Contents. The forty-five guardsmen. Chapter I. Robert Briquet looked attentively at the speaker, who seemed to be about forty-five years of age, and the principal personage in the group. Yes, monsieur, replied he, you are right: but may I venture to ask what you think their motive is for these precautions? Pardieu! the fear they have lest some one should eat their Salcede. Diable! said a voice, a sad meal. Robert Briquet turned toward the speaker, whose voice had a strong Gascon accent, and saw a young man from twenty to twenty-five, resting his hand on the crupper of the horse of the first speaker. His head was bare; he had probably lost "The Forty Five Guardsmen" by Alexandre Dumas. Historical fiction from the time of the bitter conflicts between Catholics and Protestants in France after the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre and before the reign of Henri of Navarre. According to Wikipedia Alexandre Dumas père French for father akin to Senior in English born Dumas Davy de la Pailleterie 1802 - 1870 was a French writer best known for his numerous historical novels of high adventure which have made him one of the most widely read French authors in the world. Many of his novels including The Count of Monte Cristo The Thre