UNDER THE GERMAN SHELLS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649241798

Under the German shells by Emmanuel Bourcier

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

EMMANUEL BOURCIER

UNDER THE GERMAN SHELLS

Trieste



The author at Camp Grant. The American coldier is Divisional Interpreter Unberto-Gagliasse.

UNDER THE GERMAN SHELLS

BY

EMMANUEL BOURCIER

MEMBER OF THE FRENCH MILITARY COMMISSION TO AMERICA

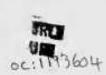
TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY GEORGE NELSON HOLT AND MARY R. HOLT



NEW YORK CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS 1918 COFYRIGHT, 1918, BY CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

Published May, 1918





PREFACE

LIFE is a curious thing. In time of war Life is itself the extraordinary and Death seems the only ordinary thing possible for men.

In time of war man is but a straw thrown into the wide ocean. If the tossing waves do not engulf him he can do no more than float on the surface. God alone knows his destiny.

This book, Under the German Shells, is another instance of war's uncertainties. Sent by my government to America to join the new American army as instructor, I wrote the greater part of the book on the steamer which brought me. The reader will, perhaps, read it when I am dead; for another steamer is about to carry me back to France, where I shall again be "under the German shells," before the book will see the light.

This is the second work which I have written during the war. The first, *Gens du Front*, appeared in France while I was in America. I wrote it in the trenches. The second will ap-

PREFACE

pear in America when I shall be in France. The father will not be present at the birth of either of his two children. "C'est la Guerre."

My only wish is that the work may be of use. I trust it may, for every word is sincere and true. That it may render the greatest service, I wish to give you, my reader, a share in my effort: a part of the money which you pay for the book will be turned over to the French Red Cross Society, to care for the wounded and assist the widows whom misfortune has overtaken while I have been writing. Thus you will lighten the burden of those whom the scourge has stricken.

I hope that you will find in the work some instruction—you who are resolutely preparing to defend Justice and Right and to avenge the insults of the infamous Boche.

I have no other wishes than these for my work, and that victory may be with our united arms.

EMMANUEL BOURCIER.

CAMP GRANT, December 16, 1917.

vi

CONTENTS

CHAFTER		PAGE
I.	THE MOBILIZATION	I
цŗ	THE INVASION	21
III.	THE MARNE	50
IV.	WAITING	93
v.	LA PIOCHE	101
VI.	THE GAS	120
VII.	RHEIMS	134
VIII.	DISTRACTIONS	148
1X.	THE BATTLE OF CHAMPAGNE	166
X.	VERDUN	177
XI.	THE TOUCH OF DEATH	200

1.0