

AROUND THE WORLD
IN
ELEVEN
YEARS

By

PATIENCE, RICHARD
and JOHN ABBE

AROUND THE WORLD IN ELEVEN YEARS

By PATIENCE, RICHARD
and JOHN ABBE



ILLUSTRATED BY

FREDERICK A. STOKES COMPANY
NEW YORK

MCMXXXVI

COPYRIGHT, 1936, BY POLLY SHORROCK ABEE

*All rights reserved. No part of this
work may be reproduced without the
written permission of the publishers.*

Published, April 6, 1936
Second Printing (before publication), March 26, 1936
Third Printing, April 7, 1936
Fourth Printing, April 10, 1936
Fifth Printing, April 13, 1936
Sixth Printing, April 27, 1936
Seventh Printing, May 11, 1936
Eighth Printing, June 10, 1936
Ninth Printing, June 25, 1936
Tenth Printing, July 9, 1936

Printed in the United States of America

CONTENTS

Part One

FRANCE	3
------------------	---

Part Two

AUSTRIA AND GERMANY	39
-------------------------------	----

Part Three

RUSSIA	57
------------------	----

Part Four

HITLER GERMANY	87
--------------------------	----

Part Five

ENGLAND, AND THE BOAT TO AMERICA	117
----------------------------------	-----

Part Six

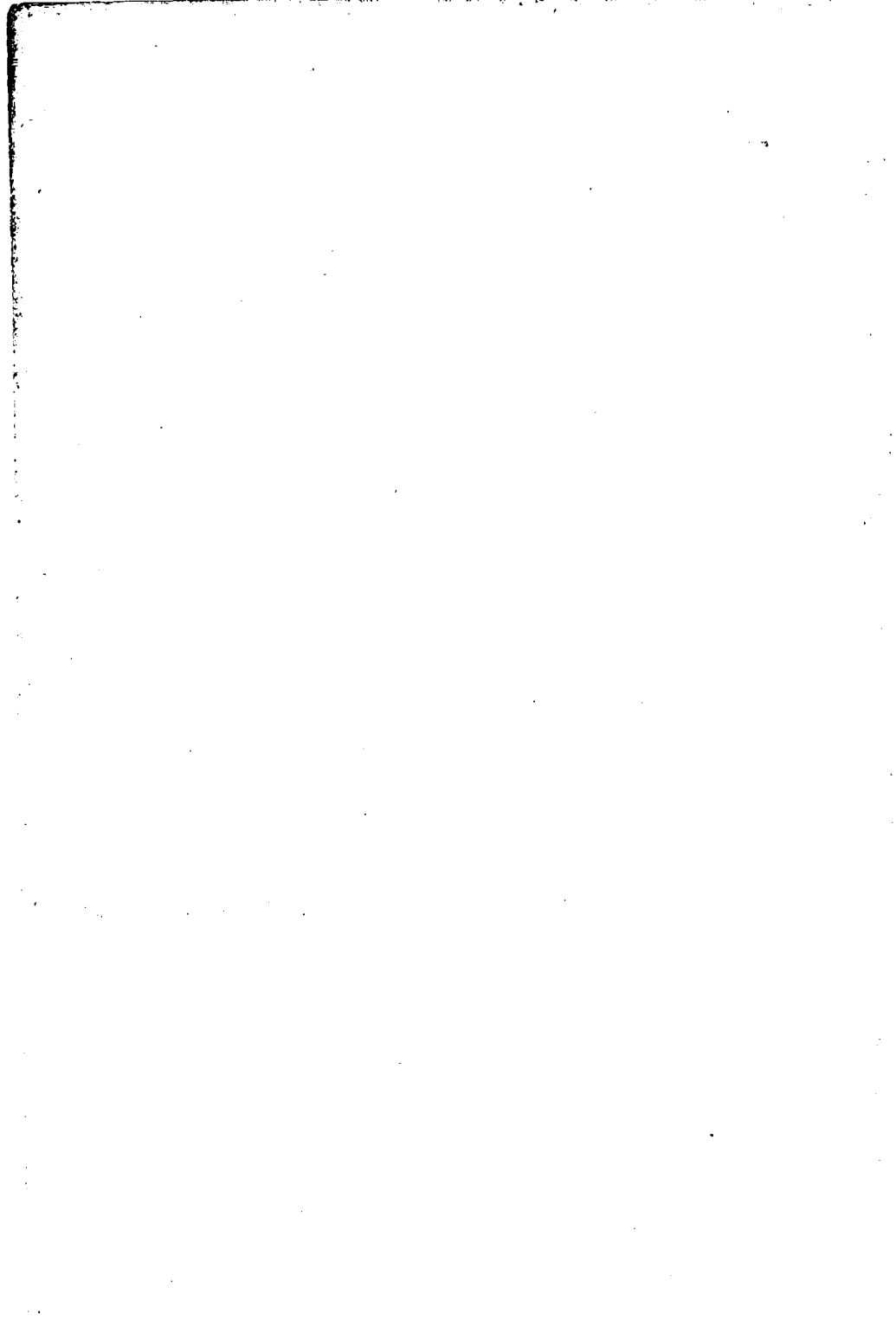
AMERICA	137
-------------------	-----

Addenda

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WE LIKE .	193
--------------------------------	-----

THESE ARE THE ANIMALS WE LIKE .	203
---------------------------------	-----

PART ONE
FRANCE



Chapter I

RICHARD, JOHNNY AND I were born in Paris. I, Patience, was born in a hospital and so was Richard on the Boulevard de la Saussaye. Johnny the littlest was born in the Rue de Val de Grace in a Studio. Johnny has red hair, I have blond hair and Richard has brown hair. Our servant Antoinette carried me, Patience, on a pillow, to Monsieur le Curé so I could get my name, Patience.

Now the reason why I am called Patience is this. When Mamma was in the hospital waiting for me, and that was quite a while, her nurse told her she must have patience and so did the doctor. She tried her best, so when I did come Mamma looked in my basket and said to herself "Well there is my patience" and so that is why I am called Patience. But Mamma told me that Monsieur le Curé said there wasn't any such name as Patience in France. It was a word.

AROUND THE WORLD

