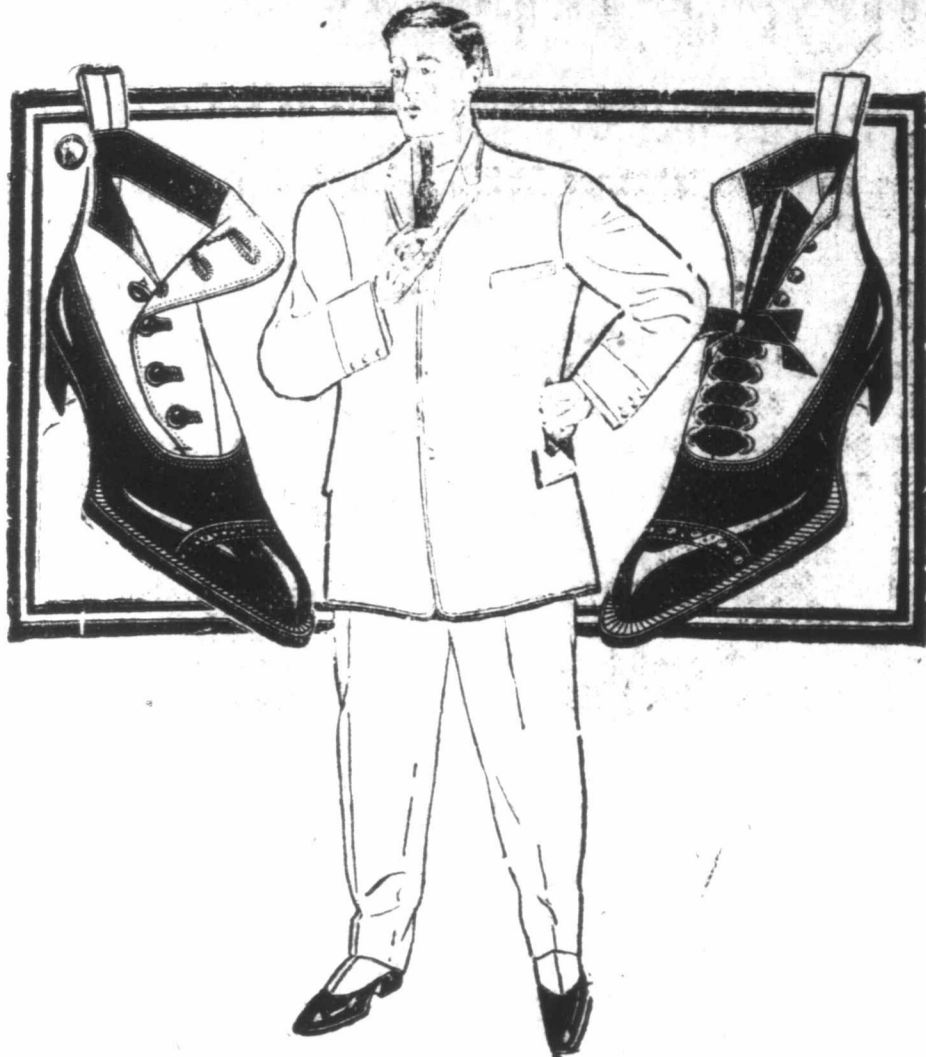


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**Cambrai Figured In Mediaeval Wars**

Gave its Name to One of Most Formidable Alliances of History—Has Textile Factories—Famous For its Manufacture of Fine Linen and Muslin

If, after Perrone, St. Quentin should be retaken by the French and English in their fierce offensive, Cambrai would be one of the important objectives in the line of advance. This town, 121 miles by rail north-east of Paris, is the subject of the following war geography bulletin issued by the National Geography Society from its headquarters in Washington.

Twenty miles south-east of Arras and about the same distance north of St. Quentin, Cambrai, which had a population approaching 30,000 before the war, is one of the most interesting towns in Northern France. Situated on the right bank of the River Scheldt at its juncture with the St. Quentin Canal, the city enjoyed considerable commercial prosperity on account of its soap works, sugar mills and textile factories. Its importance to France now, however, is sentimental rather than strategic.

The event connected with Cambrai which commended it to womankind throughout the western world was the invention here, in the fifteenth century, of the fine linen fabric which takes its name from the town—Cambrie. The name of Baptiste Couling, the weaver who is supposed to have made the first Cambrie is perpetuated in the muslin called Batiste.

