



41. Engelse troepen in Vlaanderen

In deze kader brengen we u, aan de hand van hun briefwisseling, een introductie van de aanwezigheid van de Engelse troepen in Vlaanderen gedurende de Eerste Wereldoorlog.

Vooral tussen Ieper en Armentières vochten de Engelsen met verbeetenheid tegen de Duitsers. Postroutes, censuur maar ook filatelistische schatten die de Engelsen na de oorlog mee naar Groot Brittannië namen, kerden voor de duur van deze tentoonstelling even terug naar hun plaats van herkomst in Vlaanderen.

41. Les troupes britanniques en Flandre

Ci-dessous nous vous donnons, à partir de leur correspondance, un aperçu de la présence des troupes britanniques en Flandre au cours de la première Guerre mondiale.

C'est surtout sur le front entre Ypres et Armentières que les Britanniques se sont battus avec acharnement contre les Allemands. Des documents d'histoire postale, des marques de censure, et d'autres trésors philatéliques, conservés en Grande-Bretagne depuis la guerre, reviennent ainsi à leur lieu d'origine en Flandre, le temps de la durée de cette exposition.

41. English troops in Flanders

Here we exhibit, by means of their correspondence, an introduction to the presence of the English troops in Flanders during the First World War.

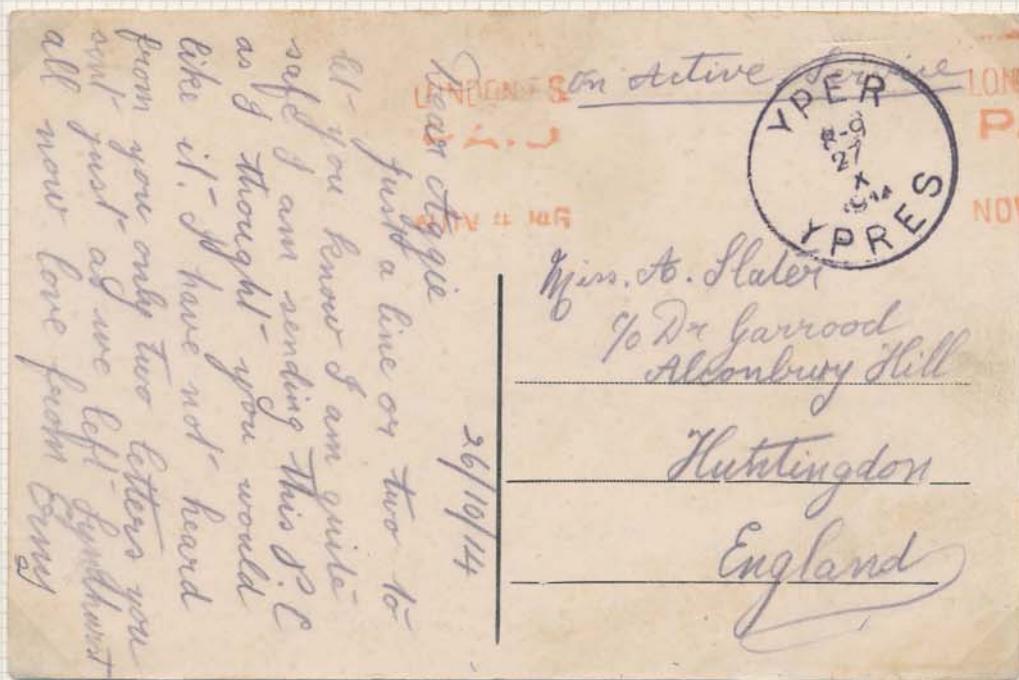
It was mainly between Ypres and Armentières that the English fiercely fought the Germans. Not only documents containing postal routes and evidence of censorship, but also philatelic treasures taken by English soldiers with them to the United Kingdom after the war, return briefly, the duration of this exhibition, to their place of provenance, Flanders.

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Yser enclave

1914 - 1918

Yper - Ypres



Postcard from YPRES, to Huntingdon (England).

Cancelled: Dated 27 october 1914 - Yper - YPRES

London Paid ... nov 1914

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Yser enclave

1914 - 1918

Ypres



Envelope from YPRES, to Grand Etat Major Belge.

