

enemy, because I would like to see the *quondam* Dr. Carus restored to us all—rescued, as it were, from Dr. Carus.

Here is the account as it appeared in the papers received to-day:

Amsterdam, October 22.

(From the Antwerp correspondent of the *Telegraaf*.)

“Of the four women recently sentenced to death—namely, the French teacher, Louise Thullier; the Countess Jeanne de Belleville; Anna Benaizet, a tailoress, and Miss Cavell, only the last-named up to now has been executed. The heroism shown by Miss Cavell, and some weeks ago by Madame Louise Frenay, who was executed at Liège, influenced even the German firing squads, of whom the majority did not aim at the victims. The result in the case of Madame Frenay was that she was wounded in the leg, while Miss Cavell was hit by only one of twelve bullets, the commanding officer in each case being obliged to give the *coup de grâce* by shooting the wounded woman with a revolver placed at the ear.”

This makes terrible reading which will, Dr. Carus, affect you as it must affect any civilized human being. I see that, owing to pressure brought to bear on him by the King of Spain and the Pope, the German Emperor has ordered the execution of the remaining ladies to be cancelled.

Sincerely yours,

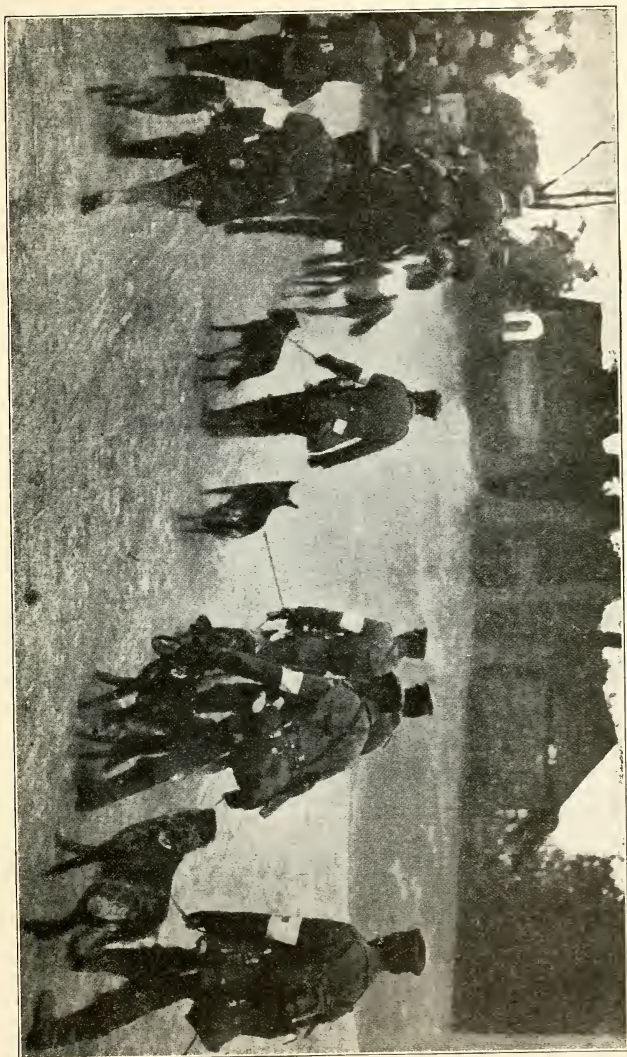
C. MARSH BEADNELL.

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#### DR. BEADNELL'S CRITICISM.

While the current *Open Court* is being made ready Dr. Beadnell's answer reaches me, and I take this opportunity to publish it at once and make special room for it in the current number, even in preference to my own article on the same subject, written in answer to my critics. It but proves to me again that Dr. Beadnell is fully convinced of the justice of the English cause and the viciousness of Germany. I am especially impressed with the case of Miss Cavell, and wish to let my readers consider it in the light in which he so impressively represents it. But has he ever considered that the German authorities are in an extremely difficult position? Surrounded by spies and traitors who use underhand methods, the German authorities in Belgium were helpless against certain individuals who, under the protection of their position and their sex, misused the confidence placed in them and succeeded in rendering the enemy more effective service than the soldier can do in the open field. These are weapons which can become more formidable than regiments. Information sent thus secretly to the enemy is as arrows shot in the dark, and it is an established law over all the civilized world that the misuse of public confidence in such a case is punishable with death. I am sure the German judges did not pass the death sentence without great reluctance, and moreover they did so only because they deemed the execution of such a sentence absolutely necessary for the protection of their country against those persons who, for security in their wrong-doing, relied on the leniency with which they would be treated.

It is peculiar that in this case again, as in the execution of francs-tireurs earlier in the war, the world complains about German barbarism, while if the Allies do the same thing it is considered a matter of course. It does not seem to be known that the French executed two German women, at any rate



THE DOG IN RELIEF WORK WITH GERMAN MEDICAL CORPS AT THE FRONT.

nowhere did either the press of the Allies or any paper of any kind set up the howl of indignation which arose over the execution of Miss Cavell. I refer to Ottilie Schmidt and Olga Mott, the one executed at Nancy and the other at Bruges as German spies on evidence which was not half as strong and facts not half as provoking as in the case of Miss Cavell.

