

with civilized warfare, and only attributable to wanton cruelty and delight in devastation. It may suffice to mention two instances.

In besieging the position at Dybbøl, which was strengthened by some entrenchments, the Prussians, in spite of their superiority both in number and armament, met with a lengthy and obstinate resistance. About a mile and a half behind the position, beyond the sound of Als and on the low coast of this island, the small town of Sønderborg is situated. It did not take any part in the defence, but had some value as shelter for part of the troops. One day Prussian shells suddenly began to rain down over the town with great violence, continuing with some pauses till the whole town was in ruins, and this was done without the least notice being given to the unhappy inhabitants, of whom a number were wounded and killed, although this cruelty could not give the assailants any advantage whatever. In another instance Prussian troops burnt down the village of Assendrup because they had been taken by surprise there, although the attack was executed by a small body of the *Danish regular army*, without the villagers having any knowledge of it or taking any part whatever in the fighting.

When an army, which even under such circumstances cannot withhold from cruelties, is exasperated by meeting unforeseen resistance, by seeing unexpected dangers accumulate, and by feeling the peril of a definite total defeat gradually increasing for itself and its country, it may well be capable of still worse deeds, such as those lately committed by the German army in Belgium.

Now the war of 1864 is not the only one which has been fought between Denmark and Germany or some part of it. During the thousand years and more of Denmark's