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P R E F A C E.

NEARLY forty years ago I happened to be in Paris for three or four months. Lately, on a very short notice, I had occasion to go to it again. Being detained there rather more than three weeks by an oculist whose prescriptions confined me to the house several hours a day, I eked out the rest of my time by taking a few notes.

In passing through London I had hastily obtained eight or ten letters of introduction; but as on reading Galignani's excellent guide-book, I found that everything I could reasonably desire to see would, on application in writing, or on the production of my passport, be thrown open to me—with almost a single exception—I