

Prefatory.

These selections, from my notes of travel, are printed for the benefit of friends, who took a kindly interest in our progress. Their commonplaceness is their commendation, conveying, as they do, plain matters of fact; how the various places have been reached and seen, information not usually afforded in descriptive accounts of Classic resorts. Extended notices being too bulky, and a bare outline devoid of interest, the selection has not been easy. The notes on "the Orient" will be found longer than those on other sections. On London, Edinburgh, Dublin, and Paris my notes are necessarily silent, while on some Continental centres they are brief, in order to embrace in a reasonable compass our whole journey. Using London as a centre, our movements were so many radiations from the Great World Metropolis, and made as opportunity and extended leisure admitted.

A summary of our Travelling Expenses on the Continent is given, which may be taken as a moderate average. Leaving our heavy luggage in London, we travelled—on all these excursions Mrs. Reid accompanied me—with the least quantity consistent with requirements and comfort. Dispensing, as far as possible, with valets and dragomen, I largely relied on myself, using the best information and Guide Books—Practical Baedeker's invaluable—deriving much pleasure working out our schemes. From Chicago on the West to Damascus on the East, from the youngest of great active modern cities to the oldest city in the world retaining a present vitality, it will readily be imagined, how varied our experiences have been. Nearly all the great standard collections and the current exhibitions of paintings have been seen, while the leading museums and the chief seats of manufacturing industry have been visited. We have observed many types of architecture, and phases of religion; have compared the natural features of the different countries; have heard the finest music, and witnessed the drama in its best exhibits; have seen exhibitions of dogs, horses, poultry, live stock, fruits and flowers, and have had many varieties of the great human family brought under our observation—an education both broad and permanent.

Furnished with a passport from the Foreign Office and a General Letter of Credit from my London Bankers, accompanying "Circular Notes," which are Bank Drafts negotiable when endorsed by the payee, my outfit was complete.

To the Canadian Office in London, presided over by the Hon. Wm. Annand, to the Imperial Bank and their Foreign Agents, and to numerous friends our thanks are due for the satisfactory prosecution, without accident, of a trip, which has added to our knowledge of the mighty past, and afforded an insight into the great energies which permeate the restless present.

Pembroke Hall, Bermuda, June 11th, 1878.