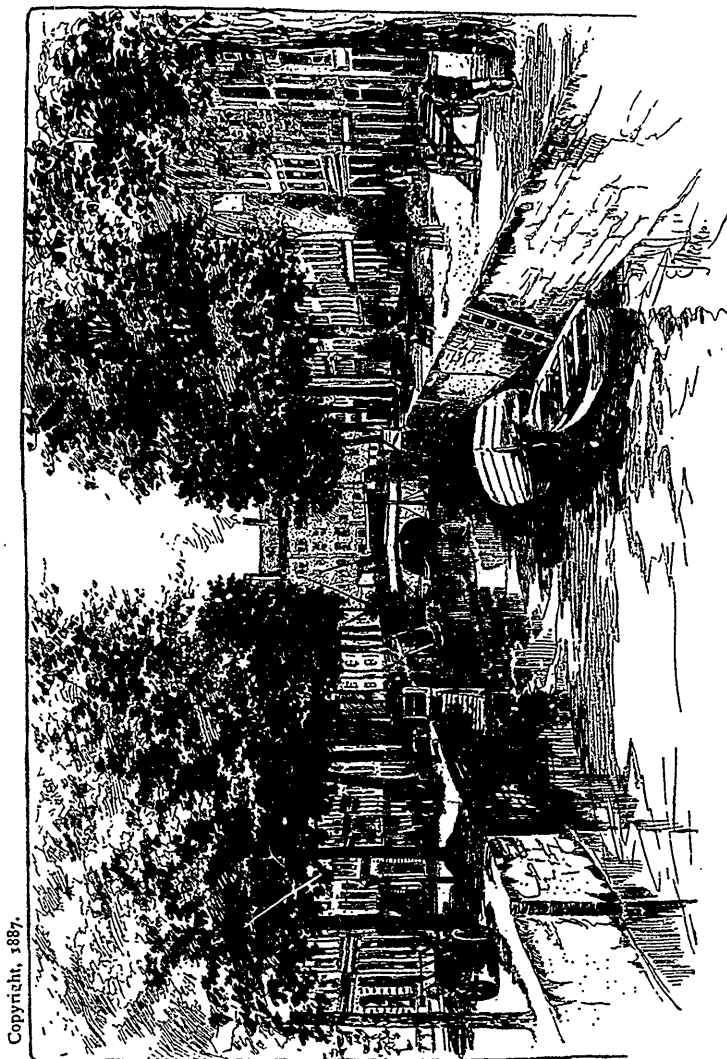


able defence—is an implacable enemy, perpetually besieging their earthen ramparts. In spite of ceaseless vigilance against its assaults, the ocean sometimes bursts its barriers and turns



SCENE IN AMSTERDAM.

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fertile meadows and smiling valleys into a stormy sea—*Verdronken Land* as it is called—literally, “drowned land.” Over and over again the patriotic Dutch have opened the dikes and laid their country far and wide beneath the waves, as their sole de-