

PARIS DURING THE COMMUNE

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Paris During the Commune by W. Gibson

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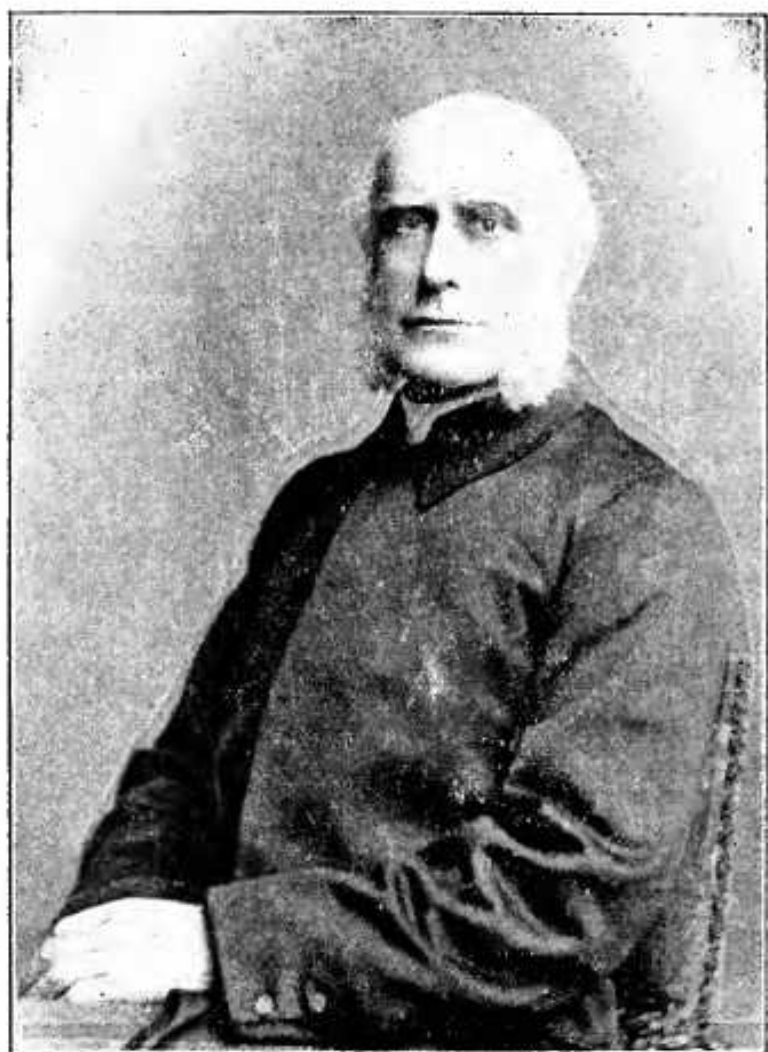
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W. GIBSON

**PARIS DURING
THE COMMUNE**



REV. WILLIAM GIBSON, B.A.

PARIS
DURING THE COMMUNE,

By REV. W. GIBSON,

WITH A CHARACTER SKETCH BY HIS WIFE.

London :

METHODIST BOOK ROOM, CASTLE STREET, CITY ROAD,
AND PATERNOSTER ROW.

Nottingham :

HOWITT AND SON, PRINTERS, CLUMBER STREET.

1895.

SATHER

WILLIAM GIBSON

OF PARIS.

A

CHARACTER SKETCH.

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I

What can I say about one of the brightest, purest, loveliest spirits that ever sojourned for a while on this earth?

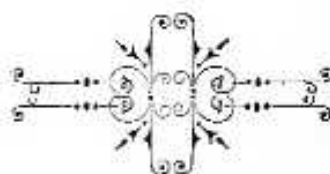
As I write, solemn influences from his last moments still linger round me, and it seems almost desecration to make public any details concerning one whose life was signalized by humility and self-forgetfulness. But I would fain have him live on longer here below than will even the tenderest memories of those who loved him best. Being dead, I would have him yet speak, and speak to the glory of the God he loved and served from childhood.

