

# **A PARISIAN IN BRAZIL**

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A Parisian in Brazil by Mme. Toussaint-Samson

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**MME. TOUSSAINT-SAMSON**

**A PARISIAN  
IN BRAZIL**



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# PARISIAN IN BRAZIL.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

MME. TOUSSAINT-SAMSON

BY

EMMA TOUSSAINT.

*WITH ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS.*



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TO  
MONSIEUR LOUIS JACOLLIOT.

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WHILE you are musing on the shores of the ocean, or in your charming Indian villa, oblivious of Paris and the Parisians, I, my dear friend, frequently think of the indefatigable traveller, of the passionate admirer of India, whose accounts have had such success, and which have kept me spellbound whole evenings, and it is to give him a proof of my strong fellow-feeling that I beg him to accept the dedication of this little volume, which he frequently urged me to finish.

May he, in reading it, not repent too deeply his imprudent counsel!

AD. TOUSSAINT-SAMSON.

THE translation of this book is a loving tribute to its authoress. The incentive to work: the memory of my dear mother, with the constant encouragement of my father.

EMMA TOUSSAINT.

ASPENWALL AVE., BROOKLINE, 1890.



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## PREFACE.

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**I**F it has ever happened, reader, that you have been once in your life in pursuit of a publisher, I can feel assured of your sympathy, and can begin the history of this book. When I returned from Brazil some years ago, bringing from that country and its inhabitants notes gathered during my long sojourn at Rio Janeiro, which, in default of other merit, had at least that of the most scrupulous veracity, and to which were added the photographs of the principal churches and public places of the capital of Brazil, likewise the types of Indians, mulattoes, and negroes taken from life, I imagined that all this would offer some interest to my compatriots, and that I could easily have it published. I had completely forgotten the usages and customs of my native land, as you will easily see. I wrote, to begin with, to the principal editor of one of our leading illustrated papers, to whom I was not unknown, offering him my "Sketches of Brazil." His reply was not tardy in coming: "There was no need of my troubling to send him my manuscript," he wrote, "because he possessed so many documents on South America, and had already published so many things upon Brazil, that the subject seemed exhausted to him."

I had, fortunately, the complete file of the paper up to that evening. I skipped eagerly to the index for Brazil, which referred me to three arti-