

**PAUL FITZ-HENRY;  
OR, A FEW WEEKS IN  
PARIS. A NARRATIVE**

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Paul Fitz-Henry; or, A few weeks in Paris. A narrative by Henry John Thornton

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**HENRY JOHN THORNTON**

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By HENRY JOHN THORNTON.

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A FEW WEEKS IN PARIS.

A NARRATIVE.

BY HENRY JOHN THORNTON,

AUTHOR OF "PORTICAL SKETCHES," &c.

"I live not in myself, but I become  
Portion of that around me."

BYRON.

London:

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RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET.

1846.

## DEDICATION

TO

MONSIEUR PAUL B \* \* \*

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MY DEAR PAUL,

In the following pages I have endeavoured to pourtray the scenes and characteristics of your native city, and though you may indulge in a smile at the weakness of the attempt, yet I know your disposition too well to fear any other indication of your criticism.

The characters and adventures are those of every-day life, such as might be met with by any sojourner in Paris, and some of which occurred to myself, though I disclaim all personalities in my brief delineation of scene and character. My sketches may assimilate with much that I saw and heard in Paris, but they are not exact in their application to any person or incident in particular.

In dedicating this simple narrative to you I would evince my gratitude for the friendship and attention which you bestowed upon me during my stay in Paris. To me it will recall the many happy hours that we passed together, when, surrounded by the bright and joyous scenes through which we wandered, we experienced the enjoyment of social intercourse, and exchanged those feelings and opinions which were happily so in unison and so sincere.

The simplicity of the style in which my narrative is written may be objectionable to those who are accustomed to the elevated diction of more gifted authors, but I would not attempt in this my first essay in prose more than I thought I could accomplish; my readers must therefore expect but little, and generously forgive if they find that little expressed inelegantly.

When apart from your young compeers, and in the quietude of your college, these pages may remind you of the absent, for in them you may retrace much that we have shared together; in them you may recall the sentiments which awoke the ardent feelings of your nature, and revealed those innate qualities of the heart which are so valued and appreciated by, my dear Paul,

Your sincere friend,

HENRY JOHN THORNTON.

*London,*

*June, 1846.*



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CHAPTER I.

Introduction—The Journey—Hôtel des Tuileries—Gardens of the Tuileries—Place de la Concorde—New Associates.

It was early in the spring of 1840 that Paul Fitz-Henry quitted England for the first time. The vessel which bore him from his native land glided swiftly over the waters of the English channel, and, in a comparatively short space of time, he found himself on the sunny shores of France. The happy effect produced by a change of atmosphere and the excitement of the voyage was already perceptible in its operation; the natural seriousness of his disposition had given way to an exhilaration of spirits to which he had hitherto been a stranger, and he looked forward with an agreeable anticipation to the results which might be expected from a protracted sojourn in a country which possessed so many requisites for the renovation of health and spirits.

Since the death of his father, which had taken place a few months previous, Paul had felt lonely and dejected; with no other companion—a stranger to the advantages of social intercourse, and wholly unacquainted with the routine of active life, his days had glided imperceptibly away, and he had passed from youth to manhood without the usual change of feelings and ideas. He