SOUVENIR OF PARIS

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Souvenir of Paris by S. L. Bensusan

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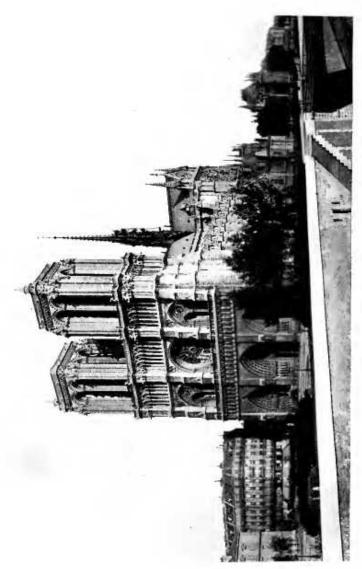
SOUVENIR OF PARIS



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SOUVENIR OF PARIS BY S. L. BENSUSAN



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SOUVENIR OF PARIS

CHAPTER I

A GREAT CITY

PARIS! The name conjures up so many conflicting memories and impressions, that the attempt to give them adequate or even orderly expression seems to savour of impertinence. Who has understood this wonderful city? There have been hundreds to try. Mirabeau said, "Paris is a Sphinx, but I will drag her secret from her," and to-day Mirabeau is little more than a name, and the capital of his country retains its secret undivulged. Surely no city has ever boasted so many lovers, or fostered higher ideals, or achieved greater accomplishments, or set a standard to so many countries, or made such important experiments in social, political, and religious life, or mingled so much success with failure. Paris has practised every art of living, has drunk deep of the wine of life, has been a law to itself and a light to the Western world, is a country within a country, unconquerable even in defeat. It is a city in which the art of living seems to be mastered by all classes. Paris sounds the highest note