S'ADRESSE

Cancelled: Dated 16 april 1915 - Yper D - YPRES D

English troops in Flanders Field 1914 - 18

War Find



Letter from Mouscron to Menin dated 5 june 1864! Franked with 10 cent medaillion cancelled 257 in losange of dots.

Manuscrit: **Trouvé dans cet état à la droite + signature.**

Wax seal of 'Service des Postes'.

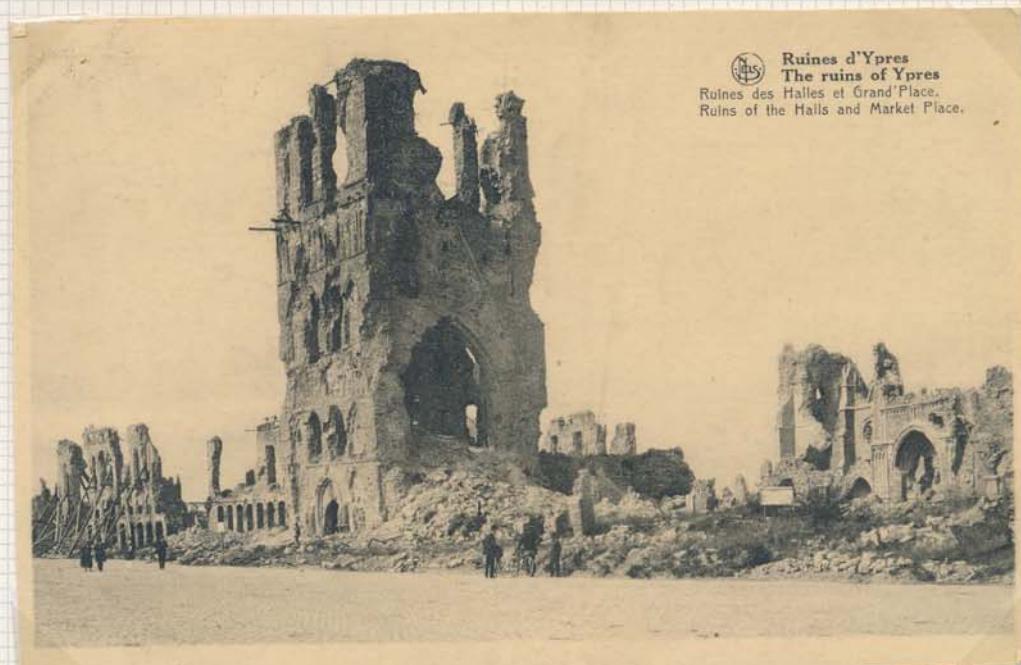
Marked in pencil in English : **Found in ruins near Menin during World War 1915.**
Backstamped Menin 6 june 1964.

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Yser enclave

1914 – 1918

Before and after



English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Yser enclave

Envelope from YPRES -
Manchester (H.M.S.).
Cancelled: Yper D
YPRES D, dated 16.X.1945
Suffolk.



Envelope from YPRES -
Manchester (H.M.S.).
Cancelled: Yper -
YPRES dated 21 16.X.1915
London F.S. 23.11.1914



Envelope from YPRES -
Manchester (H.M.S.).
Cancelled: Yper YPRES,
dated 16.X.1915 and
Manchester 4 nov 1914



