



at Château-Thierry on June 1, 1918.

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bridge had been blown up, and hundreds of men had been hurried into eternity. By means of pontoon however, was saved by the American machine gunners. In sheltered spots they commanded all the

damaged that nothing can ever restore their vanished glory. On the old foundations of the rest of the town a new one may be built; but the former things are passed away, and cannot live again. Cruelly and relentlessly they have smitten the French by defacing one of the most sacred monuments of their religion and some of their proudest memories in stone, and they have no excuse."

Into the pocket between Soissons and Rheims the enemy had thrust 400,000 men, accompanied by that host of vehicles conveying stores and ammunition without which a modern army cannot move. The consequence was that he had not sufficient space in which to manœuvre, and he needed elbow-room badly. Further, by creating this long and ever-