

ise something of what has befallen the town. For it was the Grande Place and the buildings which stood in it, which were the glory of Ypres. The Cloth Hall and the Cathedral were the Houses of Parliament and the Westminster Abbey of the old Flemish city. But it is a Westminster Abbey in ruins, and Houses of Parliament without roof or windows or doors or ceiling. It is not a question of a shell hole here and there—the whole place has simply been smashed to pieces and gutted by fire. It is one of the unpardonable things that the Germans have done. There have been good military reasons for much of their destructiveness. In other cases it has been unintentional and incidental. But modern gunnery does not hit a thing like the Cloth Hall of Ypres by mistake. For two months, when there was still a chance of their taking the place, the Cloth Hall was untouched. Then came the great fight at the end of October, culminating in the attack of the Prussian Guard in the second week of November, under the eyes of the Kaiser himself. It failed and the Huns slowly and methodically, *ohne Hast und ohne Rast*, just blew the glorious buildings to bits.