



A DINING ROOM

That makes one feel at home in it at once is a Good sauce to the diner. The Dining Room should be made as cheery and attractive as possible, while it needs to be handsome and dignified withal; and we can help you to do this in its furnishing.

Dining Tables, Round and Oval, Buffets, China Cabinets, Settees and Chairs en suite, weathered, fumed or Early English Oak and upholstered in Real Leather, Rugs and Carpets in rich soft colors that will make the furniture look still more stately and dignified. All are here for your selection, in an assortment that allows of the widest choice. Let us give you an estimate for YOUR Dining Room. Our prices are honest ones.

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10 Doz. Men's Straw Hats. Regular \$1.40, now 75c.
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The Right House.
Cor. Water and Adelaide Streets.

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"ALSACE-LORRAINE" THE MARTYR PROVINCES

PERHAPS the greatest incentive to the martial spirit of France in the present conflict will be the hope of recovering her lost province of Alsace-Lorraine, taken from her as part of the price of victory by Germany in 1870. From the ratification of the Treaty of Frankfurt on May 23rd, 1871, until the present, France has lived in the hope of recovering her lost territory. Although much of this territory was originally German, and although to-day eighty-five per cent. of its inhabitants speak German as their mother tongue, she has always regarded it as her own from the time Napoleonic conquest had fired the line where it was previous to the outbreak of hostilities in 1870, and she will certainly strain every nerve to recover what she then lost.

Two Provinces

Alsace-Lorraine, as the name indicates, consists of two provinces. They form an inverted L running roughly from north to south at the extreme south-western angle of Germany. Alsace, the more southerly of the two, is bounded on the east by the Rhine, which was originally the international boundary line. The total area of the two provinces is not large, as we consider large in Canada, being only 5,601 square miles, or about twice the size of Prince Edward Island. The population is, however, slightly in excess of two millions.

Alsace-Lorraine is one of the most fertile and beautiful of the German Provinces. Within its boundaries are to be found mountain land, plain, plateau, and navigable streams. The Vosges range runs in a northerly direction from near the French fortress of Belfort, while between this mountain chain, snowcapped for six months in the year, and its spurs stretches a fertile plain forming the eastern half of Alsace. In the north-west a high and undulating plateau occupies nearly the whole of Lorraine. The climate is temperate, so much so that grapes are one of the principal crops in Southern Alsace. Elsewhere the natural products are very much the same as those of Canada. Lorraine is very rich in minerals. Owing to their geographical position and natural resources the two provinces have developed rich manufactures of various kinds. The richness of these small provinces is shown by the annual revenue, considerably in excess of \$15,000,000.

Historic Ground

To France Alsace-Lorraine is historic ground. When war broke out between Germany and France just 44 years ago last week, Alsace-Lorraine was one huge French camp. To the north, Marshal MacMahon with the first army corps held Strassburg. The fourth corps, under de Ladmirault, lay at Thionville with Bazaine, and the third corps resting on Metz, behind him. Just beyond the border line the Guard and the seventh corps, under Bourbaki and Douay,

respectively, encircled the two fortresses of Nancy and Belfort. It looked then as though Alsace-Lorraine were held scarcely less securely than the Department of the Seine itself. Even when, after several days of aimless marching and countermarching, some of the French corps had been moved beyond the borders of the provinces, Alsace-Lorraine, seemed secure as an integral part of French territory. This impression was confirmed by the result of the first skirmish of the war—for it was little better—at Saarbrücken on July 30. It was a small but decisive victory for the French, and it was won just beyond the border of Lorraine.

Complete Reversal

Five weeks later saw a complete reversal of earlier conditions. Bazaine, bewildered by the Germans' savage rush, intimidated by the brilliant tactics of Prince Frederick Charles, and finally completely cowed by the news of Gravelotte and St. Privat, shut himself up, at the head of a whole army corps in Metz, almost on the easterly boundary of Alsace and merged from it only to lay down his arms at the head of his troops. Farther to the north another entire army corps with the Emperor himself had been overwhelmed and captured at Sedan. Strassburg had fallen, Belfort was invested, Alsace-Lorraine was lost, and the German army was on the way to Paris.

But the lesson of 1870 was not lost to France. Alsace-Lorraine has been a name of almost magic magnificence in Paris ever since. On the Place de la Concorde sit eight huge stone figures representing eight of the principal cities of France. Among these is the figure of Strass, since 1871, no longer a French city. Yet not a day has passed since then that the seated figure has not borne evidence of what the loss of Strassburg meant to France and of the grim determination of Frenchmen to win it back. The French tricolor flies aloft from it, its shoulders are draped in black, at its feet hangs a shield with the significant word "Ouan-dme" upon it. Often a little bunch of fresh flowers, a handful of violets or lilies, or a red rose lies upon the stone pedestal, the silent offering of some unknown to a national memory as painful as the national determination is fixed.

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FRENCH HAVE BIG COLONIES ABROAD

And Now that the European War Has Become General, Germany Will Try to Harry Them With Her Warships

In war time naval powers pay rather unpleasant attention to one another's possessions over seas. France, Germany and Britain have many dependencies, but Russia and Austria hardly figure in the list of powers owning territory not contiguous to their own boundaries. Germany has colonies with an area of 2,658,449 square miles which would be imperilled in a conflict with France and Britain. In Africa she has German South-West Africa, German East Africa, Togo and Kamerun, and in Asia she has Kiaoo Chau, China, where German warships are preparing for a possible attack by the British fleet. It is known that all small river cruisers have been abandoned by their British crews, who have joined the main Pacific fleet. Some have gone to the defence of Hong Kong and other British possessions. In the Pacific Ocean Germany owns the Samoan Islands, and German New Guinea. Japan would possibly attack them if a world war develops.

France's possessions abroad are much larger and more valuable than those of Germany. In Africa she has Algeria, Tunis, Senegal, Upper-Senegal and Niger, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Sahara, Somali Coast, Madagascar, Mayotte, Comorro Islands, and Reunion, and she also has exclusive rights in Morocco. In America she has Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guiana, and St. Pierre and Miquelon. In Asia, besides possessions in India, having Pondicherry as their capital, she owns French Indo-China, Cochinchina, Tonking, Annam, Cambodia and Laos. In Oceania her dependencies are New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands, Taumotu and Austral Archipelago.

PITHY PARS

Sandy, strolling up the banks of the river, came across an English visitor fishing in the stream. "Man," said Sandy, "ye winna catch one fish there. You'll ha'e to gang a bit further up till ye come to a guid spot?" "Hoots, man," said Sandy, "ye can easy tell a guid spot by the number o' empty bottles lying around."

The perplexing question had arisen many times during their brief matrimonial experience. Again, Mrs. Flint asked her young husband if he thought they could get along without the cook. "I think so, dear," he answered. "Why if the worst comes you can do the cooking and I can get my meals at a restaurant."

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