higher up, on the other side of the railway-bridge, is the *Ile des Faisans* or *de la Conférence*, on which various interviews between sovereigns and ambassadors of France and Spain have taken place, and the Treaty of the Pyrenees was concluded in 1659.

Fuentarabia (in French *Fontarabie*) is a decayed town of 3000 inhab., often a victim in the wars between France and Spain. It has not only a picturesque but also a thoroughly Spanish appearance, such as is not to be found in the modern San Sebastian. Its streets are very narrow and the roofs of its houses project considerably. The houses are large buildings with coats of arms and balconies of iron-work, which bear witness to the by-gone prosperity of the town. The population, of Basque origin, is equally interesting. In the upper part of the principal street is the *Church*, decorated with that lavish luxuriance which is characteristic of Spanish churches, and beside it the *Castle*, almost in ruins and presenting nothing noteworthy. The most ancient part, on the side of the river, dates from the 10th century. There is a fine view from the top (25 c.). A *Casino*, on the bank of the river, offers 'the same attractions as Monaco'. — The *Jaizquivel* (2230 ft.; fine view), which rises above the town, may be ascended in 1 1/2 hour.

Shortly after leaving Hendaye we cross the Bidassoa and the frontier.

23 1/2 M. **Irun** *(Buffet)* is an old Spanish town with about 5500 inhab., 3/4 M. to the E. of the station. Repeatedly ravaged by war, it was bombarded by the Carlists in 1874, but relieved by General Loma. Its chief object of interest is the church of *Nuestra Señora del Juncal*, of the 16th century. — Luggage is examined here. Spanish time is 20 min. behind French time. Carriages are changed at Irun, as the gauge of the Spanish lines is nearly one third wider than that of the French lines. Travellers coming from Spain change at Hendaye. — To *Fuentarabia*, see above.

The **Haya** (3245 ft.; fine view) or *Trois Couronnes* (from its three peaks) may be easily ascended in 3 hrs. from Irun, viâ a valley to the S., whence after 40 min. we ascend to the left. The copper-mines on this mountain were worked by the Romans.

We next cross a tributary of the Bidassoa, and traverse a tunnel 530 yds. long, beyond which we enter a picturesque mountainous region. 28 1/2 M. *Renteria*, a decayed town, with a church with battlements. Beyond a bridge and another short tunnel we catch a fine view of the Bay of Pasages, to the right.

29 1/2 M. **Pasages**, a picturesquely-situated little town, has a safe harbour, between the Jaizquivel and the Mont Ulia. The harbour, at one time important, was later silted up by the Oyarzun. Recently, however, the river has been diverted, and the bay dredged out to

the depth of 25 ft., and Pasages is expected to become one of the centres of the wine-trade.

34 M. **San Sebastian.** — **Hotels** (all somewhat expensive). GRAND HÔTEL DE LONDRES, Avenida de la Libertad, first-class, R. 3-5, déj. 4, D. 5 fr.; INGLES Y DE INGLATERRA, a dépendance of the Londres, on the beach; HÔTEL CONTINENTAL, on the beach; GRAND HÔTEL ESCURRA, HÔTEL DE FRANCE, Calle del Camino 1 and 2; GRAND HÔTEL DEL COMMERCIO, Calle Reina Regente 4. — *Café Suisse*, on the Promenade, *Europa*, on the beach, both near the casino.

San Sebastian, with 27,800 inhab., is picturesquely situated on the Bay of Biscay, partly on a peninsula, and, though of ancient origin, now presents the appearance of an entirely modern town. Among the numberless hostile attacks and conflagrations from which the town has suffered, the most destructive occurred in 1813 when it was sacked and burned by the British under General Graham. Since then, however, it has been rebuilt on a regular plan, and the new quarters present a handsome appearance.

Turning to the right as we leave the station, we skirt the *Urumea,* which we cross by a bridge at the end of the *Bay of Zurriola,* not accessible to ships and recently largely curtailed by gigantic embankments. The *Avenida de la Libertad,* a handsome street, leads hence to the *Concha,* another bay on which is the *Harbour* and the much-frequented *Sea-baths.* This bay resembles that of Pasages in having no communication with the sea except by means of a narrow channel between the cliffs of *Mont Orgullo* (425 ft.), on the right, and *Mont Igueldo* (785 ft.), on the left. The former, terminating the peninsula on which the town stands, is crowned by a fort, to visit which a special permit is required. The ascent takes about $^3/_4$ hr., and is rewarded by a fine *View. A good view is also obtained from Mont Igueldo, on which rises a lighthouse.

The beach of San Sebastian is admirably adapted for bathing. Above is the *Villa Miramar,* recently built by the queen-regent of Spain who frequently visits San Sebastian in the season. At the end of the promenade, next the Mont Orgullo, a handsome **Casino* has been erected; and farther on is the *Harbour,* of no great importance, but interesting to the stranger. The ascent to the fort begins near this point. In the same neighbourhood is the Renaissance *Church of St. Mary,* remarkable for the florid richness of its façade, and still more for its huge altars, in the Spanish taste. — The Calle Mayor, opposite, leads to the *Calle del Pozzo,* the promenade behind the casino, which is planted with trees, and in the evening lighted by electricity. — Farther on, to the left, is the Gothic *Church of St. Vincent,* dating from the 11th cent., with altars resembling those in St. Mary's, but otherwise not remarkable. To the left of the street leading to this church is the *Plaza de la Constitucion,* with the Casa Consistorial, or town hall. The arcaded houses which surround it have balconies on all their stories; while all the windows are numbered in view of the festivals celebrated

in the square. — On the other side of the promenade are the *Plaza de Guipuzcoa*, with the Government buildings and a square, in the centre of the new quarter.

The **Amphitheatre**, outside the town, beyond the railway, is only remarkable as the scene of the favourite bull-fights. These are announced beforehand, even in the neighbouring parts of France. The spectators, excited almost to madness, are, to the stranger, a more curious sight than the fights themselves. It should not be forgotten that it is very difficult to obtain accommodation in San Sebastian on such occasions.

19. From Bayonne to Toulouse.

I. From Bayonne to Pau.

66 M. Railway in 2¼-3¼ hrs. (fares 12 fr. 10, 8 fr. 10, 5 fr. 25 c.).

Bayonne, see p. 66. — This route is on the whole less interesting than might have been expected; it passes at too great a distance from the Pyrenees on the one side and on the other stretch fertile but monotonous plains, covered with fields of maize. Quitting Bayonne we follow the line to Spain (p. 123) through a tunnel and across the Adour; then, after a second tunnel, ascend the valley of that river, passing (3½ M.) *Le Gaz*, (7 M.) *Urcuit*, (10½ M.) *Urt*, (13 M.) *Pont de l'Arran*, and (15 M.) *Pont de la Bidouze*. Beyond (17½ M.) *Sames*, the valley of the Adour is exchanged for that of its tributary, the *Gave de Pau*, which is crossed shortly before (20 M.) *Orthevielle*. — 21 M. *Peyrehorade* is a small town with the ruins of a 15th cent. castle. To the right is the Pic d'Anie (p. 140). — 23½ M. *L'Eglise*; 26½ M. *Labatut*.

32 M. **Puyôo** (*Buffet; Hôt. des Voyageurs*, at the station) is the junction for a branch-line to Dax (p. 65). On the left bank of the river is (¾ M.; 3½ M. from Salies, see below) the village of *Bellocq*, overlooked by the ruins of a château.

From Puyôo to St. Palais, 18½ M., railway in 1¼-1½ hr. (fares 3 fr. 35, 2 fr. 25, 1 fr. 50 c.). — The line crosses the *Gave de Pau* and passes through a tunnel 735 yds. in length. 5 M. **Salies-de-Béarn** (*Grand Hôtel du Parc; de la Paix & Continental; de Paris; du Château; de France & d'Angleterre; Belleville; Beauséjour*; etc.), a town of 6240 inhab., owes its name to its salt springs, which have been utilised from a very early date and are among the richest in salt known. The springs are cold, and are used both for drinking and bathing. The new *Bath House* is much frequented and is open all the year round. — The line now crosses the *Gave d'Oloron* and ascends its valley. 12½ M. *Autevielle* is the junction for Mauléon (see below). — 18½ M. **St. Palais** (*Hôt. Habiague*) is a small place devoid of interest. A diligence-route leads hence via *Larceveau* to (18½ M.) *St. Jean-Pied-de-Port* (p. 70).

From Puyôo to Mauléon, 28½ M., railway in 1½-2¼ hrs. (fares 5 fr. 15, 3 fr. 50, 2 fr. 25 c.). As far as (12½ M.) *Autevielle*, see above. — 15 M. **Sauveterre-de-Béarn** a small town with considerable remains of a château of the 12-13th cent., a church in the Romanesque and Gothic styles, and a ruined bridge with a tower of defence (14th cent.), affording a splendid view of the Pyrenees. — The line then ascends the valley of the *Saison*. — 28½ M. **Mauléon** (*Hôt. Habiague*), an uninteresting little town on the Saison. A diligence-route leads hence to (8 M.) *Tardets* (735 ft.; Hôt. des Voyageurs), whence the *Pic d'Orhy* (6615 ft.), affording a splendid view, may be ascended viâ (10 M.) *Larrau* in 3½ hrs., and thence to (18 M.) *Oloron* (p. 139).

Beyond (36 M.) *Baigts* the valley becomes picturesque. Then, to the right, the old bridge of Orthez, and, to the left, —

41 M. **Orthez** *(Hôt. de la Belle-Hôtesse)*, a finely situated town of 6210 inhab. on the right bank of the Gave de Pau.

Orthez was in the 13th cent. the capital of Béarn, and until 1460 the residence of the viscounts. Afterwards it became a focus of Protestantism, under the protection of Jeanne d'Albret, who founded a Calvinistic college here, in which Theodore Beza was a teacher. One fourth of the inhabitants are to this day Protestants. Marshal Soult was defeated by Wellington on the neighbouring hills in 1814.

The only lions of Orthez are the mediæval *Bridge* across the Gave, with a tower at its centre, and the *Tour de Moncade*, a remnant of the château of the viscounts of Béarn. There is a fine view of the Pyrenees from the higher parts of the town. — The next stations are (46½ M.) *Argagnon*, (50 M.) *Lacq*, (53½ M.) *Artix*, (56½ M.) *Denguin*, and (58 M.) *Poey*.

62½ M. *Lescar*, though now it has only 1645 inhab., was a town of importance in the 16th cent., and long the seat of a bishop. The cathedral dates from the 12th and 16th cent., the castle partly from the 14th. Lescar perhaps occupies the site of the ancient *Beneharnum*, which gave name to the old province of *Béarn*.

66 M. *Pau* (Buffet, déj. 3, D. 3½ fr.), to the left.

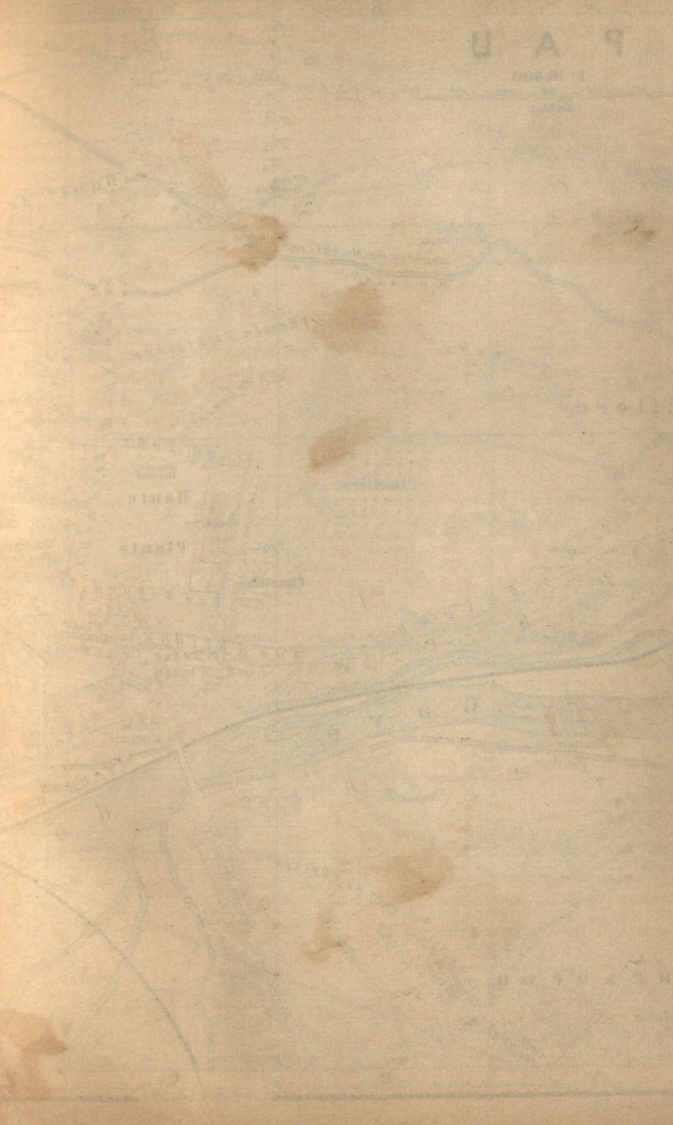
Pau. — **Hotels.** Those of the first class are palatial establishments, admirably situated, and providing every comfort, at a corresponding tariff. Hôt. Gassion (Pl. a; D, 4), Place Gassion and Boul. du Midi, R. 3-20, L. & A. 1½, déj. 1½-2, D. 4-6, pens. from 12½, omn. ½-1 fr. (the Hôt. d'Angleterre at Cauterets is a dépendance of this house); Hôt. de France (Pl. b; D, 4), Place Royale; Hôt. Splendide; Belle-Vue, Boul. du Midi, next the Hôt. Gassion; Beau-Séjour (Pl. c; E, 4), Rue du Lycée, in the S.E. outskirts of the town; Hôt. de la Paix (Pl. d; D, 4), Place Royale; Grand-Hôtel (Pl. e; D, 2), Avenue du Grand-Hôtel, with rooms looking to the S. The above are specially for families passing the winter at Pau. — Hôt. de la Poste (Pl. f; C, 3, 4), Place de Gramont; du Commerce (Pl. g; D, 4), R. 2½-3, B. 1, déj. 3, D. 3½, omn. ½ fr.; de l'Europe & de la Dorade, Rue Préfecture (Pl. h, j; D, 4); Hôt. Henri IV. (Pl. i; E, 3), Place de la Halle, R. 2½-4, B. ¾-1, déj. 3, D. 3½, omn. ½-¾, well spoken of; etc. — **Pensions:** *Barthé* (10-12 fr. per day), *Planté*, *Hattersley* (from 7 fr.), *Sarda*, *Guichard*, Rue Porte-Neuve (Pl. E, F, 2, 3); *Pitté*, *Beaufils*, Rue d'Orléans (Pl. C, D, 3); *Colbert*, 39 Rue Montpensier (Pl. C, D, 2, 3; 8-12 fr.); *Holf*, Passage Planté (Pl. D, 2, 3), etc.

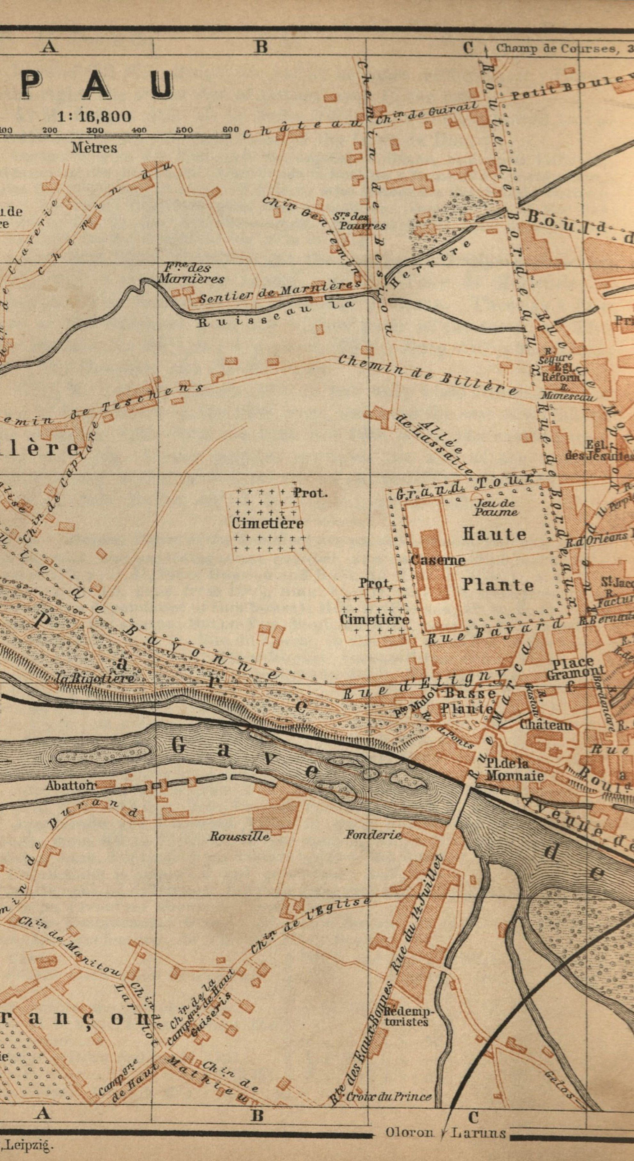
Apartments and Furnished Villas in great number in the town and suburbs from 400 to 10,000 fr. for the season, which lasts from September to May or June. For further particulars apply to the *Syndicat*, Rue Latapie 21. Its information is impartial and gratuitous; and it is also charged with the settlement of differences between strangers and inhabitants. In hiring houses an inventory should be demanded.

Cafés-Restaurants: *Grand-Café*, Place Royale; *de la Dorade*, *du Commerce*, Rue Préfecture; *du Théâtre*, Place Royale, etc.

Cabs. (Night tariff after 10 o'clock)	With one horse		With two horses	
	Day	Night	Day	Night
Drive within the octroi-limits . . .	— fr. 75	1 fr. —	1 fr. —	1 fr. 25
» of 3 kil. (2 M.) beyond the octroi	1 » —	1 » 50	1 » 50	1 » 75
Per hour within radius of 3 kil. . .	1 » 50	2 » —	2 » —	2 » 50
» » » » 8 » (5 M).	2 » —	2 » 50	2 » 50	3 » —

Luggage. 1 trunk 25 c.; more, 50 c.

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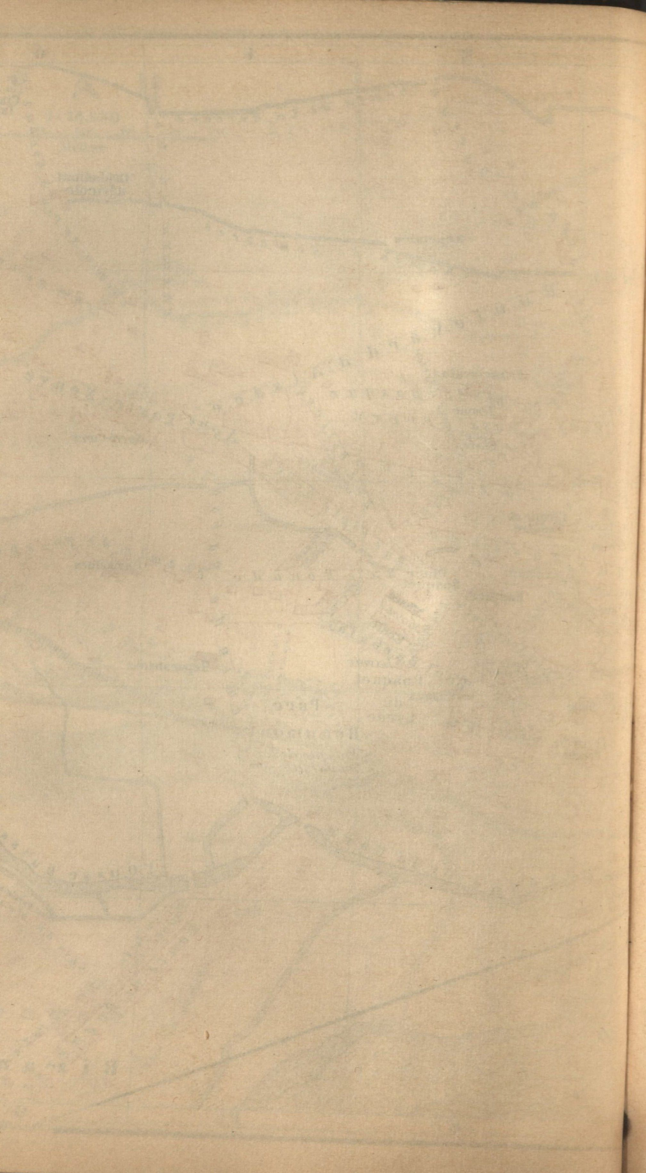
Sr.de des Pauvres
Boulevard
Route de Morlaas
Route de Pau à Morlaas
Fme des Marnières
Sentier de Marnières
Ruisseau la Hèrère
Chemin de Billère
Allée de Tussole
Chemin de Tesches
Billère
Prot.
Cimetière
Grand Tour
Jeu de Paume
Haute
Caserne
Plante
Prot.
Cimetière
Rue Bayard
Route de Bayonne
Pau
Rue d'Etigny
Place Gramont
Fme Maison Basse
Plaine
Château
Gave
Abattoir
Pl.de la Monnaie
Boulevard
Avenue de
Chemin de Pau
Roussille
Fonderie
Chemin de l'Eglise
Chemin de Montou
Chemin de Trespoey
Chemin de la Campagne
Rédemptoristes
Rue des Remparts
Rue du Hâtellet
Rue de la Croix du Prince
Chemin de Haut Mathieu
Oloron
Laruns

Leipzig.

E
F
G
Avenue Barrau
chemin de la Herrère
Orphelinat agricole
Repenties
chemin de Couarres
Boulevard d'Alsace
Franciscains
Chapelle Basque
Temple
Chapelle Russe
Passage privé
Avenue Porte-Neuve
Sacré-Cœur
Ecole
Cirque et Théâtre
Place des Ecoles
Rue Basse
Rue Porte-Neuve
Carmélites
Hospice
Place Bosquet
Rue Bonado
Marché
Ecole
Préfecture
Bourg Barbotan
Lavoir
Réparatrices
Halle
Bosquet St Louis
Lycée
Parc Beaumont
Mosque de la musique
Rue du Lycée
Rue de Bizanos
Avenue de la Gare
Gare
l'Ousse Russ
Gaz
Route de Bayonne
chemin au Gave
Pau
Bizan
Lour



Carriages: '*Mylords*', 3 fr. per hr., 10 fr. a half-day, 20 fr. whole day; *Landaus*, 4, 12, and 20 fr. (to be hired in all parts of the town).

Post and Telegraph Office (Pl. E, 3), Rue des Arts 24.

Casino, near the Place Royale, below the side next the station. — **Clubs.** *Anglais*, Place Royale, Hôtel de France (42 fr. per month); *de l'Union*, Place Royale; *National*, same Place; etc.

Concerts given by the municipal orchestra, at the kiosque in the Parc Beaumont or in the Casino.

Baths. *Grand Etablissement Hydrothérapique*, Rue d'Orléans, 13 and 15; also at Rue Alexandre-Taylor 10; etc.

Reading Rooms. *Lafon*, Rue Henri IV.; *Cazaux*, Place Nouvelle-Halle; *Escudé*, Rue Préfecture 17; *Ribaut*, Rue St. Louis 6.

American Consul: *Mr. J. Morris Post.* — **British Vice-consul:** *Mr. A. J. Foster-Barham.*

English Church Services. *St. Andrew's Church*, Avenue du Grand-Hôtel (services from October to May); chaplain: Rev. *R. H. Dyke Acland-Troite*, M. A. — *Christ Church*, chaplain: Rev. *A. C. Manston.* — *Holy Trinity Church*, chaplain: Rev. *J. N. Soden.*

Pau (620 ft.), a town of 33,111 inhab., and the old capital of *Béarn*, is now the chief town of the department of the *Basses-Pyrénées*. It occupies a splendid site on the right bank of the *Gave de Pau*, and enjoys a delicious climate which renders it preëminent as a winter resort, high in favour with the English.

The mean temperature is 44° Fahr. in winter and 61° Fahr. for the whole year, *i. e.*, lower than the means of Rome, Hyères, Cannes, Menton, and Nice, to all of which, however, Pau is superior in its freedom from chronic winds, especially the E. (except in summer), in the dryness of its air, and the equability of its temperature. Life at Pau is much quieter than at Nice, and its calm atmosphere and surroundings are no less beneficial to invalids. Pau is specially suited for those suffering from nervous affections, though it is also frequented by consumptive patients.

Pau sprang up round a castle of the viscounts of Béarn, dating originally from about the 10th cent. and rebuilt in the 14th by Gaston Fébus. It did not become a capital, however, until the 15th cent., but it attained great importance when its 'seigneur' François Phébus was made king of Navarre in 1479, and still more, when, in 1527, his grandson successor Henri d'Albret espoused Margaret of Valois, sister of Francis I. of France. This charming and witty princess gathered round her a brilliant court in which the Calvinists were well received. The successors of Henri and Margaret were Antoine de Bourbon and Jeanne d'Albret, under whom and their son, afterwards Henri IV. of France, the zenith of prosperity was reached. Jeanne d'Albret was no ordinary woman; she had 'l'âme entière aux choses viriles' and was able to sing a Béarnaise song while giving birth to her son, in order, as his father said, that he might be 'ni pleureur ni rechigné'. Antoine on his part rubbed off the infant to rub his lips with a clove of garlic, and to give him a taste of the local Jurançon wine. Jeanne had become a Calvinist, and was her son up to the time of his accession to the throne of France (1572); and Béarn had its share of suffering during the Religious Wars. Later, under the protection of Henri IV. and during the regency of his mother Catherine, the Calvinistic worship was maintained, but Louis XIII. put an end to the claims of the states of Béarn by personally interfering and annexing the country to the crown in 1620. Besides Henri IV., Pau counts among its natives Marshal Gassion (1609-47) and Bernadotte (1763-1844), who became king of Sweden.

The railway-station (Pl. D, 4) is at the foot of the plateau on which the town is built. Carriages have to make a long detour,

but foot-passengers ascend by a zigzag path which leads past the *Casino* to the —

Place Royale (Pl. D, 4), a spacious square bordered by fine buildings and adorned since 1843 with a marble *Statue of Henri IV.*, by Raggi, with bas-reliefs by Etex. It is chiefly noted, however, for the superb ***Panorama* which it commands of the valley of the Gave and the Pyrenees. The plain, through which the river winds, is dotted with villages and villas, giving it a very animated appearance (the large building in the middle is the stud-farm of Gélos). Behind are eminences covered with vineyards and woods, and the background is formed by the majestic chain of the Pyrenees, visible for a length of about 60 miles. The most conspicuous of the summits (the most distant of which are 50 miles away) is the Pic du Midi d'Ossau (p. 147), in reality two peaks, 9465 ft. and 9150 ft. in height, presenting a bolder and more abrupt appearance than the others in the advanced rank to the right. On the left, near the other end of the chain, rises the conical Pic du Midi de Bigorre (9440 ft.), and near the centre is the amphitheatre of the Vignemale, with its glacier (10,820 ft.; p. 155), etc.

To inspect the town we follow the terrace and the Boulevard du Midi to the W. from the Place Royale, passing behind the church of St. Martin, and near the sumptuous Hôtel Gassion.

St. Martin's Church (Pl. D, 4) is a handsome modern edifice by Bœswillwald in the Gothic style of the 13th cent., with a stone steeple on the façade. The high altar, the canopy, and the stained windows after Steinheil deserve notice.

The *Castle (Pl. C, 4), rebuilt, as we have said, in the 14th cent., but considerably altered since, and recently restored, rises at the W. end of the town, near the confluence of the Gave and the Hédas rivulet. It is built in the form of an irregular pentagon with six square towers. Entering on the side next the town, we cross a stone bridge which under Louis XV. replaced the drawbridge over a moat now filled by a fine row of trees. To the left is the *Chapel*, built in 1840. The Renaissance *Portico*, farther on, dates from 1859-64. On the left again is the *Tour de Gaston-Phébus*, or keep, 110 ft. high; to the right, the *Tour Neuve*, built under Napoleon III., and the *Tour Montauzet* or Monte-Oiseau, so called because there was formerly no staircase, and in case of siege the defenders ascended into it with ladders which they drew up after them. The other towers are the *Tour Bilhère*, to the N. W., and the *Tours Mazères*, to the S. W., one of which was erected under Louis-Philippe. — The most interesting feature in the Cour d'Honneur is the façade on the S. side, dating from the Renaissance, with three tasteful dormer-windows.

The interior of the castle may be visited every day, in summer from 10 to 5, in winter from 11 to 4. A guide accompanies the visitor. The entrance is at the end of the court.

GROUND FLOOR. — *Salle des Gardes:* fine antique vaulting; Renaissance chandelier; modern furniture; paintings. — *Salle à manger des Princes:* vaulting; statues of Henri IV. and Sully; time-piece in the style of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV., as in many of the other rooms. — *Salle à manger des Souverains*, successively Salle d'armes, Salle des Etats de Béarn, and a stable (in 1793): Flemish tapestry from the Château de Madrid in the Bois de Boulogne at Paris representing hunting-scenes in the reign of Francis I.; good statue of Henri IV., by Francheville. The *Grand Staircase* is an interesting work of the Renaissance.

FIRST FLOOR. — *Salle d'Attente*, Gobelins and Flemish tapestry, table of Francis I., with slab of Pyrenean marble, etc. — *Salon de Réception*, painfully associated with the massacre of six Roman Catholic nobles of Béarn by order of Montgomery, the general of Jeanne d'Albret; Renaissance chimney-piece; Flemish tapestry (continuation of the hunting scenes on the ground-floor); 16th cent. table, and a casket with a medallion of Henri IV.; table inlaid with mosaic of porphyry and Swedish agate, presented by Bernadotte; Sèvres vases, etc. — *Salon de Famille:* Gobelins tapestry, table with slab of Swedish rose-porphyry, another gift of Bernadotte. — *Chambre à coucher du Souverain:* fine mantelpiece, Flemish tapestry, antique furniture; statue of Henri IV. as a child, after Bosio; Gothic arm-chair and chest; ebony chest with medallion of Henri IV. (1607); very fine chest of the 15th cent. from Jerusalem, bought in 1838, etc. — *Cabinet du Souverain:* Brussels and Beauvais tapestries, Venetian glass, etc. — *Boudoir de la Reine:* pictures in Gobelins tapestry, Venetian glass. — *Chambre à coucher de la Reine:* antique furniture; magnificent Renaissance cabinet; pictures in Gobelins tapestry.

SECOND FLOOR ON S. SIDE. — *Rooms I-III.* Gobelins and Flemish tapestries; two chests of Henri II. (2nd R.) and one of Francis I.; cabinet of Louis XIII.; bronze fire-dogs of the 16th cent.; etc. — *Bedroom of Henri IV.*, shown as the one in which he was born, 14th Dec. 1553, and containing his cradle made of a large tortoise shell; Brussels tapestries; antique bed ornamented with 64 medallions and bust portraits and 12 small figures; crystal chandelier of the time of Francis I.; Gothic chest, upon which is a statuette of Crillon, the friend and comrade of Henri IV.; equestrian bas-relief of Henri IV., by G. Pillon. — *Chamber of Jeanne d'Albret*, Gobelins and Flemish tapestries, bed of 1562, etc. — The other apartments, not shown, are of little interest to strangers.

We now descend by the arcade near the keep. On this side, lower down, is the ruined Tour de la Monnaie. On the terrace behind the castle is a marble *Statue of Gaston Phébus*, by Triquety. A bridge leads hence to the *Quinconce de la Basse-Plante*, beyond which extends the *Park*, a charming promenade, much frequented by visitors. — In the Place Gramont (Pl. C, 3) is the *Statue of Marshal Bosquet* (1810-1861), by Millet and Marcilly, erected in 1894.

The *Church of St. James* (Pl. D, 3), on the N. of the town, beyond the small ravine of the Hédas, is an attractive building erected in 1866-68 by Loupot, in the Gothic style of the 13th century. It has two W. towers, and galleries above the aisles. The adjoining *Palais de Justice* (1847-55) is a heavy building in the classical style.

The Rue Serviez, a little farther to the right, ends in the Place de la Halle, not far from the Place Royale.

The *Musée* (Pl. E, 3), reached viâ the Rue de la Nouvelle-Halle, is open to the public on Sun. and Thurs. from 1 to 4 or 5, but is accessible on other days also.

GROUND FLOOR. Casts from the antique and some sculptures: *Etcheto*, Democritus; *Allouard*, The infant Bacchus; *Oliva*, St. Theresa; *Barrias*,

inter flowers. — On the staircase: 148. *Vafflard*, Henri IV. at Notre ame, on the day of his entry into Paris.

First Floor. Paintings. Room I., to the left: 122. *Rigaud*, Singing the guitar; 171. *Unknown Artist*, Guitar-player; 131. *Devéria*, after *Rubens*, homyris and the head of Cyrus; 152. *C. Vernet*, Sea-piece; 17. *E. Bordes*, Julian Hospitator; 118. *Bassano* (?), Christ with the reed; 163. *Zurbaran*, ortrait of a mitred abbot; 89. *Hoet the Elder*, Golden Calf; 115. *Oudry*, ag-hunt; 142. *Teniers the Elder*, Landscape; 42. *Dehodencq*, Race of bulls; 7. *J. F. de Troy*, Mme. de Miramion, foundress of the order of Miramionnes; 8. *Hugues Merle*, Assassination of Henri III.; 97. *Largillière* (?), Portrait; . *P. Franceschi*, St. Jerome; 87. *B. van der Helst*, Portrait; 50. *Devéria*, hristopher Columbus before Ferdinand and Isabella (sketch); *Rubens*, 9. Thetis demanding arms for Achilles from Vulcan, 150. Death of Hector; 6. *Maratti*, John the Baptist; *Jordaens*, 92. Author meditating, 93. Woman ith a ewer; 145. *Van Tulden*, Achilles at the court of Lycomedes; 15. *nvicino*, surnamed *il Moretto*, Portrait. — Room II.: Engravings, drawgs, coins, and faïence. — Room III.: 44. *Devéria*, Birth of Henri IV. eplica of the original in the Louvre); 112. *Monginot*, Duet; 18. *Bordes*, tila consulting the augurs before the battle of Châlons; 138. *Scheffer*, uchess of Nemours and Henri III.; 121. *Ribot*, Good Samaritan; 80. *L. upil*, Good Friday; 123. *Roll*, Hawker; *L. Capdevelle*, 55. Spanish cardayers, 29. Marriage at Laruns; 155. *E. Duez*, St. Francis of Assisi; 16. *rdes*, Concierge and tailor; 1. *L. Abbema*, Breakfast in the conservatory. Room IV.: 2. *Em. Adam*, After mass; modern French paintings. — ooms V. & VI.: Engravings and drawings. — Room VII.: Natural history llection; mummy; costumes from the Pyrenees, etc.

A little to the S.E. of the Musée lies the *Parc Beaumont* (Pl. F, a fine public garden, commanding a view of the Pyrenees. Band veral times a week.

From Pau to *Bordeaux*, see p. 65; to *Oloron* (Vallée d'Aspe), see R. 20; *Eaux-Bonnes* and *Eaux-Chaudes*, R. 21.

II. From Pau to Toulouse.

134 M. Railway in $4^1/_2$-$7^1/_3$ hrs. (fares 24 fr. 40, 16 fr. 50, 10 fr. 80 c.). To *Lourdes*, 24 M., in 40-80 min. (fares 4 fr. 50, 3 fr., 1 fr. 95 c.). Best ws generally to the right.

Tickets may be obtained at any of the stations, permitting the traveller break the journey at Lourdes for not more than 24 hours.

Beyond Pau we continue to ascend the valley of the Gave de Pau. M. (from Bayonne) *Assat*, beyond which the train stops at *Bezing*, *udreix*, and (76 M.) *Coarraze-Nay*. *Coarraze*, on the left of the e, is the place where Henri IV. was brought up in the simple hion of the peasants, running about bare-footed and bare-headed. *y*, on the left bank of the Gave, is an industrial town with 3536 ab., producing a large proportion of the bonnets worn by the abitants of the Pyrenees, and also Turkish fezes. 78 M. *Dufau*. 80 M. *Montaut-Bétharram*. *Bétharram* (Hôt. de France), $^1/_2$ M. n the station, is a resort of pilgrims, dating from the time of the sades. It lies on the left bank of the Gave, which is here spanned a picturesque ivy-clad bridge. On the other side are a *Seminary* a *Monastery*, and to the right, the church and *Lestelle*, with hotel. The *Church* (17th cent.) is remarkable for the richness bad taste of its decoration. Beside it is a series of Romanesque *pels* (of ancient origin but restored in the 19th cent.), marking

the Stations of the Cross, and containing sculptured groups. On the top of the hill are a *Mt. Calvary* and a *Church of the Resurrection.* — About 1¾ M. to the S. is a fine grotto with stalactites.

The route now becomes for some distance very interesting. After passing (84 M.) *St. Pé* (St. Pierre), a small town to the left, we obtain a striking view to the right of the pilgrimage-churches, the grotto, and the town and castle of Lourdes.

90 M. **Lourdes** (**Buffet*). — **Hotels** (previous arrangement desirable): Gr.-Hôtel du Palais Royal, d'Angleterre, du Boulevard, de la Chapelle, St. Michel, Notre-Dame, all in the new street between the old town and the square in front of the pilgrimage-churches. — More in the town: Hôt. de la Grotte, Bellevue, de Rome; des Ambassadeurs, R. 2-5, L. ½, déj. 3, D. 4 fr.; St. Joseph; Continental; du Sacré-Cœur, R. 2-2½, B. ¾-1, déj. 3, D. 3½ fr.; all in the street leading from the station to the square (the two first with a view of the churches). — du Commerce, near the parish church, R. 2½-3, B. 1½, déj. 2½, D. 3 fr.; des Pyrénées, de France, near the Place du Marcadal.

Cabs, 2 and 3 fr. per hr.

Post and Telegraph-Office, behind the parish church, to the left.

Lourdes is a small town of 6976 inhab., on the right bank of the Gave du Pau, at the point where the river, descending from the valley of Argelès, turns abruptly W. towards the plain. It is built at the foot of a hill on which stands an ancient *Castle,* which formerly commanded the entrance of the valley and was often besieged in the middle ages, during the wars with England. This castle, to which visitors are admitted (gratuity), though uninteresting in itself, affords a beautiful view of the valley and the Pyrenees as far as the snowy slopes of the Vignemale. The entrance is in the interior of the town, to the E. Near it is the old *Parish Church,* which contains nothing remarkable. A new church has been begun farther E., but the work has been abandoned for want of means, since the death of the curé who undertook the enterprise (1877). Lourdes has some small manufactures, and in the neighbourhood marble and slate-quarries are worked.

The present importance and celebrity of the town are due to its *Pilgrimage,* dating only from 1858.

Bernadette Soubirous (who died in a convent in 1880), a peasant-girl, then about 14 years of age, alleged that the Virgin had several times appeared to her in a grotto and ordered that a shrine should be erected on the spot, to which many would resort for prayer. Lovers of the marvellous and pilgrims soon flocked thither, at first from the neighbourhood, then from all parts of France as well as from abroad, many of them, doubtless, drawn by the reports of the miraculous cures attributed to a spring issuing from the rock of the grotto. Now not a day passes in the season without pilgrims arriving either singly or in large organized parties. With the aid of the clergy, and by the admixture of a little of the political-religious element in the manifestations, the interest is so far kept up that from every quarter special trains are despatched (especially in summer) bringing thousands of passengers, ailing or not, to pay their devotions and to satisfy their curiosity. The pilgrims travel at greatly reduced fares and find themselves at Lourdes near one of the finest parts of the Pyrenees. — The tourist will do well to lay his plans to avoid sleeping at Lourdes when a train of pilgrims has arrived.

The Boulevard de la Grotte, a new road to the right of the exit rom the station, leads straight to the (1/2 M.) Grotto, crossing the ave on the way. A church has been built on the top and another t the foot of the cliff in which it lies; the course of the Gave has een diverted so as to make room for a promenade in front of the rotto; while between the bridge and the churches lies a broad quare, adorned with statues of the Virgin and St. Michael, and ith a cross which is sometimes illuminated, etc. The left side and he Boul. de la Grotte are occupied by *Shops* for the sale of mementoes, eligious articles, etc.

The *Grotto*, in the rocks beside the river, is a recess about 5 ft. deep and 15 ft. wide, now closed with a railing. On a rock rojecting above, to the right, is a statue by Fabisch, representing ie Virgin as Bernadette described her, in a white robe with a blue arf. The walls of the grotto are hung with crutches and other otive offerings. To the left is the *Miraculous Spring*, now confined y a wall garnished with taps, through which the water flows into asins in which the pilgrims bathe. For certain ailments the re- arkable coldness of the water renders it dangerous; sufferers from iese are warned by a notice that they bathe at their own risk.

The **Church of the Rosary* (1885-89) stands in front of the asilica, built above the grotto. It has the form of a rotunda in e Byzantine style. Two flights of steps and two large inclined anes, in the shape of horse-shoes, supported by arcades, give cess to the terrace above. Fifteen chapels in the interior of the urch radiate from the centre beneath the dome. — The *Basilica*, out 60 ft. higher up, is a remarkable and richly ornamented build- g in the Gothic style of the 13th cent., designed by Hipp. Durand. was consecrated in 1876 in presence of thirty-five archbishops d bishops, presided over by the Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris, d the Papal Nuncio, who crowned the statue of the Virgin (by ffl). An elegant tower rises on the W. front. The interior, which nsists simply of a nave with side-chapels, is hung all over with ld or gilded hearts, banners, medallions, inscribed tablets, and ier votive offerings. A crypt, with double nave, extends beneath e whole length of the church.

On a hill (good view) to the S. of the Basilica stands a *Calvary*. the neighbourhood of the grotto are buildings for the use of the grims, *Convents*, an *Asylum for the Aged*, an *Orphanage*, etc.

There are a number of other and larger grottos in the mountain be- d the Basilica. In the (1/2 M.) *Spélugue* (now a chapel), articles made reindeer horn were discovered; 1/2 M. farther is the *Grotte du Loup*, reat depth.

Excursions are frequently made to the (13/4 M.) *Lac de Lourdes*, a aine-lake about 21/2 M. in circumference, with erratic blocks in the nity (café-restaurant). The route follows the road to Pau on the right k of the Gave as far as the church of *Poueyferré*, where it diverges ie left.

From Lourdes to *Cauterets*, *St. Sauveur*, *Barèges*, etc., see RR. 22, 23, 24.

93 M. *Adé.* Beyond (96 M.) *Ossun*, a small town on the left, appears the Pic du Midi de Bigorre (p. 167). — Beyond (99 M.) *Juillan* the line to Bordeaux viâ Mont-de-Marsan diverges to the left (p. 64).

102 M. **Tarbes** (*Buffet; Hôtel de la Paix*, R. $3^1/_2$-4, B. $1^1/_4$, déj. 3, D. $3^1/_2$ fr., *des Ambassadeurs*, both Place Maubourguet; *de Strasbourg*, at the station, unpretending), with 25,087 inhab., the chief town of the department of the *Hautes-Pyrénées* and the seat of a bishop, is situated in a rich plain on the left bank of the Adour. Its importance dates from the middle ages, when it became the capital of the County of Bigorre. The English only occupied it from 1360 to 1406, but it suffered greatly during the religious wars of the 16th cent., in which it was taken and retaken seven times.

The town contains little to interest the tourist. Its centre is about $^3/_4$ M. to the S. of the station, and it extends nearly $1^1/_2$ M. from W. to E., as far as the banks of the Adour.

A new street, a few yards to the left of the exit from the station, leads direct to the Place Maubourguet; while the street immediately to the right brings us to the *Cathedral* or *Sède*. The latter is a heavy but unimposing building of the 12-14th cent., the finest feature of which is the octagonal cupola (14th cent.) above the transept. Over the high altar is a huge canopy supported by six columns of red marble veined with white, with gilded pedestals and capitals. On each side of the nave is a double tier of noteworthy wood-carving, the upper tier adorned with tasteful iron railings.

The Rue Neuve-St. Louis, to the E. of the cathedral, leads to the *Place Maubourguet*, the centre of the town; and thence the Cours Gambetta, to the S., to the *Allées Nationales*. This fine promenade is embellished, in front of the cavalry barracks, with a statue in bronze (by Badiou de la Tronchère) of the surgeon *Larrey* (1766-1842), a native of the Hautes-Pyrénées.

The Rue Larrey diverges to the right and left before we reach the Allées. In its E. section is a handsome new *Theatre*. Turning to the right at the end of the W. section, we find ourselves in the Cours de Reffye, with a bronze bust, by Nelly, of *General Reffye*. The Rue Thiers leads to the left from the other end of the Cours to the Place Maubourguet.

Towards the E. end of the town are two other large squares, the *Place Marcadieu* or market-place and the *Forail* or place where the fairs are held. The latter presents a curious sight when the people from the mountains and also from Spain come to sell their commodities, horses, etc. Tarbes is the chief mart for the excellent horses of the Pyrenees.

The most interesting feature in Tarbes is the magnificent *Jardin Massey, 550 yds. to the N. of the Place Maubourguet, and a short distance to the E. of the station. Though created and presented to the town by a former director of the Gardens of Versailles, it is laid

ut in the style of an English park. It is planted with exotic ees, and threaded by streamlets, and affords a delightful prome- ade. To the S. of a small lake here some 15th cent. *Cloisters*, om St. Sever-de-Rustan, 13½ M. to the N.E. of Tarbes, have been -erected, unfortunately with some alterations. The 48 capitals re covered with curious sculptures.

The garden also contains a small Museum, in an attractive brick uilding, with a tower in the Moorish style. It is open on Sun., hurs., and holidays, from 12 to 4 or 5; on other days for a gratuity.

Ground Floor. Plaster-casts from the antique and from mediæval d Renaissance works; also, in the hall to the left: *Fr. Jouffroy*, Ariadne; . *Coutan*, St. Christopher. — Staircase. Fine Roman capitals; Gallo- oman votive altars and small antiquities; plaster-casts of sculptures om the Parthenon; portion of the natural history collection.

First Floor. — Room I., to the right: 154. *J. L. Gérôme*, Innocence; . *Pietro Perugino*, Virgin and Child; 13. *Ann. Carracci*, Children; . *Everdingen*, Sea-piece; 102. *Zurbaran*, St. James of Compostella; . *Domenichino*, Cartoon for the fresco of the Martyrdom of St. Sebastian; 2. *School of Perugino*, St. Lawrence; 20. *Alonzo Cano*, Holy Family; . *After Ann. Carracci*, Reduced copy of the fresco of the Triumph of enus; 53. *Lazerges*, Kabyle reapers; 159. *Teniers*, Temptation of St. nthony; 6. *Baroccio*, Holy Family; 103. *Zurbaran*, Solomon and his ives; 76. *Solimena*, Allegory. — R. II. Copies bequeathed by Lagarrigue, ormer curator of the Musée. — R. III.: to the left, 99. *Ad. Valentin* (?), usicians; 48. *J. B. Leprince*, Portrait of the artist; 79. *Sassoferrato*, St. rgaret; 12. *Ann. Carracci*, Apollo; 39. *Guercino* (?), Lot and his daughters; *Montero* (Spanish), Drunkenness of Noah; 158. *Hasté*, Holy Family; . *J. Laurens*, Ispahan; 14. *Alb. Cuyp*, Portrait; 9. *L. Boulanger*, Peace, riculture, and Plenty; 184. *Dutch School;* 15. *A. Cuyp*, Portraits; 25. *uzats*, Cathedral of Toledo; 38. *Gérard*, Achilles finding the body of troclus; 66. *Pordenone*, Adoration of the Magi; 60. *Lepoittevin*, Winter Holland; 92. *Watelet*, Tyrolese landscape; 160. *Snyders*, Animals; 64. *rmeggiano*, Judgment of Paris; 153. *Benj. Constant*, Hamlet and the g. — R. IV. Religious and historical paintings by *M.* and *Mme. Latil*, narkable for their colouring. — R. V. Engravings; medals; bas-reliefs; graved portraits; Newfoundland dog of the Empress Eugenie; etc. — VI. Ornamental designs; engravings (220. Loggie of Raphael); medals; ects. — R. VII. Birds, shells, etc.

Fine view from the *Tower* of the Museum (25 c.).

From Tarbes to *Agen*, etc., see R. 14; to *Morcenx (Bordeaux)*, p. 64; to *uterets*, St. Sauveur, *Barèges*, etc., RR. 22, 23, 24; to *Bagnères-de-Bigorre*, 25; to *Bagnères-de-Luchon*, R. 26.

Quitting Tarbes we pass between the Jardin Massey and the enal. Beyond *Marcadieu*, the line to Bagnères-de-Bigorre diverges the right. Beyond a tunnel, ¼ M. long, is (109½ M.) *Lespouey-slades*, and beyond another tunnel, 700 yds. long, are (110½ M.) *rdes-l'Hez*, (113 M.) *Tournay*, and (116 M.) *Ozon-Lanespède*. next cross a curved viaduct from which there is a fine view to right, then another viaduct over a ravine, and ascend a steep lient. Among the mountains, to the right, the most conspicuous the Pic d'Ardiden, the isolated Pic du Midi de Bigorre, and the le summit of the Pic d'Arbizon.

122 M. **Capvern**, station for the *Baths* of that name, which lie . and 4½ M. to the N. (diligence; *Grand-Hôtel: Hôtel des*

Pyrénées, etc.; *Casino)* and have two springs, impregnated with sulphate of lime, resembling those of Bagnères-de-Bigorre (p. 171). The nearer and more important spring is that of *Hount-Caoudo*, the other that of *Le Bouridé*. There is a bath-establishment at each.

From (124½ M.) *Lannemezan* a diligence (fares 2 fr. 75, 2 fr. 20 c.) runs in 2½ hrs. to Arreau (p. 174), 16 M. to the S. A railway to this little town, viâ the valley of the Neste, is under construction. — 128 M. *Cantaous;* 131 M. *St. Laurent-St. Paul;* 133 M. *Aventignan* (Grotto of Gargas, see below). To the right, on a hill, is a ruin commanding the confluence of the Garonne and the Neste. We cross the Garonne and reach —

135 M. **Montréjeau** ('Mont-Royal'; *Buffet; Hôt. du Parc*, in the town; *de France*, at the station), a town of 3068 inhab., 1 M. from the station, on the edge of a plateau overlooking the Garonne and commanding a fine view.

From Montréjeau to *Bagnères-de-Luchon*, see R. 26.

About 5 M. to the S.W. of Montréjeau, beyond the village of (3 M.) *Aventignan* (see above), at which the custodian resides, is the **Grotto of Gargas** (adm. 1 fr., with illumination 1½ fr. and fee), with remarkable stalactites and stalagmites, and an arched roof more than 50 ft. high, etc. The name is said to be derived from a chieftain who used it as a prison. In the 18th cent. it was the haunt of a cannibal who killed and devoured more than thirty women of the neighbourhood.

The line now follows the valley of the Garonne and skirts the mountains for some time, affording a series of fine views. Beyond (139 M.) *Martres-de-Rivière* it crosses the river.

144 M. **St. Gaudens** (*Hôt. de France; Hôt. Ferrière*), a town of 7000 inhab., once very prosperous, situated on an eminence on the right bank of the Garonne, and commanding a fine view. Its chief building is the Romanesque *Church* of the 11-12th cent., with an imposing Gothic portal of the 15th century. The columns have curious capitals, and the interior is decorated with antique tapestry and modern paintings.

About 6 M. to the S. (omnibus in summer; 1 fr. 35 c.) is the village of **Encausse** (*Hôt. de Paris; de France*, etc.), the mineral waters of which are used both for drinking and bathing. Their effect is sedative and purgative. — Pretty neighbourhood.

Before (150 M.) *Labarthe-Inard*, we see on the right the picturesque ruins of the *Château de Montespan* ('Mont-Hispan') of the 13-15th centuries. We cross the Garonne. — 155 M. *St. Martory*, a place probably called, like others which bear the name Martres, after some martyrdom in the days of the Saracens. To the left the old *Château de Montpezat*. Farther on is another bridge over the Garonne, near which is the mouth of an irrigation canal, 40 M. in length, constructed with the object of watering the vast plain which extends lower down the river on the left.

At (159 M.) **Boussens** (*Hôtel Picard*) the Garonne becomes navigable. A visit hence, to the S., to the ruins of the *Château de*

Roquefort (12-13th cent.), and the fine modern Romanesque church of that village takes $1^1/_2$ hr., there and back.

From Boussens to *Aulus*, viâ *St. Girons*, see R. 23.

Near the little town of (161 M.) *Martres-Tolosane* (to the left) the remains of a Roman villa were discovered in 1826, with 40 busts of Roman emperors, now in the Museum at Toulouse, and various other antiquities.

165 M. *Cazères-sur-Garonne*, a small town. 169 M. *St. Julien-et. Elix.* St. Elix, $1^3/_4$ M. to the N., has a Renaissance château. The scenery becomes less interesting. The line recedes farther and farther from the mountains, while wide and well-cultivated but monotonous plains stretch on the left. — 174 M. *Carbonne*, a small town; 179 M. *Longages;* 182 M. *Fauga.*

187 M. **Muret** (**Hôtel de France*, Place Lafayette), on the Garonne, with 4148 inhabitants.

The second turning on the right beyond the station leads to the Place Lafayette, embellished with a statue of the Madonna, near which is the church. A little farther on is the oblong Allée Niel, at which are bronze statues (by St. Jean and Crauk respectively) of the musician *Dalayrac* (1753-1809) and *Marshal Niel* (1802-69), both natives of Muret. — The *Church* dates from the 14th and 15th cent., but the interior has been altered in the classic style and recently adorned with mural paintings. To the left of the entrance is a cross from Bomarsund, presented by Marshal Niel.

In the neighbouring plain, to the N., the army of Dom Pedro, King of Aragon, marching to the succour of Toulouse, was in 1213 defeated by Simon de Montfort the elder, the king with 15-20,000 of his followers being slain.

$192^1/_2$ M. *Portet-St. Simon*, at the confluence of the Garonne and the *Ariège*, is the junction for Foix (R. 28). On the left, the loop-line connecting the line from Auch and the St. Cyprien station, Toulouse (see p. 78). Then, crossing the Garonne for the last time and passing (198 M.) *St. Agne*, we cross the Canal du Midi, and beyond *Pont-des-Demoiselles* and a short tunnel, we reach the Gare Matabiau at —

199 M. *Toulouse* (Buffet), see p. 78.

20. From Pau to Oloron. Vallée d'Aspe.

From Pau to *Oloron*, $21^1/_2$ M., Railway in $1^1/_4$-$1^1/_2$ hr. (fares 3 fr. 90, 2. 65, 1 fr. 70 c.); thence Diligence twice a day to ($25^1/_2$ M.) *Urdos* in 4 hrs. (fare 3 fr. 20 c.). From Urdos to ($31^1/_2$ M.) *Jaca*, by Spanish 'currier', and railway thence to (69 M.) *Huesca* and to (46 M. farther) *Saragossa.*

Pau, see p. 128. — This line, which coincides at first with that to Buruns and Eaux-Bonnes (R. 21), crosses the Gave, ascends the valley of the Nez to the S., and then turns to the W. — Beyond (5 M.) *Gan*

(2700 inhab.) on the left, the train mounts a considerable gradient, and traverses successively a short tunnel, four viaducts (the second of which, 100 ft. high, is curved), and two more tunnels, the last being 620 yds. in length.

At (12 M.) *Buzy*, the branch to Laruns diverges (p. 142). — 15½ M. *Ogeu*, a small watering-place. — 18 M. *Escou*.

21½ M. **Oloron** (892 ft.; *Hôt. de la Poste; Loustalot*, at Ste. Marie, near the station), the ancient *Iluro*, is an industrial and commercial town of 8760 inhab. including the suburb of Ste. Marie. It is prettily situated at the confluence of the Gaves d'Ossau and d'Aspe, which together form the Gave d'Oloron, and it was once the seat of a bishop. The *Cathedral of Ste. Marie*, in the suburb of that name, on the left bank of the Gave d'Aspe, is a Romanesque-Gothic building of the 11-15th cent. with an interesting portal, under a porch. The church of *Ste. Croix*, in Oloron itself, dating from the 11th cent., has a gilded wooden altar of the 17th cent. in the Spanish style, and some paintings by Romain Cazes. The town has fine promenades and the remains of ramparts.

From Oloron to *Tardets*, see p. 127.

The **Vallée d'Aspe**, to the S. of Oloron, is traversed by a good carriage-road, one of the best and most frequented of those which cross the Pyrenees, and it is proposed to make a railway ('conceded' as far as Bedous) also, which would shorten the journey from Paris to Madrid by about 60 miles. The distance from Oloron to the frontier at Somport is 33 M., and thence it is about 19 M. to the little Spanish town of Jaca, via Canfranc. The valley is uninteresting till beyond Asasp, 5 M. from Oloron, and its finest parts lie between that point and Fort d'Urdos, about 18 M. higher up. In breadth it hardly exceeds ½ M., while in many places it becomes a mere gorge which the Gave has worn in the prevailing limestone.

The road follows the left bank of the Gave d'Aspe. At (1¾ M.) *Bidos*, the road to (10 M.) St. Christau diverges to the left.

An omnibus plies in summer from Oloron to St. Christau (1 fr. 60 c.), affording a convenient means of traversing the uninteresting portion of the valley, St. Christau being only about 1¼ M. from Asasp (see below).

St. Christau (*Hôtel de la Poste*) is a hamlet of Lurbe (see below), prettily situated and possessing sulphureous and other waters especially efficacious in skin-diseases. There are two bathing establishments. — To the S. is *Mont Binet* (4020 ft.), which is easily ascended in 2 hours.

Passing (3 M.) *Gurmençon* and (4 M.) *Arros*, we reach (5½ M.) the village of *Asasp*, beyond which on the left bank (bridge) is *Lurbe* (Hôt. des Vallées), to which are attached the Baths of St. Christau, 1¼ M. to the N.E. — We now leave on the right the valley of the Lourdios, and soon enter the first gorge of the valley of the Gave.

From (10 M.) *Escot* a new route crosses the *Col de Marieblanque* (3025 ft.) to (3 hrs.) the Vallée d'Ossau, joining the route to Eaux-Bonnes at Bielle (p. 142). Another interesting route leads from Escot to Arudy (15 M.; see p. 142).

Our road now crosses the Gave d'Aspe by the *Pont d'Escot*. o the left, on a rock, is a Latin inscription of doubtful authen- ɔity, stating that the Duumvir L. Valerius Vernus twice repaired is route. Near the bridge are the small *Baths of Escot*, frequented the natives only. — We cross another bridge.

12 M. *Sarrance* (Inn), with a pilgrims' shrine and a ruined ɔnvent. As we continue to ascend the valley we pass successively waterfall, the *Pont Suzon*, the *Cirque d'Ourdinse*, to the left (with e *Pic de Mousté*, 5235 ft., ascended from Bédous in 4½ hrs.), ıd a second gorge.

15½ M. *Bédous* (Hôt. de la Paix), situated in a basin which ust have formed a lake before the waters of the torrent had fficiently scooped out the gorge. The hillocks in this basin are mposed of ophite, a volcanic product. A road, difficult in places, ıds hence to Laruns (p. 142), viâ *Aydins* and the *Col de las Arques* ɔout 5600 ft.).

Farther on, in the valley of Aspe, is *Subertaché*, a small water- g-place, with chalybeate and sulphur springs.

18 M. *Accous* is supposed to be the *Aspa Luca* of the Romans. ı a knoll is a column erected to the memory of the popular poet espourrins (1693-1742). A path, affording fine views, leads hence 4-5 hrs. to Eaux-Chaudes over the *Col d'Iseye* (about 6560 ft.).

The valley again narrows to a gorge, midway in which is the *nt d'Esquit*, boldly spanning the torrent. Travellers bound for dos cross neither this nor the next bridge. — 20 M. *Pont de scun*, leading into the valley of that name.

The Gave de Lescun forms a picturesque waterfall, near a cottage, ut ½ M. from the bridge (50 c.). The hamlet of **Lescun** (300 ft.; *Hotel*) bout ¾ M. farther on; and in the neighbourhood are the little *Baths Laberou*, with warm sulphur-springs. The comparatively easy and eresting ascent of the ***Pic d'Anie** (8215 ft.; guide, Loustallot) may be de from Lescun in 4-4½ hrs. We ascend the *Hourque de Lauga*, a ley to the right, and passing near the baths (see above), enter a wood, l beyond the huts of (2¼ hrs.) *Azuns*, we climb alongside the streamlet t descends from the mountain, leaving on the right the (1 hr.) little *d'Anie*, thus skirting the peak from E. to W. The magnificent pan- ma from the summit is one of the most striking in the Pyrenees, only embracing the greater part of that chain but also extending to ocean, 50 miles distant, and over the plains of Gascony as far as Landes. The double Pic du Midi d'Ossau (p. 147), only 15 M. distant, ɔially attracts attention by its abrupt outlines.

Passing (20½ M.) *Cette-Eygun* and (22 M.) *Etsaut*, the road in crosses the torrent, by the *Pont de Sebers*, and enters a gorge he end of which, on the left, rises (24 M.) the **Fort d'Urdos* or *Portalet* (2605 ft.), presenting a striking and picturesque appear- e. This fort, constructed in 1838-48, is to a great extent t on a rock overhanging the torrent, and is reached by no less 506 steps. All that is visible is a frontage flanked by two tur- and some walls, only distinguishable from the rocks by their rasures; but within there is accommodation for 3000 men.

Recrossing to the right bank by the *Pont d'Enfer*, at the foot of the fort, we enter another small basin about 3 miles long, and reach —

25½ M. **Urdos** (2493 ft.; *Hôtel Ferras*), the last French village.

From Urdos to Gabas, by a mule-track in 6, and by a footpath in 5 hours. The former passes to the N. of the *Pics de Lorry* (4070 ft.) and *d'Ayous* (10,865 ft.), and leads over the *Col d'Aas de Bielle* (7095 ft.; 4 hrs.), beyond which there is a splendid view of the Pic du Midi d'Ossau (p. 147); then past the saw-mill of *Bious-Artigues* (p. 147), whence Gabas is reached in an hour. — The footpath ascends to the S. of the *Pic Hourquette* (7820 ft.) to the (3 hrs.) *Col de Bious*, to the N. of the *Pic de Moines* (8012 ft.). Here, too, the Pic du Midi is in view. We descend by the saw-mill.

27½ M. a *Lazaretto*, in ruins; then another gorge, followed by a small basin and (28½ M.) the *Auberge du Peillou*, beyond which is (30 M.) a deserted *Foundry*. The road then separates from a path that continues to the right up the valley, at the end of which, on the left, the *Pic d'Aspe* (8880 ft.) is conspicuous. We pass two inns. The projected railway will cross the frontier by means of a tunnel, at the height of 3900 ft.

33 M. **Le Somport** or *Port d'Urdos* (5380 ft.), on the frontier, the *Summus Portus* of the Romans, through which passed the road from *Caesarea Augusta* (Saragossa) to *Iluro* (Oloron). A part of the army of Abd-er-Rahman, defeated by Charles Martel in 732, invaded France by this route. The view from the col is limited and the surroundings are bare and gloomy.

From Le Somport to Gabas, 4 hrs., by a path which passes to the S. of the *Pic d'Arnousse* (7020 ft.) and over the (1½ hr.) *Col des Moines* (7230 ft.), beyond which we descend, in view of the majestic Pic du Midi, and join the path from the Col de Bious (see above).

The road now descends in zigzags on the Spanish side, passing first the ruins of the hospital of *Santa Cristina*, and then an inn. — 40 M. *Chapelle St. Antoine;* 43 M. *Portalec;* 44½ M. *Spalung*.

46 M. *Canfranc* (3410 ft.; Posada-Fonda Isuel), a small place on the right bank of the Aragon, above which rises an ancient castle. — Farther on are two highly picturesque gorges, between which, on the left, rises the *Peña-Collarada* (9460 ft.; ascended in 5 hrs.), the summit of which affords an extensive view. — 48½ M. *Villanua;* 52 M. *Castiello*.

57 M. **Jaca** (**Hôtel Mur-y-Bueno*), a walled town, with 3800 inhabitants. The interesting *Cathedral* dates from the 14-15th cent.; the *Citadel* (fine view from the top) from the 16th. — A railway runs hence to (69 M.) *Huesca*, the chief town of the province, and to (46 M.) *Saragossa*.

21. Eaux-Bonnes, Eaux-Chaudes, and their Environs.

I. From Pau to Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes.

Railway to (24 M.) Laruns in 1½ hr. (fares 4 fr. 35, 2 fr. 95, 1 fr. 90 c.); thence railway-omnibus to (4 M.) Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes, in

55 min. (fare 1 fr. 50 c.); other vehicles outside the station cheaper. Bes view from seats in the banquette. Landau for 4 pers., 8 fr.

From *Pau* (p. 128) to (12½ M.) *Buzy*, see p. 139. — Leaving th line to Oloron on the right, we approach the Gave d'Ossau, and cross it by means of a viaduct, 100 ft. in height. — 16 M. *Arudy* to the left, a place of some size.

The ***Vallée d'Ossau** begins here and extends S. to Gabas (p. 147), a distance of about 16 M. Sometimes, however, the name is restricted to the part between Arudy, where the Gave d'Ossau turns to the W. in the direction of Oloron, and Laruns (see below), where it descends from Eaux-Chaudes and is joined by the Valentin, which comes from Eaux-Bonnes. The valley of Ossau is one of the most picturesque in the Pyrenees, although the mountains which flank it have been to a great extent stripped of their woods since last century. At the upper end is the famous Pic du Midi d'Ossau; at the end of the lateral valley the Pic de Ger (p. 145), celebrated for its panorama, etc. The valley, in which are Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes, watering-places of the first rank, is only separated from the valley of Aspe (p. 139) by a minor chain of hills, easy to cross and affording fine excursions. The valley of Ossau, like that of Aspe. once formed a small commonwealth, which retained its privileges for a long time after its annexation to Béarn, and for still longer its peculiar manners and costumes. Traces of both still linger in the more sequestered parts of the valley. Curious costumes are still to be seen at Laruns on holidays, especially on the festival of the Assumption (Aug. 15th). The hoods worn by the women are characteristic.

At (17½ M.) *Izeste* the valley begins to form a picturesque gorge. Here there is a grotto interesting alike to geologists and to ordinary tourists (10 fr. for 1 or more persons). — 20 M. *Bielle*, the ancient capital of the viscounts of Ossau, has preserved its old archives. The Gothic church is partly built of ancient materials, and remains of Roman baths, with mosaics, have been discovered. Near the church are some curious houses of the 15th and 16th centuries.

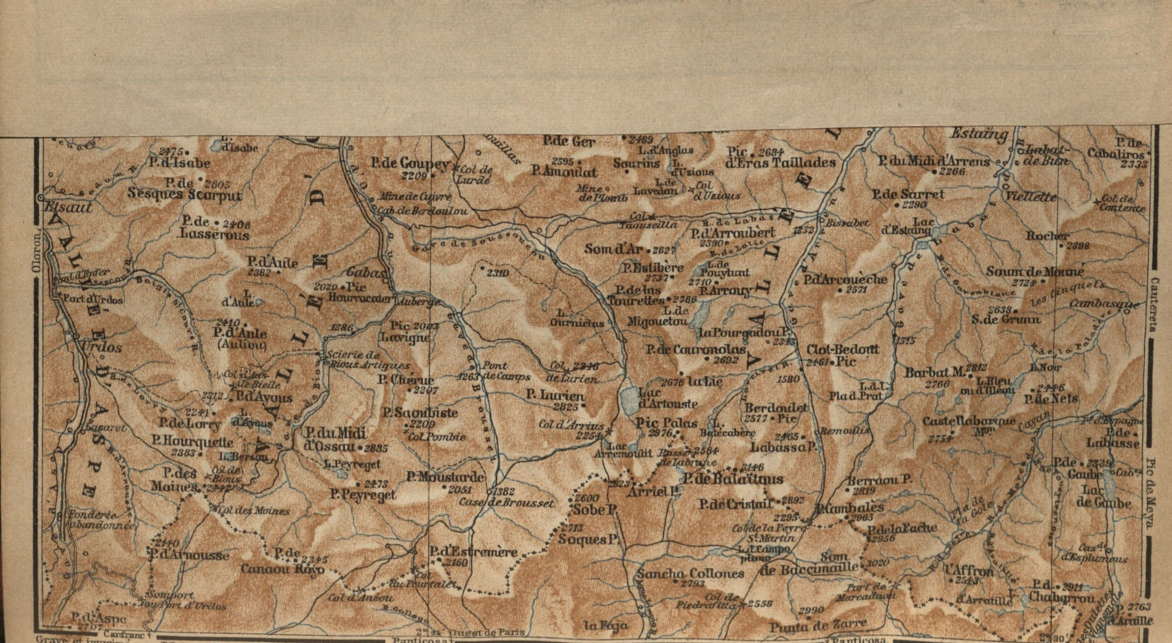
We now reach the mountains, and traverse two short tunnels. To the left lie *Louvie* and *Soubiron*, noted for their quarries of Ossau marble.

24 M. **Laruns** (1650 ft.; *Hôtel des Touristes*, etc.), with 2200 inhab., has marble quarries of high repute.

Farther on to the right our road leaves the old road to Eaux-Chaudes viâ the Hourat (p. 144), recommended to pedestrians on account of the view. Beyond a bridge over the Gave d'Ossau we reach the (25½ M.) point where the *New Roads* to Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes diverge. For the latter see p. 145. That to Eaux-Bonnes leaves the old and steep road below on the left, and ascends the N.E. flank of the Gourzy (p. 144) in zigzags, affording fine views: behind, Laruns and its valley; on the left the valley of the Valentin and the Montagne-Verte; in front and on the right, the Latte de Bazen, the Pénémédaa, and the Pic de Ger (p. 145). *Eaux-Bonnes* is not visible until we are close to it.

II. Eaux-Bonnes.

Hotels. Grand-Hôtel des Princes, de France, Continental, Richelieu, all first-class, round the Jardin Darralde; de Paris, d'Angleterre &


Estaing
Pic d'Eras Taillades
P. du Midi d'Arreus
P. de Cabalirros
Sesques Scarput
P. de Coupey
P. d'Isabe
P. de Sesques
P. de Lasserous
P. d'Aule
Gabas
Pic Hourrac
Auberge
Pic Lavigne
Scierie de Gabas
P. Chevre
P. d'Ayous
P. Saoubiste
P. du Midi d'Ossau
P. Hourquette
P. des Moines
P. Peyreget
P. Moustarde
P. de Canaou Rayo
P. d'Arnousse
P. d'Estremere
Sancha Collones
Punta de Zarre
Pic d'Arriel
P. de Balaitous
P. de Cristal
Soques P.
Sobe P.
Labassa P.
Berraou P.
Lambales
P. de la Pache
Som de Bacciamaille
L'Affron
P. de Chabarrou
P. de Vignemale
P. de Surret
Viellette
Rocher
Soum de Mouné
S. de Grum
P. d'Arrouy
P. d'Arrouber
Som d'Ar
P. d'Arcouecluc
Clot-Bedort
Barbat M.
P. de Nets
Castellabarrouse
P. de Gabe
Lac de Gube
Lac d'Estaing
Lac d'Ariouste
Lac Arrenouillt
Pic Palas
Berdoudet
Labassa P.
Col d'Arrius
Col de Pouy
Col de Tourrelles
Col de Migouelou
Col de Tramezaigues
Col de Tramezaigue
Col de Tramezaigue
Col de Tramezaigue

Pau
Arudy
Pic Lorry
Bielle
Laruns
Bagès
Arbeost
Bourinquet
Pic de Bazes
Arras
Arrazans
Gaillagos
Aucun
Sireix
Bun
Marsous
Arrens
Bayens
Artigaux
Laubat d'Aucun
Estaing
Laubat de Bun
Viellette
Rocher
Soum de Monne
Cambasque
S. de Grum
Barbat M.
Pic de Nets
Castellabarque
Labasse
Gaube
Lac de Gaube
Berraou P.
Rambalès
Pic de la Pache
Pic de Cristaut
Pic de Balaitous
Arriel P.
Sobe P.
Soques P.
Sancha Collones
Punta de Zarre
la Pège
Pic de Gabizos
Pic d'Eras Taillades
Pic de Ger
Pic de Gourzy
Eaux-Chaudes
Eaux-Bonnes
Gourette
Pic de Ronglet
Pic de Permayou
Bouergy
Pic de Goupey
Pic d'Amoulat
Sesques Scurput
Lasserous
Pic d'Aule
Gabas
Pic Hourracader
Auberge
Pic de Lavigne
Scierie de Rioux Artigues
Pic d'Ayous
Pic du Midi d'Ossau
Pic de Lory
Pic Hourquette
Pic des Moines
Pic d'Arnousse
Canaou Royo
Pic d'Estremère
Pic d'Aspe
Somport
Pic de Sesques
Pic de Sourins
Pic de Tourrettes
Pic de Migouelou
Pic de Courmolas
Pic de la Pourgadou
Pic d'Arrouy
Pic d'Arrouby
Pic d'Arroubert
Pic d'Arcouèche
Pic de Clot-Bedort
Pic de Berdoulot
Pic Palas
Pic de Labassa P.
Pic de Remoulis
Pic de Labassa
Pic de Soum de Baccimaille
Pic de Chabarrou
Pic de Viguemale
Pic de Montferrut P.
Pic de Monferrut
Pic de Arcille
Pic de Arrastaing
Pic de Arrastaing
Pic de Arrastaing

d'Espagne, de la Poste, des Touristes & de l'Univers, des Pyrénées, in the same place; de la Paix, Bernis, these last nearer the Thermal Establishment, etc. — **Furnished Houses and Private Pensions.** *Lanne-Lazar, Cazaux aîné*, in the Promenade; *Bonnecaze, Pommé, Loubira*, in the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville; *Courtade, Tourné, C. Lamarque, Lagouarre*, higher up and nearer the baths. — Charges vary considerably: R. 2 to 10, D. 5 to 8 fr.

Café and **Club** at the *Hôtel des Princes*.

Thermal Establishments, see below. Tariff for drinking and gargling, from June 20th to Aug. 20th, 20 fr.; at other times during the season, 10 fr.; family subscription, 50 fr. — Bath, from 7 to 10 a. m.: from June 20th to Aug. 20th, 2 fr.; at other hours and other seasons, 1 fr.; douche, 1 fr.; bath and douche, 2 fr. 50 or 1 fr. 50 c., etc. Tourists have the privilege of drinking once at the springs gratis.

Casino (see below): subscription for a fortnight, entitling to 7 representations, 10 fr., 2 pers. 15 fr., 3 pers. 20 fr., 4 pers. 25 fr.; per month, 15, 25, 35, or 40 fr.; for 3 months, 30, 55, 75, or 90 fr.

Horses and **Mounted Guides**: *Lanusse, Caillau, Casabonne*, etc. — There is no fixed tariff; charges vary from 7 to 12 fr. a day.

Guides. **J. Orteig, J. Soustrade, Esguerre, Navarrens.* — No tariff; 8 to 12 fr. a day.

Omnibus to Eaux-Chaudes, at 7 and 11 a. m., returning at 9 a. m. and 3 p. m. (fare 1 fr. 50, return 2 fr. 40 c.).

Eaux-Bonnes (2455 ft.), with 812 inhab., is situated at the confluence of two torrents, the Valentin and the Sourde, at the entrance to an extremely picturesque gorge between lofty mountains, which leave a very narrow space between them. Its chief importance, however, is due to the springs of sulphureous sodaic and calcareous waters, in which chloride of sodium is the chief ingredient. These waters are efficacious in throat and bronchial affections and in tubercular consumption. The climate is mild in summer, but in consequence of the altitude the season is short. There are not less than 6000 visitors a year.

The centre of Eaux-Bonnes is the *Jardin Darralde*, a small park planted with fine trees, in which a band plays in the afternoon and evening. Around it are the chief hotels, and at one end is the *Casino*, the terrace of which commands a fine view of the Pic de Ger (p. 145).

Ascending the Grande-Rue beyond the Jardin, we soon reach the principal *Etablissement Thermal*, of no great size, as the waters are seldom taken in baths. There are seven small springs, the most important being the Old Spring (Source Vieille; 89°26′ Fahr.), which feeds only the tap of the pump-room. The water has a distinctly sulphureous odour but is less disagreeable to taste than to smell; it should be used with precaution. Farther up, at the end of the village, is a pavilion containing the pump-room of the *Fontaine Froide* (52°4′ Fahr.). Opposite are some schools, and to the left, a Protestant Church. The mineral waters rise near here from the *Butte du Trésor*, on which is a kiosque. Near the bridge over the Valentin is the less important *Etablissement Orteig*.

Eaux-Bonnes has fine promenades. The *Promenade Eynard* leads round the Butte du Trésor, which may be reached from the

interior of the Etablissement Thermal. The fine *Promenade de l'Impératrice* or *du Gros-Hêtre* diverges from the former behind the Butte, and runs beneath pleasant trees at a uniform height above the valley of the Valentin, for about $1^3/_4$ M. Above the *Cascade de Discoo* it crosses a bridge 80 ft. high, and joins another road, which leads to the fine *Cascade du Gros-Hêtre* (dairy), near a wooden bridge, about $2^1/_4$ M. from the village. We may return hence by the *Promenade du Valentin*, above the preceding, on the left bank of the stream, passing the pretty *Cascade des Eaux-Bonnes*.

On the other side of the village is the *Promenade Horizontale*, for pedestrians only, on the flank of the Gourzy (see below), which affords pretty views of the valley. Beginning at the terrace of the Casino, it extends at present for about a mile, but is to be continued as far as the Eaux-Chaudes road. The *Promenade Gramont*, also on the flank of the Gourzy, ascends in zigzags behind the Casino, as far as the Fontaine Froide. The *Promenade Jacqueminot*, diverging from the last-named, ascends to the first plateau, whence the view is very beautiful.