**Military Allowance.**

One of the most formidable alliances of the middle ages was that which was effected here under the name of the League of Cambrai at the beginning of the sixteenth century. The members of the league were Pope Julius II, the Emperor Maximilian I, and the King of France and Spain. These four major powers brought together through the diplomacy of the Pope, had as their object the humbling of the great Republic of Venice. The avowed end having been achieved, the victors began to quarrel over the spoils and the league soon ceased to exist.

Cambrai is famous as the city where two royal women of masculine force joined in a great diplomatic exchange of views resulting in the Paix des Dames (Ladies' Peace) which brought to an end, temporarily, the destructive war between Francis I, of France, and the Emperor Charles V. This treaty, signed in 1529, caused an abandonment of plans for a duel in which Francis had challenged Charles as a means of settling their quarrel single-handed.

The two women who negotiated the treaty were Louise of Savoy, devoted mother of the French King, and Margaret of Austria, who had been the guardian of her nephew, the future emperor, during his youth, and whose long regency of the Netherlands was distinguished by firmness and justice. It was Louise upon whom he had conferred the title of 'Mésdame' after ascending the throne, that Francis wrote his famous letter following his defeat and capture at Pavia in Italy. 'Of all things,' he said, 'nothing remains but honor and life, which is safe.' 'From this we have derived the familiar "All is lost; save honor."

**Captured by Spain.**

In the closing years of the sixteenth century Cambrai was captured by the Spaniards, and it remained a part of the Flemish possessions of the southern kingdom for nearly 100 years, until Louis XIV. secured its cession to France by the Treaty of Nimègue. In 1793 the town successively resisted the besieging forces of Austria, but it was not so happy in its resistance to the Duke of Wellington in 1815.

Among the great names in French history which are associated with Cambrai are those of two churchmen—the scholarly and exemplary Archbishop Fenelon, whose Treatise on the Education of Girls was a pioneer discussion of the problem of 'higher education for women, and the Cardinal Dubois, described by a vitriolic contemporary historian as 'a little, pitiful wizened man in a flaxen wig, with a weazel's face brightened by some intelligence a man in whom all the vices—perfidy, avarice, debauchery, ambition, flattery—fought for the mastery.' Despite this disagreeable picture, it is to be remembered that as the virtual ruler of France while serving as private secretary to the regent, Dubois gave his country a longed-for era of peace which would have been fraught with even greater benefits had it not been for John Law's 'Mississippi Bubble,' which burst, precipitating the nation over the brink of financial ruin.

Enguerrand de Monstrelet, whose chronicles of medieval France begin where Froissart's end, also belongs in Cambrai's hall of fame.

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**The Ancient Glories Of Tripoli are Lost**

**The Wedge Into the Great Sahara a Land of No Promise.**

The reported recent successes of the Turks over the Italians focuses the war news searchlight on Tripoli of Barbary, a section of Northern Africa, which is described as "a land of little promise" in a war geography bulletin issued by the National Geographical Society.

Tripolitania occupies the land along the Mediterranean Sea from the Tunisian frontier to the Gulf of Sidra. From the coast southward, with an average width of 40 miles, runs a plain called Jefara. At its southern border lies with a steep ascent a chain of mountains commonly called Jebel, of which the most famous part is Jebel Gharian. These mountains form a sort of tableland which slopes slightly southward till it reaches Hamada-el-Homra, a flat, rocky plateau of about 10,000 square miles, covered with little red stones, absolutely dry and arid. In the south of the Hamada is the land of Fezzan, a collection of oases in a country of dunes and desert. Fezzan forms a wedge of sparsely inhabited and into the great Sahara.

The coast of Tripoli, which extends over a length of 1,100 miles, offers few natural harbors. The harbor of Tripoli itself is dangerous, because of the many rocks which lie at the entrance. It is only on the eastern coast of Cyrenaica, which is sometimes called the Marmarica, that we find two harbors of the very best quality, Bomba and Tobruk, but as neither has a hinterland, their value is more strategic than commercial. Tobruk is less than a hundred miles distant from the Egyptian frontier.

