

In the Wake of the Invaders.

—SERMAISE—

(London Times)
 BAR LE DUC, Oct. 31.—If Bret Harte's Roaring Camp had grown in the ruins of Pompeii it would have looked as Sermaise does today. When a year ago the Crown Prince was seeking brutally for a path across the Argonne after the defeat of the Marne, he and his cousin of Wurtemberg left desolation behind them. The ruins of Sermaise are still there, but in them the gay note of singing and the tap-tap of the carpenter's hammer cut-din the ponderous grunting of the distant guns. The tragic vector of masonry masonry which once was "Lovely Sermaise" has become a symbol of the confidence of France, a confidence which I have had frequent opportunity of noting in a

journey of some four hundred miles in the army zone. The first requirements of an American way-out-west-ville have been met. There is a saloon—in Sermaise, the Hotel Restaurant des Ruins; there is the store—in Sermaise, the Bazaar de la Ville; there is the sheriff's office—represented in Sermaise by the Mairie. These public buildings, like the rest of the new and temporary town, are built of plain deal boards and roofed with tarred felt. The simple materials employed and the severely square style of architecture do not lower their dignity. The proprietor of the Hotel des Ruins, not one of your comfortable "easy" landlords, but an anxious man, forced to begin life afresh

at an age when he ought to be handing over to his sons, contemplates from the stoop of his new establishment the jumbled pile of bricks which is all that remains of the old prosperous hotel. He admitted that an effort had been needed before he could bring himself to start again. Even now, in spite of the excellence of his hut, the ideal of "Business as usual," even with the addition of "during the necessary alterations and repairs," seemed difficult of attainment. They were still shut off from the outside world by the Armies; supplies were difficult to get, but so were customers. "But," he concluded, "il faut que ca continue quand meme." In the immediate foreground of his mind "ca" stood for the sale of sweet syrups, of "bocks" and the "petit vin blanc rigolo dyu pays" then "ca" meant Sermaise; and the intimate life of the country town which must continue, was France.

Reconstruction.
 I first saw Sermaise, Vassincourt, Revigny, Heiltz, Villers-aux-

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COMING—THE GODDESS—ANITA STEWART, prettiest, cleverest and most charming is CELESTIA, and playing opposite as Tommy Steele, her chiefest worshipper, is EARLE WILLIAMS.

Vents, and the other ruined villages long enough and the German war vessel should be let free to go out on year. Before reaching them I had visited the ruins of Ypres and of Rheims. It struck me then that the what capital and industry had built in Ypres and Rheims they could build again, but that in the smaller and recouperation would marks of her own. Being a German, move on very heavy leaden feet. The great force of tradition, more living in the country than in the town, more frequent in quiet reflective lives than in those of bustle and activity, is upsetting that idea. In the churchyard of Sermaise a "soldier of France" who died a year ago sleeps next to one who fell in 1870. They both bled that France might live; and in the ruined villages south of the Argonne, within earshot of the guns, they are hard at work again building up their shattered communi-

ties. It had to be done from the foundations up. The eccentricities of shell and fire are many. Of a house once the home of six people you will find nothing but a mantelpiece remaining. Through all the destruction a piece of ornamental china has been preserved intact upon the mantelpiece. In many cases, when the villagers returned to their homes, so complete was the chaos that it was only through some strange instance of preservation that they were able to identify the site of their homes. Everything they possessed had disappeared. The high gates of the French farmyard opened on nothing. Their agricultural implements, their poultry, their cattle, their household belonging, their barns had vanished. The very fields had been stripped bare. All the things which made up their homes were no more. The country was dead. Outside a lean-to shed in a cabbage patch at Vassincourt there is a brave-hearted sign which proclaims the fact that it is used for the sale of wine and that the title of the inn is "A la Renaissance." The persistent heroism of civilian France one result of which is that Rheims is still occupied by 20,000 inhabitants, while the Mayor opposes any whole sale occupation of the town, even by the children, is found here in these ruined districts where they are recreating the stricken life of their villages.

German Official In Seattle, Wash. Brought to Book

One of the pro-German agitators at Seattle, Washington, woke up the wrong passenger, a few weeks since when he ruffled the temper of Mr. A. E. Killam, who during his trip to the Panama Exposition, visited the city of Seattle, on Puget Sound.

At Seattle as elsewhere throughout the United States and Canada there is a public auto service for general sight-seeing. The visitor buys a ticket which gives him a seat in an auto car for a general sight-seeing tour extending over two hours or so. A man accompanies the car with a megaphone, through which he talks and makes remarks, wise and otherwise, about the points of interest.

