

"WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN BELGIUM IS NOT WAR BUT OUTCOME OF HATE"

Cardinal Mercier, Primate of Belgium, Describes the Woes Brought Upon His People by the German Invaders

GERMANS BRUTALLY TAKING REVENGE

On the Belgians For Resisting the Violation of Their Neutrality — Archbishop Witnessed Scenes of Barbarous Savagery

Paris, Sept. 15.—The Temps prints an account of an interview given to a French newspaper man in Rome by Cardinal Mercier, archbishop of Malines, in which His Eminence paints a terrible picture of the miseries suffered by his unhappy country as the result of the German invasion.

"I do not know how I ever managed to arrive here," says the Cardinal. "I cannot shut my eyes without seeing again the bodies of Belgians, desolated towns and villages, and blood everywhere. I wanted to stay among my priests and remain with the hideous of innocent victims of the savagery of the Germans. I called my chapter together and was urged that my first duty was to go to Rome."

Spectacle of Unhappiness
"As I travelled through Belgium the spectacle of its unhappiness seemed to draw me back to my devastated Malines, to the side of my King and the suffragan of Liege—today a hostess; to-morrow, perhaps, a martyr."

All along the roads I could see unburied human bodies mingled with the carcasses of horses. I could recognize some of the faces. Here lay one of my fellow students and there was a fine young fellow whom I had confirmed.

"What has taken place in Belgium is not war, but the outcome of hate. The Germans are taking their revenge for the stigma attached to them as the violators of neutral territory. They imagine that history, terrified by their orgy of blood, will forget their shameful infraction of a treaty—these savages who dare at every step to invoke the name of God, and not only attack harmless creatures, but wage war even against the Divinity."

Deeds of Blood
"In undefended towns, after having bombarded the houses, they have given the churches to the flames and have used their wooden statues on the altar as torches to light them to their deeds of blood. In Malines, a peaceable, undefended town, they made a target of the Church of St. Rombold, and Louvain has been burned by the Germans under the pretext that the inhabitants fired on the soldiers; but at this time, when the holidays have emptied the universities, there would not be ten rifles in the town, which is mostly peopled by priests, old housekeepers and widows. These bomb-carrying Germans wanted to strike at the heart of Belgium. They wished to raze to the ground Belgium's intellectual capital throwing into the flames alike the contents of a laboratories and libraries. Ought not the word 'droit' standing out in letters of gold on the old buildings have made them shudder?"



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"The German deeds in Belgium have nothing to do with war, either of the old days of chivalry or the modern and scientific form: it is an eruption of barbarians into a prosperous, honest and industrious country. It is a blind ebullition of rage against art, sacred or secular, and still more against God in the massacre of his helpless women and child ren."

KAISER IN DANGER FROM AVIATORS

Belgians Dropped Bombs Near Palace Where He Was Stopping

Berlin, via The Hague, Sept. 11.—It was admitted here to-day that the Kaiser and the German general staff have been in danger from a Belgian-French bomb attack by aviators.

They are directing the general campaign against France from the German legation in Luxembourg, capital of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. This was known to the French and Belgians, and a few nights ago it was admitted Belgian and French aviators flew over the city and attempted to drop bombs on the legation building. Four bombs fell near it, but it is stated they did no damage.

In order to forestall another attempt however searchlights have been mounted and aviators are constantly on watch.

SAW HER FAMILY ALL SHOT DEAD BY THE GERMANS

Woman Had Husband Executed Before Her Eyes in the War of 1870

WORSE TRAGEDY IN PRESENT WAR

When She Saw Her Son and Grandsons All Killed by the Germans

London, Sept. 15.—What is surely one of the most poignant tragedies possible to imagine is sent by a Dutch correspondent. The truth of the story is vouched for by Lamberts Harrelbrinck, of Maastricht.

"During the Franco-German War of 1870," he says, "the Germans by their invasion of Alsace, spread untold miseries among the villagers whose properties they claimed. A certain well-to-do farmer named Hauff became so much enraged by the plunder of his well-stocked farm that he shot dead two German soldiers. He was immediately taken outside his house and executed. In vain his wife begged for his life. She afterwards found their little boy crying on the dead body of his father."

"Mother," the child said, "when I grow up I shall revenge father and shoot Germans."

"The widow finding further abode in Alsace under German rule unbearable, emigrated to Belgium and settled near Vise, where she took another farm."

"Her boy became a man, the father of a family, including two boys, and for forty-two years his mother shared with him and her grandsons happy family life at Vise. Then came the present war, and two weeks ago the German troops arrived at Vise."

"The Belgian inhabitants had just before destroyed a bridge over the Meuse. For this they were severely punished by destruction of their houses. Farmer Hauff witnesser these outrages and, besides himself with distress and remembering his promise over his father's body, shot one German invader dead. At once a number of soldiers seized him and dragged also from his house his two sons."

"All three were placed against a wall and summarily executed."

"It was thus the fate of the poor widow to see her husband, her son and her two grandsons shot before her eyes."

GERMANS EXCEL IN NUMBER OF MACHINE GUNS

Have Six to a Regiment as Compared With Two For the French—Poor Cavalry—Don't Like Bayonet Charges

Paris, Sept. 12.—Where the Germans are superior to the French is undoubtedly in their mitrailleuses. They have six to a regiment whereas the French have only two, and mitrailleuses are invaluable for defending positions. In heavy artillery also they have a great advantage, but the efficiency of this weapon except for siege operations is apt to be exaggerated. In field artillery they have nothing comparable to the celebrated French 75, and their cavalry is inferior in horseflesh. In dash and mobility the German infantry is not equal, as a rule to the French, and nothing will induce any German soldier to stand a bayonet charge.

A Desperate Fight.
A wounded British officer who arrived here from St. Quentin, said:—"It is the shrapnel and mitrailleuse fire of the Germans that is the worst. Their rifle and big shell fire don't count much. Their heavy shell often do not burst at all, and when they do in the open they merely break in two or three pieces. Their light field artillery is not a patch on ours and their aim is not good. We gave them a tremendous hammering, but there were too many of them, and nothing could stop such masses."

"The British had a desperate fight at St. Quentin," he said, "but it was against an overwhelming mass of Germans."

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