

ancient St. Denis Abbey. These and many others must be looked at, in order "to do Paris." I was fortunate enough also to see Paris underground, that is to visit the catacombs and sewers. Both were exceedingly interesting, especially the latter. The numerous company, for here were probably hundreds who saw through them at the same time with me, were conveyed along wide passages beneath which flowed the refuse water, and above, along the roof of which were the water pipes and telegraph wires. We rode first in small cars and then in boats. The width and height of the main sewer must be twelve or fourteen feet, and one experiences scarcely any unpleasant odour. Thus ample provision is made, so far as drainage is concerned, for the health of the great city. Above too, with the same end in view, as also to beautify, of late years magnificent boulevards have been created in all quarters. Old streets have been widened and magnificent six and seven storey stone houses, many of them profusely ornamented, have replaced simple structures. But you will not need to be told that Paris is beautiful—its fountains, parks, and wide shaded streets are too well known to need description. I saw somewhat also of that other city, one may call it, within the walls of the beautiful pleasure-loving capital, and yet so unlike it, for its streets are narrow and its inhabitants squalid and ever ready for an insurrection. Barricades are probably now however, a thing of the past; the wide and straight boulevards, radiating from centres like the spokes of a wheel are not made to suit them. Much too is being done to elevate the condition of these people by education and a wise system of government.

But my aim in going to Paris was not to see its sights so much as to improve my knowledge of French. Liv-

ing there is dear, that is, one can live cheaply when he only knows how to do it, but that is not at first. Boarding in a private family is so expensive that I did not try it. I attended a number of lectures at the Sorbonne and Collège de France. The former is a degree-conferring body or University, the latter is merely a higher teaching institution, where lectures are given on all subjects pertaining to a liberal education, by professors paid by the State. In the case of both institutions everything is gratuitous. I attended several courses of lectures at the Collège de France. Quite a number of foreigners were always present, and I found the work there very agreeable and instructive. When I first came to Paris I found some difficulty in understanding the language though I could make my wants known tolerably well; I am glad to say, however, that before I left I found a great deal of improvement in my knowledge of the language though I could not feel that I knew it at all perfectly. Only a lengthened residence among the people and very close study could accomplish that for me, yet I had greatly benefited myself. I was fortunate enough to get an authorization to visit the public schools, and afterwards the secondary schools or *Lycées*. I somewhat cursorily inspected about twenty-five of the former, and several of the best of the latter. By this means I not only gained a pretty fair acquaintance with the French School System and manner of teaching, but also had an opportunity given me of telling to their teachers somewhat of our country and its schools. They were not, by any means, universally ignorant about Canada. Not unfrequently on introducing myself as a Canadian was I greeted with "*Oh, nous aimons beaucoup le Canada.*" In these days when France is displaying such colonial activity it is not unnatural that she