MEMORABLE PARIS HOUSES, WITH ILLUSTRATIVE CRITICAL AND ANECDOTAL NOTICES

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Memorable Paris houses, with illustrative critical and anecdotal notices by Wilmot Harrison

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WILMOT HARRISON

10

AUTHOR OF "MEMORABLE LONDON HOUSES"

WITH OVER SIXTY ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS FROM DRAWINGS MADE EXPRESSLY FOR THIS WORK BY PARIS ARTISTS

LONDON SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON & COMPANY, LIMITED

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100



PREFACE.

THE cordial welcome extended to the writer's book on "Memorable London Houses" has combined with the attraction which the necessary researches possessed per se to produce the present work. Originally intended, and prepared, for publication in French (and still awaiting the enterprise of Parisian "editeurs"), it has seemed to the author and the publishers of his former book that the present production may meet with acceptance, not only by that large section of English-speaking visitors to the French capital who would most readily welcome the information it contains in their own tongue, but also, apart from its uses as a handbook, for the descriptive, critical, and anecdotal notices-derived from an infinite variety of sources, French, English, and American-of the many world-famous men and women referred to in its pages. The work is original only in respect of its design and form; and the author has no claim to be considered other than, he trusts, a judicious "snapper-up of well-considered trifles" suitable for his purpose.

Each of the three hundred and seventy-five houses noted has been visited by the author. The changes which have taken place in the names of many and in the numbers of more of the streets, would have made the work of identification almost impossible but for the courteous and careful attention which the author's inquiries received from M. Hoche-

PREFACE.

reaux and the officials of the Direction des Travaux de Paris at the Hotel de Ville. To M. Edgar Mareuse, the secretary of the Comité des Inscriptions (which has done the work of the Society of Arts with us in respect of the placing of memorial tablets), the author is also indebted for much valuable information; while his thanks are due to M. Ch. Vriarte, director of the admirable library at the Hotel Carnavalet for the facilities afforded him.

Messrs. Chapman and Hall have courteously permitted a somewhat free use of the pages of the recently published "An Englishman in Paris," and a similar privilege has been kindly granted by Messrs. R. Bentley and Son in respect of Dr. Engel's "From Mozart to Mario."

A selection from what appeared to be the most interesting subjects in portraits and views has been made for illustration; and that grand mausoleum of great men, the Panthéon, naturally suggested itself as an appropriate frontispiece.

W. H.

June, 1893.

vi

CONTENTS.

- ROUTE II. (Distance, 5 miles.) Place de la Madeleine-Boulevard de la Madeleine-Boulevard des Capucines-Rue de la Chaussée d'Antin-Rue Lafayette-Rue de Provence-Rue Joubert-Rue de la Victoire-Rue Taitbout-Rue Laffitte-Rue Chateaudun-Rue St. Georges-Rue St. Lazare-Rue de la Tour des Dames-Rue Pigalle -Rue de La Rochefoucauld-Rue Labruyère-Rue d'Aumale-Rue Notre Dame de Lorette-Rue Navarin-Avenue Frochot-Rue Chaptal-Rue de Douai-Rue de Bruxelles-Rue Blanche-Rue de Calais-Rue d'Amsterdam-Rue de Milan-Rue de Clichy-Rue de Londres pp. 37-79 100 (107 H) H) H ×. • 2.0 1.14
- ROUTE III. (Distance, 61 miles.) From the Place de la Madeleine : Rue Cambon-Rue des Capucines-Place Vendôme-Rue Mont Thabor-Rue de Rivoli-Rue St. Florentin-Rue St. Honoré-Rue de Rivoli-Rue Boucher-Rue St. Denis-Rue Jean Jacques Rousseau-Rue des Bons Enfants-Rue le Coq-Héron-Rue de la Juissienne-Rue Poissonnière-Rue de Clery-Rue St. Denis-Rue du Mail-Rue de la Vrillière-Rue de la Banque-Rue Montmartre -Rue Vivienne-Boulevard des Italiens-Rue Ménars-Rue de Grammont-Rue de la Michodière-Rue d'Antin-Rue Louis le Grand-Rue Ventadour-Rue des Moulins-Rue Mehul-Rue de

CONTENTS.

ROUTE V. (Distance, 4 miles.) From the Place de la République : Rue Béranger-Boulevard du Temple-Rue de Saintonge-Rue Portefoin-Rue des Archives-Rue des Quatre Fils-Rue de la Perle -Rue Vieille du Temple-Rue de Rivoli-Rue Geoffroy l'Asnier -Rue du Figuier-Rue des Francs Bourgeois-Rue Pavée-Rue de Sévigné-Place des Vosges-Rue de Birague-Rue St. Antoinc-Rue des Tournelles-Rue de Charonne-Rue de Chemin Vert

pp. 141-160

- ROUTE VII. (Distance, 5] miles.) Quai du Louvre-Quai Conti-Quai de l'Horloge-Rue Mazarin-Rue de Seine-Rue des Beaux Arts-Quai Malaquais-Rue Bonaparte-Rue Jacob-Rue de l'Abbaye-Rue Bonaparte-Rue Madame-Rue Casette-Rue de Vaugirard-Rue de l'Abbé Grégoire-Rue St. Placide-Rue du Mont Parnasse-Rue d'Assas-Rue de Vaugirard-Rue Servandoni-Rue de Tournon-Rue de Vaugirard-Rue de l'Odéon-Rue Racine-Rue Monsieur le Prince-Rue de l'Ancienne Comédie-Rue St. André des Arts-Rue des Grands Augustines-Rue Sequier . pp. 183-220
- ROUTE VIII. (Distance, 6 miles.) From the Place de la Concorde : Rue de Lille-Quai Voltaire-Rue des Sts. Pères-Rue de l'Université-Rue de Bac-Rue de Grenelle-Rue St. Dominique-Rue de

CONTENTS.