Excursions.

To Eaux-Chaudes. (1) By Road, 5 M.; omnibus, see p. 143. We descend by the road to Pau as far as ($2^1/_2$ M.) the parting of the ways mentioned on p. 142. Beyond this point the *Route is one of the most picturesque in the Pyrenees. It is cut out in the rock on the left of the **Hourat** ('hollow'), the ravine in which the Gave d'Ossau frets 150 ft. below, and it is overhung by rocks of still greater height. At one spot there is a crevasse over which a bridge has been thrown between two rocks. On the other side of the torrent is the old road to Laruns, which descends very rapidly and joins the new road at the Pont Crabé or Pont des Chèvres. — For *Eaux-Chaudes* and excursions into the upper part of the valley see pp. 145-148.

(2) Viâ the Gourzy, about $3^1/_2$ hrs., an interesting route which may be made on horseback, but for which a guide is desirable (4-5 fr.). We ascend through woods, in 50 min., to the first plateau to which the Promenade Jacqueminot (see above) leads. The second plateau is 40 min. farther. Here we leave on the left the path to the Pic du Ger (see below), and in 50 min. more reach the third plateau on the summit of the **Gourzy** (6033 ft.), whence there is a superb panorama, including the Pic de Ger and the majestic Pic du Midi d'Ossau. Thence we descend to the W. by a bad path, also through woods, which in 50 min. more joins the road to the grotto of Eaux-Chaudes (p. 146), about 1 M. from Eaux-Chaudes (p. 145).

To the Pic de Ger. The usual route leads viâ the Gourzy, and takes about 10 hrs. there and back. Part of this most interesting excursion may be accomplished on horseback, but the rest is laborious and the ascent should not be made without a guide (20 fr.) and provisions. Following the Eaux-Chaudes path as far as the second plateau ($1^1/_2$ hr., see above) we there turn to the left and reach (about 3 hrs.) the *Plateau d'Anouillas*, beyond the huts on which horses cannot ascend. Thence we proceed on foot to (1 hr.) the *Plateau de Cardoua* (des Chardons), where there is another hut, beyond which another hour's laborious climb by the *Pambassibé* brings us to the top. This last stage is not only remarkably steep, with a névé above a sheer precipice, but there is also a ridge which must be crossed partly on one's hands and knees and partly astride.

The ***Pic de Ger** (8575 ft.), with its two peaks, the second of which is difficult to climb, affords a superb panorama presenting strong contrasts: to the S. a chaos of desolate mountains, and to the N. a sea of verdure in the midst of which are the towns of Tarbes and Pau. The most conspicuous summits visible, from east to west, are, in the foreground, the Latte de Bazen (8105 ft.) and the Pénemédaa (8165 ft.); farther away, to the right, the Pics de Gabizos (8660 ft. and 8805 ft.); then the mountains round the valleys of Gaube and Marcadaou, with the Vignemale (10,795 ft.), the Pic de Balaïtous (10,320 ft.), the Pic Palas (9765 ft.), and a succession of other peaks varying from 8500 to nearly 9500 ft. in height, extending to the famous Pic du Midi d'Ossau (9465 ft.), compared with which the peaks of the Vallée d'Aspe seem tamely uniform. Southwards, to the left of the Pic Amoulat (8515 ft.), which forms part of the Pic de Ger group, the large Lac d'Artouste is seen (p. 148).

To THE PIC DE GOUPEY, 7 hrs. there and back, easy, with guide. We follow the above route as far as the (3 hrs.) *Plateau d'Anouillas*, where we turn to the right. From (1/2 hr.) the *Col de Lurdé* (6400 ft.) is seen the Pic du Midi rising in front, and in 3/4 hr. more we reach the top of the **Pic de Goupey** or *de Cézy* (7245 ft.). It affords a specially fine view, to the S., of the valleys of the Gave de Soussouéou, descending from the Lac d'Artouste (p. 148), and of the Gave de Brousset, as well as the valley of Gabas, with the Pics de Balaïtous, Palas, d'Ossau, etc.

To THE LAC D'ANGLAS AND LAC D'UZIOUS, etc., a fine excursion occupying a whole day (guide and provisions necessary), either viâ the gorge of the Valentin, partially practicable for horses, or viâ the gorge of the Sourde, the Coume d'Aas, etc. The **Lac d'Anglas** (6790 ft.) is a small round lake on a plateau between the buttresses of the Pénemédaa and the Sourins; the **Lac d'Uzious** (6955 ft.), oval in shape, lies a little farther to the S.E. Still higher up are the little *Lac de Lavedan* and the *Col d'Uzious* (7325 ft.), whence a charming view is enjoyed.

To THE GRAND PIC DE GABIZOS, another fine excursion for one day which may be partly made on horseback (guide and provisions). The best route leads viâ the gorge of the Valentin, *Gourrette*, the *Rochers de las Niéras* to the S.E., and the *Pastures of Bourroux*. The **Grand Pic de Gabizos** or *Pic d'Eras-Taillades* (8806 ft.), to the S., is the principal peak of a group in which the *Petit Pic*, or *Pic de Gabizos* properly so called (8660 ft.), ranks second in height. The magnificent panorama resembles that commanded by the Pic de Ger (see above).

To ARGELÈS (*Cauterets*), 26 M. The very interesting carriage-road leads by the gorge of the Valentin and (8 M.) the *Col d'Aubisque* (5610 ft.), then across a desolate but striking tract, passing the *Col d'Arbaze*, S.W. of the *Mont Laid* (6205 ft.), and the *Col du Couret* or *de Soulor* (4755 ft.) whence it descends to (18 1/2 M.) *Arrens* (hotel), the principal place in the pretty *Vallée d'Azun*, and thence by the valley of the *Gave d'Arrens*, in which are (20 M.) *Marsous*, (20 1/2 M.) *Aucun*, (21 1/2 M.) *Gaillagos*, (23 M.) *Arcizans-Dessus*, and (24 M.) *Arras*, with the ruined *Château of Castelnau-d'Azun* (14th cent.). *Argelès*, see p. 148. — A footpath, shortening the journey by 6 1/2 M., leads from the end of the gorge of the Valentin over the *Col de Tortes* (5500 ft.), rejoining the road a good 1/2 M. farther on. Another short-cut, at the descent into the Vallée d'Azun, follows the old road to the S.E., by the *Col de Saucède* (5015 ft.). — The easy and interesting ascent of the *Pic de Grum* (6135 ft.) may be made in 20 min. from the Col d'Aubisque.

Other excursions, see pp. 146, 147.

III. Eaux-Chaudes.

Arrival: from Pau, see p. 142; from Eaux-Bonnes, p. 144.

Hotels: DE FRANCE; BAUDOT. Charges approximately the same as at Eaux-Bonnes. — **Furnished Houses.** *Cazaux; Lanne; Beigbéder; Nouvaix; Noguès; Abbadie.*

Cafés, on the Promenade Henri IV.

Thermal Establishment, see below. Fee for drinking the waters, 6 fr. from June 1st to Sept. 30th, 4 fr. at other seasons. Private bath or douche 1 fr. 25 c., in the general basin 50 c.; douche before or after a bath 1 fr. 75 c.; bath-sheet 15, towel 10 c., etc. The above prices are the first-class tariff; the second class is for artizans, etc., the third-class for domestics and workmen.

Omnibus to Eaux-Bonnes, see p. 143. Another leaves Eaux-Chaudes for Eaux-Bonnes, every Sun. and Thurs. at 1 p. m., returning at 6 p. m.

Horse-Hirers and **Mounted Guides.** *Béchat, Labarthe, Larrouy, Ollivain.* — **Guides** on foot: *Grangé, Camy* (of Gabas), see below. — Charges, see Eaux-Bonnes.

English Church Service in summer (French Church).

Eaux-Chaudes (2215 ft.) is smaller, but perhaps even more grandly situated than Eaux-Bonnes. It is perched on the right bank of the *Gave d'Ossau* or *de Gabas*, which is so steep that the houses can hardly find standing-room. The waters, sulphureous like most in the Pyrenees, are very efficacious, though less patronised than those of Eaux-Bonnes. The average annual number of bathers is not more than 2000, and life is quieter than at Eaux-Bonnes.

The well-managed *Thermal Establishment*, standing just above the Gave, is a fine building partly constructed of Pyrenean marble. More attention is here paid to bathing than at Eaux-Bonnes; and a public basin ('piscine') has been fitted up. Three of the seven principal springs of Eaux-Chaudes are here in use, viz. the Esquirette which has a double source of supply (95 and 89° Fahr.), the Rey (92°), and the Clot (97°). They are much used in certain maladies of women and in cases of rheumatic neuralgia and chronic rheumatism. The attendants wear the local costume.

Eaux-Chaudes has some fine promenades: the *Promenade Henri IV.* near the baths; the *Promenade d'Argout* and the *Promenade Horizontale*, one above the other on the left bank of the Gave. Two bridges lead thither, one near the bath-house, the other higher up, to the right, outside the village; on this side also is a waterfall. There are two other promenades on the other side, the chief of which is the *Promenade Minvielle*, to the left and not far from the road, with the pump-room of the cold *Minvielle Spring*.

Excursions.

To the Grotto of Eaux-Chaudes, about 2 hrs. there and back. The custodian lives in the village (1½ fr. each pers., including lights). The rough path ascends to the left of the road to Gabas and for ½ hr. is identical with that to Eaux-Bonnes by the Gourzy (p. 144); then it turns to the right. Prudence should be used in passing from the warm outer air into the very cold cavern. The **Grotto of Eaux-Chaudes**, which is about 1450 ft. deep, is specially remarkable for the torrent which runs through it and forms at its source a high cascade; the guide illuminates it with Bengal lights. There is a tavern at the entrance of the grotto.

To Gabas and to Bious-Artigues (*Pic de Biscaou*), an easy and interesting excursion; 5 and 3 M., carriage-road to Gabas, thence a bridle-path. — The road is a continuation of that from Pau and Eaux-Bonnes to the Spanish frontier (p. 141). It soon crosses the Gave d'Ossau and then steadily ascends the left bank along a most picturesque valley bordered

by wooded mountains. After about 1¾ M., the path to Accous over the Col d'Iseye (p. 140) diverges into a valley on the right. Farther on the valley narrows and the grand Pic du Midi d'Ossau comes into view on the right. To the left is one of the routes to the Lac d'Artouste (p. 148). — 5 M. **Gabas** (3690 ft.; *Hôtel des Pyrénées*, *Hôtel du Pic du Midi*, both good; guide, Camy), the last hamlet on French territory, lies at the confluence of the Gaves de Brousset and de Bious, which unite to form the Gave d'Ossau. It is a convenient starting-point for excursions in the upper part of the valley (see below). — Travellers should not fail to ascend the valley of the Gave de Bious to the right, as far as the saw-mill of (1½ hr.) ***Bious-Artigues**, for the sake of the view of the Pic du Midi, the most striking and complete anywhere obtainable. The mountain rears its bare majestic peak in solitary grandeur from the midst of a wide meadow-land which offers a striking contrast to the gloomy pine-forests that clothe the mountain-slopes. — The **Pic de Biscaou** (6560 ft.), to the W. of Gabas, is another splendid point of view by reason of its detached situation. The easy ascent (3½-4 hrs. there and back) is made partly by the road to the saw-mill, which we quit in the valley of Aule, and ascend to the E. The descent may be made in 2 hrs., by a 'couloir' on the N. side. — To *Urdos* and *Le Somport*, see p. 141.

To the Pic du Midi d'Ossau. This ascent, one of the most difficult in the Pyrenees, is only for experienced mountaineers. It occupies a full day and a good guide and provisions must be taken. The route lies by the valley of Gabas (see above) and by the valley of the Gave de Brousset or by that of the Gave de Bious, which skirt and isolate the mountain, the former on the E., the latter on the W. side. In the former case we follow the road to Spain for about 2 hrs. by carriage or on horseback, as far as the *Case de Brousset* (4835 ft.), a ruined inn, whence we ascend to the right for 2 hrs. more (riding still practicable) to the *Col de Pombie* or *de Suzon* (6890 ft.), between the *Pic de Saoubiste* (7245 ft.) on the right and the Pic du Midi on the left. Soon afterwards the difficulties of the ascent begin, but they have been lessened by the fixing of iron bars in the rocks of the three 'cheminées' by which we must climb, the last one overlooking a precipice. — The route by the valley of the Gave de Bious follows the road to Bious-Artigues as far as (½ M. from Gabas) the *Vallon de Magnabaigt*, to the left, ascends this valley for 1½ hr., and then mounts by the (1 hr.) *Plateau de Magnabaigt* to the *Col de Pombie* where the above route is joined. — The **Pic du Midi d'Ossau** (9465 ft.), which is thus attained in 5-6 hrs. from Gabas, is one of the most characteristic granite masses of the Pyrenees, rising precipitously from almost every side, like a gigantic pyramid in ruins, truncated and cleft by some convulsive agency. Its base is hardly more than a mile in diameter while the circle over which its débris are scattered is 10 M. in circumference. The prospect is very extensive, but more grand than beautiful. The principal features are, to the N., besides the *Pic d'Aule* (7910 ft.), which is very near, the Vallée d'Ossau and the plain as far as Pau; to the E., among the High Pyrenees, the Vignemale and Mont-Perdu; to the S., the mountains and plains of Aragon; to the W., the Pic d'Anie, etc. — The *Petit Pic* (9150 ft.), still more difficult than the Grand Pic, is reached by the Col de Peyreget, between the Pic du Midi and the *Pic de Peyreget* (8113 ft.), to the S.

To the Lac d'Artouste (*Pic Palas*, *Pic d'Arriel*, and *Pic de Balaïtous*). A great part of this excursion, which takes a day, is practicable on horseback, by the Col d'Arrius or the valley of the Gave de Soussouéou. By the former route we follow the road to Spain for about 1¾ hr. beyond Gabas, ¼ hr. short of the Case de Brousset (see above), and ascend to the left through woods and by pasture ground, to the (1¾ hr.) *Col d'Arrius* (8050 ft.), whence the lake is visible below us, and is reached in ¾ hr. more. — The other route, a little longer and more laborious, diverges from the Gabas road 2½ M. from Eaux-Chaudes, crosses the Gave, and ascends by the right bank of the wild *Gorge du Soussouéou*, watered by a torrent that issues from the Lac d'Artouste itself. Halfway (about 3 hrs.) we reach a small plain entered on the left by a road coming from

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22.

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up beside the rail

Griotto = Cherry
or Mushroom.

Porreau = leek.

Pic de Liou
P. de Peyreuère
Pène de Bassots
P. de Catarrabe
Tournaye
Soum de Lisey
Col de Riou
Cap des Cinquets
Sentes
Cambasque
Soum de Lasaoue
Bains de Cesar
CAUTERETS
Soum de Liar
Soum de Peyrao
Pic Péguère
Bains de la Raillère
Bains du Petit St. Sauveur
Pics d'Aulon
Cascade du Lutour
Pic de Laytugouse
Soum de Coume d'Arriou
Cascade
P. de Hourmégas
Soum Debat-Hourrad
Arriutort
Fruitière
Pont d'Espagne
L. Lahazère
Soum des Agudes
P. de Labasse
Lac Grand
Pouey-caou
Pic de Gaube
Labadette de Labasse
Auberge de Gaube
Pic d'Ardide
Lac de Gaube
Pic d'Agude
Pic Meija
Soum d'Aube
Cabane de Culaos
P. de Chanch
Pic d'Estibaoude
Roc Agude
Lac d'Estibaoude
Cascade
Col de Culaos
Pic de Culaous
Lac d'Estom
Soum de Cestrede
Pic de Pébignaou
Pic d'Araillé
Cascade
Pic de Mont-Here de
Tue de Monges
Pic de Labassa ou d. l. Sède
Lars d'Estom-Soubiran
Pic de Mallecouge
Pic des Oulettes
Glacier
Col d'Estom-Soubiran
Petit Vignemale
Soum d'Estom-Soubiran
Pic Pourmourou
Cavarnie
Kilom.
Engl. Mile.

Numerous walks and points of view. Road to Eaux-Bonnes, see p. 145.

Beyond Argelès we have on the right St. Savin and on the left Beaucens (see below). — 13 M. **Pierrefitte-Nestalas** (*Gr.-Hôt. de la Poste; Hôt. de France,* at the station), a village $^1/_2$ M. to the S.W., where the road from Lourdes viâ Argelès forks, the right branch going to Cauterets, the left to Luz-St. Sauveur and Barèges.

A road which diverges from the Lourdes route to the left at the end of the village, leads in 25 min. to St. Savin, passing the little *Chapelle de Piétat*, of the 16th cent., from which there is a fine view. — The village of **St. Savin** *(Hotel)* is built round the celebrated abbey of that name and should be visited on account of its fine Romanesque *Church*, which, with the exception of the 14th cent. steeple, dates from the 11-12th centuries. It contains two noteworthy paintings of the 15th cent., in nine compartments, representing the history of St. Savin, the hermit, and also his tomb, of the Romanesque period, surmounted by a rich pyramidal canopy of the 14th century. The chapter-house and other parts of the abbey are also extant.

On the other side of the valley, also visited from Pierrefitte, is the ($^3/_4$ hr.) village of **Beaucens,** with a large ruined *Castle* of the 12-16th cent., and a small thermal establishment. The road thither diverges to the left from the Barèges route, a good $^1/_2$ M. from Pierrefitte.

The *Road to Cauterets, one of the finest in the country, is admirably constructed, like all the roads in the Pyrenees. It leaves the road to Luz-St. Sauveur and Barèges (RR. 23, 24) to the left, in the valley of the Gave de Pau, and ascends in a wide and at first steep curve to the valley of the *Gave de Cauterets*, affording a fine retrospective view of Pierrefitte and the valley of Argelès. At the top, to the right, is an argentiferous lead-mine. As we descend, the Péguère, the height above Cauterets, soon comes into view. About $1^1/_4$ M. from Pierrefitte we cross the Gave in order to avoid the dangerous declivities of the right bank, along which the road originally led as far as the *Pont de Mediabat*, about halfway. Then we thread a wild defile in which the road is at places cut out of the rock and supported by walls on the side of the ravine along which the torrent chafes. On both sides rise steep mountains, partly clothed with wood. One of the most curious spots is the *Limaçon*, a chaos of fallen rocks. Farther on the valley expands gradually into a small cultivated plain.

II. Cauterets.

Hotels. Grand-Hôtel Continental, Gr.-Hôt. d'Angleterre, Boulevard Latapie-Flurin, near the Esplanade, large and fine houses of the first class; the latter is a dépendance of the Hôtel Gassion at Pau (same charges, p. 128; omn. to Pierrefitte 5 fr.); Gr.-Hôt. du Boulevard, same Boulevard; Gr.-Hôt. des Promenades, on the Esplanade, one of the best situated. — *In the town:* Gr.-Hôt. du Parc; Hôt. de la Paix; de Paris, Place St. Martin, well spoken of, R. 3-5, L. $^1/_2$, B. 1, déj. $3^1/_2$, D. 4, pens. 10-12 fr.; Richelieu, Rue de la Raillère, close by; Hôt. de France, Rue St. Louis and Rue Richelieu; de Londres (8 fr.), des Ambassadeurs, Rue Richelieu; de l'Univers, Rue de la Fontaine, beside the church, 7-$8^1/_2$ fr.; etc. — **Furnished Apartments** are abundant, the town being able, it is said, to accommodate 10,000 strangers at a time. Among others: *Chalet des Bains*,

near the Etab. des Œufs; *Villa Villeneuve*, *Maisons Pimorin*, *Toye*, *Baby*, *Genthieu*, Boulevard Latapie-Flurin; *Lannégran*, *Camman*, Avenue du Ma-melon-Vert, parallel to the above Boulevard; *Amade*, Place de la Mairie; *Hôtel de Russie*, Rue de Belfort, to the right beyond the Mairie; *Quellaien*, *Duhourcau*, and *Marty*, Rue St. Louis, near the Place St. Martin; *Mayou*, *Bérot*, *Byasson*, *Cabrols*, *Flurin*, *Danos*, *Dubertrand*, *Bézy*, *Laborde*, *Vignau*, *Bégué*, Rue de la Raillère, near the Place St. Martin; *Hôtel des Princes*, *Fabères*, *Villeneuve*, *Bordenave*, *Lousteau*, etc., Rue Richelieu. — On the whole prices are high, as much as 12 francs being charged for a room at the first-class hotels during the height of the season (from mid-June to mid-Sept.), 4 fr. for déjeuner, and 5 for dinner. Other hotels charge from 8 to 12 fr. a day (déj. 3-3½, D. 3-4 fr.).

Cafés. *Du Casino des Œufs*; *Café Anglais*, Boulevard Latapie-Flurin; *Grand Café*, Place St. Martin; etc.

Thermal Establishments. *Drinking*: Subscription for 25 days from June 1st to June 19th 5 fr., from June 20th to June 30th 10 fr., from July 1st to August 31st 15 fr., from Sept. 1st to Sept. 30th 6 fr., and from Oct. 1st to May 31st 3 fr. — *Baths and Douches*: 25 c. to 3 fr. according to the time of year, the hour, and the establishment.

Cabs. Drive in the town, 2 pers. 1, 4 pers. 1½ fr.; ascent to La Raillère, 3-4 fr.; to Mauhourat, Petit St. Sauveur, and Le Pré, 3½ and 5 fr.; to Le Bois 5 and 6 fr.; descent from La Raillère, 1½ and 2 fr. — Per hour, in the town, 2½ and 3½ fr.; outside the town, 5 and 6 fr. the first hr. and 3 and 4 fr. per hr. afterwards.

Omnibus. To Pierrefitte, see p. 148; to La Raillère, 75 c. up, and 25 c. down.

Carriages, Horses, and Donkeys for hire in large numbers. Carriage, per day 20 to 25 fr. (bargaining necessary). — Tariff for horses indicated below at the beginning of each excursion. Donkeys are usually ⅕ cheaper than horses.

Guides. These number about 60 and are divided into two classes, the first class having a white cloth crown above their badge. The best mountain-guides are *J.-P.* and *Dom. Latapie*, *Dom. Pont*, *Pierre*, *Jean-Marie*, and *Dom. Bordenave*, *Jos. Barrère*, *Paul Batan*, *Paul*, *Jean*, and *Math. Genthieu*. The charges are given at the head of each excursion. The usual charge is 15 fr. a day, and the guide's provisions, except on the return journey.

Casino, at the Thermes des Œufs. Subscription, including reserved seats at entertainments: in the middle of the season, for 1, 2, 3 and 4 weeks, 23, 42, 60, and 75 fr.; cheaper at beginning and end of season (see bills). Seats in the theatre: in the middle of the season, reserved, 4 fr.; front row, 3 fr.

Post and Telegraph Office, at the Hôtel de Ville.

English Church Service in summer (French Church).

Cauterets (3055 ft.) is a small town of 1685 inhab., very beautifully situated in a valley encompassed by lofty mountains and on the banks of the torrent of the same name. The town contains nothing more noteworthy than the magnificent hotels in the new quarter to the W., near the Esplanade, and this promenade itself with the Etablissement des Œufs (view, see p. 152), to which perhaps may be added the new Gothic church. As a thermal station, however, it ranks amongst the first not only in the Pyrenees, but in the whole of France; while it is also one of the chief centres for excursions in the High Pyrenees. Though the season only lasts from June to October inclusive, the town is visited annually by about 20,000 patients and tourists.

The centre of the town is the *Place St. Martin*, at the end of the

Rue Richelieu, the continuation of the Pierrefitte road, and the adjoining *Place de la Mairie*. These squares are the termini for the public conveyances. From the former diverge the streets leading to the chief bathing-establishments, except the Etablissement des Œufs, which is situated on the Esplanade, to the left of the farther side of the Place de la Mairie and of the Gave. The Mairie contains a new *Relief-Plan of the Central Pyrenees* (1 : 5000), by M. Wallon.

The Waters of Cauterets contain chiefly sulphur and sodium, but there are also sulphate and alkaline waters. They are supplied by 24 *Springs*, several of which are very copious. They are, in fact, the most copious in the Pyrenees, yielding about 440,000 gallons per day. They vary greatly in temperature (61 to 131° Fahr.) and even in composition, though not so much in this latter respect as the waters of Bagnères-de-Luchon (p. 176). Cauterets possesses nine establishments, admirably arranged for the requirements of drinking, bathing, douches, inhalation, and pulverization.

The Thermes des Œufs, called also simply *Les Œufs*, are the principal and the most remarkable of these establishments. This huge building was erected in 1867-69 at the foot of the wooded slopes of the Péguère and between the Promenades de l'Esplanade and des Lacets (p. 152). It is fed by the six *Sources des Œufs*, about $1^1/_4$ M. to the S., which supply no less than 132,000 gallons a day. It contains a swimming-bath of running water, 22 yds. long and 9 yds. wide. The waters of this establishment are principally used in the treatment of chlorosis, anæmia, and diseases of the skin and mucous membranes. The springs have a temperature of 131° Fahr., but at the buvette of the establishment the water is only 113°; at the buvette beside the springs (p. 150) 129°. The offices of the company that rents the waters are also at Les Œufs, while the first floor is occupied by the *Casino*, which comprises reading and card rooms, a café-restaurant, and a theatre.

The Thermes de César et des Espagnols, to the S.E. of the town, at the end of a street leading from the Place St. Martin, occupy a plain building in the neo-classic style, dating from 1844. The baths here are fed on the left by the *Source de César* (118° Fahr.), so named in remembrance of an alleged visit of Cæsar to Cauterets; on the right by the *Source des Espagnols* (116° Fahr.), both of which issue a little higher up from the Montagne de Peyraoute. These waters, the most powerful in Cauterets, are chiefly used in the treatment of chronic diseases of the respiratory organs and in scrofulous and syphilitic affections, skin diseases, and rheumatism. The establishment is open all the year round.

The Néothermes or *Bains du Rocher-Rieumiset*, constructed in 1863 and enlarged in 1879, are situated in a pretty garden, about 200 yds. to the N. of the preceding. They may be reached directly by a passage through the Hôtel du Parc. They are fed by three springs, viz. those of *César-Nouveau* (113° F.), *Le Rocher* (104° F.), which

contains iron, and *Ricumiset* (61° F.). These waters are specially adapted to cutaneous and rheumatic affections for persons of nervous and irritable temperament.

Higher up, on the slope of the Montagne de Peyraoute, are the less important establishments of *Pauze-Vieux* and *Pauze-Nouveau* (the second closed at present).

The Etablissement de la Raillère, the most important of all, is situated nearly a mile to the S. of the town on the road (omnibus, see p. 150) on the right bank, forming a continuation of the Rue de la Raillère; but there is a short-cut for pedestrians beginning on the Esplanade. The establishment has been rebuilt, with galleries and promenades. It is situated 3640 ft. above the sea-level (580 ft. above Cauterets), on a declivity of the mountain covered with fallen rocks (raillère). It is built over the three springs which feed it (103°, 100° and 91° Fahr.) and which are so abundant that even horses are treated. In the cure of diseases of the respiratory organs it vies with Eaux-Bonnes (p. 142). It is open from 6 to 11 a. m. and from 2 to 5 p. m. Beside it is now the *Etablissement du Bois Inférieur*.

The Raillère commands a good view, but a still finer prospect is enjoyed from the next buvette where two small waterfalls are in sight.

Still more distant are the *Buvette de Mauhourat* (122° Fahr.) and the *Buvette des Œufs* (129°); the *Etablissement du Petit-St. Sauveur* (111°), the *Etablissement du Pré* (108°), an unpretending establishment independent of the others (buvette gratis); the *Petit Mauhourat* (121°); the *Source des Yeux* (68°); and finally, higher up, the *Etablissement du Bois* (109° and 91°), the most remote (3670 ft.) but highly esteemed for the cure of rheumatism. The Cascade de Cérisey (p. 154) lies only 1/4 hr. higher up.

Cauterets has fine promenades. The *Esplanade des Œufs* is the favourite resort of visitors during the concerts which are given at 1 and at 8.30 p. m., and it is flanked by little shops of all kinds.

The Esplanade is an excellent point from which to take one's bearings, before starting on excursions from Cauterets. The *Péguère*, to the S., behind Les Œufs, has already been mentioned. Beyond the *Raillère* is the *Pic de Hourmégas*, separated from the Péguère by the *Vallée de Jéret*, in which is the road to the Lac de Gaube, etc. To the left of the Hourmégas is the *Vallée de Lutour*, on the crest of the opposite side of which rise several bare peaks, with patches of snow even in summer. The chief of these is the *Pic d'Ardiden*, on the other side of which is St. Sauveur; then from E. to W., above the town, the *Pic de Pène-Nère*, the *Pic de Viscos*, the *Pic de Cabaliros*, to the left of the valley of the Cave de Cauterets, and the *Monné*, separated from the Péguère by the *Vallée de Cambasque*, in which is the Lac Bleu, etc.

On the slope of the *Péguère* (ascent, see p. 155) extends the *Promenade des Lacets* or *de Cambasque*, which is not fatiguing and affords a fine view at the exit from the wood, about 25 min. from Les Œufs. The road leading to the Raillère route diverges to the left, about 1/4 M. farther on.

The *Promenade du Mamelon-Vert* continues the avenue of the same name down the valley. It is deficient in shade. At the end we turn to the right, cross the Gave, and regain the town by the Pierrefitte road. The *Mamelon-Vert* is the name given to the knoll on the right, between the promenade and the Gave; it commands a fine view of the head of the valley. — In the town itself, above the Pierrefitte road and near the Néothermes, is a pretty and shady *Park* now somewhat neglected, though still a resort of the visitors. — Above this passes the road which leads, on the slope of the *Montagne de Peyraoute*, to the (1¼ M.) hamlet of *Cancéru*, well shaded in the afternoon and offering beautiful views. We may descend hence to the Pierrefitte road, which we reach near the junction with the Mamelon-Vert road. — Still higher is the road to the *Grange de la Reine Hortense*, issuing from the Etablissement de Pauze-Vieux. It is identical with that to the Col de Riou (p. 158). The grange (barn), which is reached in ½ hr., owes its name to the fact that Queen Hortense, when a vistor to Cauterets, was once detained at it by a storm.

III. Excursions.

To THE MONNÉ, 3½-4 hrs., 6½ hrs. there and back; an easy excursion, practicable on horseback; guide 12 fr., horse 12 fr. Pedestrians turn to the left from the Avenue du Mamelon-Vert and skirt the Péguère from E. to W., by the (¾ hr.) *Vallée de Cambasque*, cross the torrent of that name, also called Paladère, and ascend to the (1¾ hr.) *Plateau des Cinquets* (5725 ft.; refreshments), 1 hr. from the top. — The bridle-path follows the road to the Raillère, and crossing the bridge, turns to the right and skirts the flank of the Péguère until (¾ hr.) it joins the preceding path. The horses must be left at the inn, about 450 ft. below the summit. — The **Monné** or *Soum de Monné* (8935 ft.) is one of the nearest and most conspicuous mountains seen from Cauterets, for which it serves as a kind of barometer, the weather being foretold from the state of the mists in which it is often enveloped. The S. side, towards the Val du Lys, is precipitous, but the N. side descends in a gentle slope towards the valley of Labat-de-Bun, and ends in a slaty crest, from which there is a wide view, extending W. to the head of the Val d'Azun; N. over the flanks of the Cabaliros (see below) to the plains of Tarbes and Béarn; E. to the Pic du Midi de Bigorre, the Néouvielle, and Mont-Perdu; and S. to the Vignemale and the Balaïtous. In the middle distance, to the S., is the Lac Bleu or Lac d'Illéou (p. 154).

To the CABALIROS, 4 hrs., there and back 6 hrs.; guide 10 fr., horse (see below) 10 fr. We follow the Promenade du Mamelon-Vert for about ½ M., then turn to the left behind the shed of a large white house, and skirt the flanks of the Peyrenère to the

(1 hr.) *Plateau d'Esponne* (refreshments). Thence we gain the (1/2 hr.) E. buttresses of the Monné, beyond which the ascent becomes more difficult. After passing a (1/2 hr.) slaty terrace we reach the (1 hr.) *Col de Contente* (6940 ft.; fine view), on which is an inn. Horses can ascend still farther, though the guides sometimes assert the contrary. The rest of the climb is easy. — The rounded **Cabaliros** (7655 ft.) is the principal summit to the N. of Cauterets. It is crowned by an ordnance-survey tower. The *Panorama from the top, one of the finest in the Pyrenees, resembles that from the Monné, but excels it as it includes the valley of Argelès.

To the Lac Bleu or Lac d'Illéou, 5 hrs. on foot, 4 hrs. on horseback, there and back; guide 10, horse 8 fr. We take the route to the Monné as far as the Plateau de Cambasque (see above); then, following the valley, we pass (3 hrs.) in front of the fine *Cascade d'Illéou* and farther on the little *Lac Noir*. — The **Lac Bleu** or *Lac d'Illéou* is 6515 ft. above the sea and covers nearly 30 acres. Its lonely situation and wild surroundings contrast strikingly with the deep blue tint of its limpid waters. To the E. rises the *Pic de Nets* (8025 ft.). The return may be made to the S.E. by the *Pont d'Espagne* (see below); it thus requires 4 1/2 hrs., and the guide is paid 5 fr. extra.

*To the Lac de Gaube *(Pic Peguère)*, 2 1/2 hrs. on foot, 4 1/4-4 1/2 hrs. there and back; guide (not needed) 8, horse 8 fr. This is one of the favourite excursions from Cauterets, as far at least as the Cascade de Cérisey, and there is a carriage-road as far as the Pont d'Espagne, beyond which the road is continued in the valley of Marcadaou (p. 156). Passing the Raillère and the other establishments in the upper part of the valley, we reach the *Val de Jéret*, on the right, and skirt its torrent, the bed of which is almost blocked with huge boulders. The mountain on the opposite side is the Péguère (see below). Farther on, beyond the Etablissement du Bois and a small cascade, the roar of the (1 1/4 hr.) imposing **Cascade de Cérisey* (4050 ft. above the sea-level) becomes audible. The stream is split into two by a mass of rock from either side of which it falls into a deep abyss between two walls of rock. The best time to see it is between 10 o'clock and noon, when rainbows are formed above it by the sun. There are two more cascades of less importance farther on. We traverse striking scenery to (about 3/4 hr. beyond the Cascade) the *Pont d'Espagne* (4880 ft.; Hotel and Restaurant), a primitive bridge at which there is another cascade and where the torrent and valley of Marcadaou debouch. For this valley and the excursions in it see p. 156. — The path to the (3/4 hr.) Lac de Gaube, rather laborious for the first 1/4 hr., continues to ascend the left bank of the torrent. The scenery becomes more and more wild and at last there appears before us the Vignemale with its glacier. The **Lac de Gaube** (5865 ft.) is about 800 yds. long and 350 yds. wide, with an area of about 40 acres, in the middle of a wide and bleak basin formed by the bare sides of the *Pic Meya* (8080 ft.) on the E. and the *Pic de Gaube* (7540 ft.) to the W., etc. It abounds in trout and is fed by the glacier of the Vignemale, to the S. (see

below). On the bank of the lake stand an inn (fixed tariff) and a monument in memory of a young Englishman and his wife who were drowned in the lake in 1832.

To THE PÉGUÈRE, 3½ hrs., there and back 6 hrs.; guide 8 fr. We follow the above route to (1¼ hr.) the Cascade de Cérisey, a little beyond which is a bridge, with a placard, indicating the forest-path to the Péguère. This route ascends in zigzags above precipices 1650 ft. high, on the S. of the mountain, and reaches (½ hr.) the last spring (4395 ft.) on this slope. From the point (5250 ft.), ½ hr. farther up, where the road forks, we ascend the ravine of the *Laoune*, by means of paths, difficult to find without a guide, and which cease before the summit is reached. — The **Pic Péguère** (7175 ft.) is the wooded mountain which rises above Cauterets behind the Thermes des Œufs, and which appears in the vista of the valley as we come from Pierrefitte. A magnificent view is commanded by the paths at a height of 6500 ft. above the sea, or 3445 ft. above the town. To the E. and W. the view extends into the valleys of Jéret and Cambasque, but it is more or less limited by the higher peaks that bound these valleys, as well as by those of the chain to the S. of the Péguère.

To THE VIGNEMALE, 2 days (1 day from Gavarnie, see p. 164), the night being spent at the Lac de Gaube, whence it is ascended in 5-7 hrs. The ascent is laborious and only adapted to experienced climbers with good guides. A single tourist should take two guides. Rope and axe necessary. Guide, 30 fr. for one day or for two. Riding is practicable as far as the Hourquette d'Ossoue (col), and thence, on the return, to Gavarnie. — To the *Lac de Gaube*, see p. 154. Pedestrians may shorten the journey by rowing up the lake (1 fr. each). Thence we continue to ascend beside the torrent, which forms several cascades, the chief of which is the *Cascade d'Esplumous* or *de Splumouse*, 1¾ hr. from the inn on the lake. The ascent of the Pic de Chabarrou (p. 156), on the right, is usually made from the second cascade, beside which is a hut. Farther on we reach the *Oulettes du Vignemale* or *de Gaube* (7210 ft.), the last terrace in the valley, 1 hr. beyond the chief cascade. Hence we have a grand view of the N. glacier and the precipices of the mountain, which rears itself to a sheer height of more than 3000 ft. To the left rise the Pic d'Araillé and the Pic de Labassa, both ascended from this side (p. 157). From this point to the Vignemale there is a choice of two routes. One leads to the S.E. to (1 hr.) the *Hourquette d'Ossoue* or *Col du Vignemale* (8985 ft.), either by the base of the glacier or, which is much better, by the buttresses of the Araillé. Beyond the col the *Glacier d'Ossoue*, or E. glacier of the Vignemale, extends on the right upwards of 1½ M. in length and ½ M. in width. It is advisable not to cross this glacier, but to skirt it so as to avoid the most dangerous part, which will take 1½ hour. Finally we cross a little bit of it, using the rope; then the névé between the *Montferrat* or *Cerbillona* on the left, and the *Pique Longue* on the right, arriving in ½ hr. at the foot of the latter, the principal peak, which is climbed in 20 min. more across loose red slate. — The second route, longer by about 1¾ hr., but easier, leads to the S.W. over the (1 hr.) *Col des Mulets* or *des Oulettes* (7600 ft.), on the frontier, whence bending to the left, we continue at the same level for 20 min. as far as the *Clot de la Hount*, a ravine with a very dangerous glacier (falling stones) which should be avoided, whence we climb the (2 hrs. 20 min.) *Montferrat* and so reach the névé of the Glacier d'Ossoue; thence to the foot of the *Pique Longue* (¼ hr.; see above). — The **Vignemale** (10,820 ft.) is the highest summit in the French Pyrenees,

the Monts-Maudits with the Néthou (11,160 ft.) and the Maladetta (11,005 ft.), the Pic Posets (11,045 ft.), the Mont-Perdu (10,660 ft.), and the Cylindre (10,920 ft.) being in Spain. It rises in nine peaks, the chief of which is the Pique Longue, separated by an impassable chasm from the *Petit Vignemale* (10,515 ft.), which may be ascended in 1½ hr. from the Hourquette d'Ossoue. The panorama from the Vignemale is most extensive, but it only includes a chaotic assemblage of mountains, hard to identify at this height, except those of the Marboré group. The Grottes Russell, near the *Col de Cerbillona* (10,500 ft.), 20 min. below the summit, have unfortunately been buried by the glacier, but they are to be restored, and a new grotto has already been excavated 260 ft. higher up. — The descent may be made on the Gavarnie side (see p. 164).

To the **Valley of Marcadaou** or *Marcadau*, 3½ hrs. on foot, 2½-3 hrs. on horseback as far as the Escalier de la Pourtère, there and back 6 or 5 hrs., 1 hr. more to the Cabane de Marcadaou; guide (not needed) and horse 12 and 15 fr. — To the (2 hrs.) *Pont d'Espagne*, see p. 154. We cross the bridge and ascend beside the Gave de Marcadaou as far as the (¾ hr.) *Plateau de Cayan* (5255 ft.), a charming and solitary region amidst lofty mountains, covered with woods affording a retreat to bears and heath-cocks. Path to the Lac Bleu, see p. 154. Farther on we leave to the left the *Vallon de Poueytrenous* or *Poueytrémous*, which ascends towards the Pic de Chabarrou (see below), cross the torrent, and reach the (¾ hr.) *Escalier de la Pourtère* (5510 ft.). We recross the torrent and reach in ½ hr. the *Cabane de Marcadaou* (5905 ft.), in the meadows of the *Pla de la Gole*. Hence the Som de Baccimaille (see below) is seen to advantage.

The hut, which has room for six persons, is an excellent starting-point for other excursions, especially for the tolerably easy ascent of the *Som de Baccimaille* or *Grande Fache* (9905 ft.), which requires 3¾ hrs.; and for the difficult ascent of the *Pic d'Enfer*, or *Quejeda de Pundillos* (10,210 ft.), in Spain, which requires 4¾ or 7 hrs., according to the route taken from the Port de Marcadaou (see below), the shorter one leading by the glacier to the N., the longer by the Col de Sallent. These excursions should, of course, not be made without a guide.

The track along the valley is continued to the (2 hrs.) *Port de Marcadaou* (8370 ft.), on the frontier, whence the *Baths of Panticosa* (p. 148) may be reached in 2½-3 hrs., with guide.

To the Pic de Chabarrou, about 7 hrs., 4½ hrs. from the Lac de Gaube; guide 15 fr., or, including the return by the Valley of Marcadaou, 20 fr. Following the route to the Vignemale as far as the second cascade beyond the Lac de Gaube (p. 154), we there take a path to the right (W.) which leads to (1 hr.) the beautiful *Lac de Chabarrou* (7485 ft.). Thence we ascend straight to the summit in 1¾ hr., by a very steep slope, over debris, a short névé, and some precipitous rocks. The **Pic de Chabarrou** (9550 ft.) is one of the finest ascents in the neighbourhood of Cauterets, both on account of its situation and of its height. From the top the neighbouring Vignemale is particularly well seen, and beyond it the mountains of Spain. The view extends from the Pic d'Anie to Mont-Perdu and the Pic du Midi de Bigorre. — The descent may be made on the N. by the Valley of Marcadaou, viâ the (½ hr.) *Brèche* (8920 ft.), the *Valley* and the (1½ hr.) *Cabane de Poueytrenous*, the (½ hr.) *Plateau de Cayan* (see above), and the (¾ hr.) *Pont d'Espagne* (p. 154).

To the Pic d'Araillé and the Pic de Labassa, about 6½ and 8½ hrs.; guide 15 and 20 fr. We follow the Vignemale route as far as the (5¼ hrs.) *Oulettes de Vignemale*, where we turn to the left, between the slopes of the two mountains, ascending to the left for the first named peak, and

to the right for the second. We pass through gaps, respectively 3/4 and 13/4 hr. from the Oulettes. The **Pic d'Araillé** (9060 ft.) is easily ascended in less than 1/2 hr. from its gap and commands a fine view, in which the Vignemale is conspicuous. — The **Pic Labassa,** *La Sède*, or *La Sède* (9780 ft.), is on the other hand a difficult ascent, in the higher part at least, which requires nearly 1 1/2 hr. from the gap. Its greater height commands a finer view than the Araillé; and even the col commands a beautiful survey. The descent may be made on the side next the valley of Lutour (see below) to the (1-1 1/4 hr.) Lac d'Estom.

To the **Valley of Lutour,** 3 hrs. to the Lac d'Estom, there and back 5 1/2 hrs.; guide (unnecessary) 8, horse 6 fr. This valley opens to the left at the Buvette de Mauhourat (p. 152), at the confluence of the torrents of Marcadaou and Lutour. A little higher up is a *Cascade,* where horses ford the stream, while pedestrians ascend straight on. The steepest part of the path is passed within 1 hr. from the confluence, and the footpath rejoins the bridle-path by means of another bridge. About 2 hrs. from Cauterets we pass a dairy, known as *La Fruitière.* The path by which the Pic d'Ardiden is ascended from this side (see below) diverges to the left; the scenery becomes striking. The slope on the right is well-wooded, while that on the left is seamed and scarred, and terminates in a rugged rocky crest, which culminates in the Pic d'Ardiden. We recross to the left bank at a triple *Cascade,* and the bridle-path ends shortly afterwards at the foot of a crag, which we must ascend to reach the lake. — The **Lac d'Estom** (8205 ft.) is a little smaller than the Lac de Gaube, but no less picturesque. It is colder and contains no fish. On the bank is an inn.

Farther up to the right is a path to the (1 hr.) *Hourquette d'Araillé,* by which we may ascend (with guide) the *Pic d'Araillé* (see above) or reach (about 4 hrs.) the *Lac de Gaube,* thence returning to Cauterets.

Still higher up the valley lie seven lakes of different sizes, known as the *Lacs d'Estom-Soubiran.* About 3 hrs. are required to reach the end of the valley, which is picturesque throughout. From the end we ascend in 1/2 hr. to the *Col d'Estom-Soubiran,* which commands a good view of the Vignemale. — To Gavarnie viâ this Col and the Col de Mallerouge, see below.

To the Pic d'Ardiden viâ Peyraoute, 5 hrs., there and back 8 hrs.; guide 20 fr. This expedition is well worth making. We ascend past the (1/2 hr.) Grange de la Reine Hortense (p. 153) and farther on, to the right (S.W.) towards the crest of the mountain, then turn to the S.E. to the (2 hrs.) *Cabane de Peyraoute,* to which point riding is practicable; and thence to the *Col d'Ardiden.* We next enter a gorge full of fallen rocks and containing the (1 hr.) *Lacs d'Ardiden,* the largest of which (1/2 hr.), the *Lac Grand* (7805 ft.), affords a magnificent spectacle. Thence, crossing some snow, we gain the N. slope of the peak, the ascent of which is toilsome, and in 1 hr. more reach the top of the **Pic d'Ardiden** (9805 ft.), which is composed, like its sides, of a chaos of rocks produced by the disintegration of the granite. There is a magnificent view of the plain, and the surrounding valleys, as well as of the Balaïtous, Vignemale, the mountains round Gavarnie, Néouvielle, etc. — The descent may be made to Cauterets viâ the *Valley of Lutour* (see above) in 3-3 1/2 hrs. The ascent is also sometimes made from this side. Another descent leads to (4 hrs.) Luz (p. 159), viâ the lakes mentioned above, the *Col d'Astrets,* and the *Vallée du Bernazaou.*

To Gavarnie by the Mountains (route viâ Pierrefitte and

St. Sauveur, see p. 148 and below). — 1. *Viâ the Lac de Gaube,* about 10 hrs., guide 15 fr. (unnecessary), and as much for the return. The whole expedition may now be made on horseback. We follow the Vignemale route as far as the *Hourquette d'Ossoue* (about 6 hrs.; p. 132) and thence descend to the S. towards the (1/2 hr.) *Gave d'Ossoue,* the right bank of which we follow. To the left is the *Cascade des Oulettes,* and farther on are the (1/2 hr.) *Bassin des Oulettes* (6100 ft.), the *Pas des Oulettes,* the (1/2 hr.) *Plan de Millas* (5715 ft.), and the (1 hr.) *Cabanes de Saussé* (5480 ft.). Thence the path, which remains on the right bank, is practicable for horses. It descends rapidly through wood, and crosses the torrent 1/2 hr. before *Gavarnie* (p. 162). — 2. *Viâ the Valley of Lutour,* about 11 hrs.; guide as above. There are two exits from the head of the valley: (1) The *Col d'Estom-Soubiran* (6 1/2-7 hrs.; see p. 157), whence we descend into the *Vallée d'Ossoue* (see above). (2) The *Col de Mallerouge* (9315 ft.), 1 hr. to the E. of the first Lac d'Estom-Soubiran, and to the N. of the *Pic de Mallerouge* (9740 ft.). Thence we keep to the S. viâ the (1/2 hr.) *Col de Houle* (8860 ft.) and the (1/2 hr.) *Cabane de Salent* (6510 ft.), and thence again to the E. by the valley of the *Gave d'Aspe* (chaos), and finally once more to the S. to *Gavarnie* (see p. 162).

To THE PIC DE VISCOS, 3 1/2 hrs., there and back 5 1/2 hrs., a little less on horseback; shorter from St. Sauveur (p. 160). Guide 10 fr. An ascent of 2 hrs. takes us by the Grange de la Reine Hortense (p. 153) to the *Col de Riou* (6375 ft.), on which there is a small inn, 1/2 hr. from the top of the *Pène-Nère* (about 6560 ft.), whence also the view is very extensive. Thence following to the N. the E. slope of the mountain, we reach in 3/4 hr. the foot of the peak and easily climb in a N.W. direction to the **Pic de Viscos** (7025 ft.). The view is finest on the side next the plain, and extends over the mountains as far as the Balaïtous, the Vignemale, Mont Perdu, and Néouvielle. Among the nearer peaks, the Cabaliros in the W., the Monné in the S., and the Bergons in the S.E. attract attention.

To LUZ AND ST. SAUVEUR OVER THE COL DE RIOU (by the road, see p. 148 and below), about 4 hrs.; guide and horse, 8 fr. each as far as the col, 15 fr. to Luz, 10 only for the guide if he is on horseback. As far as the Col de Riou, see above. We descend by pasture-grounds and the *Granges de Cureilles* (4165 ft.), to the little village of *Grust*, whence proceeding to the S.E. viâ *Sazos* and *Sassis*, we reach Luz or St. Sauveur in about 3/4 hour.

23. Luz, St. Sauveur, and their Environs.

I. From Lourdes to Luz and St. Sauveur (Barèges).

RAILWAY to (13 M.) *Pierrefitte-Nestalas* as for Cauterets (p. 148), thence road (8-9 M.) and diligence (3 fr.) in the season in 1 3/4 hour. Carriages also during the season as for Cauterets.

Our road leaves the Cauterets road on the right, beyond Pierrefitte, crosses the Gave de Cauterets to the village of *Soulom,* and a short distance farther the Gave de Pau. Here, about 1 1/4 M. from Pierrefitte, begins the **Gorge de Luz,* resembling that on the Cauterets road. It is about 5 M. long and the road in many places is cut

BAGNÈRES-DE-BIGORRE
ARGELÈS-DE-BIGORRE
Vallée de Campan
Vallée de Lesponne
Vallée d'Aure
Vallée de Barèges
Vallée de Luz
Vallée de Gavarnie
Vallée de Gèdre
Vallée de Cauterets
Vallée de Saligos
Vallée de Pierrefitte
Vallée de Labat-de-Bun
Vallée de Sazos
Vallée de Gripp
Vallée de Sarroua
Vallée de Tramezaygues
Vallée de Tramassets
Vallée de Lis
Vallée de Lourdes
Vallée de Lourdes à Pau
Vallée de Lourdes à Tarbes
Vallée de Lourdes à Bagnères
Vallée de Lourdes à Argelès
Vallée de Lourdes à Cauterets
Vallée de Lourdes à Luz
Vallée de Lourdes à Barèges
Vallée de Lourdes à Gavarnie
Vallée de Lourdes à Gèdre
Vallée de Lourdes à Saligos
Vallée de Lourdes à Pierrefitte
Vallée de Lourdes à Labat-de-Bun
Vallée de Lourdes à Sazos
Vallée de Lourdes à Gripp
Vallée de Lourdes à Sarroua
Vallée de Lourdes à Tramezaygues
Vallée de Lourdes à Tramassets
Vallée de Lourdes à Lis
Vallée de Lourdes à

Tournegas
Ardiden
L. Grand
Mne
Pourtère de l'Homme
Sia
Pic de Bergons
Pont de Sia
Pic de Bugarach
Pic de Nemouvielle
Lac de Cap de Long
Lac de Loustallet
Lac d'Orrédon
Pic de Bassia
Rocher isolé
Soulein
Col de Portet
Artigusse
P. Meya
P. de Chanchou
P. Escaries
Pragnères
Trimbareille
P. de Mousqua
P. de l'Espade
Pic Long
P. Méchant
P. d'Arrouyes
Eget
Pont d'Aragnouet
Tramezaygues
Lac d'Estibeoulet
Soum de Cestrede
Pic de Pebignou
Sources chaudes
Bujaruelo
Gedre
Gedre-dessus
Pic de Campbieil
Aragnouet
le Plan
Pic de las Agulhas
Soum de Mate
P. de Soumaoute
Saussa
Pont de la Garderte
Camplong
Mene
P. des Aiguillous
P. de Cameille
P. de Bert
P. d'Arre
Soum Blanc de Sécugnac
Counnely
Rivière
Héas
Sangué
Barailles
P. de la Cela
P. de Garlitz
Moudang
Sarroues
Granges
P. de Lourdes
P. de Lary
Pic de Pimené
Gavarnie
Rivière
P. Mourgat
Cirque de Troumpusse
P. de Troumouse
P. de Bataillence
Pic de Lia
P. de Cribère
Pic Blanc
P. Bernatoire
Pendres
Portillon
P. d'Estaubé
Port-Vieil
P. de la Munia
Mont Arrouye
Pic d'Arrioumère
Bouchero
P. du Gabietou
Cirque de Gavarnie
P. de l'Astazou
P. de Pinede
P. du Barrancou
Prégoun
Pico Méné
Col de la Vacas
Port d'Ourdisseton
le Taillon
le Casque
la Tour
l'Epaule
le Cylindre
MONT-PERDU
Vallée d'Aure
Vallée de Barèges
Vallée de Gavarnie
Vallée de Campbieil
Vallée de Troumouse

out along the rocks or supported on walls built at the side of the torrent. After about $2^1/_2$-3 M. we pass, on the right, the *Pont de l'Echelle* and the *Pont d'Arsimpé*, neither of which we cross as the opposite bank is exposed to avalanches of stones. The road gradually ascends until it is about 260 ft. above the stream. — $4^1/_2$ M. *Pont de la Crabe*, a lofty bridge over a ravine on the left, beyond which a tolerably wide grassy basin is entered. — We cross the ($5^1/_2$ M.) *Pont de la Hieladère* to the left bank, but in order to reach Luz recross by the (7 M.) *Pont de Pescadère*, beyond which the road runs under a fine avenue of poplars. To the left is the ruined *Château de Ste. Marie*. — *Luz*, see below.

Those who are bound for St. Sauveur continue straight on past the Pont de Pescadère, and ascend beyond the confluence of the *Gave de Gavarnie* and the *Gave de Bastan*, which unite to form the Gave de Pau. — *St. Sauveur*, see p. 160.

II. Luz and St. Sauveur.

Luz. — **Hotels.** *Hôt. de l'Univers, where the public conveyances halt, R. $3^1/_2$-4, B. $1^1/_4$, déj. 3, D. 4 fr.; Hôt. de France *(Esquièze)*, at the bridge; des Pyrénées. — **Cafés.** *Divan*, at the Hôt. de l'Univers; *Globe*, at the Hôt. de France; *de l'Europe* (Club). — Etablissement Thermal. *Buvette*, 20 c. per glass of mineral water; subscription per month, 10 fr. from June 25th to Sept. 14th, at other seasons, half these charges; baths and douches from 1 to $2^1/_2$ fr., etc.

Luz (2425 ft.), a small town of 1507 inhab., is situated on the Barèges road and on the Bastan, in a valley of which it was at one time the practically independent capital. It is much frequented in summer, both on account of its situation, and the vicinity of the dependent village of St. Sauveur, as well as on account of the *Thermes*, erected in 1881, when the waters of the *Barzun Spring* (81° F., resembling those of St. Sauveur) were conducted from Barèges to the town. The 'Etablissement' is situated to the left of the road to St. Sauveur, which diverges to the right from the road to Barèges, a little beyond the coach-office. The waters are specially adapted for nervous diseases. The *Church*, which is reached by the street to the left, at the beginning of the above-mentioned road, is a curious structure assigned to the Templars and possibly in parts as old as the 12th cent., but with many later additions. Not only is it embattled and fortified like many other churches in this part of the country, but it is also enclosed in a line of defensive works. The apse is flanked by two towers of which the one on the N. side is a kind of keep. The Romanesque N. portal is interesting. At the W. end, on the right, is a large 16th cent. chapel. In the Templars' tower there is a small museum of antiquities ($^1/_2$ fr.).

An interesting stroll (1 hr. there and back) may be made to the very picturesque ruins of the *Château Ste. Marie*, situated on a hill, beyond the Bastan.

To the S. of the town, charmingly situated on a knoll, in view of St. Sauveur, is the *Chapelle de Solférino*, a fine modern building in the Romanesque style on the site of one formerly belonging to a hermitage there.

The *Excursions* from Luz are practically identical with those from St. Sauveur.

St. Sauveur lies little more than $^1/_2$ M. from Luz. The road passes the Thermes of Luz, and crosses the Gave de Gavarnie; there is also a short-cut for pedestrians, near the bridge.

St. Sauveur. — **Hotels.** Hôt. de Paris; de France, R. from 2, B. 1 déj. 3, D. 4, pens. 10 fr.; des Princes; des Bains, pens. 8-11 fr. — **Furnished Apartments.** *Villa Beau-Site; Padre; Villa Eugénie; Villa Duconte.* — *Restaurant de l'Hôtel de France*, with café; *Restaurant Français.*

Etablissements Thermaux. *Bains des Dames*, use of the water for drinking and gargling, 6 fr. for 30 days, between June 15th and Sept. 6th, 2 fr. at other seasons; baths $^3/_4$-$2^1/_2$ fr., according to hour and season. — *Thermes de la Hontalade*, baths 1 fr. 30 c.-2 fr.

Guides and Horse-hirers. *Henri-André Lons, Arnaud Noguès, Fr. Serp, Jean-Marie Thomas.* — Tariff given below for each excursion.

English Church Service in summer.

St. Sauveur (2525 ft.) is a prettily situated village of modern origin, consisting of a single street, running up the E. slope of the *Som de Laze* (6025 ft.), above the gorge through which rushes the Gave de Gavarnie. Many tourists visit it, especially those on the way to Gavarnie, but the place owes its chief importance to its warm sulphureous springs, beside which two 'Etablissements' have been erected. The principal of these, the *Etablissement des Dames*, fed by the spring of that name (93° F.), is situated in the middle of the village, to the left as we arrive. The mineral waters are chiefly used for maladies of women and for nervous diseases. Below the establishment is a fine public promenade, known as the *Jardin Anglais*, sloping steeply down to the stream, which is crossed by a bridge giving access to the direct road from Luz to the Pont Napoléon (see below).

The *Thermes de la Hontalade* are situated 820 ft. above St. Sauveur, on a plateau reached in 10 min. by an easy ascent beginning almost directly opposite the first-named establishment. The water of La Hontalade (70° F.) resembles that of Les Dames, but contains a considerably larger proportion of sulphate of soda. The *Plateau de la Hontalade*, which commands a fine view, is a favourite resort.

The *Church* of St. Sauveur, near the upper end of the village, is a modern Gothic edifice, with a tasteful spire. — A little farther on, on the road to Gavarnie, the **Pont Napoléon*, 220 ft. long, with a span of 150 ft., crosses the stream at a height of 212 ft. At a distance the bridge looks like a gigantic portal to the ravine, especially when viewed from the bank of the stream.

III. Excursions.

To Cauterets, over the *Col de Riou*, see p. 158; to the *Pic d'Ardiden*, see p. 157.

To the Pic de Viscos (7025 ft.), $3^1/_2$ hrs., there and back $5^1/_2$ hrs.; guide 10, horse 8 fr. This easy and interesting excursion follows the Col de Riou route to the N.W. as far as the (1 hr.) *Granges de Cureilles* (p. 158), then leads to the right in the direction of the Pic, which is scaled on the N.W. side (see p. 158).

To the Pic de Bergons, from Luz, the path from St. Sauveur being very little shorter and impracticable for horses. This is a favourite and interesting excursion, 2½ hrs. on foot, 2 hrs. on horseback, there and back 4-4½ hrs.; guide (unnecessary) and horse, 6 fr. each. We leave Luz by the Barèges road (p. 165) and ascend to the S. viâ *Villenave* (2625 ft.), by a well-beaten track which presents no difficulty. The ***Pic de Bergons** (6790 ft.), an almost isolated mountain, is one of the best points of view in the district. The panorama to the S., embracing the huge group of the Cirque de Gavarnie, is only inferior to that from the Piméné (p. 164); but even from this point the great waterfall is seen, more than 14 M. distant as the crow flies. From W. to E. the principal summits seen are the Balaïtous, the peaks of Monné, Viscos, and Ardiden, the Vignemale, the Gabiétou, Taillon, Fausse Brèche, Brèche de Roland, Casque, Tour, the Pic and the Cylindre du Marboré, Mont Perdu, the peaks of Estaubé, Munia, Bergons, Maucapéra, Piméné, Long, Néouvielle, Arbizon, Tourmalet, Midi de Bigorre, etc.

To the Pic de Néré, 3¾ hrs. from Luz, there and back 6½ hrs., a delightful excursion which can be made on horseback part of the way; guide 12, horse 10 fr.; adders abound. We leave Luz by the Barèges road and after 45 min. cross the stream. Beyond (1 hr.) *Sers* (3705 ft.) we continue to ascend to the N. to the (1½ hr.) *Cabanes d'Arbeousse* (5850 ft.), whence we bear to the W. to the (1 hr.) *Col d'Arbéousse* (7105 ft.; fine view). A climb of ½ hr. along the arête brings us to the summit of the ***Pic de Néré** or *de Nère* (7875 ft.), which affords a fine view not unlike that from the Pic de Bergons (see above). — Ascent from Barèges, see p. 143.

To the Cirque de Gavarnie, one of the principal excursions among the Pyrenees which should not be missed, 12 M. by road to Gavarnie, thence 1 hr. by bridle-path; guide unnecessary; carriage 20-30, horse 8 fr. By starting early the ascent of the Piméné (p. 164) may be included in the day's excursion. — The roads from Luz and St. Sauveur unite a short distance to the S. of the latter at the *Pont Napoléon* (p. 160). Thence we ascend the right bank to the foot of the Bergons (see above) and enter the *Gorge de St. Sauveur*, formerly fortified. — Near the (3 M.) *Pont de Sia* (3610 ft.) are a waterfall and a ruined bridge, beyond which the ravine expands into a little valley. — 4½ M. *Pont d'Arroucat* or *Desdouroucat* (2840 ft.). On the left is seen the Piméné, concealing the crest of the Cirque de Gavarnie, which, however, comes into view at the end of the little basin which our road now crosses.

7½ M. **Gèdre** (3265 ft.; *Hôt. Palasset*, dear; *Hôt. des Voyageurs*), a village at the junction of the Héas and Campbieil valleys, on the left, with the Gavarnie valley, on the right. Behind the hotel is an uninteresting 'grotto', or rather cutting, whence the Gave de Héas issues (50 c.). Excursions from Gèdre, see p. 164. Guide, Et. Theil.

The road next traverses the *Chaos*, formed of huge rocks fallen from a spur of the *Coumély*. The valley becomes arid and desolate. Farther on we begin distinctly to see the Cirque de Gavarnie.

12 M. **Gavarnie** (5085 ft.; **Hôtel des Voyageurs*; guides, see below), a small village originally formed around a hospice of the Templars.

The ***Cirque de Gavarnie** appears to be quite close to the village, but it is an hour's walk to its entrance and ½ hr. more to its head (horse 3, donkey 2 fr.). The illusion arises from the vastness of its proportions for which there is no standard of measurement. The entrance to the Cirque is readily reached (**Inn*), but to gain the foot of the highest waterfall is more difficult, and during the afternoon a wide berth should be given to the cliffs from which stones frequently fall. This superb amphitheatre, the head of whose area is 5380 ft. above the sea, is enclosed by limestone mountains, which rise in three stages to a height of 6900, 8500, and 9000 ft. The hollow thus formed is 2¼ M. wide at the base of the mountains, whose crest-line, from the *Pic des Sarradets* (8990 ft.) on the W. to the *Pic de l'Astazou* (10,105 ft.) on the E., measures nearly 9 M. The summits between these peaks, beginning at the former, are the *Gabiétou* (9950 ft.); *Taillon* (10,320 ft.), to the left of which is the *Fausse Brèche* (9670 ft.) and the *Brèche de Roland* (9200 ft.); the *Casque* (9860 ft.); *Tour* (9900 ft.); *Epaule* (10,230 ft.); and the *Pic du Marboré* (10,670 ft.). The slopes between the successive stages are covered with perpetual snow and with glaciers, forming 13 cascades, of which two never dry up. The principal fall, the famous ***Cascade de Gavarnie**, 1385 ft. in height, is the highest in Europe after the Dœgerfos in Norway, which is 100 ft. higher. If there is plenty of water it forms a single fall, but in summer descends in two leaps, of 958 and 427 ft. respectively. The light-effects in the Cirque are singularly beautiful both at sunrise and sunset; and at about midday in summer the sun shines full upon the fall. Those who do not ascend the Piméné (p. 164) should ascend for ½ hr. on the S.W. of Gavarnie by the Port de Gavarnie route for the sake of the comprehensive view of the Cirque enjoyed thence.

The **Port de Gavarnie** or *de Boucharo* (7485 ft.), about 2 hrs. to the S.E of Gavarnie, is the principal pass over this part of the Pyrenees. About ¼ hr. thence is the Spanish hamlet of *Boucharo* or *Bujaruelo* (4410 ft.), with barracks and an inn, situated on the Ara, which a little farther on enters a beautiful wooded gorge.

On the W. side of the Cirque is a break in the line of cliffs, known as the **Echelle des Sarradets**, which offers the only method of ascending from the bottom of the Cirque to its summits. The ascents are difficult and should be attempted only by experienced mountaineers with good guides, to be had at Gavarnie.

Guides. **Henri* and **Célestin Passet*, *Pierre* and *Henri Pujo*, *Math. Laurine*, *Henri Poc*, *Fr. Bernat-Salles*, *Louis Junté*, etc. The first two are perhaps the best guides in the Pyrenees.

To the Brèche de Tuquerouye, 6½ hrs. there and back, or 6 hrs. a horse be taken from Gavarnie to the Borne de Tuquerouye, 50 min.

on this side of the brèche. From Gavarnie we ascend to the S.E., viâ the (1½ hr.) *Cabanes de l'Espugnette*, to the *Brèche d'Allanz* (8255 ft.), to the N.E. of the Cirque, and about 2 hrs. from Gavarnie. Thence we descend to the S.E. to (¾ hr.) the *Borne de Tuquerouye* (7790 ft.), to which horses may proceed, and to (25 min.) the *Echelle de Tuquerouye*, a couloir in which there is a kind of stair with iron clamps. From the (25 min.) **Brèche de Tuquerouye** (8775 ft.), between the Pic de Tuquerouye (9260 ft.), on the W., and the Pic de Pinède (9400 ft.), on the E., we enjoy a splendid *View of the Mont Perdu. At the Brèche is a shelter of the French Alpine Club. Thence to the Marboré, see below.

To the Brèche de Roland and the Col du Taillon, 4 and 4½ hrs., there and back 7½ hrs. from Gavarnie, guide (10 fr.) and axe necessary. We ascend by the Echelle des Sarradets (see above), and by the (1¼ hr.) cornice reach the (½ hr.) *Sarradets Pastures*, and the (½ hr.) *Sarradets Spring* whence there is a fine view. The route now lies over terraces covered with snow during most of the year and we leave on our right a col leading to the Taillon glacier. In ¾ hr. we reach the *Glacier de la Brèche* which involves ½ hr. of difficult climbing, and in ½ hr. more the **Brèche de Roland** (9200 ft.), a cleft 130-190 ft. wide and more than 300 ft. deep which the famous paladin is fabled to have made with his sword Durandal to open a passage for his return from Spain. It is about 1000 yds. long and the traveller should follow it and descend to the **Col du Taillon** (9170 ft.), about ½ hr. from the entrance, in order to enjoy the magnificent view of the S. side of the Cirque and of Mont Perdu, etc. A refuge-hut has been built to the W. of the entrance of the Brèche. — The *Pic du Taillon* (10,320 ft.) may be ascended in 1½ hr. from the Brèche. Grand view.

To the Pic du Marboré. A. Viâ the Brèche de Roland, 6 hrs., there and back 10½ hrs. from Gavarnie; guide (25 fr.) and axe necessary. As far as the *Brèche de Roland* (3½ hrs.) see above. Thence we proceed to the S.E., passing in front of the *Tour* and the *Casque du Marboré*, which may also be ascended from this side, and gain in 1 hr. the *Col de la Cascade* (9640 ft.) between the Epaule and the Tour du Marboré, whence we enjoy a superb view into the abyss of the Cirque. Then we follow the crest (20 min.) and the glacier on the S. slope whence the summit of the *Pic du Marboré* is reached in 1 hr. 10 min. — B. Viâ the Brèche de Tuquerouye, returning viâ the Brèche de Roland, a fine expedition of the same character as the preceding. To the (3½ hrs.) *Brèche* (refuge-hut), see above. Thence the route passes to the E. of the *Lac Glacé du Mont-Perdu*, viâ the crevassed *Glacier du Cylindre*, and then, beyond a crevasse, leads by a cornice and over the (2¼ hrs.) *Col du Cylindre*, between the Cylindre and the summit, which lies ¼ hr. farther to the N.E. — The **Pic du Marboré** (10,670 ft.), the summit of which forms a huge platform, is perhaps the best view-point in the Pyrenees, after the *Cylindre du Marboré* (10,915 ft.), the ascent of which is dangerous. We complete the circuit by returning viâ the Brèche de Roland.

To Mont-Perdu. A. Via the Brèche de Roland and the Marboré Terraces, the shortest route, 6½ hrs., there and back 11½ hrs. from Gavarnie (the night being passed at the Brèche de Roland); guide (30 fr.), rope, and axe necessary. As far as the *Col de la Cascade* (4½ hrs.) see above. Turning to the E., we gain by terraces and snow-fields the foot of the Pic du Marboré Glacier, then the S. glacier of the Cylindre which we cross to the *Cheminée du Cylindre* (¾ hr.; refuge). Then leaving, on the left, this cheminée, which is difficult to scale, we gain without difficulty a gap by which we descend to the S.E. to the *Etang du Mont-Perdu* (10 min.; 9925 ft.) and thence in 1 hr. attain the summit of the *Mont-Perdu*. — B. Viâ the Brèche de Tuquerouye, same kind of expedition. To the (3½ hrs.) *Brèche de Tuquerouye* (shelter), see above. We continue to cross the glacier (1 hr.), but trend to the S., and then cross a crevasse and scale a rocky wall (¼ hr.). Thence the (¾ hr.) *Col du Mont-Perdu* (10,185 ft.) is reached without difficulty, and the summit is gained either viâ the Etang (see above) or viâ a narrow crest between deep preci-

pices. **Mont-Perdu** (10,995 ft.), the highest peak in the Pyrenees after the Pic de Néthou (11,170 ft.), Maladetta (11,005 ft.) and Pic Posets (11,045 ft.), is, like them, on Spanish territory. It forms part of the limestone mass of the Cirque de Gavarnie, but it lies out of the main chain of the Pyrenees and the view from the Pic du Marboré is finer. Together with the *Cylindre* (10,915 ft.) on the N. W. and the *Pic de Ramond* (10,760 ft.) on the S.E. it forms a group known by the Spaniards as the *Three Sisters*. On the S., as is almost universally the case on that slope of the Pyrenees, the mountains are barren and desolate.

To the **Vignemale** (10,820 ft.), *viâ Ossoue and Montferrat*, the shortest route (from Cauterets, see p. 155), a fine excursion, but laborious, 6 hrs. there and back 10 hrs. from Gavarnie; guide (30 fr.), rope, and axe necessary. We ascend the *Ossoue Valley* by the side of the Gave without difficulty as far as the (3 hrs.) *Pas des Oulettes-d'Ossoue* which is only feasible on the right bank. Then we leave on the right (1/2 hr.) the road to the Hourquette d'Ossoue (p. 155) and ascend to the S. W. in the direction of the *Montferrat* or *Cerbillona* (1/2 hr.) where it is necessary to proceed with care, especially on the glacier (comp. p. 155).

To THE PIMÉNÉ, an easy and interesting ascent, 2 1/2 hrs., there and back 4 hrs. from Gavarnie; guide 10 fr. From Gèdre the ascent takes 4 1/2 hrs., there and back 7 1/2 hrs. From Gavarnie we ascend to the E., through woods, to (3/4 hr.) a terrace and (1/2 hr.) a spring. Thence we bear to the right up very steep slopes to (2 hrs. from Gavarnie) the *Col de Piméné* (8255 ft.) from which the view is already fine. Here we turn to the N. and, by a rather narrow arête, gain the summit of the ***Piméné** or *Pic de Piméné* (9195 ft.), which affords a grand panorama, including the best view of the Cirque of Gavarnie, though the chief waterfall is not seen. The Vignemale and the Pic Long appear to advantage.

To THE CIRQUE DE TROUMOUSE, 6-8 hrs. there and back from St. Sauveur, 4 1/2-5 hrs. from Gèdre; guide unnecessary; horse from St. Sauveur 8 fr. — *Gèdre* see p. 161. We take a stony path near the Hôtel Palasset to the *Valley of Héas*, which we ascend along the left bank of the torrent, where the road is better than on the right bank. Farther on, a short cut leads across meadows. On the other side is the *Valley of Campbieil*, by which the difficult and dangerous ascent of the *Pic Long* (10,480 ft.), the highest point in the granitic mass of Néouvielle (p. 169), is occasionally, though rarely, made. Then we cross at the foot of the Coumély, a *Chaos* similar to that on the Gavarnie road. In 1 hr. 10 min. from Gèdre we cross to the right bank by the *Pont de la Gardelte*. On the left is the *Montagne de Camplong*. Then on the other side is the mouth of the *Val d'Estaubé*, which also ends in a 'cirque'. The valley of Héas is here still choked with blocks of rock, the result of a landslip in 1650, known as the *Peyrade* (4430 ft.), which dammed up the stream and formed a lake, in its turn destroyed by a flood in 1788. On the left is a huge block, known as the *Caillou de l'Arrayé*, on which the Virgin Mary is said once to have appeared; a statue was erected here in 1889. — About 40 min. from the bridge (4 M. from Gèdre) is *Héas* (4855 ft.), an insignificant hamlet. — 10 min. *Chapelle de Héas* (5075 ft.), dedicated to the Virgin and a place of pilgrimage for this district, particularly on Aug. 15 and Sept. 8. Adjoining it are some houses and the small *Hôtel de la Munia* (dear; kept by the guide Vict. Paget, surnamed Chapelle). — We next pass a pyramidal rock called the *Rocher* or *Tour de Lieusaoube* and enter a gorge beyond which, to the S., appear the peaks of Troumouse and the Munia. In 1/2 hr. more the valley forks. We take the path to the left and follow the right bank of a torrent which forms several waterfalls, notably the *Cascade de Mataras*, and in 1 hr. reach the **Cirque de Troumouse** (5905 ft.), less grand than that of Gavarnie but nevertheless of noble dimensions, 2 1/2 M. in diameter and from 2500 to 4000 ft. in height. At its

head rises the *Pic de Troumouse* (10,125 ft.) with its glaciers and its two pinnacles, called the Sisters of Troumouse. — On the right, the *Pic de la Munia* (10,335 ft.), a superb point of view but involving a difficult climb (2 hrs.). — On the other hand, the interesting ascents of the *Pic de la Géla* (9345 ft.) and the *Pic des Aiguillous* (9710 ft.) to the S.E. and N.E. of Héas, are easily made (with guide) in 4½ hrs. each.

24. Barèges and its Environs.

Comp. Map, p. 160.

I. From Lourdes to Barèges.

Railway to (13 M.) *Pierrefitte-Nestalas* as for Cauterets and Luz-St. Sauveur (p. 148); thence a carriage-road (12 M.) and diligence during the season (fare 4½ fr.). The diligence takes 3½ hrs., besides ½ hr. halt at Luz. The 'voiture du courrier' is quicker, taking only 3 hrs., with no stoppage. Carriages also in the season, 25 fr. for 4 travellers and 260 lbs. of luggage.

To (8 M.) *Luz*, see p. 159. The road then makes a considerable ascent to the N.E. into the *Valley of the Bastan* or Gave de Barèges, so that the diligence takes 2 hrs. from Luz to Barèges. At first we have, left and right, the wooded slopes of the Pic de Néré and Pic de Bergons, but the country soon changes its character and the mountains become bare and furrowed. The journey is interesting and the road itself excellent, especially since the last improvements were made, involving the construction of two bridges over the torrent in the Pontis ravin e(p. 166), about 1¼ M. from Barèges.

II. Barèges.

Hotels. De l'Europe; de France & des Pyrénées, R. 2-5, L. ¼, A. ½, B. 1½, déj. 3½, D. 4½, pens. 8-12 fr.; Richelieu, etc. Houses and lodgings to let.

Cafés. *De Paris, Richelieu, de l'Union*, in the Grand' Rue.

Bath Establishment. Fee for drinking the waters between June 15 and Sept. 5, 10 fr. for 30 days; rest of the season, 2 fr. — Baths ½-2½ fr. according to the kind, the hour, and time of year, usual tariff 1 fr. 70 and 2 fr. 50 c.; baths in public basin 30 c.-1½ fr.

Casino, at the entrance to the village; subscription per month 35 fr., fortnight 22 fr., week 12 fr.; reserved seat in theatre 3 fr.

Guides. *Bern. Anclade, Ant., Jean, Pierre,* and *Laurent Cazaux-Paln, Marc Honta, Jean-Marie Honta-Pontis, Pierre Menvielle, Ant.* and *Clem. Vergez.* All these are of the 1st class, and shew the tariff (see the separate excursions) when requested.

Barèges (4040 ft.), a village consisting almost entirely of one long street running up the left bank of the Bastan, has long been noted for its warm sulphur springs. Owing to its altitude the place is scarcely habitable in winter, when the cold is extreme. Its climate is very variable and the upward limit of trees is only 2600 ft. above the village. Nevertheless it attracts many visitors in summer and is often crowded. The re-planting of the hill-sides with trees and grass has already considerably altered the appearance of the valley, which is very pleasant in summer.