Mamma took us to see the first house that I, Patience, ever lived in after I got born. Mamma called it a "hut." She brought me from the hospital wrapped up in a long red Italian shawl to this hut. It was all hidden behind a tall stone wall, and you had to walk up a long, long lane to it, and the walls were covered with vines and honeysuckle. Then you came suddenly to a door like in "Hansel and Gretel" and this was the hut. You couldn't take a bath in that place when you had company because the bathtub was right at the head of the stairs which went up to the two bedrooms, and there was a dining salon and little kitchen which opened up right into a lovely garden and all hidden away. Papa got this hut from a Russian lady who escaped from the Revolution and next door lived a Baronne and Baron and they had all the pictures of the Czar's family hanging up because the Baron had been an officer of the Czar. He was working in a bank and could speak every language, and she was saleslady at Patou's. Her brother spent all his day teaching tennis and he was very unhappy because he could do better than this. They lived on their pearls and by now they must be all gone because when they were escaping from Russia the Baronne

IN ELEVEN YEARS

sold one pearl after another of her long string so they could get bread, and she lost all her three children from the pest, because sometimes in Turkey they had to work burying dead bodies that died of the pest. But they were very valiant.

Mamma's *femme de ménage* used to clean up the house and cook the lunch and then when she was leaving she would collect all the snails on the garden wall for her own lunch. The Russian lady whom we got this hut from died and her little daughter was taken in by the Baronne. She was very pitiful.

Then Mamma showed me the second house I ever lived in and this was a little pavilion behind Madame Darzans' house. This was also in a beautiful garden and flowers were all around. But Mamma said Madame Darzans said she thought Mamma was either a very cruel woman or else insane because Mamma used to leave me out in the garden all day long in my *berceau*. And when it rained then Mamma said she wrapped me up in the lovely Italian shawl and left me in the *berceau* only she put an umbrella over me. And Mamma said the nice wet air made my cheeks as red as the shawl, but Madame Darzans used to come and argue with Mamma when it rained even though

AROUND THE WORLD

Mamma said I loved the umbrella. But Mamma said I stayed out in the rain with my umbrella no matter what Madame Darzans said.

