THE HOLY LAND OF ASIA MINOR; THE SEVEN CITIES OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649605927

The Holy Land of Asia Minor; The Seven Cities of the Book of Revelation by Francis E. Clark

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FRANCIS E. CLARK

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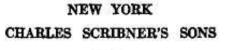
THEIR PREMENT APPEARANCE, THEIR HISTORY, THEIR SIGNIFICANCE, AND THEIR MESSAGE TO THE CHUECH OF TO-DAY

BT

REV. FRANCIS E. CLARK, D.D., LL.D.

AUTHOR OF "OLD ROMME OF NEW AMERICANS," "THE CONTINUENT OF OFFORTUNITT," BTG.





1914



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Published September, 1914



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TO THE MEMORY

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REV. EDWARD RIGGS, D.D.

FOR MANY TRADE AN ECHORRED MINICOMART OF THE AMERICAN BOARD IN TURKET, WROSE COURTEST, PATIENCE, AND ENOWINDER OF THE NATURE LANGUAGES EMOOTEED THE DIFFICULTIES OF OUR JOURNEY TO THE

SEVEN CITIES

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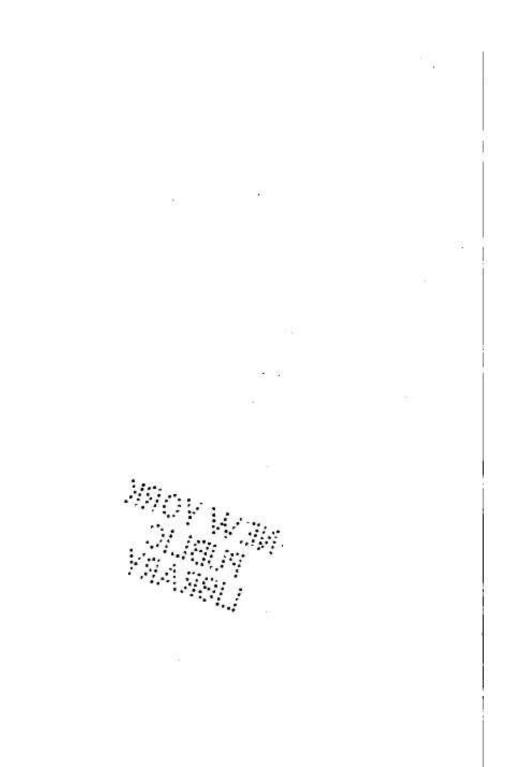
MRS. EDWARD RIGGS

MY WIFE

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INTRODUCTION

WHEN we speak of the "Holy Land" we usually refer solely to the little section along the shores of the Mediterranean, called Palestine, which was trodden by the feet of our Lord and his immediate disciples. But there is another Holy Land and one scarcely less sacred to the Christian. It is the Holy Land of Asia Minor, especially its western part, which was comprised largely in the ancient province of Asia. Here the Apostles laboured and taught. Here some of the earliest churches were formed. Here martyrs suffered for their faith as in no other part of the world.

Over these hills (and a traveller in Asia Minor is never out of sight of them)

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INTRODUCTION

and along these river-courses Paul made his toilsome way, and Timothy and John Mark, and, in later years, Irenæus and Polycarp and others scarcely less distinguished in the history of the church.

Through the ports of Smyrna and Ephesus so many eminent Christians and church fathers sailed on their way to Rome and to death that they were called "The Gateways of the Martyrs."

Here Christianity received its earliest development as a universal religion, a faith for Jew and gentile alike.

Above all, it was here that the gentle Apostle who leaned on Jesus' breast planted his churches and watched over them with more than a father's solicitude, rejoicing in the steadfastness of some, mourning over the declension of others, and to them he wrote the messages inspired by the Spirit of God which have been for the encouragement, the comfort, the warning, the rebuke of the

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