BATTLE SCENES IN THE EAST AND THE WEST

A RUSSIAN PRIEST ON THE FIELD BLESSING THE CHARGING TROOPS.

During the severe fighting on the Polish border a Russian priest, chaplain to one of the regiments, heroically risked his life in the midst of a hailstorm of German bullets to bestow the blessing of the Church on the soldiers. He stood holding aloft a cross for all to see as they pressed eagerly into the combat.

In no army does the military chaplain exert such influence as in the Russian army—a fact readily comprehensible when we remember the intensely powerful hold which the Orthodox Church exerts on the minds of its votaries all over Russia, from the Emperor to the humblest peasant.

From a painting by Frederic de Haenen.

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The Indian troops are showing themselves to be fierce fighters, especially in hand to hand conflicts. At one point in northeastern France a massed force of Germans broke through the British defence and stormed the trenches. With triumphant shouts they rushed on, only to meet a short distance beyond, behind a slight eminence, the British supports, consisting chiefly of Indian troops. The Indians charged with the bayonet. There was a fierce scrimmage for a moment, then the Germans were forced to retire, the Indians in the thick of them slaying right and left.

Drawn by H. W. Koekkoek from a sketch by H. C. Seppings Wright.

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STREET FIGHTING IN A TOWN ON THE BELGIAN BORDER.

The struggle on the Belgian border has consisted largely of street fighting, and even in some places of house to house encounters.

The incident here illustrated shows a typical encounter between British cavalrymen, dismounted, and Germans holding a town. They had advanced three-quarters of a mile into the centre of a town, where they found themselves in a large square, when suddenly flames appeared to leap skyward from one of the buildings, a shower of star shells at the same time making the place as light as day and enabling the enemy, who were ensconced in the surrounding buildings, to pour in a devastating fire with rifles and machine guns.

Drawn by H. W. Koekkoek.

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