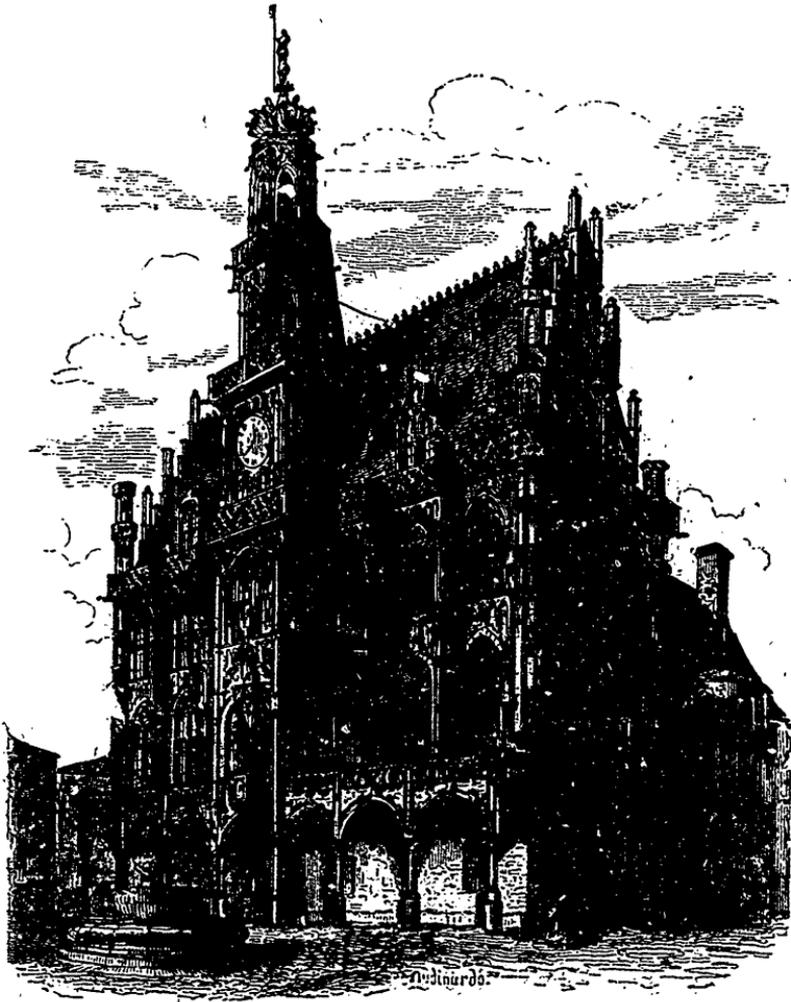


balloon was sailing over head, and till it passed from view everybody was craning his neck to catch a glimpse of it. Posts were planted across certain streets to prevent the intrusion of carriages on the region reserved for the fair. This region was



TOWN HALL, OUDENARDE.

crowded with booths, tents, merry-go-rounds; stages for harlequins, mountebanks, quacksalvers, and cheap theatricals; shooting galleries, peep-shows, and stalls for selling all manner of toys, trinkets, pictures, fancy goods; and more than all, and everywhere, luncheon booths and drink counters. Greater