

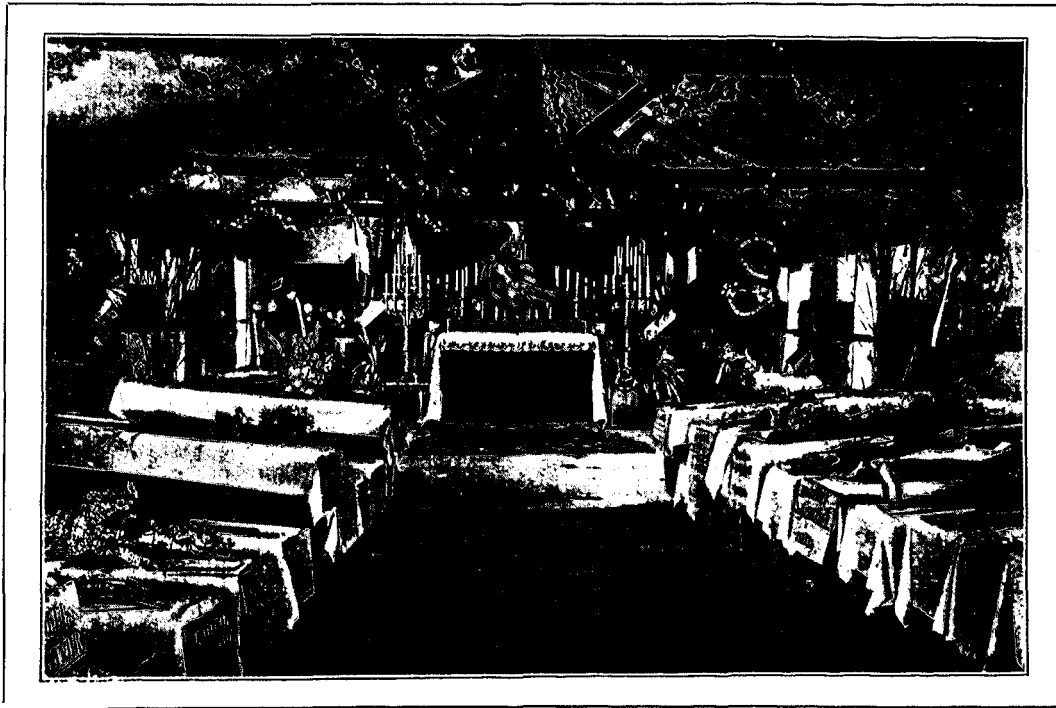
ary monument, surmounted by a cross erected to the memory of these brave men of the 137th Regiment of Infantry, and inside the rail which surrounds it some of the bayonets are now stacked, for incredible as it seems, some have been removed as souvenirs.

Another evidence of the violence of the sanguinary struggle which took place around the forts is to be found in the beautiful little "Ossuaire" pictured on this page. Many of those who fell have never been identified—can never be identified—for they were blown up into fragments and have disappeared. Here a few pieces of bone, there an identification disc, are all that remain to testify that theirs is the supreme glory of sepulture on the heights of Verdun.

So the "Ossuaire," which is also a chapel, has

forty great engagements fought around the town, and will include Roman Catholic and Protestant chapels, a Jewish synagogue and a Mohammedan mosque, but it can never exceed in beauty the simple "Ossuaire," where little groups of people listen with tears streaming down their faces as the good priest-in-charge speaks to them from the altar steps, words of comfort, and of explanation of the purpose of the "Ossuaire." Then they move on and others take their place.

The town has been decorated by President Poincaré with the knighthood of the Legion of Honour, and surely never was decoration better deserved. It is an honour which carries with it definite privileges, including free education for the children of deceased soldiers who are natives of the town.



THE OSSUAIRE, HEIGHTS OF DOUAMONT, VERDUN.

been erected, and unknown remains, fragments of bones, are reverently collected and deposited here. It will be noted that it has almost the appearance of a hospital ward, because of the long boxes on either side, in which the bones are deposited, covered by white sheets, on which are laid wreaths of palms and flowers. The picture, however, gives no idea of the brightness, the beauty, the peacefulness of the little chapel which is most sympathetically served and cared for by a priest who was with the troops at the Fort throughout the bombardment. By and by there is to be a permanent structure, the first stone of which was laid in August last by Marshal Pétain. It will contain forty large tombs representing the

The City of London may well be proud that it has been granted the honour of adopting a town with so glorious a record, not only at the present time, but in its historic past.

M. B.

#### A GREAT BENEFACTOR,

Sir Jesse Boot, who has been a great benefactor to the beautiful City of Nottingham, has offered to give £200,000 for the construction of a boulevard, nearly two miles in length, between Nottingham and Beeston. The scheme includes a pleasure park with a bandstand, and a large lake, and will be started at once in order to provide employment.

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