The Waters of Barèges are impregnated with sulphate of soda and are the most powerful in the Pyrenees. They differ but little

and are all highly charged with a peculiar nitrogenous substance called 'barégine' or 'glairine', which renders them oily to the touch. Their temperature varies between 91,4° Fahr. (Chapelle) and 111,2° (Tambour), roughly corresponding with the amount of sulphate of soda they contain. They are used for baths and drinking, in the treatment of surgical cases, the healing of wounds, ulcers, etc., and for scrofula, gout, rheumatism, skin diseases, syphilis, chlorosis, anæmia, and certain nervous affections. There are thirteen springs whose united yield is about 60,000 gallons per diem.

The *Bath Establishment*, rebuilt between 1861 and 1864, is a handsome building of marble at the top of the village, on the right of the street descending the latter. All the springs are here brought together and the bathing arrangements are very complete. — To the left of the baths is a *Military Hospital*, founded in 1760, but recently rebuilt. — On the right, behind and at some distance above it, is the *Hospice Ste. Eugénie*, set apart for ecclesiastics and nuns from June 15 to Sept. 1, while the poor are admitted before and after those dates.

The *Promenade Horizontale*, the principal promenade of Barèges, begins at the Hospice and runs westward below the Ayré (see below) and above the village as far as the Rioulet ravine (see below). There are also walks higher up in the *Forêt de Barèges* or *Bois d'Artigou*, which protects the baths from avalanches and the ravages of the Mouré torrent. Among these is the *Allée Verte* (about 5900 ft.), a clearing in the forest, 3 M. distant, between the valleys of the Lienz and the Rioulet. The *Héritage à Colas*, beyond the Rioulet, $1^1/_2$ M. from the Promenade Horizontale, is another pleasant promenade.

Avalanches and the rush of waters from the neighbouring mountains are the two special dangers against which the authorities of Barèges have to contend. Avalanches of the most destructive character gather on the flanks of the mountain of Labas-Blancs on the N. and rush down by four ravines into the valley and over the stream to the other slope. Masses of snow etc. of more than 100,000 cubic yds. have thus been hurled upon the village. On spots liable to be overwhelmed in this manner only wooden buildings are erected and these are annually removed before the winter. The most dangerous spot was the *Ravin du Midaou* or *de Capè*, behind the Military Hospital. To some extent the exertions of the Forest Department of the government have succeeded in arresting or lessening the avalanches, by planting the hill-sides with trees and by making embankments or small terraces. The works are interesting and from them there is a good view (2 hrs. there and back). — The *Rioulet Ravine*, on the left bank below Barèges, is traversed by a torrent which in times of thaw and after heavy rain used to carry away everything before it that was not solid rock, and even destroyed the main road; but it too has to a great extent been rendered harmless by planting trees and by the construction of embankments and channels which distribute its waters higher up. The *Pontis Ravine*, lower down the valley, now calls for works of a like nature. The alteration in the course of the road mentioned at p. 165 was necessitated by the risks to which its previous course was exposed.

III. Excursions.

To the **Pic de Néré** (from Luz, see p. 161), $3^3/_4$ hrs., there and back on foot $6^1/_2$ hrs.; guide, 10 fr., horse 6 fr. (adders abound). We cross the Bastan about 550 yds. below Barèges, near the Source de Barzun (p. 159), and proceed to the W. to ($^3/_4$ hr). *St. Justin*, once the site of a hermitage, commanding a fine view. Thence we go N. to the *Cirque de Sers* ($^1/_2$ hr.) and again turn W. a little farther on, descending into a little valley and ascending the exceedingly steep slopes on the other side to the plateau on which are the *Arbéousse Huts* (about 1 hr.). There we join the route from Luz (p. 161).

To the Pic du Midi de Bigorre, an easy excursion which should not be missed, $3^1/_2$ hrs., there and back $5^1/_2$-6 hrs.; guide (unnecessary) 10, horse 7 fr. The night may be spent in the small hotel near the top of the mountain, in order to see the sunrise, but it is advisable to secure a bed beforehand as otherwise the visitor may have to sleep in the public room. In any case an early start should be made so as to reach the summit before noon, as mists often hide the lower ground during the afternoon. We follow the road above Barèges on the left bank of the Bastan, crossing the stream by the ($^1/_2$ hr.) *Pont de Tournabout* (4755 ft.), and then ascend to the E. along the flank of the Labas-Blancs, passing in $^1/_2$ hr. the point where the path to the Lac Bleu (see below) diverges to the left. Shortly afterwards our route turns to the N. and reaches the *Cabanes de Toue* (6370 ft.), where a small obelisk commemorates the Duc de Nemours, who promoted the opening of the road in 1839, then the only one and still the shortest by which to reach (to the right) Bagnères over the Col du Tourmalet ($^1/_2$ hr.; p. 169). A well-beaten path leads from the Cabanes to the summit; a short-cut for walkers ascends directly to the N. The greyish dome of the Pic du Midi and its observatory are now in sight. We cross a brook ($^1/_2$ hr.) and mount to a considerable height to the E. of the *Lac d'Oncet* (7340 ft.) from which it flows. This lake, about 550 yds. long by 330 yds. wide, lies in a basin shut in by abrupt heights. — In $2^1/_2$ hrs. from Barèges we reach the *Hourque des Cinq-Cours* or *de Sencours* (7780 ft.), a col where the route from Bagnères is joined, and on which is the *Hôtellerie du Pic du Midi.*

The hotel has several good bedrooms with 2 beds in each and a public bedroom, fitted with camp-bedsteads. Tariff: admission merely 50 c.; bed in the public room, 1 fr., in one of the bedrooms, 3 fr. for the first night, 2 fr. for the second; déj. $2^1/_2$, D. $3^1/_2$ fr. without wine which costs 80 c., 1 fr., and 2 fr. per litre; café noir, 60 c.; café au lait $1^1/_2$ fr.; petit verre, 30 c. Charges of 25 c. table money and 25 c. for putting up the horse are also made, and visitors are expected to fee the attendants.

In 1 hr. more we reach the summit of the mountain by many zigzags practicable for horses, passing the *Col du Laquet* (8530 ft.) from which there is a fine view of the plain.

The ****Pic du Midi de Bigorre** or *de Bagnères* (9440 ft.), although

in altitude it only ranks 40th among Pyrenean summits, is one of the first in respect of the view it affords of nearly the whole chain. This it owes to its isolated position, like that of a watch-tower on the side of the plain over which the view extends almost without limit, and at times as far westward as the Atlantic Ocean. The contrast between the plain and the countless snow-capped summits on the S. is its great charm; the latter looking like the billows of a stormy sea suddenly petrified. — The summit ends on the W. in a small platform which has precipices on its N. side not to be carelessly approached. On the E. side an *Observatory* was built between 1878 and 1881 and is connected by telegraph with Bagnères-de-Bigorre (p. 169). The house is in a little cleft facing the S.; the public are not admitted. — By reason of its isolation, the Pic du Midi is not snow-clad in summer though snow often falls on the summit.

To the **Lac Bleu** (from Bagnères, see p. 172), $3^1/_2$ hrs., there and back about 6 hrs.; guide 10, horse 7 fr. For the first hour our route follows the Pic du Midi road (see above). We then turn to the left and ascend in $^1/_4$ hr. to the *Cabanes d'Aoube* (5965 ft.) from which we gain in $1^1/_2$ hr. the *Col d'Aoube* (about 8200 ft.), which commands a fine view, particularly of the Néouvielle. A descent of $^3/_4$ hr., to the W., takes us past a little lake, also blue, to the *Lac Bleu* (p. 173).

To THE PIC D'AYRÉ, $3^1/_2$ hrs., there and back 6 hrs.; guide and horse 6 fr. each. Visitors generally only go to within $^1/_2$ hr. of the top which is difficult to scale; in that case a guide is not necessary. On horseback we take the bridle-path through the forest of Barèges (p. 166), traverse the *Allée Verte* (p. 166), and ascend by a circuitous path to the pastures above the Rioulet ravine. The same point may be reached direct by a steep footpath along the torrent. Thence we proceed W. to a fine *View-point*, $2^1/_2$ hrs. from Barèges; then, retracing our steps for a short distance, we ascend in $^3/_4$ hr., by zigzags, the flower-decked slopes to the *Col d'Ayré*, whence the view extends to the Pic de Néré and the Néouvielle. Another $^1/_2$ hr. brings us from the Col to the summit of the **Pic d'Ayré** (7935 ft.), but the climb is laborious and should not be undertaken without a guide.

To THE PIC DE NÉOUVIELLE (*Lac d'Orrédon*), an easy and interesting excursion, 6 hrs., there and back 10 hrs.; guide 20 fr.; horse as far as the Lac d'Escoubous (2 hrs.) 5 fr. We follow the road beyond the Baths, leave on the left the bridge crossed by the Pic du Midi route, and beyond a bridge over the *Escoubous* or *Escougous* torrent (40 min.) turn to the right up the valley of that name. We ascend through a chaos of granite blocks, pass the ($^3/_4$ hr.) mouth of the *Vallon d'Aigue-Cluse* on the left, recross the torrent, and reach the (35 min.) *Lac d'Escoubous* (6395 ft.). This lake is little larger than the Lac d'Oncet on the Pic du Midi, but its environment of shattered mountains makes it an interesting object for an excursion, particularly if we proceed on foot $^1/_2$ hr. farther up to the *Lac Blanc*. The latter is on our way to the Pic de Néouvielle, on which we leave the *Lac de Tracens* on the left, reaching ($^3/_4$ hr.) the *Lac Noir* (7200 ft.) and following its left bank. Thence an ascent of 25 min. brings us to the *Col d'Aure* (8200 ft.), where we obtain a very fine view of the Néouvielle, Pic Long, the Gavarnie mountains, etc. — If we descend hence to the left, towards the lakes of *Aubert* and *Aumar*, which are in sight from the col, we may reach in 1 hr. 10 min. the *Lac d'Orrédon* (6135 ft.). This lake (130 acres in area) is well worth a visit; it is dammed up in order to supply water to the Aure valley (p. 174) in summer, by means of the Neste de Couplan. Refreshments are usually to be obtained from the reservoir-keeper. — Continuing our route to the

Néouvielle we descend from the col on the right and enter another chaos of rocks, and cross higher up from S. to W. a snow slope, free from risk, but very steep towards the end. In 2¼ hrs. from the col, we reach the summit of the ***Pic de Néouvielle** or *Néouvielle*, also called *Pic d'Aubert* (10,145 ft.), which commands a magnificent panorama of the Pyrenees from the Balaïtous to the Monts Maudits, with a fine view of the Gavarnie mountains, Mont-Perdu, Pic Posets, and, much nearer, of the peaks Long, Campbieil, Méchant, etc., and a remarkable survey of the numerous lakes of this district, of which 27 may be counted. — We may return viâ the *Brèche de Chausenque*, the lakes and valley of *Glaire*, parallel, on the W., to that of Escoubous, but this difficult route takes an extra hour.

To Bagnères-de-Bigorre viâ the Col du Tourmalet, 25 M., by carriage road in 4 hrs., on foot 7 hrs.; carriage 40-60 fr., horse 12 fr. per day, to the col 5 fr. The road follows the left bank of the Bastan; pedestrians and riders may shorten the distance by taking the Pic du Midi road (p. 167) by which they reach the col in 2 hrs. — 8 M. **Col du Tourmalet** (6960 ft.), between the *Pic du Tourmalet* (8095 ft.), on the left, and the *Pic d'Espade* (8075 ft.), on the right, one of the highest carriage-passes in Europe. The view is limited except on the W. The road descends by wide zigzags towards the valley of the Adour; the old road is a short-cut for pedestrians and horsemen. — At (12½ M.) *Tramesaygues*, we obtain a very fine view of the Pic du Midi. Then traversing wooded hills we reach the bank of the Adour, which forms the *Cascades d'Artigues* or *de Gripp*, one of which is very pretty. There is a good inn (*Hôt. des Pyrénées;* guide to the Pic du Midi 10 fr.). — 15 M. *Gripp* (3495 ft.; Hôt. des Voyageurs). — At (17½ M.) *Ste. Marie* we enter the Campan valley (p. 173). — *Bagnères-de-Bigorre*, see below.

25. Bagnères-de-Bigorre and its Environs.

Comp. Map, p. 160.

I. From Tarbes to Bagnères-de-Bigorre.

13½ M. Railway in ½-1 hr. (fares 2 fr. 45, 1 fr. 65, 1 fr. 10 c.).

Tarbes, see p. 135. — We follow the Toulouse line to *Marcadieu* and turn to the right into the fine and fertile valley of the *Adour*. The best view is on the right. — 4½ M. *Salles-Adour;* 7 M. *Bernac-Debat;* 8 M. *Vielle-Adour;* 10 M. *Montgaillard;* 11 M. *Ordizan.* — 12½ M. *Pouzac,* with a fortified church containing a retable of the 18th cent. and other works of art. On the hill are the remains of an earthwork known as *Caesar's Camp.* — To the right as we reach Bagnères is the Mont du Bédat, crowned by a statue of the Virgin (p. 172).

II. Bagnères-de-Bigorre.

Hotels. Grand-Hôtel de Paris, R. 3-12, L. ½, A. ½-1, B. 1½, déj. 3½, D. 4½, pens. in summer from 11 fr.; Beauséjour, de Londres et d'Angleterre, Nos. 18, 23, and 5 Promenade des Coustous; de France, Boulevard Carnot; Frascati, Rue Frascati, both near the Baths; du Bon Pasteur, Rue de l'Horloge, near the tower; Dubau, Rue de Tarbes, near the promenades. — Numerous *Villas* and *Apartments*, those to let being commonly indicated by the window-shutters being closed; room 2-3 fr. per day.

Bath Establishments. *Thermes* and *Néothermes;* 'buvette', 10 days, 4 fr., season 8 fr.; private baths 1-3 fr.; baths in the great basin of the

Néothermes, 1-1½ fr., 25 fr. per month, 40 fr. for the season. *Thermes de Salut*, 'buvette' 5 fr. in July and August, 3 fr. during the rest of the season; baths ½-2½ fr. — A list of *Physicians* is displayed in the bath-establishments.

Cabs, for 2 pers. per drive 75 c. during the day, 1½ fr. at night; per hour 2 and 2½ fr., 3 fr. in the country; for 4 pers., per drive 1 and 2 fr., per hour 3 and 3½ fr. — *Calèches* and *Landaus*, 30-40 fr. per day. — *Horses*, ride of 4 hrs., 5 fr., per day 10 fr.

Guides. *Arnauné*, *J. M. Courtade*, *Idrac*, *Noguès*, *Aug. Védère*, *Arn. Verdoux*. For tariff, see the separate excursions.

Casino, per season, 1 pers. 90 fr., husband and wife 140 fr., each additional member of a family 30 fr. Per month 50, 75, and 30 fr.; for 3 weeks 40, 60, and 20 fr.; for 10 days, 20, 30, and 10 fr. Admission on special occasions, 3 fr.

Protestant Churches. *Anglican*, Rue des Pyrénées; *French*, Avenue du Salut.

Post and Telegraph Office, Place Ramond, not far from the Thermes.

Bagnères-de-Bigorre or simply *Bagnères* (1805 ft.) is a town of 8638 inhab., in a pretty situation on the left bank of the *Adour*, at the point where this river issues from the fine Campan valley into the plain of Tarbes. It is one of the leading thermal stations of the Pyrenees and enjoys, what many others do not, a mild climate. It is frequented annually by about 20,000 bathers and tourists. The Romans were acquainted with its waters, which they called *Aquae Bigerrionum Balnearíae*, and they erected here various bath-houses and a temple of Diana.

The railway-station lies to the N. of the town. The avenue beginning opposite the exit leads towards the centre of the town, viâ the handsome *Square des Vigneaux*, a quiet and well-shaded promenade. A little farther on is the curious *Church of St. Vincent*, dating from the 14-15th cent.; the façade is formed by a great wall, square at the top, with fourteen Gothic arcades, while on the right it is flanked by a Gothic turret. On the S. side is a tasteful portico of 1557. The interior presents a broad and short nave, flanked by chapels, decorated with modern marble altars. There is a fine statue of the Virgin, by Clésinger, above the high altar. Some of the windows have good stained glass.

The *Promenade des Coustous*, near this church, is shaded by trees, as far even as the centre of the town. This street and the Place Lafayette and Place des Pyrénées, at either end of it, contain the principal hotels and cafés and form the usual evening rendezvous of the visitors. The part of the town lying to the E. or left of this promenade is uninteresting. It is bounded by the Adour, which is spanned by a bridge at the end of the street skirting the side of St. Vincent's church.

The Bath Establishments and the Casino are situated to the W., the principal street, the Boulevard Carnot and Boulevard du Casino, beginning at the place Lafayette. On this side also, in the old town, is the *Tour des Jacobins* or *Tour de l'Horloge*, the remains of a church of the 15th century. This curious edifice is

octagonal in shape and is crowned by a receding story, with a gallery and platform.

The MINERAL WATERS of Bagnères are now supplied by 30 *Springs*. The chief are characterized by the presence of sulphate of lime; but they vary much in their composition and in the uses to which they are applied. The springs are usually divided into three groups: 23 are warm springs containing sulphate of lime, and also sulphate of magnesia and soda; 3 are warm sulphur-springs; and 4 are cold chalybeate springs.

For rheumatism the waters of the springs known as Le Dauphin, La Reine, Le Foulon, Le Platane, and Le Petit-Barèges are usually prescribed; for nervous affections, those of Le Salut, Le Platane, Le Grand Pré, and St. Roch; for feminine ailments and diseases of the skin, those of Le Foulon and Salies; for diseases of the digestive organs, those of Labassère, La Reine, and La Rampe; for diseases of the urinary canals those of Salies and Le Salut; for diseases of the respiratory organs, those of Labassère and Salies; and for anæmia, general diseases, and surgical cases, those of the two last and of La Rampe.

Bagnères has still 10 bath-establishments, and formerly had more. The chief are the *Thermes* and the *Néothermes*, which, as well as those of Théas, belong to the town. The others are private establishments.

The THERMES are situated in a square of the same name, to the left as we follow the boulevards, and at the foot of the bare mountains whence issue the streams that supply the baths. The building is a plain structure, dating from 1824, but the bathing arrangements and equipments are excellent. The baths of this establishment are fed by the springs of *Le Dauphin* (120° Fahr.), *La Reine* (115°), *St. Roch* (105°), *Le Foulon* (95°), *Le Platane* (91°), *Marie-Thérèse* or *Les Yeux* (91°), *Le Roc-de-Lannes* (118°), and *St. Barthélemy* (118°). — Adjoining the Thermes, on the N., is the *Buvette de Salies*, so called from the *Salies* spring (124°), one of the chief in Bagnères, which is conducted hither, along with the waters of *Labassère* (64°) and *La Rampe* (100°). The Buvettes de la Reine and du Dauphin are also here. — A tasteful *Fountain* has been erected in front of the establishment, in memory of A. Soubies, to whom Bagnères owes much of its prosperity. — Not far from the Buvette de Salies are the *Baths of Cazaux* and of *Théas*, each supplied by a special spring (114-124°).

The NÉOTHERMES lie somewhat farther to the N., occupying the ground-floor of the right wing of the casino. They contain large basins, supplied with running water from the *Source de la Tour* (113° reduced to 86°), which yields nearly 220,000 gallons per day. The *Casino*, a handsome edifice, built in 1881-84, contains ball-rooms, recreation-rooms, a restaurant, café, etc. Its park is open daily to the public until 6 p. m.; concerts frequently take place in the afternoon.

Among the other bath-establishments are those of *Bellevue* (114°), behind the Thermes (higher up are two chalybeate springs);

Mora (100°), Rue du Théâtre, opposite the Thermes; the *Petit-Prieur* (96°), under the hospice, a little farther to the S.; *Versailles* (96°) and the *Petit-Barèges* (91°), farther off, to the right and left; and the *Grand-Pré* (96° and 89°) to the S.E., in the Allée de Salut, a fine avenue which leads also to the *Thermes de Salut*, about $^1/_2$ M. from the town (omn. 40 c. there, 20 c. back).

At the Thermes are a small *Musée* and a *Library*, open during the season from 9 a. m. to 12, and from 1 to 5 or 6 p. m.

Bagnères has many pleasant walks. The *Allées de Maintenon*, at the S. end of the town, are reached viâ the Rue des Pyrénées. The *Allée du Montaliouet*, on the mountain-slope behind the Thermes, ascends to the chalybeate springs; and by the *Allées Dramatiques*, to the S. of the Montaliouet, near the Thermes de Salut, we may proceed, to the right, to the *Mont du Bédat* (2890 ft.; $^3/_4$ hr.), on which there is a bronze statue of the Virgin. The hill contains some large caves.

In the valley of Campan (p. 173), and elsewhere in the neighbourhood of Bagnères are *Marble Quarries*, which yield many varieties of valuable marble; and the town contains several important *Marble Works*, manufacturing chimney-pieces, table-tops, etc. Bagnères is also noted for its woollen knitted goods.

III. Excursions.

To the Monné, $2^1/_2$ hrs., 2 hrs. on horseback; guide (unnecessary) 6, horse 8-10 fr. We ascend first by the Allées Dramatiques, then to the right along the hills, skirting the mountain from E. to W. The **Monné** or *Monné de Bagnères* (4125 ft.) is the highest summit in the immediate vicinity of Bagnères. It affords a wide view of the Tarbes plain on the N., while to the S. the eye ranges from the Vignemale to the Maladetta, the Montaigu opposite Bagnères being prominent; to the left is the Pic du Midi and farther off in that direction the Pic d'Arbizon. The descent may be made viâ Beaudéan (see below).

To the Pic de Montaigu, $5^1/_2$-6 hrs., there and back 9-10 hrs., a fatiguing expedition; guide 12 fr. We follow the Monné road for $1^1/_2$ hr., then cross on the right the *Plaine d'Esquiou*, turn to the left, skirting the *Couret* (4285 ft), climb the steep path of the *Echelles de Pilate*, skirt *La Peyre* (5710 ft.), on the left, follow a rocky crest, and finally skirting the mountain to the right gain the top. The **Pic de Montaigu** (7680 ft.) affords a very wide view to the N., over the neighbouring valleys and the plain, but the view to the S. is limited owing to the vicinity of the Pic du Midi and its W. neighbours. The return may be made by the Lesponne valley (see below).

To the Lesponne Valley and the Lac Bleu, $3^1/_2$ hrs. to the Cabanes de Chiroulet, 5 hrs. to the lake. The visit to the latter is best made when the dam of the lake is open. Riding is practicable as far as the lake and driving as far as the Cabanes. Guide (unnecessary) 8, horse 10, carriage 25-30 fr. We ascend to the S. by the Adour valley, leaving *Gerde* and *Asté* (p. 173) to the left, and *Médous*, with its old convent, to the right. At (1 hr.) *Beaudéan* Larrey, the celebrated surgeon (1766-1842), was born. Near the pretty house called *Prieuré de St. Paul* we quit the Campan valley (see below) and turn to the right up the **Lesponne Valley**, which is shut in right and left respectively by spurs of the Montaigu and Pic du Midi. Cultivation soon ceases. In 1 hr. we reach *Lesponne*; $^3/_4$ hr. farther is the *Hospital*, and, on the right, a ravine with

the pretty *Waterfall of Aspi*. At the head of the ravine appears the Montaigu, which may be ascended hence. About 1/2 hr. farther on, to the left, is another ravine with a view of the Pic du Midi, which also in accessible on this side, and 20 min. more bring us to the *Cabanes de Chiroulet* where refreshments may be obtained. Beyond them we leave, on the right, the road leading to Argelès (p. 148), viâ the Hourquette de Barané and the Izaby valley, and ascend on the left by a considerable slope, to (1 hr. 10 min.) the dam and (1/4 hr. more) to the **Lac Bleu** (6455 ft.), shut in by a vast environment of rocks, and fully justifying its name by its fine blue colour. The lake is about 125 acres in area and 360 ft. deep, but a tunnel has been made on the N., 200 yds. long (closed), for the purpose of augmenting the Adour in dry seasons. This reduces the level of the water about 65 feet.

To the **Pic du Midi de Bigorre,** 1 or 1 1/2 day, see p. 167. — The ascent on this side is best made by starting from (3 1/4 hrs.) *Gripp* (p. 169), where guides and horses are more conveniently obtained. Thence the ascent requires 4 1/2 hrs., viâ the *Vallon d'Arizes* and the *Gorge de Sencours*, beyond which we join the road from Barèges, at the *Lac d'Oncet* (p. 167). The route viâ the Tourmalet (p. 169) is longer, but a great part of it, as far as the *Cabanes de Toue* (p. 167), 1/2 hr. from the col, and 1 1/2 hr. from the top, may be made by carriage.

To *Barèges* viâ the *Tourmalet*, see p. 169.

To THE PÈNE DE LHÉRIS, 3 hrs., guide 6 fr., 2 fr. extra if the return is made by Ordincède; horse to the inn, 10 fr.; an excursion of special interest for botanists. We follow the Adour valley to the S., cross the (1/2 M.) *Pont de Gerde*, and proceed to (1 1/4 M.) *Asté*. Thence we ascend to the left for about 1 hr. in the ravine of the Lhéris brook, whence we climb the mountain to the right, viâ a wood, some pastures, and the *Col du Tillet* (4216 ft.; fine view) to the (1 hr.) *Auberge de Tournefort*, whose name reminds us of the great botanist's (1656-1708) explorations in this neighbourhood. On the right towers the *Casque*, a rocky wall which affords a remarkable echo. From there we scramble direct to the peak by the *Pas du Chat*, or, longer but easier, climb to the left by the *Puits d'Arris* or *des Corneilles*. The **Pène de Lhéris** (5225 ft.) commands only a limited view in the direction of the mountains but a very fine one over the plain, similar to that from the Pic du Midi but more detailed owing to the lower elevation. — The descent is often made by the *Col de Lhéris* (4525 ft.) and the *Cabanes d'Ordincède* (4415 ft.) on the S., whence there is a splendid view of the Campan Valley (see below), by which we return to Bagnères.

To BAGNÈRES DE LUCHON VIA THE COL D'ASPIN *(Campan Valley, Gripp Waterfalls, Arreau)*, 43 M., open carriage, 100 fr., sometimes return-carriages may be had for less. This fine excursion should be made at least as far as the Col d'Aspin. Beyond (7 M.) Arreau, a public conveyance plies to Lannemezan (see pp. 134, 137). — To *Beaudéan* (3 M.), see above. We then follow the delightful **Campan Valley** which is bordered by green hills with bright pastures on the right and on the left by sterile rocks. It takes its name from the *Campani*, who inhabited it during the Roman period. — 3 3/4 M. *Campan* has given its name to a well-known kind of green marble, shaded with red and white, which is quarried higher up the valley (see below). — At (7 1/2 M.) *Ste. Marie*, the road from Barèges, over the Col du Tourmalet, joins our route. On this route, 2 1/2 M. from the junction, is Gripp, with its fine waterfalls (p. 169).

The Luchon road now ascends the Séoube valley, which is a continuation of the Campan valley. — 11 M. *Paillole* (3640 ft.), a tavern in a hollow still covered with pastures but surrounded by forests which indicate our approach to the higher mountains. The *Pic d'Arbizon* (9285 ft.), to the S., may be ascended in 1 day from Paillole; the ascent is difficult and should not be attempted without a good guide. — 12 1/2 M. *Espiadet*, a hamlet, with the Campan *Marble Quarries*. — The road now zigzags up through pine forests. — 15 1/2 M. **Col d'Aspin** (4910 ft.) from which, and still better from the height on the left, there is a magnificent *View

of the *Aure Valley*, which we now descend. This very fertile and thickly peopled valley, abounding in mineral springs for the most part little known, is separated from the valley of Luchon by a range of mountains which is connected with the Mont Maudit group, the loftiest of the Pyrenees. — The road descends by great zigzags (short-cuts for walkers) and passes to the left of *Aspin*. — 22½ M. **Arreau** *(Hôt. de France; d'Angleterre)*, a small town of 1077 inhab. and the chief place in the valley, is situated at the confluence of the Neste d'Aure, the Neste de Louron, and the Lastie. A railway is being built to join the Tarbes line at Lannemezan (p. 137), whither in the meantime a public conveyance plies daily, leaving Arreau at 8.30 a. m. About 1¼ M. to the S. is *Cadéac*, with two bath-houses supplied with cold mineral springs very rich in sulphuret of sodium, and used in cutaneous diseases. About 4½ M. to the N. is *Sarrancolin*, celebrated for its red marble veined with grey or yellow.

From Arreau our route ascends the Louron valley to the S.E., leaving right and left *Couret* and *Cazaux-Debat*, where there are mineral springs. — 26 M. *Bordères*, with the ruins of a castle. Then the valley expands and becomes thickly peopled. — At (28 M.) *Avajan* we cross the Neste and leave the old and longer road on our left. — 29¼ M. *Fréchet-Cazaux*. — 31 M. *Loudervielle*. We now leave the Louron valley and ascend on the left by a ravine and forest to the (34 M.) *Col de Peyresourde* (5065 ft.), where the view is limited. The descent into the *Arboust Valley* is made viâ (38½ M.) *Cazaux*, which lies 4½ M. from *Luchon* (p. 175).

26. Bagnères-de-Luchon and its Environs.

I. From Montréjeau (Tarbes) to Bagnères-de-Luchon.

22½ M. Railway in ⅔-1½ hr. (fares 4 fr. 5, 2 fr. 70, 1 fr. 75 c.).

Montréjeau, see p. 137. — We leave on the left the Toulouse line and enter the Garonne valley. — 3¾ M. *Labroquère*.

About 2 M. to the S. is **St. Bertrand-de-Cominges** *(Hôt. de Cominges)*, the ancient city of the Convenae *(Lugdunum Convenarum)*, a place of importance under the Romans but reduced to ruins towards the end of the 6th cent. after the overthrow of Gondovald, the rival of King Guntram, who had taken refuge here. At present it is a small town of 718 inhab., which owes its name to one of its best known bishops. Its situation upon an isolated rock renders it conspicuous from a distance. The old **Cathedral* is one of the most interesting in the S. of France and particularly worth seeing. In part it dates from the time of St. Bertrand (1082) but it is chiefly the work of Bertrand de Goth, who was its bishop (1295-1299) and later became Pope (Clement V). The façade is flanked by a square tower with a modern spire. Its portal has columns with curiously decorated capitals and other sculptures including an antique head of Jupiter. Several Roman inscriptions are also built into the façade. The interior has a fine Gothic nave, over 80 ft. in height, with eleven side chapels. The most conspicuous features, however, are the *Rood-loft and the *Choir-screen, superb examples of early Renaissance woodwork, completed in 1536 and forming as it were a second edifice within the church, of which the choir occupies the greater part. They are equally remarkable for the richness and for the variety of their carving, though in this respect surpassed by the 68 *Stalls to be found within. The *High-altar has also some remarkable carvings representing the lives of the Virgin and of Christ, and at the side of the entrance of the church is a dilapidated organ-case also of the Renaissance period. Behind the choir is the tomb of St. Bertrand (1432). In the 1st chapel on the left is the *Tomb of Bishop Hugh de Châtillon, of the 15th cent. The sacristan who shows the choir (ring the bell thrice) also shows the fine Romanesque cloisters (23 arcades) on the S. of the church and now in ruins, and the sacristy where are preserved two copes, the mitre, ring, and ivory pastoral staff

of St. Bertrand, etc. Visitors make a small offering to the church, but no gratuity is expected.

About 1/2 M. to the E. of St. Bertrand, in the fields, on the way to (35-40 min.) Loures, where the train can be rejoined (see below), is the *Church of St. Just*, in a burial-ground entered by a Romanesque doorway into which an antique inscription has been built. The church, also in part of ancient materials, is a somewhat clumsy building in the Romanesque style, with a side portal and ciborium of the 13th cent., both worth notice.

For the *Grotte de Gargas*, 5 M. to the N. of St. Bertrand, see p. 137.

We cross the Garonne a little beyond Labroquère. — 5 M. *Loures*, 1 1/4 M. to the N.E. of which is *Barbazan* with a mineral spring (sulphate of lime) and a 16-17th cent. castle commanding a good view. — 7 1/2 M. *Galié*. — 9 1/4 M. *Saléchan*, the station for the baths of *Ste. Marie*, 3/4 M. to the N.W., and for those of *Siradan*, 3/4 M. farther to the W. Their waters are similar to those of Barbazan. — The mountains at the head of the valley now begin to appear and we again cross the Garonne. — 11 1/4 M. *Fronsac*, to the left, commanded by a keep of the 12th century. We once more cross the Garonne, which descends on the left from the Spanish *Valley of the Aran*, a railway in which is proposed. — 13 M. *Marignac-St. Béat*. *St. Béat* (Hôt. du Commerce), a small town of 1000 inhab. at the entrance of a picturesque defile on the bank of the Garonne, has a church and a castle partly of the 11th cent., with a statue of the Virgin on the principal tower. The quarries of grey and white marble here were worked even in the time of the Romans. To the N. are the *Pic du Gars* (5765 ft.) and the *Pic Saillant* (5860 ft.) whence there is a very fine view. — The line now ascends, traverses a short tunnel, and crosses three bridges. — 16 1/4 M. *Lège*; 18 M. *Cier-de-Luchon*. We now enter the Luchon valley and have a good view of the snow-crowned mountains at its head. — 19 1/4 M. *Antignac*. — 22 1/2 M. *Bagnères-de-Luchon*; the station is 3/4 M. from the centre of the town (omnibus 60 c.; luggage 40 c. each trunk).

II. Bagnères-de-Luchon.

Hotels. Gr.-Hôt. de Bonnemaison, déj. 4, D. 5 fr.; Grand-Hôtel, open all the year round, R. 2-15, B. 1 1/2, déj. 3 1/2, D. 4 1/2, pens. 10-25 fr.; Gr.-Hôt. des Bains, R., L., & A. 3-8, B. 1-1 1/2, déj. 4, D. 5, pens. 12-15 fr.; Sacaron, déj. & D. 10 fr.; d'Etigny & d'Europe, déj. 3 1/2, D. 4 fr.; Broc-Verdeil; d'Angleterre, déj. 3, D. 4 fr.; Continental, same charges; de la Poste-Secail, de la Paix, Pardeillan, déj. & D. at these 7 fr.; de Bordeaux, déj. & D. 6 fr.; de France, all in the Allée or Cours d'Etigny. — Gr.-Hôt. Richelieu, Rue d'Espagne et des Thermes, near the Baths and of the 1st class, 15-20 fr. per day; Gr.-Hôt. des Thermes, Rue des Thermes, beside the preceding, déj. 4, D. 5 fr.; Hôt. Canton, Hôtel de Paris, Rue d'Espagne, behind those in the Allée d'Etigny, déj. & D. 7 fr. — Gr.-Hôt. de Luchon et du Casino, at a distance from the centre of the town and the baths, R., L., & A. 4-10, B. 1 1/2, déj. 4, D. 5, pens. 12-20 fr. — Déjeuner usually at 10.30 a.m., dinner at 6.30 p.m.

Villas, Apartments, and Rooms to let. In the Rue d'Espagne beyond the Quinconces, the *Villas* or *Maisons Monteil*, *O. Gleye*, *Vignaux*, *Cantaloup*: *Huguet*, *Florida*, and *Mérens*; in the Allée d'Etigny, very numerous: *Lafon*,

(bookseller), *B. Gascon*, *Gasquet*, *Lozès*, *Perrotin*, *Colomic*, etc.; in the Allée des Bains, *Baqué*, well spoken of, *Maison Dorée;* in the Rue de Piqué, near the Allée d'Etigny, *Dabos;* in the Avenue du Casino, *Bonnette*, *Raynaud Estrujo*, etc. — Ladies travelling alone are recommended to the *Couvent de l'Espérance*, Route de St. Mamet.

Living at Luchon is expensive during the season, which is at its height from the end of June to the end of August.

Cafés-Restaurants. *Arnative*, *du Parc*, *Divan*, Allée d'Etigny, etc.

Bath-Establishment. *Drinking*, subscription for 1 month, 10 fr. between July 1st and Sept. 15th, 15 fr. for the season. *Baths*, 60 c.-5 fr. according to the time of year and the hour. *Douches*, 50 c.-3 fr. — The list of Luchon *Physicians* is exhibited in the entrance-hall of the Establishment.

Cabs for drives outside the town (no tariff; bargain), with one horse 3-4 fr., with two horses 4-5 fr. per hour. — *Private Carriages for Excursions*, with 2 horses 20-35 fr., according to distance; with 4 horses, 25-40 fr. — *Brakes* start for the Vallée du Lys and the Lac d'Oo daily at 12 noon; fare 3 or 4 fr. each, or more, according to number of passengers; the fares and times are posted up in the Allée d'Etigny. The brakes do not always go to the Lac d'Oo; enquire at one of the offices, Nos. 2 and 52 in the Allée.

Guides and Horses are numerous and regulated by tariff (see excursions), but it is always prudent to ascertain charges beforehand. Admission fees, tolls, and horses for the guides are at the cost of the traveller. Most of the guides merely let horses or act as conductors for parties on horseback; the chief mountain guides are *Bart. Courrège*, *Bertrand*, nicknamed *Traqué*, *Haurillon*, nicknamed *Odo*, and *Bern. Lafont* nicknamed *Bernatet*.

Casino, open from June 1 to Sept. 30: 1 day, 1 fr. 50 c., ten days 10 fr., month 30 fr., season 60 fr. *Theatre* at the Casino: reserved seat $2^1/_2$ or 3 fr.; season-ticket 25 fr. Family tickets at a reduction.

Post and Telegraph Office, Rue Sylvie at the E. end of the Allée d'Etigny.

English Church Service in summer at *M. Corneille's Chapel*.

Bagnères-de-Luchon or simply *Luchon* (2065 ft.) is a town of 3528 inhab., charmingly situated at the end of the valley of the same name. It is the nearest town to the central Pyrenean range and has been celebrated for its baths from the time of the Romans to whom it was known as *Balnearíae Lixonienses*. Frequently ravaged during the middle ages and in later centuries, this thermal station, like many others, was at one time almost completely deserted but since the close of last century it has revived, and has for many years been one of the most prosperous watering-places in the Pyrenees, visited annually by about 36,000 patients and tourists. It has the advantage of its rival Cauterets in possessing a greater variety of thermal saline and sulphureous springs and a milder climate, owing to its lower altitude. Its climate is, however, more variable.

Luchon consists of two distinct quarters, the old town and the new. The old town, the nearer to the station, whence it is reached by a grand avenue of plane trees, dating from 1788, is a small collection of mean houses, with narrow and tortuous streets, on the left bank of the *One* and at the mouth of the Arboust valley. The modern Romanesque *Church*, decorated with mural paintings by Romain Cazes, is the only edifice worthy of note.

Tilhouse
Cazaléres
Escala
Tuzaguet
St Laurent de-Neste
Labarthe-d-N
Marmoute
Montousse
Bizous
Nestier
Hautagete
Clos
Bidalé
Pénart
Prat
Bourre
Lordet
Bazus-Neste
Gazave
Pic de Tuillede
Labastide
Espuros
Mazouau
Pic d'Arneille
Hèches
Darré-Castet
Pic de Picharrot
Bas-Nistos
Bayelle
Lombre
Pé de Mouret
Ht-Nistos
Reboue
Pic de Pécare
Jancanot
Sct de Bassia
Mare de la Soule
Sarrancolins
Illhet
Cabane de la Targue
Baragne
Cabane du Lac
Col d'Aspin
Camous
Frechet-Aure
Aspin
Ardengost
Areng Mre
Barancaneu
Pailhac
Arreau
Jezeau
Ancizan
Cizian
Ilhan
Bordéres
Gouaux
Guchen
Bazus-Aure
Gaithen
Arajan
Camparan
Vielle-Aure
Bourisp
Pouchergues
Vignec
Cadeilhan
Trachére
Estrusan
Anzet
Ens
Nabias
Génost
Londervielle
Germ
Pic du Midi
Cap de Loubére
Pic de Berlalade
Pic de Sarrouyes
Pic de Thou
Pic de Lustou
Pic de Guerreys ou de Bucou
Pic Batcrau
Pic de Batchimale
Pic Pédard
Tuquet de Camarére
Pic d'Espichadere
Pic d'Agoudes
Pic de Monségu
Pic de Cécire
Pic de Belle-Sayette
Pic du Midi de Génost
Lac de Caillauous
Lacs Gours Blancs
Spijoles
P. Quarrat
Lac Vert
P. des Gours Blancs
P. de Crabioules
P. de Maupas
P. de Boum
P. Perdighero
P. de Rancuo
Pic de Sacroutes
P. de la Pique
P. de Suvegorde
P. de la Mine
Pic de l'Entecule
Las Hordes
Cap de la Palo
Pic de Montarque
Pic de Montaspect
Pic de Douly
Pic de Montlas
Pic de Pouy Uselat
Pic de Ferrére
Pic de Montaut
Pic de Saillard
Pic du Cars
Som d'Olives
Sost
Esbareich
Chalets St Nére
Maulcon
Ourde
Cazarilh
Saléchan
Siradan
Frontignan
Fronsac
Estenos
Chaum
Cierp
Marignac
Beat
Signac
Gaud
Lez
Boutx
Rouge
Arreau
Vallée d'Aure
Vallée de Louron
Vallée d'Aran
Vallée d'Oueil
Vallée de Luchon
Vallée de Barousse
Vallée de Larboust
Vallée d'Oo
Vallée du Lys
Vallée de la Pique
Vallée d'Astos
Vallée d'Ariége
Montréjeau
St Paul
Aussun
Pointis-d-Riv
Valentine
Miramont
Mazéres
Aventignan
Gourdan
Ardiége
Cier-de-Rivière
Loo
Regades
Encausse
Cabanac
Payssous
Barbazan
Lezian
Ilhan
Gesset
Roucau
Izaourt
Luscan
Malvésie
Génos
Bertren
Galié
Carrabuille
Cazaunous
Lourdes
St Pédardet
Antichan
Moncaup
Arguenos
Bagiri
Ste Marie
Orés
Traubat
Bramevaque
Sacoué
Gembre
Samuran
Caudent
Antichan-d-Barére
Mont-de-Galié
Campels
St Bertrand-de-Caminges
Loures
Barbazan
Labroquére
Tibiran-Jaunac
Jaunac
Le Luc
Lombrés
Gargas
Montégut
Nestier
Hautagete
Clos
Aréres
Marmoute
Montousse
Bizous
Monsérie
Bize-Nistos
Lahitte
Générest
St Martin
Valcabrére
Sarp
Areux
Créchex
Anla
Hiheu
Sacoué
Gembre
Samuran
Bagiri
Lourdes
Ste Marie
Orés
Traubat
Siradan
Frontignan
Maulcon
Thébe
Ourde
Ferrére
Cazarilh
Saléchan
Fronsac
Pic Saillard
Pic du Cars
Estenos
Chaum
Cierp
Marignac
Beat
Signac
Gaud
Lez
Boutx
Rouge
Som d'Olives
Sost
Pic de Montlas
Esbareich
Chalets St Nére
Ardengost
Areng Mre
Barancaneu
Pailhac
Arreau
Jezeau
Aspin
Frechet-Aure
Camous
Col d'Aspin
Cabane du Lac
Cabane de la Targue
Baragne
Bergé de-Jumet
Jumet
Mounes
Sct
Pic de Montaspect
Pic de Douly
Pic de Montlas
Pic de Pouy Uselat
Pic de Ferrére
Pic de Montaut
Pic de Saillard
Pic du Cars
Som d'Olives
Sost
Esbareich
Chalets St Nére
Maulcon
Ourde
Cazarilh
Saléchan
Siradan
Frontignan
Fronsac
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Chaum
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Vallée d'Oueil
Vallée de Luchon
Vallée de Barousse
Vallée de Larboust
Vallée d'Oo
Vallée du Lys
Vallée de la Pique
Vallée d'Astos
Vallée d'Ariége
Montréjeau
St Paul
Aussun
Pointis-d-Riv
Valentine
Miramont
Mazéres
Aventignan
Gourdan
Ardiége
Cier-de-Rivière
Loo
Regades
Encausse
Cabanac
Payssous
Barbazan
Lezian
Ilhan
Gesset
Roucau
Izaourt
Luscan
Malvésie
Génos
Bertren
Galié
Carrabuille
Cazaunous
Lourdes
St Pédardet
Antichan
Moncaup
Arguenos
Bagiri
Ste Marie
Orés
Traubat
Bramevaque
Sacoué
Gembre
Samuran
Caudent
Antichan-d-Barére
Mont-de-Galié
Campels
St Bertrand-de-Caminges
Loures
Barbazan
Labroquére
Tibiran-Jaunac
Jaunac
Le Luc
Lombrés
Gargas
Montégut
Nestier
Hautagete
Clos
Aréres
Marmoute
Montousse
Bizous
Monsérie
Bize-Nistos
Lahitte
Générest
St Martin
Valcabrére
Sarp
Areux
Créchex
Anla
Hiheu
Pic de Picharrot
Bas-Nistos
Bayelle
Lombre
Pé de Mouret
Ht-Nistos
Reboue
Pic de Pécare
Jancanot
Sct de Bassia
Mare de la Soule
Sarrancolins
Illhet
Cabane de la Targue
Baragne
Cabane du Lac
Col d'Aspin
Camous
Frechet-Aure
Aspin
Ardengost
Areng Mre
Barancaneu
Pailhac
Arreau
Jezeau
Ancizan
Cizian
Ilhan
Bordéres
Gouaux
Guchen
Bazus-Aure
Gaithen
Arajan
Camparan
Vielle-Aure
Bourisp
Pouchergues
Vignec
Cadeilhan
Trachére
Estrusan
Anzet
Ens
Nabias
Génost
Londervielle
Germ
Pic du Midi
Cap de Loubére
Pic de Berlalade
Pic de Sarrouyes
Pic de Thou
Pic de Lustou
Pic de Guerreys ou de Bucou
Pic Batcrau
Pic de Batchimale
Pic Pédard
Tuquet de Camarére
Pic d'Espichadere
Pic d'Agoudes
Pic de Monségu
Pic de Cécire
Pic de Belle-Sayette
Pic du Midi de Génost
Lac de Caillauous
Lacs Gours Blancs
Spijoles
P. Quarrat
Lac Vert
P. des Gours Blancs
P. de Crabioules
P. de Maupas
P. de Boum
P. Perdighero
P. de Rancuo
Pic de Sacroutes
P. de la Pique
P. de Suvegorde
P. de la Mine
Pic de l'Entecule
Las Hordes
Cap de la Palo
Pic de Montarque

The new town, on the other hand, is farther from the station, lower down, between the One and the Pique. It is about five times as large as the old town and is handsomely laid out with pleasant buildings, villas surrounded with gardens, good streets, and fine promenades. The **Allée* or *Allées d'Etigny*, which we enter immediately beyond the old town, is an avenue planted with four rows of old lime-trees, which extends to the Bath Establishment. It is the centre of the town and takes its name from Meyret d'Etigny, who came to Luchon after 1751 as magistrate, induced the chemists Bayen and Richard to examine the waters, had the Montréjeau and Bigorre roads made, and laid out this promenade in 1765. At the end of the valley appear the three summits of the Pic Sacrous, Pic de Sauvegarde, and Pic de la Mine (pp. 184, 183).

At the end of the Allée is a *Statue of M. d'Etigny*, by Crauk.

The Bath Establishment, adjacent on the W. to the Superbagnères mountain, from which the springs rise, is a large building with nothing remarkable in its exterior save its peristyle of 28 pillars, each a monolith of white St. Béat marble. In the interior the entrance-hall (Salle des Pas-Perdus) is a fine chamber decorated with mural paintings by Romain Cazes, representing the springs, oreads, etc. Two transverse galleries lead to the halls for baths and douches; and a staircase at the end to the drinking places, and to the curious subterranean galleries. An annexe is allotted to vapour baths and to 'graduated moistenings' under a special system. The establishment at Luchon is considered to be one of the best organised in existence; it is open all the year round.

The Mineral Waters contain chiefly sulphate of sodium. One of the advantages of Luchon as a health-resort is the great choice presented by its 48 springs, which vary much in their composition, in amount of sulphuration, and in temperature (62° to 151° Fahr.), and thus allow of a great diversity of treatment. They are, however, especially employed in skin affections, rheumatism, scrofula, lymphatic cases, catarrhs, syphilis, and surgical cases. The waters are drunk and inhaled, but chiefly taken in baths. They change rapidly on exposure to the air, becoming milky and precipitating sulphur. The principal springs, all sulphureous, are known by the following names: *Reine* (126° Fahr.), *Bayen* (151°), *Azémar* (102°), *Richard Nouvelle* (122°), *Grotte Supérieure* (137.5°), *Blanche* (117°), *Ferras Ancienne* (100°), *Ferras Nouvelle* (105°), *Enceinte* (120°), *Etigny* (118°), *Bosquet* (109°), *Sengez* (106°), *Bordeu* (120°), *Richard Inférieure* or *Ancienne* (100°), *Grotte Inférieure* (126°), and *Pré I, II,* and *III* (145°; 108°; 95°). The remaining springs either differ but little from these, or are used as 'sources alimentaires', *i. e.* in a combination of springs of small outflow. The annual yield of the warm sulphur springs is over 132,000 gallons per day. There is also a *Saline Spring* (62°).

In front of the Baths stretches the fine *Promenade des Quin-*

conces, where concerts are given in the morning from 10 to 11 (in the Casino in the evening). Chair 10 c. during the day, 20 c. for the concerts, or by subscription.

Adjoining the promenade is a *Jardin Anglais* with a small lake, the *Buvette du Pré*, and a *Fruitière* for the whey-cure. Higher up is the *Bosquet*, a much frequented promenade at the foot of Superbagnères (p. 157), with the *Fontaine d'Amour* and several restaurants. Behind the Buvette du Pré is a *Mountain Railway* (opened in 1893), which ascends the slope of Superbagnères to the *Café-Restaurant de la Chaumière;* it affords pretty views. The *Allée des Bains*, extending from the Quinconces to the bank of the Pique and along that river, forms a promenade in the town itself.

The *Grand Casino* is in the new town between the Allée des Bains and the Boulevard du Casino. It is a handsome building of recent erection and situated in a park of about 9 acres. The rooms are extensive and richly ornamented, including a concert room, ball room, theatre, reading, billiard, and refreshment rooms, etc.

On the first floor are some *Relief-models* of much interest, executed by Lézat, the engineer. One represents the whole chain of the Pyrenees on a scale of 1 to 40,000, and another, a master-piece of patience and accuracy modelled on the spot, the central range of the same mountains on 1 : 10,000 horizontal, and 1 : 5000 vertical scale. There are also geological and botanical collections, an exhibition of paintings, etc.

The principal points of interest in the immediate vicinity of Luchon are *Castelvieil* and the *Waterfalls of Juzet* and *Montauban*. — **Juzet** lies about 2 M. to the N.E., on the right bank of the Pique, and is reached by crossing first the railway and then the river, not far from the station. The fall is about 120 ft. high; $1/2$ fr. is charged for visiting it, but it can be well seen from the opposite side of the valley. — **Montauban** $1\,1/2$ M. to the E. of Luchon, along the road prolonging the Rue de Piqué, may also be reached from Juzet in $1/2$ hr. The fall is at the top of the village and the usual approach is through the curé's garden (50 c.). — **Castelvieil** is a ruined tower (14th cent.) on an isolated hill (2530 ft.) about 2 M. up the valley, to the left of the road leading into Spain. It commands a fine view up and down the valley of the Pique and of the valley of Burbe to the E. (50 c.). In making the excursion into the Val du Lys (p. 181) we pass the tower. Not far from it is a chalybeate spring.

III. Excursions.

To St. Bertrand-de-Comminges, 22 M., carriage 30-35 fr.; railway route viâ *Loures*, see p. 174.

*To the Lac d'Oo, 10 M., of which 8 M. are practicable for carriages; brakes, see p. 176; guide (unnecessary) and horse 6 fr. each; carriage and pair 25 fr., with 4 horses 30 fr. An early start is advisable, to avoid the heat. After passing through the old town and along the *Allée des Soupirs*, we follow the Bagnères-de-Bigorre road, which first ascends sharply and then descends into the *Valley of the Arboust*. — $2\,3/4$ M. *Chapelle-St. Aventin*, at the mouth of the Oueil valley (p. 180). — $3\,3/4$ M. *St. Aventin*, a village with a Romanesque church into which some ancient altars and carvings

have been built. — 4½ M. *Cazaux-de-l'Arboust,* where the church has some rude but interesting frescoes of the 15th century. Here we leave the Bagnères road (p. 174), turn to the left, and skirt the right side of the huge moraine, deposited by the glacier which once filled the Oo valley, descending more than 5000 ft. lower than those of to day. The tourist will observe many erratic blocks due to this glacier. — 5½ M. *Oo* (guide, J. Brunet), at the mouth of the narrow valley of that name, which is also known as the *Val d'Astau* (toll for each horse 20 c.). — At (8 M.) *Granges d'Astau* the carriage-road ends, and the excursion must be continued on horseback (2-3 fr.) or on foot. To the left opens the *Vallon de Médassoles,* interesting to botanists; to the right is the *Val d'Esquierry,* which is also rich in flowers. The latter valley, at the entrance to which is the *Cascade de la Chevelure de Madeleine,* forms the first part of the difficult but interesting ascent (2 hrs.) of the *Pic des Gours-Blancs* (Gouffres Blancs; 10,220 ft.). The ascent leads past the *Lac de Caillaouas,* on the bank of which is a hut with sleeping accommodation. — The Lac d'Oo road now ascends in zigzags among huge rocks, to the left of the torrent which descends from the (¾-1 hr.) ***Lac d'Oo,** or *de Séculéjo* (4920 ft.; Inn; each pers. and horse 25 c.). The lake is nearly ½ M. long and about ⅓ M. broad and has an area of 95 acres with a depth of 180-210 ft. Its waters, which are full of trout, are steadily shrinking and there is little doubt that, like many others, the lake will ultimately disappear. The scene is wild and impressive. The lake is surrounded by bold and lofty rocks, above which appear the snow-clad summits of the Quairats (left), the Montarqué (in front), and the Crête de Spijoles and the Pic de Nère (right; nearer). At the head of the lake a fine * *Waterfall* (890 ft.) descends in three successive leaps to the rocks below, while not the least charm of the picture is the changeful mirror afforded by the greenish waters of the lake. Ferry across the lake, 1 pers. 1 fr. 75 c., 2 pers. 2 fr., 3 or more pers. 75 c. each; boat round the lake 2½, 3, and 4 fr., each addit. pers. 75 c. To reach the waterfall on foot takes 35 min. (rough path).

To the Port d'Oo *(Pic Quairats),* 8 hrs. from Luchon, 5¼ hrs. from the Lac d'Oo; guide 10-12 fr., horse to (12½ M.) the Lac de Saousat 8 fr. — From the Lac d'Oo (see above) we ascend to the left and in 1 hr. pass the *Lac d'Espingo* (6160 ft.), whence the difficult ascent of the *Pic Quairats* (10,035 ft.) may be made in 4 hours. In 25-30 min. more we reach the *Lac de Saousat* (6395 ft.), where we leave the path to the Portillon d'Oo (see below) on the left. The pyramid in front is the Tuc de Montarqué (see below). We take the right hand path, which is very steep, and, 1½ hr. farther on, skirt a small lake and the *Pic de Spijoles* (10,000 ft.). Another 1½ hr. brings us to the *Lac Glacé d'Oo* (8760 ft.) beyond which we enter on perpetual snow. The ascent now becomes easier and it is only ¾ hr. to the **Port d'Oo** (9850 ft.), the col between the *Pic du Port d'Oo* (10,215 ft.), on the right, and the *Seil de la Baque* (10,040 ft.), on the left. The view is striking; on every side are mountains covered with snow and glaciers, the chief summits being the Pic Posets in front of us, the Gours-Blancs to the W., the crest of the Spijoles to the N.W., and to the E. the Cra-

bioules. — The descent on the other side of the col brings us in 4 hrs. to Vénasque (p. 183).

To the Portillon d'Oo *(Tuc de Montarqué, Pic de Crabioules, Pic de Perdighero)*, about 8 hrs.; guide and horse as above. The road is the same as the above as far as the (5½ hrs.) *Lac de Saousat*. Thence we ascend to the left between the Tuc de Montarqué and the Pic Quairats and pass the *Michot Waterfall* and to the right of the (2 hrs.) *Lac Glacé du Portillon* (8660 ft.). The last part of the ascent is difficult. The **Portillon d'Oo** (9985 ft.) is the highest of the Pyrenean passes; the view is similar to that from the Port d'Oo (see above). — From the Lac Glacé du Portillon the *Tuc de Montarqué* (9685 ft.; 1 hr.; easy), to the N.E., the *Pic de Crabioules* (10,230 ft.; 1½ hr.), to the E., and the *Pic Perdighero* (9585 ft.; 2½ hrs.), to the S.E., may be ascended. The two last are difficult; the views from all three are fine.

To the Pic de Céciré, 4-4½ hrs.; guide and horse 8 fr. each. We proceed to *Cazaux* (p. 179) and then take an easy bridle-path to the S., which beyond (40 min.) *Bordes-de-Labach* leads direct to the peak, by the *Col de la Coume-de-Bourg*. A shorter but more fatiguing route leads viâ Superbagnères (see p. 181) and thence to the W. by the arête of a spur of the mountain. The **Pic de Céciré** (7875 ft.) affords a wide view, one of the finest to be had in the Luchon district. To the S. it commands a grand amphitheatre of snow-clad peaks from those of the Lys valley to the Pic Posets. — The descent, by the Lys valley, takes 3½ hrs.

To the Pic de Monségu, 4½ hrs.; guide and horse 6 fr. each, or 7 fr. if the return is made by the Esquierry valley (5 hrs.). To (4½ M.) *Cazaux*, see p. 179. We follow the same road for 1½ M. farther, passing *Garin*, then diverge to the left, by the route to (1 M.) *Gouaux-de-l'Arboust*. Thence we ascend through meadows, a wood, and pastures to a slate-quarry where we turn to the left and, passing a small lake, reach (1¼ hr.) a little col with a spring. From here to the summit, 1¼ hr. more. Travellers intending to return by the Esquierry valley dismount, ½ hr. from the spring, and send the horses to the Pas de Couret, on the S. side of the mountain. The **Pic de Monségu** (7890 ft.) affords a very fine view of the central chain of the Pyrenees, with its glaciers, from those of the Gours-Blancs to those of the Monts-Maudits. At the foot of the truncated cone forming the summit is an echo which repeats eight syllables. — The descent to the *Pas de Couret*, to the S., takes 1 hr.; thence the Val d'Esquierry branches to the E. to the Vallée d'Oo (p. 179).

To the Monné, 4½ hrs.; guide (unnecessary) and horse, each 7 fr. by day, 10 fr. by night, when the ascent is made in order to see the sunrise; carriage to (9¼ M.) Bourg-d'Oueil and back 20-25 fr. — We follow the Lac d'Oo road as far as the (2¾ M.) *Chapelle St. Aventin* (p. 178), where we turn to the right into the pretty *Oueil Valley*, in which we pass a succession of small villages, well situated but otherwise uninteresting: *Benqué-Dessous, Benqué-Dessus, Maylin*, (2¾ M.) *St. Paul-d'Oueil, Mayrègne, Caubous, Cirès*, and (3½ M.) *Bourg-d'Oueil* (Inn). Beyond this village we ascend to the right to (1½ hr.) the summit of the **Monné** or *Montné* (7045 ft.), a view-point situated between the plain and the highest range and commanding the Pyrenees from Mont-Perdu to the Pic de Montvallier, a sweep of 50 M., distant from the Monné from 25 to 30 M. in a direct line. The glaciers of the central mass as far as the Monts-Maudits are also well seen. The ascent of the Monné is most frequently made in order to enjoy the sunrise, which from June to the end of August, owing to the sun then rising to the N. of the mountains, lights up their snows and glaciers.

To the Pic d'Antenac, 3-4 hrs., there and back 6 hrs.; guide (not indispensable) and horse 6 fr. The route is identical with the one just described as far as ($5^1/_2$ M.) *St. Paul-d'Oueil.* Thence we ascend to the right by a steep bridle-path into a bare valley and across the *Col de la Serre.* The **Pic d'Antenac** (about 6560 ft.) affords a view embracing the Monts-Maudits and the glaciers of Crabioules and of the Gours-Blancs, etc., but more especially in the direction of the Garonne valley. — In returning we may follow the crest of the mountain southward and descend either into the Oueil valley at *Sacourville,* opposite Benqué-Dessous (see above) or, farther on, into the Arboust valley at *Trébons,* a little before the Chapelle St. Aventin.

To Superbagnères, $2^1/_2$-$3^1/_2$ hrs.; guide and horse, 6 fr. each. Pedestrians may ascend either directly from the town (using the mountain-railway at first; p. 178) or by a path to the left at the first bridge (Pont de Mousquérès), on the Lac d'Oo road (p. 178); but both routes are hard to find. Riders proceed to ($3^1/_2$ M.) St. Aventin (p. 178) and thence ascend to the left, by meadows and a shaded bridle-path in the direction of the ($^3/_4$ hr.) *Granges de Gourron.* Crossing the brook beyond the hamlet they mount to the left, and traverse a pine wood to the ($^3/_4$ hr. more) pastures and plateau of **Superbagnères** (5900 ft.; Inn). The plateau forms a kind of terrace of the *Pic de Céciré,* which rises 1970 ft. above it, requiring 2 hrs. more for the ascent (with guide; see p. 180). The view from the plateau is delightful in the direction of the Luchon valley, but even finer looking towards the glaciers of the Cirque du Lys. The descent may be made to the E. into the Vallée du Lys.

*To the Vallée du Lys and the Rue d'Enfer, a most interesting excursion; road to the (8 M.) head of the valley, then paths practicable for horses ($1^1/_2$ hr.). Carriage and pair, 20 fr., with 4 horses 25 fr.; guide (unnecessary) and horse 5 and 7 fr. each.; brakes, see p. 176. We follow at first the road to Spain, passing the tower of Castelvieil (p. 178) and crossing a bridge over the Pique, but a little farther on leave this road to the left (to the Port de Vénasque, see p. 183) and return to the left bank by the (3 M.) *Pont de Ravi.* At this point begins the ***Vallée du Lys,** or *Lis,* one of the finest in the Pyrenees. The valley is at first narrow and flanked by wooded heights, while the torrent, skirted by the road, forms several cascades, the chief of which is the *Trou de Bounéou* or the *Estranguillé,* between huge rocks which demand caution. [A visitor, to whom there is a monument, met his death here in 1876.] The valley soon expands and we see in front of us the ***Cirque du Lys,** shut in by noble mountains clad with glaciers among which that of the Crabioules is conspicuous. Of the three inns here, the best is that at the head of the valley, on the left beyond the torrent (about 3600 ft.). A few minutes more bring us to the **Cascade**

d'Enfer, a massive fall in a gloomy channel, worn in the rocks by the torrent. It is not possible, however, to obtain a single comprehensive view of the entire fall. To the left, on the other side of the inn, is a much smaller waterfall, named from its shape the *Cascade du Cœur*. It is most conveniently visited on the return by the S. side of the Lys. A zigzag path to the right, before the great waterfall is reached, leads in 25 min. to a bridge beyond this smaller fall. From the latter we reach, in about 15 min. more, the grand ***Gouffre d'Enfer**, which should be viewed from the foot of the flight of steps leading down into it. About 10 min. farther on there is another bridge, beyond which we continue to skirt the torrent. The gorge slightly expands. In 40 min. more we reach the ***Rue d'Enfer**, a striking chasm in a mountain of slate, of which the end and top can scarcely be seen. A path has recently been constructed by which we may penetrate to the end of the ravine in about $^3/_4$ hr.

To the Lac Vert *(Pic de Maupas, Pic de Boum)*, 4 hrs., carriage-road to the head of the Val du Lys, thence a bridle-path; guide (unnecessary for the road) and horse, 8 fr. each. From the last inn we turn to the S.E., in the direction of the Cascade du Cœur (see above), and ascend through the wood to the (25 min.) *Cascade de Solage*. Farther on we pass the *Cascade de Trégon* on the left, and reach ($1^1/_4$ hr. from the inn) the *Cirque des Graouès*, an ancient lake-bed, and ($^1/_4$ hr. more) the beautiful, horse-shoe shaped **Lac Vert** (6430 ft.), bordered on the E. by high rocks. The lake receives, by a cascade on the S., the waters of the *Lac Bleu*, which lies 40 min. higher up. — From the Lac Vert the difficult ascents (about 4 hrs.) of the *Pic* or *Tuc de Maupas* (10,200 ft.) and the *Pic de Boum* (10,040 ft.) may be made. Fine views.

To the Pic de Bacanère and the Pic de Burat, 4-5 hrs., 9 hrs. there and back; guide and horse, 8 fr. each; a fine excursion. We proceed first to *Juzet* (p. 178) and thence ascend to the N.E. to (3 M.) *Sode* (3000 ft.). Through woods we reach (5 M.) *Artigues* (4070 ft.) and ($1^1/_4$ hr. farther to the E.), the *Rochers de Cigalère*, a fine view-point. We next skirt the mountain to the left, and in $1^1/_4$ hr. more gain the summit of the **Pic de Bacanère** (7200 ft.), the view from which includes the valley of Luchon and its side valleys, as well as the Aran valley, the Port de la Glère, Port de Vénasque, and Port de la Piquade (see below), the Monné and the Pic du Midi, on the sky-line, the Superbagnères plateau, the cone of the Quairats, the Monts-Maudits, etc. — About $^1/_2$ hr. to the N. of the Pic de Bacanère rises the **Pales** or **Pic de Burat** (7050 ft.; Inn) which affords a splendid view resembling those from the Monné and the Pic d'Antenac (p. 181). — The descent may be made to the W. to Gouaux-de-Luchon, whence the Luchon road may be reached, to the left.

To the Poujastou, $4^1/_2$ hrs., there and back 8 hrs.; guide and horse (as far as the Col), 6 fr. each. The route leads viâ (20 min.) *Montauban* (p. 178), a small wood, the ($1^1/_2$ hr.) *Prairies d'Erran* (fine view), and the (10 min.) *Forêt de Sésartigues*, where we turn to the right. We next reach the ($1^1/_2$ hr.) *Fontaine Rouge*, a chalybeate spring, near the little *Grotte du Chat* (1 fr.; uninteresting), and ($^1/_2$ hr. more) the *Col des Courets* (6990 ft.). Thence the ($^1/_2$-$^3/_4$ hr.) summit of the **Poujastou** (6325 ft.) is reached on

foot, over slippery turf. Here, on the side next the Aran valley, which is well seen, we are on Spanish territory. The glaciers of the Val du Lys are in sight, but not those of the Monts-Maudits.

*To the Port de Vénasque and the Port de la Piquade *(Pic de Sauvegarde)*, a very interesting excursion, but long and fatiguing, requiring a whole day. It may be made on horseback throughout and even a carriage may be taken as far as the (6 M.) Hospice. Guide and horse to the Hospice 5, to the Port 8 fr.; carriage and pair to the Hospice, 25 fr., with 4 horses 30 fr.; toll at the frontier 50 c. — We take the road to Spain described as far as the *Pont de Ravi* on p. 181. Thence we continue the ascent, to the left, of the Pique valley, passing (3/4 M.) the *Granges de Labach* or *de Castaing*, whence a road diverging to the right (the old road over the Col de la Glère, p. 184) leads to (20-25 min.) the *Cascade des Demoiselles* (about 4920 ft., see below). Our road continues straight on through the *Bois de Charuga*.

6 M. **Hospice du Port de Vénasque**, *de France*, or *de Luchon* (4460 ft.), a large and good inn where the carriage-road ends and three paths diverge respectively to the Port de Vénasque, the old Port de la Glère, on the right, and the Ports Mounjoyo and de la Piquade, on the left.

Crossing a bridge in front of the Hospice and following the left bank of the Pique we come to a fork of the footpath. The left branch leads to (10 min.) the *Cascade du Parisien*, issuing from an exceedingly narrow gorge and descending by five leaps. — The right-hand path at the fork leads to the (25-30 min.) *Cascade des Demoiselles* (see above), at the end of a gloomy gorge shut in between wooded cliffs.

Beyond the Hospice the valley divides at the foot of the *Pic de la Pique* (7850 ft.), the ascent of which is dangerous. The valley to the left is the *Val de la Frêche;* that to the right is the sterile and desolate *Val du Port de Vénasque*, through which a toilsome bridle-path leads to the (3 3/4 M.) Port. — 7 1/2 M. *Le Culet*, a spot covered with detritus brought down by avalanches in the spring; here there are two little waterfalls. — 8 3/4 M. *Vallon de l'Homme*, so named from the rude monument to a French custom-house officer who was murdered by a smuggler. Farther on, to the left, is the *Trou des Chaudronniers*, where nine tinkers were buried in the snow. Then above five small lakes, on the right, the path mounts in zigzags to (9 M.) the ***Port de Vénasque** (7930 ft.), a dip in the frontier ridge between the *Pic de la Mine* (8880 ft.) on the left, and the *Pic de Sauvegarde*, on the right. The view of the Monts-Maudits which here suddenly opens is superb; but the prospect is even finer from the ***Pic de Sauvegarde** (8975 ft.; 3/4-1 hr. from the Port) which may be easily ascended even on horseback. There is a path to the summit (1 fr. for its use).

On the other side of the Col is a small Spanish inn. Bearing to the left along the *Peña Blanca*, we pass the springs of *Peña Blanca* and *Coustères*, and, always in view of the Monts-Maudits, reach (1 1/4 M.) the **Port de la Piquade** or *Picade* (7950 ft.), from

which the view is equally fine. The difficult bit we now enter on, to the left, over slippery rocks, is the *Pas de l'Escalette* (7870 ft.), whence we may descend to (5 M.) the Hospice du Port de Vénasque viâ the *Pas de Mounjoyo* (which leads, on the right, into the Aran valley), by a route presenting some difficulty at places, and finally descending to the left, into the Val de la Frêche (p. 183).

To THE COL DE LA GLÈRE *(Pic Sacrous)*, 4 hrs; guide and horse (to the lake) 8 fr. each. The old road diverges to the right at the Granges de Labach, in the Pique valley (p. 159); the new road starts from the Hospice du Port de Vénasque; the two unite in the *Cirque de la Glère*, from which an easy ascent mounts to the **Col de la Glère** (7615 ft.), an old 'port' or pass into Aragon. The view from the col is somewhat limited, but from the *Lac de Gorgutes*, 10 min. below it on the Spanish side, there is a very wide prospect. — The **Pic Sacrous** (8785 ft.), to the W., may be ascended from the col in $^3/_4$ hr. The view includes the Monts-Maudits and the glaciers of the Vallée du Lys.

To THE PIC DE L'ENTÉCADE, 4 hrs.; guide (not indispensable) and horse, 6 fr. each. The route follows the road to Spain as far as the Hospice (p. 183) and thence for $^3/_4$ hr. more the bridle-path to the Port de la Piquade. Then, turning once more to the left, we cross the pastures to the ($^1/_2$ hr.) *Cabane de Pouylane*, inhabited by Spanish shepherds. Passing next the little *Etang des Garses*, we reach (10 min.) a col affording a view of the Maladetta, and (20 min.) another col whence we see the Aran valley. The summit of the **Pic de l'Entécade** (7285 ft.) is gained in 10 min. more. The view is magnificent, finer if possible on the Monts-Maudits side than from the Port de Vénasque. It includes moreover the summits on this side and extends westward as far as the Pic du Midi, the Vignemale, and Mont-Perdu; eastward over the Spanish summits beyond the Aran; and northward to the plains of Gascony.

To THE PIC DE NÉTHOU. This expedition, fit only for practised climbers, is long and expensive, especially to the single traveller, but with ordinary prudence it is without danger. The best season is between July 20 and Sept. 1, and it requires two days. If the Rencluse route be taken two guides are required, with ice-axes and ropes; but one guide is sufficient for the ascent by the Malibierne valley. In the former case riding is practicable as far as the (7 hrs.) Rencluse; in the latter case, as far as the ($10^1/_2$ hrs.) Ribereta hut. Guides and horses, each 15 fr. per day; provisions must also be taken. The night is spent at the Spanish inn beyond the Port du Vénasque (moderate) or better at the Rencluse (10 fr.), or in the Ribereta hut, unless the traveller prefers to bivouac in the open air. — To the *Port de Vénasque*, see p. 183.

A. Viâ THE RENCLUSE. We follow the Port de la Piquade route as far as the *Peña Blanca Spring*, then turn to the right to the (1 hr.) *Plan des Etangs*, and, farther on, to the right again to (1 hr.; 7 hrs. from Luchon) the *Rencluse* (6970 ft.). This hut is situated at the foot of a rock near the *Gouffre de Turmon*, where the *Esera*, the torrent fed by the Maladetta glacier, becomes subterranean only to reappear in the Vénasque valley. The torrent of the Néthou glacier also disappears at the *Trou du Toro*, $^1/_2$ hr. from the Rencluse route, near the top of the Plan des Etangs. — A very early start is made on the second day so as to ensure, if possible, a clear view from the summit of the Néthou. We ascend in a S. S. E. direction to ($2^1/_2$ hrs.) the *Portillon* (9540 ft.), between the *Maladetta Glacier*, on the right, and the *Néthou Glacier*, on the left. Then (using the rope) we ascend the last-named, the main one ($2^1/_2$ by 1 M.), from

N.W. to S.E., as far as the (1 hr.) *Lac Coroné* (10,410 ft.) at the foot of the *Dôme du Néthou*, which we ascend, with difficulty, in 1/2 hr. The next part of the ascent, the (1/2 hr.) *Pont de Mahomet*, is the most trying point for those who are subject to giddiness, as it is a ridge about 80 ft. long and only 3 ft. wide, with an abyss on each side. This accomplished, we are on the **Pic de Néthou,** or *d'Aneto* (11,170 ft.), the highest summit of the Pyrenees, and the centre of the **Monts-Maudits**, a nearly isolated group of granite peaks, to the S. of the principal range, in Spanish territory. The group has been compared to Mont Blanc, but it is 4600 ft. lower. The other summits are, to the W., the *Maladetta* (11,005 ft.), a name often given to the whole group, and also known as the *Pic du Milieu*, the *Pic Occidental de la Maladetta* (10,865 ft.), and the *Pic d'Albe* (10,760 ft.). The range which links this mass to the main chain on the N. includes the peaks of *Las Sallanques*, *Moulières*, *Fourcanade* (9455 ft.), *des Barrancs*, and *Pouméro* (8810 ft.). — The summit of the Néthou, a plateau of 75 ft. by 26 ft., is surrounded by precipices on all sides, except the N. by which the ascent is made. The view is very extensive but is often obscured by mist and always indistinct on account of the elevation. The peaks best seen are those mentioned above, those on the frontier to the N.W., the Pic Posets to the W., and the Pic Malibierne (10,475 ft.) and Pic Castanesa (9405 ft.) to the S. There is a register on the summit in which the traveller writes his name and he is also desired to read the thermometers fixed there. — The descent may be made by the Col de Coroné (see below), and thence over the (2 hrs.) *Col de Querigueña* (9600 ft.) to the (3/4 hr.) *Lac de Querigueña*, *Cregueña*, or *Gregonio* (8710 ft.), one of the largest in the Pyrenees (200 acres), and by the *Gorge de Querigueña* to the *Bains de Vénasque*, 5 hrs. from the summit. The horses should be ordered to meet the traveller here or at any rate at the Hospice de Vénasque. — The *Pic de la Maladetta* (4 1/2 hrs.) and the *Pic d'Albe* (3 hrs.) are also ascended, through seldom, from the Renclusse.

B. Viâ THE MALIBIERNE VALLEY (*Bains de Vénasque*). — From the *Port de Vénasque* (p. 183) we descend to the right in 1 hr. to the *Hospice de Vénasque* (5895 ft.; toll). Thence we follow the Vénasque (or Esera) valley, crossing several torrents, one of which, the (1/2 hr.) *Ramono*, forms a fine waterfall. About 2 hrs. from the Port, 20 min. to the left, are the *Bains de Vénasque* (moderate), with warm sulphur springs similar to those of Luchon. In 1/4 hr. more, on the left, is the Gorge de Querigueña (see above), and in another 1/2 hr. we turn to the left from the road to *Vénasque*, a small fortified town, 1 1/4 hr. farther on. We now ascend the *Malibierne Valley*, wooded at first and then pastoral, to (3 1/2 hrs.) the *Ribereta Hut* (6655 ft.), 10 1/2 hrs. from Luchon. — On the second day, we follow the same track in the valley, first on the right and afterwards on the left bank of the torrent, passing (1 1/4 hr.) a fine waterfall. We then ascend to the left (N.), leaving on the left the *Lac Inférieur d'Eréoueil* and the *Lac Glacé d'Eréoueil* and reach the (1/2 hr.) *Lac Supérieur d'Eréoueil* (9070 ft.), which is also frozen. Thence we command a grand view of the *Glacier de Coroné* and of the massive precipices of Néthou and Maladetta. We ascend for some time to the W. of the glacier and then cross it (no crevasses), to the (1 3/4 hr.) *Col de Coroné* (10,475 ft.), where we join the route described above.

TO THE PIC POSETS, a toilsome but unhazardous expedition, seldom made. It takes 3 days, the nights being spent at the Turmes hut (to which riding is practicable), or at the Astos hut. Guides and horses, each 15 fr. per day. We follow the route last described, up the Vénasque valley, and beyond the divergence of the Malibierne valley, to the (7 1/2 hrs.) *Pont de Cubère*, 1 1/2 M. on this side of Vénasque (see above). Crossing the bridge we ascend to the N.W. in the *Astos Valley*, with its fine waterfalls, to the (1 1/2 hr.) *Turmes Hut* (5510 ft.) and the (1 1/2 hr. more) *Astos Hut* (5900 ft.). At least an hour may be saved by leaving the Vénasque road opposite the Baths and proceeding to the W. into the Val de Litayrolles and so direct into the Astos valley, below the Turmes hut. — The hut lies 5 1/2 hrs. below the summit. We turn first to the

S. and then to the S.W., mounting a succession of rocky terraces to the glacier, which is gained in 3 hrs., at the *Col de Paoul* or *Paül* (about 9510 ft.). Crossing the glacier, which is free from danger, we reach (about 1 hr.) a sheer rocky wall, the scaling of which (20 min.) is the chief difficulty in the expedition. The **Pic Posets** or *des Posets* (11,045 ft.), the second summit in the Pyrenees, forms, like the Néthou, its neighbour on the E., the centre of a nearly isolated mass. It commands a finer view because it is more central: to the W., Mont-Perdu, the Vignemale, and the peaks of Balaïtous, Ger, Gabizos, and Midi d'Ossau; to the N.W., the Neouvielle and the Pic du Midi de Bigorre; to the N. the peaks of Clarabide, Gours-Blancs, Port d'Oo, Perdighero, and Sauvegarde; to the E., the Monts-Maudits; and to the S., the Pic d'Eristé. — The return may be made on foot viâ the Port d'Oo (p. 179), $3^1/_2$ hrs. from the Astos hut; there is no path and the descent to the Lac d'Oo is fatiguing, but the view to the N. is very fine.

