

rope; France, that for forty years has held hard and fast behind the Vosges at Verdun, the grim barrier against inordinate Teutonic ambition; France, in peace the playground and resort of the world; the favorite rendezvous of kings; France, the indispensable element in our intellectual life, and in our modern civilization, the Athens and the Rome of our age; so indispensable to the culture of our race, that it has been well said that if she did not exist, Europe should be obliged to create her.

One of her ardent admirers has remarked, "Chaque homme a deux patries : la sienne, et puis, la France." And an eminent and travelled Frenchman has aptly observed in his own poetic fashion—Every man has two countries—his own and France.

### INTELLECTUAL LIFE

And no one seems to visit France for the first time; as has been well said by Edmondo de Ammici — One always seems to be returning to France. It is so much a part of our intellectual life. And if you were let down, for the first visit from an aeroplane on the Champs Elysées,