

Melun



Since Roman times, Metlosedum or Melodunum, which became **Melun** in the 6th century, have been at the meeting-point of both land routes and waterways. In the 10th century, the Capetians founded the royal château which remained a favourite residence of the **kings of France** until the Renaissance.

Five monasteries were set up in the city between the 14th and 16th centuries.

The economic role of **Melun** in the supply of flour to Paris grew steadily between the Middle Ages and modern times, as did its administrative role.

The Paris-Lyon-Marseille railway was routed through the city in 1847, industries set up there (Gruber Brewery, Cooperation Pharmaceutique) in 1910, and the National Gendarmerie Academy came to **Melun** in 1945. As a Prefecture, Melun has been home through the ages to famous figures such as **Abélard, Jacques Amyot, Louis Pasteur, Paul Cézanne** and others.

Famous men

Michel Henri Chapu (1833-1891)

Sculptor of works including «Joan of Arc listening to her voices» and the bronze medallion representing Joan of Arc in the Saint-Aspais church.

Etienne Chevalier (1420-1474)

Chief Treasurer of France and executor of King Charles VII's will. Chevalier was a great benefactor of Melun, his patronage including a silver statue of the Virgin Mary, wrought silver and gold pieces, liturgical materials and monumental organs, destined to enhance the collegiate church of Notre-Dame.

Eugène Gabriel Leroy (1834-1908)

President of the Seine-et-Marne Society of Archaeology, Science, Letters and Arts, Eugène Ga-

briel Leroy was a great enthusiast for local history. As chief archivist and curator at the library, he collected and collated documents and other works relating to the history of the city and listed all archaeological finds made in Melun

Jacques Amyot (1513-1593)

A native of Melun, Jacques Amyot was awarded a Master of Arts in 1532. Appointed tutor of the future kings Charles IX and Henri III by Marguerite de Navarre, he was appointed Grand Chaplain of France by Charles IX in 1560 and became the bishop of Auxerre in 1570.



Louis Eugène Godin (1823-1887)

Sculptor. The marble statue of Jacques Amyot unveiled in 1860 in the court of honour of the City Hall is one of his works.

Paul Cézanne (1839-1906)

Paul Cézanne lived in Melun for a time at 2, Place de la Préfecture, where he devoted himself to