

France and Belgium—1914

French government while America remained neutral, but since the declaration of war they have been released through the Pictorial Press. Each drawing bore its own text, which appears here in translation.



"On August 20, at Nomény (Meurthe-et-Moselle) between 3 and 4 in the afternoon, the Germans entered the butcher shop of the woman Francois, who fled from the cellar with her shop-boy, Stub, and an employe named Contal.

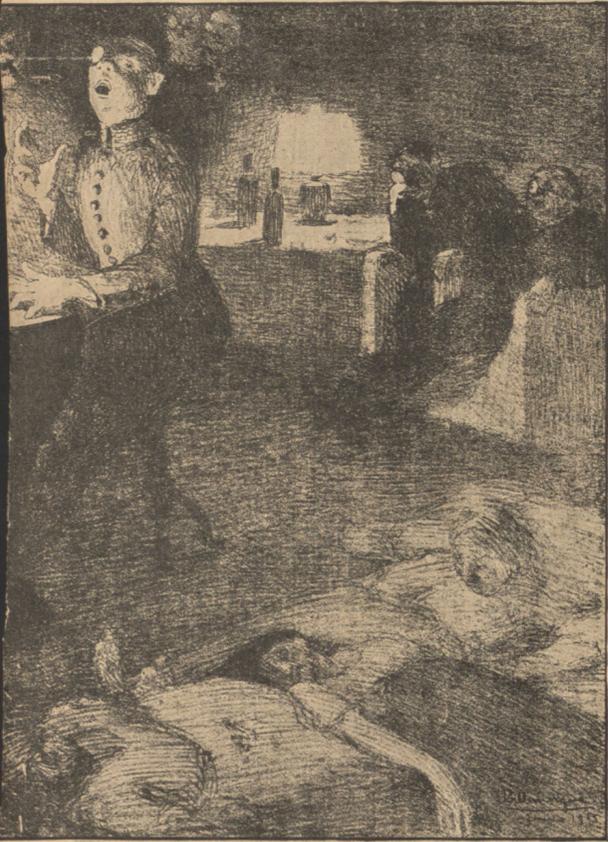
Stub was badly wounded on the threshold by a gunshot, while Contal was shot down in the street. Five minutes afterward, as Stub was breathing his last, a soldier bent over him and finished the business with a blow from a meat ax in the back."
French Official Report



"On October 20, by the Yser, after an assault on Pervyse, six newly taken (German) prisoners were shot. On one of them were discovered two hands of a child, which had been cut off. The Teutons, themselves fathers of families, take shamelessly home with them such glorious trophies."
Belgian Official Report



"At Lebbeke-les-Termonde, Franz Mertens and his friends, Van Dooren, Dekinder, Stobbelaer and Wryer, were bound together arm to arm, and their eyes put out with a hot iron point. They were later slaughtered."
Belgian Official Report



"At Triaucourt (Meuse), Mme. Procès, with her mother, aged 71, and her 81-year-old aunt were beaten to death with gun-butts. During the night which followed this tragedy the Germans played the piano in the room where the bodies lay."
French Official Report



"On September 6, 1914, a woman named Louvet witnessed the martyrdom of her husband. Seeing him in the hands of ten or twelve soldiers, who were attacking him with clubs before his home, she ran out and embraced him across the front gate. She was brutally pushed back and fell, while the butchers dragged away the luckless man, who, covered with blood, begged them to spare his life. At the edge of the village the wretched business was finished. When his wife found him again his head had been crushed in, his eyes hung from their sockets and his wrists were broken."
French Official Report



"At Sompuis (Marne) an old fellow of seventy, named Jacquemin, was manacled to his bed by an officer and left there without food for three days. He died of hunger."
French Official Report

