

## Cham, “To Use a Needle...” (September 1866)

### Abstract

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This caricature by Cham appeared in the French journal *Le Charivari* in September 1866. Like Daumier's cartoon “The New Gulliver,” it expresses both French opinion and anti-Prussian sentiment in southern Germany. A soldier wearing the universal symbol of Prussian militarism, the spiked helmet [*Pickelhaube*], tries to stitch together the defeated German states of 1866 (Saxony, Hanover, Nassau, and the Free City of Frankfurt am Main) into a new nation dominated by Prussia. The caption reads: “It is one thing to know how to use a needle.... But it's a skill that should not be abused” [“Ce que c'est pourtant que de savoir se servir d'une aiguille.... mais, c'est un talent d'ont il ne faudrait pas abuser.”] Here, the cartoonist also makes an oblique reference to the Prussian “needle gun,” the breech-loading rifle that gave Prussian infantrymen greater firepower than their Austrian opponents at the Battle of Königgrätz on July 3, 1866.

### Source

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Source: Cham (Amédée C.H. de Noe), French caricature of Prussia's efforts to annex hitherto independent German territories, from “Le Charivari” of September 1866.

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