In Seattle it appears that the general offices of the auto service were near the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk Railway wharves. Before commencing the general trip around the city, it was suggested that the car might run down to the wharf so that the visitors could see a steamer, which had been sunk in a collision. In pointing out the steamer, which had been sunk, the guide directed the attention of the visitors to a German war vessel, which had been interned immediately on the outbreak of war.

The guide, who seemed to be an impertinent cub, shouted out, pointing to the interned German war vessel, that "It was a shame! England had dominated the world

him just like the farmers of Westmorland County used to hear it twenty-five years ago. They will recall how convincing it was.

"THAT IS FALSE," he cried. The guide then chipped in a reply with a little more anti-British talk and Mr. Killam again jumped to his feet in the car and turning to the tourists said:—

"I am a British subject and will not stand here to be insulted in this manner. I have paid my fee for a seat in this car to see Seattle. I do not intend to sit here and be insulted by listening to such stuff. If the guide persists in these remarks, I will leave the car and go to his employers and report the matter."

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Killam then left their seats in the front of the car and took rear seats as far away from the insulting remarks as possible. The guide then came to them and said he wanted to apologize, and added:—

"I am an American." Mr. Killam—"I will not accept your apology. If you are an American citizen, you are no credit to the American people."

With this shot, the guide collapsed, but the other tourists in the car cheered Mr. Killam and they heard no more anti-British talk in that car during the trip.

The little weakened pro-German woman, Mr. Killam believes, was a German spy, because six days afterwards, during the return trip, they met her in the vestibule of the Auditorium Hotel at Chicago. Mr. Killam inquired of the hotel manager as to who the woman was and the manager replied that she had been there for several days, but they could not find out what her mission was. She claimed to be from France and spoke exceedingly fluent English. She also tried to get the hotel manager to introduce her to Mr. Ford, the automobile manufacturer, who so grossly insulted the British and French financial commissioners to the United States a few weeks since.

WHY DO YOU WAIT?
 Why do you wait, brother, why do you wait?
 The Empire's call is plain:
 Why do you wait, when your country's fate
 Trembles 'midst leaden rain.

Why do you wait brother, why do you wait?
 Do you love your Island Home?
 Why do you wait 'till it is too late
 And Right is smothered by Wrong.

Why do you wait brother, why do you wait?
 You comrades call to thee
 From Gallipoli's shore the cannon's roar!
 They are heeding you and me.

Why do you wait brother, why do you wait?
 The Oldest Colony
 Is asked to-day its part to play
 On shore and on the sea.

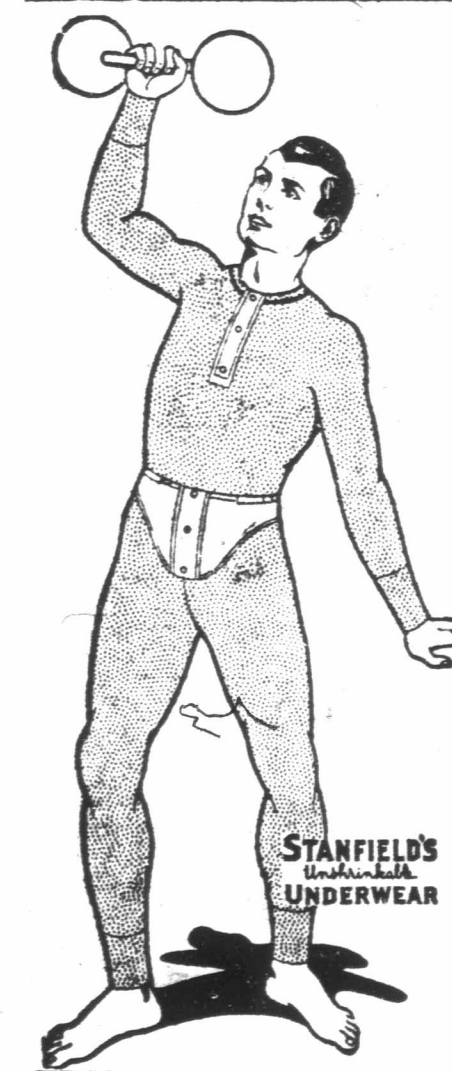
Now it the time brother, now is the time,
 For the sake of that dear old pal,
 Who lies to-day, by Subia Bay:
 He has answered the Final Call.
 K. R.

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