SIDELIGHTS

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Sidelights by Charlotte Lady Blennerhassett & Edith Gülcher

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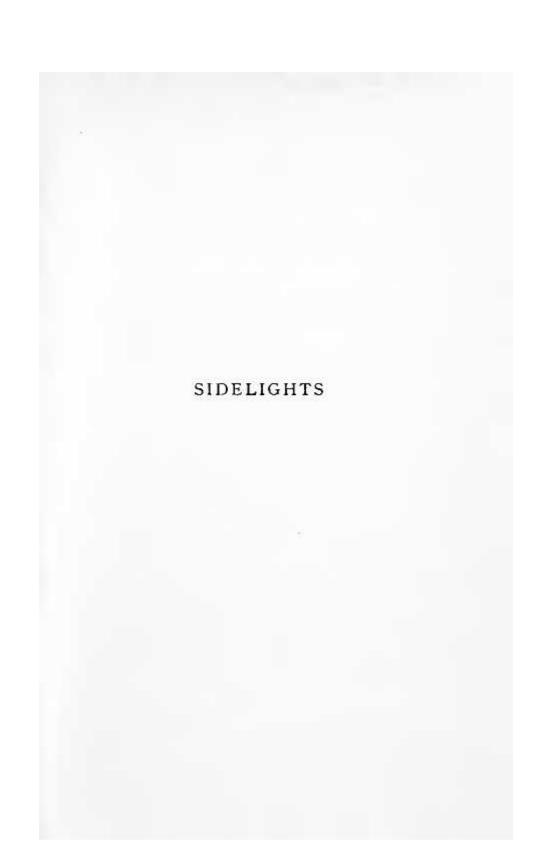
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CHARLOTTE LADY BLENNERHASSETT & EDITH GÜLCHER

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BY

CHARLOTTE, LADY BLENNERHASSETT

Authorized Translation
by
EDITH GÜLCHER



LONDON CONSTABLE AND COMPANY LTD 1913

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THE SIEGE OF PARIS, 1590

Two hundred and eighty-one years before the siege of Paris in 1870, an army under the command of "the Béarnais," as Henry IV. was contemptuously called by the League, appeared at its gates. Shortly before that he had been victorious at Arques and at Ivry, where his white-crested helmet was seen ever in the forefront of battle. His small army of 12,000 foot and 3000 horse was confronted at Paris, whither he had gone, as he laughingly said, to win his mistress, by 50,000 troops of the League. The last holiday in Paris had been in celebration of the death of Henry III. who fell by the hand of a monk, on the anniversary of the same day and hour, and in the same hall in which, eighteen years before, the Act had been signed for the "Massacre of St. Bartholomew."

Jacques Clément was there and then stabbed to death by the King's escort, but his followers summoned the people to a pilgrimage to St. Cloud, where his body was

¹ Battle of Arques, 1589.

Battle of Ivry, 1590.

[&]quot;And he has bound a snow-white plume upon his gallant crest. . . .

Press where ye see my white plume shine, amidst the ranks of war,

And be your oriflamme, to-day, the helmet of Navarre."

"Battle of Ivry."—MACAULAY.—TR.