27. From Boussens (Toulouse or Tarbes) to Aulus viâ St. Girons.

41 M. Railway to ($20^1/_2$ M.) *St. Girons*, in 1 hr. (fares 3 fr. 70, 2 fr. 50, 1 fr. 65 c.). Diligence in the season from St. Girons to ($20^1/_2$ M.) *Aulus* in 3 hrs.; fare, 3 fr.; another public conveyance $1^1/_2$ fr.; carriages, to hold 4 pers., 25 fr.; the hotels also send carriages to meet the trains. A 'courrier' also leaves St. Girons at 4 a. m. and at 1 p. m.

Boussens and the Château de Roquefort, see p. 137. — Our line diverges to the left from the Tarbes line, crosses the Garonne, and ascends the *Salat* valley. $3^1/_2$ M. *Mazères-sur-Salat.*

6 M. *Salies-du-Salat* (Hôt. Feuillerat), a small town dominated by the ruins of a castle (13-14th cent.) and possessing some unimportant saline and sulphur springs. — 8 M. *His-Mane-Touille* is the station for three villages. — 10 M. *Castagnède*; 13 M. *Prat-et-Bonrepaux*; 16 M. *Caumont.* The valley contracts.

16 M. **St. Lizier,** a decayed little town of 1411 inhab., picturesquely situated on a hill to the left, is the ancient *Lugdunum Consoranorum* and was formerly the chief town of the Couserans. It still retains a large part of its *Roman Walls*, with twelve towers. The ancient *Cathedral* (12-14th cent.) has a cloister of the 12-13th cent., etc. — About $1^1/_4$ M. to the E. (omnibus) is *Audinac*, a hamlet with baths supplied by two considerable mineral springs.

41 M. **St. Girons** (1350 ft.; *Hôtel de France* or *Ferrière*), an industrial town of 5448 inhab., at the confluence of the Salat, the Lez, and the Baup, contains one modern and two ancient churches, of which one is in ruins. It is a convenient starting-point for some interesting excursions among the neighbouring parts of the Pyrenees. The railway is to be extended to Foix (R. 28).

The Road to Sentein ($15^1/_2$ M.) ascends the Lez valley, to the S.W. — At ($2^1/_2$ M.) *Aubert* there is a fine bone-cavern, with stalactites. 3 M. *Moulis* has a ruined castle. 5 M. *Engommer*; 8 M. *Castillon* (Inn). 10 M. *Les Bordes*, at the opening of the fine valley of (3 M.) *Bethmale*, whose inhabitants retain their peculiar costume. — In the next valley, the *Vallée de Biros*, one of the finest in the district, there are zinc and lead mines. — 11 M. *Bonnac.* — $12^1/_2$ M. **Sentein** (2490 ft.; *Inn*) contains a fortified church of the 14th century. — About 12 M. to the S. is the *Port d'Urets*

(8355 ft.), leading into the Aran valley in Spain, and commanded by the *Pic de Maubermé* (9450 ft.), the highest summit in this part of the Pyrenees.

The Road to Foix (p. 189), to the E., viâ the Baup valley and (1¼ M.) *Audinac* (p. 186), forks at (6¼ M.) *Lescure*, one branch leading to (2¾ M.) *Pamiers* (p. 189). About 11 M. from Lescure and 1¼ M. before the little town of *Mas-d'Azil* (Hôt. du Grand-Soleil) is a gorge, containing the bold **Roche du Mas**, pierced by a large cavern through which run the river Arize and the road. The cavern is ¼ M. long and 260 ft. high by 160 ft. wide at the entrance, but less in the middle and at the other end. Various side-galleries may be examined on application to the keeper at the entrance.

The Road to Aulus (Couflens) ascends the valley of the Salat which gradually narrows and forms a defile at the entrance to which are the ivy-clad ruins of the *Château d'Encourtiech*. — 3¾ M. *Lacourt*, with the remains of a 14th cent. keep and of a castle (16th cent.). The gorge now passes between wooded heights. — 7½ M. *Pont de Kercabanac*, at the confluence of the Salat and Arac.

The Road to Tarascon (28 M.), also interesting, crosses the bridge and ascends the valley of the Arac. — Beyond (2½ M.) *Castet*, we thread a (1¼ M.) rocky defile. 6¾ M. *Biert*. 9¼ M. **Massat** (2130 ft.; *Hôt. Lapène*), a decayed town of 3700 inhab., with bone-caverns in the vicinity. — 15 M. *Rieupregoun*. — 20 M. *Le Port* (4100 ft.; fine view), the col between the *Tuc de l'Homme-Mort* (5490 ft.), on the left, and the *Pic d'Estibat* (5475 ft.), on the right. — 23½ M. *Saurat*, with 3124 inhab., whence a public conveyance plies to Tarascon. — 25 M. **Bédeillac**, with a ruined *Castle* and two large and very interesting stalactite caverns. These may be visited from *Tarascon* (p. 190).

The road now turns to the S. and traverses a short tunnel. — 8 M. *St. Sernin*. — 9 M. *Soueix*.

The Road to Couflens (8¾ M.) diverges to the right from the Aulus road a little farther on and continues to ascend the Salat valley. About 2½ M. from Soueix is **Seix** (*Hôt. Brousset*), an ancient town of 3050 inhab., with *Baths* and marble quarries. Above it rises a hill (3965 ft.) on which are the ruins of the *Château de Mirabal*. — From (2 M. farther) *Couflens-de-Betmajou* the ascent of the Montvallier, to the W., may be made in 7-7½ hrs. (with guide from Seix). The route leads up the *Estours* valley to the (4 hrs.) *Cabanes d'Aula*, where the night may be spent, and thence viâ the (2½ hrs.) *Col de Peyreblanque*, and by a dip where we have to pass below a rock, the only point of any difficulty. The **Pic de Montvallier** (9314 ft.) is a nearly isolated cone commanding a wide prospect, extending from the Monts-Maudits to the Montcalm. — The road beyond Couflens-de-Betmajou traverses a gorge, dominated by the ruined *Château de la Garde*, and ends at (8¾ M.) *Couflens*, an unimportant town, 17½ M. from St. Girons.

The valley again expands. The Aulus road crosses the Salat and ascends the valley of the Garbet, to the right of which rises the Montvallier (see above). — 10 M. *Vic*, with an interesting Romanesque church. — 10½ M. *Oust* is a place of early origin ('Augusta'), with remains of its ancient walls. — 15½ M. *Ercé*, with 2630 inhabitants.

20½ M. **Aulus.** — **Hotels.** Grand Hôtel, near the chief Bath Establishment, R. 1-5, B. 1, déj. 3½, D. 3½, pens. 10-13 fr.; Hôtel du Parc, near the Casino; Hôtel du Midi or Biros, George, des Bains, at the entrance of the village; Hôt. de France; Souquet. — Furnished Apartments: *Francis Rougé*, *Théoph. Crouzat*, *Hôtel de l'Europe*, etc. — **Bath Establishments.** Fee for drinking the waters, 10 fr. for 3 weeks at the old, 5 fr. at the new; baths and douches, 2 fr. at the old, 75 c. at the new.

Aulus (2500 ft.) is a well-situated village on the Garbet, in a little valley enclosed by mountains covered with pastures and woods. Its warm mineral *Springs* (sulphate of lime and iron) were probably known to the Romans and still enjoy a considerable reputation. The waters are strongly charged with soda and magnesia and are actively purgative and diuretic. They have long been used for a special treatment of serious cases of syphilis. There are two Bath Establishments, both on the left bank of the river, to the right of the village proper. The *Etablissement Lombard*, the older, with four warm springs, is situated in an attractive little park, at the end of which is a *Casino*. The newer *Etablissement Lacoste* has only one spring (55° Fahr.), the water of which is heated for bathing.

Excursions. — To the **Montbéas** (6240 ft.), the mountain overlooking the valley on the N., an easy climb of 2 hrs. The view is fine and extends to the plains of Toulouse. Halfway up, from the *Bertrone* (4595 ft.), there is also a good view of the valley and of a large number of the mountain peaks on the frontier. — *To the Cascade d'Arse, a delightful walk of 1½-2 hrs., up the valleys of the Garbet and the Arse, the latter of which begins about 1½ M. to the S.E. of Aulus. We follow the left bank of the torrent, traversing a defile known as the *Trou d'Enfer*. The ***Cascade d'Arse** is one of the largest and finest in the Pyrenees. The total height of the fall is about 360 ft., divided into three leaps of which the second has a breadth of more than 160 ft. — To the Lac de Garbet, 2 hrs. The road ascends the stream to the huts of *Castel-Minier*, where we turn to the S., still following the beautiful valley of the Garbet, which also forms a fine waterfall. The **Lac de Garbet** (5480 ft.) is of considerable size, and is surrounded by pastures. Not far from it is another and smaller lake. — To Vicdessos, 4½ hrs. We take the carriage-road viâ *Castel-Minier* (see above), and thence over the (2½ hrs.) *Port de Saleix* (5910 ft.) and viâ (1¾ hrs.) *Saleix* (3320 ft.), whence there is a pretty view. — *Vicdessos*, see p. 190.

28. From Toulouse to Foix, Tarascon, Ussat, and Ax.

77 M. Railway all the way. To (51½ M.) *Foix*, in 2-2½ hrs. (fares 9 fr. 30, 6 fr. 25, 4 fr. 10 c.). — To (61 M.) *Tarascon*, in 2½-3¼ hrs. (fares 11 fr. 10, 7 fr. 40, 4 fr. 85 c.). — To (63 M.) *Ussat*, in 2½-3½ hrs. (fares 11 fr. 50, 7 fr. 70, 5 fr. 5 c.). — To (77 M.) *Ax*, in 3-4 hrs. (fares 14 fr., 9 fr. 35, 6 fr. 10 c.).

Toulouse, see p. 78. — The train leaves the *Gare Matabiau* and follows the Tarbes line as far as (7½ M.) *Portet-St. Simon* (p. 138). — Beyond (8½ M.) *Pinsaguel*, turning to the S., we cross the Garonne, and ascend the valley of the *Ariège*. — Beyond (11 M.) *Pins-Justaret* we cross the *Lèze*. — 14 M. *Venerque-le-Vernet*; 17½ M. *Miremont*; 21 M. *Auterive*, a town of 2800 inhab.; 25 M. *Cintegabelle* (2500 inhab.), with an interesting church with a 16th cent. spire.

30 M. *Saverdun*, to the right, an old town of 3466 inhab., and one of the chief places in the county of Foix during the middle ages, was the birthplace of Benedict XII., the third of the Avignon popes (1334-1342).

Beyond Saverdun we cross the Ariège and passing (35 M.) *Le Vernet-d'Ariège* reach —

40 M. **Pamiers** (*Grand Soleil*, Rue des Nobles; *Catala*, Rue Major, R., L., & A. 2, B. 1/2, déj. 2 1/2, D. 3 fr.), an industrial town of 11,143 inhab., on the Ariège, and the seat of a bishopric. The iron of the Pamiers foundries enjoys a high repute.

The town sprang up around an abbey and castle of the 12th cent. which no longer exists. Its founder, Roger II. of Foix, named it after the Syrian city Apamea as a memorial of the First Crusade. It often suffered from the chronic rivalry between the Counts of Foix, the abbots, the bishops, and the townsfolk. In 1553 it was ravaged by the plague; and in 1628, having become Protestant, it was taken and sacked by Condé (Henry II. of France). The abbey had already (1586) been destroyed, like many others, by the 'Casaques Noires' of the Sire d'Audon.

The Rue Ste. Hélène, beginning at the station, traverses the entire town and passes through the market-place. From the latter, the Rue Major leads, to the right, to the partly modern Romanesque church of *Notre-Dame-du-Camp*, with a fortified brick façade of the 14th century. The church of *Notre-Dame-des-Cordeliers*, farther to the N.E., has a curious small ruined tower. — The Rue des Nobles, behind the market to the left, leads by a small vaulted passage to the *Cathedral*, also largely rebuilt in modern times. It has a Transition portal, concealed by a modern brick tower in the Tolosan style, and other portions are in the Greco-Roman style of the 17th century. The interior is decorated with modern mural paintings by Bénezet and Baduel. Behind the cathedral is the *Palais de Justice*, and in front of it, to the right, are the *Seminary* and the *Bishop's Palace*. The ascent in front leads up to the *Castellat*, a promenade on the site of the old castle, with a fine view.

43 M. *Verniolle;* 46 M. *Varilhes*. The valley now contracts and the line recrosses the Ariège. — Beyond (48 1/2 M.) *St. Jean-de-Verges* the scenery improves. To the right is a handsome modern château. The Ariège is again crossed.

51 1/2 M. **Foix** (*Hôt. Rousse*, *Hôt. Lacoste*, near the bridge), a town of 7568 inhab., formerly the capital of the Counts of Foix and now the chief town of the department of the *Ariège*, is admirably situated at the confluence of the Ariège and the Arget. It is overlooked by its picturesque castle, but the town itself is badly built and unimportant.

Foix during the middle ages was the capital of the Counts of Foix, one of whom, Raymond (1188-1223), successfully resisted Simon de Montfort's attack upon his castle during the Albigensian crusade. Having thrown off the suzerainty of the lords of Toulouse, the Countship of Foix passed in 1229 under that of the kings of France; but nevertheless, owing to the differences between Roger Bernard III. and Philip the Bold, the countship was invaded in 1272 by the latter, who only became master of the castle on its becoming evident that he was determined to undermine the rock on which it stood. The territory was afterwards united to Béarn and annexed to France under Henri IV.

The Castle, or rather what is left of it, presents a very picturesque appearance from a distance. It stands on a rock, 180 ft. high,

on the N.W. of the town, and still retains two square towers different sizes, dating in part from the 12th cent., and one r tower, 136 ft. high, forming an interesting specimen of 14th architecture. To enter the castle (gratuity) we skirt the rock t right. The buildings are now unoccupied and contain littl nothing of interest; they were used last as a prison. In the l and oldest of the towers, originally the keep, are a chamber used by the Inquisition and some of its dungeous. The main affords a fine view.

At the foot of the rock is *St. Volusien*, the principal ch dating from the 12th cent., but with some older work. It has restored in recent years, and contains some fine altars and m paintings. — In 1882 a *Statue of Lakanal*, a member of the Na Convention of 1792, by Picault, was erected in the Prom Vilotte, on the other side of the town.

About 5½ M. to the E., near the village of *Herm*, is the large *de l'Herm*, a bone-cavern interesting to geologists; there are also caves, see below.

The railway now passes under the bridge of Foix and as the right bank of the Ariège. The best views are to the rig 55 M. *St. Paul-St. Antoine.* Beyond a tunnel we command of the gorge of the Ariège, spanned by an ancient fortified b Lofty and barren mountains now appear. — Shortly after *Mercus*, the Ariège is crossed.

61 M. **Tarascon** *(Hôtel Francal; Arnaud)*, a small thoug ancient industrial town, at the confluence of the Ariège and the Tarascon-le-Vieux, to the left of the road, is built round a esque rock, surmounted by a *Tower*, now the only relic of a destroyed in the 17th century. The iron-furnaces and found Tarascon are well-known.

About 3 M. to the N.W., on the St. Girons road, is *Bédeillac*, wher are some interesting caves (see p. 187). Similar caves abound in th stone mountains of this district, among others the *Grotte du Pounchet*, *Montagne de Sabart*, a short distance from Tarascon, beyond t fluence of the Ariège and the Oriège; besides those mentioned bel cavern at the Roche de Mas (p. 187), etc.

From Tarascon to Vicdessos *(Montcalm* and *Pic d'Estax)*, 8 diligence from the station, 1 fr. The road leads to the S., up the valley of the Oriège, or of Vicdessos, which is flanked by bare mo — 2½ M. *Niaux*, with the celebrated stalactite *Grotte de la Calbière*, i are two small lakes. — 3½ M. *Capoulet*, near the ruined *Château de* — 8½ M. **Vicdessos** *(Hôt. des Voyageurs; de la Renaissance)*, a vi the S.E. of which is the *Montagne de Rancié* with the richest iro in France. The ore yields 70% of excellent iron. Visitors to th proceed to the village of *Sem*, about 2 M. from Vicdessos, and ascend in about 1 hr. — From Vicdessos to *Aulus*, see p. 188.

Vicdessos is the point whence the Montcalm and the Pic d'Es ascended in about 7¼ hrs. to the first summit, 8 hrs. to the second necessary). Part of the ascent may be made on horseback. V tinue to ascend the Oriège valley, viâ (¼ hr.) *Auzat*, and the large and fine *Cascade de Bassiès* (on the right), to (1 hr.) *Marc.* we enter the lateral valley on the right, making direct towa Montcalm, and ascend steeply viâ the (2 hrs.) *Cabanes de Pigeol* (559

the (1/2 hr.) *Cabanes de Subra* (6265 ft.), beyond which the horses cannot proceed. Thence a climb of 2 hrs., toilsome at first, brings us to the crest (9335 ft.) between the valleys of Subra and Rioufred; and in 3/4 hr. more we reach the top of the **Montcalm** (10,105 ft.), which repays us with a glorious view extending W. to the snowy peaks beyond Luchon and E. to the Canigou. On the S. the view is partly blocked by the **Pic d'Estax** or *Pique d'Estats* (10,300 ft.), whose summit may be gained in less than 1/4 hr. from the Montcalm.

The railway recrosses the Ariège, and continues to ascend its valley.

63 M. **Ussat-les-Bains.** — **Hotels.** Gr.-Hôt. des Bains et du Parc, on the right bank, near the chief Bath Estab.; Gr.-Hôt. Chaumont, farther to the right; Cassagne Fils, Menville, beyond the Establishment; Hôt. de France, Bosc, de la Renaissance, on the left bank, nearer the station. — *Furnished Apartments.* — **Baths,** 70 c.-1 1/2 fr.; douches, 60 c.-1 fr. — Small **Casino** beside the Hôtel des Bains, and *Café* close by. — *Telegraph Office* in the season.

Ussat-les-Bains (1590 ft.), which takes its name from *Ussat-le-Vieux,* the neighbouring village on the right bank of the Ariège, is a hamlet widely known on account of its abundant thermal springs (bicarbonate of lime), supplied by a subterranean lake situated below the rocks which border the valley. These waters, which are almost solely used for baths and douches, are extremely soothing and efficacious in certain female and nervous complaints. Their temperature varies from 103° to 89.6° Fahr., according to the distance of the bathing-places from the outflow. The principal *Etablissement Thermal* is situated on the left bank of the Ariège, beyond a small park, which forms the only promenade of the place. The *Thermes Ste. Germaine,* and the *Bains St. Vincent* (closed for several years) are on the right bank.

About 1 1/2 M. from Ussat is the **Grotte de Lombrive,** one of the most interesting caverns in the district, the mouth of which may be seen on the hill on the left bank, opposite the station. Intending visitors apply at the ground-floor of the lodging-house Pujo; adm. 5 fr. each, bargain for a party. The cavern consists of a series of chambers on different levels, connected by narrow passages. It contains stalactites, bone-deposits, and a small pool, and it may be followed for nearly 3 M. into the heart of the mountain, which also contains other caverns possibly communicating with the Grotte de Lombrive. Several Albigenses who had taken refuge in this cavern were buried alive by the troops of the Inquisition who built up the entrance.

The valley now expands a little. At (67 1/2 M.) *Les Cabannes* (1745 ft.; Hôt. d'Espagne) is a château on a hill to the right, and at the head of a little valley rises the *Pic de Riez* (8495 ft.). We cross a bridge, traverse a short tunnel, and again cross a bridge. To the left are the Pic St. Barthélemy (p. 192), and, on a cliff, the picturesque ruins of the *Château de Lordat,* which was in existence as early as the 10th century. — 71 1/2 M. *Luzenac-Garanou.*

77 M. **Ax.** — **Hotels.** Boyer, Rue de la Gare; Sicre, at the Establishment of the same name; Bordeaux, in the town, plain. — *Maison Meublée Tardieu,* Place du Couloubret. — Numerous *Furnished Apartments.* — **Cafés,** Place du Couloubret. — **Baths,** 80 c.-1 fr. 25 c.; douches, 40 c.-1 fr. 25 c. — Glass of the water, 5 c.

Ax (2350 ft.), an ancient and ill-built town with 1609 inhab., is

well-situated at the confluence of three streams. The warm sulphur springs, for which it is noted, were known to the Romans, as is indicated by the name of the town, derived from *Aquae*. Ax has no fewer than 61 springs, which vary in temperature (63°-171° Fahr.), mineral constituents, and medicinal uses, like those of Luchon and Cauterets. The opening of the railway and the quietness of the place as compared with the fashionable life at other spas, have largely contributed to the prosperity of Ax. The waters are used both for drinking and for bathing, and are specially efficacious in rheumatism, skin diseases, scrofula, and catarrhs; while they are also used for domestic purposes. The springs are so numerous and so thickly strewn that it has been conjectured that the town is built above a natural reservoir of thermal mineral water.

There are four bath establishments in the town, each fed by a different group of springs; *viz.* the *Couloubret*, to the left, at the end of the square of the same name, reached directly viâ the street ascending from the station; the *Etablissement Thermal Modèle*, on the bank of the stream skirting the right side of the same square; the *Breilh*, a little farther on, in a square of the same name, in the shady court of the Hôtel Sicre; and the *Teich*, on the other side of the town, reached by the Rue du Coustou. Behind the Teich is a pretty park, and higher up are the ruins of a castle, on which a statue of the Virgin has been erected. — The *Hospital*, in the Place Breilh, was founded for leprous soldiers by St. Louis in 1260. The neighbouring *Church* is dedicated to St. Udant, 'conqueror of Attila and martyred at Ax in 452'. — The temperature of Ax is very variable, and the evenings are generally cool.

Excursions. — The Pic St. Barthélemy may be ascended in about 5½ hrs. (with guide) from the small village of *Lassur* (to which we may drive), about ¾ M. beyond the station of Luzenac (p. 191). The excursion is interesting and easy. We cross the Ariège at Lassur and ascend to the N.E., viâ (1 hr.) *Lordat* (p. 191), to the (3 hrs.) *Col de la Peyre* (5680 ft.), which, however, we do not cross, but bear to the W. and pass to the left of the (¾ hr.) *Lac Tort*. Then skirting the *Pic de Soularac* (7685 ft.), we descend to (¼ hr.) a little col, and finally ascend once more to the (½ hr.) summit of the **Pic St. Barthélemy** (7705 ft.), which affords a famous view, from the Pic du Midi to the Canigou and from the mountains of Andorra to the plains of Toulouse.

To Quillan (p. 195), to the N.E., an easy and interesting excursion occupying one day. The route leads viâ the (3 hrs.) *Col d'El Pradel* (about 5400 ft.) and the *Vallée du Rebenty*, in which the scenery is remarkably picturesque as far as Joucou, about 4 hrs. from the col. — The ascent of the **Puy de Carlitte** (9580 ft.; with guide), to the S.E., may be made viâ the *Lac Lanoux* (p. 193) in 2 days from Ax (1 day from L'Hospitalet); but it is more conveniently undertaken from Les Escaldas (9 hrs. from Ax; see p. 204).

To Puycerda and Bourg-Madame (*Les Escaldas*), 31 M., diligence daily in about 10 hrs.; fare 6 fr. The road leaves the valley of the Oriège to the left, and ascends to the S. in the narrow and rocky valley of the Ariège. — 5 M. *Mérens* (3540 ft.; Hotel), with little-used warm springs (93° to 154° Fahr.; sulphur). — 8½ M. *Saillens*, with a cold sulphur spring. About ½ M. farther on we pass a bridge and a waterfall.

10½ M. **L'Hospitalet** (4630 ft.; *Astrié*) lies at the point of divergence of the Andorra road (p. 193). — To make the ascent of the *Puy de*

Carlitte (p. 192) we return towards Ax as far as the bridge near Saillens and then ascend to the E. to the (3½ hrs.) *Col de Bésines* (7710 ft.), on the N.E. of the *Pics Pédroux* (9290 ft.). From the col we descend in about 1 hr. to the *Lac Lanoux* (7065 ft.; fishermen's hut), the largest lake in the Pyrenees (about 270 acres), and thence reach the summit of the mountain (p. 204) in 2½ hrs.

Beyond L'Hospitalet the road proceeds in windings, at one place making a detour of 3½ M., which pedestrians may avoid by means of a well-marked path. — 16½ M. *Col de Puymorens* (6290 ft.). — 19½ M. *Porté* (5325 ft.) is another starting-point for the ascent of the Puy de Carlitte (1 day) viâ the Lac Lanoux. To the right, farther on, are the defile and tower of *Cerdane*. 22½ M. *Porta* (4950 ft.; Inn), from which the *Pic de Campcardos* (9560 ft.; fine view) may be ascended in 4½ hrs. (7 hrs. there and back). We soon perceive the two *Tours de Carol*. — 25½ M. *Courbassil*. — Beyond the (27½ M.) village of *La Tour-de-Carol* (4070 ft.; Pellegrin), a road diverges to the left to *Les Escaldas* (5 M.; p. 204). — 28½ M. *Vignole*. We now cross the Spanish frontier to (30½ M.) *Puycerda* (p. 203), but soon re-enter France to reach (31 M.) *Bourg-Madame* (p. 203).

To Andorra (Andorre) viâ the Port de Saldeu, the shortest and easiest route, about 12 hrs. Carriages can go as far as (4 hrs.) L'Hospitalet, where it is well to sleep, and the road is practicable for horses for the rest of the way. A guide, not necessary in fine weather, may be useful as an interpreter. The charge is 10 fr. a day for horse and man from L'Hospitalet in addition to food for both. — To (10½ M.) *L'Hospitalet*, see p. 192. The Andorra road continues for some time to ascend the Ariège valley, and in less than ½ hr. crosses a brook on the frontier and turns to the W. where it is indicated by a kind of landmarks. After 1 hr. more a path viâ the *Port de Framiquel* (about 8200 ft.), also leading to Andorra but 1 hr. longer, diverges to the left from our route. About 2 hrs. beyond we gain the *Port de Saldeu* (8200 ft.), which affords only a limited and monotonous view, and we then descend viâ (1 hr. 20 min.) *Saldeu* (Inn), (1 hr. 20 min.) *Canillo*, the *Méritzell Chapel* (a resort of pilgrims), a (1 hr.) defile commanded by the remains of a fort, and (½ hr.) *Les Escaldas*, with warm sulphur springs, situated in a valley planted with olives and tobacco. Thence Andorra is reached in ½ hr. more.

Andorra (3540 ft.; *Caloune's Inn*, tolerable), a village of 700-800 inhab., is of importance only as the chief place of the little republic of that name. It is well situated at the foot of the Anclar and above a small and fertile plain, but it is ill-built and, beyond the primitive manners of its inhabitants and the organization of its petty government, the only object of interest is the modest *Palais*, with three irregular windows in the façade, and a tower pierced with loopholes. The meetings of the Conseil Général are held in this building, and the members and their steeds are lodged in it. It also serves as the Palais de Justice, the Hôtel de Ville, the school, and the gaol. The Council Chamber, an unadorned apartment, surrounded with oak benches, and the kitchen, with a huge fireplace, should be visited.

Andorra is a little independent Republic lying amidst the mountains between the territories of France and Spain. In no direction does it measure more than 18 M. across and its total population is less than 10,000. Tradition asserts that Charlemagne granted independence to the Val d'Andorre in return for assistance lent him in his wars with the Moors. It is certain that the little state was from 1278 to 1793 under the joint rule of the Bishops of Urgel (in Spain) and the Counts of Foix (and their successors the Kings of France), while since the French Revolution it has been almost wholly independent of its two suzerains. — The government is vested in a council of 24 members, 4 for each of the 6 parishes comprized within its territory, who appoint a Syndic Procureur Général, a President, and two coadjutor syndics. The French government and the bishop of Urgel, on their part, each nominate a viguier or provost, the former for life, the latter for 3 years, and the Spanish government appoints a viceroy. The executive authority is wielded

y the viguiers, through an official known as the 'bayle', subject to the sages and customs of the country. The French viguier resides at Prades p. 201). — Life is still patriarchal among the Andorrans; the law of rimogeniture prevails; every man is a soldier at his own charges; taxes re levied on an income-tax basis; public education is free. The people evote themselves to cattle-rearing, but still more to smuggling.

29. From Carcassonne to Quillan.

Upper Valley of the Aude. Valley of the Rebenty.

34 M. Railway in 2 hrs. (fares 6 fr. 75, 5 fr. 5, 3 fr. 70 c.). The line is o be continued towards Axat (p. 195) and Rivesaltes (p. 197).

Carcassonne, see p. 88. The line ascends the valley of the Aude nd crosses the river between (4½ M.) *Madame* and (6½ M.) *Couf-oulens-Leuc.* From (8 M.) *Verzeille* a diligence (½ fr.) plies to 3 M.) *St. Hilaire,* where there are the remains of a famous abbey, vith a church of the 13th cent. containing the tomb of St. Hilary, vith bas-reliefs of the 11th century. The cloisters date from the 4th cent.; the abbot's house is adorned with paintings, etc. — Beyond (10½ M.) *Pomas* we cross the Aude for the second time nd beyond (13 M.) *Cépie* for the third time. Before the last bridge he church of Notre-Dame-de-Marceille comes into view on the left.

16½ M. **Limoux** *(Hôt. du Commerce),* an industrial town with 5371 inhab., on the Aude, is surrounded by vine-clad hills, which roduce a white wine of good quality, known as 'blanquette'. — A ittle to the N. is *Notre-Dame-de-Marceille,* a pilgrim-resort of con-iderable local repute, with a black marble statue of the Virgin and fine altar-screen, etc. Fine view of the valley and the mountains.

Beyond Limoux the valley contracts, and the line passes through four short tunnels and crosses the Aude for the last time.

22 M. **Alet** (*Établissement Thermal,* moderate), a decayed own, called *Eletca* by the Romans, who made use of its mineral vaters. It was a place of some importance during the middle ges when it possessed a Benedictine Abbey and was the seat of bishopric. Its *Cathedral,* founded in 873 and rebuilt in 1018, s now in ruins, but the pentagonal apse, the most interesting art, is standing. This is adorned on the outside by four large olumns in the Corinthian style and an elaborate cornice. — The *Établissement Thermal* possesses two warm springs (bicarbonate f lime; aperient; 68° and 82° Fahr.) and a cold chalybeate spring. There are gardens and a well shaded promenade on the Aude.

Two more tunnels are passed. — 27 M. *Couiza-Montazels.*

From Couiza-Montazels a diligence (1¼ fr.) plies daily in summer the village of **Rennes-les-Bains** *(Grand Hôtel; Reine),* 6½ M. to the S.E., ith five mineral springs (chalybeate and saline), known to the Romans. here are three bath-establishments, the *Bain Fort, Bain de la Reine,* and *ain Doux.* The environs are interesting. Rennes is the starting-point for e ascent of the *Pech de Bugarach* (4040 ft.; 4 hrs.; extensive view), viâ ½ M.) *Bugarach.*

28 M. *Espéraza.* — 30½ M. *Campagne-sur-Aude* possesses a ath-establishment with two mineral springs (76° and 82° Fahr.).

34 M. **Quillan** *(Hôt. des Pyrénées)*, an industrial town of 410 inhab., on the Aude, with the ruins of a castle, is the centre f an important forest district. A statue of the *Abbé Armand* ommemorates his services in procuring the construction of the road the upper Aude valley. About ¾ M. to the W. is the Établisse- ent Thermal of *Ginoles*, with three springs.

An interesting excursion, 7 hrs. there and back (carriage-road), may made to the S.E. to the fine **Forêt des Fanges** (firs; 2700 acres). One ad, leading about 1¼ M. to the N. of Quillan, skirts the heights (3150 ft.) cupied by the forest. We quit this road at the (9 M.) *Col de St. Louis* 250 ft.), to the S.W. of the Pech de Bugarach (p. 194), and return through e forest by a road which descends in zigzags into the valley of the Aude ar Axat, and thence through the Pierre-Lis defile (see below) back to illan.

The ***Upper Valley of the Aude** is extremely beautiful from *Belvianes* bout 2½ M. above Quillan) to beyond the Baths of Carcanières and scouloubre, 20 M. higher up. Every one should at least visit the lower alf of this section, as far as the upper end of the St. Georges defile, hrs. from Quillan. There is a good road, on which a diligence plies the season from Quillan (starting at 9 a. m.) to Carcanières (fare 3½ fr.). eyond Belvianes begins the ***Pierre-Lis Defile**, nearly 1½ M. long, and nked by sheer rocks, some hundreds of feet in height. To the left is ruined convent. For more than 300 yards the road is carried through tunnel, known as the *Trou du Curé*, at the other end of which is (5 M.) . *Martin-de-Taissac.* The picturesque valley of the Rebenty (see below) 1¼ M. to the right of St. Martin. — About 7½ M. from Quillan, is the llage of **Axat** *(Hôt. Labat; Roche)*, before which the road to (45 M.) Per- gnan diverges to the left. We next reach the ***St. Georges Defile**, another ne part of the valley. Leaving, on our left, the old road to Escouloubre id Carcanières viâ *Ste. Colombe* into the *Aiguette Valley* (also picturesque id wild in parts), we arrive at (13 M.) *Gesse*, where there are an inn id a fish-breeding establishment. The valley now forms a rapid suc- ession of defiles shut in by wooded heights. Near its end, on a rocky our, we see the ruined *Château d'Usson.* — 19 M. *Bains d'Usson* and (20½ M.) *ains de la Garrigue*, two small watering-places. — 22½ M. **Bains d'Escou- ubre** (2300 ft.) and **Bains de Carcanières** (2790 ft.; *Hôtel Roquelaure*, etc.), djoining each other on opposite banks of the stream. The former, on ne right bank, has 4 springs (85° to 113° Fahr.), the water of which is used oth for bathing and drinking; the latter has 13 springs (85°-138° Fahr.) f the same kind. Both Établissements are much frequented by the in- abitants of the surrounding districts.

Farther up the Aude valley is (11 M.) *Formiguères* (4855 ft.; Merlat). hence we may proceed viâ the plain of the *Capsir*, the *Col de Casteillou* 6640 ft.; 5 M. from Formiguères), and the plateau of *La Quillane*, to *Mont- uis* (p. 203), 20 M. from the Baths. This expedition is much easier in ne opposite direction.

The ***Valley of the Rebenty**, another highly picturesque valley, like- ise presents a succession of wild ravines, connecting little basins partly nder cultivation and environed with wood. A new road traverses it lso, leading in 11 hrs. from Quillan to Ax (p. 191), viâ the Col d'El radel (see below). The most interesting part, as far as Niort, about hrs. from Quillan, should by all means be explored. The route for he first 1¾ hr. is identical with the one described above and leads hrough the superb gorge of Pierre-Lis. About ½ hr. short of Axat we urn to the right, after having crossed the Rebenty. The first part of he valley is wooded. About 1½ hr. from the entrance is *Marsa* and hr. farther *Joucou* and the ***Joucou Defile**, where the road runs high bove the rocky bed of the impetuous torrent and goes through three

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OMNIBUS A LA GARE

PAU

Place Royale.

Monsieur N°6 Doit

Pau, le 26 Mai 1896

Mai 26	Chambre	4	
	Bougies	1	
	Déjeuner	3	50
	Dîner	4	50
27	1 café au lait	1	
	Déjeuner	3	50
	Dîner	4	50
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short tunnels. Beyond these the waters have worn the rocks on the right bank into a kind of huge colonnade. The stream and road now wind round a projecting bluff and, above a mill, enter the ***Able Defile** which is even wilder than the previous one. About 1 hr. from Joucou is *Belfort*, 1/4 hr. beyond which is the striking and magnificent **Niort Defile.** The village of *Niort* (Inn), 1 3/4 hr. from Belfort, was formerly the chief town of the Sault or Forêts district. The upper part of the valley is also interesting; it contains the hamlets of (1/2 hr.) *Mérial* and (1/2 hr. more) *La Fajole.* In 2 1/2 hrs. from the latter we reach the *Col d'El Pradel* (about 5400 ft.), whence we descend to Ax (p. 191).

30. From Narbonne to Perpignan.

39 1/2 M. Railway in 1-2 hrs. (fares 7 fr. 15, 4 fr. 85, 3 fr. 15 c.).

Narbonne, see p. 91. The line is at first the same as that to Carcassonne, skirting the left side of the town. Beyond (5 1/2 M.) *Mandirac* it keeps along the *Robine Canal* and passes between the *Étang de Bages et de Sijean*, on the right, and the *Étang de Gruissan*, on the left, the former 11 M. long by 2 to 4 wide, the latter 8 M. long, with an average width of 2 M., communicating by two channels with the *Mediterranean*, which is now visible for some distance. The hills on the right are the Corbières (p. 90). — 10 M. *Ste. Lucie.* To the left are salt-marshes.

13 M. **La Nouvelle** *(Hôt. St. Michel; d'Italie)*, a modern seaport town with 2445 inhab., at the mouth of the Robine and of the channel from the Sijean lagoon. Its present importance is due to its relations with Algeria. There are sea-baths at the end of the channel, about 1 M. from the town. Route to the Corbières, see p. 90.

The railway now keeps close to the sea, skirting on the right the *Étang de la Palme*, and crossing its mouth, called *Grau de la Franqui*, where there are sea-baths.

20 1/2 M. *Leucate*, station for the large village of that name, 1 3/4 M. to the S.E., near *Cape Leucate*, so called from its white rocks. — We next skirt on the left and then cross the *Étang de Leucate* or *de Salces*, about 9 M. long with an average width of 5 M. (14,000 acres). — 22 1/2 M. *Fitou.*

28 1/2 M. *Salces* (Hôt. Baillayre), a town of 2207 inhab., owes its name to two salt-springs in the neighbourhood. It is an ancient stronghold, of which the *Castle* (to the right) remains, built by Charles V. and now used as a powder-magazine. Salces is within the ancient province of *Roussillon*, and produces one of the most highly esteemed white wines, known as Macabeu.

The line, now at a considerable distance from the sea, crosses a wide and very fertile plain, where two or three annual crops are grown by means of irrigation. Above the last offshoot of the Corbières appear the imposing Canigou and other Pyrenean heights. At Rivesaltes we cross the wide and often dry bed of the *Agly.*

35 M. *Rivesaltes* (Hôt. du Commerce), a town of 6016 inhab., famous for its Muscat wine, though the vineyards have suffered

from the phylloxera. This is the junction for the new line from Carcassonne viâ Quillan (p. 194).

About $9^1/_2$ M. to the E. is the small town, with some old fortifications, of **Estagel** (*Hôt. Gary*), the home of the *Arago* family. There is a statue, by Oliva, of François Arago, the astronomer, the best known of the seven brothers (see below). Estagel is pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Agly, which separates the Corbières from the Pyrenées. Route to the Corbières, see p. 90. Estagel will be a station on the above-mentioned new line.

$39^1/_2$ M. **Perpignan.** — **Hotels.** Gr.-Hôt. de Perpignan, Hôt. de France, Quai de la Préfecture; *Du Nord et du Petit-Paris, Place d'Armes, near the cathedral, R., L., & A. 3, B. 3/4, déj. $2^1/_2$, D. 3 fr., omn. 30 c.; Central, Place Arago, R. $2^1/_2$-$3^1/_2$, no table-d'hôte, pens. $8^1/_2$ fr.; de la Loge, Place de la Loge, with a good restaurant, R. 2, déj. 3, D. $3^1/_2$ fr.; Hôt.-Restaur. du Helder, near the station. — **Cafés,** chiefly in the Place de la Loge. — *Omnibus-tramway* from the station to the town, 15 c.

Perpignan, a town of 33,878 inhab. and formerly the capital of Roussillon, is now the chief town of the department of the *Pyrénées Orientales,* the seat of a bishopric, and a fortress of the first class, on the right bank of the *Tet,* a river almost dry in summer, 7 miles from its mouth in the Mediterranean.

Its importance, now much diminished, dates from the 12th and still more the 13th cent., when it was the residence of the kings of Majorca. On the extinction of the kingdom, Perpignan reverted to Aragon, to which it had been ceded by its last count in 1172, and it remained faithful to its new masters until the middle of the 17th century. Louis XI. besieged it during his disputes with the king of Aragon in 1475, and only obtained possession of it with difficulty. Francis I. failed to capture it in 1542; but a century later, when the Spanish governor had violated its privileges, Richelieu was called in to its assistance, and annexed it definitely to France. Owing, however, to its vicinity to and long dependence on Spain, Perpignan still displays more of the Spanish character than any other town on the frontier.

The town, which is about $^1/_2$ M. from the station, is divided into two unequal parts by the *Basse,* a tributary of the Tet. The old town, which lies on the farther side of the river and contains all the objects of interest, is poorly built and consists of a perfect labyrinth of narrow streets which, however, are kept clean and are cool in summer. We enter the town by a handsome square with a promenade along the river, embellished with a bronze statue, by A. Mercié, of the astronomer *Fr. Arago* (1786-1853; see above). Opposite is the small modern *Palais de Justice.*

The Quai de la Préfecture, at the opposite end of the square, on the small tributary of the Tet, ends at the *Castillet,* a small but massive brick structure, with battlements and a cupola, built in 1319 by Sancho, the second king of Majorca, restored and now used as a prison. At the side is the *Porte Notre-Dame,* and beyond it, the *Promenades des Platanes.*

The Rue Louis-Blanc leads from the Porte Notre-Dame to the right to *La Loge* (Spanish, 'lonja', or market), originally constructed at the end of the 14th cent., and now occupied partly as the 'mairie' and partly as a café. The exterior presents a singular mixture of

the Gothic and Moorish styles, while the arcades of the court are Romanesque.

Recrossing the Place de la Loge we continue straight on by the Rue St. Jean, pass the Place d'Armes, and reach the —

Cathedral of St. Jean, at the extreme N. E. of the town. Its foundation dates from the year 1324, in the reign of Sancho, but the E. end was only finished at the end of the 15th cent. during the French occupation, while the nave, not begun until the 16th cent., has remained without a portal.

There is nothing to be noticed in the exterior, except the iron frame of the tower (18th cent.); but the interior is remarkable for the bold proportions of its nave, 230 ft. long, 60 ft. wide, and 90 ft. high, and still more for the gorgeous decoration of its altars in the Spanish taste. The **Reredos* of the high altar (1620) is of white marble with scenes from the life of St. John, etc., by Soler of Barcelona. In the left transept is the black and white marble tomb of Louis de Montmor (d. 1695), the first French bishop of Perpignan. A chapel opening from this transept to the left of the choir contains a curious altar-screen of painted wood, dating from the 15th or 16th century. The stained-glass windows, the organ-case, the paintings on the walls of the chapels, and a Gothic chapel near the porch to the right, are worthy of notice.

In returning we follow the Rue Fond-Froide, to the left of the Place d'Armes, then the Rue des Trois-Journées to the right, and another small street to the left, and reach the *Place de la République*, the largest and finest open space in the town, ornamented with trees and a white marble fountain, and used as a market for the excellent fruit which is produced in the neighbourhood.

To the E. is the theatre, to the right of which we pass, and then turn to the right to the *Place au Blé*, in which a bronze statue, by G. Farraill, was erected in 1890 to *H. Rigaud* (1659-1743), the painter, a native of Perpignan.

The Rue St. Sauveur leads farther in the same direction to the *University*, founded in 1349, which contains the civic *Library* and the *Museum* (open Sun. and Thurs. from 1 p. m., or noon in winter, to 5 p. m.). Visitors are also admitted on other days.

Ground Floor. Room I, to the right: 118. *School of Perugino*, Virgin with saints and donor. — Chief Room: to the left, *Turchi* (?), Marriage at Cana; *H. Rigaud*, 71. Portrait of himself, 70. Christ, 69. Cardinal Fleury; 65. *Ingres*, Duke of Orléans; 62. *Jordaens* (?), Head of Silenus; 60. *N. Maes*, Portrait; 59. *Correggio* (?), Head of Christ; 57. *Ytasse*, St. Roch; 43. *Procaccini*, Mary Magdalen; 31. *Ribera*, Portrait of a scholar. — *B. Constani*, 'Too late'; 1. *Rigaud*, Cardinal de Bouillon; 5. *Cignani* (?), Mary Magdalen. — Three Rooms to the left of the entrance contain drawings, paintings, and sculptures.

First and Second Floors. *Museum of Natural History*; photographs of the principal thermal establishments in the Eastern Pyrenees and a few sculptures.

A little farther, to the S. of the town, is the *Citadel*, in which little of interest remains (no admission without special permit). The keep is the ancient castle, entirely transformed, of the kings of Majorca; the chapel, which is used as an arsenal, has retained its Romanesque portal and Gothic arcades.

From Perpignan to *Port-Bou* (Barcelona), see below; to *Prades* and *Puycerda*, etc. see p. 201; to *Amélie-les-Bains* and *La Preste*, see p. 204.

From Perpignan to Canet, 6¼ M. The road leads to the E. To the left, about half-way, lies the hamlet of *Castell-Rossello*, with its conspicuous mediæval tower, 65 ft. in height. This was the site of the town of *Ruscino*, afterwards called *Rouskino* and *Rousseillio*, whence the name *Roussillon* came to be applied to the surrounding district. Here Hannibal made a treaty with the Gauls for the free passage of his army. Ruscino was at that time near the sea, at the mouth of the Tet. — About 1¼ M. beyond the village of **Canet** are *Sea-baths* (Hotels), on a sandy beach. About 1¼ M. to the S. of the village, and ½ M. to the S.W. of the baths, is the *Etang de Canet et de St. Nazaire*, about 2½ M. long and 1 to 1½ M. broad.

31. Excursions from Perpignan.

I. From Perpignan to Port-Bou *(Barcelona)*.

26½ M. Railway in 50 min.-2 hrs. (fares 4 fr. 95, 3 fr. 35, 2 fr. 15 c.); an interesting line. — To *Barcelona*, 131½ M., Railway in 7¾-10½ hrs. (fares about 26 fr. 20, 19 fr. 35, 12 fr. 80 c.). Best views to the left.

Perpignan, see p. 197. The railway to Spain, leaving the line to Prades on the right, passes under an aqueduct, constructed by the kings of Majorca, and crosses the Réart. Beyond (5½ M.) *Corneilla* we obtain a fine view of Elne, to the left.

8 M. **Elne** *(Hôt. du Commerce)*, a decayed and poorly-built town of 3230 inhab., has remains of fortifications and a fine view. The sea, now 3 M. distant, formerly washed the foot of the little hill on which the town stands.

Elne is the ancient *Illiberis*, an important city of the Sardones, under the walls of which Hannibal encamped after crossing the Pyrenees (B. C. 218). It was named *Helena* by Constantine in memory of his mother, and was the scene of the assassination of the emperor Constantius (A. D. 350). Elne was destroyed by the Moors in the 8th cent., by the Normans in the 11th, and by the kings of France in the 13th and 15th centuries. The bishopric was removed to Perpignan in 1602.

The old *Cathedral* is a Romanesque building of the 12th cent., altered in the 14th and 15th. The plain battlemented façade is flanked by two square towers, that on the right being of stone, of the latter half of the 12th cent., that on the left of modern brick. On the N. side is a small **Cloister* in white marble, of the 12th-15th cent., containing some remarkable sculptures and inscriptions, and three fine ancient sarcophagi. — Hence to Céret, Amélie-les-Bains, and La Preste, see p. 206.

The line crosses the *Tech*. — 10 M. *Palau-del-Vidre*. — Beyond (13½ M.) *Argelès-sur-Mer* (Hôt. Llobet), with 3400 inhab., now 1¼ M. from the coast, we again approach the sea, in order to round the outliers of the *Monts Albères*, the E. extremity of the Pyrenees. The first tunnel is soon reached.

17 M. **Collioure** *(Hôt. Fontano)*, the ancient *Cauco Illiberis*, a small seaport with 3400 inhab., is picturesquely situated. It possesses an old castle, and the *Fort St. Elme* on the S.E. side, the chief remaining fortification, was built in the 16th cent., under

harles V. General Berge and General Riéra, two famous natives the town, are commemorated by monuments. Good Roussillon ine is grown here. Trade in cork, important fishing industry, etc.

Excursions. To the S.W., to *Notre-Dame-de-Consolation*, by a shaded lley, 3/4 hr. there and back; to the W. to the *Tour de Madeloch* or *du able* (2190 ft.), the view from which embraces the whole Gulf of Lions, hrs. (descent to Banyuls, 1 hr., see below); to the ruins of the abbey *Valbonne*, 5 hrs.; to the tower and the cork-forest of *La Massanne*, 6 hrs. ith a guide.

We now traverse a second tunnel, 920 yds. long.

18 M. **Port-Vendres** *(Hôt. Durand)*, the *Portus Veneris* of the omans, a small town of 3050 inhab., is important both as a com- ercial and a military harbour, being one of the safest on the editerranean. Its extensive roadstead, with a depth of 40 ft., can ccommodate the largest vessels. There are sea-water baths. To e S.E. (1/2 M.) is the *Cap Béar* (665 ft.), with a first-class light- ouse and a semaphore; fine view.

Steamers leave for *Algiers* every Tues. and Thurs. evening; passage -26 hrs.

Before reaching the next station three tunnels are passed through. etween this point and the frontier fine glimpses of the Mediterran- n are obtained, though in spring and autumn it is liable to be oscured by fog.

21 M. **Banyuls-sur-Mer** *(Hôt. Roussillonnais)*, with 3120 inhab., noted for the best Roussillon wine. The modern *Church*, elaborate- ornamented but somewhat dark, contains a statue of the Virgin, Oliva, a Pyrenean sculptor. Banyuls is situated on a small bay the Mediterranean, with pleasant sea-water baths, and enjoys a ild climate. Visitors may inspect the *Laboratoire Arago*, a lab- atory of marine zoology, at the S. end of the bay, about 1/2 M. om the town.

Excursions. To the N.W., to the *Valley of Banyuls*, planted with orange ees, 3 hrs. there and back; to the *Tour du Diable* (see above), viâ the *Vallon Cosperons*, where the famous Vin de Rancio is produced, 4 hrs., or rs. there and back, making use of the short-cuts in descending; to the *l des Balistres*, on the frontier (see below), a very pleasant walk, by a ile-track, 4 hrs. there and back; from the Col to the *Pic Jouan*, 2 hrs. ere and back.

We pass through a tunnel (3/4 M. long) between two fine bays d reach (25 1/2 M.) *Cerbère* (Buffet-hotel), the last French station, a bay of the same name, 1 M. from *Cap Cerbère*, which has marked om ancient times the frontier of France and Spain. The station on a lofty embankment supported by a wall with two tiers of ches. We pass through a tunnel (1200 yds. long) under the *Col s Balistres* (850 ft.), and enter Spanish territory.

26 1/2 M. *Port-Bou* (Buffet; custom-house), where our line joins it to (104 M.) Barcelona, viâ (16 M.) *Figueras* (p. 204), at the end the main route over the Col du Perthus (p. 204).

II. From Perpignan to Prades and Puycerda.

Le Vernet. The Canigou. Molitg. Montlouis. Les Escaldas.

RAILWAY to *Prades*, 25½ M., in 1¼-1½ hrs. (fares 4 fr. 60, 3 fr. 10 c., 2 fr.); thence carriage-road to (36 M.) *Puycerda*. The railway is to be opened in 1895 as far as (3½ M. beyond Prades) *Villefranche-de-Conflent*. DILIGENCE from Prades to (22 M.) *Montlouis* in 5 hrs. (fares 5 fr. 40, 3 fr. 60 c.); from Prades to (9 M.) *Olette* in 2½ hrs. (fares 2 fr. 25, 1 fr. 60 c.). Public conveyance also from Montlouis to (12½ M.) *Bourg-Madame*.

The line ascends the fertile valley of the Tet. — 5 M. *Le Soler*; 8 M. *St. Féliu-d'Aval*; 8¾ M. *St. Feliu-d'Amont*; 9¾ M. *Millas*, with 2460 inhab., formerly a fortified place.

14 M. *Ille*, with 3340 inhab., is situated in a plain noted for its fruit. — 16½ M. *Bouleternère*, with a ruined castle. The valley contracts. — 20 M. *Vinça* (Hôtel St. Pierre), a small town, 1¼ M. to the N.W. of which are the baths of that name, with thermal sulphur springs. — Beyond a short tunnel and a small viaduct we have a view of the Canigou to the left. — 22 M. *Marquixanes*.

25½ M. **Prades** (*Hôt. January*), a town of 3760 inhab., in a fine situation, is the starting-point for several important routes. The *Church* contains several altars in the Spanish style, notably the high-altar, a pretentious if not very tasteful work by Jos. Sunyer (14th cent.), formerly at St. Michel-de-Cuxa (see below). The railway is to be continued to Olette (p. 202), and is to be opened in 1895 as far as Villefranche (p. 202). Route to Puycerda, see p. 202.

In the charming valley of the Taurinya, 2 M. to the S., are the ruins of the powerful abbey of *St. Michel-de-Cuxa*, founded in 878, with some fine portions still remaining, including the Romanesque cloister-arcades in pink marble, the Romanesque church with a Gothic choir, the marble portal of the abbots' house with sculptures of the 11th cent., etc.

FROM PRADES TO LE VERNET (*Canigou*), 7½ M., with regular service of carriages (1 fr.); in 1895, probably from Villefranche (p. 202). — As far as (3½ M.) *Villefranche* (see p. 202) we follow the road to Puycerda, then turn to the right into a narrow valley, descending from the Canigou, which soon appears on the left. — 5½ M. *Corneilla-de-Conflent*, the Romanesque church of which possesses a fine white marble porch, and a stone altar-screen of the 14th century.

7½ M. **Le Vernet** or *Vernet-les-Bains*. — Hotels: *Grand-Hôt. du Portugal*, 12½ fr. per day; *du Parc*, 8 fr.; *Ibrahim-Pacha*; *de la Préfecture*, attached to the establishment; *Hôtel du Canigou*, family hotel; *de la Poste*. — *Furnished Villas*. — *Baths* 1-1½ fr. *Douches* 50 c.-1 fr. 50. *Glass of Mineral Water* 5 c. — *Casino* with theatre, etc.

Le Vernet (2035 ft.), famous for its thermal waters, is a beautifully situated village in a mountain-valley, the E. side of which is formed by a shoulder of the Canigou (see below). The *Etablissement Thermal* is situated in a fine park on the bank of a stream, a little outside the village. The sulphur waters are supplied by 10 principal springs with a temperature varying from 46° to 136° Fahr. They are used especially for affections of the respiratory organs, the climate being such as to allow invalids to remain during the winter. A *Sanatorium* has recently been constructed on the slope of the Canigou above the park, for the open-air cure. The entire establishment has also been newly altered and improved; a large and fine new hotel (Portugal) has been built in the park; and the huge new *Casino* is designed, according to a special notice, to become 'el centro de la high life internacional'.

An interesting excursion (¾ hr.) may be made to the S. viâ (1 M.)

eil to the ruins of the abbey of *St. Martin-de-Canigou*, where there is yzantine church with monolithic white marble columns.

The Ascent of the Canigou (10 hrs. there and back; guide, *Jacques* of Casteil, *Carol* of Le Vernet, 10 fr., advisable; horse 10 fr.; pro-ions must be taken) is best made from Le Vernet. Riding is practicable within 1 hr. of the summit. We proceed to *Casteil* (see above) and tinue by a valley to the right to the (1 hr.) *Cascade Anglaise*. As-ding thence to the (1¼ hr.) *Col du Cheval-Mort*, and leaving to the ht a path to Prats-de-Mollo (p. 206), we reach the (¼ hr.) *Randais* t and the (½ hr.) *Serrat de Marialles* pastures. We then descend into e valley of a tributary of the Casteil, ascend to the (½ hr.) *Col Vert*, scend again into a ravine to reach the (½ hr.) *Granges de Cadi*, and ount again to the (½ hr.) *Plateau de Cadi*, the farthest point to which rses can ascend. The last part of the ascent is by a tiresome climb er débris, and through a fissure or cheminée, in which natural steps are rmed by the schist. The Alpine Club has supplied a railing. The anigou (9135 ft.), the top of which forms a platform, 26 ft. long by 10 ft. de, with a hut, is the last of the high mountains at the E. end of e Pyrenees. It forms a huge mass, the buttresses of which radiate to stances of 7 to 12 miles as the crow flies, and form exceedingly steep êtes on the N. and N.E. sides of the summit. The view is superb, mbracing from the S.E. to the N.E. beyond the Albères and the Corbières, e coast of the Mediterranean from Barcelona to Montpellier, 100 M. stant; to the N. the Corbières, and the plain extending to the moun-ins of the Aveyron; to the W. the mountains of the Ariège; and to the those of Catalonia.

From Prades to the Baths of Molitg (pron. 'Molitch'), 5 M., diligence fr.) during the season. The road diverges from that to Villefranche tside the town, descends to the right, and crosses the Tet. 2 M. *Cattlar*, eyond which we ascend the valley of the Castellane, crossing the stream veral times. 5 M. **Baths of Molitg** (1475 ft.; *Thermal Establishments; Marty*, c.), in the narrow gorge of the Castellane, in which it has been difficult find room for the three thermal establishments. The latter are supplied 12 sulphur springs (77°-100° Fahr.), which are used for drinking and r bathing in the treatment of mucous and skin diseases, rheumatism, etc.

Beyond Prades the Puycerda road continues to ascend the valley f the Tet, which gradually becomes narrower. To the left is a lofty ailway-viaduct; farther on is another to the right, crossing the tream. — 26½ M. (from Perpignan) *Ria*, with an iron and marble actory.

28 M. **Villefranche-de-Conflent** (1425 ft.), a small town at the onfluence of the Tet and the stream descending from the valley of e Vernet (see above), fortified on the plans of Vauban to command he valley of the Tet, which is here very narrow. The *Château*, r fort, commands both valleys. The extensive caves which are used s casemates and magazines for the citadel cannot be visited without pecial permission. The situation is wild and picturesque.

The Tet is crossed. To the left is a ruined tower. — 32 M. *Ser-inya*; 32½ M. *Joncet*.

34½ M. **Olette** (2010 ft.; *Hôtel Gaillarde*), a market-village, eyond which there was until lately only a path with steps or 'graus' Lat. gradus). — The road now passes through a tunnel and over a fine ridge. About 2½ M. from Olette a path to the left descends to the ¼ M.) baths of the *Graus des Canaveilles*, supplied by 10 sulphur prings (95°-130° Fahr.), similar to those described below. To the

right is *Jugols;* to the left the towers of *La Bastide.* — 38 M. *Les Graus d'Olette* or *Bains de Thués* (about 2460 ft.), a modern establishment with 42 copious sulphur springs, from 80° to 172° Fahr., *i. e.* only a few degrees less than the waters of Chaudesaigues in the Cantal (p. 265). They are chiefly employed in the treatment of rheumatism, neuralgia, and diseases of the urinary organs.

We recross to the left bank shortly before reaching (39 M.) *Thuès-de-Llar.* The valley continues to be shut in by high mountains. On the right bank are the *Gorges de Carença,* rising to the *Lake of Carença* (about 6 hrs.; 7430 ft.), with some exceedingly picturesque spots in the first two-thirds of the way.

42 M. *Fontpédrouse* (3210 ft.; Inn). Considerable engineering works have been necessary for the continuation of the road, which makes wide circuits and crosses two ravines by means of viaducts.

48 M. **Montlouis** (5260 m.; *Hôtel de France; Jambon*), the old capital of the French Cerdagne, is a small town once important as a fortress, situated upon a plateau, the S. side of which is steep, while the E. and N. sides are perpendicular. It is commanded by the neighbouring heights, especially the *Pic de la Tausse* (6685 ft.), to the N.E., on which a new fort has been built. The cool climate of Montlouis attracts numerous Spanish visitors. The winter is very cold.

To the S.E. is (3 M.) **Planès,** where there is a very curious church, perhaps of Arabic construction. It forms an equilateral triangle with a semicircular apse on each side and a dome in the centre.

About 5 M. to the W. is the **Hermitage of Font-Romeu,** a pilgrim-resort and a summer-residence, with a Mt. Calvary on a height commanding an admirable view of the Cerdagne. Cheap accommodation may be obtained from the hermit ('paborde'). The pilgrimages are interesting sights for strangers, and are invariably accompanied with dancing and other amusements. The chief pilgrimage occurs on Sept. 8th.

The road ascends for about $2^1/_2$ M. more to the *Col de la Perche* (5320 ft.; Inn), which affords a fine view. We then descend into the (3 M.) valley and then into the (2 M.) fertile plain of the Cerdagne. — 55 M. *Saillagouse* (4295 ft.; Cousinet), on the Sègre.

The ascent of the **Puigmal** (9545 ft.; 7 hrs. up, 5 hrs. down), on the frontier to the S.E., may be made from Saillagouse without difficulty (with guide). We ascend viâ ($^3/_4$ hr.) *Llo,* the ($2^3/_4$ hrs.) *Cirque de la Culasse,* the ($1^3/_4$ hr.) *Col de Llo* (8395 ft.), and (1 hr.) the *Pic de Sègre* (9170 ft.). The view is extensive to the S. and towards the sea.

The route now leaves to the right a more interesting but badly kept road, and traverses an isolated portion of Spanish territory, about $4^1/_2$ sq. M. in area. In the latter is (3 M. from Saillagouse) *Llivia,* a dirty village of ancient origin with some ruins remaining. Our road passes (57 M.) *Ste. Léocadie* and (60 M.) *Hix,* and reaches —

61 M. **Bourg-Madame** (3740 ft.; *Hôtel du Commerce*), a small town at the confluence of the Sègre and Raur, the last place on French territory, with the custom-house. To *Les Escaldas,* see p. 204.

$61^1/_2$ M. **Puycerda** (4075 ft.; *Hôtel de Europa*), with about 2000 inhab., was the ancient capital of the Spanish Cerdagne, and a fortress several times taken by the French. The church is curiously decorated in the Spanish style. Custom-house.

From Bourg-Madame to Les Escaldas (*Puy de Carlitte*), 4 M.; during the season carriages, 1 fr. per head. — **Les Escaldas** (*Aguas caldas*, or Hot-springs; 4430 ft.; Hotel at the *Thermal Establishment*) is a French hamlet with 10 sulphur, chalybeate, and other springs (62° to 107° Fahr.), chiefly frequented by Spaniards from the neighbouring districts. The establishment is well managed, and is surrounded by shady walks in which there are fine points of view. — Guide (with mule): Jean Durand of Dorres, ½ M. to the W.

Puy de Carlitte. The ascent is best made from Les Escaldas (5 hrs.; 3½ hrs. there and back) without difficulty, and for the greater part of the way on mules. We ascend first to the N., and then to the W. to the pastures of the (½ hr.) *Coma Armada*, and passing an irrigation canal, reach (1¼ hr.) a col to the left of the *Casteilla* (6850 ft.). We then cross the *Désert de Carlitte*, studded with ponds, and passing (1¼ hr.) a hut, and (½ hr.) a spring, arrive in ½ hr. more at the base of the peak. The mules must be left at this point. A fatiguing climb of ½ hr. now takes us to the *Col de Carlitte* (8530 ft.) and 20 min. more to the exceedingly narrow crest of the **Puy de Carlitte** (9580 ft.), the highest summit of the Eastern Pyrenees. The view is magnificent, including the whole of this part of the chain from the Central Pyrenees to the Mediterranean, which, however, is not always visible, and from the plains of Languedoc to the most distant summits of Catalonia. — Descent to *L'Hospitalet* (Ax; Andorra), see p. 193.

III. From Perpignan to Amélie-les-Bains and La Preste.

To Amélie-les-Bains, 27 M. The Railway, open at the beginning of 1895 only as far as (23 M.) *Céret*, whence a diligence plies, will perhaps be completed before the end of the year. — From Céret to (23½ M.) *La Preste*, diligence daily in summer (7 fr. up, 5 fr. down, return-fare 10 fr.).

From *Perpignan* to (8½ M.) *Elne*, see p. 199. The line diverges to the S. W. and ascends the valley of the *Tech*, bounded on the S. by the *Monts Albères*. To the right, towards the head of the valley, is the *Canigou* (p. 202). — 13 M. *Brouilla*; 15 M. *Banyuls-des-Aspres*.

18½ M. **Le Boulou** (*Hôt. Lefèvre*), about 1 M. to the S. of which are the *Baths of Le Boulou*, with several chalybeate and other springs, chiefly employed for diseases of the liver. General Dugommier here inflicted a decisive defeat on the Spaniards who had invaded Roussillon in 1794.

A Diligence (1 fr.) plies hence to the frontier-village of *Le Perthus* (Hotels), 5½ M. to the S., situated on the *Col du Perthus*, and commanded by the *Fort de Bellegarde*, on an isolated height (1380 ft.). The road (Barcelona road) passes the Baths of Le Boulou, and affords fine views of the Canigou, to the right, etc. — The **Col du Perthus** (950 ft.) is said to have been Hannibal's route across the Pyrenees; and was possibly the site of the 'Trophées de Pompée', a tower erected to commemorate the conquest of Spain. — About 5 M. farther is the Spanish village of *La Junquera* (custom-house; Inn), 5 M. beyond which is **Figueras** (*Hotels*), a town of 10,000 inhab., commanded by a *Citadel* of no military importance. Figueras is a station on the railway from Perpignan to Barcelona (p. 200).

20½ M. *St. Jean-Pla-de-Cors*. We next cross the Tech by means of a lofty and long viaduct, to the left of which is the old *Pont de Céret*, with an arch of 150 ft. span, rising to the height of over 95 ft. This bridge is said to be of Roman origin, dating from the 3rd cent. of the Christian era.

23½ M. **Céret** *(Hôtel de France)*, 1¼ M. to the S.E. of the station, is an ancient town with 3830 inhab. noted for its fruit, with some remains of fortifications (two *Gates* and four *Towers*). It contains also a 14th cent. *Fountain*, and a 12th cent. *Church*, with a marble Gothic portal.

The valley contracts and takes the name of *Vallespir* ('vallis aspera'). The railway crosses to the left bank of the Tech, traverses a lofty viaduct over a tributary stream, and again crosses and re-crosses the Tech, on the last occasion by a large bridge at Amélie-les-Bains. Fine view of the Canigou to the right. On the right is *Palalda* (see below), and on the left, the fort of Amélie, on a height commanding the valley.

28 M. **Amélie-les-Bains** (800 ft.; *Thermes Pujade; Thermes Romains; Martinet; Bocassin*, all moderate; bath, 1 fr.; English Church Service in summer), formerly *Arles-les-Bains*, received its present name under Louis Philippe in honour of Queen Amélie. It is a prosperous town, finely situated at the confluence of the Tech and the Mondony, and at the foot of the *Fort-les-Bains* (1225 ft.), constructed in the time of Louis XIV. Though an important thermal station, it is not expensive. There are 20 copious sulphur springs (68°-145° Fahr.), which have been in use since the time of the Romans. Owing to the mildness of the climate the baths, which are used mainly for affections of the lungs, are open throughout the year and are considerably frequented even in winter.

There are two public bath-establishments and a military hospital. The last is at the lower end of the town; the others in the Rue des Thermes, to the left from the main street.

The *Thermes Romains*, to the right, still retain some parts of the ancient establishment, including the 'lavacrum', a large vaulted hall at the entrance, 66 ft. long, 40 ft. wide, and 37 ft. high, and another room on the left, containing a piscina. The baths are well equipped and are reached by a gallery from the hotel in connection. In front is a fountain with thermal water.

The *Thermes Pujade*, at the end of the street, on the left bank of the Mondony, are better situated, but the bathing arrangements are less complete. Behind the establishment is an attractive little park on the verge of a gorge, from which the Mondony descends in a cascade, above a dam, called 'Hannibal's Wall'.

A short distance below these baths the Mondony is crossed by a high *Foot-bridge*, leading to a shady promenade in which is the *Military Hospital*, the largest military thermal establishment in France, with accommodation for 500 patients.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS. — To *Palalda* ('Palatium Dani'), a picturesque village on the slope of a hill on the left bank of the Tech, which we cross by a bridge of ancient origin at the entrance to Amélie. — To *Montbolo* (1890 ft.; fine view), 3 M. to the N. — To *Arles-sur-Tech* and the *Gorge de la Fou*, see p. 206. — To the *Serrat-d'en-Merle* (about 1640 ft.; fine view), a height about ½ hr. below the Military Hospital. — To *Montalba*,

1/2 M. to the S., viâ the pretty valley of the Mondony. — To the *Roc de rance* (4700 ft.), on the frontier, about 4 hrs. by a path for which a guide advisable. Splendid view.

30 1/2 M. **Arles-sur-Tech** (907 ft.; *Hotel*), the Roman *Arulae*, a uaint little town with a remarkable Romanesque *Church* and *Cloisters* in the Transition style, the remains of a Benedictine abbey. The old Catalonian manners and customs, fêtes and public dances, re preserved here perhaps better than anywhere else in this part of he French Pyrenees.

About 1 1/4 M. beyond Arles a road diverges to the right, skirting he (1/2 hr.) *Gorge de la Fou*, a fissure in the limestone rock nearly 1 mile long, with its two sides, 525 ft. in height, at the most only 15 or 16 ft. apart, while the channel at the bottom, through which the torrent dashes, is but 3 ft. wide. The road leads viâ the plateau on the right, to (1 hr. more) the village of *Corsavy* (2579 ft.; view).

From (33 1/2 M.) *Pont-du-Loup* a road leads to the left into Spain viâ (10 1/2 M.) *St. Laurent-de-Cerdans* (Hotel) and (3 M.) *Coustouges* (Custodia), a village 3/4 M. to the W. of the frontier, with a pretty 12th cent. church.

The road to La Preste ascends a picturesque defile. 37 1/2 M. *Le Tech* (Inn), picturesquely situated.

42 M. **Prats-de-Mollo** (pron. 'Moyo'; 2620 ft.; *Hotel*), a small walled town on a mountain-slope commanded by the *Fort de la Garde* (2810 ft.), constructed after plans by Vauban, and by an interesting Gothic and Romanesque *Church*, with good altar-pieces.

A mule-path leads hence into Spain, viâ the (2 hrs.) **Col d'Ares** (about 4920 ft.), perhaps the pass crossed by Cæsar, in which case the name might be derived from the altar ('ara') erected by him to commemorate the defeat of Pompey's lieutenants. The route leads to (2 hrs. more) the small Spanish town of *Camprodon* (3215 ft.).

Beyond Prats the road is highly picturesque. On an eminence (5050 ft.) to the left (S.) rises the 14th cent. *Tour de Mir;* to the right lies the hamlet of *St. Sauveur;* to the left the *Cascade de Graffouil* (80 ft.); to the right the hamlet of *La Preste.*

46 M. **La Preste-les-Bains** (3705 ft.; *Thermal Establishments*) lies partly on a plateau between the ravines of the Tech and the Llabane. There are two establishments, open throughout the year, with abundant sulphur springs (113° Fahr.), which have been long known and are used especially for calculus. There are beautiful shady walks in the neighbourhood.

About 1/2 hr. to the N.W. is the attractive *Grotte de Can-Brixot*, rather difficult of access. — The *Col Pragon* (5365 ft.) is 1 1/4 hr. to the S.; 1/2 hr. beyond it lies the Spanish village of *Espinabell;* then (1/2 hr.) *Mollo* and (1 hr.) *Camprodon* (see above).

The ascent of the frontier-summit **Pic de Costabonne** (8085 ft.; 5 hrs.; with guide), to the W., is easily made. We follow the valley and round the mountain to the N. to reach the *Col de la Pale*, which lies about 1/2 hr. to the W. of the top. *View superior even to that from the Canigou. — About 1/4 hr. below the col is the *Source of the Tech.*

III. CENTRAL FRANCE. AUVERGNE. THE CEVENNES.

32. From Paris to Lyons viâ Nevers 209
I. From Paris to Nevers viâ Montargis 209
II. From Nevers to Lyons 209
a. Viâ Roanne and Tarare 209
From Moulins to Montluçon, 211. — From Moulins to Bourbon-l'Archambault (Cosne-sur-l'Oeil); to Mâcon, 212. — From Cluny to Roanne. From Varennes-sur-Allier to Commentry. From St. Martin-d'Estréaux to Sail-les-Bains, 213. — Ambierle. St. Alban. From St. Victor-Thizy to Cours, 214.
b. Viâ Roanne and St. Etienne 215
From St. Just-sur-Loire to Firminy (Annonay), 215.
33. From Nevers (Paris) to Vichy and Thiers (St. Etienne) 217
Excursions from Vichy, 220.
34. From Nevers (Paris) to Clermont-Ferrand and Le Puy 222
Mozat. Châtelguyon, 222. — Châteauneuf-les-Bains. From Riom to Volvic. Maringues. From Coudes to St. Nectaire and to Besse, 323.
35. From Orléans (Paris) to Clermont-Ferrand 224
a. Viâ Bourges and Saincaize 224
From La Guerche to St. Amand and Villefranche-d'Allier, 225.
b. Viâ Montluçon and Gannat 225
Noirlac. Meillan. Drivant. From St. Amand-Mont-Rond to Châteaumeillant, 226.
36. From Lyons to Bordeaux 226
a. Viâ Roanne, Montluçon, and Limoges . . . 226
From St. Bonnet-de-Rochefort to Ebreuil, 227. — From Lapeyrouse to St. Eloy. From Commentry to Marcillat. Néris, 227. — From Montluçon to Aurillac. From Busseau-d'Ahun to Felletin, 228. — From Vieilleville to Bourganeuf, 229.
b. Viâ St. Etienne, Clermont-Ferrand, and Tulle 229
I. From Lyons to Clermont-Ferrand 229
From St. Etienne to Rochetaillée, to the Gouffre d'Enfer, and to Mont-Pilat, 231. — From Bonson to St. Bonnet-le-Château, 232. — Chalmazel, 233. — Puy de Montoncel. From Pont-de-Dore to Arlanc (La Chaise-Dieu). From Pont-du-Château to Billom, 234.
II. From Clermont-Ferrand to Tulle. Northern Auvergne 235
III. From Tulle to Bordeaux viâ Périgueux . . 236

37. From St. Etienne to Annonay and St. Rambert-d'Albon 237

38. Clermont-Ferrand, Royat, and the Puy de Dôme . . 238

a. Clermont-Ferrand 238

b. Royat 242

c. The Puy de Dôme. Auvergne 243

From Clermont-Ferrand to Mont Rognon and the Plateau de Gergovie, 246.

39. La Bourboule. Mont Dore and its Environs . . . 247

a. La Bourboule 247

b. Le Mont-Dore 248

c. Environs of Mont-Dore 250

40. From Lyons to Toulouse viâ Le Puy and Aurillac. Southern Auvergne 253

From Lavoûte-sur-Loire to Yssingeaux, 254. — From Le Puy to Espaly, Polignac, etc. To the Mézenc viâ Le Monastier, 258. — Plomb du Cantal, 260.

41. From Clermont-Ferrand to Nîmes viâ the Cévennes . 262

From Langogne to Mende, 262. — St. Laurent-les-Bains. From Villefort to Mende. Excursions in the Lozère Mountains, 263. — From Alais to Quissac, 264.

42. From Clermont-Ferrand to Béziers viâ St. Flour and Millau 265

From St. Flour to Chaudesaigues, 265. — La Chaldette, 266. — From Campagnac to St. Geniez-d'Olt, 267. — From Millau to Le Vigan (La Roque-Ste. Marguerite). Roquefort. The Larzac, 268. — From Tournemire to St. Affrique. From Bédarieux to Graissesac (Lacaune), 269.

43. The Causses and the Cañon of the Tarn 269

a. From Mende to Ste. Enimie. Le Rozier (Montpellier-le-Vieux), and Millau 270

I. From Mende to Ste. Enimie, 270. — (a.) Viâ Sauveterre, 270. — (b.) Viâ Ispagnac, 270. — (c.) Viâ the Col de Montmirat, Florac, and Ispagnac, 271. — (d.) Viâ Lanuéjols, the Col de Montmirat, and Ispagnac, 271.

II. From Ste. Enimie to Le Rozier, 272.

b. From Banassac-la-Canourgue to La Malène, Le Rozier (Montpellier-le-Vieux), and Millau . . 273

I. From Banassac to La Malène, 273.

II. From La Malène to Le Rozier, 273.

III. From Le Rozier to Millau, 274. — (a.) Viâ Aguessac, 274. — (b.) Viâ Montpellier-le-Vieux, 275. — Ravines of Les Paliès and the Riou-Sec, 275. — From Le Rozier to the Valley of the Jonte. Bramabiau, etc., 276.

32. From Paris to Lyons viâ Nevers.

321 M. *viâ Roanne and Tarare*, Railway in 14¼-15½ hrs. (fares 56 fr. 90, 38 fr. 45, 25 fr. 10 c.); or 346 M. *viâ Roanne and St. Etienne* in 12⅔-13¼ hrs. (fares 62 fr. 60, 42 fr. 30, 27 fr. 60 c.). — For the route viâ Dijon, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France.*

I. From Paris to Nevers viâ Montargis.

157 M. Railway in 5-8½ hrs. (fares 28 fr. 45, 19 fr. 20, 12 fr. 60 c.). For details of this route, and for the alternative route viâ Orléans and Bourges (187 M. in 8¾-11¼ hrs.; higher fares), see *Baedeker's Northern France.* The trains start from the Gare de Lyon.

