

**PARIS. IN TWO
VOLUMES. VOL. I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649667536

Paris. In Two Volumes. Vol. I by Augustus J. C. Hare

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AUGUSTUS J. C. HARE

**PARIS. IN TWO
VOLUMES. VOL. I**

P A R I S

BY

AUGUSTUS J. C. HARE

AUTHOR OF

'WALKS IN LONDON,' 'WALKS IN ROME,' 'DAYS NEAR PARIS,'
ETC.

'Quicumque ingredimur, in aliquam historiam vestigium ponimus'
CICERO *de Fin.* v.

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOL. I

SECOND EDITION (REVISED)

LONDON

GEORGE ALLEN, 156, CHARING CROSS ROAD

1900

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Three Shillings each Volume

File 7572.2
✓



Printed by BALLANTYNE, HANSON & Co.
At the Ballantyne Press

PREFACE

A BETTER book than this might easily have been published, but no one else has tried to write anything of the kind, and I have done my best. This volume and 'Days near Paris' were the conscientious hard work of two years. As in my 'Cities of Italy,' the descriptions are my own, but, for opinions and comments, I have quoted from others, choosing those passages which seem pleasant to read upon the spot, and likely to impress what is seen upon the recollection. The woodcuts, with very few exceptions, are from my own sketches, transferred to wood by Mr. T. Sulman.

The second edition has been carefully revised and corrected on the spot.

AUGUSTUS J. C. HARE.



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PARIS

INTRODUCTION

ALMOST all educated Englishmen visit Paris some time in their lives, yet few really see it. They stay at the great neighbouring capital to enjoy its shops and theatres and to drive in the Bois de Boulogne, and they describe it as a charming modern city, from which the picturesqueness of an historic past has been utterly obliterated. But, whilst it is true that much has perished, those who take the trouble to examine will be surprised to find how many remnants of past times still exist, more interesting than those in any provincial town, because the history of France, more especially of modern France, is so completely centred in its capital.

* C'est à Paris et à Versailles, son royal faubourg, que se fait l'histoire de France, à partir de Louis XIII. Paris rayonne sur la France et l'absorbe. Tous les mémoires, toutes les relations parlent de Paris.—*Albert Babeau.*

* La France est aujourd'hui le pays du monde où la capitale présente l'aspect le plus différent du reste de la nation. En face de trente-cinq millions de provinciaux se dresse une ville, ou plutôt un petit état, supérieur, par sa population, à la Grèce, à la Serbie, au Danemark, à la Norvège et quelques autres royaumes plus ou moins constitutionnels. Cette république, enclavée dans la grande, est représentée par une assemblée agressive qui réclame tous les jours une autonomie plus complète. Elle se vante d'être cosmopolite, et ne désespère pas de rompre un jour quelques-uns des liens qui subordonnent son sort à celui de la patrie. Combattue par les lois, sa prépondérance a été longtemps favorisée par la politique. Après avoir imposé trois ou quatre révolutions à la province, elle ne peut se consoler d'avoir perdu ce privilège. Tous les ans, un parti puissant