Mamma said I, Patience, was supposed to be born, because while I was waiting to be born, Mamma fainted and fell off a bus on the Champs-Élysées. When Mamma woke up a crowd was standing around her and arguing, and she couldn't understand one word they were saying. Then suddenly a voice said in an American accent, "My husband is a doctor and we live right around here." So this lady took Mamma to her husband, and he made Mamma walk up and down for twenty minutes, and I didn't get born then, so this man said Mamma was all right.

This was the time Mamma didn't have any place to live. She and Papa were living at the Hotel de la Grande Bretagne on the Rue Caumartin but one day the clerk cashed a check for 35 pounds for Papa into francs and when they collected they found that they had made a mistake in the exchange from pounds to francs and the hotel had given too many francs, and Papa didn't have the money to make up the difference, because he and Mamma had spent the 35 pounds. So since it is a crime to make a Frenchman lose any-

IN ELEVEN YEARS

thing, they thought it was a crime about this, and locked Papa's and Mamma's luggage in their rooms, and Papa and Mamma were on the street without even a toothbrush and not one sou in their pockets. And it was Easter and all the English were on holiday in Paris and all the small hotels were full, and you couldn't go into a big hotel without any luggage without paying in advance. So Mamma and Papa were on the streets. So Papa finally got his lawyer and borrowed fifty francs, and they went to two hotels, one each night, but they were rented after that. Then Mamma fell off the bus. So this lady said, "I shall put you in a taxi. What is your address?" Mamma didn't want to go in the taxi because she didn't have a sou. So Mamma said, "Oh, I live over there," but she couldn't think of the name of any hotel. So then Mamma said, "Well, send me to the Café de la Paix," and Mamma was sweating all the way for fear Papa wouldn't be there to pay for the taxi, if he had the money. But luckily he was there watching the world go by and he rescued Mamma and then took Mamma down and bought her an ice-cream soda with the last three francs he had.

So then Mamma and Papa went over to a hotel in

AROUND THE WORLD

the Rue de Seine, and Mamma looked up at the little window in the ceiling and said, "If I am dead when I wake up, all will be well." Then the lady at this hotel stopped Mamma and Papa in the morning, and Mamma and Papa hadn't had any dinner the night before, and this lady said, "You don't look as though you are accustomed to coming to a hotel like this," and she gave Papa 100 francs, and Papa and Mamma went to the Deux Maggots and ate ten croissants apiece and four café au lait, and then after three days Papa paid this lady the 100 francs, and all this happened just before I was born.

But Papa had a good time before Johnny was born because he discovered how to stop all the traffic in Paris. He would take Mamma out in our Citroën and yell to the agents de police, "femme enceinte," which means, "woman with child," and the agent de police would stop all the trolley-cars and autos until Papa got by. Once Papa ran into a trolley-car and Mamma was on the trolley-car side and our Citroën went up, up in the air, but it didn't tip over, and then Papa and Mamma and all the agents de police and all the people began arguing, and then Papa said, "Femme enceinte," and everybody stopped arguing and the

IN ELEVEN YEARS

agent de police raised his stick and made way for Papa and Mamma, and everybody was saying, "Pardon, pardon!"

Mamma and we the children could get on all the busses and trolley-cars first because she had children with her, no matter how long the people on line had to wait and no matter how first their numbers were. The conductor would push everybody aside to let ladies with children on first and no one ever argued about it. Because you can go to jail for hitting anyone in Paris, that is why the French people argued so. You can't do anything to the French for arguing.