Paris, see *Baedeker's Paris.* — As far as Montargis (see below) there are two alternative routes. The main line runs viâ (28 M.) *Melun*, (36½ M.) *Fontainebleau*, (41½ M.) *Moret* (where we quit the line to Lyons viâ Dijon), and (54 M.) *Nemours* (4526 inhab.), with an ancient ducal château. The other line, with two expresses daily in summer, runs viâ the little towns of (20½ M.) *Corbeil*, (47½ M.) *Malesherbes*, and (63 M.) *Beaune-la-Rolande.*

73 M. (by the main line) **Montargis** *(Buffet)*, with 11,600 inhab., has a *Church* of the 13-16th cent.; a *Statue of Mirabeau;* and a modern *Hôtel de Ville*, with a small Musée.

96 M. **Gien** *(Buffet)*, with 8519 inhab., has an ancient *Château* (15th cent.), commanding the *Loire.* — 120 M. *Cosne* (8672 inhab.); 140 M. *La Charité* (5443 inhab.).

157 M. **Nevers** (*Buffet; Hôtel de Paix*, etc.), a town with 26,436 inhab., at the junction of the Loire and the Nièvre. The **Palais de Justice*, formerly a ducal château, the **Cathedral* (13-15th cent.), the church of *St. Etienne*, in the Auvergnat Romanesque style, the *Porte du Croux* (14th cent.), etc. are interesting.

II. From Nevers to Lyons.

a. Viâ Roanne and Tarare.

163 M. Railway in 8-12 hrs. (fares 32 fr. 85, 24 fr. 65, 18 fr. 10 c.).

Nevers, see above. — We cross the Loire and, turning to the W., leave its valley for that of the Allier. Farther on we cross the Canal Latéral, which has itself been carried over the Allier by the Guétin aqueduct. Beyond a tunnel we reach (6 M.) **Saincaize** *(Buffet)*, the junction of the line from Bourges (p. 225). — 12½ M. *Mars.* — 16½ M. *St. Pierre-le-Moutier*, which has an interesting church, chiefly of the 12-13th centuries. Beyond another tunnel we see, on the left, a tasteful modern château and further on, to the right, on the left bank of the Allier, a larger one. — 22½ M. *Chantenay-St. Imbert;* 28½ M. *Villeneuve-sur-Allier.* The bed of the Allier is very wide and, like that of the Loire, almost dry in summer.

36½ M. **Moulins** *(Buffet).* — **Hotels.** Hôtel de Paris, Rue de Paris, R., L., & A. 2½-3½ fr., B. 30 c.-1 fr., déj. 2½, D. 3, pens. 7½, omn. ½ fr.; du Dauphin, lately rebuilt, Place de l'Allier; de l'Allier, Place de l'Allier, R., L., & A. 2-5, déj. 1 or 3, D. 3 fr., omn. 30-50 c.

Moulins, a town with 26,665 inhab. and the capital of the department of the *Allier*, is of no great antiquity and was of importance as capital of *Bourbonnais* only from 1368 to 1527. In the latter year Francis I. confiscated the duchy in consequence of the treason of the Constable Bourbon, who had entered the service of Charles V.

A fine avenue of plane trees, facing the station, leads to the centre of the town. To the left is the theatre, to the right the Boulevard Croisy and the Boulevard de la Préfecture, which turns to the left to join the Rue de Paris (see below). Passing to the left of the theatre we gain the Rue de la Flèche, and turning to the right reach the *Tour de l'Horloge*, a square belfry of the 15th cent., the upper part of which, a fine gallery surmounted by a lantern, was restored in the 17th century. Opposite is the *Hôtel de Ville*, containing a library of 25,000 vols., the chief treasure of which is the Bible of Souvigny, a splendid MS., dated 1115 and containing 122 miniatures. The library is open every day except holidays and during vacations from noon to 4 p. m.

The CATHEDRAL, a little farther to the left, has its façade, embellished with two fine towers, on the opposite side, in the Place du Château. The nave is Early Gothic in style and was built from the plans of Viollet-le-Duc, who has here imitated the combination of black lava and white stone which characterizes many churches of Auvergne. The choir, which internally is loftier than the nave, dates mainly from the latter half of the 15th cent. and was originally the chapel of the château. It has been restored since 1885. The chief points calling for notice are the fine 15-16th cent. glass; a gilt wooden canopy (modern) over the high altar; a Holy Sepulchre (16th cent.), in the crypt behind that altar; a tasteful winding staircase on the right of the choir; and a small monument, representing a corpse devoured by worms, in the chapel before the staircase just mentioned. The chief artistic treasure, however, is a *Triptych by *Ghirlandajo*, in the sacristy, on the left of the choir. This fine work, recently restored, represents on the outside the Annunciation (grisaille) and on the inside the Virgin and Child surrounded by angels, with the donors Pierre II. de Bourbon (d. 1503) and his wife Anne of France (d. 1522; daughter of Louis XI.) attended by their patron saints.

The *Château* of the Dukes of Bourbon stood opposite the cathedral, but the only portions left of it are a square tower (14th cent.), now used as a prison, and the buildings (of later date) of the Gendarmerie, to the right.

A little beyond, on the same side, are the Place de Paris and the Rue de Paris, at the entrance of which stands the *Palais de Justice*, formerly a Jesuit college. It contains an *Archaeological Museum*, composed chiefly of local antiquities (open to the public twice a month, but at all times to strangers).

A short distance from this point, to the left, is the *Lycée*, ori-

ginally the Convent of the Visitation, in which, on applying to the porter, visitors are shewn the **Mausoleum of Duke Henry II. of Montmorency*, beheaded for treason at Toulouse in 1632. It was erected by his widow, the Princess des Ursins, who rests beside him. The design is by François Anguier (d. 1669), who also worked at it as a sculptor, with Regnaudin and Thibaut Poissant.

In the middle, on a black marble sarcophagus, is the white marble statue of the Duke, in a reclining posture with his wife seated by him overcome with grief. The latter statue is a fine work. To the left, Strength, symbolized by a figure of Hercules, and to the right, Charity. The base, also of black and white marble, has four columns, between which are three niches, the middle one containing an urn which two angels are wreathing with flowers, the others with statues of War and Religion. Above is a fine pediment and the Montmorency coat of arms.

Returning to the Rue de la Flèche and descending to the right by the Rue d'Allier, we enter the *Place d'Allier*, at the end of which is the CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART *(du Sacré-Cœur)*, a fine modern building in the early Gothic style, designed by Lassus. The ornamentation of the exterior is somewhat poor, but the interior is noteworthy and consists of nave and aisles and a transept, with only one side portal, and galleries below the rose-windows. This church has some very fine glass, by Lobin.

The Rue Régemortes, the second on the left of the façade, leads to the banks of the Allier, here crossed by a fine stone bridge. — The church of *St. Pierre*, in the Rue Delorme, partly in the Gothic style of the 15th cent., has some good modern stained glass.

FROM MOULINS TO MONTLUÇON (Limoges), 50 M., railway in 2½-4 hrs. (fares 9 fr. 20, 6 fr. 20, 4 fr. 5 c.). — The line crosses the Allier and skirts the town to the left. Farther on, to the right, appear the *Château de Chartilly* and the *Château de Chassagne*, both of the 16th century.

8½ M. **Souvigny** *(Hôt. du Lion-d'Or*, good), is a little town, once famous for its Cluniac Priory, of which some buildings, restored in the 17th cent., and the *Church* still remain. The latter, dating from the 11-12th cent., but altered in the 15th., is partly Romanesque, and partly Gothic. The *Towers* of the façade, without spires, are Romanesque, but the façade itself is Gothic (15th cent.). The *Interior*, 273 ft. long, with a double aisled nave, is very striking. Along the vault (15th cent.) of the latter runs a central rib extending to the E. end and richly carved with foliage. The apse is a little out of line with the nave. To the left of the entrance is a piece of a Romanesque column covered with ornament and sculptures representing the months of the year, signs of the zodiac, fabulous animals, etc. On the wall is a sort of *Reredos* having two tiers of fine Romanesque arches, with little columns very richly sculptured and mutilated statuettes. To the right of the entrance are equally curious fragments of sculpture. On the same side, just before the choir, is a stone cabinet of the 15th cent. with coarse paintings on the doors. The *Old Chapel*, on the same side, and the *New Chapel* on the left, with beautiful balustrades, were added in the 14th and 15th centuries. The former contains the *Tomb of Louis II. of Bourbon*, the latter that of *Charles I.*, with their respective wives, splendid monuments with recumbent statues, unhappily mutilated and disfigured by inappropriate inscriptions. The sacristy has some fine wainscoting of the time of Louis XIV. — By the side of this church still stands the *Old Parish Church*, Romanesque in style.

Beyond Souvigny the train passes over a viaduct, 85 ft. in height. — 14 M. *Noyant*, to the left, with a 15th cent. castle. Beyond a tunnel the scenery improves. The line enters another tunnel followed by rocky

cuttings. — Beyond (19 K.) Perrigny the line descends rapidly into a beautiful amphitheatre of wooded valleys. — 20½ K. Chemin, situated on the extensive ruins of the Château de Marcé (13th cent.). — 23 K. Villefranche-d'Allier, the terminus of the line from La Guerche-Sancoins (see p. 321; see below). — We soon enter the wild basin of Cluny. — 31 K. Joigny-la-Croix, the junction for (2½ K.) Buxy (see p. 321). — 47½ K. Cluny, for the town and the rest of the journey see p. 227.

From Moulins to Roanne, 67½ M., railway in 3½ hrs. (fares 12 fr. 75, 8 fr. 50, 5 fr. 10 c.). — This line follows the valley of the Allier as far as (20½ K.) Varennes-sur-Allier (Rte 221), and then diverges to the right. 23½ K. St. Menoux possesses an interesting abbey-church of the 12th century. — 33 K. Jaligny, with another interesting church.

35 K. Bourbon-l'Archambault (*Hôt. du Parc; Montagne, de France, de la Paix*), a town of 4000 inhab., noted for its thermal mineral springs, the *Source de la Reine*, is connected by the extensive ruins of its castle (13th cent.) of the Sires de Bourbon. The two springs, the *Source César* and the *Source Jean* (72° Fahr.), belong to government (1862) a (3rd and a *Military Establishment*. The waters are efficacious in cases of scrofula and chronic rheumatism. The environs are pleasant. *Excursions* (p. 221) due S.E. to the S.E. of Bourbon, via Ainay, with curious 12th cent. church, and (9½ K. to the S. of St. Menoux (Rte 221).

This railway proceeds via (39 K.) *Bourbon-les-Bains* (335 inhab.), (45 K.) *Gannat* (7,600 inhab.), junction for the line from La Ferté to Villefranche-d'Allier (p. 321).

From Moulins to Nîmes, 307 K., railway in 8-13 hrs. (fares 53 fr. 5, 37 fr. 10 c.). — 27½ K. *Jaligny-sur-Besbre*, an industrial town with 3122 inhab., on the Jolan, 2 K. to the S.E. of which object of *Bois-Fossé* (founded in 1132), now belonging to the Count de Bec, on the banks of the Canal Latéral and the Loire. 37 K. junction of a line to Auxerre via Cosne-sur-Loire (see *Baedeker's N* France), with another junction. — Beyond (39 K.) *St. Agnan* an important coal and the Canal du Centre. — 45 K. *Digoin* (*Hôtel de la Poste*), industrial town with 4000 inhab., on the Loire, at the mouth of the du Centre and the Canal Latéral. — The railway now leaves the and skirts the Canal du Centre.

47½ K. *Paray-le-Monial* (*Hôtel de la Poste, Avenue*, *Vue Bourgogne*, moderate), a town of 3021 inhab., which the latter part of its name from an ancient Benedictine nunnery, and is still to some extent famous by reason of its supposed Visitation, an order from the last half one of the nuns of this Marie Alacoque (d. 1690) brought into prominence the worship Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Church is a fine building erected in the 12th cent. by Cluniac monks; the *Hôtel de Ville* dates from the 15th cent. For the line to Chagny and Beaune, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern*

57 K. *Charolles* (*Soleil*), a very ancient town, of 3346 inhab., situated at the confluence of the Reclus and Loire, and formerly the capital of Charollais, once belonged to Burgundy and from it Charles the Bold took his title of Count of Charolais. — Fine views are opened out of the *Semnoz*. — 62 K. *Les Tuileries-Varennes*, beyond which the train passes through a tunnel from the valley of the Loire to that of the Rhône. — Several small stations are passed.

70 K. *Chauffailles* (*Soleil*, *Hôtel de Bourgogne*), in *l'Arbre*, a town of 3000 inhab., once of some note on account of the great Benedictine Abbey founded in the 9th cent., which was at the height of its glory in the 11th and owned 300 religious houses dependent on it and was the richest religious order in Europe until its wealth led to a relaxation of discipline. The prosperity caused to the Clunesians under under St. Hugues (1049-1109) and the Christian was especially shown in the superb church which they built. Unhappily but little is left of this abbey

The other buildings of the abbey have to a great extent been rebuilt and now contain an *École Normale* and an *École* in Cours Moliere. The *Abbot's Palace*, now converted into the *Hôtel de* and Museum, dates from the 15-16th centuries. The latter contains fragments of the old abbey, a model of the church, and about 80 unimportant pictures. The visitor should also note *Notre-Dame*, of the 13th cent.; *St. Marcel*, which has a Romanesque steeple of the 12th cent.; some old houses, remains of fortifications, etc. The *Chapel of the Hôtel-Dieu* contains two fine statues of the early part of the 18th cent., intended for the mausoleum of the Duke and Duchess of Bouillon, which, however, has never been erected.

From Cluny a RAILWAY runs to Roanne (53½ M. in 2¼-3 hrs.; fares 11 fr. 45, 8 fr. 25 c.) viâ (6 M.) *Clermain*, (26 M.) *La Clayette-Baudemont*, (32 M.) *St. Maurice-Châteauneuf*, and several other small stations. — 38 M. Charlieu (*Lion d'Or*), a town of 5247 inhab., originated in an ancient Benedictine abbey, of which the chief feature remaining is the very beautiful church-porch (11-12th cent.). — At (41½ M.) *Pouilly-sous-Charlieu* we join the line from Montchanin and Paray-le-Monial to *Roanne* (p. 241).

Returning for a short distance by the same line we ascend to the left, pass through a tunnel nearly 1 M. long, and, after a view of the old fortress of *Berzé*, also on the left, reach (83 M.), *St. Sorlin-Milly* (Buffet). Milly, ½ M. to the right, was the home of Lamartine (d. 1869). — 90 M. *Sivom*, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

Beyond Moulins the main line continues to ascend the valley of the Allier, passing (45 M.) *Bessay* and (49 M.) *La Ferté-Hauterive*, with its large modern château farther on, to the left. — 54½ M. *Varennes-sur-Allier*.

From VARENNES TO COMMENTRY, 48½ M., railway in 3¾ hrs. (fares 9 fr. 10, 6 fr. 25 c.). — 6 M. *St. Pourçain-sur-Sioule*, an ancient town with 6000 inhab. and an interesting church. — At (18 M.) *Chantelle* is a ruined castle of the dukes of Bourbon, dismantled by Francis I. in 1527, after the forfeiture of the Constable Bourbon (p. 210). Adjoining is a Romanesque church, with additions of the 11th and 15th centuries. A branch-line runs from (21½ M.) *St. Bonnet-de-Rochefort* (Ebreuil; p. 227). — The line ascends the pretty valley of the *Bouble*. 34 M. *Montmarault*. 41 M. *Bézenet*, and thence to (48½ M.) *Commentry*, see p. 212.

58 M. *Cressy*. Farther on, to the left, is *Billy*, with the picturesque ruins of its feudal castle, a favourite excursion from Vichy.

61½ M. **St. Germain-des-Fossés** *(Buffet)*, where the lines to Clermont-Ferrand (R. 34) and Vichy (R. 33) diverge to the right. The former priory church of St. Germain, above the village, probably dates from the 11th century.

The Lyons line bends to the left towards the valley of the Bèbre, passing through a pretty, undulating country. 66½ M. *St. Gérand-le-Puy*. 73 M. *Lapalisse*, a town with 2900 inhab., 1¼ M. to the left, with a castle of the 15-16th centuries. Beyond (77½ M.) *Jaligny*, the *Montagnes de la Madeleine* appear on the right. We pass several viaducts and a tunnel more than ¾ M. long. 90 M. *St. Martin-d'Estréaux*.

Excursion (3½ fr.) plies hence in summer to (3½ M.) **Sail-les-Bains** (*Hôtel de l'Établissement*), the mineral waters of which were known to the Romans. These waters, believed to be the most highly charged with carbonic acid in existence, are efficacious in infectious diseases and in skin-affections.

After another viaduct and a short tunnel comes (89½ M.) *La Pacaudière.* — 95½ M. *St. Germain-l'Espinasse.*

St. Germain lies 1¼ M. to the E. About 1¾ M. to the N.W. is Ambierle (*Hôt. Dalleris*), a picturesquely situated town with a handsome Benedictine *Church* (15th cent.), which has twelve windows with ancient stained glass, and an altar-piece, presented in 1466, attributed to Rogier van der Weyden.

103½ M. **Roanne** (*Buffet; Hôtel du Nord,* Rue de la Sous-Préfecture), an industrial town of 31,400 inhab., on the left bank of the Loire, the *Rodomna* or *Roidomna* of the Romans, offers few attractions to the tourist. The Cours de la République, to the right as we quit the station, and the Rue de la Côte, at the end on the left, lead to the Rue Nationale, which descends towards the Loire, passing the modern *Hôtel de Ville,* and, farther on, running near to *Notre-Dame-des-Victoires,* a fine modern church in the style of the 13th century. The second main thoroughfare of the town passes in front of the Sous-Préfecture, on the right, at the end of the Rue de la Côte, and is continued, to the left, towards the *Collège* (recently rebuilt) and *St. Etienne* (13-14th cent.), the principal church. The cross-street before the church is reached leads back to the station. Roanne has important spinning-mills and cotton factories.

About 8 M. to the W. (omnibus, 1 fr.) is **St. Alban** (*Hôt. St. Louis,* etc.), a village with cold mineral springs (aërated chalybeate), long famous as table-waters. There is a well-managed *Establishment* and a *Casino.* A variety of excursions may be made in the Monts de la Madeleine, which command fine views of the Loire valley.

From Roanne to *Paray-le-Monial, Montchanin,* and *Chagny,* see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France.*

Passing to the right of Roanne, the line crosses the *Loire* at a point where the bed of the river has been changed. — 105 M. *Le Coteau,* a suburb of Roanne, whence the line to St. Etienne diverges to the right and that to Paray-le-Monial to the left. The Tarare line ascends the valley of the Rhins, which it crosses several times. — Beyond (109 M.) *L'Hôpital* are four short tunnels. 113½ M. *Régny,* an ancient village on the Rhins, which had a Cluniac priory. Fine modern church and some remains of fortifications. Then between two tunnels, to the left, the pencil manufactory founded by the celebrated Conté. 117 M. *St. Victor-Thizy.*

A branch-line runs hence to (4½ M.) *Thizy,* a town with 4878 inhab., picturesquely situated to the N.E., and to (8 M.) *Cours,* a cloth-manufacturing town, with 6000 inhabitants.

The engineering difficulties of the line increase and the country becomes more broken as we approach the mountains of Lyonnais. Beyond two more tunnels is (121 M.) *Amplepuis,* with 7113 inhab., and cotton and muslin manufactories. The line now makes a considerable ascent, passes through a tunnel 1¾ M. long, and rapidly descends into the basin of the Rhone. The scenery is picturesque and a good view of Tarare is obtained, to the left. Another tunnel, ½ M. long, is passed through.

129½ M. **Tarare** *(Buffet; Hôtel de l'Europe)*, a modern industrial town of 12,387 inhab., in the narrow valley of the Turdine, surrounded by mountains. It is an important centre for the manufacture of plain and embroidered muslins, and of silk plush for hats.

132½ M. *Pontcharra-St. Forgeux;* 135 M. *St. Romain-de-Popey.* Two short tunnels. 139 M. *L'Arbresle*, an ancient town, with 3576 inhab., and the remains of a fortress, of which the keep has been restored. — We traverse four more short tunnels. 143½ M. *Lozanne;* 146½ M. *Chazay-Marcilly;* 148 M. *Les Chères-Chassel.* — At (153 M.) *St. Germain-au-Mont-d'Or* (small buffet) we join the line from Paris viâ Dijon.

165 M. *Lyons*, see p. 216.

b. Viâ Roanne and St. Etienne.

190 M. Railway in 8¼-8½ hrs. (fares 37 fr. 55, 28 fr. 15, 20 fr. 70 c.).

To (103½ M.) *Roanne*, see p. 214. The direct line is quitted beyond (105 M.) *Le Coteau.* The country becomes very broken, and the line beyond (110½ M.) *St. Cyr-de-Favières* passes through three tunnels, and beyond (114 M.) *Vendranges-St. Priest* through cuttings and two more tunnels. Near (117 M.) *St. Jodard* we reach the banks of the Loire, whose bed is here shut in between the hills of the Forez, which extend as far as Roanne. — Beyond (123½ M.) *Balbigny* the valley expands to the right, on which side it is sprinkled with pools and still bordered by the Forez mountains, dominated to the S.W. by the *Pierre-sur-Haute* (5370 ft.). — 129 M. *Feurs*, a town with 3492 inhab., was formerly the capital of the Forez. Its decorated Gothic church is partly modern.

136 M. **Montrond** *(Gr.-Hôt. du Forez; Mallière)*, with the imposing ruins of a castle of the 14-16th cent., overlooking the Loire. The *Source du Geyser*, a mineral spring of considerable value, was discovered here in 1881, and a thermal establishment erected. — Line to Montbrison (p. 232), see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France.*

142 M. **St. Galmier** *(Hôt. Lassounery; du Commerce; des Voyageurs)*, a town of 3257 inhab., 2½ M. (omn. 45 c.) to the left, is celebrated for its mineral waters which are largely exported. The *Church* (15-17th cent.) contains a remarkable tabernacle of the 16th cent., and a painted altar. A diligence plies hence to *Bellegarde*, 4½ M. to the N.

146 M. *La Renardière.* — At (146½ M.) *St. Just-sur-Loire*, we join the line from Clermont-Ferrand (p. 232).

From St. Just-sur-Loire to Firminy *(Annonay)*, 12 M., railway in ¾-1 hr. (fares 2 fr. 15, 1 fr. 45, 95 c.). — The valley of the Loire is gained by a tunnel 170 yds. long, beyond which is (3½ M.) *St. Just-St. Rambert*, the station for the little town of **St. Rambert-sur-Loire**, which has remains of fortifications. We next cross three viaducts, 55, 100, and 90 ft. high, the second after three short tunnels and before a fourth ¼ M. long. — 5½ M. *St. Victor-sur-Loire.* Viaducts, the first 95 ft. high, and tunnels follow in rapid succession. — 10½ M. *Fraisse-Unieux*, also on the line

rom Le Puy, to St. Etienne (R. 40) which we follow as far as the next tation. — 12 M. *Firminy* (p. 254).

Continuation of the railway viâ (152½ M.) *St. Etienne*, see pp. 30, 229.

190 M. **Lyons** (for farther details, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*).

Hotels. Gr.-Hôt. Collet & Continental, Gr.-Hôt. de Lyon, Rue de la République 62 and 16; Gr.-Hôt. de Bellecour, Place de Bellecour; Gr.-Hôt. de l'Europe, 1 Rue de Bellecour; de Rome, 4 Rue de Peyrat; des Beaux-Arts, 15 Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville; des Etrangers, 5 Rue Stella; du Globe, 21 Rue Gasparin; des Négociants, 1 Rue des Quatre-Chapeaux; *des Archers, 15 Rue des Archers; Bayard, 47 Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville; de Russie, 6 Rue Gasparin; de Milan, 8 Place des Terreaux; de Paris & du Nord, 16 Rue de la Platière. — Gr.-Hôt. de l'Univers, Cours du Midi 27; d'Angleterre, de Bordeaux & du Parc, both Place Carnot; de Toulouse, Cours du Midi 23; Hôt.-Restaur. Dubost, Place Carnot 19.

Restaurants. *Maison Dorée*, Place Bellecour; *Maderni*, *Casati*, Rue de la République 19 and 8; *du Helder*, Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville 98; *Au Rosbif* (cheaper), various establishments; *Bouillon Montesquieu*, Place Carnot. — **Cafés.** *Maison Dorée*, *Casati*, see above; *Anglais*, *du Dix-Neuvième Siècle*, *de Madrid*, Rue de la République 24, 37, and 1; *Morel*, *de Lyon*, Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville 106 and 49.

Cabs. With seats for 2 pers. 1 fr. 50 c. per drive, 2 fr. per hr.; for 4 pers., 1¾ and 2½ fr.; 50 c. extra between midnight and 6 a. m. Each trunk 25 c., 75 c. for three or more.

Post Office, Place de la Charité and Place Bellecour. — **Telegraph Office**, Place de la République 53 (open day and night).

American Consul, *Frank E. Hyde, Esq.* — **British Vice Consul**, *Robert Ottley, Esq.* — **English Church Service**, *Holy Trinity Church*, Quai de l'Est.

Lyons, the ancient *Lugdunum*, with 438,000 inhab., is the second city of France both for size and industrial importance, and occupies a magnificent site at the confluence of the *Rhône* and *Saône*. These rivers divide Lyons into three distinct parts, *viz.* the town proper between them (with the Gare de Perrache); the quarter on the right bank of the Saône, including *Fourvière* and *Vaise*; and the quarter on the left bank of the Rhone, including *La Guillotière* and *Les Brotteaux*.

In front of the Gare de Perrache are the broad Cours du Midi and the Place Carnot, with the *Monument of the Republic*. Nearer the centre of the town are the *Church of Ainay*, the oldest in Lyons (10-11th cent.), and the Place Bellecour with an *Equestrian Statue of Louis XIV*. Thence the Rue de Bellecour leads to the right bank of the Saône on which are the **Cathedral* (12-15th cent.) and the church of **Notre-Dame-de-Fourvière*. — The church of *St. Nizier* (15-16th cent.), in the Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, between the two rivers, is the ancient cathedral. In the Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville is the **Palais des Arts*, containing important collections of paintings, sculptures, antiquities, and natural history. — The *Hôtel de Ville* dates in its present form from 1702. — The *Palais de la Bourse*, in the Rue de la République, is one of the most striking buildings in Lyons; it contains an interesting *Museum of Textile Industry*. To the N.E. of the town is the **Parc de la Tête-d'Or*, at the entrance to which is the *Monument des Enfants du Rhône* (1870-71).

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33. From Nevers (Paris) to Vichy and Thiers

(St. Etienne).

92½ M. Railway to (69 M.) *Vichy* in 2-43/4 hrs. (fares 12 fr. 55, 8 fr. 45, 5 fr. 50 c.). From Vichy to (23½ M.) *Thiers*, Railway in 1¾-2 hrs. (fares 4 fr. 70, 3 fr. 50, 2 fr. 25 c.). — From Paris to Vichy, 227 M., Railway in 6½-13½ hrs. (fares 40 fr. 95, 27 fr. 75, 17 fr. 65 c.).

To (63 M.) *St. Germain-des-Fossés*, see p. 213. — The Vichy line continues to follow the valley of the Allier. To the right (fine view) the line to Clermont-Ferrand (R. 34) diverges. — 69 M. *Vichy.*

Vichy. — Hotel-omnibuses (2 fr. or less) meet the trains. Railway-omnibus, 30 c. by day, 50 c. by night. Cabs, see below.

Hotels. In the Rue Cunin-Gridaine (Pl. C, 2-4), on the E. side of the Park, beginning at the Establishment: Grand-Hôtel des Bains (Pl. a); Nouvel Hôtel (Pl. b); Hôt. de l'Amirauté (Pl. c); Velay et des Anglais (Pl. d); Royal Hotel (Pl. e); Mombrun et du Casino, united (Pl. é, f), pens. 10-20 fr. per day; Hôt. Bonnet et de la Restauration (Pl. g). — In the Rue du Parc (Pl. B, 3, 4), on the other side of the Park, beginning at the Casino: Grand-Hôt. des Ambassadeurs (Pl. h), elegantly fitted up, R., L., & A. 4-13, B. 1-2, déj. 4, D. 6, pens. 11-20, omn. 1 fr. (trunk 60 c.); des Thermes (Pl. i); de Cherbourg (Pl. j); des Princes et de la Paix (Pl. k, l), open all the year round; du Parc et Grand-Hôtel (Pl. m). All the above are of the first class (at least 10-20 fr. per day). — Richelieu (Pl. n; B, 2), Rue de l'Etablissement. — Britannique (Pl. o; C, 2), de la Source Lucas (Pl. p; C, 3), both in the Rue Lucas; Gr.-Hôt. Maussant et de Madrid (Pl. q; C, 2), in the Rue de Ballore. In the Rue de Paris (Pl. D, 3): to the right as we go to the station, Hôt. du Louvre et de Reims (Pl. r); Gr.-Hôt. de l'Univers (Pl. s), Dubessay (Pl. t), du Rhône (Pl. u), de la Couronne (Pl. v), du Beaujolais (Pl. w); to the left, Hôt. de la Suisse (Pl. x), de Rome (Pl. y), etc. — Rue de Nîmes (Pl. C, 4, 5): Hôt. de Rouen (Pl. z), second-class; Hôt. de Nice (Pl. bb), near the church of St. Louis, de l'Europe (Pl. cc), d'Orléans (Pl. dd), de Milan (Pl. ee), not far from the Park, Hôt. du Palais (Pl. éé), de Genève (Pl. ff), farther on. — Hôt. Molière (Pl. gg; B, 4), Rue du Casino, well situated, open all the year. — Place and Rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville (Pl. B, 4, 5), also well-placed: Hôt. de Narbonne et d'Espagne (Pl. hh), de Londres & du Chalet (Pl. ii, kk), de Rivoli (Pl. ll), all of the second class. — Near the Source de l'Hôpital (Pl. B, 5): Hôt. de Russie (Pl. mm), de l'Union (meublé; Pl. nn); Gr.-Hôt. du Centre (Pl. pp); Hôt. de la Porte de France (Pl. oo), etc. — Hôtel Belle-Vue (Pl. ss), R., L., & A. 3½-5 fr.; Gr.-Hôt. du Palais-Royal (Pl. tt), des Célestins (Pl. uu), two second-class houses in a quiet street behind the Parc des Célestins (Pl. C, 5). — In the Rue de Paris, nearer the station (Pl. D, 3): Côte d'Or, de Castille, de Brest, Beauparlant, de la Poste, du Globe, the last two unpretending but good. There are also a great number of furnished houses and smaller hôtels, especially in Old Vichy, amongst which may be mentioned a new '*Hôtel de Famille*' in the Pavillon de Sévigné (p. 220). Living is not so dear at Vichy as one might expect considering the reputation of the place. There are, at any rate, hotels to suit every purse.

Cafés. *La Restauration*, also restaurant, in the Park, to the left of the Casino; *Gr.-Café de la Perle*, *Café Riche*, *Grand Café*, all in the Rue de Nîmes; *Grand Café Neuf*, Square de l'Hôtel-de-Ville; etc.

Cabs. From the station to the hotels, with or without luggage by day (6 a. m. to 8 p. m.), with 1 horse, 1½, with 2 horses 2½ fr., by night 1 fr. extra; same scale from the station to lodgings. — Per drive, by day, 1¼ and 2 fr.; night 2 and 3 fr. Per hour, by day, 3 and 4 fr.; night, 4 and 6 fr.; etc.

Post and Telegraph Office (Pl. A, 4), near the Hôtel de Ville.

Thermal Establishment, open all the year (see below). The mineral water drunk on the spot is gratis; sent to a special address, 30 c. per litre. For the *Baths*, visitors enter their names at the office, in the Grande Gallerie of the 1st class. Tariff: baths or douches de luxe, 5 fr.; mineral baths, 1st cl., 2 fr. 50 c.; 2nd cl., 1 fr. 50 c.; 3rd cl., 60 c.; bath in the common basin, 2 fr., etc., according to tariff posted up in the establishment. The season reaches its height in July and August.

Physicians. A complete list of consulting physicians is posted up in the Galleries of the Establishment, with their addresses.

Casino (see p. 219), admission, 2 fr. per day, 25 fr. per month. The subscription admits to all rooms except the theatre, and includes the use of chairs in the promenade and the public parks. Admission to the *Theatre*, with numbered stall, 4 fr.; to Casino and Theatre, 5 fr.; subscription for both, 60 fr., etc. An introduction is requisite.

Club. Cercle International (Pl. C, 3), at the corner of the Rue Cunin-Gridaine and the Rue Sornin. Admission only granted to members of existing clubs, or on presentation. — *Eden Theatre*, behind the Nouvel Hôtel (3 and 2 fr.).

English Church Service in summer (June-Sept.).

Vichy (850 ft.) is a town of 10,870 inhab., prettily situated on the right bank of the *Allier*, and enjoying a healthy and temperate climate. It is the principal watering-place of France and even of Europe, for it is visited by nearly 50,000 foreigners annually. Except its old quarter, which dates from the middle ages, the town is entirely modern. Its waters, though well known to the Romans, who named the town *Vicus Calidus*, only came into favour towards the end of the 17th cent., when Madame de Sévigné made them known at the court of Louis XIV.; and they did not become really fashionable until the Second Empire. The celebrity of the Vichy waters, however, is not solely due to the favour of Napoleon III., who was a frequent visitor, nor to the transformation which the town partly owes to him, but also to their intrinsic virtues. The place is also indebted for its prosperity to the admirably managed Establishment, which is the property of the state and is leased by a company. The waters are chiefly used for drinking, and yet such is the influx of strangers at the height of the season that the company is called on to provide 3500 baths a day.

The long Rue de Paris leads from the station to the centre of the new town. Thence the Rue Lucas, almost straight on, passes between the *Military Hospital*, on the right, and the *Sources Lucas* and *Prunelle*, on the left, the former used chiefly for baths, the latter private property. — Farther on the Rue Cunin-Gridaine strikes away to the left, skirting the Thermal Establishment and the Park and containing many of the chief hotels.

The **Thermal Establishment** (Pl. B, 2, 3) consists mainly of a vast square structure with an arcade of round arches of massive design built in 1820, to which a yet larger annexe, on the W. side, was added in 1853. The first block, in which are the offices, is reserved for baths of the 1st class, which are only distinguished from the two others, in the annexe, by their elegance and comfort. Here, too, are several of the principal springs: the *Puits Chomel* (113°

Fahr.) at the end of the gallery as we come from the Park, where the water is raised by a pump; the *Grande Grille* (111° Fahr.), the most celebrated of the Vichy springs, the water of which bubbles up naturally at the E. end of the cross gallery at the back of the building; the *Source Mesdames* (59° Fahr.), at the other end, brought hither from the Cusset road; and the *Puits Carré* (113° Fahr.), the most abundant spring (55,000 gallons per day), which is in the basement. The total daily supply from all the springs is about 64,000 gallons. The water of the Puits Chomel is especially effective in maladies of the digestive organs; that of the Grande Grille for liver-complaints, and hepathic affections; that of the Source Mesdames for chlorosis and other female diseases; while that of the Puits Carré is used solely to supply the baths. For the other springs, see below. Behind the Establishment are the *Bâtiments d'Exploitation* (visitors admitted), in which are produced the salts, pastilles, and barley-sugar of Vichy. About 7,000,000 bottles of the water are annually exported from Vichy.

The **Park** (Pl. B, C, 3, 4), between the Thermal Establishment and the Casino, is a promenade shaded by fine trees, planted in the time of Napoleon I. It is the centre of Vichy, and the rendezvous of the visitors during the *Concerts* (8.30 to 9.30 a. m., and 2.30 to 3.30 p. m.). It is still more frequented in the evening. On the right as we come from the Establishment is the *Source du Parc* (71.6° Fahr.), which is little used, though in certain cases it is to be preferred to the Sources de l'Hôpital and des Célestins (p. 220). — Farther on, to the right of the Casino, is the Concert enclosure; to the left the band-pavilion and the Café 'La Restauration' (p. 217).

The **Casino** (Pl. B, 4) is a fine building in the style of the Renaissance, erected 1860-65, by Badger. The façade, in front of which is a small garden, forms a verandah in the middle, and on each side a pavilion, with a large window between two colossal caryatides, and a circular pediment. The caryatides, representing the Seasons, are by Carrier-Belleuse. On the back of the building is a colossal high-relief, by the same artist, representing 'The Springs of Vichy'. Within are to be found all the means of recreation usual in establishments of this kind. These include a large Salle des Fêtes, a reading-room, well provided with French and foreign newspapers, a ladies' saloon, a billiard room, a card room, and a theatre. The Casino is open from May 15th to Sept. 30th, but the real season only lasts from June 1st to Sept. 15th. Admission, p. 218.

To the right of the Casino, beyond the Park, is the *Hôtel de Ville* (Pl. A, 4), a small plain building with a pretty fountain in front of it. At the side are the *Post* and *Telegraph Offices*. Behind the Casino and on the left side are large *Bazaars*. — The Passage du Parc leads to the *Place Rosalie* (Pl. B, 5), in front of the *Hôpital Civil*. Here is the *Source de l'Hôpital* (88° Fahr.), similar in char-

ter to the Grande Grille. The water is chiefly used for gastric sorders. It has a separate bathing establishment in the Place.

The Rue du Pont, which descends from this spring towards the llier, crosses the **New Park,** a splendid promenade formed since 861 by the construction of an embankment, nearly a mile long, rotecting land which the Allier used often to overflow. It extends most the whole length of the town by the river-bank, and has an rea of nearly 30 acres. There is a fine view of the valley and the minences on the opposite bank. The bridge dates from 1866. ower down the stream is a weir.

Old Vichy, skirted by this park on the left side of the Rue du ont, has little or nothing to interest the visitor. The *Tour de Horloge* is a relic of a 15th cent. château. In the lower part of Old ichy are the private *Bains Larbaud* (Pl. B, 5), with a gratuitous rinking-room, and a little higher up is the *Pavillon de Sévigné,* o named from its having been in 1676 the residence of Madame de évigné, who then spent a season at Vichy, and speaks of it in her etters. The latter has been restored and is now a hotel (p. 217).

Farther on are the *Sources des Célestins* (Pl. C, 6), named after a onvent of Celestines which existed here down to the last century. hey are three in number: the Source de la Grotte (57.2° Fahr.), he Old Source (53.6° Fahr.) farther away and scanty, and the New ource (53.6° Fahr.), the most frequented. Their waters are pleasant o drink, but must, it is said, be used with caution. They are fficacious in cases of gout, gravel, and diabetes. Above the springs s a pretty park which, on the other side, communicates with the oute de Nîmes.

The Boulevard des Célestins joins, at the end of the New Park, the Avenue des Célestins, which skirts the town, passing in front of the private establishment of the *Bains Lardy* (Pl. D, 6) and an establishment of *Bains Thermo-Résineux* (pine-cone baths; Pl. D, 6).

Turning to the left beyond the Parc des Célestins, we re-enter the town by the Rue de Nîmes. In this street, not far from the park, is the *Church of St. Louis* (Pl. C, 4), built in 1861 in the Romanesque style, and decorated inside with polychrome paintings.

Excursions. — To Cusset, 1¾ M. to the E., beyond the railway. Omnibus-railway, 20 c., gratis for bathers at the establishment Ste. Marie. An alternative route leads by the *Allée des Dames,* a pleasant promenade skirting the *Sichon,* a small tributary of the Allier, and reached by the Rue de Ballore. **Cusset** *(Hôtel et Villa des Bains)* is a small and ancient town (6454 inhab.), with its own *Bath Establishment,* having two cold springs. Both the establishment and the hotel are situated a little on this side of the square, in which the cars stop. In the square is a third mineral spring. — About 2½ M. farther, on the left, is *Les Malavaux,* in a somewhat dull valley.

To the Ardoisière, a continuation of the preceding route, 7 M. from Vichy; one-horse carriage, 10 fr., two-horse, 15 fr. there and back including halt of 1 hr. About 1¾ M. from Cusset, in the valley of the Sichon, is the village of *Les Grivats;* 1¾ M. farther, in a picturesque gorge, the

Gour Saillant, a pretty little cascade, and 1¾ M. beyond it the *Ardoisière* (slate quarry), less interesting than the road to it. There is an expensive restaurant (déj. 5, D. 6 fr.).

To the Château de Bourbon-Busset, a continuation of the preceding route, 8 M. from Vichy. There is also a road viâ *St. Yorre* (see below), but it is to be preferred for the return, unless we go by train (see below) from Vichy to St. Yorre and walk thence (2½ M.). One-horse carriage 15 or 16 fr.; two-horse, 20 or 22 fr., according to the route chosen; public conveyance from the Place de la Marine, 4 fr. each. An ascent of little more than a mile from the Ardoisière beings us to the plateau on which stands the **Château de Bourbon-Busset**, with the large village of *Busset*. This château (visitors admitted) became in the 18th cent. the property of a branch of the Bourbon family, but the building dates from the 14th century. It is a very remarkable feudal castle, entered by a draw-bridge between two large modern round towers. The block in the rear, the only old part, though restored in recent times, presents a severe but picturesque appearance, with its massive machicolated tower. On this side is a terrace commanding a superb *View of the valley of the Allier, the Limagne (p. 222), the Monts Dôme, and the Monts Dore (pp. 243, 245, 250), as well as of the Forez group (p. 215). To the left of the court is a small chapel, rebuilt in the style of the 13th century. Some of the rooms have been judiciously restored in the original style. — In returning by (2½ M.) St. Yorre, we obtain splendid views of the valley of the Allier and the mountains.

To the Springs of Vesse and Hauterive. The former is an intermittent spring near Vichy (about 1 M), on the left bank of the Allier, by the bridge. The hours at which it flows are posted up at the Thermal Establishment (adm., 50 and 25 c.). — *Hauterive*, 2½ M. farther (carriage, 7 or 10 fr.), possesses, within a fine park, one of the chief mineral springs worked by the Company. The water, of the same character as that of Les Célestins (p. 220), is only used for exportation.

To the Château de Randan, 10 M., viâ the *Bois de Randan*. One-horse carriage, 15 fr., two-horse, 20 fr., with return viâ Maulmont (see below) 18 and 24 fr.; public conveyance from the Place de la Marine, 3½ fr. The **Château de Randan** is of very ancient foundation, but was entirely rebuilt in 1822 by Mme. Adélaïde d'Orléans, sister of Louis-Philippe, and now belongs to the Comtesse de Paris. It is open to visitors from July 1st to Oct. 15th on Thurs., Sun., and holidays, from noon to 5. The return is usually made by the hunting-lodge of *Maulmont* (5 M.), also a modern edifice. Thence we may either proceed by *Hauterive* (see above), or, better, cross the Allier by the Pont de Ris (1¾ M., see below).

The *Côte St. Amand*, 2½ M. to the S.E. of Vichy, on the left of the road to Thiers, and the *Montagne Verte*, 2½ M. to the N., are especially visited for the sake of the views, similar to that from Busset (carr. 7 or 10 fr.). — The ruins of the *Château de Billy*, mentioned on p. 213, are also visited; they are 2½ M. from the of station of St. Germain-des-Fossés (p. 213).

The railway now follows the right bank of the Allier, passing on the left the municipal hospital of Vichy. — 74 M. (from Nevers; 5 M. from Vichy) **St. Yorre** *(Hôtel Gay)* has a copious cold mineral spring, in a fine park to the right of the line a little before the station. The water is only used for drinking purposes. Excursion to Busset, whose château is seen on the left, see above.

78½ M. *Ris-Châteldon*. *Ris*, near the confluence of the Allier and the Dore, has a fine suspension bridge over the Allier (to Randan, see above). *Châteldon* (Hôt. Dassaud), 1¾ M. to the S.E. at the foot of rocky heights, is an ancient town of 2099 inhab., with

remains of fortifications and an old castle. It has also a small *Mineral Water Establishment.* To the right of the *Dore,* which the line now skirts, are the Monts Dôme (pp. 243, 245). 82 M. *Puy-Guillaume;* 86½ M. *Noalhat.*

At (92 M.) *Courty* (Buvette) our line joins that from Clermont-Ferrand to Thiers and St. Etienne, see p. 234.

34. From Nevers (Paris) to Clermont-Ferrand and Le Puy.

103 M. and 91 M. RAILWAY in 3¼-4⅓ hrs. and in 6½ hrs. (fare 18 fr. 80, 12 fr. 75, 8 fr. 25 c.). — From Paris to Clermont-Ferrand, 261 M. RAILWAY in 8½-14 hrs. (fares 47 fr. 15, 31 fr. 85, 20 fr. 30 c.). — Line to Clermont-Ferrand viâ Bourges and Montluçon, see R. 35; to Le Puy v Lyons and St. Etienne, RR. 32 and 34.

To (63 M.) *St-Germain-des-Fossés,* see p. 213. — The railwa turns to the W. and crosses the Allier. Beyond (66½ M.) *St. Rem* the line steadily ascends, affording a fine view of the basin of t Allier and the mountains of the Forez (p. 215), bounding the horizo to the left. The Monts Dôme are also in view (pp. 243, 245). 74 M. *Monteignet-Escurolles.*

77½ M. **Gannat** *(Hôt. de la Poste; *Railway Restaurant),* town of 5760 inhab., on the *Andelot,* with an interesting church the 11th and 14th centuries. — Line to Montluçon and Bordeau R. 36. — We next traverse the *Limagne,* a fertile basin of the Bass Auvergne, covering an area of about 90 sq. miles, watered by t Allier and bounded by the Monts Dôme on the W. and the Fo range on the E.

84½ M. **Aigueperse** *(Hôt. St. Louis),* a town of 2340 inhab., w a fine Gothic church of the 13-15th cent., lately restored. It posses a painting by A. Mantegna, one by Ben. Ghirlandajo, and some go carving. — 90 M. *Pontmort.* To the right is the chain of the Mo Dôme, dominated by the Puy de Dôme (p. 245).

95 M. **Riom** *(Gr.-Hôt. Place Desaix; Hôt. de Paris),* a town 11,189 inhab., long the capital of Auvergne and a rival of Clermo is well built, but of dark stone or Volvic lava. The chief churc are *St. Amable* (11-14th and 18th cent.); *Notre-Dame-du-M thuret* (15th cent.), with a dome; and **Ste. Chapelle* (14-15th cen with fine windows of the 15th century. There is a *Museum* w 200 pictures, a large *Prison* of the 17th cent., and some anci houses of the 15th and 16th cent., including the *Hôtel des Cons* opposite the Hôtel de Ville.

The church of *Mozat,* 1 M. to the N., contains two valuable reliqua of the 13th and 16th cent. respectively.

About 3 M. to the N.W. (omnibus in 35 min., 4 times a day, 7 is **Châtelguyon** *(Splendid Hôtel; Grand Hôtel des Bains; Barthélemy,* etc village of about 1600 inhab., noted for its mineral-springs, with a managed *Establishment.* The church contains a gilded altar-piece (18th cen and there is another of the same kind in the church of the neighbou

village of *St. Bonnet.* — The church of *Yssac-la-Tourette* contains two alabaster altar-panels in the Gothic style (13-14th cent.), attributed by some authorities to Flemish artists.

Public conveyances also leave Riom twice a day in the season (2 and 3 fr.) for (17½ M. to the N.W.) **Châteauneuf-les-Bains** (*Hôt. St. Cyr; Bresle; Chattard; La Rotonde; Petit Rocher*, etc.), on the *Sioule*, also with mineral springs. The 13th cent. *Château* contains various collections.

A Branch Railway runs from Riom to (5 M.) **Volvic** (*Commerce*), at the foot of the *Puy de la Bannière*, with a considerable trade in lava-stone. About 1 M. to the N. are the interesting ruins of the **Château de Tournoël*, dating partly from the 12th century. Farther on is the *Gorge d'Enval* or *Bout-du-Monde.* — The railway goes on to join the (11 M.) Clermont and Limoges line (R. 36), thus cutting off about 10 M.

Besides the Puy de Dôme on the right, we now see, on the left the Mont Rognon, with a ruined tower, and the Plateau of Gergovie (p. 246). Beyond (99 M.) *Gerzat*, on the right, is *Montferrand*, with large new barracks.

A branch-line runs from Gerzat to (12½ M.) *Maringues*, a small industrial town, viâ (8½ M.) *Joze*, with mineral springs.

103 M. **Clermont-Ferrand** (*Buffet*). For this town and Auvergne, see pp. 238 seq.

Keeping in view for a long time the Puy de Dôme, Mont-Rognon, and the Plateau of Gergovie, we pass (108 M.) *Sarliève-Cournon* and (109 M.) *Le Cendre-Orcet*, and reach the banks of the Allier. Undulating country; best views to the right. Beyond (112 M.) *Les Martres-de-Veyres* we have on the right the *Puy de Monton* (1925 ft.) on which is a modern statue of the Virgin, 65 ft. in height. We cross the Allier. — 114 M. *Vic-le-Comte*, the little town of which name lies 3 M. to the S.E. The old part of its church, the Ste. Chapelle, is remarkable as a rich example of the end of the Gothic period and the beginning of the Renaissance.

Farther on, to the left, near Coudes, are the imposing ruins of the **Château de Buron*, an ancient stronghold of the Counts of Auvergne. This country abounds in old castles and ruins, most of them on 'puys' (p. 243), as the singularly formed peaks are called. To the right, beside the Allier, are the ruins of a toll-tower. Above Coudes, on the right, is *Montpeyroux*, dominated by a 13th cent. tower.

118½ M. **Coudes** (*Hôt. du Commerce*, at the station; *Dusson*), on the right bank of the Allier.

A diligence in connection with the first morning train plies hence to (13½ M.) *St. Nectaire* (p. 253) in about 3 hrs., and thence to (3 M. farther) *Murols* (p. 253), returning from Murols at 3 p. m. and from St. Nectaire at 4 p. m.

Another diligence plies also to (19 M.) *Besse* (p. 251) viâ (11½ M.) *Montaigut-le-Blanc* and (13½ M.) *Le Cheix*, near which are the *Grottes de Jonas* (p. 251).

To the right and left are rocks and picturesque eminences. We recross the Allier and see on the horizon to the right the Monts Dore (p. 250).

124½ M. **Issoire** (*Buffet; Hôt. de la Poste*), a town of 6182 inhab., to the right, on the *Couze*, was the scene of many excesses

both by Calvinists and Catholics in the 16th century. The fine **Church of St. Paul,* in the Auvergnat-Romanesque style, resembles Notre-Dame-du-Port at Clermont.

The country now becomes less interesting. To the left, at a distance, is the *Château de la Grange;* farther off, to the right *St. Germain-Lembron,* a considerable village on an eminence; then the ruins of the *Château de Châlus.* — Passing (130 M.) *Le Breui* and (132½ M.) *Le Saut-du-Loup,* we cross the *Alagnon* and not on the left another castle in ruins. Then, after a short tunnel (136½ M.) *Brassac,* the centre of a small coal-field.

At (140 M.) **Arvant** *(Buffet)* the Aurillac branch (p. 259) di verges to the right.

To the right, on an eminence, is the *Château de Paulhac* (15t cent.); to the left, a fine mountain amphitheatre.

146½ M. **Brioude** *(Hôtel du Nord),* an ancient town of 4928 in habitants. The *Church of St. Julien,* well seen from the railway, a remarkable monument of the 12-13th cent., Gothic in its detail but still Romanesque as a whole. It has a tower at each end, bo rebuilt in modern times, that over the portal without a spire. T Chapel of St. Michel contains some valuable mural paintings. La Chaise-Dieu (p. 234) lies 24 M. to the E. of Brioude (ca riage-road).

Recrossing the Allier 1½ M. farther on, we pass (153 M.) *Fr gières-le-Pin.* On the right, the picturesque ruins of the *Châte de Domeyrat* (15th cent.), overlooking the village of the sa name. — 157½ M. *Paulhaguet.* — At (16 M.) *St. Georges-d'Au* diverges the line to Nîmes (R. 41). — Hence to *Le Puy,* see p. 2

35. From Orléans (Paris) to Clermont-Ferrand.

a. Viâ Bourges and Saincaize.

204 M. Railway in 10¾-11½ hrs. (fares about 36 fr. 85, 24 fr. 90, 1 25 c.). — From Paris, 298 M. in 13¼-16½ hrs. (fares about 50 fr 34 fr. 5, 22 fr. 25 c.). For details of this route as far as and inclu Bourges, see *Baedeker's Northern France.*

Orléans, see p. 3 and *Baedeker's Northern France.* — To (49 *Vierzon,* see p. 34. — The railway crosses the *Yèvre* and the *Ca du Berry,* and traverses a tunnel, beyond which diverges the lin Limoges (R. 5). We continue to skirt the S. side of the canal.

55 M. *Foëcy.* — 58 M. *Mehun-sur-Yèvre,* a town of 6572 in with some remains of a castle in which Charles VII. starved self to death in 1461, from fear of being poisoned by his son, a wards Louis XI. Mehun also contains a remarkable Romanes Gothic church. — Beyond (63½ M.) *Marmagne* (p. 225) the li Montluçon (p. 227) diverges on the right. We recross the Can Berry and the Yèvre.

69 M. **Bourges** *(*Buffet);* for farther details, see *Baedeker's Northern France.*

Hotels. Boule d'Or, Place Gordaine; de France, Place Planchat, of the same class, R. from 3, déj. 3, D. 4 fr.; Jacques-Cœur, Rue des Arènes 35. — **Cafés.** *Grand Café*, Rue Moyenne 14; *Beaux-Arts*, near the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. — *Cabs.* Per drive 1 fr. 50; 1st hr., 2 fr. 50 c., afterwards 2 fr. 25 c. per hour. — *Post and Telegraph-Office*, Place Berry.

Bourges, a town of 45,342 inhab., the old capital of Berry and now the chief town of the department of the *Cher*, stands in the midst of flat meadows at the confluence of the Yèvre and the Auron. Its principal attractions for tourists are the **Cathedral of St. Etienne* (13-16th cent.), one of the most beautiful churches in France, and the **Hôtel de Jacques Coeur*, now the Palais de Justice. Bourges also contains several other quaint and interesting buildings and has a large arsenal with a cannon foundry.

From Bourges to (43 M.) *Nevers* and to (84 M.) *Beaune-la-Rolande* and to (35 M.) *Laugère*, see *Baedeker's Northern France.*

For some distance beyond Bourges the railway ascends the valley of the Yèvre. To the left is the new line to Sancerre. Between (75 M.) *Moulins-sur-Yèvre* and (78½ M.) *Savigny-en-Septaine* the Yèvre is crossed thrice. — At (82 M.) *Avor* are a camp for military manœuvres and a school for non-commissioned officers. — 88 M. *Bengy.* — Beyond (91½ M.) *Nérondes* (2481 inhab.) the railway threads a tunnel and crosses the *Aubois* and the Canal de Berry.

98 M. *La Guerche* (3515 inhab.), on the Aubois, with blast-furnaces and a quarry of lithographic stone.

Branch-Lines run hence to (33½ M.) *St. Amand* (p. 226) and (43½ M.) *Villefranche-d'Allier* (p. 212), diverging from each other at (9½ M.) *Sancoins*, a small town on the Canal de Berry. The St. Amand line runs thence to the S.W. viâ (24 M.) *Laugère;* the other turns to the S. and joins the Moulins line (p. 212) at (38 M.) *Cosne-sur-l'Œil.*

103½ M. *Le Guétin.* The railway then crosses the *Canal Latéral à la Loire* near the point where the canal is carried across the Allier by an *Aqueduct*, over ¼ M. in length. The *Allier* itself is crossed.

105 M. **Saincaize** *(Buffet)* and thence to Clermont-Ferrand, see p. 209.

b. Viâ Montluçon and Gannat.

196 M. Railway in 10-11½ hrs. (fares about 35 fr. 40, 23 fr. 90, 15 fr. 60 c.). — To *Montluçon*, 128 M., in 4-7¾ hrs. (fares 23 fr. 40, 15 fr. 80, 10 fr. 35 c.); thence to *Gannat*, 42 M., in 2-3 hrs. (7 fr. 75, 5 fr. 20, 3 fr. 40 c.). — This line is very interesting beyond Montluçon. — From Paris to *Clermont-Ferrand*, 270 M., in 12¼-16½ hrs. (fares about 48 fr. 95, 33 fr. 5, 21 fr. 60 c.).

To (63½ M.) *Marmagne*, see p. 224. The morning-express proceeds hence by the direct line, while other trains go on to *Bourges* (see above), 5½ farther, and thence rejoin the main line by a loop-line viâ *La Chapelle-St. Ursin.* — 74 M. (from Orléans) *St. Florent*, a small town on the Cher, with iron-mines and manufactories in the

neighbourhood. Branch to Issoudun, see p. 35. — We next skirt the right bank of the Cher, and soon cross it. — 78 M. *Lunery.*

84½ M. *Châteauneuf-sur-Cher*, a little town with a beautiful castle of the Renaissance, on the right bank, and a modern Gothic church with a stone spire. Continuing to skirt the Cher, we reach (89½ M.) *Bigny*, with manufactories and a castle, and (93 M.) *La Celle-Bruère.*

About 2 M. to the S. is the old *Abbey of Noirlac*, of the 12-13th cent., converted into a porcelain manufactory; and 4 M. to the N.E. is *Meillant*, with a magnificent Renaissance *Château* in the same style as the Hôtel de Jacques Cœur at Bourges.

99½ M. **St. Amand-Mont-Rond** (*Hôtel de la Poste*), a town of 8673 inhab., situated on the *Marmande*, between the Cher and the Canal du Berry. It has a Transition church; and on a hill a little higher up are the ruins of the *Château de Mont-Rond*, which was taken by the great Condé and dismantled during the wars of the Fronde.

Noirlac lies nearly 2 M. from this town, and Meillant 4 M. (see above). About 2½ M. to the S. is *Drivant*, a village with the remains of a Roman fortified enceinte and theatre, and other Roman antiquities.

From St. Amand-Mont-Rond to *La Guerche* (Nevers), see p. 235. — This line is continued to (21 M.) *Châteaumeillant* (p. 38) viâ (13 M.) *Châtelet*, a small town with a ruined château.

103½ M. *Ainay-le-Vieil* has a Renaissance castle, to the left, little before the station. We now skirt the Canal du Berry, which has crossed the Cher and runs parallel with it on the left bank. — The next stations are (107½ M.) *Urçay*, (114 M.) *Vallon*, (120 M.) *Magnette*, and (123½ M.) *Les Trillers*, whence an industrial branch line diverges to the left, and the line to Tours and Châteauroux (p. 37) to the right. We then join the line from Guéret (p. 228), cross the Cher, and reach (128 M.) **Montluçon** (*Buffet*). For the town and the journey thence to (170 M.) *Gannat*, see p. 227; from Gannat to (196 M.) *Clermont-Ferrand*, p. 222.

36. From Lyons to Bordeaux.

a. Viâ Roanne, Montluçon, and Limoges.

392 M. Railway in 15-15½ hrs. (fares about 70 fr. 65, 54 fr. 75, 31 fr. 15 c.). — The trains start from the Gare de Perrache.

Lyons, see p. 216. — To (98 M.) *St. Germain-des-Fossés*, see pp. 215-213. — From St. Germain-des-Fossés to (15 M.) *Gannat*, see p. 222. — Beyond Gannat we follow the Orléans line and return for a short distance in the direction of St. Germain, then ascend to the left, with a fine view to the right. The line re-descends and passes through three tunnels between two viaducts, the latter of which spans the *Sioule*. The district traversed is varied, with succession of picturesque valleys and plateaux, more or less well wooded. — 119 M. (from Lyons) *St. Bonnet-de-Rochefort* has a fine 15th cent. château.

Branch to (7½ M.) *Chantelle*, see p. 213. This branch is continued in the opposite direction to (4½ M.) **Ebreuil** *(Hôt. du Commerce; de la Poste)*, picturesquely situated on the Sioule, with an ancient abbey-church. About 4½ M. beyond Ebreuil is the *Château of Veauce.*

To the right, as we once more ascend, is the *Château of Lignat.* 125 M. *Bellenave*, with a château of the 16th cent. and a church, mainly Romanesque. Beyond (130½ M.) *Louroux-de-Bouble* we pass through a short tunnel, quitting the valley of the Allier and entering that of the Cher. 135 M. *Lapeyrouse.*

A Branch Line runs hence to (5½ M.) **St. Eloy** (3895 inhab.), with important coal-mines. An omnibus plies from St. Eloy to the baths of *Châteauneuf* (p. 223).

Railway to *La Guerche* and *Cosne-sur-l'Œil* viâ Villefranche-d'Allier, see p. 225.

The view on the right is extensive. Two viaducts are crossed. — 143 M. *Hyds.*

145 M. **Commentry** *(Hôtel du Bourbonnais)* is a modern town with 12,618 inhab., engaged in the large coal-mines and iron-works of the vicinity.

From Commentry to Marcillat, 15½ M., railway in continuation of the line from Varennes, and to be prolonged to (7½ M. farther to the W.) *Evaux* (p. 228). — *Marcillat* has a 15th cent. château.

Branch-line to *Moulins*, see p. 211; to *Varennes-sur-Allier*, see p. 213.

Our line now descends and passes through a short tunnel.

147½ M. *Chamblet-Néris.* Omnibus to (3 M.) Néris (1 fr.), see below. The line descends a picturesque valley, at first well-wooded but farther on flanked by bare and rocky heights. To the right appears the large convent and school of the *Dames de St. Maur.*

154 M. **Montluçon** *(Buffet; Hôtel de France*, Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville; *Grand Cerf)*, an industrial town with 27,878 inhab., is situated on the *Cher.* It contains an important mirror-factory, besides glass-works, large iron-works, etc., but is of little interest to tourists. The ancient *Castle* (15-16th cent.), which rises above the old town, is better seen from a distance than from near at hand. It is now used as barracks. A handsome avenue leads from the station to the boulevards that skirt the old town. To the left lies the new town, the workmen's quarter, on the left bank of the Cher; to the right we reach the ancient *Hôtel de Ville*, formerly a convent, the cloisters being still recognizable. The Rue de la Comédie ascends behind this building to *Notre-Dame*, an uninteresting and much mutilated church of the 13-15th centuries. In the interior are some old paintings of interest: above the side-entrance is a large Adoration of the Magi; to the left of the organ, Jesus appearing to Thomas; between the door and the organ, seven small panels of the early Flemish school, representing scenes from the life of the Virgin, with the donors.

About 5 M. to the S.E. is **Néris** *(Gr.-Hôt. de Paris; Rochette; des Bains; Dumoulin*, etc.), to which an omnibus plies from the station of Chamblet (see above), and during the season also a diligence from Montluçon (1½ fr.). The little town possesses thermal mineral springs (two bath-establishments), known to the Romans, who have left traces of a theatre and of a camp.

From Montluçon to Aurillac, 142 M., railway in $6^3/_4$-$8^1/_3$ hrs. (fares 25 fr. 85, 17 fr. 50, 11 fr. 45 c.). This line is a continuation of that from Bourges in the valley of the Cher. Best views to the left. — 14 M. *Budelière-Chambon.* The little village of *Chambon*, 3 M. to the S.W. (diligence 60 c.), possesses a pretty Romanesque and Transition church. We next cross the **Viaduc de la Tardes*, 300 ft. high, spanning the picturesque gorge of an affluent of the Cher. $17^1/_2$ M. **Evaux** *(Hôt. de l'Etablissement*, R. 2-3, pens. $6^1/_2$, omn. $1/_2$-$3/_4$ fr.; *Lépine*; *de la Fontaine*), a town (3040 inhab.), $1^3/_4$ M. from the station, possessing thermal springs, known to the Romans. — $28^1/_2$ M. *Auzances*, to the left of the line. Beyond (39 M.) *Létrade*, the Monts Dôme appear more and more distinctly. Several small stations are passed, and the line reaches a height of 1800 ft. above Montluçon. It then descends to (58 M.) **Eygurande-Merlines** (p. 235), where it joins the railway from Limoges to Clermont-Ferrand (p. 238). — Our line continues hence to the S. in the valley of the *Chavanon*, an affluent of the Dordogne. — 63 M. *Savennes-St. Etienne-aux-Clos*; $68^1/_2$ M. *Singles*. We here enter the valley of the Dordogne. — $75^1/_2$ M. *Mialet*. To the left is the *Château de Vals*. — 80 M. **Bort** *(Hôt. des Messageries)*, a picturesquely situated town with 3858 inhab., near which are the curious columnar basaltic formations known as the *Orgues de Bort*, and the *Saut de la Saule*, a fine cascade on the Rue — $85^1/_2$ M. *Saignes-Ydes* (Hotels), the station for *Ydes* (Hotels), a small watering-place with cold mineral springs. — 90 M. *Largnac*. — The railway now ascends, in wide curves, round the W. extremity of the *Mont du Cantal*. On a height to the right appears the 16th cent. *Château de Charlus*, ruined in 1633. — 93 M. *Vendes*, on the *Sumène*. — 103 M. **Mauriac** *(Ecu de France)*, an ancient town (3631 inhab.), with a Romanesque church of the 12th century. — The railway soon begins to descend viâ ($109^1/_2$ M. *Drugeac*, whence a diligence ($11^1/_4$ fr.) plies to ($8^1/_2$ M.) the quaint little town of **Salers** *(Hotel)*. — Beyond (112 M.) *Drignac-Ally* we descend to the valley of the *Maronne;* and beyond ($116^1/_2$ M.) *Loupiac-St. Christophe*, we cross the valleys of the Maronne and the *Doire*, and ascend a third valley where many engineering difficulties have been overcome. — About 7 M. from (124 M.) *St. Illide* lies *St. Cernin* (Hotel), on the *Doire*, with Romanesque church. — At (131 M.) *Miécaze* we join the line from St. Denis-près-Martel (p. 107) to (142 M.) *Aurillac* (p. 261).

From Montluçon to *Châteauroux and Tours*, see pp. 37, 38; to *Bourges*, p. 225.

Beyond Montluçon we cross the Cher. $157^1/_2$ M. *Domérat*. 161 M. *Huriel* has a château of the 12th and 15th cent., with an interesting keep. $168^1/_2$ M. *Treignat*. From (172 M.) *Lavaud-Franche*, a branch line runs to ($23^1/_2$ M.) Champillet-Urciers (p. 38). $188^1/_2$ M. *Cressanges*. We cross the *Creuse* by a handsome trellis-work viaduct, 184 ft. high and 320 yds. long. 193 M. *Busseau-d'Ahun* (Buffet).

From Busseau-d'Ahun to Felletin, $22^1/_2$ M., railway in $1^1/_3$ hr. (fares 4 fr. 40, 3 fr. 30, 2 fr. 45 c.). The line ascends the valley of the Creuse, crossing first the great viaduct of Busseau, and then a curved stone viaduct 80 ft. in height. 5 M. *Lavaveix-les-Mines*, with coal-mines. 10 M. *Fournaux*. $15^1/_2$ M. **Aubusson** *(Hôtel de France; Notre-Dame)*, with 6672 inhab., picturesquely situated, was the birthplace of Pierre d'Aubusson, grandmaster of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, who distinguished himself by the successful defence of Rhodes against Mahomet II. in 1480. Aubusson is noted for its carpets, the manufacture of which occupies about 2000 hands. — 2 M. **Felletin** *(Notre-Dame)*, with 3380 inhab., is also engaged in the carpet industry.

200 M. *Ste. Feyre.* — 204 M. **Guéret** *(Buffet*, very plain; *de la Paix)*, with 7800 inhab., was the former capital of *Marche*. The Rue des Chers diverges to the right near the end of the Avenue de la Gare to the Place du Palais and Place Bonnyaud. The s on the opposite side leads to the *Préfecture*, enlarged in 189

the incorporation of a private mansion (15-16th cent.), erroneously said to have belonged to the counts of Marche. The Grande Rue descends thence to the Place du Marché, with the Hôtel de Ville, containing a small *Musée* of paintings and textile fabrics. — Branch-line to *St. Sébastien*, see p. 39.

We traverse a short tunnel. — 209 M. *La Brionne*, 3 M. to the N.W. of which (diligence) is *St. Vaury*, with a church containing five beautiful bas-reliefs, in wood, of the Passion (15th cent.). 214 M. *Montaigut*; 219 M. *Vieilleville*.

A branch-line runs from Vieilleville to (12½ M.) **Bourganeuf** (*Hôtel Bayard*), an industrial town with 3863 inhab., manufacturing porcelain, hats, paper, etc. It contains the remains of a priory, including a *Tower* in which Zizim (d. 1495), brother of Bajazet II., was imprisoned for several years.

230 M. *Marsac*. Then a tunnel 600 yds. in length.

232 M. **St. Sulpice-Laurière** (*Buffet*) and thence to *Limoges* and *Bordeaux*, see pp. 39 seq.

b. Viâ St. Etienne, Clermont-Ferrand, and Tulle. Auvergne.

I. From Lyons to Clermont-Ferrand.

121 M. Railway in 7½-9¼ hrs. (fares about 22 fr., 14 fr. 85, 9 fr. 60 c.). The trains start from the Gare de Perrache.

Lyons, see p. 216. — The train follows the Paris line to beyond the bridge over the *Saône*, then returns by a line not entering the station, and traverses the S. end of the peninsula of Perrache, crossing the Saône once more near its confluence with the Rhone. Beyond a short tunnel *La Mulatière*, with 3377 inhab., appears on the right. Fine retrospect (on the left) of Lyons. The line follows the right bank of the Rhone.

3 M. *Oullins*, a picturesquely situated town with 8327 inhab., with three old castles and numerous country-houses. Fine view of the Rhone to the left. — 3½ M. *Pierre-Bénite*; 6 M. *Irigny*; 8½ M. *Vernaison*. The little towers seen here and there on the banks of the river are used for cable-ferries. — 10 M. *La Tour-de-Millery*; 10½ M. *Grigny*; 11 M. *Le Sablon* (2136 inhab.). Farther on a branch crosses the Rhone and joins the line on the left bank (see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*).

13 M. *Givors-Canal* (Buffet) is the junction for the line on the right bank to Le Teil and Nîmes (see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*), under which we pass, after crossing the *Canal du Gier* or *de Givors*.

13½ M. **Givors** (*Hôtel de Provence*), an industrial town with 10,850 inhab., at the junction of the Rhone and the *Gier*. The whole of the irregular valley of the latter river, which our line now ascends, is the scene of a busy and varied industry, fostered by one of the chief coal-fields in France. Lofty chimneys rise in all directions, and the district is blackened by smoke. — Beyond (16½ M.) *St. Romain-de-*

Gier we traverse five tunnels; and beyond (19 M.) *Trèves-Burel*, two more. — 21½ M. *Couzon*. Then a tunnel 600 yds. long.

22½ M. **Rive-de-Gier** (*Buffet; Hôtel du Nord*), with 13,134 inhab., is situated on the Gier and the Canal du Gier. It has upwards of fifty coal-mines, noted glass-works, iron-works, and considerable silk-factories. Steam-tramway to St. Chamond (see below).

Beyond (24 M.) *Lorette* (4144 inhab.) Mont-Pilat (p. 231) appears at the head of a lateral valley. 25½ M. *La Grand-Croix*, with 4535 inhabitants.

28½ M. **St. Chamond** (*Hôtel de la Poste; Lion d'Or*), with 14,963 inhab., has coal-mines, active manufactures of silk, ribbons, laces, and nails, iron-works, etc. An excursion may be made hence to Mont-Pilat, which again becomes visible to the left a little farther on. Steam-tramway to Rive-de-Gier (see above) and St. Etienne (see below).

32 M. *Terre-Noire*, with 4944 inhab., has iron-foundries and iron-furnaces. A tunnel, ¾ M. long, now carries the line from the basin of the Rhone to that of the Loire.

36 M. **St. Etienne** (*Buffet*). — **Hotels.** DE FRANCE, Place Dorian, high charges; DU NORD, Rue de la République 7; DE L'EUROPE, Rue de Foy, etc. — **Cafés** in the Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville. — **Cabs.** For two persons per drive 1¼, per hr. 2 fr.; for four pers., 1½ and 2½ fr.; at night after 11 p. m., ½ fr. more. — **Steam Tramways** from *La Terrasse* to *Bellevue* viâ the long street traversing the town from N. to S. (see below) to *St. Chamond* in 50 min. from the Place Fourneyron, at the end of the Rue de la République next the station; to *Firminy* in ¾ hr., from the Place Bellevue, to the S. of the town, etc. — **Post & Telegraph Office** in the Place Marengo.

American Consul. *Mr. Charles W. Whiley.*

St. Etienne, an important manufacturing town with 133,4 inhab., has been the chief town of the department of the *Loire* sin 1856. St. Etienne has developed more rapidly than any other mode French town, due largely to its situation in the midst of the large coal-field in the S. of France, yielding annually over 3,000,000 to of coal. Weapons, ironmongery, cutlery, ribbons, etc. are amo the chief manufactures. For the tourist the busy, well-built, mod town is comparatively uninteresting. The Rue de la Republi diverges to the right from the end of the avenue leading from the s tion, and passes behind the modern Romanesque-Byzantine chu of *Ste. Marie*, the portals and interior of which are elaborately carv Farther on this street ends in the Place Dorian, to the right of wh rises the *Hôtel de Ville*, a modern edifice with a heavy cupola s mounted by a lantern, and a platform decorated with cast i statues of Metallurgy and Ribbon-making, by Montagny. Beh it is the large and handsome *Place Marengo*.

Another main thoroughfare, traversing the city from N. to S. a distance of 2½ M., crosses the Rue de la République at the P Dorian. In this to the N. is the immense *National Arms Fac*

(no admission), in which rifles and revolvers are made (10,000 workmen).

On the left of the Rue des Jardins, the continuation of the Rue de la République, is the *Palais de Justice*, a large modern building, the façade of which has a portico of ten Corinthian columns, and is surmounted by an allegorical group, by L. Mertey. In a street to the right as we return from the Palais de Justice, is *St. Etienne*, a parish church of the 15th cent., with an interesting interior.

Farther to the S., to the right of the main thoroughfare mentioned above, on the slope of a hill, is the *Palais des Arts*, containing various *Museums*, open to the public daily (except Mon.), 10-12 and 2-4, 5, or 6 and to strangers at other times also. The *Library* is open on week-days 10-12 and 5-10 p. m.

On the Ground Floor is a historical **Museum of Artillery**, some of the exhibits being richly ornamented (explanatory labels). — On the staircase are The Triumph of Strength and an Episode from St. Bartholomew, paintings by *Glaize* and *Fragonard*. — The principal room on the First Floor is occupied by a **Gallery of Paintings**, consisting mainly of modern pictures, though with a few noteworthy older canvases: no number, *Alb. Fourie*, Etienne Marcel and the Dauphin; 111. *Sal. Rosa*, Christ in Gethsemane; 100. *Ribera* (?), Jacob's blessing; 35. *Gervex*, Reminiscence of the Siege of Paris, 1870-71; 2. *Alb. Aublet*, Nero testing poisons on a slave; 14. *Chezal*, Queen of Sheba visiting Solomon; 139. *Van de Velde*, Sea-piece; 106. *Moucheron*, Landscape; etc. — Five of the other rooms are devoted to an **Industrial Museum**, containing collections illustrative of *Ribbon-making*, *Goldsmith's Work*, *Silk-weaving*, *Pottery*, and *Furniture*. On this floor also is a *Library* (see above). — On the Second Floor is a *Natural History Collection*, including a fine mineralogical collection.

The Rue de la Badouillère leads from the front of the Palais des Arts to the *Jardin des Plantes*. — In this neighbourhood is an important *School of Mines*, in which nearly all the engineers and chiefs of industry of the district have been educated. It contains some interesting collections.

From St. Etienne to *Roanne*, etc., see p. 232; to *Annonay* viâ Firminy, see pp. 232, 254; to *Le Puy*, etc., R. 40.

Excursion to Mont Pilat, 16 M. to the Ferme du Pilat, and thence 1/2 hr. to the Crêt de la Perdrix. Omnibus 4 times a day in summer from the Place du Peuple to (4 1/2 M.) Rochetaillée, and on Sun. and Wed. at 5 a. m. from the Place Dorian to (11 M.) Le Bessat. — The road leads to the S.E. viâ the suburb of *Valbenoîte*, whence it skirts the left bank of the *Furens*, a stream descending from Mont-Pilat. 4 1/2 M. *Rochetaillée*, a village picturesquely situated on an isolated rock and commanded by a ruined castle. About 3/4 M. farther on, in a wild gorge, is the interesting *Reservoir du Gouffre-d'Enfer*, constructed in 1861-68 to supply St. Etienne with water. It is formed by a huge dam, 330 ft. long, 130 ft. high, and 130 ft. broad at the base, connected with a rock rising in the middle of the channel of the Furens. It is estimated to contain about 1,600,000 cubic mètres of water. 7 M. *Reservoir du Pas-du-Riot*, a similar construction nearly as large. — 11 M. *Le Bessat* (Inn). The road leads thence to the (1/2 M.) col of the *Croix de Chabouret*, and beyond a wood the Crêt de la Perdrix lies to the right. — 16 M. *Ferme du Pilat*, where refreshments and a bed, if desired, may be obtained, lies at the foot of the Crêt de la Perdrix.

Mont Pilat is one of the chief summits of the *Northern Cévennes*. Its lower slopes are covered with forests, its top with pastures. Three sum-

mits are distinguished: the *Crêt de la Perdrix* (4705 ft.), the *Crêt de l'Aillon* (4530 ft.), and the *Pic des Trois-Dents* (4475 ft.). The legend that Pontius Pilate killed himself here in despairing remorse is related of this mountain just as it is of the Pilatus above the lake of Lucerne in Switzerland; and both mountains serve as barometers for the surrounding districts. A popular saying in this district runs 'When Pilate puts on his hat, put on your cloak'. A similar remark is made with reference to the mists settling on the Puy de Dôme. — The summit commands a splendid view, ranging to the Alps on the E., to the Rhône valley and Southern Cévennes on the S., to the Mts. of Auvergne on the W., and on the N. to the continuation of the Cévennes, the Mts. of Lyonnais, to which Mont Pilat belongs, and the Mts. of Beaujolais and Charolais. The other two summits, though lower, also command fine views. — The Gier, which rises on the Crêt de la Perdrix, near the farm, forms lower down a beautiful waterfall, 100 ft. high, known as the *Saut du Gier*.

