BELGIUM UNDER THE GERMAN OCCUPATION. (1916)

A PERSONAL NARRATIVE 2

Brand WHITLOCK

Chapter XXXIII. The press-gangs: Tournai.

On October 11 General Hopffer in an affiche announced that these men had been deported. There were about eight hundred of them.

Brand WITHLOCK

(Translation:)

NOTICE

In spite of my orders and the repeated notices concerning the consequences in case of disobedience, the workmen demanded by the German authorities have not been placed at their disposal.

For this reason a number of workmen of Tournai and Templeuve who had refused to work, together with the alderman Wibaut, of Tournai, were sent to Germany to-day.

In case of obstinacy others will be sent to Germany and other measures adopted.

Hopffer, General-major und Etappenkommandant. Tournai, 11 October, 1916.

Footnotes.

Belgium under the German Occupation: A Personal Narrative; London; William HEINEMANN; 1919, 2 volumes. See chapter (« The Press-gangs», sometimes with title « Documents in evidence » in other editions), volume 2, pages 268-344 (76 pages), especially page 280. (Very partial) French translation: «Les enlèvements» in WHITLOCK, Brand; chapitre XXVI (1916) in La Belgique sous l'occupation allemande: mémoires du ministre d'Amérique à Bruxelles; (Paris; Berger-Levrault; 1922) pages 383-391, especially page 389.

It would be interesting compare with what Paul MAX (cousin of the bourgmestre Adolphe MAX) told about the same day in his Journal de guerre (Notes d'un Bruxellois pendant l'Occupation 1914-1918): http://www.museedelavilledebruxelles.be/fileadmin/user upload/publications/ /Fichier PDF/Fonte/Journal de%20guerre de Paul Max bdef.pdf

It would also be interesting compare with what <u>Louis GILLE</u>, <u>Alphonse OOMS</u> et <u>Paul DELANDSHEERE</u> told about the same days in *50 mois d'occupation allemande* (Volume 2 : 1916) :

http://www.idesetautres.be/?p=ides&mod=iea&smod=ieaFictions&part=belgique100