

**STRAY STUDIES,
SECOND SERIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649714476

Stray Studies, Second Series by John Richard Green

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JOHN RICHARD GREEN



London

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED

NEW YORK: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1903

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PREFACE

I HAVE here reprinted, by the kind permission of the proprietors, some of J. R. Green's papers written for the *Saturday Review*. There are brief notices of towns, English and foreign, full of the vivid interest with which he pictured their life. Articles on the question of the Poor and the Poor-law, written during his life in the East End of London, show how unchanging certain problems remain. Some lighter papers have in themselves a sort of historical interest as illustrating the views of English people on certain subjects half a century ago. Many of the papers, and the circumstances of their writing, are referred to in the *Letters* published two years ago.

ALICE STOPFORD GREEN.

14 KENSINGTON SQUARE,
29th September 1908.

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CHÂTEAU-GAILLARD

(July 27, 1867)

VERY few, we fancy, of the thousands of English people who have been rushing this summer through Rouen to Paris have cared to break their journey at the little station of Gaillon for an hour's look at the one mighty ruin which preserves for us the name and spirit of Richard the Lion-hearted. And yet we can conceive few scenes more worthy of a visit, not merely from historic students but from anybody whose notion of a holiday consists in something better than the exchange of one big busy town for another yet bigger and busier, than the "Saucy Castle," whose grey rock and gleaming river-curve tempted, again and again, the pencil of Turner. It is at Gaillon that the Seine bends suddenly from its course westward in this great semicircle to the north, and it is at the northernmost point of the bend, where the valley of Les Andelys breaks the line of its chalk cliffs, that the great Norman border-fortress still looks out over river and plain. At the first sight of it, indeed, Turner's sketches seem to be wild exaggerations, and