Beyond St. Etienne our line trends to the N.W. and skirts the National Arms Factory to the left. 37¾ M. *La Terrasse*, a suburban station of St. Etienne. 39½ M. *Villars*; 41 M. *La Fouillouse*, 42 M. *St. Just-sur-Loire*, junction of the lines to Roanne (p. 215) and Firminy (p. 254). At (46 M.) *Andrézieux* we cross the bed of the *Loire*, frequently dry in great part. 47½ M. *Bonson*.

A branch-line runs from Bonson to (17 M.) **St. Bonnet-le-Château** (*Hôtel du Commerce*), a picturesquely situated and ancient little town, with remains of fortifications, and a church of the 15-16th cent., containing some fine ancient mural paintings in the crypt. The château is no longer in existence; but several quaint old houses still remain. This line is to be continued towards La Chaise-Dieu (p. 234).

The line now turns towards the E., in the direction of the mountains of the Forez (p. 233), which it afterwards skirts for a considerable distance, commanding an extensive view over the valley of the Loire, on the right, bounded by the mountains of the Lyonnais. — 49½ M. *Sury-le-Comtal* has a late-Gothic church and a Renaissance château, richly decorated in the interior. — 52½ M. *Saint-Romain-le-Puy*, with a ruined priory, of the beginning of the 11th century.

57 M. **Montbrison** (*Hôtel de la Poste; Lion d'Or*), an ancient town of 7086 inhab., the former capital of the Forez, is situated on the *Vizezy*, at the foot of a hill surmounted by a Calvary. The principal church, *Notre-Dame-de-l'Espérance*, is a handsome Gothic edifice of the 13-15th cent., with modern decorations in the interior. Behind the church is an ancient chapter-house, known as *Diana* (Decana), founded about 1300, but restored in 1866. It now contains the libraries of a learned society and of the town. In the public *Jardin Allard* is a bronze statue of *Victor de Laprade* (1812-1883), the poet, a native of Montbrison. About 1½ M. to the S. of Montbrison is *Moingt*, with Roman remains and a fine keep. — From Montbrison to *Lyons* viâ L'Arbresle and Montrottier see p. 215 and *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

60 M. *Champdieu* has a fortified church in the Auvergnat Romanesque style, dating from a Benedictine priory, and a 15th c. hospital, with a tall decagonal turret. Both the priory and the town had fortified enceintes, and remains of the former are still to

seen. To the right is the isolated volcanic hill of *Mont-d'Uzore* (1770 ft.). 64 M. *Marcilly-le-Pavé*, with a fine Gothic **Château*, recently restored. 67½ M. *Boën;* 3 M. to the E. is the mediæval *Château de la Bâtie*, still inhabited. The railway now enters the mountains, ascending first the valley of the *Lignon*, then the picturesque valley of the *Auzon*.

70 M. **Sail-sous-Couzan**, or *Couzan*. The village (Hôt. des Roches; du Midi), 1½ M. to the S., has two mineral springs, with a well-managed bath-establishment.

An interesting route leads hence viâ the valley of the *Lignon* and (5 M.) *St. Georges-en-Couzan* (Hotel) to (9½ M.) **Chalmazel** *(Hôt. des Voyageurs)*, with a château of the 13th and 16th centuries. Chalmazel is a good centre for excursions among the *Monts du Forez*, including the ascent of the *Pierre-sur-Haute* (5380 ft.; 2 hrs.; p. 234).

Farther on, to the left, are the well-preserved ruins of the **Château de Couzan* (11-16th cent.). 72½ M. *L'Hôpital-sous-Rochefort*, with remains of a fortified Benedictine priory; 76½ M. *St. Thurin;* 84 M. *Noirétable*. The railway turns to the S.W. and enters the valley of the *Durolle*. 89½ M. *Chabreloche;* 94 M. *St. Remy-sur-Durolle*. Eight tunnels and four bridges are passed between this point and Thiers. As we emerge from the last tunnel we have a fine view, to the left, of Thiers, the wide plain of the Limagne (p. 204), and the distant mountains of Auvergne.

97½ M. **Thiers** (*Hôtel de l'Univers, de Paris*, both in the Rue des Grammonts), a town with 16,814 inhab., is an important seat of the cutlery and paper manufactures. It consists of two distinct parts: the new town, beside the station, and the mediæval town, on the steep bank of the *Durolle*, ill-built but highly picturesque, with many old houses of the 15th cent. or older, blackened by time.

Beyond a square in the Rue des Grammonts we descend to the right to the Hôtel de Ville. The Rue des Barres, to the left of the latter, enters the old town. In the Place du Prioux is a curious old timber house, and a few yards to the left, in the Rue de la Vaur, are two others. The ground-floors of nearly all the houses in this part of the town are occupied by small cutlers' workshops, the workmen generally working in their own homes.

The *Church of St. Genès*, to the right, a little above the Place du Prioux, in the Romanesque and Gothic styles of the 11-12th cent., contains a tomb of the 13th cent. under the porch on the left side. In the interior the capitals and the modern stained-glass windows should be noticed.

The Rue Durolle, to the right as we leave the church, leads down to the *Durolle*, from the picturesque banks of which the most attractive view of the town is obtained. Here are numerous paper-mills, workshops for polishing scissors, knives, etc., and other industrial establishments. Farther down, on the left, is the Romanesque *Church of Moûtier*, founded in the 7th or 8th cent., but largely rebuilt in the 11th. It also has curious capitals, and

at the end, two high-reliefs in stone. — The valley up the river is also interesting.

To the N.E. rises the **Puy de Montoncel** (4235 ft.), connected with the Forez mountains. The ascent takes 5 hrs. on foot, viâ (5 M.) *St. Remy* and (8 M.) *Paladus*, to which point there is a carriage-road. The summit commands a beautiful and extensive prospect, including the Monts Dore.

Beyond Thiers we traverse two tunnels, and descend by wide curves to the valley of the *Dore*, a tributary of the Allier. Fine views to the left. At (98½ M.) *Courty* the line to Vichy diverges (p. 222). We cross the river. — 100 M. *Pont-de-Dore.*

From Pont-de-Dore to Arlanc (*La Chaise-Dieu*), 40 M., railway in 2-2¾ hrs. This line ascends the valley of the Dore to the S. — 6 M. *Courpière* (3884 inhab.), beyond which lies the most picturesque part of the route. — 13½ M. *Giroux*; 16½ M. *Olliergues*. — About 1½ M. to the S.E. of (21½ M.) *Vertolaye* lies *Job* (Hôt. des Voyageurs), whence the **Pierre-sur-Haute** (5380 ft.), the chief summit of the *Monts du Forez*, may be ascended in 2½-3 hrs. Descent in 1½ hrs. to Chalmazel (p. 233). — 30 M. **Ambert** (*Tête d'Or*; *de Paris*), an ancient town of 7900 inhab., with an interesting church of the 15-16th cent., and manufactures of paper and of bunting for flags. — Beyond (35 M.) *Marsac* we cross the Dore for the last time.

40 M. **Arlanc** (*Hôt. du Prince*; *Rérol*), a poorly-built town of 3500 inhab., on a hill between the Dore and its affluent the Dolore. — A public vehicle (2 fr.) plies daily from Arlanc to (10½ M.; in 2½ hrs.) *La Chaise-Dieu* (carr. for 1-4 pers. 8 fr.); short-cuts for walkers. The road ascends through picturesque wooded gorges, beyond (3 M.) *Le Procureur*.

10 M. **La Chaise-Dieu** (*Lion d'Or*), a village with 1631 inhab., situated on a hill (3575 ft.), owes its name to a celebrated Benedictine abbey, the *Casa Dei*, founded about 1036 by St. Robert. Amongst its abbots and nominal rulers have been Roger de Beaufort, afterwards Pope Clement VI., Mazarin, Richelieu, etc. The vast buildings of the *Abbey* were surrounded in the 14-15th cent. by fortifications, parts of which still remain, notably the *Tower of Clement VI.*, at the side of the church. There are few traces of the *Cloister* which dates from the 14-15th cent., to which time also belongs the present *Church*. The façade is approached by a grand flight of steps and is flanked by two towers, which have, however, lost their spires. The wide nave and aisles are uniform in height with galleries. The rood-loft and the organ-case (at the W. end) date from the 17th century. In the choir, which has a stone-screen, is the mutilated tomb of Clement VI., some magnificent stalls, tapestries of 1501-1518, and, on the left, in the ambulatory a remarkable but very dilapidated Dance of the Dead (p. 255) by an unknown artist of the second half of the 15th century. — From La Chaise-Dieu to (15 M.) *Darsac* see p. 259; to (31 M.) *Le Puy*, see p. 258.

We are now in the Limagne (p. 222). 106 M. *Lezoux* (3500 inhab.; manufactures earthenware.

113½ M. *Pont-du-Château*, a small town ½ M. to the N., on the left bank of the Allier, has a ruined château, and bitumen-wells.

A branch-line runs hence to (5½ M.) **Billom** (*Hôtel des Voyageurs*), an ancient town with 4380 inhab., formerly celebrated for its school. The church of *St. Cerneuf* (10th, 11th, and 13th cent.) contains a fine tomb of the 14th cent., etc. — About 5 M. to the S.E. are the considerable ruins of the *Château de Mauzun* (13th cent.).

We cross the Allier. 118 M. *Aulnat*. To the left appear the Plateau de Gergovie and Mont Rognon (p. 246), to the right the Monts Dôme (pp. 243, 245). — 121 M. *Clermont-Ferrand* (Buffet; see p. 238.

II. From Clermont-Ferrand to Tulle. Northern Auvergne.

107½ M. Railway in 6 hrs. (fares 19 fr. 15, 12 fr. 95, 8 fr. 55 c.). — From the Place de Jaude (p. 233) it is shorter to catch the train at Royat.

This line makes a wide circuit to the S. of Clermont, of which it affords a fine view as far as the second station; it then skirts the N. side of the Monts Dôme. — 3½ M. *Royat* (p. 242), of which there is also a fine view, especially from the viaduct, 70 ft. high, which is crossed beyond the station. After passing (5 M.) *Durtol* and going through 4 short tunnels, with the Puy de Dôme, the Puy de Pariou, etc. on the left, it reaches (9½ M.) *Chanat* and (12½ M.) *Volvic*. The latter, 2 M. to the right, is more conveniently reached by a branch-line from Riom (p. 223), which here joins the Clermont-Ferrand railway. On each side of the railway are large quarries of lava, used for building. Fine views all the way to (17 M.) *Vauriat* and (20 M.) *St. Ours-les-Roches*. To the right and then to the left, rise the Monts Dore.

23½ M. **Pontgibaud** *(Hôtel Johannet)*, a small town, has argentiferous lead-mines and a 13th cent. *Château* containing a choice and valuable collection of paintings (visitors admitted). The *Church* (15-16th cent.) contains two paintings of the Adoration, by Guido Reni, and an Assumption by Parrocel. One of the town-gates dates from 1444. There are two mineral springs in the environs, and in the neighbouring valley of the Sioule are those of *Châteaufort*.

The line now rounds the end of the Monts Dôme and ascends the valley of the *Sioule*, in which the view is limited. 25½ M. *Les Roziers-sur-Sioule;* 28 M. *La Miouse-Rochefort*.

Rochefort, which has a *Castle in ruins, is 6½ M. to the S. and 5 M. from Laqueuille (see below). About 1½ M. to the E. of Rochefort is *Orcival*, the church of which, with a black statue of the Virgin, is one of the chief resorts of pilgrims in Auvergne.

At (55 M.) *Bourgeade* the view opens in the direction of the Monts Dore; to the left is the truncated Pic de la Banne-d'Ordenche, and in the distance to the right the Puy de Sancy (p. 250).

38½ M. **Laqueuille** (3235 ft.; *Buffet*, déj. 3, D. 3½ fr.). The village lies on a hill, 1¾ M. to the E. To La Bourboule, Mont Dore, etc., see R. 39. — The line now passes into the basin of the Dordogne. The Monts Dore and, afterwards, the Monts du Cantal occupy the horizon on the left.

Beyond (47½ M.) *Bourg-Lastic-Messeix* we descend the picturesque valley of the *Clidane*, crossing the stream eight times before (51 M.) *La Celette*, the old convent of which is now a lunatic asylum. The line now passes at a great height above the stream and enters a tunnel. — 52½ M. **Eygurande-Merlines** (*Buffet*, mediocre; *Hôtel Tixier*, at the station, moderate), station for two villages, 1½ and 1 M. distant.

From Eygurande-Merlines to *Montluçon* and to *Aurillac*, see p. 228.

57½ M. *Aix-la-Marsalouse*.

Beyond Annonay we thread a tunnel, 200 yds. long. At (55 M.) *Tidon* the line turns once more to the N.E., and then rapidly descends through 4 tunnels, the first 700 yards long, and over two lofty viaducts. Fine view of the Rhone valley. 61 M. *Peyraud*, on the line from Lyons to Nîmes viâ the right bank of the Rhone. We cross the Rhone at a point where it forms an island. — 64½ M. *St. Rambert-l'Albon*, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

38. Clermont-Ferrand, Royat, and the Puy de Dôme.

a. Clermont-Ferrand.

Hotels. GRAND-HÔTEL DE LA POSTE (Pl. a; A, 3), R., L., & A. 4-9, B. 1-1½, déj. 3, D. 4, omn. ¼ fr., luggage ¼ fr. each trunk; *DE L'UNIVERS (Pl. b; B, 4), R., L., & A. from 2¾, B. 1, déj. 3, D. 3½ fr., omn. 50 and 25 c., view of the Puy de Dôme; GRAND-HÔT. DE L'EUROPE (Pl. c.; A, 4); HÔT. DE LYON (Pl. d; A, 4), unpretending; all these are in the Place de Jaude, about 1 M. from the station; DE LA PAIX, Boulevard Desaix (Pl. e; B, 3); *HÔTEL DU LOUVRE, behind the theatre; DES VOYAGEURS, opposite the station, R. 2, déj. 2½, D. 3 fr.

Restaurants. *Hugon*, Rue Royale (Pl. B, 3); and in most of the hotels.

Cafés. *De Paris, Lyonnais, de l'Univers, Glacier*, Place de Jaude; etc.

Cabs. In the town, by day, 1 fr., by night (9 p. m. to 5 a. m.) 1 fr. 50; to the station and from the Place de Jaude to Royat, 50 c. extra; luggage 50 c. extra, 1 fr. to the hotels at Royat; per hr., 3 and 4 fr., etc. — OMNIBUS from the Place de Jaude to Royat, 25 c.

Electric Tramways (on the aërial or 'trolley' system) ply from *Montferrand* and from the *Station* to the *Place de Jaude* (Pl. A, 4), viâ the *Place Delille* (Pl. D, 2); and from the *Place de Jaude* to *Royat*. Fares from Montferrand to the Place Delille 10 c.; thence to the Place de Jaude 10 c.; from the station to the Place de Jaude 15 c.; thence to Royat 20 c. (40 c. after 10 p. m.).

Post Office (Pl. B, 2), Rue du Poids-de-Ville. — **Telegraph Office** (Pl. B, 4), Square d'Assas; also at the Post Office and the Station.

Theatre. Place de Jaude (p. 240). — EDEN CONCERT, near the Place de Jaude.

Churches. *Protestant*, near the Rue Sidoine-Apollinaire (Pl. B, 2); *Evangelical*, Rue St. André, N. of the Rue Blatin (Pl. A, 4).

Clermont-Ferrand (1320 ft.), the former capital of *Auvergne* (p. 243), and now the chief place in the department of the *Puy-de-Dôme*, is a town of 50,119 inhab., the head-quarters of the 13th army corps, the seat of a bishopric, as well as of a university, etc. It is built on a slight eminence rising from the wide and fertile basin of Limagne on the E. and at the foot of the remarkable range of extinct volcanoes known as the Monts Dôme on the W. The chief summit in this range is the Puy de Dôme, which rises to a height of 4805 ft. (p. 245), in full view of the Place de Jaude. In general appearance the town does not correspond with the beauty of its situation. Its streets are, as a rule, narrow, and the houses, built of lava, have a gloomy and forbidding look.

The town has superseded the Celtic *Nemetum*, which itself succeeded Gergovia (p. 246) as the capital of the Arverni, after the overthrow of Vercingetorix by Cæsar, at Alesia in B. C. 52. It was in particular favour with Augustus and for that reason named *Augusta Nemetum*. After being

CLERMONT-FERRAND
1 : 12,000
0 100 200 300 400 500
Mètres
A B C
1 2 3 4 5 6
Rue André Moinier
Rue du Port
Rue des Quatre Mo
Rue Sainte Claire
Rue Neuve Sainte Claire
Rue Pascal
Rue Thomas
Rue Bonnabaud
Rue Fléchier
Rue Ballainvilliers
Rue Bonnefoy
Rue Ballainvilliers
Rue Gaultier de Biauzat
Rue Gonod
Rue Blatin
Rue Saint-Dominique
Rue Saint-Louis
Rue Saint-Esprit
Rue Saint-Genès
Rue Saint-Joseph
Rue Saint-Guillaume
Rue Saint-Adjutor
Rue Saint-Hippolyte
Rue Saint-Pierre
Rue Saint-Alyre
Rue Saint-Athénie
Rue Saint-Georges
Rue Chaufour
Rue Chaussetiers
Rue Terrail
Rue Grégoire de Tours
Rue Neuve des Carmes
Rue Bonnefoy
Rue Bonnabaud
Rue Fléchier

repeatedly ravaged by the barbarians, it took in the 10th cent. the name of *Clarus Mons*, whence its present name *Clermont*. To this was added in the 17th cent. the name of *Ferrand* on the occasion of the annexation of the little town of *Montferrand*, situated 1 M. to the N. Here at a council summoned by Pope Urban II. in 1096 the first crusade was arranged. Since that time the history of the town has been uneventful. Whether Gregory of Tours was a native of it, is uncertain, but it was the birthplace of Pascal (1623-1662) and of Delille (1738-1813), the poet.

From the station we reach the town by the Avenue Charras, which traverses a suburb (with the handsome new church of *St. Joseph*) and leads to the *Place Delille* (Pl. D, 2, 3), ornamented with a fountain. The Rue du Port, beginning near the middle of this square, passes a little farther on to the S. of —

***Notre-Dame-du-Port** (Pl. C, D, 2), a church founded in the 9th cent., rebuilt in the 10th, and recently restored. Archæologically it is the most remarkable church in Clermont, being the typical representative of the Auvergnat Romanesque style, of which there are several fine examples at Nevers (p. 209) and Issoire (p. 224). The most interesting part of the exterior is the choir, which is covered with patterns formed of black lava and white stones and has three fine chapels, with rich modillions and pillars with capitals of elaborate workmanship, radiating in a semicircle, and alternating with buttresses. The transepts are decorated in the same manner and flanked by small apses. The south transept contains a side-portal with low-reliefs representing the Annunciation, the Nativity, and the Adoration of the Magi, and is also decorated with statues of the Apostles. From the crossing rises a good modern tower, the base of which is in the Auvergnat Romanesque style. The plain façade has a Gothic 14th cent. doorway. The first bay of the nave and the aisles are surmounted by small round-vaulted galleries with a triforium of round arches on the left and trefoil-headed on the right. Under the chancel is a fine crypt with a small black statue of the Virgin.

A small street to the N. of this church leads to the *Place d'Espagne* (Pl. C, D, 2), oblong in shape, so called because in 1692 Spanish prisoners of war were employed upon it. From this square and from the *Place de Poterne* (Pl. B, C, 2), a little farther on, fine views are obtained of the Monts Dôme. Lower down, in a square which bears his name (Pl. B, 2), is the bronze *Statue of Blaise Pascal* (1623-62), the philosopher, by Guillaume (1880).

We now re-enter the town, passing along the Square Blaise-Pascal and the Place de la Poterne. The second street on the right passes in front of the *Hôtel de Ville* and the *Palais de Justice* (Pl. C, 3), which together form one huge building in the neo-classical style. Farther to the S. is —

The ***Cathedral** (Pl. B, C, 3), a fine Gothic building, the construction of which was begun in 1248 from plans by Jean Deschamps, but has been interrupted and resumed several times. In the 15th cent. the side portals with their unfinished towers were

dded; then the building was once more abandoned till the present period which has witnessed the completion of the façade with its two towers after the plans of Viollet-le-Duc. The interior is distinguished by its harmonious proportions. The choir, with its plain aisles, apses, and side chapels, is in the early Gothic style; the nave with double aisles and chapels, is in a later Gothic style. The windows, below which is a fine triforium with pointed gables, contain good stained glass of the 13-15th cent., the rose windows in the transepts being specially fine. The high altar, of copper, the bishop's throne, and the railings of the choir are all modern, designed by Viollet-le-Duc. In the second chapel to the right of the choir is a painted wooden reredos of the 16th cent., representing the Life of St. Crispin and St. Crispinian. In the left transept is a 'jacquemart' (clock figure), taken in the Religious Wars of the 16th cent. at Issoire.

To the S. of the cathedral we cross the Place de Clermont, in which stands the *House of Pascal,* indicated by a bust. We proceed to the S. by the Rue Royale (Pl. B, 3), and descend to the right by the Place de Sugny, on the left side of which is the *Préfecture* (Pl. B, 4). In this square rises a *Monument du Centenaire de 1789,* with a bronze allegorical statue by Gourgouillon.

The **Place de Jaude** (Pl. A, 4), a little farther on, is the centre of Clermont, though situated to the W. of the town proper. It is 300 yards long and 90 yards wide and is adorned at its S. end by a bronze statue, by Nanteuil, of *Desaix* (1768-1800), the distinguished general, a native of Auvergne.

The Rue Blatin, in the direction of the Puy de Dôme, leads from the W. side of the Place de Jaude to Royat (p. 242).

In the N.W. angle of the same Place is the *Church of St. Pierre-des-Minimes* (Pl. A, 3, 4), dating from the 17th century. — Opposite is the *Theatre,* constructed in 1893 from the old cloth-market.

On this side of the town, but farther on (direction-placards) are the *Fontaines Pétrifiantes de St. Alyre* (Pl. A, 1; mineral baths), of little interest. Visitors are expected to make some small purchase or to give a gratuity.

In a small open space near the Place de Jaude, to the right beyond the statue of Desaix, is the *Eden Concert,* recently built in the Moorish style.

We return viâ the Centenary monument (see above), and crossing the *Square d'Assas* (Pl. B, 4) we keep straight on along the Rue du St. Esprit, at the bottom of which is the *Lycée Pascal* (Pl. C, 4). There we turn once more to the right, along the wide Rue Ballainvilliers, passing in front of the *Halle au Blé* (Corn Market), and reaching the *Fontaine Desaix* (Pl. C, 5), surmounted by an obelisk.

The building to the left at the corner of the Boulevard du Taureau and the Avenue Vercingetorix, which is adjoined by the Palais de l'Académie (p. 241), contains the library and the **Musée** (Pl. C, 5). The latter is open to the public daily from 10 to 12 and 1.30 to 4, except Mon. and Frid., and on those days also to strangers.

Ground-Floor. — This part of the museum contains fragments of Roman sculpture, mediæval and modern sculptures; model of a statue of

Vercingetorix (p. 246), by *Bartholdi*, design for a monument to be placed probably on the site of the former theatre at Clermont, near the cathedral; Hope deceived, a bronze by *Barraud;* Hero and Leander, group in marble by *Diebolt;* Lesbia's toilette, marble statue by *Chevallier;* Roman mosaic; antique bronzes; medals and coins (including a unique silver denier of Lothair), etc.

Staircase. — 20. *School of Valentin*, A good story; 19. Attributed to *Ph. de Champaigne*, Diogenes looking for a man; 73. Attributed to *O. Vaenius*, Susannah.

First Floor. — Room I. Weapons, furniture, coffer of embossed leather, of the 15th cent.; faïence; door of a sacristy with 13th cent. paintings; works in copper; Chinese ornaments. — Room II. Portraits, including, to the left: 116. *Holbein*, Ant. Duprat, chief minister of Francis I.; 104, 106. *H. Rigaud*, The artist, P. Puget; 71 (near the Holbein). *Flemish School*, St. Jerome; 166. *L. Leloir*, Jacob wrestling with the angel; 177. *F. Ehrmann*, Vercingetorix. — In the central glass-case: bas-reliefs, enamels, caskets; Pascal's calculating machine; mediæval cross; despatch-box of the 13th cent.; reliquary of the 13th cent. and other enamelled bronze works; Russian ikon. In the glass-cases at the sides, beginning at the entrance: medals, seals, combs with cameos, pottery, etc. Between the windows on the left side is a series of small painted terracotta reliefs (16th cent.), reproducing the Dance of Death at Bâle. — Room III contains principally pictures. On the right, 42. *D. Romekkof*, Fairy ring; 18. *C. Dolci*, Head of the Virgin; 17. *Géricault*, Study for the picture of the Wreck of the Medusa, at the Louvre; 75. *Fr. Pourbus*, Kitchen; 26. *O. Vaenius*, Infant Bacchus; 194. Copy of *Guido*, Martyrdom of St. Andrew; 24. *Phil. de Champaigne*, Annunciation; 39. After *G. Romano*, Battle of Constantine, a fine old copy of a picture no longer extant; 28, 27, 29. *Callot*, The Miseries of War; 3. *Rombouts*, Dentist; 318. *Ribera*, Adoration of the Shepherds; 5. *Teniers the Younger*, Fair at Florence, a reversed reduction, by the artist himself, of a picture which is now in the Old Pinakothek at Munich; 526. *Garofalo*, Holy Family; 100. *G. Franck*, Mt. Calvary; 196. *Dutch School*, Old Man; 14. *Poelenburg*, Bathers; 385. *Flemish School*, Interior of a tavern; 193. *Fyt*, Game; 30. *J. Parrocel*, Attack of cavalry; 121. *Droglosen*, Scene during war; 21. Copy of *Rubens*, Death of Cleopatra; — *Berthon*, Procession at St. Bonnet, Puy-de-Dôme; no number, *Sain*, End of autumn; 8. *Schenck*, Torment; several landscapes and other modern paintings; 136. *Debat-Ponsan*, A gate of the Louvre during the massacre of St. Bartholomew. — In the centre, two shields of repoussé work in silver and iron, representing scenes from Paradise Lost and The Pilgrim's Progress, by *Morel-Ladeuil*, of Clermont. A glass-case contains a small ethnographical collection. — Room IV. Paintings of inferior interest; antique vases, drawings, engravings, etc.

The *Library*, with upwards of 55,000 vols. and 1100 MSS., is open daily, except Sun., 12-5, and (in winter) 7.30-10 p.m.

The *Palais de l'Académie* (Pl. C, 5), in the Avenue Vercingetorix, a tasteful modern erection, is the seat of the university academy, which has faculties of science and literature.

Between the Museum and the Académie is a *School of Pisciculture*, open to visitors daily from 2 to 6 p. m.

The **Jardin Lecoq** (Pl. C, 5, 6), in the vicinity, is a fine public promenade, with a Botanical Garden; a military band plays here in summer. At the entrance stands the bust of *H. Lecoq* (d. 1871), the naturalist, formerly the director of the garden.

At the E. end of the small Place du Taureau, near the entrance to the garden, is the *Musée Lecoq* (Pl. C, 5), bequeathed by Lecoq to the town, containing a natural history collection, especially rich in

pecimens illustrating the geology and mineralogy of Auvergne. The museum is open to the public on Sun. and Thurs. from 10 to 5, and on other days also to strangers.

We now retrace our steps by the Rue Ballainvilliers. Behind the Lycée is the *Church des Carmes* (Pl. C, 4), a fine Gothic structure of the 14-15th cent., without aisles. Its large windows have modern glass.

A little farther on we reach a square, whence a street leads to the right to the Boulevards, in the centre of which is the **Grande Fontaine** (Pl. D, 4), or *Fontaine de Jacques d'Amboise*, a tasteful monument in Volvic stone, dating from 1515. It consists of three basins, one above the other, richly sculptured and adorned with statuettes. The whole is surmounted by a statue of Hercules, with the arms of the Amboise family.

The Boulevard Trudaine ascends hence to the Place Delille and the Avenue Charras (p. 239).

b. Royat.

From Clermont to Royat, 1¼ M. to the W., by the Rue Blatin, which begins at the Place de Jaude; 3½ M. by rail. Electric tramway, see p. 238; railway, p. 235. By the road we turn to the left before reaching Chamalières (p. 244), ascend the valley of the Tirtaine, and pass under a railway-viaduct. — The station is above us, to the left.

Hotels. Splendid-Hôtel; Continental, above the park of the Thermal Establishment, with a fine view, R. 3-10, L. 1, A. 1, B. 1½, déj. 4, D. 5, pens. 12-20 fr.; Grand Hôtel, a little higher, R. 2-10, L. 1, A. 1, B. 1½-2, déj. 4, D. 5, pens. 10-20 fr. — Grand-Hôtel de Lyon, still higher. — Grand-Hôtel Richelieu (hôtel-meublé), below, near the Baths; Grand-Hôtel Bristol, behind the Baths; Hôtel Central, Grand-Hôtel du Parc, du Louvre, César, de France et d'Angletrre, des Sources, etc., farther off in the valley; Hôtel St. Mart, de la Paix, de Paris, de l'Europe, in an elevated situation; Hôtel de l'Univers, near the station, etc. Numerous *Furnished Houses*. Pension, 10 to 30 fr. per day. Royat is considered expensive.

Restaurants. *Du Casino*, in the Parc, déj. 4, D. 5 fr.; *du Parc*, near the new casino.

Baths, 1½ fr., 2 fr., and 2½ fr. according to the month and the hour at which they are taken. — Douches, same charges. — Inhalation, 1-1½ fr.

Mineral Water. Subscription (obligatory), 10 fr.; then, 5 c. a glass.

Casinos. *Casino Municipal*, open from May 15 to Sept. 30; admission, 2 fr., with seat in the theatre, 5 fr.; subscription for 25 days, 20 fr., season 40 fr., including the theatre 40 and 80 fr.; seat in the park during the music, 15 c. (day), 25 c. (evening); subscription, 5 fr. for 25 days. — *New Casino*, adm. including theatre 3-4 fr.; subscription for 25 days, 25 fr.

Band daily in the Park of the Casino Municipal from 9.30 to 10.30 a. m., from 3.30 to 5, and 8 to 9 p. m. — At the New Casino, 3.45-5.45 and at 7.45 p. m.

Post and Telegraph Office in the Park. — **Cabs,** see p. 238. Carr. to the Puy de Dôme 20 fr., etc.; see the tariff posted on the bridge.

English Church Service in summer.

A list of *Physicians* and other useful information is given in the *Guide du Baigneur*, which is distributed at the Etablissement.

Royat (1450 ft.), together with *St. Mart*, the part nearest to Clermont, is a place of 1560 inhab., in a beautiful valley watered by the

Gravé et imprimé par Wagner & Debes, Leipzig.

Tirtaine, and overlooked on the N. by the *Puy de Chateix* (2230 ft.) and on the S. by the *Puy de Gravenoire* (2700 ft.). It commands splendid views of the valley from which rises the Puy de Dôme, to the W., and of Clermont and the Limagne, to the E.

The *Thermal Establishment* is at St. Mart, at the end of the valley and on the bank of the river. It has four mineral springs, used both for drinking and for bathing. These are the springs of *St. Mart* (55° Fahr.), *St. Victor* (68°), *César* (84°), and *Eugénie* (96°), all grouped round the Establishment. The last-named, which is open throughout the year, and especially frequented between May 15 and Oct. 15 (about 5000 visitors annually), has 94 private bath-rooms, besides large basins, pulverization and inhalation rooms, douche-cabinets of all sorts, etc. The maladies which are successfully treated here are rheumatism, gout, and other arthritic diseases, affections of the respiratory organs, and chlorosis and anæmia. Royat claims to rival Vichy and in certain cases to be preferable. In the Park are remains of *Roman Baths,* to the right, behind the Establishment.

The village proper lies farther up the valley. The church (10-12th cent.) presents a picturesque appearance, viewed from the left bank of the Tirtaine. Below it, on the bank of the river, is a grotto, in which seven springs rise, partly used for the water-supply of Clermont. — Excursions, see below.

c. The Puy de Dôme.

Auvergne, *Arvernia,* an old province of France, was divided into *Basse-Auvergne,* to the N. and E., and *Haute-Auvergne,* to the S., the two together corresponding to the present departments of Puy-de-Dôme and Cantal and a part of Haute-Loire. Haute-Auvergne and the environs of Clermont-Ferrand in Basse-Auvergne are especially interesting from a geological point of view, and, for the tourist, rank amongst the most interesting regions of France. Nowhere can the results of volcanic action be better studied. The shape of the mountains reveals their origin at a glance. They are in general rounded, presenting a succession of isolated cones, the outcome of volcanoes extinct before the dawn of history, but whose craters are still easily recognizable. Many of these mountains bear the name of *Puy,* derived from the Latin *podium.* They may be divided into three systems. The first chain is that of the *Monts Dôme,* in which are 60 puys, from 2500 to 4000 ft. in height, descending in steps right and left of the Puy de Dôme (4805 ft.; p. 245). The second chain, more to the W., includes the *Monts Dore* and the *Monts du Cantal,* of which the culminating point is the *Puy de Sancy* (6185 ft.), near Mont Dore (p. 250), the loftiest summit in the interior of France. The third chain, to the S., culminates in the *Plomb du Cantal* (6095 ft.; p. 260).

The distance from Clermont-Ferrand to the top of the Puy de Dôme from 8 to 10 miles, which may be accomplished by carriage in about ours, except the ascent of the cone, and in 7 hours on foot, there and ck, besides halts. A carriage costs not less than 20 to 25 fr. Omnibuses casionally ply in the season to the Col de Ceyssat (see below), leaving ermont about 7.30 a. m. and the col about 4 p. m.; enquiries should be ade beforehand. — The air at the top of the Dôme is always cold. here is a café-restaurant (déj. 3½ fr.), and the custodian of the Observ-ory has rooms for the accommodation of tourists.

a. Viâ Royat. — *Carriage Road.* — *Royat,* see p. 242. From e Bath Establishment, where the tram-cars stop, we cross the ver and ascend by the street on the left. We leave on the right ne footpath (see below), nearly opposite the church and near a small ascade formed by the Tirtaine under a bridge. Farther on, towards ne end of the village, we turn to the left, cross the river, follow for short distance a street in the upper part of the village, and turn to ne right at the second cross-street. After that there can be no mis-ake. The new road ascends through meadows, with very little shade, defect shared by most roads in this region and materially detracting rom the tourist's enjoyment in summer. About 1 hr. from Royat ve reach the poor hamlet of *Fontanat* (two small restaurants), a little hort of which the road twice crosses the Tirtaine, leaving the village n the right. About 20-25 min. farther on we join the La Baraque ead, and a post on the other side indicates the road to the Col de Coyssat and the Puy de Dôme, across a flat succeeded by a strip of vood at the foot of the cone. To the left, on a hill, are the scanty emains of the *Château de Montrodeix,* the foundation of which lates back at least to the 8th century. The *Col de Ceyssat* (3535 ft.), n which are an inn and some huts at which the carriages stop, s 2½ M. from the above mentioned point, to the S. of the Puy, vhence a good zigzag road ascends for 1½ M. more to the Observ-atory on the top of the mountain.

Pedestrian Route from Royat. This route, which is par-ticularly to be recommended for the return on account of the view of the valley and in the direction of Clermont, ascends, as stated above, to the right at Royat, crosses some vineyards, turns to the left, and skirts the valley all the way to Fontanat, through which it passes to join the carriage-road.

b. Viâ Villars. — This is a less interesting route than either of the preceding, but as compensation it offers remnants of a Roman road paved with blocks of lava and in a fair state of preservation. It leads first to the right beyond the divergence of the road to Royat, at the point where the latter turns to the left, passes through (¼ hr.) *Chamalières,* a village of 2438 inhab., with a church dating in part from the 11th century. Then it passes under the railway and ascends a wooded valley. *Villars* is a hamlet about 1 hr. from Clermont. Thence, passing to the left of the hamlet of (¼ hr.) *Cheix* and farther on to the right of (¼ hr.) *Fontanat,* we join the preceding routes.

c. Viâ La Baraque. This route is about 1 ⅘ M. longer and

will only be followed in returning by those who descend by the side of the Puy de Pariou (p. 246). It leaves the Royat road on the left and passes through *Chamalières* (p. 244). Fully $^1/_2$ M. farther it joins the Tulle road at a point where a turn is made to the left and zigzags up to La Baraque. (A path cutting off the last curve diverges half-way.) *La Baraque* is a hamlet, 4 M. from Clermont, built on a lava-stream from the Puy de Pariou, the road to which branches off $1^1/_4$ M. farther to the right of the Tulle road, which is the way to the Col de Ceyssat mentioned above.

The ***Puy de Dôme** (4805 ft.) is formed of a white siliceous limestone, here and there tinted with yellow and red, which is peculiar to this mountain and therefore called *domite*. It is scantily clothed round its base by wood, and elsewhere by coarse grass. The top is a fairly extensive plateau sloping towards the S. Upon it are an observatory and some ruins, but the view is naturally the chief attraction.

In clear weather the *Panorama is vast and magnificent: to the E. the valley of Royat, Clermont, and the Limagne; to the S. a number of naked volcanic cones, attaining a height of from 3600 to 4100 ft. above the sea; farther away, the Lac d'Aydat, to the left of which are the Monts Dore, dominated by the Puy de Sancy, and still farther, the heights of the Cantal; westward, a broken plain; to the N., other volcanic cones, forming a continuation of those to the S., amongst which we may single out the Petit Puy de Dôme, a buttress of the chief mountain; then the two Suchets; to the left, the Puy de Côme; to the right, the Puy de Pariou, etc. (see below). In clear weather it is said that the Pelvoux, 175 M. distant, and Mont Blanc, 190 M. distant, are visible.

The Ruins which cover a part of the plateau are those of a *Temple of Mercury*. The foundation and a few courses of masonry alone remain. It was built of enormous stone blocks bound together by iron clamps. Several platforms are still recognizable, and on the last of these are some small apartments, looking towards the S., and ending in semicircular form, nearly all provided with stone seats. This temple dates from the Roman period and is mentioned in Cæsar's Commentaries. Besides the fragments of stone sculptures scattered by the side of the path, similar fragments in marble of various kinds have also been discovered, as well as bronze articles, Roman coins, etc.

The Observatory, at the upper end of the plateau, was opened in 1876. It consists of a tower for observations at the highest point of the mountain and a main building lower down, sheltered from the north and connected with the tower by an underground passage. It communicates with Clermont by means of a special telegraph. — Pascal made his first experiments to ascertain the weight of the atmosphere on the Puy de Dôme in 1648.

Sure-footed pedestrians who wish to save time may descend in about 1 hr. straight from the summit to the road by which they

scended, by following the direction of the telegraph. Footpassengers or those who send down their carriage by this road generally descend on the N. side towards the *Petit Puy de Dôme* (4160 ft.), to which there are two paths, the left one being shorter but steeper than the right. On the left there is a complete crater called the *Nid de la Poule*. Farther on, in front, is the *Puy du Petit-Suchet* (3950 ft.), and to the left the *Grand-Suchet* (4070 ft.). Passing to the right of the former, we may reach the *Puy de Pariou* (3970 ft.) in about 2 hrs. from the top of the Puy de Dôme. It has a crater over 1000 ft. in diameter and about 300 ft. in depth, and a '*Cheire*' or lava-stream on the side next Clermont. The *Puy de Côme* (4150 ft.), the second to the W., has a double crater; on the *Puy de Chiersou* (3965 ft.), between the two, are curious caves, especially on the S. side (torch or candle required). The descent is made to the N.E. to the road to Pontaumur, which joins the Tulle road at *La Baraque* (p. 245), about $2^1/_2$ M. from the foot of the Puy de Pariou. It skirts the lava-stream of that mountain.

From Clermont-Ferrand to Mont-Rognon and the Plateau de Gergovie, 4 and 6 M., 4-5 hrs. walk there and back; carriage about 15 fr. We follow the Bordeaux road, by the Rue Gonod, to the S. of the Place de Jaude (Pl. A, B, 5, 6). This road, bordered by trees, leads through fine orchards and vineyards. A short-cut for pedestrians diverges to the right at the first bend, rejoining the road $^1/_3$ M. farther on, to the right of *Beaumont*, a village with about 1400 inhab. nearly 2 M. from Clermont. Another short-cut, to the left, may be made from the next curve, leading direct to *Ceyrat*, another large village nearly 2 M. from Beaumont, at the foot of the **Puy du Mont-Rognon** (1980 ft.). The top of this mountain, which, like all the neighbouring puys, is of volcanic formation, is reached in $^1/_4$ hr. by a steep ascent to the left. It commands fine views of Clermont to the N., the Puy de Dôme and its satellites to the W., and the Plateau de Gergovie to the S.E. On the summit are the ruins of a *Castle* which dominate the country round. They consist of two towers one of which has partly fallen in. This castle, built about 1160, has been in ruins since 1634.

The **Plateau de Gergovie** (2440 ft.) lies about 2 M. to the E. of Mont-Rognon. It is reached either by a direct footpath or by a longer carriage-road, passing *Clémensat* and the *Gorge d'Opme* to the S. This plateau, which measures about 1600 yds. by 650 yds., is the site of the Gallic town of *Gergovia*, which Cæsar besieged after occupying Bourges, and where he was defeated by the famous Vercingetorix. After the submission of the Gauls Augustus tried to efface the memory of this defeat by transporting the inhabitants to Nemetum, now Clermont, which he loaded with his favours, whilst Gergovia was suffered to fall into ruin. The present scanty remains consist of heaps of stones lying by the sides of the roads which cross the fields, and which are said to indicate the course of the streets of the town. Excavations have from time to time been undertaken, with abundant results, especially on the E. side. The view from the plateau is still more extensive than from Mont-Rognon. A statue of Vercingetorix is to be erected here, after Bartholdi's design (p. 241). The shortest route for returning descends to the E. to the Issoire road, which the pedestrian may join by a path to the N. at ($2^1/_2$ M.) *Aubière*, a place of 3265 inhab., about $1^3/_4$ M. from Clermont.

39. La Bourboule, Mont Dore and its Environs.

I. La Bourboule.

Comp. the Map, p. 242.

From Laqueuille to La Bourboule. — Omnibuses ($4^1/_2$, $3^1/_2$, 2 fr.) ply in the season from the station of Laqueuille to (8 M.) *La Bourboule* in $1^1/_2$ hr. Carriages also for hire (10-12 fr. for 4 pers.). A railway is under construction.

Laqueuille, see p. 235. — The road first crosses an uninteresting plain in the direction of the valley of the Dordogne. After $2^1/_2$ M. the road to the Mont Dore diverges to the left (see p. 248). — $4^1/_2$ M. *St. Sauves*, a village of 2374 inhab., has a modern Romanesque church, superseding an earlier Renaissance church, the portal of which stands in a small Place. — The road runs high above the picturesque wooded valley of the Dordogne, and then descends to La Bourboule, which it reaches opposite the baths. The omnibus-office lies a little nearer the Hôtel de Ville.

La Bourboule. — **Hotels.** Most of the hotels are new and comfortable, but it is advisable to ascertain the charges beforehand. Hôtel des Iles-Britanniques, on the left bank, pens. 11-19 fr.; Grand-Hôtel, Gr.-Hôt. des Etrangers, de l'Etablissement, Perrière, de Paris, all of the first class and on the right bank; Bristol; Splendid-Hôtel; Beausèjour et du Casino; de France, less pretentious; de Londres, R. 4-5, A. $^1/_2$, pens. from 10 fr.; du Parc, des Deux-Mondes, Richelieu, du Globe, de l'Europe et des Bains, de l'Univers; Alger et des Deux-Mondes, R. 3-10, L. & A. 1, B. $1^1/_4$, déj. $3^1/_2$, D. $4^1/_2$, pens. 8-15 fr.; Bourboule, Poste, Russie, Helder; Louvre, R. 3-6, L. $^1/_2$, B. $1^1/_2$, déj. $3^1/_2$, D. $4^1/_2$, pens. 9-15 fr.; des Ambassadeurs, Continental; des Sources, des Anglais, de Venise, Bellevue, second class. Numerous *Villas* and *Furnished Houses*.

Cafés, in the parks; *Café-Restaurant des Thermes*, at the theatre, déj. 3, D. 5 fr.; *Café Français*, opposite the chief Establishment.

Thermal Establishments. Drinking, 12 fr. per season. Baths 1 fr. 30 c.-5 fr. according to class, establishment, season; douche 1-3 fr.; together $2^1/_2$-8 fr.

Carriages dear, bargaining desirable. *Public Conveyance*, to Laqueuille, p. 248; to Mont-Dore, 1-$1^1/_2$ fr. — *Saddle-horses*, 6-10 fr. per day; *Donkeys*, $^1/_2$-1 fr. per hr.

Casinos. *Casino de la Bourboule*, Parc Chardon; *Casino de la Compagnie*, Parc de Fenestre. Subscription for the former, 2 fr. per day, 10 fr. per week, 20 fr. for three weeks. — *Théâtre des Thermes*, 2-3 fr.

La Bourboule (2790 ft.), formerly an insignificant hamlet, had 1708 inhab. in 1891, and is rapidly developing into a small town, owing to the growing popularity of its thermal mineral springs, which are said to attract about 7000 visitors annually. There are three thermal establishments and two casinos. The chief springs, rising on the *Rocher de la Bourboule*, a height above the town, are the *Source Choussy* and the *Source Perrière*, with a temperature of 60° Fahr., used in cases of anæmia, rheumatism, lymphatic affections, diseases of the skin and the respiratory organs, diabetes, and intermittent fevers. La Bourboule has the character of a health-resort for families and children, though complaints are made of its expensiveness.

Excursions. The excursions from La Bourboule are practically the same as those from Le Mont-Dore. — The *Mont-Dore Road* ($4^1/_2$ M.; carr. see above) ascends the right bank of the Dordogne and joins the road

from Laqueuille (p. 235) after about 2 M. Cross-roads, see p. 251. Near the junction of the roads are the *Cascades de la Vernière* and *du Plat-à-Barbe*, often visited from La Barboule. The former is visible from the road (p. 251). They may also be reached viâ the right bank.

The **Roche Vendeix** (3845 ft.) is nearer to La Bourboule than to Mont-Dore. It lies about 2 M. to the S.E. of the former, viâ the valley of the *Fenestre*, beyond the park of that name. In the middle ages it was surmounted by a castle, of which no traces now remain. The fine view to the N. includes the wooded heights and the valley of the Dordogne, above which rise the Puy Gros and the Banne-d'Ordenche. — At *Pregnoux*, farther down to the N., obsidians are found. — A route descends on the S. to (5 M.) Le Mont-Dore.

The heights to the E., in the direction of the valley, are the *Puy Gros* and the *Banne-d'Ordenche* (p. 252). Nearer lies *Murat-le-Quaire* (see below), presenting a most picturesque appearance.

II. Le Mont-Dore.

From Laqueuille to Mont-Dore. — An omnibus plies in the season from the station of Laqueuille (p. 235) to (9½ M.) Le Mont-Dore in 1¾ hr. Carriages also for hire (see p. 247). Best views to the right.

Laqueuille, see p. 235. The road, like that to La Bourboule, crosses the plain, then turns to the left, and ascends and descends alternately. The mountains become more clearly defined; to the left is the Banne-d'Ordenche, mentioned above; to the right the Puy de Sancy (p. 250), recognizable by its three peaks.

4½ M. *Murat-le-Quaire*, the halfway village, from which La Bourboule is only about ½ M. distant in a straight line. After about 7 M., a road diverges on the right to La Bourboule. We next reach the banks of the *Dordogne*, ascend its picturesque valley, turning to the right, and find ourselves in front of the mountains which close the valley, particularly the Puy de Sancy. We descend by zigzag road. The diligence office is near the casino.

Le Mont-Dore. — **Hotels.** Most of the hotels are new and comfortable, but it is advisable to ascertain the charges beforehand. Near the Bath Establishments: Hôtel Sarciron-Rainaldy; Nouvel Hôtel, next the preceding, and Hôtel de la Poste, same proprietor; de Paris; du Parc; all these are first-class houses in the Place Michel-Bertrand; de France et de l'Univers, Rue Favart; Ramade Aîné, des Bains et de Lyon, Rue Rigny, second-class. — Near the church and the Casino: Bardi; Grand Hôtel, first-class; Beau-Site, Rue Ramond; de Londres, first-class. — In the Rue Rigny, beyond the three above-named: de la Paix; behind Gr.-Hot. des Étrangers, R., L., & A. 4-6, B. 1, déj. 3½, D. 4, pen. 9-12 fr. — In the Rue Favart, below the Hôtel de France: Brugière Aîné, small; Baraduc-Laudouze, des Thermes, etc. — Numerous *Furnished Houses* and *Villas*.

Cafés. *Du Casino*, *du Pont*, *de la Rotonde*, all near the Promenade, the left bank; *de Paris*, higher up, on the banks of the Dordogne.

Thermal Establishment. Drinking and gargling, 12 fr. for 20 days; baths ¾-3 fr.; in the common basin, free (except in July); douches ¾-3 fr.; baths with douches 3 and 5 fr.; porters 40 and 50 c., there and back 75 c. and 1 fr. The tariff and a list of *Physicians* are exhibited in the Establishment.

Carriages, generally dear, about 20 fr. per day (bargaining necessary). — *Public Conveyances* to Laqueuille, see p. 240; to La Bourboule 1¼ hr., 2 fr. there and back. — *Horses and Donkeys*, 3-6 fr. per day; no tariff.

Guides, scarcely required for the ordinary excursions, with the details given below; 3-10 fr. for half a day, 5-12 fr. per day.

Casino. Admission per day 1 fr.; subscription for 20 days, 15 fr., including chairs in the park; theatre 1/2-4 fr.

Post and Telegraph Office, Rue Favart, at the corner of the Issoire road.
Protestant Service on Sun. at 1 p. m. in the Bath-Establishment, first floor.

Le Mont-Dore (3440 ft.), a little town of 1758 inhab., on the *Dordogne,* which rises a few miles higher up, lies in a beautiful valley surrounded on three sides by the loftiest heights of the Monts Dore. To the charm of situation it adds the advantages afforded by very important mineral waters, which have been known from the days of the Romans and at present attract about 6000 invalids annually. They are used both for drinking and bathing in cases of diseases of the respiratory organs, incipient pulmonary affections, rheumatism, chlorosis, etc.

The place itself is fairly well built but has no specially interesting feature. It consists chiefly of one main street, ascending in the direction of the valley, named Rue Favart below and Rue Rigny above the Place Michel-Bertrand. The *Thermal Establishment,* in the Place, was partly rebuilt in 1893, and is now an attractive and well-managed institution. Within may be seen fragments of Roman architecture and sculpture, discovered in rebuilding the establishment in 1817 and later. Remains of a Roman Pantheon lingered till 1793 in the Place. The Establishment is built with its back against the *Montagne de l'Angle,* from which issue the mineral springs, and has an annexe to the N., containing the vapour-baths. The springs, ten in number, are in the order of their copiousness, as follows: *Source Bertrand* or *de la Madeleine* (113° Fahr.), *César* and *Caroline,* combined (113°), *du Pavillon, Grand-Bain* or *Bain St. Jean* (111°), *Ramond* (108°), *Rigny* (109°), *Boyer* (113°), *Pigeon* (112°), *Ste. Marguerite* (54°), and a *New Spring.* These yield together about 90,000 gallons of water daily. There are 'buvettes' for the César, Ramond (the most chalybeate), and Bertrand springs. The aërated water of the cold Ste. Marguerite spring has an agreeable taste. The Bath Establishment is open 4-10 a. m. and 2-5 p. m.; visitors may inspect it in the interval.

The treatment at Mont-Dore is peculiar. It consists chiefly in very hot baths (104-113° Fahr.), douches, vapour-baths, inhalation of vapour, and equally hot foot-baths for the reaction. It requires the supervision of a specialist. The patients are frequently carried to and from the establishment in litters or beds (porter, see p. 248). A special flannel costume is worn. The season, nominally from June 1st to Oct. 1st, only extends in reality from June 15th to Sept. 15th, the climate at this attitude being severe, the more so from the fact that the valley is exposed to the N., and closed to the S. by the great wall of the Puy de Sancy.

A little way from the Establishment, at the end of the street that fronts it, is the *Casino,* a fine building erected in 1881, with a small park on the right bank of the Dordogne.

III. The Environs of Mont-Dore.

A number of interesting excursions may be made from Mont-Dore, most of them by carriage or on horses or donkeys (see p. 248).

To THE PUY DE SANCY viâ the valley, $2^1/_2$ hrs., or 4 hrs. there and back, by a road and path practicable for horses to within $^1/_4$ hr. of the summit. We ascend the right bank of the Dordogne, from the end of the main street, with the object of our excursion in front of us. After about 550 yards a path diverges to the left to the *Grande Cascade*, which is seen at a distance. It falls from a sheer rock of trachyte to a depth of more than 100 ft.

We may also proceed from the fall to the Puy de Sancy, or return past it at the expense of $^3/_4$-1 hr. extra. Ascending to it in 25 min. we find a flight of steps in the rock with a handrail leading in $^1/_2$ hr. to the *Plateau de Durbize*, over which we follow for $^1/_4$ hr. the route to the valley of Chaudefour (p. 252), and then turn to the right along the path to Les Crêtes (fine views), above the *Roc de Cuzeau* (5655 ft.) and the *Pic de Cacadogne* (5895 ft.), between the valley of Le Mont-Dore on the right, and the *Vallée de Chaudefour*, on the left. The latter may be visited from this side (p. 252). About $3^1/_2$ M. farther we rejoin the path which ascends from the valley.

To the right of the valley rises first the *Pic du Capucin* (4800 ft.; see below), which more or less resembles a head covered by a cowl; then the *Puy de Cliergue* (5470 ft.). Behind, opposite the Puy de Sancy, is the *Puy Gros* (4860 ft.). The carriage-road ends 7 M. from the village; $^1/_2$ M. farther is a bridge; and $^3/_4$ M. farther we keep straight on, avoiding the descent to the left. To our right lies the wild *Vallon de Lacour*, with its streamlet. After about 1 hr. we cross the *Dore* and then the *Dogne*, which descend from the Puy de Sancy and unite to form the *Dordogne*, $2^3/_4$ M. from Le Mont-Dore. The Dore descends in a cascade from the Puy, the summit of which is hidden by the black peaks bordering the *Gorge d'Enfer*, to the right. About 7 min. farther the long *Cascade du Serpent* is seen among the trees, descending from the Puy de Cacadogne. Thence the ascent is continued by a fairly good zigzag path to the left over pastures to the (1 hr.) *Col de Sancy*, where we leave the horses (50 c.), and find refreshments in the season. Thence it is a short $^1/_4$ hr's ascent to the top of the ***Puy de Sancy** (6185 ft.), the highest mountain in the centre of France. A cross marks the summit.

The *PANORAMA is very grand and extensive, comprising to the N., the valley of the Dordogne and the **Monts Dore**, *i. e.* the mountains already named, several lower peaks to the right, farther away, the Puy Barbier (5670 ft.), Puy de Frigoux (5625 ft.), Puy de la Tache (5470 ft.), etc.; the Lac de Guéry, overlooked by the Roche Sanadoire (4225 ft.; p. 252); to the left, the Puy Gros (4860 ft.) and the Banne-d'Ordenche (p. 252), and on the horizon the Monts Dôme; to the W. forests, pasture-lands and smaller Puys; to the S., near at hand, another Puy Gros (5920 ft.), the Puy Ferrand (p. 251), the Puy de Paillaret (5680 ft.) etc., the Lac Chouvet and the Lac de la Landie, a wide stretch of pasture and the Monts du Cantal; to the E., the Lac Chambon, in the valley of Chaudefour, on this side of Murols (p. 253). — The view on this side is finer and more complete from the **Puy Ferrand** (6055 ft.), which can be reached in $^1/_2$ hr. from the Sancy.

This excursion may be agreeably prolonged by descending on the other side of the Puy de Sancy. In 3 hrs. we reach the hamlet of *Vassivières* (Inns), a celebrated pilgrim-resort, with a church containing a black statue of the Virgin, which is transported to Besse for the winter. About 3/4 hr. farther on, to the right of the road, is the *Lac Pavin* ('pavens'; 3890 ft.), an ancient crater half-filled with water, over 1/2 M. long and nearly as broad. Its precipitous banks, on which rises the *Puy de Montchal* (4640 ft.), and the solitude which reigns all around, have given rise to many weird traditions. About 2 1/2 M. hence lies **Besse** (**Cheval Blanc*, 9 fr. per day), a curious and very ancient little town, with remains of fortifications including a 15th cent. belfry-tower. — The **Grottes de Jonas**, 5 1/2 M. from Besse, are among the chief curiosities of Auvergne. They form an entire village, now abandoned, the dwellings being hollowed out of the volcanic rock. There are 64 of these abodes, at various elevations, connected with one another by winding staircases. Similar dwellings are to be seen at St. Nectaire (p. 253). The road leads on to *Coudes* (p. 223), 19 M. from Besse (omnibus). Another road, to the left, halfway between Besse and the grottos, leads to (5 1/2 M. from Besse) *Murols* (p. 253).

To THE CAPUCIN, about 2 1/2 hrs. on foot there and back. Horses may be taken to within 10 min. of the top. The Plateau du Capucin is one of the principal promenades of Mont-Dore. After crossing the Dordogne we follow a steep path through the wood which clothes the greater part of this mountain, and in 45 min. reach the *Salon du Capucin*, a forest clearing, where refreshments are to be had in the season. Turning to the left, we skirt the **Pic du Capucin** (4630 ft.) in order to ascend it on the W., the only accessible side. The summit is bare and affords a fine view of the valley of the Dordogne, etc.

To LA BOURBOULE. The carriage route to La Bourboule follows the road to Laqueuille as far as the divergence mentioned on p. 248 (about 2 M.), where it takes the left branch (2 M.). On horseback or on foot it is much more interesting to take the somewhat longer cross-roads, in the valley to the left. In the latter case we cross the Dordogne, and turning to the right, follow the left bank of the river until we are behind the hamlet of *Rigolet-Haut* (on the left are considerable beds of tufa); or we may take the shorter path which diverges to the left near the beginning of the route and ascends to Rigolet-Haut, afterwards rejoining the route. Thence we descend straight to *Rigolet-Bas*, turn to the left, and follow the banks of the *Cliergue* streamlet. About 1 1/2 M. higher up is a saw-mill. Near the hamlet is the fine *Cascade du Plat-à-Barbe* (fee), so named from the shape of the ravine into which it falls from a height of 55 ft. The *Cascade de la Vernière* (fee), 10-15 min. lower down, is even finer, though only 25 ft. in height. In a wood to the right is a (1 1/2 M.) clearing, much visited by pedestrians, called the *Salon de Mirabeau*, from the fact that Mirabeau-Tonneau, brother of the famous orator of the Revolution, made it a rendezvous of pleasure parties when he visited Le Mont-Dore in 1787. The path along the right bank of the streamlet leads to the Dordogne, on the other side of which, at the above-mentioned fork, the road to La Bourboule is joined. This point may also be reached by the left bank of the Dordogne.

To the N. of the Valley. — About $^1/_2$ M. from Mont Dore, on the road to Laqueuille, is the hamlet of *Queureilh*, whence we ascend to the right viâ the hamlet of *Prends-t'y-Garde*, to the *Cascade de Queureilh* (100 ft.; fee), 400 yds. above the road to Murols (see below). About $^3/_4$ M. farther on in the valley, near a saw-mill, is the *Cascade du Rossignolet*; and 1 M. farther (5 M. from Mont Dore) is the *Lac de Guéry*, oval in shape, surrounded by pasture-lands and with a cascade. About 20 min. farther, to the right, the *Roche Sanadoire* (4225 ft.), to the left, the *Roche Tuilière* (4250 ft.), two masses of basaltic rock, very steep and composed of very curious columns. A fortress which once stood on the Roche Sanadoire has disappeared, after being besieged for three weeks in the 14th cent., to dislodge a band of 400 English adventurers. — Hence we proceed to the N. to (2 hrs.) Orcival (p. 235) and ($2^1/_2$ hrs.) Rochefort (p. 235).

The *Puy Gros* (4860 ft.) may be ascended in 2 hrs. from Mont Dore or La Bourboule, by a path (guide-post) to the N. of the road, leading viâ the hamlets of *Legal* and *Tamboine*. Fine view from the top. — Thence a climb of $^1/_2$ hr. brings us to the summit of the Corne or *Banne-d'Ordenche* (4975 ft.), another fine point of view.

To Murols and St. Nectaire (Issoire), $12^1/_2$ and $15^1/_2$ M.; carriage road. The road ascends to the right of the post-office and skirts the Plateau de l'Angle, whence there is a magnificent view of the valley and the mountains already mentioned. As we round the Rocher de l'Angle we see before us the valley of Guéry. We next cross the steamlet which forms on the right, at about $1^1/_2$ M. from Le Mont-Dore, the *Cascade du Saut-du-Loup* and $^1/_4$ M. lower down the *Cascade du Queureilh* (see above). The road turns to the left and, $^1/_2$ M. farther, forks.

The road to the left leads to Clermont-Ferrand (27 M. from Le Mont Dore). Near the fork, to the left, by the side of a saw-mill, is the *Cascade du Rossignolet* (see above); $^1/_2$ hr. farther, to the right of the road, the *Cascade du Pré-du-Barbier*. About $1^1/_2$ M. thence, 5 M. from Le Mont-Dore is the *Lac de Guéry* (see above).

The road to Murols and Issoire crosses, about $2^1/_2$ M. beyond the fork, the *Col de Dyanne*, between the *Puy de la Tache* (5455 ft.), on the right, and the *Puy de la Croix-Morand* (4960 ft.), on the left. It descends, viâ the hamlet of *Dyanne*, over a high plateau, partly planted with pines, at the end of which we see Murols, its castle, and the Lac Chambon. To the right are the peaks of the Monts Dore. About $1^1/_2$ M. beyond Dyanne a road leads to the left, saving about $^3/_4$ M. and passing the hamlet of *Bressouilleile*.

10 M. *Chambon*, a village on the *Couse*, which descends to the S.W. of the Monts Dore. Besse (p. 251) lies 6 M. from Chambon.

The Couse issues from the **Valley of Chaudefour*, the upper part of which is extremely picturesque. From it we can easily join the path to the Puy de Sancy (p. 250), 4-5 M. from Chambon.

About $^1/_4$ hr. farther on, the Murols road passes to the N. of the *Lac Chambon*, through which the Couse flows, and then skirts the

base of the *Tartaret* (3155 ft.), a pine-clad volcanic cone separating it from Murols.

12½ M. **Murols** (**Hôtel Niérat*), a village famous for its **Castle* of the 13-15th centuries. The imposing ruins, perched on a mound to the left, attract attention from a distance. The château was once an extensive and splendid manor-house, and its ruins are among the finest extant. One of its towers has been restored and commands a very fine view. The guide (in the village) expects a gratuity.

A road leads from Murols to (7½ M.) *Besse* (p. 251) viâ *Besolles*, before which a road diverges to the left to Le Cheix (p. 223), and *St. Victor-la-Rivière*. — Diligence from Murols to *Coudes* (Clermont-Ferrand), see p. 223.

The road, turning then to the N.E., enters the valley of the *Fredet*.

15½ M. **St. Nectaire**, a village on the *Fredet*, consisting of St. Nectaire-le-Bas (*Grand-Hôtel des Thermes; de Paris; Mandon Jeune; Madeuf*; etc.) and St. Nectaire-le-Haut (*Hôtel du Mont Cornadore; de la Paix; de France*). St. Nectaire has about a dozen thermal mineral springs, and three thermal establishments: the *Bains Romains* and the *Bains Boëtte* in St. Nectaire-le-Bas, and the *Etablissement du Mont-Cornadore*, the most important, in St. Nectaire-le-Haut. The Romanesque *Church* (11-12th cent.) is interesting and has lately been restored.

Interesting walks may be taken in the *Gorge of the Fredet*, both above and below St. Nectaire. — To the S. of St. Nectaire-le-Bas rises the *Puy d'Eraigne* (2935 ft.; fine view). — About 1¾ M. in the opposite direction is the pretty **Cascade des Granges*, near the village of that name, on the Couse; and 1½ M. to the E. are the stalactite *Grottes du Mont-Cornadore*. — To the N.W. rises the *Puy de Châteauneuf* (3065 ft.) with some shapeless ruins, and nine grottos near the top resembling the Grottes de Jonas (p. 251). — From St. Nectaire to *Coudes* (Clermont-Ferrand), see p. 223.

40. From Lyons to Toulouse viâ Le Puy and Aurillac.

Southern Auvergne.

349 M. Railway interesting, but no through trains. The best plan is to sleep at Le Puy, whence there is a morning train with connections (fares about 63, 42½, 28 fr.). — From Lyons to *Le Puy*, 90 M., railway in 5¼-6¾ hrs. (fares 16 fr. 35, 11 fr. 5, 7 fr. 25 c.). — From Le Puy to *Toulouse*, railway in about 15½ hrs.

From Lyons to Toulouse viâ *Tarascon* and *Nîmes*, 357 M., in 10¾-19¾ hrs. (fares 64 fr. 85, 43 fr. 80, 28 fr. 60 c.). See *Baedeker's South-Eastern France* and R. 12.

To (36 M.) *St. Etienne*, see p. 230. — The line to Le Puy skirts the town on the W., passing the arms manufactory, to the right, and crossing a curved viaduct. Beyond (38 M.) *Le Clapier* are two short tunnels; and beyond (40 M.) *Bellevue* another, nearly 1¼ M. long.

41½ M. *La Ricamarie*, an industrial place of 7044 inhab., producing shoe-nails and bolts. In the neighbourhood are coal-mines, one of which has been on fire since the 15th century.

43½ M. *Le Chambon-Feugerolles*, with 9016 inhab., has iron-

orks and coal-mines. About $^1/_2$ M. to the S. is the interesting *château de Feugerolles* (11-17th cent.).

45$^1/_2$ M. **Firminy** (*Buffet; Hôtel du Nord*), another industrial town with 14,511 inhab., the centre of a coal and iron district.

Lines to *St. Just-sur-Loire* and *Annonay-St. Rambert-d'Albon*, see p. 216.

46$^1/_2$ M. *Fraisse-Unieux* is the junction for St. Just-sur-Loire (p. 197). After a tunnel we reach the banks of the *Loire*, which flows between very picturesque mountains. — 47$^1/_2$ M. *Pertuiset*. The aspect of the country changes. A busy industrial region, black with smoke and coal, is succeeded by a peaceful valley with picturesque and verdant landscapes. On *Mont Cornillon*, to the left, are the ruins of a fortress of the 12-16th cent., including within its walls a church of the 12th and 15th cent., with some good wood-carving, etc. We traverse a tunnel, a viaduct 65 ft. high, and another tunnel, and beyond (51$^1/_2$ M.) *Aurec*, two more tunnels and another viaduct. To the right, beyond the stream, is the ruined *Château de Rochebaron*. 58 M. *Bas-Monistrol*, the station for *Bas* (pron. 'Bass'), with 3040 inhab., 2$^1/_2$ M. to the W., and *Monistrol*, with 4720 inhab., 2 M. to the E. From Bas we visit the ruins of Rochebaron, and Monistrol also has a castle of the 15th century. Farther on are three tunnels and a bridge over the Loire. — 61$^1/_2$ M. *Pont-de-Lignon*. Beyond two more tunnels we cross the Loire twice.

69 M. *Retournac*, with 4013 inhabitants. Beyond it another bridge and tunnel and, on a hill to the right, the ruins of the *Château d'Artiac*. Beyond (71$^1/_2$ M.) *Chamalières* we pass a bridge and three tunnels. 77 M. *Vorey* and (80 M.) *St. Vincent* are each followed by a short tunnel. 82 M. *Lavoûte-sur-Loire*. The *Château de Lavoûte* is visible from the railway, to the left a little farther on. It is dominated by a modern castle.

From Lavoûte-sur-Loire to Yssingeaux, 14 M., railway in 1$^1/_4$ hr.; fares 2 fr. 60, 1 fr. 95, 1 fr. 40 c. — **Yssingeaux** (*Hôt. Lavocat*), with 7850 inhab., is an old manufacturing town, producing tulle and lace.

Farther on follow several other bridges and tunnels and a viaduct.

89$^1/_2$ M. **Le Puy** (*Hôtel Garnier*, Boulevard St. Louis 17; *de l'Europe*, Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville; etc.), the Roman *Podium*, a town of 20,308 inhab., was the ancient capital of the *Velay* and is now the chief town of the department of the *Haute-Loire*. It is, taken as a whole, ill-built, but it is picturesquely situated between the *Borne* and the *Dolezon* on the slope of Mont Anis, on which rise the remarkable cathedral and a colossal statue of the Virgin.

Quitting the station we cross a suburb and, turning to the left, via the Boulevard St. Jean, reach the large and fine Place du Breuil, the centre of the lower town. In the middle is the **Fontaine Crozatier*, presented by M. Crozatier, a bronze-founder, who was a native of Le Puy (1796-1855). The imposing structure was designed by Pradier of Le Puy, the bronze sculptures by Bosio, the

nephew. The latter consist of a statue of the town of Le Puy, on the top of the monument, and of seated statues of the Loire, the Allier, the Borne, and the Dolezon, four rivers of the department, and of genii, grouped round four basins at the foot of the fountain.

On the other side of the Place is the *Préfecture* and, on the left the *Palais de Justice*.

At the back of the Préfecture is a public garden, at the foot of which is the *Musée Crozatier*, a fine modern building, also due to the munificence of M. Crozatier. It is open free on Sun. and Thurs. from 9 to 12 and from 2 to 4; on other days for a small gratuity.

Ground Floor. In the vestibule, sculptures and inscriptions; Charity, by *Oudiné;* plaster-casts. Rooms to the left, small museums of mechanics and geology. Rooms to the right, remains of Roman monuments; mediæval and Renaissance sculptures; prehistoric antiquities; furniture, miniatures, arms, ivories, tapestries, antique vases; mummies. Room at the foot of the staircase, Roman antiquities. On the staircase, copies of mural paintings in Le Puy and its environs.

First Floor. Paintings. Room I: 62. *P. Pourbus (?)*, Henri II.; 42. *School of Goltzius*, Smell; 59. *Van Orley*, Vow to the Virgin; 74. *Perréal (?)*, Virgin on a gold ground; *Wencker*, St. John Chrysostom and the Empress Eudoxia; *A. Dumont*, Rescue; *Bin*, Birth of Eve. — Room II, on the right: *Cerquozzi*, Battle-field; *Terburg*, Portrait; 14. *Umbrian School*, Virgin; *Brisset*, Arrest of Conseiller Broussel (1648), by order of Anne of Austria; 72. *Terburg*, Karel du Jardin; 3. *Lombard School*, Study of a head; 43. *D. de Heem*, Flowers, fruit, and birds; 4. *Badalocchio (?)*, St. Jerome; *Barrias*, Helen taking refuge at the altar of Vesta; 50. *N. Maes*, A Protestant minister; *Hyon*, The flag; 92. *L. Rousseau*, Still-life; 94. *Blondel*, Triumph of Religion over Atheism; 186. *Renoux*, Landscape; *Verhulst*, Court dame of the First Empire; 212. *School of Fra Bartolommeo*, Holy Family. — 167. *Le Nain*, Old woman; *Roux*, Thomas Aquinas; 189. *Rigaud*, Louis XIV. — *Glaize*, The Foolish Virgins; 44. *Huysmans*, Forest; *Lair*, Punishment of Prometheus; *Drolling*, Parting of Hecuba and Polyxena; 41. *Franck the Elder*, Portraits, supposed to be of himself and his family; 60. *Van der Plas*, Portrait of himself; 54. *Van Mieris*, Bacchante and satyr; 40. *Van Falens*, Start for the hunt; *Ulmann*, Etienne Marcel and two other victims of the partisans of the Dauphin in 1558, lying assassinated at the door of a church in Paris; 63. *Rubens*, Departure of Adonis (the landscape by Brueghel); 23. *Ribera*, Death of Cato of Utica; *J. Vernet*, Italian landscape; 39. *Van Dyck (?)*, Study of a head; 56. *Van Mierevelt*, Portrait; *H. Motte*, Vercingetorix. — Room III. Natural History collection, specially rich in birds. — Room IV, on the other side: 24. *Tintoretto*, Annunciation; *Grateyrolle*, The Semailles. — *French School*, Mdlle. de la Vallière; *Dagnan*, Boulevard St. Martin at Paris; *Renoux*, St. Etienne-du-Mont at Paris; 139. *Huet*, Landscape; 12. *G. Poussin*, Flight into Egypt; 69. *Teniers the Younger*, Portrait; *J. Ouvrié*, Château of Pierrefonds; 105. *Dauzats*, Interior of the Cathedral at Albi; 5. *Guercino*, Dædalus and Icarus; *Van Craesbeke*, 34. Beggar, 35. Portrait; 64. *Early School of Rubens*, Martyrdom of St. Catharine; 72. *Van der Werff*, Queen Henrietta of England; 10. *Carlo Dolci*, Angel holding a lily; 45. *Hobbema*, Landscape; 194. *Santerre*, Girl at a window; 97. *Le Brun*, Portrait; *De Troy*, Jason and the bull; 37. *Van Dyck*, Pietà; 61. *C. Poelenburg*, Amazon asleep; 157. *Largillière*, Portrait of La Bruyère; 18. *Giulio Romano*, The armed dwarf. — There are also some sculptures, including the Battle of the Centaurs and the Lapithae, in bronze, by *Barye;* a Virgin, also in bronze, the last work of *Crozatier*. — Room V: rich collection of lace-work, guipures, etc. The manufacture of lace is the chief industry of the district, employing upwards of 100,000 women.

The Rue Porte-Aiguière, opposite the Fontaine Crozatier, leads to the *Hôtel de Ville*, an uninteresting building of the 18th century.

ntinuing straight on from the other side, we reach a small square, ence we see on the right, at the end of a steep street, the —

*Cathedral of Notre-Dame. This church is very singular in general character, and particularly so in its arrangement, certain culiarities in which are quite unique. It dates chiefly from the th and 12th centuries. The church is approached by a grand ircase which has 60 steps outside, 42 under the great vaulted rch beneath the actual nave of the church, and 32 on the side, to e right. Formerly this staircase went straight on, crossing the vement of the nave and joining the transept, in front of the choir, such a way that the faithful might see the officiating priest, it said, from the steps outside. The great *Portal* comprises three micircular arches opening to the *Porch*, above is some smaller cading; then three windows, at the end of the nave, and three ables, those at the sides extending beyond the roof and open. oteworthy, too, in this church is the mixture of white and black one which is a characteristic decoration of the churches of Auergne. Under the porch is a small chapel with traces of paintngs. Two of the steps bear the following inscription of the 11th ent.: 'Ni caveas crimen, caveas contingere limen; Nam regina Poli ult sine sorde coli'. The flight of steps to the left, under the orch, leads to the **Cloister*, by visiting which at once we avoid etracing our steps. It is partly enclosed by a fine Romanesque railng, which the verger will open, though it may be sufficiently well een without his aid. The most ancient part of this fine erection ates from the 9th or even the 8th cent. and has lately been restored. ts chief features are the little columns and the splendid cornice, dorned with heads of men and beasts. The building to the W., vith machicolations, is the remnant of a 13th cent. fortress.

The *Interior* of the Cathedral presents a nave and aisles with ix domes in the Byzantine style, a small transept with a lantern ver the centre, galleries, and small double chapels at the ends, a quare choir, and a kind of apse under the tower (see below). On he high altar is a small modern black statue of the Virgin, not less venerated than the one that preceded it, destroyed in 1793. The votive offerings hung up on the pillars of the choir indicate the character of the prevalent devotion. At the farther side, on the wall of the tower, is a noteworthy fresco of the end of the 13th cent., removed from the cloister (see above) and restored; its chief subject is Christ between the Virgin and St. John.

Making our exit by a door at the end of the left aisle we find ourselves under the *N. Portal*, with a very slightly pointed arch.

The *S. Portal (Porche du For)*, on the other side of the tower, is very remarkable. It forms a curious kind of porch, each side presenting a round arch, connected with the others only at three points. The *Tower*, one of the rare examples of Transitional clock-towers still extant, has seven stages with Romanesque arches, plain and

trefoil-headed, intermingled with pointed arches. It dates mainly from the end of the 13th century.

Adjoining the S. portal is the *Bishop's Palace*. From the small square in front of it there is a fine view.

Beside the N. portal are a *Baptistery* of the 11th cent., including some remains of a Roman edifice, and a *Renaissance Chapel* ('Societas Gonfalonis', 1584), decorated in the interior by artists of the district (apply to concierge of the Bishop's Palace). A lane which passes between them leads to the approach to the Rocher de Corneille (10 c.).

The Rocher de Corneille, which forms the summit of Mont Anis, is a mass of volcanic breccia, rising to a peak 420 ft. above the lower town and 2480 ft. above the level of the sea. We reach it by a succession of stairs hewn in the rock. At the top was erected in 1860 a *Statue of Notre-Dame de France*, 52 ft. in height, on a pedestal of 20 ft. It was designed by Bonnassieux, and is made with more than 200 Russian cannons, taken at Sebastopol, like those which lie around it on the platform. The Virgin is represented standing erect, and holding the child Jesus who is blessing France. Notwithstanding its colossal size, it is not in keeping with the rock on which it stands. Visitors may ascend inside the statue to the head. The openings made at various places permit us to enjoy the splendid view afforded by the environs, with their grand amphitheatre of mountains, consisting chiefly of the Cévennes, amongst which the Mézenc and the Gerbier-de-Jonc (p. 258) are specially conspicuous to the S.E. In the suburb of Le Puy, to the N.W., rises the Rock of St. Michel (see below). Farther away, to the left, is Espaly and its Orgues (p. 258); to the right, the ruins of Polignac (p. 258), etc. — On the platform of the Rocher de Corneille is the bronze *Statue of Mgr. de Morlhon*, Bishop of Le Puy (d. 1862), also by Bonnassieux.

In descending it is better to pass again by the cathedral than to entangle oneself in the winding and ill-paved streets which surround it.