What is the population now inhabiting Tripolitania, that immense area of 400,000 square miles (more than half the size of the Republic of Mexico). No exact census exists, but all competent observers agree that it hardly exceeds 800,000. That means about two inhabitants to the square mile. The settled population inhabits an area of 19,000 square miles—about one-twenty-first part of the whole island.

In Tripoli every native calls himself with pride an Arab. As a matter of fact, a certain number of Arabs came into the country with the Mohammedan conquest of North Africa in the sixth century A.D. But the peninsula of Arabia was never so densely populated that it could send away many emigrants. The Arabs conquered North Africa and converted its population to their religion. A few of the conquerors remained in the country, and these are still fairly pure representatives of their race: they live as nomads, or Bedouins, in tents, and move with the season from one camping ground to another. Their numbers are difficult to estimate, but it is about 50,000. The rest of the population, the settled part, are Berbers; their blood is mixed with that of Arabs, and also of negroes. The negro element, which we find everywhere in Tripoli, has its origin in the slave traffic of former days, which brought thousands of Southerners to the coast of the Mediterranean.

Agriculture and cattle-raising are the chief resources of Tripoli, but they flourish only in small patches; fertile land we find on a narrow strip along the coast, in the region of Jebel Gharian and in Cyrenaica. The product is barley, which in the last few years has superseded wheat; olives, figs and vines. Barley is shipped mainly to England, but the crops are subject to great variations, owing to the uncertainty of rainfall.

Much has been said in the press by Italian political writers about the grandiose prospects of the country. These prospects are mainly based upon the supposition that Tripolitania was, under the Roman Empire, a province of flourishing agriculture and enormous wealth. There can be no doubt that Tripoli once saw better days, although the accounts of some of the ancient writers seem to be exaggerated. The causes of the decline are

manifold and far from clear. The decline commenced when Rome's power began to weaken. The wild tribes of the desert, which had been kept down by force, took advantage of Rome's weakness and attacked the boundaries of the colony. The elaborate system of irrigation could only work when there was absolute security. When peace was no longer assured, the agriculturist was hindered in his work.

A second cause of the decline of the country—which is, however, still a point of controversy—is a change in the climatic condition of the region. There is probably some truth in this assertion. Every man who has seen, in the midst of the desert, the ruins of Roman castles and villas comes to the belief that some mightier power is responsible for such a change. A great tragedy has been enacted here. A local tradition says that the bad behavior of the women prevents the clouds from giving rain. Apart from the droughts, which are sometimes of five, seven and even ten years' duration, we find in the invading sand dunes another great enemy of agriculture. Quite near to the palm gardens around the city of Tripoli one can see sand dunes rising to a height of about 70 feet.

Some 50 years ago Tripoli deserved, with a certain right, the grandiose names of "the Key to Central Africa" and the "Queen of the Sahara." Today these glories are of the past. Once Tripoli was the great emporium of the trans-Saharan situation in the Sirt nearer to the heart of Africa, it was the gateway of the trade with Central Africa. Large caravans arrived laden with the goods of the Sudan and the Niger countries. These goods were ostrich feathers, ivory, skins, minerals and slaves. The slave traffic was the most remunerative article of that trade.

The decline of the trans-Saharan trade began when the representatives of the European powers protested against the slave trade. But more important than all these causes just mentioned was the advent of European control of the Niger countries and Hausaland. Shipping was started on the great rivers Niger and Benue, and the communications with the west coast of Africa were greatly improved. The new route, by ship and rail, is safer, cheaper and quicker than that of nearly 2,000 miles across the Sahara, where water is scarce and robbers abundant.

**Encased in Cow's Stomach for Cure**

**Young Woman Took Her Baby to Killing Pens For External Blood Nourishment**

DENVER, Col., Aug. 10.—Declaring that she was following recommendations of a Denver physician, an unidentified young woman yesterday took her sickly month-old baby boy to the Denver stock yard and had it encased for five minutes inside the stomach of a cow which had just been killed. She declared that the external nourishment would cure her baby. The "treatment" was arranged for at the slaughter house of Swift & Company, where the young woman calmly stood in a pool of blood, and rubbed her hands approvingly while the treatment was given according to her directions. She was conducted to a killing pen, and as soon as a cow could be killed an incision was made in the animal's body by two federal inspectors. She then handed them the naked child, which was done regardless of its crying protests. At the end of five minutes she washed and dressed the child and departed without disclosing her address to the inspectors.

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