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Civilians of Brussels victims to German artillery fire.

London: W. Speaight and Sons, 1916

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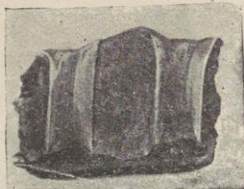
Civilians of Brussels Victims to German Artillery Fire.

ON the occasion of a recent attack (at the end of September, 1916) by English aviators on the German military aviation sheds and flying grounds at Brussels, a certain number of persons belonging to the civil population of Brussels were killed and wounded and buildings were damaged in various ways.

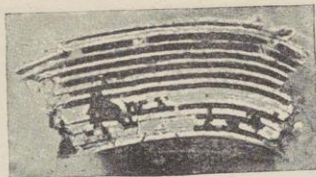
The German press and the organs of the German propaganda at once circulated rumours to the effect that these casualties and this damage were due to the unskilful methods of the English aviators, and were not the result of German artillery fire.

It is now proved that this version does not correspond to the facts; the Belgian Government has become possessed of material evidence which confirms the hypothesis that the inhabitants of Brussels were the victims of German artillery fire.

This evidence consists of several fragments of German projectiles, picked up on the spot on September 27, 1916, and now deposited in the Belgian Ministry of Justice at Havre. We reproduce below a reduced photograph of them.



No. 1.



No. 2.



No. 3.

Three of the fragments are specially characteristic.

They are splinters of shells found in the house of the Bricoult family, Avenue Georges-Henri, on September 27, 1916, after the raid by the English aviators. (This family was killed.)

The first fragment (No. 1) is a piece of a driving-band, which proves conclusively that the projectile was fired from a gun.

The second (No. 2) and the third (No. 3) are fragments of the aluminium fuses which crown the head of the projectile.

As a further proof that the projectile was fired by the Germans, it has been attested that the wall of the garden has a hole made by a shell, at a height of 1 metre 20 centimetres from the ground.