



FRANCE: ECONOMIC.

watersheds between the river-basins are comparatively low. Even the Côte d'Or range, between the Seine and the Saône, has been crossed by the Burgundy Canal, which runs from the Yonne tributary of the Seine to the Saône; while the Canal du Centre unites the Loire to the Saône rather further south. The Loire is also joined to the Seine by a canal from Orleans, and the Garonne to the Mediterranean and Rhone by one from Toulouse. The peninsula of Brittany is traversed by a canal from Nantes to Brest (see p. 69).

The area of France is about three and a half times that of England and Wales, and its size, together with the marked differences of scenery it exhibits in different parts, and the varied nature of its history, have naturally caused a great diversity in the character of its inhabitants. As Miss Lynch writes in 'French Life in Town and Country,' Chapter I.: