

# **THE CIRCLE OF A CENTURY**

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The circle of a century by Mrs. Burton Harrison

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**MRS. BURTON HARRISON**

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OF A CENTURY**



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BY

MRS. BURTON HARRISON



NEW YORK  
THE CENTURY CO.

1899

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PART I  
IN OLD NEW YORK



# THE CIRCLE OF A CENTURY

## PART I IN OLD NEW YORK

### I



**A**FTER 1787, when the new order of things national began to assert itself in New York, the little city, worn by armies of occupation and ravaged by the many fires during the Revolution, took on a new lease of life.

The hearts of her faithful dwellers beat high with the sense of returning prosperity. Their old houses were made to blush in coats of ruddy paint, their gardens were restocked with shrubs and flowers, their rooms refitted with foreign furniture and ornaments. Everywhere substantial homes and tenements sprang up like Aladdin's palace. The brick sidewalks, that until recently had extended northward no higher than St. Paul's Chapel in Broadway, were repaired and pushed farther, although they could not, alas! recall the vanished glory of leafage that had arched over them before so many of the shade-trees of these streets