

## BOULOGNE TO AMIENS

queror; Hugh of Vermandois, brother to the King of France; Stephen of Blois; Raymond of Toulouse; Robert of Flanders, he who was called the "Sword and Lance of the Christians"; and, lastly, Tancred the chivalrous, the very embodiment of the spirit of the crusaders—and a "very perfect, gentle knight."

For nearly two hundred years the English ruled Abbeville. When, in 1272, Eleanor of Castile was married to Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I., the town was included in the estates which she brought to England as her dowry; and being near the sea coast, and consequently within easy reach of England, its new lords were able to retain their hold upon the city even after the disastrous close of the Hundred Years' War had given almost every English conquest back to France. Towards the end of the fifteenth century it fell into the hands of the Burgundian party, but the French crown finally reclaimed it in 1477. Since that time it has twice seen an international alliance concluded within its gates. In 1514, Anne of Brittany, the wife of Louis XII.—"Pater Patria"—died without having an heir in the direct line, and her husband, unwilling that the crown should go to François d'Angoulême, determined to take another wife, and made advances to Henry VIII.