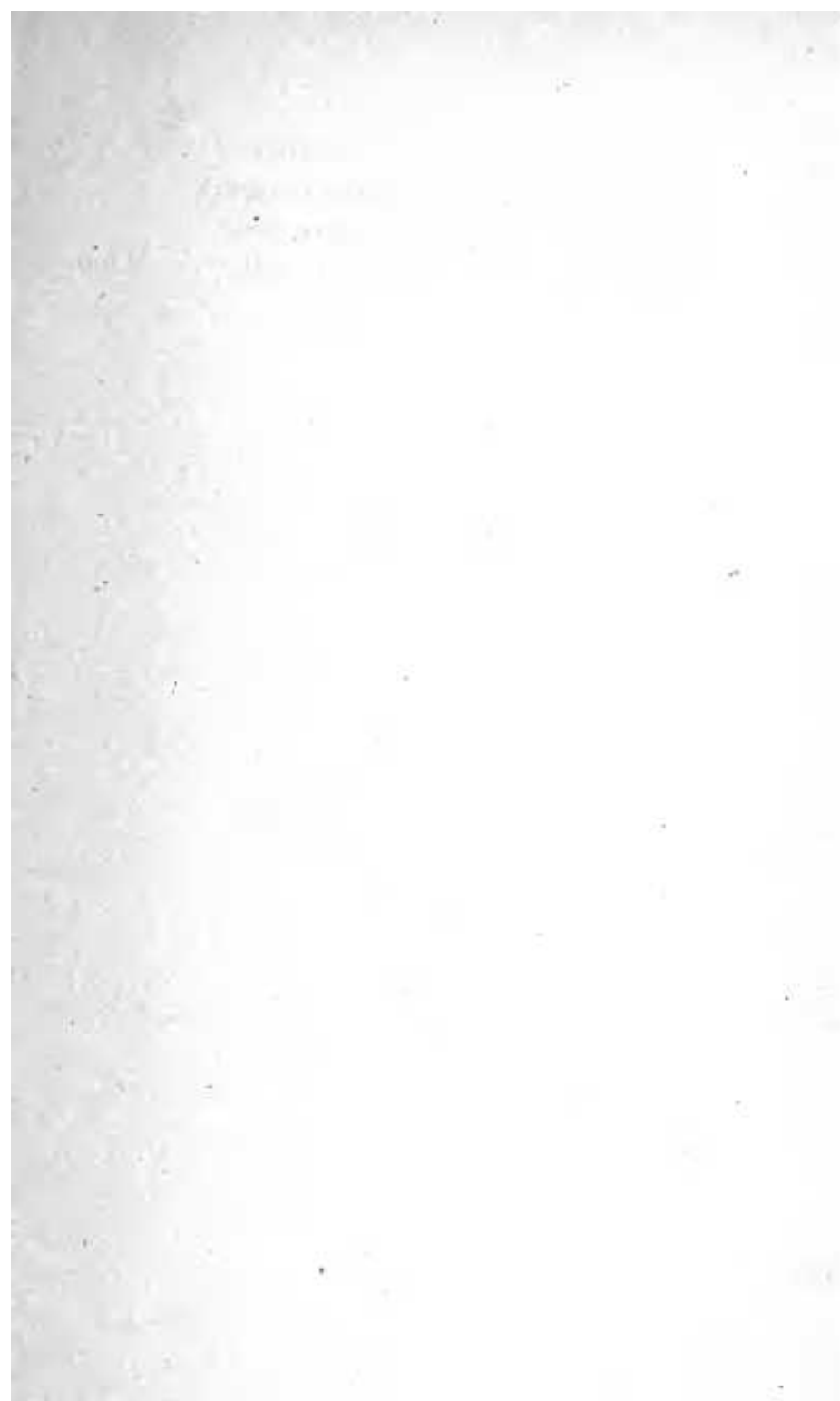
I feel convinced that the simple portrayal of a character such as his cannot fail to prove an inspiration to some who will henceforth seek to follow him as he followed Christ.

As to my own pain in recalling so many hallowed but now harrowing memories I count it a very small offering to bring for over thirty-two years of incomparable devotion and almost infinite tenderness, and the sad satisfaction outweighs the suffering. His family are not alone in appreciating his singular worth: over four hundred beautiful letters recently received bear unqualified testimony to his faultless life, his ideally perfect character and his wide-spread and holy influence. From all parts of the world witnesses rise up to call him blessed, in that he not only pointed them to the way of life but by his own Christlike example helped them to walk in it.

He "lived with God in such untroubled love,
And clear confiding, as a child on whom
The Father's face has never yet but smiled;

And with men even, in such harmony
Of brotherhood, that whatsoever spark
Of pure and true in any human heart
Flickered and lived, it burned itself towards him."





Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein. (Luke xviii., 17.)

Oh ! say not, dream not, heavenly notes
 To childish ears are vain,
 That the young mind at random floats,
 And cannot reach the strain.

Dim or unheard, the words may fall,
 And yet the heaven-taught mind
 May learn the sacred airs, and all
 The harmony unwind.

* * * * *

Child-like though the voices be
 And untuneable the parts,
 Thou wilt own the minstrelsy,
 If it flow from child-like hearts.

Who but a Christian, through all life
 That blessing may prolong ?
 Who, thro' the world's sad day of strife,
 Still chant his morning song ?

Keble.