

vantage of the ravines, worn by the streams in the course of ages. As we near the mountain the valley becomes narrower and wilder, until at last it forms a mere defile between two perpendicular mountains. On either side the torrents form numerous pretty cascades, which modify to some extent the ruggedness of the landscape. The sombre gorges of the Albarine are almost overpowering in their grandeur, and we experience a feeling of relief when, at Virieu-le-Grand, the horizon widens. The snowy range of the still distant Alps is cut like a cameo against the deep blue sky.



CHATILLON CASTLE.

The soil of the valley of Savoy is favourable to the cultivation of the most diverse products; cereals thrive well, hemp, maize, and tobacco are successfully grown. Fruit-trees are specially abundant. The forests supply various useful products in great abundance. The Spanish chestnut here develops its stout trunk and throws out a magnificent head of palmated foliage. Walnut-trees are largely cultivated for the sake of the oil expressed from the fruit. Rows of mulberry-trees in the meadows and fields indicate the culture of the silkworm, an industry which has undergone a development limited only by the ravages