

## BEAUTIFUL PARIS.

BY THE EDITOR.

PARIS has the name of being the most beautiful city in the world, and it is a claim that is seldom disputed. Its streets are wide, well paved, and kept marvellously clean. The buildings are nearly all of grey stone, solidly built, and of uniform height. There are none of the ugly "skyscrapers" which disfigure Chicago and New York. Old Paris undoubtedly had many narrow, winding streets, and the houses were poor and dingy; but modern Paris with its splendid boulevards, spacious squares, palatial edifices, and noble monuments is lovely beyond description.

Visitors to the great exposition this

the Eiffel Tower. It runs from the Place de la Concorde to the Arc de Triomphe, about a mile and a half in length. There are several rows of handsome trees, and a broad and well-paved driveway. This is the most fashionable promenade of Paris, and during the afternoon of a fine day, is filled with numerous carriages, riders, and pedestrians. The Arc de Triomphe occupies a prominent place at the head of the avenue, and is the largest triumphal arch in existence. It was built for the purpose of commemorating the victories of Napoleon.

The Bois des Boulogne is a beautiful park, covering 2,250 acres, where wealthy citizens air themselves in their carriages, and where automobiles skim along with almost the speed of a railway train. It contains several fine sheets of water, and

are constantly draped in mourning, as France can never forget them, and the hope is cherished that they will yet be regained.

The two most famous churches of Paris are the Madeleine and Notre Dame Cathedral. The former was commenced by Louis XV., in 1764, but was interrupted by the Revolution. It was ordered to be finished by Napoleon as a "Temple of Glory." It is said to have cost thirteen million francs. There are some magnificent paintings upon its walls. Notre Dame is a fine structure, but it is so surrounded by lofty buildings that it does not show to the best advantage. It dates back several hundred years. During the Revolution this church was sadly desecrated. It was converted into a "Temple of Reason,"



BOIS DE BOULOGNE, PARIS.

summer will discover that the most attractive feature is Paris itself, and most tourists will find their time utterly inadequate to see one-half of the sights that the great metropolis of France presents. It covers an area of thirty square miles, and contains a population of two and a half millions. A fine view of the city can be obtained from the Eiffel Tower. A magnificent panorama of stately buildings and avenues, lined with beautiful trees stretches away in every direction, while the river Seine winds like a silver thread among them. Unlike most city rivers, it is clean and pretty, and pleasure boats constantly ply backwards and forwards.

The most famous avenue in the world is the Champs des Elysees, which is the pride of Paris. Our picture gives an idea of what it looks like as viewed from

ample play-grounds for children. The Place de la Concorde is probably the finest square in the world. It is 1,170 feet in length by 700 in width. Historical associations of a tragic character cluster around this place. Here Louis XVI. and his unfortunate Queen Marie Antoinette were beheaded, and the guillotine carried on its bloody work until many of the noblest men and women of France laid down their lives. During 1793 and 1794 about 2,500 perished by the guillotine here. A fine monument stands in this square, called the Obelisk of Luxor, which is a single block of reddish granite, brought from Upper Egypt. It is 76 feet in height, and weighs 240 tons. Two small monuments in the Place de la Concorde represent Alsace and Lorraine, the two provinces taken from the French by the Germans. They

the statue of the Virgin was replaced by one of "Liberty," and the "goddess of reason," in the person of a ballet dancer, was enthroned, receiving the worship of her votaries. The religious instinct of the people, however, reasserted itself and the building became once more a place of divine worship.

The stores of Paris are a source of endless fascination, especially to the ladies. Every possible novelty in dress, furniture and pictures is exhibited to tempt the coins from the pockets of foreigners. The florists' displays in the windows are beautiful beyond all description. The amount of English that is "spiked" is astonishing. Most of the stores have at least one clerk who can understand English, and quite a number of the people whom one meets casually on the street are able to converse in it.