The street at the foot of that which ascends to the cathedral leads towards the western Boulevards, where we note, on the left as we arrive, the low, massive *Tour Pannessac*, with machicolations, forming the remains of a town-gateway of the 13th century. On the next Boulevard is a *Statue of La Fayette* (1757-1834), by Hiolle. We descend by the Boulevard at the side of the tower.

St. Laurent, a church of the 14th cent., in the lower part of the town, near the Borne, contains the *Tomb of Bertrand du Guesclin* (d. 1380), with the statue of the famous warrior. To the left of the entrance are some Gothic fonts.

The street on this side of the church leads to the base of a rock (80 ft.), similar to the Rocher de Corneille but even more picturesque, on which stands the *Church of St. Michel-d'Aiguilhe*. It is

ached by a succession of stairs with 277 steps (10 c., paid to the essee'). This church, or rather chapel, is an architectural curiosity, ating from 962-84. The plan is very irregular. It forms a sort of val, the chancel occupying the end to the right of the entrance, hile in front of this chancel is a small central aisle, inclosed with ery low pillars and surrounded by a small aisle. The portal is dorned with curious bas-reliefs. Opposite to the entrance stands n isolated tower, of the same style as that of the cathedral; the upper part is less ancient than the church.

In the suburb, a little way off in front of the rock, is an old 12th century chapel of the knights-templar, baptistery, or funeral chapel called the *Temple of Diana*.

Excursions. — The following are the principal of the numerous excursions that may be made in the neighbourhood of Le Puy.

To Espaly, Polignac, etc. Espaly lies fully 1/2 M. to the W., Polignac 3 M. to the N.W. The road crosses the Borne beyond the Church of St. Laurent and ascends for a considerable distance, leaving on the right, halfway, a direct path to Polignac, by which we may return. — **Espaly**, to which another road on the left leads, is a large village, above which we may see from the road, a curious mass of basalt, showing fine columns, called from their arrangement the *Orgues d'Espaly*. — **Polignac**, situated farther to the right of the road to St. Paulien and La Chaise-Dieu, is celebrated for the imposing ruins of the **Castle* of the same name, on a rocky plateau which overlooks it and on which are found Roman remains, seen in the midst of the other ruins. The plateau is encircled by a battlemented enceinte in a tolerably good state of preservation. The road which ascends to it begins near the church. The remains of the castle, properly so called, dating from the 12-15th cent., are scanty. The guide (gratuity) gives the necessary explanations. The principal parts are the keep, square and very high (14th cent.), and a round tower (13th cent.), which together give to the whole a picturesque appearance.

The second route mentioned above is in the valley on the other side of Polignac; it skirts the high ground on the right.

The road is continued across a very broken country. At 8 1/2 M. it is joined by the road from Darsac (p. 259) and 2 M. farther reaches *Nolhac*. — 13 M. *St. Paulien*, a small town near which is the site of *Ruessium*, the capital of the Vellavi or Velauni. The *Church* (11th cent.) occupies the site of an antique building, and other antiquities have been found. To the left is seen the *Mont de Bar* (3825 ft.), a volcanic mountain, ascended in 1/2 hr. from *Allègre*, 8 M. from St. Paulien, whence it is reached by a good road which joins our road 6 M. farther on, 4 M. from La Chaise-Dieu. — 20 M. *St. Just-près-Chomelix*. Here, and again at (26 1/2 M.) *Chamborne*, our road bends to the left. — 31 M. *La Chaise-Dieu* (p. 234).

To the Mézenc viâ Le Monastier. A carriage-road leads from Le Puy to (23 M.) Les Estables; thence a bridle-path to the (11/2 hr.) Mézenc. A public conveyance plies from Le Puy to (13 M.) Le Monastier (2 hrs.; fare 1 fr. 60 c.). — We proceed to the E. At (21/2 M.) *Charensac* we cross the Loire. The Mézenc road turns to the right at (3 M.) *Brives*. To the left is the *Mont-Dove* (2740 ft.), on which stands an old 12th cent. abbey of the Premonstratensians. Farther on, to the right, on another eminence is the fine *Château de Bouzols*, the oldest part of which dates from the 11th century. — 7 1/2 M. *Arsac*. At (8 M.) *La Terrasse* are some artificial grottoes, once used as dwellings. — 13 M. **Le Monastier** (*Hôt. Ponsonaille*), with 3759 inhab., owes its name to a monastery of which the church remains, partly Romanesque in style. — The road (carr. 10 fr.) proceeds to the S.E. viâ *Freycenet-la-Tour* to (23 M.) *Les Estables* (Testud, etc.), a village of some size, on the W. side of the Mézenc. — The **Mézenc** (5750 ft.) is a volcanic mountain, isolated and precipitous, except to the W.,

the side next Les Estables. Its slopes afford excellent pasturage. From the top there is a fine panorama extending westwards to the mountains of the Cantal, northwards over the mountains on both sides of the Loire, and the valley of that river, eastwards to the mountains of Dauphiné and Savoy, as far as Mont Blanc, and southwards to the Cévennes, amongst which the Gerbier-de-Jonc (see below) is conspicuous, and to the western extremity of the Alps, where, on the horizon, Mont Ventoux rears itself. — About 4½ hrs. from the Mézenc is the *Gerbier-de-Jonc*, another volcanic mountain on which the Loire rises. Its height has been only 5090 ft. since a landslip which occurred in 1821; before that it was 5610 ft.

Beyond Le Puy the railway turns to the S., commanding on the right a fine view of the picturesque town. We cross the Borne and ascend its valley for some distance. From (98 M.) *Borne* an omnibus plies to (3 M.) St. Paulien (p. 258), and from (102 M.) *Darsac*, an omnibus plies to La Chaise-Dieu (see p. 234). We traverse a tunnel, 1⅓ M. long, in the Monts du Velay, beyond which the line attains its highest point (3660 ft.), afterwards descending into the valley of the Allier, with magnificent views to the right, extending as far as the Monts Dôme (pp. 243, 245). — 107 M. *Fix-St. Geneys;* 110 M. *La Chaud*, beyond which are a tunnel and a wide sweep to the S., round the *Mont-Briançon* (3420 ft.). — 118 M. *Rougeac;* 122 M. *St. Georges-d'Aurac*. Here we join the line from Nîmes to Clermont-Ferrand, which we follow viâ *Paulhaguet, Frugières-le-Pin*, and *Brioude*, to (143 M.) **Arvant** (see p. 224).

The line which crosses the Cantal is also very interesting and its construction has demanded much engineering skill. It attains an elevation of 3800 ft. in the tunnel of Le Lioran (p. 260). The best views are to the right. — 146 M. *Lempdes*, on the *Alagnon*. The line ascends the picturesque and in places very narrow valley of that river, with an extensive retrospect to the right. Seven bridges and five tunnels are passed. 154 M. *Blesle*, on the right, at the foot of columnar basaltic rocks ('orgues'). — 158 M. *Massiac;* 162 M. *Molompise*. Fine view into a valley on the left. The river frets along on the right; and on the same side are the ruins of a castle. Before and after (167 M.) *Ferrières* are tunnels. Beyond a rocky gorge appear some ruins on the right; to the left is the line to St. Flour, etc.

173 M. **Neussargues** *(Buffet-Hotel)*. Line to *St. Flour, Millau*, and *Béziers* (Causses de la Lozère), see R. 42.

We next perceive, at a distance on the right, the ruins of the *Château de Merdogne*. On the same side there is a fine view. We recross the Alagnon.

178½ M. **Murat** *(Hôtel Gauvain)*, an ill-built town with 3200 inhab., at the foot of a basaltic rock (½ hr.; view) crowned by a colossal statue of the Virgin. — *Bredons*, opposite Murat, on the other side of the line, has a fine Romanesque church (11th cent.) on a rock.

On the left the Plomb du Cantal appears (p. 260); on the right, the *Château de Massebeau*. The valley contracts as we enter the region of the *Monts du Cantal* and the line rapidly ascends.

ossing a dozen bridges or viaducts, running through a short tun-
el, and overlooking deep valleys, with rocky or wooded gorges, tor-
nts, and cascades (best views on the right). The nearest large
eak is the *Puy Griou;* farther to the right, the *Puy Mary*, etc.
ee below).

186 M. *Le Lioran* (Hôt. du Cantal), a good centre for excursions.

The PLOMB DU CANTAL may be ascended hence in less than 2 hrs., 3 hrs. here and back; guide 5 fr. We follow the high road as far as a tunnel, where we take the stony path to the right, which bends to the left before a wood. We then direct our course towards a 'buron' or herdsman's hut which we reach in less than 1 hr.; and thence scale the summit on the N. side.

The ***Plomb du Cantal** (6095 ft.) is volcanic, like all the mountains of Auvergne, and culminates in an isolated cone, whence radiate a number of valleys. The view from the summit is said to command a circumference of 150 M. In the neighbourhood, to the S., is the *Puy Gros* (5245 ft.), to the N.W. the *Puy Griou* (5560 ft.), farther off, the *Puy Mary* (5860 ft.), the *Puy Chavaroche* (5720 ft.), the *Puy Violent* (5230 ft.), etc., all forming part of the same group. To the N. are the Monts Dore (p. 250), with the Pic de Sancy, and the Monts Dôme (p. 245); to the E. the Cévennes and the Alps; to the S.S.E. the Pyrenees.

The *Puy Mary* (5860 ft.), the peak most frequently visited next to the Plomb, may be ascended in 4 hrs. from Le Lioran. — The ascent of the *Puy Griou* (5560 ft.), which commands the most interesting view of the Cantal group, takes only 1-1$^1/_2$ hr., by the old route through fine pine-woods, to the W. of the Signal du Lioran (4490 ft.).

Beyond a viaduct we now enter the *Tunnel du Lioran*, 1$^1/_4$ M. long, in which the line attains its culminating point (3800 ft.), and by which we pass from the basin of the Loire to that of the Garonne, where we descend the valley of the *Cère*. Above the railway is the *Col de Sagnes* (4100 ft.), between the *Puy Lioran* (4660 ft.) and the *Plomb du Cantal* (see above). A road also passes through a tunnel here, nearly 1 M. long, always lighted. — We cross a viaduct, 100 ft. high, and beyond a short tunnel, three more viaducts, nearly as high. To the right is the Puy Griou, to the left the Plomb du Cantal. — 190 M. *St. Jacques-des-Blats* (3250 ft.). The village (Inn) lies $^1/_2$ M. distant in the valley.

The Plomb du Cantal may be ascended from this point also, in 5-6 hrs. there and back; guide 5 fr. We cross the Cère and the railway above the station, and ascend towards the N.E. (short-cuts by the footpaths) over pastures, with herdsmen's huts ('burons'). In 20 min. we reach the huts of *St. Eval*, and in 35 min. more the *Grange du Sarret*. Thence we proceed to the left to the (50 min.) 'buron' of the *Pré Delbos*, which we leave on the right (fine view), and in 1 hr. more we reach the 'buron' of *Pranadal* at the base of the crest, by which we climb in $^1/_2$ hr. to the summit of the Plomb (see above).

Beyond St. Jacques the route is not less interesting. The Cère flows through splendid gorges, along which the railway is carried by works of great engineering skill, including six viaducts and two short tunnels, with a fine cascade between the first and second. Behind us, to the right, appears the Puy Chavaroche, while on the left we skirt the Puy Gros. — Beyond (194 M.) *Thiézac*, we pass through three more tunnels, and traverse fine wooded gorges, after which the valley widens. Extensive view to the right.

196½ M. **Vic-sur-Cère** *(Hôtel du Pont,* near the station; *Coutel),* beautifully situated, with remains of fortifications. In the environs are chalybeate and aërated springs, used chiefly for drinking. — 199½ M. *Polminhac* with an old castle to the right, and a modern château to the left. Farther on are several other old castles. We now enter the plain. Beyond (206½ M.) *Arpajon* the line turns to the N. On the right is Aurillac.

209 M. **Aurillac** *(Buffet; Hôtel St. Pierre,* at Le Gravier, far from the station; *de Bordeaux,* pens. 7½-9½ fr., *des Trois-Frères,* Place du Palais-de-Justice), on the *Jordanne,* with 15,824 inhab., is the chief town of the department of the *Cantal.*

The street which descends from the station leads to the Place du Palais-de-Justice, whence is seen, on the right, the pretty Renaissance tower of *Notre-Dame-des-Neiges.* Hence the Avenue du Pont leads to *Le Gravier*, a square decorated with a bronze *Statue of General Delzons* (1775-1812), with bas-reliefs (1883), and, farther on, a *Statue of Gerbert* (Pope Sylvester II.), of Aurillac, also in bronze and with bas-reliefs, by David d'Angers.

The *Church of St. Géraud,* which we reach by turning to the right, into the Rue du Buis, is a 15th cent. building, recently continued and with a still unfinished tower. It was dependent on an abbey founded in the 9th cent. by its patron saint, born in the château of Aurillac. It has finely reticulated vaulting. In a chapel on the left are some paintings of the 16th cent., and behind the pulpit a Death of St. Francis Xavier, attributed to Zurbaran.

From the door of the church we may see, on an eminence, the *Château,* in great part rebuilt and transformed into a normal school. — The Rue du Monastère and the Rue du Consulat, on the right, lead into the middle of the town. At the end of the Rue du Consulat is the *Hôtel des Consuls,* a 16th cent. house, with turrets and a fine Gothic gateway in the street on the left.

The *Collège,* in the vicinity, contains a small *Museum,* open to the public on Sun. and Thurs. from 1 to 4, and on others days also to strangers.

A single large room, on the first floor, contains paintings and sculptures. On the right, 9. *Dutch School*, Landscape; 35. *Gourdet*, The Steward; 73. *School of Giotto*, Crucifixion; 80. *Syrouy*, Prodigal son; 71. *Gennari*, Virgin suckling the infant Jesus; 64. *Cassolini*, Virgin and Child; 65. *Manetti*, Saint; 68. *Lagrenée*, Fidelity of a Satrap; 82. *Vagrez*, Education of Achilles; 12. *Monginot*, The Rent; 83. *Callias*, Devotion of the Chevalier d'Assas; 70. *Sir Peter Lely (Van der Faes)*, Portrait; 14. *Largillière*, Portrait; etc. In the middle, *Manglier*, Fortune, in bronze; *Boisseau*, Daughter of Celuta mourning for her child, in marble.

Returning to the Rue des Consuls, we proceed to the right, by the Rue Marchand, to the Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, and straight on thence to the Palais de Justice.

From Aurillac to *Montluçon* (Paris), see p. 228; to *Brive*, p. 229.

214 M. *Ytrac.* On the right the view extends as far as the Monts Dore, dominated by the Puy de Sancy (p. 250).

217½ M. *Viescamp-sous-Jallès* is the junction for the line to St. Denis-près-Martel (p. 107). Railway to Montluçon, see p. 108. — 219 M. *La Chapelle-Viescamp*, beyond which is a high viaduct, the last over the valley of the Cère. On the right the view is fine and extensive. — 224½ M. *Le Rouget*, whence we descend into the wild gorge of the *Moulègre*, in which we successively come to four bridges, four tunnels, and three more bridges. Beyond (231 M.) *Boisset* we pass a viaduct, cross the Moulègre three times, and pass by a tunnel into the valley of the *Rance*, where a fine view presents itself to the left. Then follow rocky gorges, two viaducts, a tunnel, and four bridges. — 237 M. *Maurs*, a small commercial town, beyond which is another bridge and a viaduct over the Rance, whence we pass through a short tunnel into the pretty valley of the Célé, crossing the stream twice. — 241½ M. *Bagnac*, followed by another bridge a short tunnel and a last bridge over the Célé. To the right is —

249 M. *Figeac*, on the line from Paris and Limoges to Toulous (p. 113).

41. From Clermont-Ferrand to Nîmes,

viâ the Cévennes.

189 M. Railway in 8½-12 hrs. (fares 34 fr. 25, 23 fr. 15, 15 fr. 15 c. — This interesting route, which forms part of the direct line from Par to Nîmes, should be taken by day. The views are for the most pa better on the right than on the left. This line traverses 108 tunnels ar 32 viaducts. — From Paris to Nîmes viâ Nevers and Clermont-Ferran 450 M., Railway in 17½-24 hrs. (fares 81 fr. 30, 55 fr., 35 fr. 85 c.); v Lyons and Tarascon (see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*), 492 M. in 12½ 26 hrs. (fares 88 fr. 90, 60 fr. 5, 39 fr. 20 c.).

Clermont-Ferrand, see p. 238. — Thence to (58 M.) *St. George d'Aurac*, see p. 224. The railway again approaches the Allie which it crosses. At (62½ M.) *Langeac* (4318 inhab.) travellers fro Nîmes change carriages for the Le Puy line (R. 35). We now follo the river, the valley of which increases in interest, and the tunn and viaducts are both numerous and remarkable. Beyond (66½ M *Chanteuges* on both sides are basaltic mountains, though aft wards granite becomes the prevailing rock. Then follow a tunnel a a viaduct, and after (71 M) *St. Julien-des-Chazes*, 2 viaducts, 3 brid (one of them over the Allier) and 10 tunnels. 77 M. *Monistr d'Allier* (10 viaducts and 12 tunnels); 83 M. *Alleyras* (12 tunn and 6 viaducts); 92½ M. *Chapeauroux* (7 tunnels and 3 viaduc 97 M. *Jonchères*, with a ruined 15th century castle, on the left (5 t nels and 5 viaducts).

104 M. *Langogne* (Buffet; Hotel), a town with 3650 inhab., ½ to the S.

An Omnibus plies hence to Mende, 31 M. to the S.W., in 4¾ (fares 9 fr. 75, 8 fr. 50 c.); see also below under Villefort. The cou traversed is mountainous, but monotonous, barren, and bare. We near (12½ M.) *Châteauneuf-de-Randon*, a small town, during the sieg

which Bertrand du Guesclin was killed in 1380. The English governor, who had promised to surrender, kept his word and placed the keys upon Du Guesclin's coffin. — *Mende*, see p. 266.

About 9½ M. to the N.E. of Langogne (no public conveyance) is the little watering-place of *Montbel* (Hotel).

Then again five bridges, the second and the last across the Allier, and two tunnels; and beyond (112 M.) *Luc* the Allier is again crossed twice. — 116½ M. *La Bastide* (Hotel), which is to be connected by rail with Mende (27½ M.; p. 266).

About 5½ M. to the N.E. is *St. Laurent-les-Bains*, a small town surrounded by mountains. It possesses two thermal mineral springs, known to the Romans, and two bath-establishments. The road thither passes near the *Trappe de Notre-Dame-des-Neiges*, which is worth a visit.

We now cross the Allier for the last time, and entering a tunnel (½ M. long) under the watershed of the *Cévennes*, pass from the basin of the Loire into that of the Rhone. The route here attains its summit-level (3375 ft.), having risen over 1600 ft. between this point and Langeac (54 M.). It then descends still more rapidly through eight tunnels, between which we obtain fine glimpses of the country. — Beyond (122½ M.) *Prévenchères* we traverse twelve tunnels and galleries (the third nearly 1 M. long) and six viaducts or bridges. The last viaduct, 230 ft. high, over the Allier, consists of two stories, across the lower of which runs the road to Mende (see below). — 129 M. *Villefort* (1980 ft.; Buffet; hotels; guide).

An Omnibus plies twice a day to *Mende* (p. 266), 36½ M. to the W.N.W., in about 7 hrs. (fares 8 fr. 75, 7 fr. 75 c.). For pedestrians Villefort is a better starting-point than Langogne (see above). The road first runs to the N., but beyond a short tunnel turns to the W. into the valley of the Allier, where it crosses the viaduct mentioned above. To the N. is the *Montagne du Goulet* (4890 ft.), to the S. *Mont Lozère* (see below). We pass some groves of old chestnut-trees and two hamlets.

7½ M. *Altier* (Inns), with an old castle. We then mount to the *Col du Bleymard* (3855 ft.) from which we descend into the valley of the Lot. Near *Le Bleymard* (3470 ft.; Inn), a village with 665 inhab., which we leave to the left, we cross the track ('draye'), used from time immemorial by the flocks of Provence on their way to their summer-pastures on the central plateau. To the Pic de Finiels, see below. — 19½ M. *St. Jean-de-Bleymard* (Hôtel St. Jean; Teissier, clean; carriages for hire), a hamlet, about 500 yds. from the village, on the *Lot*, whose source is 2½ M. to the N. We descend the right bank to (22½ M.) *St. Jean-du-Tournel*, with a ruined castle, under which the road passes by means of a tunnel. — 23½ M. **Bagnols-les-Bains** (1610 ft.; *Grand-Hôtel; Hôtel des Bains*, etc.), a village on the Lot, with six mineral springs (88°-107° Fahr.), known to the Romans, as is shown by the remains of various buildings. Numerous excursions may be made in the neighbourhood. — Beyond (30 M.) *Ste. Hélène* we cross the Lot, and beyond a small col rejoin the route from Langogne (p. 262). — 32 M. *Badaroux*. — 36½ M. *Mende* (p. 266).

An easy and interesting excursion (2 days) may be made from Villefort to the S.W., to the **Mont Lozère** group, including the *Roc de Malpertus*, the *Pic de Finiels*, and the *Signal des Laubies*. The first day's expedition takes 9 hrs., the second, 7½ hrs. An early start should be made on account of the heat. From Le Bleymard we may return to Villefort or go on to Bagnols and Mende.

1st day. We pass below the railway and proceed to the S. along the right bank of a brook which we cross at (1¾ M.) *Palhères*. Beyond this village we turn to the left into a bridle-path which leaves to the right two cart-roads, and runs parallel to the ravine, which it overlooks. From

(2 hrs.) poor village of *Costeilades* (3435 ft.) a child or herdsman should taken as guide at least as far as the *Source of the Tarn*, 1¼ hr. higher. There we turn to the W., and in ¾ hr. reach the *Roc de Malpertus* (20 ft.) which affords a fine view, including the Aigoual to the S., the ountains of Aubrac and Margeride to the N., and the valleys of the Lot d Aveyron to the W. We descend to the S.W. (not too much in the rection of the Tarn), viâ *Camarquès*, *l'Hôpital*, and *Le Mazet*, to *Pont-de-ontvert* (Hôtel des Cévennes), a market-town on the Tarn, and on the ad from Genolhac (18 M.; see below) to Florac (15 M.; p. 271). Here in 1703, ter the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, broke out the Protestant in-rrection known as the War of the Camisards, from the shirts ('camise') orn over their clothes by the insurgents. The town is still almost ntirely Protestant.

2nd day. We ascend first to the N. of Pont-de-Montvert, by a ravine, (1¾ M.) *Champlong-de-Lozère*, (½ M.) *Pré-Soulayran* (3905 ft.), and (1 M.) *iniels*, about 1½ hr. from Pont and halfway to the *Col de Finiels* (short-ut for walkers). To the W. is the *Pic de Finiels* (5585 ft.), whence there a fine view to the S. and E. From the *Signal des Laubies* (5445 ft.), ¾ hr. the W., the view includes not only the whole chain of the Cévennes, ut also the plateaux and the gigantic ramparts of the Causses. We re-rn to the col to gain the new Bleymard road, or we may descend direct the N. by the sheep-track ('draye'; see p. 263). — *Le Bleymard*, see p. 263.

Beyond Villefort the country is still very broken, and we enjoy eautiful glimpses of the Cévennes. Tunnels and viaducts are till numerous. — 131 M. *Concoules* (6 tunnels). Beyond (138 M.) *Genolhac* are four viaducts, the third of which is curved and 150 ft. igh, and commands a fine retrospective view to the right, and six unnels. — 142 M. *Chamborigaud*, followed by three tunnels, the irst of which is nearly a mile long. Beyond (144 M.) *Ste. Cécile-l'Andorge* we pass through four more tunnels, and then quit the Cé-ennes, and enter the region of the mulberry. — 147½ M. *La Le-ade* and (150 M.) *La Pise* belong to the *Grand' Combe*, a commune f 13,140 inhab., engaged in the important coal-mines of the district. — Before and after (156 M.) *Tamaris*, with its briquette-works, we raverse a tunnel.

158 M. **Alais** (*Buffet*; *Hôt. du Luxembourg*), to the right, a own of 24,356 inhab., on the left bank of the Gardon. It is the entre of an important coal-field, and carries on an extensive trade n silk, glass, bricks and tiles, etc. In the Place St. Sebastien, to he right of the Avenue de la Gare, is a bronze statue by G. Pech, f the celebrated chemist *J. B. Dumas* (1800-1884); and in the *Bosquet*, or public park is a bust of *La Fare-Alais* (1791-1846), he Cevenole poet. The 18th cent. *Cathedral* includes some remains f the 12th century.

From Alais to Quissac (*Le Vigan*), 19½ M. This branch-line diverges rom the Nîmes line at *Mas-des-Gardies* (see below), and enters the valley f the Gardon d'Anduze. — From (10½ M.) *Lézan* a branch-line runs o (3½ M.) *Anduze*, an old town with 3900 inhabitants. — 19½ M. *Quissac*, tc., see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

From Alais to *L'Ardoise*, 35 M., see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

161 M. *St. Hilaire*; 164½ M. *Mas-des-Gardies*. Branch-line to uissac, see above. — 166½ M. *Vézenobres*; 167 M. *Ners*. To the ight is a 12th cent. keep. 170 M. *Boucoiran*; 171½ M. *Nozières*. Branch-line to Uzès. 173 M. *St. Géniès*; 177 M. *Fons*; 182 M.

Mas-de-Ponge. Farther on, to the right, is the Tour Magne on a hill beneath which we pass by means of a tunnel. Our line joins the railways from Tarascon and from Le Teil, and the train backs into the station.

189 M. **Nimes** *(Buffet)*, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

42. From Clermont-Ferrand to Béziers,

viâ St. Flour and Millau.

240 M. Railway in 11 hrs. (fares 43 fr. 55, 39 fr. 45, 19 fr. 20 c.). — From Paris to Béziers the distance by this line is 500 M. (express in 20 1/3 hrs.) while it is 532 M. viâ Limoges and Rodez and 553 or 575 M. viâ Limoges and Toulouse. — This route will be still farther shortened by the opening of a direct section beyond Arvant (see the map). At present, however, there is no express train on this route, and no through connection except by the morning train from Clermont.

To (37 M.) *Arvant*, and thence to (30 M.; 67 M. in all) *Neussargues*, see p. 259. — The railway leaves the valley of the Alagnon and ascends rapidly to the S. E., entering a tunnel over 3/4 M. long. To the right are the mountains of the Cantal (p. 260). — 71 1/2 M. *Talizat* (3265 ft.); 76 1/2 M. *Andelat*.

79 M. **St. Flour** (2900 ft.; *Hôtel de l'Europe* or *Auriac*), a poorly-built town of 5308 inhab., occupies a remarkable situation on the verge of a plateau, which presents a steep face rising many hundred feet above the valley in which the railway runs. The road (2 M.; short-cuts for pedestrians) leads to the W. from the station, and skirting a height partly composed of basaltic pillars, ends in the square with the chief hotel. The seat of a bishopric, St. Flour contains a *Cathedral* of the 14-15th cent., dedicated to St. Florus, the apostle of the district. In the interior are fine modern stained-glass windows and other works of art.

An Omnibus (3-4 fr.) plies hence in 3 1/2 hrs. to (20 1/2 M.) **Chaudesaigues** *(Hôtel du Midi* or *Ginisty)*, a small watering-place to the S., in the valley of a tributary of the Truyère. It has five thermal springs and three cold chalybeate springs. The former, though not highly charged with mineral ingredients, are probably the hottest springs in France (above 177° Fahr.), and one of them is so copious that its water is used even to warm the houses in winter. Chaudesaigues is only 16 1/2 M. from the station of St. Chély (see below), viâ (8 M.) *Fournels*.

We cross a viaduct. To the left appears the *Montagne de la Margeride* (5100 ft.). — About 2 3/4 M. beyond (86 1/2 M.) *Ruines* we cross the famous Viaduc de Garabit.

The ***Garabit Viaduct**, spanning the gorge of the *Truyère*, one of the largest constructions of the kind, is 607 yds. long and 400 ft. high. Its central span of 542 ft. was at one time among the widest in the world, but it has been far out-distanced by the Forth Bridge (1890), with two spans of 1710 and 1700 ft., and the Brooklyn Suspension Bridge (1888), with a span of 1596 ft. The two widest spans of the Britannia Tubular Bridge are 460 ft. each. The Garabit Viaduct,

nstructed by Boyer and Eiffel, should be viewed from below. It built of iron, with five reticulated piers, more than 200 ft. high, pported on huge bases of solid masonry.

89 M. *Viaduc de Garabit Station.* The railway crosses the oken plateaux of the Lozère and attains its highest point (3465 ft.) fore reaching St. Chély. Views to the right. — 92½ M. *Louba-sse;* 97½ M. *Arcomie.* Then a tunnel.

101½ M. *St. Chély-d'Apcher* (3255 ft.; Hôtel Bardol), a little wn on an eminence to the left, unsuccessfully besieged by the nglish in the Hundred Years' War (1362).

A Diligence (3 fr.) plies in the season, in connection with the) a. m. train, to (18 M.) *Chaudesaigues* (p. 265). Another plies in the eason to (15½ M.) *La Chaldette*, a hamlet with a thermal establishment, n a wooded district to the E. The road leads viâ (8½ M.) *Fournels*, hich is only 8 M. to the E. of Chaudesaigues (p. 265).

Farther on is a viaduct. To the right appear the *Monts d'Aubrac* 4825 ft.).

108 M. *Aumont;* 113 M. *St. Sauveur-de-Peyre.* The best views are now to the left. We pass a tunnel, over ¼ M. long, and the stone *Viaduc de la Crueize*, 200 ft. high, beyond which are several more tunnels and viaducts.

122 M. **Marvejols** (2234 ft.; *Hôtel de la Paix*), a town of 4672 inhab., on the Colagne, rebuilt in the 16th cent. after having been almost entirely destroyed in the Religious Wars. Three gateways still remain, though the rest of the fortifications have been converted into a handsome boulevard. Dr. Prunières of Marvejols possesses a valuable collection of pre-historic antiquities.

124 M. *Chirac.* — 125½ M. *Le Monastier.*

From Le Monastier to Mende, 18 M., railway in 50-55 min. (fares 3 fr. 35, 2 fr. 25, 1 fr. 50 c.). The railway to Mende which is to be extended to meet the main line from Clermont-Ferrand to Nimes (La Bastide, p. 263), crosses the *Colagne*, passes through a tunnel, and ascends to the E. the winding gorge of the Lot, crossing the stream before and after another tunnel. To the S., on the left bank, is the *Causse de Sauveterre* (p. 270).

3 M. *Le Villard-Salelles;* 6 M. *Chanac*, a little town with a ruined castle. Beyond (10½ M.) *Barjac* are two bridges, a tunnel, a viaduct, and another tunnel. — 14 M. *Balsièges.* Routes to Ste. Enimie and Ispagnac, see p. 272. Beyond Balsièges we cross the Lot twice more, on each side of a tunnel. To the right are the ramparts of the Causse de Mende (see below), on which, above the town, is the Hermitage of St. Privat (p. 267).

18 M. **Mende** (2425 ft.; *Gr.-Hôt. de Paris*, Rue de la République, R., L., & A. 2-3, B. ¾, déj. 2½, D. 3, omn. ¼-½ fr.; *Manse*, at the entrance of the town), a badly built but pleasantly situated town with 7878 inhab., was formerly the capital of the *Gévaudan*, and is now the chief town of the department of the *Lozère* and the

seat of a bishopric. It stands on the left bank of the Lot, at the foot of the *Causse de Mende* (3475 ft.), which raises its perpendicular ramparts 1000 ft. above it. The *Cathedral*, originally of the 14th cent., was rebuilt between 1600 and 1620, after having been partly destroyed by the Calvinists. It has two towers dating from 1508-1512, which are 280 and 210 ft. high respectively, the former having an elegant spire. On the N.W. side is the *Préfecture*, an attractive modern building. In front of the cathedral is the bronze statue, by Dumont, of *Urban V.*, the 6th of the Avignon Popes, and a native of the district. The Salle d'Asile contains a small *Musée Archéologique*. Above the town is the *Hermitage de St. Privat*, an ancient and much frequented pilgrim-resort. We ascend (about $^3/_4$ hr.) by a road diverging to the right from the upper part of the boulevard passing in front of the Place de la Cathédrale.

Diligence to *Langogne* and *Villefort*, see p. 263; fares 3, 4 fr.; to *Bagnols* (p. 263), 1 fr. 70 c., 2 fr. — Routes to *Ste. Enimie*, see p. 272.

The main line to Béziers descends the winding gorge of the *Lot*, which it crosses four times, passing through five tunnels. To the left are the Causse de Sauveterre (p. 270), a lofty bridge, and a ruined château. — 131$^1/_2$ M. *Banassac-la-Canourgue* (Inn). Hence to the Cañon of the Tarn, see p. 273. — 137 M. *St. Laurent-d'Olt*. Two short viaducts and a tunnel $^3/_4$ M. long. — 139$^1/_2$ M. *Campagnac*.

A diligence (1$^1/_2$ fr.) plies hence to (8 M.) St. Géniez, viâ the road passing the N.E. end of the *Causse de Sévérac*, from which there is a fine view of the Monts d'Aubrac (p. 377). Farther on we approach the *Gorges du Lot*. — **St. Géniez-d'Olt** (*Hôtel Rouquette*), an important cloth-making town of 3325 inhab., is picturesquely situated on the Lot. Mgr. de Frayssinous (1765-1842), orator and politician of the Restoration, a native of the district, is commemorated by a monument in the church, erected by the Comte de Chambord, whose tutor he was. — From St. Géniez to (10$^1/_2$ M.) *Espalion*, see p. 120.

The railway crosses the W. end of the Causse de Sauveterre, passing through two tunnels. 142 M. *Tarnesque*. Tunnel, $^1/_2$ M. long.

146$^1/_2$ M. **Sévérac-le-Château** (*Buffet; Hôtel Sévénié*), a town with 3168 inhab., is commanded by a ruined castle, which existed in the 13th century. — Railway to *Rodez* and *Capdenac*, see R. 17.

We now cross the *Aveyron*, which rises not far off, ascend an incline, with a tunnel $^1/_2$ M. long, and descend again towards the valley of the Tarn, through four tunnels and over a viaduct. — 159 M. *Quezaguet*. We skirt, on the left, the gorges of the Tarn (p. 271). — 152 M. *Aguessac*. Road to Peyreleau (Tarn Cañon), see p. 275. A 'courrier' meets the midday train.

166 M. **Millau.** — **Hotels.** DU COMMERCE, Place Mandarous, with café, R., L., & A. 2$^1/_2$-5, déj. 3, D. 3$^1/_2$ fr.; DE FRANCE, Boul. de la République, R., L., & A. from 1$^1/_2$, déj. 2$^1/_2$-3 fr. — Diligences, see below.

Millau, the *Æmilianum Castrum* of the Romans, is a town with 17,429 inhab., situated to the left of the railway, on the right bank of the Tarn. It is the capital of the arrondissement of Aveyron, the richest in the entire Cévennes region. Having been in the 16th cent.

ie of the principal strongholds of the Calvinists, it lost ground ter the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Its production of kid oves is considerable. The town itself is badly built and contains ttle of interest beyond *Notre-Dame*, a church in the Romanesque nd Renaissance styles, with galleries in place of aisles, and a tower 16-17th cent.) in the Tolosan style; the *Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville*, vith galleries dating from the 12-15th cent.; a Gothic *Belfry*; and he modern Romanesque *Church of St. François*.

For the route to *Peyreleau*, *Meyrueis*, *Montpellier-le-Vieux* (Gorges of he Tarn; Causses), etc., see p. 276.

From Millau to Le Vigan (*La Roque-Ste. Marguerite*), 47 M., public conveyances daily at 4 a. m. and 3 p. m., in about 4 hrs. (4 fr.) to St. Jean-du-Bruel, where we change carriages for the second stage of the journey (also 4 hrs.). On the return the conveyances start from St. Jean about 5 a. m. and 2 p. m. — To La Roque-Ste. Marguerite, 1¾ hr., back in 1 hr. (fare 2 fr.). The road follows the *Valley of the Dourbie* (p. 276), which is very picturesque. — 8½ M. *La Roque-Ste. Marguerite* (p. 276), at the foot of the rocks of *Montpellier-le-Vieux* (p. 275). 12½ M. *St. Véran*, picturesquely situated among the rocks of the Causse Noir, at the end of the grand **Ravine of St. Véran*. — 15½ M. *Gardies*, a hamlet with lignite mines. 16½ M. *Cantorbe*, curiously built against dolomite rocks resembling ruins.

20½ M. **Nant** (about 1570 ft.; *Hôtel Bouat*), a little town in a well-watered and fertile valley, overlooked on the N. by the *Roc Nantais* (2775 ft.), on the S. by the *Roc de St. Alban* (2630 ft.), and on the W. by the Larzac heights. — 24½ M. **St. Jean-du-Bruel** (1705 ft.; *Hôtel Vassas*), a bright little town, in a fertile valley. Walks to the *Moulin Bondon*, the *Château d'Algue*, etc. — We here quit the valley of the Dourbie, which turns to the N.W., and ascend along the Larzac. — 29½ M. *Sauclières*, where we join the railway now being built from Tournemire (see below) to Le Vigan. The road next descends in zigzags and crosses a valley. — 35½ M. *Alzon*, a village on the Vis, beyond which we pass through a tunnel. — 39½ M. *Les Trois-Ponts*. About 2 M. to the left is *Aumessas*, in a wooded valley. — 41½ M. *Arre*, a manufacturing village. — 42 M. *Bez-et-Esparon*, at the mouth of a ravine, at the head of which is the *Château d'Assas*. — 44½ M. *Molières*, on a hill. We cross the *Arre*. — 46½ M. *Avèze*, a picturesque summer-resort, near which are the *Bains de Cauvalat*. — 47 M. **Le Vigan** (*Hôtel des Voyageurs*; *du Midi*), a town of 5374 inhab., on the Arre, has hosiery and silk factories, and coal-mines. The old *Gothic Bridge* and the bronze statues of the *Chevalier d'Arsas* (d. 1760) and of *Sergeant Triaire* (d. 1800), who blew up the fort of El-Arish (Egypt), are noteworthy. — Railway from Le Vigan to (57½ M.) *Nîmes*, see *Baedeker's South-Eastern France*.

We continue to follow the valley of the Tarn for a short distance viâ the station of *Peyre*. The line crosses the Tarn, which it then quits for the valley of the Cernon. To the left are the cliffs of the *Larzac*, more extensive and wilder than the preceding causses. — 172½ M. *St. Georges-de-Luzençon*; 177 M. *St. Rome-de-Cernon*.

181 M. *Tournemire* (two small hotels), picturesquely situated below the high cliffs of the Larzac.

About 1½ M. to the N.W. is **Roquefort**, celebrated for its cheeses. These are mostly made in the environs of the place, of goats' and sheep's milk, but acquire their excellence in the grottoes and rocky caves under the village. The mould on the cheese is due to musty bread powdered and mixed with the curds. The smell in the grottoes is rather strong. Roquefort exports about 13 million lbs. of cheese, worth about 280,000*l*.

The *Larzac* is accessible from Tournemire by several paths, the best being that through the *Boutinenque Ravine*. There is a magnificent view from the plateau, of the valley of the Cernon and the Rouergue. This plateau is crossed by the line which is being constructed to Le Vigan.

A branch-railway runs from Tournemire to (9½ M.) **St. Affrique** *(Cheval-Vert)*, a manufacturing and commercial town with 7223 inhab., on the Sorgues, overlooked by a curious rock. This town was one of the strongholds of the Calvinists, who successfully sustained a siege here in 1628. The line is to be prolonged to Albi (p. 116).

The gradients on the line are abrupt. 185 M. *St. Jean-et-St. Paul;* 188 M. *Lauglanet;* 191½ M. *Montpaon.* A tunnel a mile long. — 196½ M. *Ceilhes-Roqueronde;* 199½ M. *Les Cabrils.* Another tunnel of a mile, followed by two viaducts, between which is a short tunnel. On the left we overlook the valley of a tributary of the Orb. — 202½ M. *Joncels;* 205½ M. *Lunas.* Traversing a short tunnel, we enter the *Valley of the Orb.* Olive, almond, and fig trees begin to appear. — 207 M. *Le Bousquet-d'Orb.* Beyond (210 M.) *Latour* we traverse a tunnel. To the left is a long viaduct over the Orb, no longer traversed by passenger-trains.

212 M. **Bédarieux** *(Buffet; Hôtel du Midi)*, a commercial town (6578 inhab.), with cloth-factories and tanneries, on the Orb.

Railway to *Castres* (Montauban) viâ *Lamalou*, *St. Pons*, etc., and continuation to *Montpellier*, see R. 13.

From Bédarieux to Graissesac *(Lacaune)*, 6½ M., by a branch-railway diverging from the Neussargues line at (3½ M.) *Latour* and crossing a viaduct 165 ft. in height. — 5½ M. *Espace.* — 6½ M. **Graissesac** *(Hôtel du Commerce)*, about 1 M. from the station, with 3000 inhab., has considerable mines of coal, iron, copper, and argentiferous lead. — An interesting road (public conveyances; 60 c.) leads from the station to (5½ M.) *St. Gervais-Ville* (p. 99) viâ the valley of the *Mare*, and thence to (23½ M.) *Lacaune* (5 fr.; p. 218), viâ *Murat-sur-Vèbre* (Hotel), a town on the Agout, with an old château.

Beyond Bédarieux the Béziers railway diverges to the left from that to Castres and from the valley of the Orb, and traverses a viaduct and three tunnels. — 219 M. *Faugères.* Line to Montpellier viâ Paulhan, see R. 13.

Three more short tunnels. — 224 M. *Laurens;* 228½ M. *Magalas;* 230 M. *Espondeilhan;* 232½ M. *Bassan.* — 233½ M. *Lieuran-Ribauté*, a station which owes the latter part of its name to the *Château de Ribauté* ('Ripa alta'), to the left. We pass beneath the line from Montpellier viâ Mèze, and, on the E. side of the town, join the Cette line.

240 M. *Beziers* (p. 93).

43. The Causses and the Cañon of the Tarn.

The Causses are, as their name indicates (Latin 'calx'), plateaux of Jurassic limestone, occurring in the Lozère and the neighbouring departments. The principal are the *Causse de Sauveterre*, *Causse Méjean* ('du Milieu'; p. 271), *Causse Noir* (p. 276), and the *Larzac* (see above). They are bounded by the valleys of the Lot, Tarn, Jonte, Dourbie, some of their tributaries and those of the Hérault. As plateaux they are not remark-

ole but are merely bare uplands 2500-3700 ft. above the sea, without ater, and almost treeless, where scarcely anything beyond a little barley nd oats will grow, and with a very scanty population. Here and there ne general level is broken by 'Couronnes' ('crowns') or mounds; and at ertain spots, particularly on the Causse Méjean, are 'avens' or chasms nto which the rainfall sinks, to issue again in the copious springs of the orges. There are also a number of dolmens or table-stones. — The gorges vorn by the rivers are, on the contrary, exceedingly interesting, especial- y the *Cañon of the Tarn* (p. 271).

The Causses and the Cañon of the Tarn are now most conveniently xplored from *Mende* or from *Banassac-la-Canourgue*, from which points series of diligence-routes in connection with the trains have been rganized for the summer months by the Midi Railway Co. Twenty-four hours' notice (reply paid advisable) must be given to the station-master, together with an indication of the route selected, and a preliminary instalment of 5 fr. Circular tickets may be obtained on application. — Little luggage should be taken on a visit to the Causses, but warm clothing should not be forgotten. — The most interesting part of the Cañon and Montpellier-le-Vieux may also still be visited from *Millau*.

a. From Mende to Ste. Enimie, Le Rozier (Montpellier-le-Vieux), and Millau.

The expedition from Mende to Millau viâ the Cañon of the Tarn may be made in a single day if an early start be made and all detours avoided. The digression to Montpellier-le-Vieux requires fully $^1/_2$ day more.

Besides the railway-omnibuses, *Post-cars* ply from Mende to Ste. Enimie (2-3 fr.), Florac, Ispagnac & Ste. Enimie, Meyrueis, etc.; and *Carriages* may be hired for little more than the omnibus-fare. An *Omnibus* also plies to Florac (2 fr.).

I. From Mende to Ste. Enimie.

a. Viâ Sauveterre, 17$^1/_2$ M., in 4-6 hrs. at the travellers' option; carriage for 2 pers. 13, for 4 pers. 19 fr., 5 fr. extra in each case for an additional person on the box. Carriages start between 5 and 7 a. m., or between 11 a. m. and 1 p. m.

Mende, see p. 266. — The road at first follows the valley of the *Lot*, which it crosses about 1$^3/_4$ M. from the town, passes the station of (4$^1/_2$ M.) *Balsièges* (p. 266), and ascends in curves to the barren plateau of the *Causse de Sauveterre* (see below), across which it runs. Fine view as we ascend. At the top the road viâ Ispagnac (see below) diverges to the left; to the right is the *Chazal*, an old château, now a farm. About 7$^1/_2$ M. from Balsièges is the little village of *Sauveterre* (3420 ft.), and farther on is the hamlet of *Bac*. The road then winds down into the Cañon of the Tarn, opposite the lofty cliffs of the Causse Méjean. — 17$^1/_2$ M. *Ste. Enimie* (p. 272).

b. Viâ Ispagnac, 26 M., in 7-9 hrs., fares 18 or 24 fr.; details as above.

This route is the same as the preceding until the *Causse de Sauveterre* is reached. Here it diverges to the left, by the E. end of the causse, and it descends to the S. E., affording a fine view of the Tarn Cañon. Instead of going as far as Ispagnac, we may turn to the right before the village is reached, at the point where the Ste. Enimie road diverges. — 15$^1/_2$ M. *Ispagnac* (p. 271). Continuation of route, see p. 272.

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c. Viâ the Col de Montmirat, Florac, and Ispagnac, 43$^1/_2$ M., in 12-14 hrs., including 3 hrs.' halt at Florac; fares 25 or 45 fr. etc. (see p. 270). Time is saved by omitting Florac and following the Ispagnac road 4$^1/_2$ M. before Florac is reached.

d. Viâ Lanuéjols, the Col de Montmirat, and Ispagnac, 41$^1/_2$ M., same times and fares as the preceding, 3 hrs.' halt being made at the inn of Molinette before the Col. This route is very much the same as the preceding, Lanuéjols being visited instead of Florac.

Mende, see p. 266. — Route *c.* leads viâ (4$^1/_2$ M.) *Balsièges*, like the two first, but there enters a valley between the Causse de Sauveterre and the Causse de Mende, and passes (6$^1/_2$ M.) *Rouffiac*. It joins the following route about 12$^1/_2$ M. from Mende, before the Col.

Route *d.* leads to the E. of the Causse de Mende and passes (5$^1/_2$ M.) the village of *Lanuéjols*, with a Roman tomb of great size. — Beyond *St. Etienne-du-Valdonnès* (1103 inhab.), at a point about 11 M. from Mende, we join the preceding route, and ascend to the (2$^1/_2$ M.) *Col de Montmirat* (3430 ft.) whence there is a very fine view. Beyond (3 M.) *Nozières* we enter the valley of the Tarn, where the road to Ispagnac diverges 4$^1/_2$ M. before we reach Florac.

Florac (2290 ft.; *Hôtel Melquion; de Paris*) is a town of 1978 inhab., at the foot of the *Causse Méjean* or *Mejan* and on the left bank of the *Tarnon*, a tributary of the Tarn. Its principal object of note is the *Source du Pêcher*, which, rising in the Causse above the town, forms fine cascades after heavy rains. A monument was erected here in 1890 to *Boyer* (d. in Panama), the designer of the Viaduc de Garabit (p. 265).

A road leads hence to the E. to (16 M.) *Pont-de-Montvert* (p. 264), whence excursions may be made among the Lozère mountains.

FROM FLORAC TO MEYRUEIS (22 M.). This route is a continuation of the preceding into the Tarnon valley, dominated on the right by the escarpments of the Causse Méjean, more than 1900 ft. high. — 6 M. *Salgas*, with a fine château. Beyond (8 M.) *Vébron* we quit the valley. — From (11 M.) *Fraissinet-de-Fourques* the road ascends to the **Col de Perjuret** (3380 ft.; hut). This is the only point where the Causse Méjean is not isolated; a neck of land connecting it with the Aigoual (p. 277). We descend into the valley of the *Jonte*, which bounds the Causse on the S. — 17 M. *Gatuzières*. — 22 M. *Meyrueis* (p. 276).

Ispagnac (1740 ft.; *Hôtel Laget*), a picturesquely situated and straggling village, 10$^1/_2$ M. from Ste. Enimie, on the right bank of the Tarn and at the mouth of the Cañon. Ruins of the Château de Rocheblave, see p. 272. Opposite the village the Tarn forms a peninsula, on which is *Quézac*, connected with Ispagnac by a 14th-17th cent. bridge.

The ***Cañon du Tarn**, or *Gorges du Tarn*, still more beautiful beyond Ste. Enimie or rather St. Chély, and particularly so between La Malène and Le Pas-de-Souci, begins at Ispagnac and extends as far as Le Rozier, a distance of more than 31 M. It is the most curious of the gorges produced in the Causses by the erosion of the streams, which were much more abundant during the glacial epoch in the Cévennes. As the name indicates, it has suggested comparison with the celebrated Cañon of the Colorado in the United States. To the right and left the sheer rocks of the Causses de Sauveterre and Méjean rise to a height of from 800 to 1100 ft., the

distance between their summits varying from $^1/_2$ to $^3/_4$ M. It is difficult to imagine a more impressive gorge. Gigantic ramparts and perpendicular cliffs at one time overhang the river, at others retire in terraces, formed of the several strata of the limestone and as varied in outline as they are in colour. Here the rocks are shivered into a thousand different shapes and there appear yellow limestone, black schistous marl, and pink and brown dolomite. In addition there is abundant vegetation (vines and fruit trees), affording a charming contrast to the rocks, as well as clear, full springs and many caverns. The windings which the gorge describes in its 30 M. course contribute to its beauty and provide a series of pleasant surprises for the traveller. Even when the end is reached, we have still to explore the very curious gorges of the Jonte and the Dourbie and *Montpellier-le-Vieux* (p. 275). It is impossible to describe these natural curiosities. There is scarcely anything at all equal to the Tarn Cañon in Europe except perhaps the Romsdal and other fjords in Norway.

The Route from Ispagnac to Ste. Enimie (about 4 hrs. on foot) follows the right bank of the Tarn, passing the picturesquely situated *Château de Rocheblave* (16th cent.), recently restored. A little farther, on the left bank, is a mill worked by one of the numerous springs formed by the rains which filter through the limestone of the Causses. $10^1/_2$ M. *Montbrun*, also on the left bank. The road then passes the hamlets of *Poujols* and *Blajoux*. On the other side are the ruins of the *Château de Charbonnières*, and farther on *Castelbouc* where there is another ruin. This is the most remarkable point between Ispagnac and Ste. Énimie and one of the prettiest parts of the gorge. In a neighbouring grotto is a very copious spring. — $13^3/_4$ M. *Prades*, on the right bank. The ramparts of the Causses, already very high, approach the river more and more closely at *Les Ecoutas* (echo).

17 M. **Ste. Enimie** *(Hôtel Parisien*, R. 1, déj. $2^1/_2$, D. $2^1/_2$ fr.; *du Commerce*, same charges; boats, see below), a town of 1070 inhab., owes its origin to a monastery, founded about 630, of which a few uninteresting remains are left. It occupies a curious position, at one of the great angles formed by the gorge and in a kind of huge well, 1650 ft. deep. Above issues the beautiful *Fontaine de Burle* and below is the *Source du Coussac*. The river is spanned by a bridge, across which passes the road viâ the Causses from Basièges (p. 266) to Meyrueis ($15^1/_2$ M. from Ste. Énimie; p. 276).

II. From Ste. Enimie to Le Rozier.

26 M. By boat on the Tarn (included in the excursion-tickets), 8-13 hrs., at the travellers' option, starting between 5 and 8 a. m. between 11 a. m. and 1 p. m.; fare 42 fr. for 1-5 persons with fee of 8 Boats are changed several times, and the distance from Pas de Soucy to Les Vignes (p. 274), about $1^1/_4$ M., is performed on land (carr., ordered beforehand, 10 fr.). Luggage is transported without extra charge, but large packages should not be brought if the traveller proposes to walk from Pas-de-Soucy to Les Vignes. — Some travellers may prefer to make

the entire expedition on foot, both because they can thus examine the gorges more at their leisure, and because the boat-journey, though not dangerous, presents various difficulties that distract attention.

Boats take about $3^1/_2$ hrs., excluding halts, to perform the distance from Ste. Enimie to La Malène. There is also a footpath (4-$4^1/_4$ hrs.) on the right bank. By either route the every-varying scenery steadily increases in grandeur and interest beyond St. Chély. — At ($1^1/_4$ hr.) *St. Chély-du-Tarn*, a village on the left bank, the gorge forms a second elbow or angle, and again turns soon afterwards at *Les Pougnadoires* (inhabited grottoes), where there is a dam. Many minor windings are also passed, each revealing some unexpected beauty. To the right is the *Château de la Caze*, partly dating from the 15th cent., before which the path ascends to cross the *Pas de l'Escalette*, a flight of steps protected by a railing. In 1 hr. from Les Pougnadoires we reach the dam of *Hauterive*, a village with a ruined castle, affording a very fine view of our road.

At *La Malène*, 1-$1^1/_4$ hr. from Hauterive, we meet the road from Banassac (p. 267). Hence to *Le Rozier* and to *Millau*, see below.

b. From Banassac-la-Canourgue to La Malène, Le Rozier (Montpellier-le-Vieux), and Millau.

The Cañon of the Tarn, or at least its finest parts, may be visited from this side in a single day, even by travellers not quitting St. Flour or Millau until the first train in the morning.

I. From Banassac to La Malène.

16 M. in $3^1/_2$-5 hrs. at the traveller's option; carriage for 2 pers. 12, for 4 pers. 20 fr., 5 fr. extra for additional passenger on the box. The start is made between 9 and 10 a. m.

Banassac (station, p. 267) is a large village on the left bank of the Lot, at its confluence with the Urugne. We ascend the valley of the latter viâ the little town of ($1^1/_4$ M.) *La Canourgue*, beyond which we reach the desolate plateau of the *Causse de Sauveterre* (p. 270). Crossing the causse we descend a gorge into the *Cañon of the Tarn*, opposite the imposing *Causse Méjean* (p. 272).

La Malène (*Hôtel Monginoux*, déj. $2^1/_2$ fr., good wine), a considerable village, with a bridge, lies near the finest part of the Tarn Cañon. Here also are a château belonging to the family of Montesquieu du Tarn; an abundant spring; and several grottoes.

II. From La Malène to Le Rozier.

$16^1/_2$ M., by boat in 5-8 hrs., starting between 5 and 7 a. m. or between 11 a. m. and 1 p. m. (fare 27 fr., included in excursion-tickets; etc., comp. p. 270).

We skirt on the left the *Rocher du Planiol* with the ruins of a castle. Beyond the *Source de l'Angle*, to the right, we pass the *Rocher de Montesquieu*, on which also are ruins, to the left, and reach the entrance of the Détroit.

The ***Détroit**, also called *Les Etroits*, 40 min. from La Malène and about 3 M. long, is the most remarkable part of the Tarn Cañon. The gorge here contracts to a width of less than $^1/_2$ M. between the summits

its flanking rocks, which exceed 1600 ft. in height. As the gorge inds the rocks seem to bar the passage, and sometimes they over- ang so much that they appear to form a gigantic bridge across ie river. The whole effect is majestic, without any approach to ie grotesque, while the picturesqueness is enhanced by the rich olouring of the cliffs. The climax of the whole scene is reached hen we emerge from the Détroit, at *La Croze*, into the ***Cirque des Baumes**, a sort of gulf at an angle of the cañon, the most remarkable pot in the whole gorge. Here are the hamlets of *Les Baumes-Vieilles* nd *Les Baumes-Basses* and the pilgrimage *Chapel of St. Hilaire*, perched on the sides of the cirque. A splendid *View is commanded rom the *Point Sublime* (1960 ft.), a cliff rising above the cirque and ascended in $^3/_4$-1 hr. by a very rocky path. At *Les Baumes-Claudes*, to the N., is a grotto with three stories. Farther on we pass through another magnificent defile, before reaching the Pas-de-Soucy.

The **Pas-de-Soucy**, $2^1/_4$ hrs. from La Malène, is a chaos of fallen rocks, where the Tarn disappears from view, and boat navigation is interrupted (carr., see p. 273). A road starting from Les Baumes, follows the right bank, in front of the *Sourde*, one of the largest rocks, and dominated also on the right by the *Aiguille*, 260 ft. high.

$1^1/_4$ M. *Les Vignes* (Solanet's Inn, small) and on the opposite bank *St. Préjet-du-Tarn*. Here we find the fourth of the Tarn bridges in the cañon crossed by the roads over the Causses. The boat journey onward is still very interesting, but it presents serious difficulties in the shape of rapids and rocks in mid-channel. The descent to Le Rozier is made in 2 hrs., whilst for the ascent 8 hrs. are necessary. By the footpath on the right bank it takes $2^1/_2$ hrs. We pass *Villaret* and (3 M.) *Cambon*. On the other bank are some ruins, the *Pas de l'Arc*, *La Sablière*, and the *Pic de Cinglegros* (3280 ft.). On the right bank are the cirque and hermitage of *St. Marcelin*. Then on the same side, the *Mas-de-la-Font*; on the left *Plaisance*, beyond which the cañon widens to form the basin of Le Rozier.

To the left is **Le Rozier** (1290 ft.; *Hôtel Rascalou*, déj. or D. $2^1/_2$ fr., well spoken of), a little village at the confluence of the Tarn and *Jonte*, with a bridge over each river, and opposite *Peyreleau* (p. 275). The *Rocher de Capluc* ('caput lucis'; 2000 ft.; fine view), dominating the village, may be ascended in $^3/_4$ hr., at the top by iron ladders. — Excursion to the valley of the Jonte, see p. 276.

III. From Le Rozier to Millau.

a. Viâ Aguessac, $13^1/_2$ M., carriage in $2^1/_2$-3 hrs., starting between 5 a. m. and 8 p. m. (fare 10 & 15 fr.). The station of *Aguessac* is reached $^1/_2$ hr. before Millau (carr. same fare). A 'courrier' (1 fr.) also plies twice a day to Aguessac in 2 hrs.

This picturesque part of the valley suffers from comparison with the finer upper part. The Causse Noir (p. 276) forms here also, on the left, huge walls, more than 1500 ft. high. — $2^1/_2$ M. *Mostuéjoux*. — $6^1/_4$ M. *Rivière*, a village dominated by the *Rocher de Peyrelade*

(1825 ft.) and the enormous *Ruines de Peyrelade* (2780 ft.), where the caverns are used in the manufacture of Roquefort cheese (see p. 268). 9¼ M. *Aguessac* (p. 267). 13 M. *Millau* (p. 267).

b. **Viâ Montpellier-le-Vieux**, 23½ M., carriage in 7-12 hrs., fare 30 fr. Not more than 3 pers. can be conveyed in a single carriage, owing to the nature of the road. Passengers alight on reaching the plateau and rejoin the carriage at La Roque-Ste. Marguerite, beyond Montpellier. On foot, Montpellier may be reached in 2 hrs. from Peyreleau; carriages take 3 hrs. and mules (6-10 fr.) 2½ hrs. — To La Roque-Ste. Marguerite we may use the public conveyances mentioned on p. 270. — It is advisable to take provisions.

We cross the *Jonte* and traverse the village of *Peyreleau* (Hôtel Blanc-Costecalde), situated on the left bank, with an ancient château. Thence the route ascends in zigzags to the S., to the *Causse Noir*, which owes its name to the dark colour of its weird and stunted pines. A footpath offers a short-cut. Fine view of the Tarn Cañon. We quit the route near the summit, when it turns finally to the E.

The Ravines of Les Paliès and the Riou-Sec, towards which this road leads, are well worth a visit. We soon pass *Aleyrac*, and then the *Hermitage of St. Jean-de-Balme* (11-13th cent.). Thence a path leads to the N. to the *Ravine of Les Paliès*, which descends towards the Jonte. In the ravine is a magnificent view-point from the top of a precipice, on the other side of which are the ruins of the *Hermitage of St. Miquel*, on some isolated rocks, difficult of access (1 hr.), whence there is also a very fine view over the Jonte valley. The head of the ravine, the *Cirque de Madasse*, is also very interesting. In 2 hrs. thence, we reach the *Riou-Sec*, a ravine to the S. which descends towards the Dourbie. On the side are the *Roques-Altes* ('high rocks'; 160-200 ft. high), a sort of natural fortress, seen also from the route. About 1½ hr. is required to descend into the ravine and ascend on the other side to *Maubert* (see below).

The path continues in a S. direction and passes the hamlet of *Maubert* (2675 ft.; accommodation at the 'Ferme Robert'; guide 3-5 fr.). About ¼ M. farther we reach Montpellier-le-Vieux at the *Cirques de la Millière* and *du Lac* (see below).

***Montpellier-le-Vieux** (perhaps from 'mont pelé', bald mountain) is not an inhabited place, but a spot covered with huge rocks and blocks of the strangest forms, a fantastic ruined city, with imposing monuments. It remained unknown till 1883. The plateau occupied by this natural curiosity is about 2 M. long and 1¼ M. broad. In order to gain an idea of the whole and its general arrangement it is better not to descend at once into the cirque, but to continue straight on to the rocks which block on the S. the road by which we approach, and to mount those on the left, called the *Ciutad* from their resemblance to a citadel. Thence we have a really marvellous *View of the Cyclopean city. The corridor by which we arrive and its continuation beyond the rocks very nearly divide the town in two parts, one to the left or E., the other to the right or W. In the first are 4 cirques or amphitheatres: to the S., the *Rouquettes;* to the N., the *Lac;* and beyond, to the E., the *Amats* and the *Citerne*. In the second is the *Millière*, comprising the Ville, to the N., and the Forum, to the S. The *Cirque des Rouquettes* is the smallest but the finest; its longer diameter measures 1650 ft., the shorter one 650 ft., while

ie walls are 380 ft. high. Near the Amats the '*Porte de Mycènes*', n an isolated rock, an alley of 'obelisks', etc., are pointed out. A triking *View is obtained from the top of the rocks, in the direction f the Dourbie. An 'aven' (p. 270) separates the Millière from the Couquettes. — We may thence descend directly to the (1¾ M.) —

Valley of the Dourbie, between the Causse Noir and the Larzac. This is the finest gorge of the Causses next to the Tarn Cañon, at east in its lower part near Millau. — *La Roque-Ste. Marguerite* 1310 ft.; Parguel's Inn; guide, Froment) is the nearest village to Montpellier-le-Vieux, 1¼ hr. to the S. of Maubert, and 8 M. from Millau. Ravine of St. Véran, see p. 268. Downstream, the prettiest part is the *Val Nègre* ravine, 2 M. from La Roque. In this part also is the *Grotte d'Aluech.* — 5½ M. *Le Monna,* with the château of the Bonald family, and the tombs of the cardinal and the philosopher of that name. — 6¼ M. *Massebiau.* — 8 M. *Millau* (p. 267).

Excursion from Le Rozier to the Valley of the Jonte, Bramabiau, etc. From Le Rozier to Meyrueis, 13½ M., omnibus twice daily (2 fr.), in 3-3½ hrs. This route may also be included in an excursion-ticket to the Tarn Cañon: from Le Rozier to Millau, viâ Meyrueis, 41 M. in 8-10 hrs., fares 30 or 35 fr.; to Millau, viâ Meyrueis and Bramabiau, 48½ M., in 12-16 hrs., fares 45 or 50 fr. — This route ascends the very interesting *Valley of the Jonte,* which at first forms a gorge between the Causse Méjean and Causse Noir, having almost the character of the Tarn Cañon, on a small scale. At about 1½ hr. from Le Rozier is *Le Truel;* ¾ hr. farther *Les Douzes,* at the mouth of a ravine; and 2 hrs. farther, *Meyrueis.*

Meyrueis (2510 ft.; *Hôtel Lévéjac; Boulet; Parguel*) is a little town on the Jonte, near the end of the Causse Noir. Among the *Grottoes* in the neighbourhood, the chief is the fine stalactite cavern known as the **Grotte de Dargilan,** discovered in 1880 in the Causse Noir, about 3½ M. before the town is reached. A guide (5 fr.) and a special costume (2 fr.) are required for a visit to this grotto. The charge for admission is 2 fr., and for the guide's lunch 2½ fr., so that the visit costs 11½ fr., besides the cost of the magnesium lights provided by the guide, etc. On the other side of the Jonte is the *Grotte de Nabrigas,* noted chiefly for its old world relics and the great quantity of bones of cave-bears which have been hound in it. — From Meyrueis to Florac, see p. 383. — A 'courrier' plies hence to (43 M.) *Le Vigan* (p. 268) in 7-8 hrs. (9 fr.) viâ (7 M.) *Lanuéjols,* (13 M.) *Trèves,* and (20 M.) *St. Jean-du-Bruel,* where we join the road from Millau (p. 267).

About 3¾ M. to the S. of Meyrueis is *St. Sauveur-des-Pourcils,* with mines of silver-lead and copper. In the neighbourhood, to the E., is the curious ***Source de Bramabiau** ('bellowing ox'), a cascade, 46 ft. high, formed by the *Bonheur.* This stream, which formerly fell from a limestone cliff 500 ft. in height, has now bored for itself through the rock a subterranean channel, more than 500 yds. long. It issues from the channel like a torrent, into a gorge 650 ft. deep, hollowed out by its waters. Only the channel is accessible. The entrance on this side is about ½ M. from *Camprieux* (3600 ft.; Philippine Inn; guide, Emile Michel), 11½ M. from Meyrueis (8 M. by short-cuts).

The ascent of the **Aigoual** or *Signal de la Hort-Dieu* (5140 ft.), to the S.E., may be made from Meyrueis partly by carriage (20 M.; 30 fr.) viâ *Camprieux* (see above) and the (16 M.) *Col de Séreyrède.* On foot the ascent is made in about 4-5 hrs. viâ the beautiful valley of the Butézon, one of the tributaries of the Jonte. An observatory and a refuge-hut have been built on the summit, which commands a very fine panorama. The descent may be made to Le Vigan (p. 268).

INDEX.

Aas de Bielle, Col d' 141.
Able Defile 196.
Accous 140.
Adé 135.
Adour, the 64. 65. 66. 105. 123. 169. 170.
Agde 95.
Agen 73. 103.
Agly, the 196.
Agonac 42.
Agonges 212.
Agout, the 96. 97. 118.
Aguessac 267. 275.
Aiffres 23.
Aigoual, the 276.
Aigrefeuille 23.
Aigue-Cluse, Val. d' 168.
Aigueperse 222.
Aiguette Valley 195.
Aiguille, the 274.
Aiguillon 72.
—, Bay of 28.
Aiguillous, Pic des 165.
Aillon, Crêt de l' 232.
Ainay-le-Vieil 226.
Aire-sur-l'Adour 64.
Airvault 18.
Aix, Ile d' 28.
— la-Marsalouse 235.
Aixe-sur-Vienne 13.
Aizenay 34.
Alagnon, the 224. 259.
Alais 264.
Alaric, Mont d' 90.
Albarède, L' 97.
Albe, Pic d' 185.
Albères, Monts 199. 204.
Alberts 98.
Albi 116. 97.
Albias 112.
Albine 98.
Alet 194.
Aleyrac 275.
Algue (chât.) 268.
Allanz, Brèche d' 163.
Allassac 106.
Allègre 258.
Allemance, the 102.
Allès 15.
Alleyras 262.
Allier, the 209. 218. 225.
—, Department of the 210.
Altier 263.
Aluech, Grotte d' 276.
Alzon 268.
Alzonne 87.
Amats, Cirque des 275.
Ambazac 39.
Ambert 234.
Ambès 59.
—, Le Bec d' 59.
Ambierle 214.
Amboise 4.
Amélie-les-Bains 205.
Amplepuis 214.
Anché-Voulon 10.
Andelat 265.
Andelot, the 222.
Andilly-St. Ouen 28.
Andorra 193.
Andrest 105.
Andrézieux 232.
Anduze 264.
Anéou, Col d' 148.
Anéto, Pic d' 185.
Angers 17.
Anglas, Lac d' 145.
Angle, Source de l' 273.
Angoulême 10.
Angoulins 28.
Aniane 100.
Anie, Pic d' 140.
Annonay 237.
Anouillas, Plat. d' 144. 145.
Antenac, Pic d' 181.
Antignac 175.
Antigny 19.
Antioche, Straits of 28.
Aoube, Cab. & Col d' 168.
Araillé, Pic d' 157.
Aran, Valley of the 175.
Arbanats 70.
Arbaze, Col d' 145.
Arbéousse, Cab. & Col d' 161. 167.
Arbizon, Pic d' 173.
Arboust Valley 174. 178.
Arbresle, L' 215.
Arc, Pas de l' 274.
Arcachon 62.
Arcambal 114.
Arçay 17.
Arcizans-Dessus 145.
Arcomie 266.
Ardentes 37.
Ardiden, Col, Lacs, & Pics d' 157.
Ardoise 264.
Ardoisière, the 221.
Arès 61.
Ares, Col d' 206.
Arfeuilles 213.
Argagnon 128.
Argelès 148. 145.
— sur-Mer 199.
Argenton 38. 10.
—, the 27.
Ariège, the 138. 188.
—, Department of the 189.
Arizes, Vallon d' 173.
Arlanc 234.
Arles-les-Bains 205.
— sur-Tech 206.
Arnéguy 70.
Arnon, the 35.
Arnousse, Pic d' 141.
Arpajon 261.
Arques, Col de las 140.
Arras 145.
Arrats, the 86.
Arrayé, Caillou de l' 164.
Arre 268.
Arreau 174.
Arrémoulit, Col d' 148.
Arrens 145.
—, Gave d' 145.
Arriel, Pic d' 148.
Arris, Puits d' 173.
Arrius, Col d' 147.
—, Lac d' 148.
Arros 139.
Arroux, the 212.
Arsac 258.
Arse, Casc. d' 188.
Arsimpé, Pont d' 159.
Arthenay 21.
Artiac (chât.) 254.
Artigou, Bois d' 166.
Artigues 182.
—, Casc. d' 169.
Artix 128.
Artouste, Lac d' 148.
Arudy 142.
Arvant 224. 259.
Arveyres 15.
Asasp 139.
Ascain 124.
Ascarat 70.

Aspe, Vallée d' 139. 158.
—, Pic d' 141.
Aspi, Waterfall of 173.
Aspin 174.
—, Col d' 173.
Assas (chât.) 268.
Assat 132.
Assier 113.
Assou, the 97.
Astaffort 103.
Astau, Granges & Val d' 179.
Astazou, Pic de l' 162.
Asté 172. 173.
Astos Valley 185.
Astrets, Col d' 157.
Aubazine 236.
Aubert 186.
—, Lac & Pic d' 168. 169.
Aubie-St. Antoine 32.
Aubière 246.
Aubiet 86.
Aubin 119.
Aubisque, Col d' 145.
Aubois, the 225.
Aubrac, Monts d' 266.
Aubrais, Les 3. 34.
Aubusson 228.
Auch 104. 86.
Aucun 145.
Aude, the 87.
—, Department of the 87.
—, Upper Valley of the 195.
Audinac 186.
Aula 187.
Aule, Pic d' 147.
Aulnat 234.
Aulus 187.
Aumar, Lac d' 168.
Aumessas 268.
Aumont 266.
Aure, Col d' 168.
— Valley 174.
Aurec 254.
Aurillac 261. 108.
Auterive 188.
Autevielle 127.
Autry 212.
Auvergne, L' 238. 243.
Auzances 228.
Auzat 190.
Auzits-Aussibals 119.
Auzon, the 233.
Avajan 174.
Aventignan 137.
Aveyron, the 112. 114. 119. 120. 267.
—, Department of the 119.
Avèze 268.
Avignonet 86.
Avor 225.
Ax 191.
Axat 191.
Aydins 140.
Ayous, Pic d' 141.
Ayré, Col & Pic d' 168.
Azay-le-Rideau 15.
Azun, Vallée d' 145.
Azuns 140.

Bac 270.
Bacanère, Pic de 182.
Baccimaille, Som de 156.
Bachellerie, La 107.
Badaroux 263.
Bages et de Sijean, Etang de 196.
Bagnac 262.
Bagnères-de-Bigorre 169.
— de-Luchon 175.
Bagnols-les-Bains 263.
Baigts 128.
Balaïtous, Pic de 148.
Balaruc 96. 100.
Balbigny 215.
Balistres, Col des 200.
Ballan 15.
Balsièges 266. 270. 271.
Banassac-la-Can. 273. 267.
Banne-d'Ordenche, the 248. 252.
Bannière, Puy de la 223.
Banyuls-des-Aspres 204.
— sur-Mer 200.
Bar, Mont de 258.
Baraque, La 245.
Barbazan 175.
Barbezieux 12.
Bardys-St. Priest, Les 39.
Barèges 165.
—, Forêt de 166.
Barjac 266.
Barrancs, Pic des 185.
Barre-de-Monts, La 33.
Barres, Les 5.
Barrière (chât.) 45. 101.
Barsac 71.
Bas-Monistrol 254.
Bassan 269.
Basse, the 197.
Basses-Pyrénées, Department of the 129.
Bassiès, Casc. de 190.
Bastan, the 159. 165.
Bastide, La 203. 263.
Bâtie, Chât. de la 233.
Bat-Laétouse, Pic de 148.
Baudiment (chât.) 5.
Baudreix 132.
Baumes, Cirque des 274.
— Basses, Les 274.
— Claudes, Les 274.
— Vieilles, Les 274.
Bayonne 66.
Bayse, the 72.
Bazas 71.
Baziège 86.
Béar, Cap 200.
Béarn, Le 128. 129.
Beauce, La 3.
Beaucens 149.
Beaudéan 172. 173.
Beaugency 4.
Beaulieu 107. 37.
Beaumont 15. 246.
Beaune-la-Rolande 209. 225.
Beaupouyet 45.
Beauronne, the 43.
Beautiran 70.
Beauvoir-sur-Mer 33.
Bèbre, the 212.
Bédarieux 100. 269.
Bédeillac 187. 190.
Bédous 140.
Bègles 70.
Beillant 13. 32.
Belfort (Pyr.) 196.
Bellac 9.
Bellegarde, Fort de 204.
— (Loire) 215.
Bellenave 227.
Belleville-Vendée 27.
Bellevue 253.
Bellocq 127.
Belvès 102.
Belvianes 195.
Benesse 65.
Benet 19.
Bengy 225.
Benqué-Dessous 180.
— Dessus 180.
Bergerac 14. 13. 72.
Bergons, Pic de 161.
Bernac-Debat 169.
Bernay (chât.) 10.
Bernazaou, Vallée du 157.
Berry, Canal du 34. 224.
Bersac 39.
Bertholène 120.
Bertrone, the 188.
Berzé 213.
Bésines, Col de 193.
Besolles 253.
Bessat, Le 231.
Bessay 213.
Besse 251. 223.
Bessières 96.
Bétharram 132.
Bethmale 186.
Beuvron, the 34.
Beuxes 17.
Beychevelle (chât.) 59.
Beynac 42. 106.
— (chât.) 102.
Bézenet 212. 213.
Bez-et-Esparon 268.

