

CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| PREFACE BY COL. PAUL AZAN | iii |
| PREFACE BY THE AUTHOR | v |

CHAPTER I

| | |
|---|---|
| A GENERAL ACCOUNT OF FRANCE | 3 |
| France and its Central Highlands — Boundaries — The northeastern frontier — Rivers and cities — Rivers of the northeastern frontier — The climate of France — Government — Public works: Roads; Canals; Railroads; Forests; Harbors; Topographic maps — Money — Weights and Measures. | |

CHAPTER II

| | |
|---|----|
| THE GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES OF NORTHERN FRANCE . . . | 22 |
| The Paris basin — The bordering uplands and highlands — The four saddles — Products of the highlands and the basin. | |

CHAPTER III

| | |
|---|----|
| THE REGION AROUND PARIS | 27 |
| The three sectors centering at Paris — The southern sector — The eastern sector — The rocks and the soils of the eastern sector — The northern sector — The western salients of the northern sector — Paris and its neighborhood. | |

CHAPTER IV

| | |
|--|----|
| THE EASTERN HALF OF THE PARIS BASIN | 43 |
| The belted relief of northeastern France — The upland belts as natural defences — Varied features of different upland belts. | |

CHAPTER V

- THE VOSGES AND THE ADJOINING REGIONS 52
 The Highlands of the Vosges — Alsace — The uplands west of the Vosges — The saddle of Langres southwest of the Vosges — The sixth upland belt.

CHAPTER VI

- FROM THE PLATEAU OF LANGRES TO LORRAINE 65
 The fifth upland belt; southern part — The fifth upland belt; middle part — The elbow of the Moselle — The fifth upland belt; northern part — The frontier on the fifth upland belt — The Woëvre lowland — The fifth and the sixth upland belts; northernmost parts.

CHAPTER VII

- THE REGION OF THE MEUSE 84
 The fourth upland belt; southern part — The fourth upland belt; northern part — The underfit Meuse — St. Mihiel and Verdun — The fourth upland belt; northernmost part.

CHAPTER VIII

- ARGONNE AND CHAMPAGNE 98
 The third upland belt; its southern lowland substitute — The forest of Argonne — The second upland belt; southern part; the forest of Othe — The second upland belt and the Champagne — The dry Champagne from the Seine to the Aisne — The lowlands from the Aisne to the Oise.

CHAPTER IX

- THE FIRST UPLAND BELT 110
 The scarp of the upland facing the Champagne lowland — The battle of the Marne — The tablelands north of the Aisne — Contrasts of upland belts and tablelands — The Aisne front.

CONTENTS

xi

CHAPTER X

- THE REGION BETWEEN THE UPPER OISE AND THE SOMME . 124
General features of the region — Rivers and cities — The war front from the Oise to the Scarpe.

CHAPTER XI

- THE NORTHWESTERN UPLANDS 133
The chalk country of Picardy and Normandy — Villages and roads — Valley of the Seine — Exceptional features — The cliff coast along the Channel — The bight of the Somme — Lack of natural harbors.

CHAPTER XII

- THE LOWLANDS OF NORTHERNMOST FRANCE AND WESTERN BELGIUM 144
The lowland, the maritime plain, and the dunes of Flanders — The lowland — The maritime plain — The dune-bordered coast — The people of Flanders — The war front in Flanders.

CHAPTER XIII

- REGIONS NORTH AND NORTHEAST OF FRANCE 151
The Ardennes and beyond — The gorge of the Meuse — The Uplands of Central Belgium — The Lorraine plateau and the adjacent districts of Germany — Southern part of the plateau — Northern part of the plateau — The Sarre coal field — The Hunsrück — The Luxembourg embayment — The gorge of the Moselle — The gorge of the Rhine.

-
- INDEX OF PLACE NAMES 171

A HANDBOOK OF NORTHERN FRANCE

