

BOULOGNE TO AMIENS

triforium and pier arch. This gives the effect after which the French architect strove: one vast blaze of light and colour through the upper windows, coming not only from the clerestory, but from the glazed triforium also; the magnificent deep blue glass typifying the splendour of the heavens. On the other hand, in a sunny clime, builders cared less for light, and preferred the effect of a blind triforium which throws the choir below into gloomy and mysterious shadow. Thus we see that upon the design of the triforium depends to a very great extent the effect of the light and shade of the interior of a great church.

Once, being personally conducted by the dean over one of the cathedrals of the west of England, the writer was suddenly called upon to give the derivation of "triforium." The word is applied to the ambulatory or passage, screened by an arcade, which runs between the pier arches and clerestory windows, and is considered to refer to the three openings, or spaces, *trinæ fores*, into which the arcading was sometimes divided. It probably has nothing to do with openings in multiples of three, nor with a Latinised form of "thoroughfare," as suggested in Parker's Glossary, although the main idea is that of a passage running round the inside of a church, either as at Westminster, in the form of an ambulatory