When Johnny was about to be born Lindbergh flew right over our studio at Val de Grace, so Mamma and Papa got into the Citroën with Aigner his secretary and they went racing out to Le Bourget to see Lindbergh land. And Papa said on the way a lot of other people in Paris had thought of the same thing so that the road was full of cars and no one could move an inch backwards or forwards. And all the French were arguing and talking. Then Mamma suddenly got some pains in her belly and Papa and Aigner got sweat on their heads because they couldn't get out of the car with Mamma, and even if Papa yelled "femme

AROUND THE WORLD

enceinte" it wouldn't do any good, because all the cars were packed in like sardines. So while they waited to get somewhere they picked out the house they thought it would be nice to have Johnny born in on the side of the road, but Mamma then didn't get Johnny that night, but she nearly did, Papa said. Then suddenly down the line of busses and cars the French began, "Il est arrivé, Fantastique!" etc. And everyone was talking very excited. Then, Papa said, suddenly they were all very quiet thinking about this nice little fellow who flew over the ocean like an eagle, then suddenly one man said to the crowd, "Well, Messieurs, how do you think he did wee-wee coming over?" And everybody laughed until they were hysterical. Of course, the French would say a thing like that.

When Johnny came into the world Mamma had a new carriage because the one she had for Richard and me was like a gondola with big high wheels and the part you sat in was like a boat. But every time we moved in this carriage it tipped over, so Mamma said to save our skulls she had to buy a new carriage which had little tiny wheels and a big high box which you couldn't fall out of even when you stood up. But

IN ELEVEN YEARS

Mamma loved the gondola and we did too. Mémé, who was Mamma's Mamma, pushed Richard and me all over Paris in that gondola.

We lived in lots of places in France besides Paris. We lived in Normandie, Cannes, Juan Les Pins, St. Cloud and Neuilly. Whenever we moved we moved in two taxicabs, and once when we were moving to Le Touquet we had four taxicabs and just as we were getting into the gare our pot-de-chambre fell out of our luggage and rolled all over the gare. Aunt Hope Williams who was J. D. Williams' wife, and they were lovely people, came with us, and when we got into the train Aunt Hope said, "If we hadn't caught this train after I got up at five this morning to help you get off, I would not have gone with you." And Mamma said, "Well, you don't have to go even yet; the train isn't going very fast yet," and Aunt Hope said, "That's right, I didn't have to come, but I'll see it through."

When we lived at Val de Grace, Mahonri Young and Paul Manship lived in the court by us. This was a marvelous rich place. The best thing about it was that you could go in through three doors. You could go in through the kitchen, or a door into the dining-

AROUND THE WORLD

room. Then there was a winding staircase, that went around and around made of iron, and on the second floor was Mémé's rooms, then you went up the winding staircase to the third floor and there was the maid's room and a bathroom and another room and a cabinet, then Mamma's room which had blue carpet on the floor which your feet sank into. The walls were all yellow silk and the bed, which didn't have any tops to it had a yellow satin thick cover on it and there was a golden mirror behind the bed on the wall. And there was a fireplace. Then you opened the door of Mamma's room and went down three steps into an entrée which the staircase of the studio came into and then there was the studio all glass with a balcony inside and out. And there was a large piano and a round table with benches which Harry Lachman found on the floor of a castle and made into this table and benches. It had designs on it. You didn't have to go out the same door you went in at if you didn't want to in that house, just like our house in St. Cloud. Harry Lachman was an artist who rented us the studio, and now he is a director in Hollywood.

M. Perrin one day got the Nobel prize and M. Clemenceau came in our garden and saw me, Patience,

IN ELEVEN YEARS

and said "What is your name, little cauliflower?" And I said "Patience." And he said "Tiens, tiens." And then he said "How is your papa called?" And I said "Abbe." So he said "What a family."

Lélé and her husband lived next door. Her husband was a professor in the Sorbonne. Lélé was very nice and she and Mémé our grandma used to take us out in the Luxembourg gardens every day. Lélé couldn't speak English and Grandma couldn't speak French, so I, Patience, explained things to them.

We played with three children in that court and Jacqueline wrote a note to Lélé and said, "Paquit est très gentille quand elle dort. Richard est très gentil. Il est plus gentil que Paquit."

Downstairs under our studio lived a sick lady whom no one knew what was the matter with. After she died Mahonri Young came to live there. But this sick lady looked like a queen and came from Tennessee. One day she came in to Mémé because she loved Mémé and said that Ambassador Herrick had come to see her that afternoon and she was mortified because our bonne had all the diapers out in our garden. But she was only imagining this because our diapers were hung in the drying-room and no Ambassador