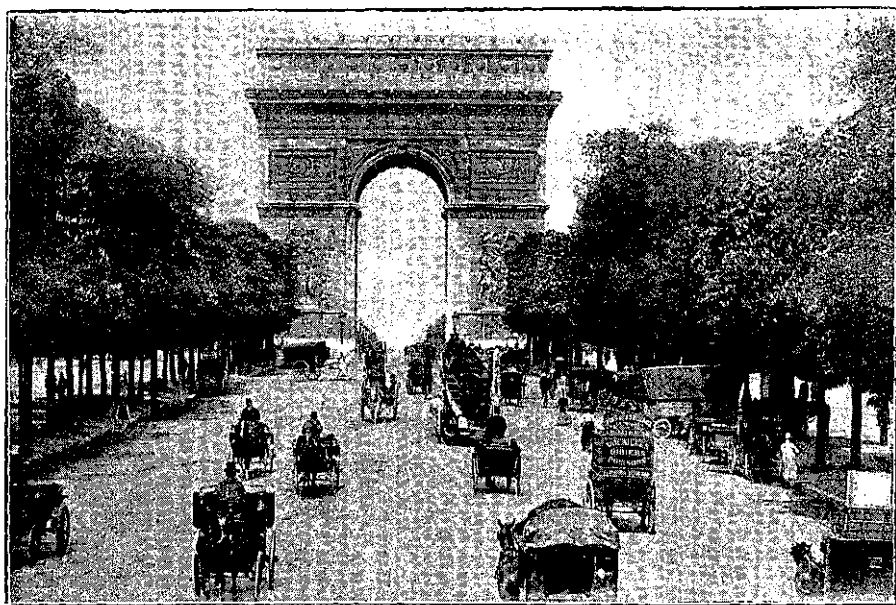


days we enjoyed ourselves on the water; gliding past the Ile de la Citee and Notre Dame, calling at the different stopping places, watching the tugs going up-stream with their long trains of barges, and best of all, going under the many bridges of Paris, and beyond the city through the fast yellowing trees, to Saint Cloud and Sevres!

The present omnibus system in Paris is distinctly bewildering to a newcomer, and no one could fail to be struck by the difference between the fine and well-fed horses of the great London Omnibus Companies,

To return to the omnibuses. At every stopping-place there is an office, where you find little boxes filled with numbered tickets of different colours. You must take one of these from the box marked with the name of the final destination of your omnibus. When there is a crowd, the conductor calls out certain numbers (very rapidly), and according to the number on your ticket you obtain a seat, or wait. If there is no crowd, you do not require your ticket at all: it is gratis, and you pay your fare afterwards, thirty centimes for an inside



L'Arc de Triomphe and Champs-Élysées, Paris.

and their brethren in Paris. The difference is not in favour of Paris. One may see awful things sometimes in London, especially at night, and by day one sees splendid horses tortured by barbarously tight bearing reins, till one wonders whether the good old English love and respect for horse-flesh has died out; but one sees far worse things in Paris—I don't mean amongst the omnibus horses. I don't feel, unfortunately, at all inclined to question the veracity of a French lady who said to us: "Paris est l'enfer des chevaux!"

place, fifteen centimes for an outside seat, which is much the nicer, I think, even on a rainy day! The great difficulty which this arrangement presents, is that a stranger doesn't know the final destination of his omnibus. For instance, you are told by your friends that to reach a certain building, you must take the large blue omnibus with three horses, going North. That is simple, but in the office there are ten little boxes marked, "St. Michel," "Batignolles - Clichy," etc., and there is nothing at all about big blue omnibuses. So you