Béziers 93.
Bezing 132.
Biarritz 68. 123.
Bidarray 70.
Bidart 123.
Bidassoa, the 124. 125.
Bidos 139.
Bielle 142.
Biert 187.
Bigny 226.
Billom 234.
Billy 213. 221.
Bious, Col de 141.
— Artigues 147. 141.
Biros, Val. de 186.
Biscaou, Pic de 147.
Bize 93.
Blajoux 272.
Blanc, Le 10. 5. 9.
—, Lac (Pyr.) 168.
Blanquefort 56.
Blaye 59. 32.
Blesle 259.
Bleu, Lac 154. 168. 173. 182.
Bleymard, Le 263.
Blois 4. 34.
Blond-Berneuil 9.
—, Monts de 9.
Bocage, Le 19. 27.
Boën 233.
Bois-de-Céné 33.
Boisset (Cantal) 262.
Boivre, the 6.
Bonaguil (chât.) 103.
Bondon, Moulin 268.
Bon-Encontre 74. 103.
Bonheur, the 276.
Bonnac 186.
Bonson 232.
Bôo-Silhens 148.
Bordeaux 46.
Allées de Tourny 51.
Amphitheatre 52.
Bathing Establishments 47. 50.
Botanical Garden 51.
Boulevards 56.
Cathedral 54.
Church of St. André 54.
— St. Eloi 55.
— St. Louis 50.
— St. Michel 55.
— St. Seurin 52.
— Ste. Croix 56.
— Ste. Eulalie 55.
Clocher Peyberland 54.
— St. Michel 55.
Cours d'Alsace-Lorraine 49.
— de l'Intendance 50.
— du Chapeau-Rouge 50.
Bordeaux:
Cours Victor-Hugo 49. 55.
Custom House 49.
Ecole des Beaux-Arts 56.
— Professionnelle 52.
English Park 51.
Entrepôt Réel 50.
Exchange 49.
Faculties of Sciences 55.
Fontaine des 3 Grâces 49.
Grand-Marché 55.
Grand-Théâtre 50.
Harbour 48.
Hospital of St. Andrew 55.
Hôtel de la Bourse 49.
— de la Douane 49.
— de Ville 52.
Instit. Nat. des Sourdes-Muettes 52.
Jardin Public 51.
Library, Public 51.
Lycée National 55.
Marché des Grands-Hommes 51.
Monument to the Girondins 50.
Museum of Paintings 52.
— of Natural History 51.
— of Arms & Antiquities 51.
Notre-Dame 51.
Palais de Justice 54.
— Gallien 52.
Parc Bordelais 56.
Place de la Bourse 49.
— de la Comédie 50.
— des Quinconces 50.
— Gambetta 52.
Pont de Bordeaux 48.
Porte de Bourgogne 49.
— de Cailhau 49.
— de l'Hôt.-de-Ville 55.
Préfecture 51.
Prison 55.
Railway Stations 46.
— Tubular Bridge 48.
Rostral Columns 50.
Rue Judaïque 50.
— Ste. Catherine 50.
Statue of Montaigne 50.
— Montesquieu 50.
— Tourny 51.
Theatres 47. 50.
Bordeaux-Benauge 33.
Bordères 174.
Bordes, Les 186.
— l'Hez 136.
Bords 30.
Borne 259.
—, the 255.
Borredon 112.
Bort 228.
—, Orgues de 228.
Bouaye 33.
Bouble, the 213.
Boucau, Le 66.
Boucharo 162.
Boucoiran 264.
Bouguenais 33.
Bouleternère 201.
Boulieu 237.
Boulou, Le 204.
Boum, Pic de 182.
Bounéou, Trou de 181.
Bourbon-Busset, Chât. de 221.
— l'Archambault 212.
Bourbonnais, Le 210.
Bourboule, La 247.
Bourdeilles (chât.) 45.
Bourganeuf 229.
Bourg-Argental 237.
Bourg-d'Oueil 180.
Bourgeade 235.
Bourges 225.
Bourg-Lastic-Messeix 235.
— Madame 203. 193.
Bourg-sur-Gironde 32.
Bournazel (chât.) 119.
Bourneau-Mervent 19.
Bournezeau 19.
Bourroux, Pastures of 145.
Bousquet-d'Orb, Le 269.
Boussac 38.
Boussens 137.
Bout-du-Monde 223.
Boutonne, the 23.
Bouzanne, the 38.
Bouzols (chât.) 258.
Bram 87.
Bramabiau, Source de 276.
Brantôme 45.
Brassac (Puy-de-D.) 221.
— (Agout) 97.
Brazis 97.
Brèche de Roland 162. 163.
—, Fausse 162.
—, Glacier de la 163.
Brède, La 70.
Bredons 259.
Brenne, La 38.
Brescou, Ile de 95.
Bressols 96.

ressouilleile 252.
ressuire 18. 27.
retenoux 107.
reton Straits 28.
retonnière, La 27.
reuil, Le 224.
– Barret 19.
Briance, the 105.
Briançon, Mont 259.
Brionne, La 229.
Brioude 224. 259.
Brive 106. 236.
Brives (Mézenc) 258.
— Chérac 13.
Brou (chât.) 5.
Brouilla 204.
Brousset, Case de 147.
Broutay (chât.) 38.
Bruges 56.
Bruniquel 115.
Budelière-Chambon 228.
Bugarach, Pech de 194.
Buglose 64.
Bugue, Le 101.
Buisson, Le 102. 15.
Bujaruelo 162.
Burat, Pales or Pic de 182.
Burg, Le 106.
Buron (chât.) 223.
Bussac 32.
Busseau-d'Ahun 228.
Busset 221.
Bussière-Galant 13. 42.
Buxières-les-Mines 212.
Buzançais 10. 37.
Buzet 96.
Buzy 139.

Cabaliros, the 154.
Cabanes, Les 116.
Cabannes, Les 191.
Cabaretou, Col de 98.
Cabariot 29. 30.
Cabessut 114.
Cabrils, Les 269.
Cacadogne, Pic de 250.
Cadaujac 70.
Cadéac 174.
Cadi, Granges de 202.
—, Plateau de 202.
Cadillac 70.
Cadouin 102.
Cæsar's Camp 169.
Cahors 110.
Cahuzac 116.
Caillaouas, Lac de 179.
Cajarc 114.
Calbière, Grotte de la 190.
Calmont-d'Olt (chât.)120.
Calviac 102.
Calvignac 114.
Camarquès 264.
Cambasque, Val. de 153.
Cambo 69.
— les-Bains 70.
Cambon 274.
Campagnac 267.
Campagnan 100.
Campagne-sur-Aude 195.
Campan 173.
— Valley 173.
Campbieil, Valley of 164.
Campcardos, Pic de 193.
Camplong, Mont. de 164.
Camprieux 276.
Camprodon 206.
Canabols 120.
Canauley 61.
Canaveilles, Graus de 202.
Can-Brixot, Grotte de 206.
Cance, the 237.
Cancéru 153.
Candé (chât.) 5.
Canet 199.
Canfranc 141.
Canigou, the 202. 204.
Canillo 193.
Canourgue, La 273.
Cantal, Monts du 228. 243. 259.
—, Plomb du 260. 243.
—, Department of the 261.
Cantaous 137.
Cantenac 57.
Cantorbe 268.
Cap-Breton 66.
Capdenac 114.
Capè, Ravin de 166.
Capendu 90.
Capestang, Lake of 93.
Caplue, Roch. de 274.
Capoulet 190.
Capsir 195.
Capucin, Pic du 251. 250.
Capvern 136.
Carbon-Blanc 33.
Carbonne 138.
Carcanières 195.
Carcans 61.
—, Etang de 61.
Carcassonne 87.
Cardoua, Plat. de 144.
Carença, Gorges and Lac de 203.
Carlitte, Col de 204.
—, Désert de 204.
—, Puy de 192. 204.
Carlux 102.
Carmaux 97.
Carol, Tours de 193.
Caroux, Mont 100.
Carsac 102.
Carte (chât.) 15.
Cascade, Col de la 163.
— Anglaise, the 202.
Casque, the 162. 173.
Castagnède 186.
Castaing, Granges de 183.
Casteil 202.
Casteilla 204.
Casteillou, Col de 195.
Castelbouc 272.
Castelfranc 103.
Castel-Gaillard 103.
Casteljaloux 72.
Castell-Rossello 199.
Castel-Minier 188.
Castelnau (chât.) 107.
Castelnaud 102.
Castelnaudary 87.
Castelnau-d'Azun (chât.) 145.
— de-Lévis 116.
— d'Estretefonds 77.
Castelsarrasin 75.
Castelvieil 178.
Castet 187.
Castets 64.
Castex-Lectourois 103.
Castiello 141.
Castillon (Ariège) 186.
— (Gironde) 14.
Castres 97. 87.
Cattlar 202.
Caubous 180.
Caudos 64.
Caudrot 71.
Caumont 186.
Caunes 90.
Caussade 112.
Cauterets 149.
—, Gave de 149.
Cauvalat, Bains de 268.
Caux 100.
Cavignac 32. 14.
Cayan, Plat. de 156.
Cayenne, La 29.
Cazals 115.
Cazaux (Gironde) 62.
—, Lake of 62.
— (Htes. Pyr.) 174.
— Debat 174.
— de-l'Arboust 179.
Caze (chât.) 273.
Cazères-sur-Garonne 138.
Cazoulès 102. 109.
Cazouls-lès-Béziers 95.
Céciré, Pic de 180. 181.
Ceilhes-Roqueronde 269.
Célé, the 113.
Celette, La 235.
Celle-Bruyère, La 226.
Celles 13.

Célon 38.
Cendre-Orcet, Le 223.
Cénevières (chât.) 114.
Centre, Canal du 212.
Cépie 194.
Cerbère 200.
Cerbillona, the 155. 156. 164.
Cerdane, Tower of 193.
Cère, the 107. 108. 260.
Céret 205.
Cérisey, Casc. de 154.
Cerizay 19.
Cérons 70.
Cette 96.
— Eygun 140.
Cévennes, Northern 231.
Ceyrat 246.
Ceyssat, Col de 244.
Cézy, Pic de 145.
Chabanais 13.
Chabarrou, Pic and Lac de 156.
Chabenet 38.
Chabouret, Croix de 231.
Chabreloche 233.
Chaise, La 33.
— Dieu, La 234. 258.
Chaize-le-Vicomte, La 19.
Chalais 14.
Chaldette, La 266.
Challans 33.
Chalmazel 233.
Châlus 13.
— (chât.) 224.
Chalusset (chât.) 105.
Chamalières 244. 254.
Chamblet-Néris 227.
Chambon 23. 228. 252.
—, Lac 252.
— Feugerolles, Le 253.
Chambord (chât.) 4.
Chamborigaud 264.
Chamborne 258.
Champagne, Grande and Petite 12.
Champdieu 232.
Champigny-sur-Veude 16.
Champillet-Ureiers 38.
Champlong-de-Lozère 264.
Champ-St. Père 27.
Champsiaux 106.
Chanac 266.
Chanat 235.
Chancelade 45.
Chaniers 32.
Chanon 228.
Chantelle 213. 227.
Chantenay-St. Imbert 209.
Chanteuges 262.
Chantonnay 19.
Chaos, the 162.
Chapeauroux 262.
Chapelle-Baloue, La 38.
— St. Antoine 141.
— St. Aventin 178. 180.
— St. Laurent, La 27.
— St. Ursin, La 225.
— Viescamp, La 262.
Chapterie 9.
Chapus, Le 30.
Charbonnières (chât.) 272.
Charensac 258.
Charente, the 10. 28.
—, Department of the 28.
— Inférieure, Department of the 23.
Charité, La 209.
Charlieu 213.
Charlus (chât.) 228.
Charmant 13.
Charolles 212.
Châtrost 35.
Charras 28.
Charroux 10.
Chartilly (chât.) 211.
Charuga, Bois de 183.
Chassagne (chât.) 211.
Chasseneuil-sur-Bonnière 13.
Chasteaux 108.
Chat, Grotte du 182.
—, Pas du 173.
Châtaigneraie 19.
Châteaubrun 38.
Châteaufort 235.
Château-l'Evêque 42. 45.
— Laffitte 57.
— Latour 57.
— d'Oléron, Le 30.
Châteaumeillant 38. 226.
Châteauneuf-les-Bains 223.
— de-Randon 262.
— sur-Charente 12.
— sur-Cher 226.
—, Puy de 253.
Châteauponsac 9.
Châteauroux 35.
Chateix, Puy de 243.
Châtelaillon 28.
Châteldon 221.
Châtelet, Le 226.
Châtelguyon 222.
Châtellerault 5.
Châtillon-St. Aubin 27.
— sur-Indre 37.
Châtre, La 37.
Chaud, La 259.
Chaudefour, Val. de 250. 252.
Chaudesaigues 265.
Chaudronniers, Trou des 183.
Chaumont (chât.) 4.
Chausenque, Brèche de 169.
Chauvigny 9.
Chavagnes-les-Redoux 19.
Chavanon, the 228.
Chavaroche, Puy 260.
Chavenon 212.
Chazal 270.
Chazay-Marcilly 215.
Chef-Boutonne 23.
Cheix 244.
—, Le 223.
Chenonceaux 35.
Cher, the 5. 15. 34. 227.
—, Department of the 225.
Chères-Chassel, Les 215.
Chéry 35.
Cheval-Mort, Col du 220.
Chevelure-de-Madeleine, Casc. de la 179.
Chiersou, Puy de 246.
Chinon 15.
Chirac 266.
Chiroulet, Cab. de 173.
Cholet 27.
Cier-de-Luchon 175.
Cieurac 112.
Cigalère, Roch. de 182.
Cinglegros, Pic de 274.
Cinq-Cours, Hourque des 167.
Cinquets, Plat. des 153.
Cintegabelle 188.
Ciré 23.
Cirès 180.
Ciron 10.
Citerne, Cirque de 275.
Ciutad, the 275.
Civray 10.
Clain, the 5. 6. 10.
Clairac 103.
Claise, the 5.
Clapier, Le 253.
Clayette-Baudemont, La 213.
Clazay 19.
Clémensat 246.
Clermain 213.
Clermont-Ferrand 238.
— l'Hérault 100.
Clidane, the 235.
Cliergue, Puy de 250.
Clion-sur-Seugne 32.
—, Le 37.
Clisson 26.
Clot de la Hount 155.
Clouzeaux, Les 20.
Cluny 212.
Coarraze-Nay 132.
Cœur, Casc. du 182.

:x 34.
gnac 13.
agne, the 266.
layrac 73.
llioure 199.
lombières 98. 99.
ma Armada 204.
mmentry 212. 227.
mmequières 34.
ncoules 264.
ndom 72.
nduché 114.
nférence, Ile de la 125.
nfolens 13.
ontente, Col de 154.
oquille, La 42.
orbeil 209.
orbières, the 90.
ordes 116.
ordouan, Lighthouse of 60. 58. 59.
ormery 37.
orneilla 199.
— de-Conflent 201.
orneilles, Puits des 173.
ornil 236.
ornillon, Mont 254.
oroné, Lac 185.
—, Col & Glacier de 185.
orrèze, the 106. 236.
—, Department of the 236.
orsavy 206.
osne (Allier) 209.
— sur-l'Oeuil 212. 225.
osperons, Vallon de 200.
ostabonne, Pic de 206.
osteilades 264.
oteau, Le 214. 215.
oudes 223.
ouffoulens-Leuc 194.
ouflens 187.
— de-Betmajou 187.
ouhé-Vérac 10.
ouiza-Montazels 194.
ouldray-Salbart (chât.) 18.
oulombiers 21.
oulon 19.
oulonges-Thouarsais 18.
— sur-Autise 19.
oume-de-Bourg, Col de la 180.
oumély, the 162.
ourbassil 193.
ourçais 38.
ouret 174.
—, Col du 145.
—, Pas de 180.
ourets, Col des 182.
ourniou 98.
ournonterral 100.
ouronne, La 13.
ourpière 234.
Cours 214.
Coursan 93.
Courty 222. 234.
Couse, the 252.
Coussac, Source du 272.
— Bonneval 106.
Coustères, Springs of 183.
Coustouges 206.
Coutras 14. 45.
Couzan 233.
— (chât.) 233.
Couze 15.
—, the 223.
Couzeix-Chaptelat 9.
Couzon 230.
Crabioules, Pic de 180.
Cransac 119.
Crazannes (chât.) 30.
Crèche, La 21.
Créchy 213.
Cregueña, Lac de 185.
Crémade, La 87. 97.
Cressat 228.
Creuse, the 5. 10. 38. 228.
—, Department of the 228.
Creysse-Mouleydier 15.
Croix-de-Vie 34.
— d'Hins 61.
— Morand, Puy de la 252.
Crouzilles-St. Gilles 17. 15.
Crozant 38.
Croze, La 274.
Crueize, Viad. de la 266.
Cubère, Pont de 185.
Cubzac-les-Ponts 33.
Culan 38.
Culasse, Cirque de la 203.
Culet, Le 183.
Curé, Trou du 195.
Cureilles, Granges de 158.
Cusset 220.
Cuzeau, Roc de 250.
Cuzorn 102.
Cylindre, the 164.
—, Cheminée du 163.
—, Col du 163.
—, Glacier du 163.

Dadou, the 97.
Dargilan, Grotte de 276.
Darsac 259.
Dax 65.
Decazeville 119.
Dégagnac 109.
Demène, the 237.
Demoiselles, Casc. des 183.
Denguin 128.
Déols 36.
Déome, the 237.
Desdouroucat, Pont 161.
Détroit, the 273.
Deux-Sèvres, Department of 22.
Diable, Tour du 200.
Dieu, Ile 33.
Dieupentale 77.
Digoin 212.
Diou 212.
Dissais-sur-Vienne 5.
Dive, Canal de la 17.
Dogne, the 250.
Doire, the 228.
Dolezon, the 255.
Dôme, Puy de 245.
—, Monts 243.
Doménat 228.
Domeyrat (chât.) 224.
Dompierre-sur-Mer 28.
— Sept-Fonts 212.
Donnazac 116.
Donzenac 106.
Dorat, Le 9.
Dordogne, the 14. 33. 45. 101. 102. 107. 109. 113. 248. 249. 250.
—, Department of the 43.
Dore, the 222. 234. 250.
—, Mont 249.
—, Monts 243. 250.
Douch 100.
Dourbie, Valley of the 276.
Doussetière, La 5.
Douze, the 64.
Douzes, Les 276.
Dove, Mont 258.
Doyet-la-Presle 212.
Drignac-Ally 228.
Drivant 226.
Dronne, the 13. 14. 45.
Drugeac 228.
Druye 15.
Dufau 132.
Dunières, the 237.
— Montfaucon 237.
Duras 56.
Duravel 103.
Durban 90.
Durbize, Plateau de 250.
Durenque, the 97.
Durolle, the 233.
Durtol 235.
Dyanne 252.
—, Col de 252.

Eaux-Bonnes 142.
— Chaudes 145.
— —, Grotto of 146.
Eauze 72.
Ebreuil 227.
Echelle, Pont de l' 159.

Echelles, Les 39.
Echiré-St. Gelais 18.
Ecoutas, Les 272.
Egletons 236.
Eglise, L' 127.
Eguzon 38.
Elne 199.
Encausse 137.
Encourtiech (chât.) 187.
Enet, Ile d' 28.
Enfer, Casc., Gouffre, & Rue d' (Pyr.) 181. 182.
—, Gorge d' 250.
—, Pic d' 156.
—, Pont d' 141.
—, Trou d' 188.
Engommer 186.
Entécade, Pic de l' 184.
Entre-deux-Mers 33.
Enval, Gorge d' 223.
Epannes 23.
Epanvilliers 10.
Epaule, the 162.
Epernon (chât.) 70.
Eraigne, Puy d' 253.
Eras-Taillades, Pic d' 145.
Ercé 187.
Eréoueil, Lacs d' 185.
Erran, Prairies d' 182.
Escaldas, Les (Andorre) 193.
— (Pyr. Orient.) 204.
Escalette, Pas de l' 184. 273.
Escalquens 86.
Escot 139.
Escou 139.
Escoubous, Val. d' 168.
—, Lac d' 168.
Escougous, Val d' 168.
Escouloubre 195.
Esera, the 184.
Espace 269.
Espade, Pic d' 169.
Espagne, Pont d' 154. 156.
Espalion 120.
Espaly 258.
Espéraza 195.
Espère 109.
Espiadet 173.
Espinabell 206.
Espingo, Lac d' 179.
Espinouse, Monts de l' 98.
Esplumous, Casc. d' 155.
Espondeilhan 269.
Esponne, Plat. d' 154.
Espugnette, Cab. d' 163.
Esquierry, Val d' 179.
Esquiou, Plaine d' 172.
Esquit, Pont d' 140.
Estables, Les 258.
Estagel 90. 197.
Estats, Pic d' 191.
Estaubé, Val d' 164.
Estax, Pic d' 191.
Estibat, Pic d' 187.
Estivaux 106.
Estom, Lac d' 157.
— Soubiran, Col & Lacs d' 157.
Estours Valley 187.
Estranguillé, the 181.
Etampes 3.
Etangs, Plan des 184.
Etroits, Les 273.
Etsaut 140.
Eugénie-les-Bains 64.
Evaux 228.
Evrunes-Mortagne 27.
Excideuil 42. 45.
Eygurande-Merlines 228. 235.
Eymet 56. 72.
Eymoutiers 42.
Eyrans-Cartelèque 32.
Eyrein 236.
Eyzies, Les 101.

Fabrègues 100.
Fabrezan 90.
Fache, Grande 156.
Facture 61.
Faisans, Ile des 125.
Fajole, La 196.
Fanges, Forêt des 195.
Fauga 138.
Faugères 100. 269.
Fauguerolles 72.
Felletin 228.
Fenestre 248.
Feneyrols 115.
Ferme du Pilat 231.
Ferrand, Puy 250.
Ferret, Cape 63. 64.
Ferrières 259.
Ferté-St. Aubin, La 34.
— Hauterive, La 213.
— Reuilly, La 35.
Feugarolles 72.
Feugerolles (chât.) 254.
Feurs 215.
Fiac 97.
Figeac 113. 262.
Figueras 204. 200.
Figuier, Cap du 125.
Finiels, Pic de 263. 264.
Firminy 254.
Firmy 119.
Fitou 196.
Fix-St. Geneys 259.
Fleurance 104.
Fleuré 9.
Florac 271.
Flotte, La 26.
Floure 90.
Foëcy 224.
Foix 189.
Fonneuve 112.
Fons 264.
Fonserannes, Locks of 94.
Fontainebleau 209.
Fontaine-Ozillac 32.
— Rouge 182.
Fontaines-Vendée 19.
Fontanat 244.
Fontarabie 125.
Fontenay-le-Comte 19.
Fontgombault 5.
Fontpédrouse 203.
Font-Romeu, Hermitage of 203.
Forez, Monts du 233. 234.
Forgevieille 39.
Formiguères 195.
Fou, Gorge de la 206.
Fouillouse, La 232.
Fouras 28.
Fourcanade, Pic 185.
Fourneaux 228.
Fournels 265. 266.
Fourtic 73.
Fraisse, Le 99.
Fraisse-Unieux 215. 254.
Fraissinet-de-Fourques 271.
Framiquel, Port de 193.
France, Hosp. de 183.
Frêche, Val de la 183.
Fréchet-Cazaux 174.
Fredet, the 253.
Freycenet-la-Tour 258.
Fromental 39.
Fromentine 33.
Fronsac (Gironde) 14.
— (Hte. Garonne) 175.
Frontenay-Rohan 23.
Frugières-le-Pin 224. 259.
Fuenterabia 125.
Fumel 103.
Furens, the 231.
Fustérouau 73.

Gabas 147.
Gabian 100.
Gabiétou, the 162.
Gabizos, Pic de 145.
Gabriac 120.
Gages 120.
Gaillac (Tarn) 118.
— (Lot) 120.
Gaillagos 145.
Gaillon 73.
Galié 175.
Gan 138.
Gannat 222. 226.
Garabit Viaduct 265.
Garbet Lac de 188.
Garde (chât.) 187.
—, Fort de la 206.

ardette, Pont de la 164.
ardies 268.
argas, Grotto of 137.175.
argilesse 38.
arin 180.
arnache, La 33.
aronne, the 15. 33. 47. 83.
arrigue, La 195.
ars, Pic du 175.
arses, Etang des 184.
artempe, the 9. 39.
ascogne, La 104.
atuzières 271.
aube, Lac & Pic de 154. 157.
auriaguet 32.
avarnie 162. 158.
—, Casc. de 162.
—, Cirque de 162.
—, Gave de 159.
—, Port de 162.
Gaz, Le 127.
Gazinet 61.
Gèdre 161.
Géla, Pic de la 165.
Gélie, La 101.
Gelise, the 72.
Genétouze, La 34.
Genolhac 264.
Gensac-la-Pallue 12.
Ger, Pic de 145.
Gerbier-de-Jonc, the 259.
Gerde 172. 173.
Gergovie, Plateau de 246.
Gers, the 103. 104.
—, Department of the 104.
Gerzat 223.
Gesse 195.
Gévaudan, Le 266.
Gien 209.
Gier, the 229.
—, Canal du 229.
Gignac 100.
Gijou, the 97.
Gilly 212.
Gimel 236.
Gimone, the 86.
Gimont-Cahuzac 86.
Ginoles 195.
Gironde 71.
—, the 58.
—, Department of the 47.
Giroux 234.
Givors 229.
— Canal 229.
Glaire, Valley of the 169.
Glanges 105.
Glère, Cirque and Col de 184.
Gorges 26.
Gorgutes, Lac de 184.
Got, Le 102.
Gouaux-de-l'Arboust 180.
Gouffre-d'Enfer, Reserv. de 231.
Goulens 103.
Goulet, Mont. du 263.
Goupey, Pic de 145.
Gourdon 109.
Gourrette 145.
Gourron, Granges de 181.
Gours-Blancs, Pic des 179.
Gourzy, the 144.
Graffouil, Casc. de 206.
Gragnague 118.
Graissessac 97. 269.
Gramat 113.
—, Causse de 113.
Grand-Brassac, Le 45.
Grande Combe 264.
— Croix, La 230.
— Côte, the 60.
Grand-Lay, the 19.
— Lieu, Lac de 33.
—, Lac 157.
— Pressigny, Le 5.
— Suchet, the 246.
Grange, Chât. de la 224.
Granges, Casc. des 253.
Granville, Trou de 101.
Graouès, Cirque des 182.
Grau de la Franqui 196.
Grave, Pointe de 58. 59.
— d'Ambarès, La 15. 33.
Gravenoire, Puy de 243.
Gregonio, Lac 185.
Grenade-sur-l'Adour 64.
Grève, La 30. 32.
Grézette (chât.) 103.
Grigny 229.
Griou, Puy 260.
Gripp 169. 173.
—, Casc. de 169.
Grisolles 77.
Grivats, Les 220.
Gros, Puy 250. 252.
Gruissan, Etang de 196.
Grum, Pic de 145.
Grust 158.
Guépie, La 115.
Guerche, La 225. 226.
Guéret 228.
Guéry, Lac de 252.
Guéthary 123.
Guétin, Le 225.
Guîtres 14.
Gujan-Mestras 62.
Gurmençon 139.
Guyenne, La 47.

Haie-Fouassière, La 26.
Halsou 69.
Haut-Brion 61.
Hautefage, Tour de 103.
Hautefort 42.
Haute-Garonne, Department of the 79.
— Loire, Department of the 254.
Hauterive (Vichy) 221.
— (Cañon du Tarn) 273.
Hautes-Pyrénées, Department of the 135.
Haute-Vienne, Department of the 40.
Hautpoul (chât.) 98.
Haya, the 125.
Haye-Descartes, La 5.
Héas 164.
—, Chap. & Val. de 164.
Hendaye 124.
Hérault, the 94. 100.
—, Department of the 100.
Herbergement, L' 27.
Hérépian 99. 100.
Héric, Gorge d' 99.
Herm 190.
His-Mane-Touille 186.
Hix 203.
Hommaize, L' 9.
Homme, Val. de l' 183.
— Mort, Tuc de l' 187.
Hôpital, L' 214. 264.
— sous-Rochefort 233.
Hospitalet, L' 192.
Hostens 62. 70.
Houle, Col de 158.
Hourat, the 144.
Hourque de Lauga, the 140.
Hourquette, Pic 141.
— d'Araillé 157.
— d'Ossoue 155. 158.
Hourtin 61.
—, Etang d' 61.
Huesca 141.
Huismes 15.
Hume, La 62.
Huriel 228.
Huttes, Anse des 58.
Hyds 227.

Ile-Bouchard 16.
— d'Elle 28.
— Savary, Chât. de l' 37.
Ille 201.
Illéou, Casc. & Lac d' 154.
Indre, the 5. 15. 35.
Irigny 229.
Irroulégny 70.
Irun 125.
Iseye, Col d' 140.

Isle, the 14. 43.
— de-Noé, L' 104.
— Jourdain, L' 86.
Ispagnac 271. 270.
Issigeac 72.
Issoire 223.
Issoudun 35.
Istres 424.
Iteuil 10.
Itsatsou, or
Itxassou 70.
Izeste 142.

Jaca 141.
Jaizquivel 125.
Jarnac 12.
Jarrie, La 23.
Jéret, Val de 154.
Job 234.
Jonas, Grottes de 251. 223.
Joncels 269.
Joncet 202.
Jonchère, La 39.
Jonchères 262.
Jonte, the 271. 274. 275. 276.
Jonzac 32.
Jordanne, the 261.
Jouan, Pic 200.
Joucou 195.
— Defile 195.
Joué-lès-Tours 15. 37.
Joze 223.
Jugols 203.
Juillan 135.
Junquera, La 204.
Juzet 178. 182.
—, Waterfall of 178.

Laas 105.
Labach, Bordes de 180.
—, Granges de 183.
Labarthe-Inard 137.
Labassa, Pic 157.
Labastide-St. Pierre 96.
— Rouairoux 98.
Labatut 127.
Labenne 65.
Laberou 140.
Labouheyre 64.
Labroquère 174.
Labruguière 97.
Lac, Cirque du 275.
Lacabarède 98.
Lacanau 61.
Lacaune 97. 98. 269.
Lacour, Val. de 250.
Lacourt 187.
Lacourtensourt 77.
Lacq 128.
Lafarge 42.
Lafox 74.
Lagrasse 90.
Laissac 120.
Lalbenque 112.
Lalinde 15.
Laluque 64.
Lamalou-les-Bains 98.
Lamativie 108.
Lamonzie-St. Martin 14.
Lamothe 62.
— Fénelon 109.
— Landeron 71.
Landes, Les (Loire Inf.) 61. 33.
—, Department of the 64.
Langeac 262.
Langogne 262.
Langon 71.
—, Le 28.
Languedoc, Le 79.
—, Canal du 80.
Lannemezan 137.
Lanoux, Lac 193. 192.
Lanuéjols 271. 276.
Laoune, Ravine of the 155.
Lapalisse 213.
Lapeyrouse 227.
Lapleau-Maussac 236.
Laquet, Col du 167.
Laqueuille 235.
Larceveau 127.
Largnac 228.
Laroque 103.
Larrau 127.
Laruns 142.
Larzac, the 268. 269.
Lassouts 120.
Lassur 192.
Latéral à la Garonne, Canal 71. 103.
— — Loire, Canal 225.
Latour 269.
Laubis, Signal des 263. 264.
Laugère 225.
Lauglanet 269.
Laurens 269.
Lautrec 97.
Laval-de-Cère 108.
Lavardac 72.
Lavaud-Franche 38. 228.
Lavaur 96.
Lavaveix-les-Mines 228.
Lavedan, Lac de 145.
Lavoûte-sur-Loire 254.
Layrac 103.
Lectoure 103.
Legal 252.
Lège 175.
Lempdes 259.
Lencloître 17.
Léon 65.
—, Etang de 65.
Lescar 128.
Lescun 140.
—, Pont de 140.
Lescure 187.
Lesparre 58. 61.
Lesponne 172.
Lespouey-Laslades 136.
Lestelle 132.
Létrade 228.
Leucate 196.
Levade, La 264.
Lexos 115.
Leyre, the 62.
Lez, the 101.
Lezan 264.
Lèze, the 188.
Lézignan (Aude) 91.
Lezoux 234.
Lhéris, Col de 173.
—, Pène de 173.
Lhers, Valley of 86.
Libourne 14.
Lieuran-Ribauté 269.
Lieusaoube, Rocher or Tour de 164.
Lignat (chât.) 227.
Lignon, the 233.
Ligré-Rivière 16.
Ligugé 10.
Limaçon, the 149.
Limagne, La 222.
Limenil 101.
Limoges 39. 9. 13.
Limoux 194.
Linxe 64.
Lioran, Le 260.
—, Puy 260.
Lis, Val. du 181.
Lisle 45.
— d'Albi 118.
Llivia 203.
Llo 203.
—, Col de 203.
Loches 37.
Lodève 100.
Logis-Neuf, Le 99.
Loire, the 3. 209. 214. 232. 254.
—, Department of the 230.
Lombers 97.
Lombrive, Grotte de 191.
Long, Pic 164.
Longages 138.
Lordat 192.
— (chât.) 191.
Lorette 230.
Lormont 15. 59.
Lorry, Pic de 141.
Lostange 97.
Lot, the 72. 103. 109. 110. 114. 118. 120. 267. 270.
—, Department of the 110.

Lot, Gorges du 267.
— et-Garonne, Department of the 73.
Lothiers 38.
Loubaresse 266.
Loudervielle 174.
Loudun 17.
Louhossoa 70.
Loupiac-St. Christophe 228.
Lourdes 133.
—, Lac de 134.
Loures 175.
Louroux-de-Bouble 227.
Louvie 142.
Lozanne 215.
Lozère, Department of the 266.
—, Mont 263.
Luant 38.
Lubersac 106.
Luc 263.
Luché 18.
Luchon 175.
—, Hosp. de 183.
Luçon 27.
Ludon 57.
Lugagnan 148.
Lugans 120.
Lugos 64.
Lunas 269.
Lunery 226.
Lurbe 139.
Lurdé, Col de 145.
Lusignan 21.
Lussac-les-Châteaux 9. 10.
Lutour, Valley of 157.
Luxé 10.
Luxey 62.
Luz 159.
—, Gorge de 158.
Luzaïde 70.
Luzech 103.
Luzenac-Garanou 191.
Lyons 216.
Lys, Cirque & Val. du 181.

Macau 57. 59.
Machecoul 33.
Mâcon 213.
Madame 194.
Madasse, Cirque de 275.
Madeleine, Mont. de la 213.
Madeloch, Tour de 200.
Magalas 269.
Magdelaine, La 96.
Magescq 65.
Magistère, La 74.
Magnabaïgt, Vallon & Plateau 147.
Magnac-Touvre 13.
— Vicq 105.
Magnette 226.
Mahomet, Pont de 185.
Maine, the 27.
Maison (Aude) 90.
Maladetta, Pic de la 184. 185.
Malause 74.
Malavaux, Les 220.
Malesherbes 209.
Malène, La 273.
Malibierne Valley 185.
Mallerouge, Col & Pic de 158.
Malons-la-Tour 106.
Malpertus, Roc de 263. 264.
Manciet 73.
Mandirac 196.
Manse, the 5.
Marais, Le 28.
Marans 28.
Marboré, Pic du 162. 163.
Marc 190.
Marcadaou, Port de 148. 156.
—, Valley of 156.
Marcadieu 136. 169.
Marcenais 14.
Marcheprime 61.
Marcillac 119.
Marcillat 227.
Marcilly-le-Pavé 233.
Marcorignan 91.
Mare, the 99. 269.
Marennes 29.
Mareuil-Gouts 13.
Margaux 57.
Margeride, Mont. de la 265.
Marieblanque, Col de 139.
Marignac-St. Béat 175
Maringues 223.
Marmagne 225. 224.
Marmande 72. 13. 64.
—, the 226.
Maronne, the 228.
Marot, Tunnel de 109.
Marouillet, Le 28.
Marquixanes 201.
Mars 209.
Marsa 195.
Marsac 116. 229. 234.
Marsan 86.
Marsous 145.
Martel 102.
—, Causse de 108.
Marthon 13.
Martres-de-Rivière 137.
— de-Veyres, Les 223.
— Tolosane 138.
Marvejols 266.
Mary, Puy 260.
Mas, Roche du 187.
— d'Azil, the 187.
— de-la-Font 274.
— de-Ponge 265.
— des-Gardies 264.
— Stes. Puelles 87.
Massanne, Forest of La 200.
Massat 187.
Massebeau (chât.) 259.
Massebiau 276.
Masseret 106.
Massiac 259.
Mataras, Casc. de 164.
Maubermé, Pic de 187.
Maubert 215.
Mauléon 27. 127.
Maulmont 221.
Maumusson, Straits of 30.
Maupas, Pic orTuc de 182.
Mauriac 228.
Maurs 262.
Mauzac 15.
Mauzé 23.
Mauzun (chât.) 234.
Maylin 180.
Mayrègne 180.
Mazamet 97.
Mazères-sur-Salat 186.
Mazet, Le 264.
Mazières (chât.) 38.
— St. Romans 23.
Médassoles, Val. de 179
Mediabat, Pont de 149.
Mediterranean, the 196.
Médoc, Le 57.
Médous 172.
Méhun-sur-Yèvre 224.
Meillant 226.
Mejan, or
Méjean, Causse 271. 273
Melle 23.
Melun 209.
Melzéard, Tour de 23.
Mende 266.
—, Causse de 267.
Mennetou-sur-Cher 35.
Mercuès 103.
— (chât.) 109.
Mercus 190.
Merdogne (chât.) 259.
Mère, the 19.
Mérens 192.
Mérial 196.
Méritzell Chapel 193.
Mers 37.
Meya, Pic 154.
Meymac 42. 236.
—, Puy de 236.
Meyrueis 276. 271.
Meyze, La 106.
Mèze 95.

Mézenc, the 258.
Mézières-en-Brenne 10.
Mézos 64.
Mialet 228.
Michot Waterfall 180.
Midaou, Ravin du 166.
Midi, Canal du 80.
— de Bigorre, Pic du 167. 173.
— d'Ossau, Pic du 147.
Midon 228.
Midou, the 64.
Midouze, the 64.
Miécaze 108. 228.
Miélan 105.
Miglos (chât.) 190.
Mignaloux-Nouaillé 9.
Milieu, Pic du 185.
Millas 201.
—, Plan de 158.
Millau 267. 275. 276.
Millevaches, Plat. de 236.
Millière, Cirque de la 275.
Milly 213.
Mimbaste 65.
Mimizan 64.
Mine, Pic de la 183.
Miouse-Rochefort, La 235.
Mir, Tour de 206.
Mirabal (chât.) 187.
Mirabeau, Salon de 251.
Miramont 72.
Mirande 105.
Mirebeau 17.
Miremont (Dordog.) 101.
—, Grotto of 101.
— (Hte. Garonne) 188.
Misson-Habas 65.
Moine, the 27.
Moines, Col and Pic des 141.
Moissac 74.
Molières 268.
Moliets 65.
Molitg 202.
Mollo 206.
Molompise 259.
Monastier, Le 258. 266.
Moncontour 17.
Moncoutant 19.
Mondarrain, Pic 70.
Monédières, the 236.
Monistrol 254.
— d'Allier 262.
Monna, Le 276.
Monné de Bagnères 172.
— de Luchon 180.
—, Soum de 153.
Monségu, Pic de 180.
Monsempron-Libos 103.
Mons-la-Trivalle 98.
Montagnac-St. Hippolyte 236.
Montagne-Noire 98.
— Verte, the 221.
Montaigu, Pic de 172.
— Vendée 27.
Montaigut 229.
— le-Blanc 223.
Montalba 205.
Montane, the 236.
Montargis 209.
Montarqué, Tuc de 180.
Montauban (Tarn-et-Gar.) 75. 112.
— (Hte. Gar.) 178.
—, Waterfall of 178.
— Ville-Bourbon 115.
— Ville-Nouvelle 115.
Montaud, Pic de 98.
Montaut-Bétharram 132.
Montbartier 77.
Montbazin 95. 100.
Montbazon 37.
Montbéas, the 188.
Montbel 263.
Mont Binet, the 139.
Montbolo 205.
Montbrison 232.
Montbrun 272.
Montcalm, the 191.
Montchal, Puy de 251.
Mont-Cornadore, Grottes du 253.
Mont-de-Marsan 64. 72.
Mont-Dore, Le 248.
Monteignet-Escurolles 223.
Monteils 115.
Montendre 32.
Montespan (chât.) 137.
Montesquieu, Rocher de 273.
Montestruc 104.
Montferrand 59. 223.
Montferrat, the 155. 164.
Montgaillard 169.
Montils-Colombier 32.
Mont Laid 145.
Montlaur 86.
Montlouis 203. 195.
Montluçon 226. 227.
Montmarault 213.
Montmirat, Col de 271.
Montmoreau 14.
Montmorillon 9.
Montné, the 180.
Monton, Puy de 223.
Montoncel, Puy de 234.
Montpaon 269.
Montpellier 100. 95.
— le-Vieux 275. 272.
Mont-Perdu, the 164.
— —, Etang du 163.
— —, Lac Glacé du 163.
Montpeyroux 223.
Montpezat 112. 137.
Mont-Pilat 231.
Montplaisir Tunnel 107.
Montpont 45.
Montrabé 118.
Montréjeau 137.
Montrichard 35.
Montricoux 115.
Montrodeix (chât.) 244.
Mont-Rognon, Puy du 246.
Montrond 215.
Monts 5.
— Maudits, the 185.
Montvalent 113.
Montvallier, Pic de 187.
Morcenx 64.
Moret 209.
Mortagne-sur-Sèvre 27.
Mosnac-St. Genis 32.
Mostuéjoux 274.
Mothe-Achard, La 20.
— St. Héraye, La 21.
Motte-Beuvron, La 34.
— Feuilly, Chât. de la 38.
Moulègre, the 262.
Moulières, Pic 185.
Moulins 209.
— sur-Yèvre 225.
Moulis (Ariège) 186.
— (Gironde) 57.
Moulleau 63.
Mounjoyo, Pas de 184.
Mourèze 100.
Mouriscot, Lac de 123.
Moussac (Charente) 10.
Moussais-la-Bataille 5.
Mousté, Pic de 140.
Mouthiers 13.
Mouton-Rothschild 57.
Moux (Aude) 90.
Mozat 222.
Mulatière, La 229.
Mulets, Col des 155.
Munia, Pic de la 165.
Murat 212. 259.
— le-Quaire 248.
— sur-Vèbre 269.
Muret 138.
Murols 253. 223.
Mussidan 45. 13.
Mycènes, Porte de 276.

Nabrigas, Grotte de 276.
Najac 115.
Nalliers 28.
Nant 268.
Nantes 26.
Napoléon, Pont 161.
Narbonne 91.
Naussac 114.
Navarosse 62.
Nay 132.

Nègre, Val 276.
Négrepelisse 115.
Négrondes 42.
Nemours 209.
Néouvieille, or
Néouvielle, Pic de 169.
Nérac 72.
Néré, or Nère, Pic de 161. 167.
Néris 227.
Nérondes 225.
Ners 264.
Nesmy 27.
Néthou, Pic de 185.
Nets, Pic de 154.
Neussargues 259.
Neuvic 45.
Neuville-de-Poitou 17.
Neuvy-Pailloux 35.
Nevers 209.
Nexon 42. 106.
Niaux 190.
Nicole 72.
Nid-de-la-Poule, the 246.
Niéras, Roch. de las 145.
Nieul-l'Espoir 9.
Nîmes 265.
Niort (Deux-Sèvres) 21. 18. 19.
— (Pyr.) 196.
— Defile 196.
— & La Rochelle Canal 28.
Nissan 93.
Nive, the 66. 70. 123.
Nivelle, the 123. 124.
Niversac 101. 107.
Nizan 71.
Nizas 100.
Noailles 108.
Noalhat 222.
Nogaro 73.
Nohant 37.
Nohic 96.
Noir, Causse 275.
—, Lac (Pyr.) 154. 168.
Noirétable 233.
Noirlac, Abbey of 226.
Noirmoutier 33.
—, Ile de 33.
Noirterre 18.
Nolhac 258.
Nontron 13.
Nore, Pic de 98.
Notre-Dame-de-Capimont 99.
— — de-Consolation 200.
— — de-Marceille 194.
— — des-Neiges, Trappe de 263.
Nouan-le-Fuzelier 34.
Nouvelle, La 196. 91.
Nouvre, Defile of the 98.
Noyant 211.
Nozac 109.
Nozières 264. 271.
Nuces 119.
Nueil-les-Aubiers 27.

Objat 106.
Ogeu 139.
Oiron 17.
Oiseaux, Ile des 64.
Olargues 98.
Oléron, Ile d' 30.
Olette 202.
—, Les Graus d' 203.
Olliergues 234.
Olonne 20.
Oloron 139. 127.
—, Gave d' 127.
Oncet, Lac d' 167. 173.
Onglous, Les 96.
Onzain 4.
Oo 179.
—, Lac d' 179.
—, Port d' 179.
—, Portillon d' 180.
Opme, Gorge d' 246.
Orb, the 93. 99. 269.
Orbieu, the 91.
Orcival 235.
Ordincède, Cab. d' 173.
Ordizan 169.
Orgueil 96. 103.
Orhy, Pic d' 127.
Orléans 3.
Orrédon, Lac d' 168.
Orthevielle 127.
Orthez 128.
Ossau, Gave & Vallée d' 142. 146.
—, Pic du Midi d' 147
Ossès 70. 69.
Ossoue, Glac. d' 155.
—, Pas des Oulettes d' 164.
— Valley 164.
Ossun 135.
Oueil Valley 180.
Oulettes, Col des 155.
—, Bassin, Casc., & Pas des 158.
Oullins 229.
Ourdinse, Cirque d' 140.
Oust 187.
Ozon-Lanespède 136.

Pacaudière, La 214.
Padirac, Gouffre de 113.
Paillole 173.
Paladus 234.
Palairac 90.
Palalda 205.
Palas, Pic 148.
Palau-del-Vidre 199.
Pale, Col de la 206.
Palhères 263.
Paliès, Ravine of Les 275.
Pallet, Le 26.
Palluau-St. Genou 37.
Palme, Etang de la 196.
Pambassibé, the 144.
Pamiers 189. 187.
Pampeluna 70.
Pamproux 21.
Panchot 118.
Panticosa 148. 156.
Paoul, Col de 186.
Paray-le-Monial 212.
Parempuyre 57. 59.
Parentis 64.
—, Lake of 62.
Pariou, Puy de 246.
Parisien, Casc. du 183.
Parnac 103.
Parsac 228.
Parthenay 18. 9. 27.
Pasages 125.
Pas-de-Jeu 17.
— du-Riot, Reserv. de 231.
Pau 128.
—, Gave de 65. 127. 129.
Pauillac 57. 59.
Paulhac (chât.) 224.
Paulhaguet 224. 259.
Paulhan 95. 100.
Paulois (chât.) 30.
Pavin, Lac 251.
Paziols 90.
Pêcher, Source du 271.
Pédroux, Pics 193.
Péguère, Pic 155.
Peña-Blanca 183.
—, Springs of 183. 184.
— Collarada 141.
Pène-Nère, the 158.
Penne (Tarn) 72. 103. 115.
Pérat, Le 13.
Perche, Col de la 203.
Perdigat (chât.) 101.
Perdighero, Pic 180.
Perdrix, Crêt de la 232.
Périgord, Le 43.
Périgueux 43.
Perjuret, Col de 271.
Perpignan 197.
Persac 10.
Perthus, Col du 204.
Pertuiset 254.
Pessac 61.
Petit-Suchet, Puy du 246.
Pexiora 87.
Peyrade, the 164.
Peyraoute, Mont. de 153.
—, Cab. de 157.
Peyraud 238.

Peyre 268.
—, La 172.
—, Col de la 192.
Peyreblanque, Col de 187.
Peyreget, Pic de 147.
Peyrehorade 127.
Peyrelade, Rocher and Ruines de 275.
Peyreleau 275. 274.
Peyresourde, Col de 174.
Pézenas 94. 95.
Pezens 87.
Pibrac 86.
Picade, Port de la 183.
Pierre-Bénite 229.
— Buffière 105.
Pierrefitte-Nestalas 149.
Pierre-Lis Defile 195.
— sur-Haute, the 234. 233. 215.
Pierroton 61.
Pigeol, Cab. de 190.
Pigeon, Le 102.
Pilat, Mont 231.
Pilate, Echelles de 172.
Piméné, the 164.
—, Col de 164.
Pinsaguel 188.
Pins-Justaret 188.
Piquade, Port de la 183.
Pique, Pic de la 183.
— Longue, the 155.
Pise, La 264.
Pissos 64.
Pla de la Gole 156.
Plaïsance 274.
Planès 203.
Planiol, Rocher du 273.
Plassac 32.
Plat-à-Barbe, Casc. du 248. 251.
Plessis (châ.) 38.
Podensac 70.
Poey 128.
Poitiers 5.
Poitou 5.
Polignac 258.
Polminhac 261.
Pomas 194.
Pombie, Col de 147.
Pompadour 106.
Pons 32.
Pontcharra-St. Forgeux 215.
Pont d'Arroucat 161.
— de-Céret 204.
— de-Dore 234.
— de-Kercabanac 187.
— de-la-Bidouze 127.
— de-la-Crabe 159.
— de-la-Hieladère 159.
— de-l'Arran 127.
— de-Lignon 254.
Pont-de-Montvert 264. 271.
— de-Pescadère 159.
— des-Demoiselles 138.
— de-Tarassac 99.
— du-Casse 103.
— du-Château 234.
— du-Loup 206.
Pontgibaud 235.
Pontis Ravine 166.
Pontmort 222.
Pont-Rousseau 33.
— Salomon 237.
Porcherie, La 106.
Port, Le 187.
Porta 193.
Portalec 141.
Portalet, the 140.
Port-Bou 200.
— Boulet 16.
— de-Gagnac 108.
— de-Piles 5. 17.
— de-Vénasque 183.
— —, Hosp. du 183.
— —, Val du 183.
Porté 193.
Portel 90.
Portets 70.
Portet-St. Simon 138. 188.
Portillon, Lac du 180.
Port-Joinville 34.
— St. Père 33.
— Ste. Marie 72.
— Vendres 200.
Posets, Pic 186.
Poueyferré 134.
Poueytrémous, or Poueytrenous, Vallon de 156.
Pougnadoires, Les 273.
Pouilly-sous-Charlieu 213.
Poujastou, the 182.
Poujol, Le 98. 99.
Poujols 272.
Pouméro, Pic 185.
Pounchet, Grotte du 190.
Pournel, Le 113.
Pourtalet, Col du 148.
Pourtère, Escal. de la 156.
Pouy 64.
Pouylané, Cab. de 184.
Pouzac 169.
Pouzauges 19.
Pradel, Col d'El 192. 196.
Prades 201.
Pragon, Col 206.
Pranadal 260.
Prat-et-Bonrepaux 186.
Prats-de-Mollo 206.
Pré Delbos, the 260.
— du-Barbier, Casc. du 252.
Pregnoux 248.
Preignac 71.
Prends-t'y-Garde 252.
— Soulayran 264.
Preste, La 206.
— les-Bains, La 206.
Preuilly 5.
Prévenchères 263.
Prune-au-Pot (châ.) 38.
Prunget (châ.) 38.
Puigmal, the 203.
Pujo 105.
Puy, Le 254.
Puybrun 107.
Puycerda 203. 193.
Puy-de-Dôme, Department of the 238.
—, the 245. 246.
— d'Issolu 107.
— Gros, the 248. 250.
— Guillaume 222.
— l'Evêque 103.
Puymorens, Col de 193.
Puyôo 65. 127.
Pyrenees, the 121.
— (Basses) 129.
— (Hautes) 135.
— Orientales, Department of the 197.

Quairats, Pic 179.
Quatre-Routes 107.
Quejeda de Pundillos 156.
Quercy, Le 110.
Querigueña, Col, Gorge, & Lac de 185.
Quéroy-Pranzac, Le 13.
Queureilh 252.
—, Casc. de 252.
Queyrac 58.
Quézac 271.
Quezaguet 267.
Quillan 195.
Quillane, La 195.
Quissac 264.

Rabastens-de-Bigorre 105.
— (Tarn) 118.
Rambert-Preignan 104.
Ramond, Pic de 164.
Ramono, the 185.
Rance, the 262.
Rancié, Mont. de 190.
Randais Hut 202.
Randan (châ.) 221.
Ravi, Pont de 181.
Razac 45.
Ré, Ile de 26.
Réalville 112.
Rebenty, Val. du 192. 195.

Recoules 120.
Régny 214.
Reine-Hortense, Grange de la 153.
Renardière, La 215.
Rencluse, the 184.
Rennes-les-Bains 194.
Renteria 125.
Réole, La 71.
Repentie, La 26.
Retjons-Lugaut 72.
Retournac 254.
Reuilly 35.
Revel (Tarn) 87.
Rhone, the 216.
Rhune, the 124.
Ria 202.
Ribauté (chât.) 269.
Ribérac 13. 45.
Ribereta Hut 185.
Ricamarie, La 253.
Richelieu 16.
Richemont (chât.) 45.
Rieumajou 98.
Rieupregoun 187.
Riez, Pic de 191.
Rigale, Tour de la 13.
Rigolet-Haut & Bas 251.
Riols 98.
Riom 222.
Rion 64.
Riotord 237.
Riou, Col de 158.
Rioulet Ravine 166.
Riou-Sec, the 275.
Ris-Châteldon 221.
Riscle 64. 73.
Rivarennes 15.
Rive-de-Gier 230.
Rivedoux 26.
Rivesaltes 196.
Rivière (Adour) 65.
— (Cañon du Tarn) 274.
Roaillan 71.
Roanne 214.
Robine Canal 196.
Roc de France 206.
Rocamadour 113.
Rochebaron (chât.) 254.
Roche-Beaucourt, La 13.
Rocheblave (chât.) 272.
Rochechouart 13.
Roche-Clermault, La 17.
Rochefort 28. 23. 235.
Rochefoucauld, La 13.
Rochelle, La 23. 28.
Roche-Posay, La 5.
Rocherolles (chât.) 38.
Roche-Sanadoire, the 252.
— sur-Yon, La 19. 27. 34.
Rochetaillée 231.
Roche-Tuilière, the 252.
— Vendeix, the 248.
Rodez 119. 97.
Roland, Brèche de 162. 163.
Romorantin 35.
Ronce-les-Bains 32.
Roncevaux 70. 69.
Roque-Bouillac, La (chât.) 118.
Roquebrou, La 108.
Roquefort 268.
— (chât.) 138.
— (Landes) 72.
Roquelaure (chât.) 120.
Roque-Ste. Marguerite, La 276.
Roques, Tunnel de 109.
— Altes 275.
Roquetaillade (chât.) 71.
Rosiers-d'Egletons 236.
Rossignolet, Casc. du 252.
Roubinarié 97.
Rouergue, Le 119.
Rouffiac 271.
Rougeac 259.
Rouget, Le (Cantal) 262.
Rouillé 21.
Roujan-Neffiès 100.
Roumazière-Loubert 13.
Roumigas, Valley of 148.
Rouquettes, Cirque des 275.
Rouskino 199.
Rousseillio 199.
Roussillon, Le 196.
Royan 59. 32.
Royat 242. 235.
Rozier, Le 274.
Roziers-sur-Sioule, Les 235.
Ruchard, Camp du 15.
Ruelle 13.
Ruffec 10. 23.
Ruffin, Roche 21.
Ruines 265.

Sabart, Mont. de 190.
Sables-d'Olonne, Les 20.
Sablière, La 274.
Sablon, Le 229.
Sabres 64.
Sacourville 181.
Sacrous, Pic 184.
Sagnes, Col de 260.
Saignes-Ydes 228.
Saillagouse 203.
Saillant, Pic 175.
Saillat-Chassenon 13.
Saillens 192.
Sail-les-Bains 213.
— sous-Couzan 233.
Saincaize 209. 225.
St. Affrique 269.
St. Agnan 212.
St. Agne 138.
St. Aignan 35.
St. Alban 214.
— —, Roc de 268.
St. Alby 97.
St. Amand, Côte 221.
— — de-Boixe 10.
St. Amans-Soult 98.
St. Amant-de-Graves 12.
— — Mont-Rond 226. 225.
St. André-de-Cubzac 32.
St. Antoine Port-Ste. Foy 14.
St. Antonin 115.
St. Astier 45.
St. Aventin 178.
St. Barthélemy, Pic 192
St. Béat 175.
St. Benoist 15.
St. Benoît 9. 10.
St. Bertrand-de-Cominges 174.
St. Bonnet (Puy-de-Dôme) 223.
— — de-Rochefort 213. 226.
— — le-Château 232.
St. Céré 107.
St. Cerneuf 234.
St. Cernin 228.
St. Chamond 230.
St. Chély-d'Apcher 266.
— — du-Tarn 273.
St. Chinian 95. 98.
St. Christau 139.
St. Christoly 59.
St. Christophe (Aveyron 119.
St. Ciers-Lalande 32. 59
St. Cirq-la-Popie 114.
St. Clair 109.
— —, Mont 96.
St. Côme 120.
St. Cyprien 102.
St. Cyr-de-Favières 215
— — en-Val 34
St. Denis-Catus 109.
— — de-Piles 14.
— — près-Martel 107. 10
St. Désiré 38.
St. Didier-la-Séauve 23
St. Elix 138.
St. Eloy 227.
St. Emilion 14.
St. Erval 260.
St. Estèphe 57. 59.
St. Etienne (Loire) 2
— — d'Albagnan 98.
— — de Baïgorry 70.
— — de-Tulmont 115.
— — du-Valdonnès 2
St. Féliu-d'Amont 201
— — d'Aval 201.

St. Félix 87.
St. Ferréol, Bassin de 87.
St. Florent (Cher) 35. 225.
St. Flour 265.
St. Front 102.
St. Galmier 215.
St. Gaudens 137.
St. Gaultier 10.
St. Géniès 264.
St. Géniez-d'Olt 267.
St. Genou 37.
St. Georges d'Aurac 224. 259.
— — de-Didonne 60. 59.
— — Defile 195.
— — de-Luzençon 268.
— — du-Bois 23.
— — en-Couzan 233.
St. Géours 65.
St. Gérand-le-Puy 213.
St. Germain-au-Mont-d'Or 215.
— — des-Fossés 213. 226.
— — d'Esteuil 58.
— — Lembron 224.
— — les-Belles 105.
— — l'Espinasse 214.
St. Germé 64.
St. Gervais-Ville 99. 269.
St. Géry 114.
St. Gilles-sur-Vie 34.
St. Girons 186.
St. Guilhem-le-Désert 100.
St. Hilaire (Aude) 194.
— — (Lot-et-Gar.) 73.
— — (Cévennes) 264.
— —, Chapel of 274.
St. Illide 228.
St. Jacques-des-Blats 260.
St. Jean-d'Angély 23.
— — de-Balme, Hermit. of 275.
— — de-Bleymard 263.
— — de-Luz 123.
— — de-Rives 96.
— — de-Védas 100.
— — de-Verges 189.
— — du-Bruel 268. 276.
— — du-Tournel 263.
— — et-St. Paul 269.
— — le-Comtal 104.
— — Pied-de-Port 70. 69. 127.
— — Pla-de-Cors 204.
St. Jodard 215.
St. Jory 77.
St. Jouin-de-Marnes 17.
St. Julien (Hte. Gar.) 59.
— — (Hte. Vienne) 106.
— — des-Chazes 262.
— — St. Elix 138.
St. Junien 13.
St. Justin 167.
St. Just-près-Chomelix 258.
— — St. Rambert 215.
— — sur-Loire 215. 232.
St. Laurent-de-Cerdans 206.
— — de-la-Cabrerisse 90.
— — de-la-Prée 28.
— — d'Olt 267.
— — les-Bains 263.
— — St. Julien 57.
— — St. Paul 137.
St. Léonard 42.
St. Lizier 186.
St. Loubès 15.
St. Louis, Col de 195.
St. Loup-sur-Thouet 18.
St. Macaire 71.
St. Maixent (Sèvre-Niortaise) 21.
— — sur-Vie 34.
St. Marcel 38.
— — lès-Annonay 237.
St. Marcelin 274.
St. Mariens 32. 59.
St. Mart 242.
St. Martin (Gironde) 32.
— — de-Bouillac 118.
— — de-Canigou 202.
— — de-Ré 26.
— — d'Estréaux 213.
— — de-Taissac 195.
— — Labouval 114.
St. Martory 137.
St. Maurice-Châteauneuf 213.
St. Médard 45.
St. Médard 45.
— — d'Eyrans 70.
St. Même 12.
St. Menoux 212.
St. Mesmin-le-Vieux 19.
St. Michel-de-Cuxa 201.
— — sur-Charente 12.
St. Miquel, Hermit. of 275.
St. Nectaire 223. 253.
St. Nicolas-de-la-Balerme 74.
St. Ours-les-Roches 235.
St. Palais 127. 70.
St. Pal-St. Romain 237.
St. Papoul 87.
St. Pardoux-la-Rivière 13. 45.
St. Pargoire 100.
St. Paul, Prieuré de 172.
— — Damiatte 97.
— — d'Oueil 180. 181.
— — lès-Dax 65.
— — St. Antoine 190.
St. Paulien 258.
St. Pé 133.
St. Pierre-d'Aurillac 71.
— — de-Chignac 107.
— — de-Rhèdes 99.
— — des-Corps 4. 5. 35.
— — d'Oléron 30.
— — le-Moûtier 209.
St. Pons-de-Thomières 98. 97.
St. Pourçain-sur-Sioule 213.
St. Préjet-du-Tarn 274.
St. Rambert-d'Albon 238.
— — sur-Loire 215.
St. Remy 222.
— — sur-Durolle 233. 234.
St. Romain-de-Gier 229.
— — de-Popey 215.
— — le-Puy 232.
St. Rome-de-Cernon 268.
St. Sauves 247.
St. Sauveur (Pyr.) 160. 206.
— —, Gorge de 161.
— — (Ile d'Yeu) 34.
— — de-Peyre 266.
— — des-Pourcils 276.
— — en-Rue 237.
St. Savin (Htes. Pyr.) 149.
— — (Indre) 9.
St. Savinien-sur-Charente 30.
St. Saviol 10.
St. Sébastien 39.
St. Sernin 187.
St. Seurin 32.
St. Sever 64.
St. Sorlin-Milly 213.
St. Sulpice (Tarn) 96. 118.
— — d'Izon 15.
— — Laurière 9. 39. 229.
St. Symphorien 62. 71.
St. Thurin 233.
St. Vaury 229.
St. Véran 268.
St. Victor-la-Rivière 253.
— — sur-Loire 215.
— — Thizy 214.
St. Vincent (Landes) 65.
— — (Hte. Loire) 254.
— — Bézenac 102.
— — de-Paul 64.
St. Vivien 58.
St. Yorre 221.
St. Yrieix 106. 45.
Ste. Bazeille 71.
Ste. Cécile-d'Andorge 264.
Ste. Christie 104.
Ste. Colombe (Aude) 195.
Ste. Enimie 272. 270.
Ste. Eulalie 120.
Ste. Feyre 228.

ste. Flaive 20.
Ste. Foy-la-Grande 14.
Ste. Hélène 263.
Ste. Léocadie 208.
Ste. Livrade 103.
Ste. Lizaigne 35.
Ste. Lucie 196.
Ste. Marie (Campan Valley) 169. 173. 175.
— — (châl.) 159.
Ste. Maure 5.
Ste. Néomaye 21.
Ste. Pazanne 33.
Saintes 30. 13.
Saison, the 127.
Salat, the 186.
Salbris 34.
Salces 196.
Saldeu, Port de 193.
Saléchan 175.
Saleix, Port de 188.
Salent, Cab. de 158.
Salers 228.
Salgas 271.
Salies-de-Béarn 127.
— du-Salat 186.
Sallanques, Pic Las 185.
Sallent 148.
Salles-Adour 169.
— Courbatier 114.
— la-Source 119.
Salvetat, La 98.
Sames 127.
Sancoins 225.
Sancy, Puy de 243. 250.
Sanguinet 62.
San Sebastian 126.
Santa-Cristina 141.
Sanxay 21.
Saône, the 216.
Saoubiste, Pic de 147.
Saousat, Lac de 179. 180.
Saragossa 141.
Sarlat 102.
Sarlève-Cournon 223.
Sarradets, Ech. des 162.
— Pastures 163.
— Spring 163.
—, Pic des 162.
Sarrance 140.
Sarrancolin 174.
Sarret, Grange du 260.
Sassis 158.
Saubusse 65.
Saucède, Col de 145.
Sauclières 268.
Saujon 32.
Sauldre, La 34.
—, Canal de la 34.
Saumail, Col du 98.
Saumur 18.
Saurat 187.
Saussé, Cab. de 158.
Saut de la Virole 42.
— du-Loup, Le 224. 252
Sauternes 71.
Sauve, La 56.
Sauvegarde, Pic de 183.
Sauveterre (Lot-et-Garonne) 102.
— (Cañon of the Tarn) 270.
—, Causse de 266. 270. 273.
— de-Béarn 127.
Save, the 86.
Savennes-St. Etienne 228.
Saverdun 188.
Savigny-en-Septaine 225.
Sazos 158.
Sèbe, La 157.
Sebers, Pont de 140.
Séculéjo, Lac de 179.
Sède, La 157.
Ségala 87.
Sègre, Pic de 203.
Seil de la Baque 179.
Seix 187.
Selles-sur-Cher 35.
Sem 190.
Semalens 97.
Semence, the 212.
Sencours, Hourque de 167.
—, Gorge de 173.
Sept-Fonts 212.
— Ponts 112.
Serdinya 202.
Séreyrède, Col de 276.
Sérignan 94.
Serpent, Casc. du 250.
Serrat de Marialles 202.
— d'en-Merle 205.
Serre, Col de la 181.
Sers 161.
—, Cirque de 167.
Sésartigues, Forêt de 182.
Seudre, the 32.
Seugne, the 32.
Sévérac, Causse de 267.
— le-Château 120. 267.
Sèvre-Nantaise, the 19. 26.
— Niortaise 18. 19. 21. 28.
Seyches 72.
Sia, Pont de 161.
Sichon, the 220.
Sidobre, the 97.
Sijean 91.
Sindères 64.
Singles 228.
Siorac 102.
Sioule, the 223. 226. 235.
Siradan 175.
Sobe, Col de 148.
Sobrets 73.
Socoa, Headland of 123.
Sode 182.
Solage, Casc. de 182.
Soler, Le 201.
Solférino 64.
—, Chap. de 159.
Solignac-le-Vigen 105.
Sologne, La 34.
Somport, Le 141.
Sorèze 87.
Soturac-Touzac 103.
Soubie 45.
Soubiron 142.
Soucy, Pas-de 274.
Soudeilles 236.
Soueix 187.
Souillac 109. 102.
Soulac-les-Bains 58.
Soularac, Pic de 192.
Soullans 34.
Soulom 158.
Soulor, Col de 145.
Soum-de-la-Lanne 148.
Sourde, the 274.
Soussans 57.
Soustons 65.
Souterraine, La 39.
Souvigny 211. 212.
Spalung 141.
Spijoles, Pic de 179.
Splumouse, Casc. de 155.
Suberlaché 140.
Sublime, Point 274.
Subra, Cab. de 191.
Sumène, the 228.
Superbagnères 181.
Surgères 23.
Sury-le-Comtal 232.
Suzon, Col de 147.
—, Pont 140.

Tache, Puy de la 252.
Taillebourg 30. 23.
Taillon, the 162.
—, Col du 163.
Talais 58.
Talizat 265.
Tamaris 264.
Tamboine 252.
Tanus 97.
Tarare 215.
Tarascon 190.
Tarbes 135. 105.
Tardes, Viaduc de la 228.
Tardets 127.
Tardoire, the 13.
Tarn, the 74. 96. 97. 115. 116. 264.
—, Cañon du 271. 273.
—, Department of the 116.
—, Gorges du 271.
— et-Garonne, Department of the 75.

Tarnesque 267.
Tarnon, the 271.
Tartaret, the 253.
Tartas 64.
Tauch, Mont. de 90.
Taussac, Plateau of 99.
Taussat 61.
Tausse, Pic de la 203.
Tech, the 199. 204. 206.
—, Le 206.
Teich, Le 62.
Tercis 65.
Terrasse, La 232. 258.
Terrasson 107.
Terreaux-Verosvres, Les 212.
Terre-Noire 230.
Tessonnières 116.
Teste, La 62.
Tet, the 197.
Thau, Etang de 96.
Thédirac-Peyrilles 109.
Theillay 34.
Théols, the 35.
Thermes 73.
Thézan 90.
Thiers 233.
Thiézac 260.
Thiviers 42. 13.
Thizy 214.
Thoré, the 97.
Thouars 18.
Thouet, the 18.
Three Sisters, the 164.
Thués, Bains de 203.
Thuès-de-Llar 203.
Tiffauges 27.
Tillet, Col du 173.
Tirtaine, the 243.
Tocane-St. Apre 45.
Toirac 114.
Tonnay-Charente 30.
Tonneins 72. 103.
Torfou-Tiffauges 27.
Toro, Trou du 184.
Tort, Lac 192.
Tortes, Col de 145.
Toue, Cab. de 167. 173.

Toulouse 78.
Academies 81. 84.
Allée St. Michel 84.
Allées Lafayette 80.
Bassin de l'Embouch. 83.
Boulingrin 84.
Canal de Brienne 83.
— du Midi 80.
Cathedral of St. Etienne 84.
Capitole 80.
Chap. de l'Inquis. 84.
Château d'Eau 83.

Toulouse:
Church of La Dalbade 83.
— — La Daurade 82.
— — the Jacobins 82.
— — Notre-Dame-la-Blanche 83.
— — St. Etienne 84.
— — St. Saturnin, or
— — St. Sernin 81.
Collège St. Raymond 82.
Donjon 81.
Ecole des Beaux-Arts 83.
Eglise des Cordeliers 82.
— du Taur 81.
Faculty of Medicine 84.
— — Science 84.
Grand-Rond 84.
Hospice St. Joseph-de-la-Grave 83.
Hôtel d'Assezat 83.
— de Bernuy 82.
— — Clary 83.
— — Fleyres 84.
— — Ville 80.
— Dieu-St. Jacques 83.
— Felzins 83.
— Lasbordes 84.
— St. Jean 83.
Jardin des Plantes 84.
— Royal 84.
Lycée 82.
Maison de Pierre 83.
Moulin du Bazacle 83.
— du Château 83.
Musée des Beaux-Arts 85.
Museum of Industrial Art and Antiquities 82.
— of Natural Hist. 84.
Obelisk 80.
Observatory 80.
Palais de Justice 84.
Place du Capitole 80
— du Salin 84.
— Lafayette 80.
Pont Neuf 83.
Protestant Church 82.
Railway Stations 78.
Rue d'Als.-Lor. 80.
Statue of Cujas 84.
— of Riquet 80.
Théâtre du Capitole 81.
Town Library 82.
Veterinary College 80.
Tour, the 162.
— de-Carol, La 193.
— de-Millery, La 229.

Tourmalet, Col and Pic du 169.
Tournabout, Pont de 167.
Tournay (Htes. Pyr.) 136.
Tournefort, Aub. de 173.
Tournemire 268.
Tournoël (chât.) 223.
Tournon-St. Martin 5.
Tours 4.
Tracens, Lac de 168.
Tramesaygues 169.
Trèbes 90.
Trébons 181.
Trégon, Casc. de 182.
Treignat 228.
Tremblade, La 32.
Trémolat 15.
Trémouille, La 9.
Trentels-Ladignac 103.
Trèves 276.
— Burel 230.
Tricherie, La 5.
Trillers, Les 226.
Trimouille, La 9.
Trois-Couronnes 125.
— Dents, Pic des 232.
— Ponts, Les 268.
Trompeloup 59.
Tronget 212.
Troumouse, Cirque and Pic de 164. 165.
Truel, Le 276.
Truyère, the 265.
Tuchan 90.
Tude, the 14.
Tugéras-Chartuzac 32.
Tulle 236.
Tuquerouye, Ech., Borne, and Brèche de 163.
Turenne 107.
Turmes Hut 185.
Turmon, Gouffre de 184.

Urçay 226.
Urcuit 127.
Urdos 141.
—, Fort d' 140.
—, Port d' 141.
Urets, Port d' 187.
Urrugne 124.
Urt 127.
Ussac 106.
Ussat-les-Bains 191.
Ussel 42. 236.
Usson 195.
Ustaritz 69.
Uza 64.
Uzerche 106.
Uzious, Col and Lac d' 145.
Uzore, Mont d' 233.

Valbenoîte 231.
Valbonne 200.

Valcarlos 70.
Valençay 35.
Valence-d'Agen 74.
Valeyrac 59.
Vallères 15.
Vallespir, the 205.
Vallon 226.
Vals (chât.) 228.
Vanc 119.
Varennes-sur-Allier 213. 212.
Varetz 106.
Varilhes 189.
Vars 10.
Vassivières 251.
Vauclaire, Convent of 45.
Vauriat 235.
Vayrac 107.
Vayres 15.
Veauce (chât.) 227.
Vébron 271.
Velay 254.
Velluire 19. 28.
Vénasque 185.
—, Hosp. & Port de 183.
—, Bains de 185.
Vendée, La 19. 27.
—, the 28.
Vendes 228.
Vendranges-St. Priest 215.
Venerque-le-Vernet 188.
Vensac 58.
Verdelais 71.
Verdon, Le 58.
Vernaison 229.
Vernay, Pont de 18.
Vernazobres, the 98.
Vernet, Le 201.
— d'Ariège, Le 189.
Vernière, Casc. de la 248. 251.
Verniolle 189.
Vers 114.
Versannes 101.
Vert, Lac 182.
Verteuil 58.
Vertolaye 234.
Vertou 26.
Verzeille 194.
Vesone, Tour 101.
Vézac 102.
Vézenobres 264.
Vézère, the 42. 101. 106. 107.
Viam 42.
Vianne 72.
Vias 95. 94.
Viaur, the 97.
Vic 187.
Vicdessos 190.
Vic-en-Bigorre 64. 105.
— le-Comte 223.
— sur-Cère 261.
Vichy 217.
Vie, the 34.
Vieilleville 229.
Vielle-Adour 169.
Vielmur-sur-Agout 97.
Vienne, the 5. 9. 13. 15. 42. 105.
Vierzon 34. 224.
Viescamp-sous-Jallès 108. 262.
Vieux-Boucau 66.
— Poitiers 5.
Vigan, Le 268. 276.
Vigen, Le 105.
Vigeois 106.
Vignemale, the 155. 164.
—, Col & Oulettes du 155.
Vignes, Les 274.
Vignole 193.
Vignols-St. Solve 106.
Villandraut 71.
Villanua 141.
Villard-Salelles, Le 266.
Villaret 274.
Villars 232. 244.
Villecelle 99.
Villecomtal-sur-Arros 105.
Villedaigne 91.
Villedieu, La 75.
Villefort 263.
Villefranche (Pyr. Orient.) 201.
— d'Allier 212. 225.
Villefranche-de-Belvès 102.
— de-Conflent 202.
— de-Lauraguais 86.
— de-Rouergue 114.
— sur-Cher 35.
Villefranque 69.
Villemagne 99.
Villemur 96.
Villenave (H. Pyr.) 161.
— d'Ornon 70.
Villeneuve (Aveyron) 114.
— la-Comtesse 23.
— lès-Béziers 95.
— sur-Allier 209.
— sur-Lot 72. 103.
Villenouvelle 86.
Villeperdue 5.
Villerouge-de-Terménès 90.
Villeveyrac 100.
Villiers-Vouillé 27.
Vinça 201.
Vincou, the 9.
Vindrac 115.
Violent, Puy 260.
Viscos, Pic de 158.
Viviez 118.
Vivonne 10.
Vix 28.
Vizezy, the 232.
Vococour (chât.) 42.
Volvic 223. 235.
Vonne, the 21.
Vorey 254.
Vouille 27.
Voultegon 27.
Vouvant 19.
Vouzon 34.

Ychoux 64.
Ydes 228.
Yeu, Ile d' 33.
Yèvre, the 224.
Yon, the 19.
Yssac-la-Tourette 223.
Yssingeaux 254.
Ytrac 261.

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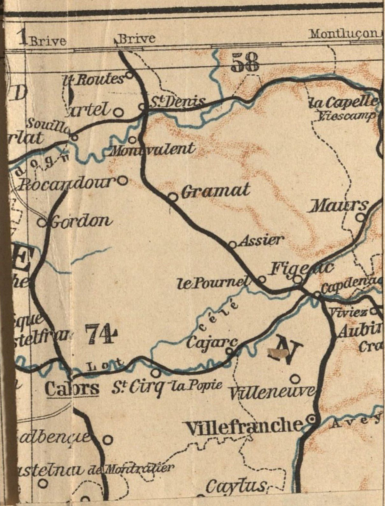
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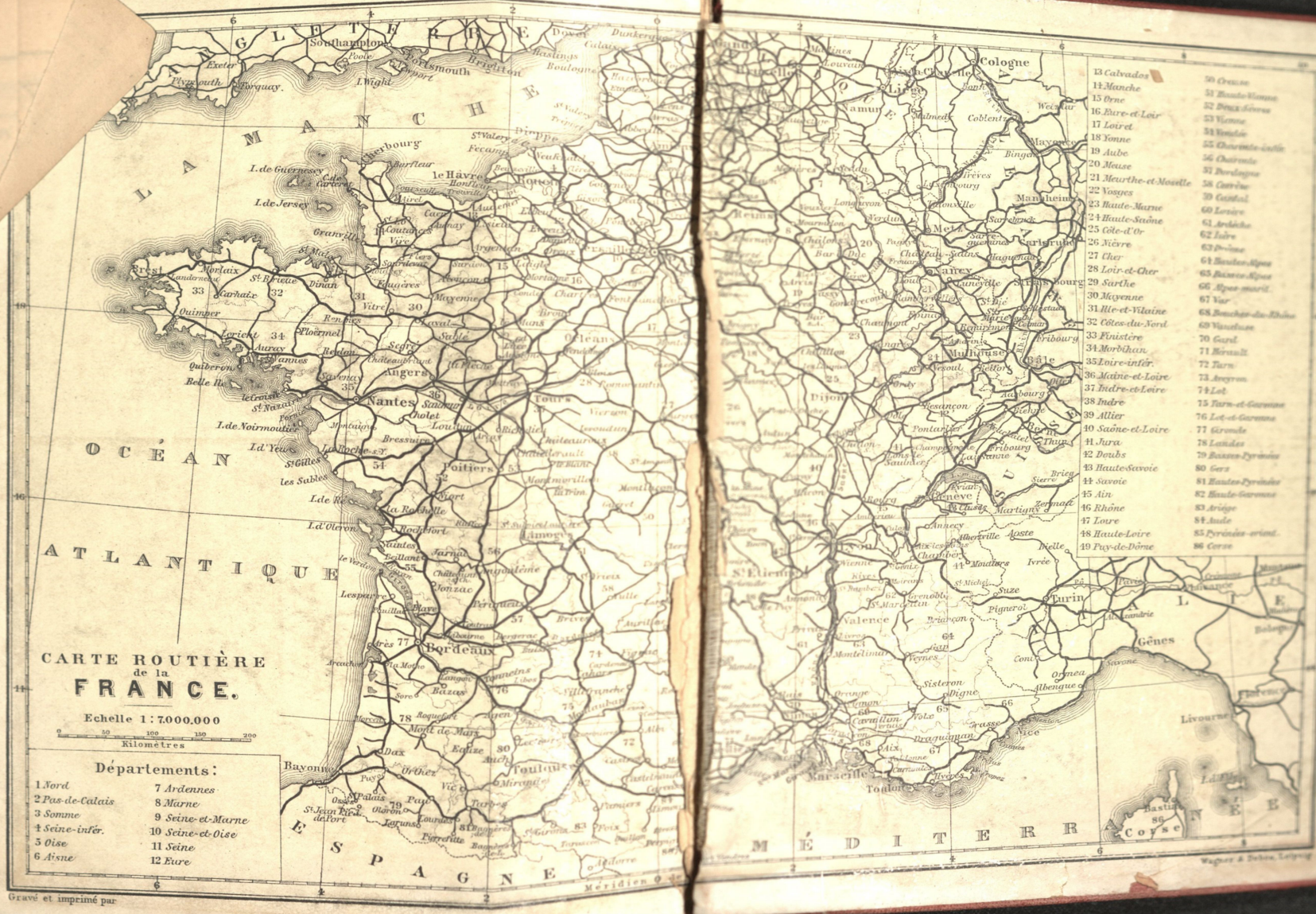
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45 Ain
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