

THE TRAIL OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES

How the British are Blasting Their Way Through Flanders at One End and Dardanelles at the Other



A REMARKABLE PHOTOGRAPH OF GERMAN TRENCHES BLOWN UP BY BRITISH SAPPERS.

Showing how the underground method forced upon the Allies by Germany is being worked out by British daring and pluck.

AVIATION experts in England are talking about the possibility of bombarding the Krupp works at Essen and the German communication bridges over the Meuse and the Rhine by an aerial invasion of hundreds of aeroplanes carrying tons of high explosives. Meanwhile, the underground operators continue to blast their way foot by foot through the entrenchments of the Germans. The photograph above is a dramatic picture of what happened to a German line of trenches when a corps of sappers had finished with it. At a point where the opposing lines were close together, British sappers tunneled a way into the German trenches. Day by day, inch by inch, the underground road was pierced through. Mines were placed at the point where the "sap" touched the German trench. All unknown to the occupants of the trench on the other side, the chain of destruction was laid. The mine was fired by a time fuse. When the explosion was over, the British troops charged up and occupied the trench. The photograph shows the British in possession, the dead and wounded and captured Germans, the guards and the bayonets; the grimly realistic picture of a kind of



THE WRECKAGE CAUSED BY BRITISH BIG GUNS AT THE DARDANELLES.

A damaged Turco-German fort gun reduced to a mass of useless iron among the debris of the Fort Seddul-Bahr, by high-explosive shells from the fleet.

warfare never before known in the world.

When newspaper despatches tell of the occupation of a few trenches here and there by troops of either side, following either the blast-work of heavy artillery or the work of sappers with mines, it is some such picture as this that takes place. Only the imagination of an underworld artist could have predicted in picture such strange scenes of warfare where men fight underground, under-sea and in mid-air. And it is very seldom that the camera is able to reproduce a scene of such a character. When the history of the war comes to be written, many of its most amazing chapters will be taken from the lives of men who patiently whittle their way underground, making tunnel paths for the men with the bayonet. If some aboriginal novelist could have written the story of war among the cave men, it would never have been so weirdly improbable as the everyday events of the great war that taxes all the enginery and mechanism of a scientific civilization. For the cave men had no high explosives; and the fighters of 1915 are reverting to the conditions of the cave-men. Both photographs on this page are from the Central News.