

The
**CANADIAN
COURIER**
The National Weekly

HERBERT
PICKER

Vol. XVI.

October 10, 1914

No. 19

WHY DOES THE KAISER BOMBARD CATHEDRALS?



The reason why the Germans have destroyed so many churches in slambanging the hosts of "culture" through France and Belgium was explained the other day at Rheims. The general officer in charge of the bombardment of Rheims Cathedral said it was done because the French had used the steeple as a conning tower. In the case of Malines it was alleged that the Belgians had hoisted machine guns to the steeple to fire at the unoffending and graceful Zeppelins. At Antwerp the Belgians admit mounting guns in the cathedral tower, and for fear of the church being destroyed, removed the rare works of the old masters to places of hiding. But in the cathedral at Mons, shown in this picture, there was no use of the church as a place of war. The sanctuary was bombarded probably because it was the biggest thing in the town on which to try out the strength of the German artillery. What a melancholy mess the Kaiser would like to make of St. Paul's and of Westminster Abbey where he has been present at two English coronations!