

and contains about two millions and a half of inhabitants.

7. Holland is a very flat country, lying in some places below the level of the sea, which is kept from overflowing the land by dikes or banks of earth. The soil is highly cultivated, and very productive both in corn and pasture.

8. Am'-ster-dam, the capital, is chiefly built upon wooden piles, and contains many magnificent buildings. It has broad canals running through the streets, with rows of trees on each side, and a good coach-road. It contains 200,000 inhabitants.

9. The other principal towns of Holland, are Hague, Rot'-ter-dam and Ley'-den. Hague, the principal residence of the nobility, is distinguished for the elegance of its buildings, Rot'-ter-dam for its commerce, and Ley'-den for its university.

10. The chief rivers of Holland are the Rhine and the *Maese.

11. The Dutch are considered slow and heavy, but remarkable for their cleanliness, frugality, and industry. Their religion is the Protestant, under the Presbyterian form.

BELGIUM.

12. BEL'-GI-UM, a small Kingdom to

* Muiz.

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