ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTE ON THE TEXTS

arr. Parisian arrondissement

C commissaire's verdict

I inspector's account

OP other places frequented by pederasts

P imprisoned

PP pederasty patrol

R released

S signed promise to avoid suspect places at suspect hours

U unable to sign

W warned to avoid suspect places at suspect hours

X unwilling to sign

The records from 1785 begin with formulaic language (reproduced only in #1 and #18, the first pederasty patrol) and include three parts: the inspector's account of the arrest (I), the prisoner's statement, and the commissaire's verdict (C). I have summarized the inspector's account in my words, including quotations within quotation marks and additional information within parentheses. I have translated the prisoner's statement verbatim, indented it to distinguish it from the preceding and following parts, and enclosed additional information within brackets. Most prisoners signed their statements, and I have reproduced their signatures as written, within slashes and without correction. Some would not sign (X), and more could not sign (U). I have abbreviated the commissaire's verdict and included any comments of significance within quotation marks. The commissaire released some prisoners without further ado (R) and others after he gave them a warning (W) or after they promised not to frequent suspect places at suspect times (S). He consigned many to prison (P) but rarely indicated which one.

Text within {curly brackets} is crossed out in the document, while text within +crosses+ is added in the margin.

More than a few reports mention coins in circulation in 1785. One gold louis was worth twenty-four livres, and one écu was worth three livres. One livre (or franc) was the equivalent of twenty sols or sous. One sol or sou was worth twelve deniers, and one liard was worth three deniers.

I have added the province or country in parentheses after the names of cities and towns, but I have not annotated Parisian streets that have changed names or vanished. For these details, see Hillairet, Dictionnaire historique.

I have retained a few French words, without italics, in the translations. The noun "commissaire" refers to one of the forty-eight officials responsible for public order in the twenty districts of Paris, as opposed to the commissioner of police in modern cities. The preposition "chez" means at the residence or business of, in just one word.