The description of the execution of Miss Cavell, as it passed through the newspapers and is here repeated by Dr. Beadnell, is very romantic and even dramatic, and I wonder who has invented it. The executioners certainly did not publish a report, for they are under oath not to speak about it, and, unless



#### RUSSIAN GUN EXPLODED BY THE GERMANS.

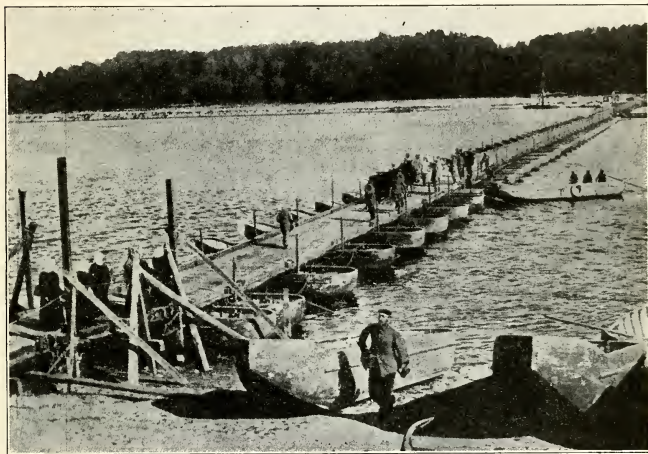
Note how strangely it has been hit by a hostile shell which entered its mouth and burst inside.

I am grossly misinformed, representatives of the press were not admitted. So it seems that we have before us the poetic reverie of a French novelist, and in order to know the truth we must wait for the official German report.

I notice that in England, as evidenced not only by Dr. Beadnell but also by Professor Conybeare, much stress is laid upon Germany's offensive attitude in this war. When Germany relinquished her defensive attitude and changed it into a vigorous offensive she was to be blamed, but I wish to call attention to a passage in my first article on the war, in which I explain that Prussia

has always adhered to the policy that every war should be a war of aggression, because the most efficient defensive will always be a vigorous attack. The army that maintains a defensive can never gain a victory and is apt to be beaten, while the offensive army has all the advantages. Prussia is right. Therefore, as soon as Germany understood that war became necessary, I cannot blame her for attacking the enemy unhesitatingly and as vigorously as possible. To make a distinction between an offensive and defensive after war is declared seems to me mere quibbling. Either there is a state of war or there is peace. As soon as war becomes inevitable the best procedure is a vigorous attack.

I do not condone German barbarities any more than the barbarities of



PONTOON BRIDGE RAPIDLY CONSTRUCTED OVER THE NIEMEN

other nations, but certainly I object to the method of condemning Germany for actions which custom tolerates in the case of the Allies.

As to the passage which Dr. Beadnell quotes from the article by Mr. Crowley in the August *Open Court*, I confess that I would have canceled it if I had seen it in time. The writer being an Englishman, I assumed that his article would at least contain nothing actually offensive to English people. But I was mistaken. The royal family of England is of German descent. The late prince consort was highly respected, but I must confess that the Germans are not very proud of his descendants, yet had I been writing a criticism of them, I should have used very different language from that in the passage Mr. Beadnell quotes.

Dr. Beadnell kindly praises me for "displaying a generosity of spirit" . . . "in publishing views and opinions which are so antithetical to those" I myself "so warmly hold." I hardly deserve this compliment. I hold my pro-German

views because I cling to the principle of fair play, and I would deem it wrong to myself to see those who combat my own views hampered in any way or put to a disadvantage. My critics are to me friends who help me find my mistakes; and if I am mistaken they do me the favor of pointing out my errors. I want to know when I am wrong; I want to discover my illusions even if they are dear to me. I consider every one of my critics as much in search for truth as myself; they help me in my quest, and so I am grateful to them.

#### DEVASTATIONS IN RUSSIA.

When Napoleon entered upon his victorious Russian campaign in 1812, the Russians lured him into the interior as far as Moscow and followed the principle of laying waste the country so thoroughly that the invaders could



A BRIDGE IN GALICIA BLOWN UP BY THE RETREATING RUSSIANS, BEING INSPECTED BY GERMAN ENGINEERS WITH A VIEW TO RECONSTRUCTION.

not find sustenance for their army. The result was that Napoleon was forced to withdraw from the burning Russian capital in the middle of winter, and his retreat developed more and more into a hopeless flight.

In the present campaign the Russians are bearing in mind their former success in this respect, for they are following the same principle, leaving behind them a hopelessly devastated country. Our frontispiece represents one of the villages of eastern Poland after the Russian retreat. It remains to be seen whether the German advance will be seriously checked by these destructive methods.

One thing seems certain, that this practice is at least as hard on Russian subjects as it is on the German army, for the inhabitants have been expelled