

world's goods; her system of government combines many of the best features of a republic with those of a limited and unostentatious monarchy; uniting a zeal for commerce, with a love for higher education, her people dwell in a country rich with inspiring and hallowed memories, ready, if occasion demands, to protect their national freedom against the invader with a courage not less than that of their fathers, whose nobly-won liberty and peace they inherit.

If your approach be by way of Zeeland, a south-western province of Holland, the trip may afford you a novel experience. You are at once brought face to face with evidences of Holland's great battle with and victory over the sea. Zeeland's ancient heraldic symbol, a swimming lion, tells the tale of its fierce and untiring fight for existence. What land there is in this province lies, for the most part, under the sea-level and is protected against its ever-present foe, by means of some three hundred miles of dykes. One traveller has found in the unceasing battle with the ocean, a battle marked by no new and lasting advantages on either side, a modern weaving of Penelope's web. It was in this province that the inhabitants, rather than accept defeat at the hands of the Spaniards, "cut their dykes, let in the sea, destroying in one day the labour of four centuries."

If your progress through the province be by canal-boat, your sight-seeing will be limited by "two lofty dykes which hide the country." It will seem to you as though you travelled in ambush, "ready to rush out at the other end to somebody's confusion." If your plans admit of it, you will make some acquaintance with Zeeland, visiting Middleburg and Veere, where a study of Dutch architecture is offered the traveller in the imposing abbey—which the former city boasts—and the town halls, of marked excellence, which both cities possess. With limited time for sight-seeing you will press on to Rotterdam, a city in shape resembling an equilateral triangle, the base being an immense dyke defending the inhabitants from the Meuse. Perhaps this may be your first introduction to a Dutch inn. If so, the characteristic cleanliness of the people will attract you. The linen will be snow-white, the window-panes transparent as the air, furniture will shine like crystal, and the floor will be found beyond criticism.

A walk through the city will introduce you to a unique place, the streets of which are unlike anything in Europe. The houses, unplastered, of every shade of brick, are, for the most part, two windows wide and two stories high. Their front walls, re-