English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Yser enclave

British Army Covers posted from Ypres in 1918

Field Post 166

22 Jan 18 to

Stamford

Passed by

Censor



Field Post 164

31 Jan 18 to

Stamford

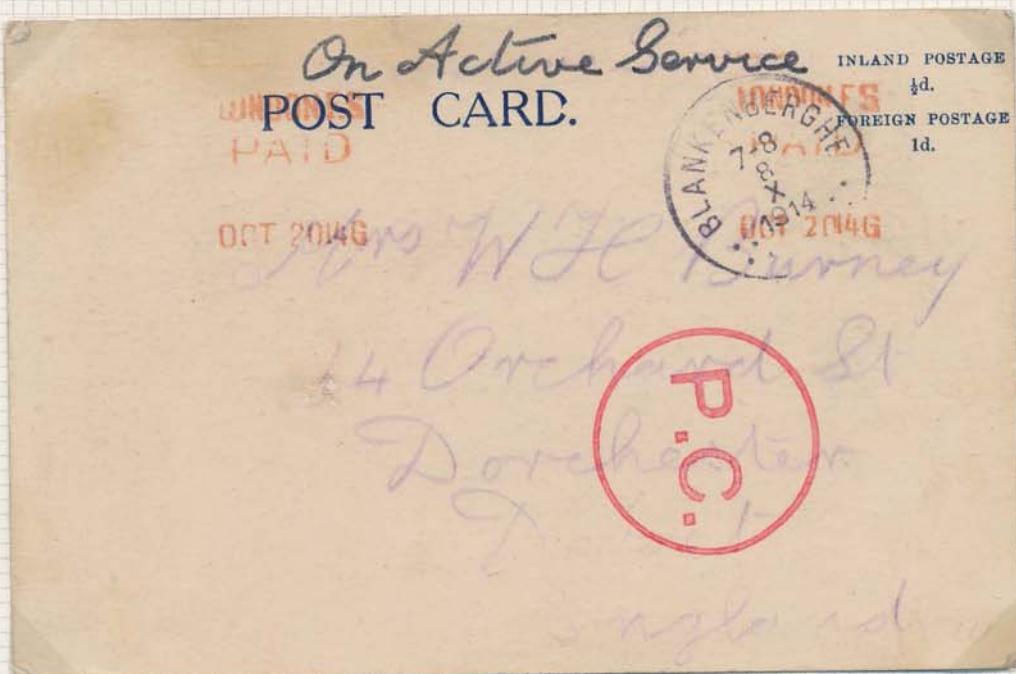
Passed by

Censor



English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

P.C.



Postcard of seamen's Institute Southampton to Dorchester dated **October 1914**. Marked 'On Active Service' – message copied below.

Card cancelled **Blankenbergh 8st October 1914**. Shortly after, Blankenbergh fell to the German invaders. Card Marked 'P.C.' in large circle. Raison? **London Arrival 20st October 1914**.

Message:

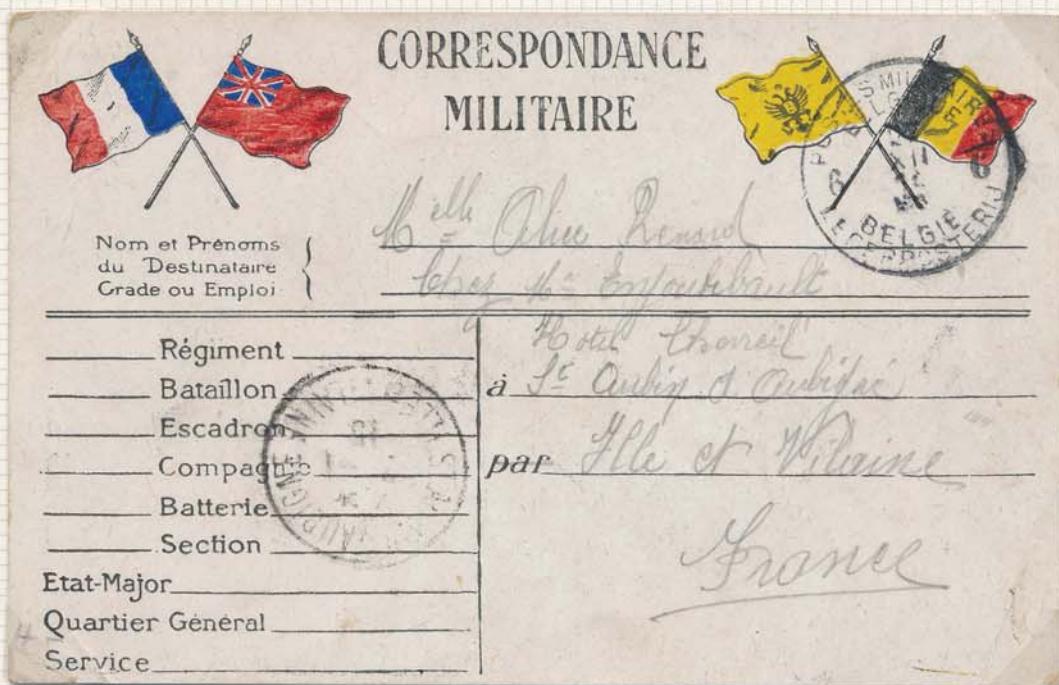
Dear Bess

Just arrived quite safe and in the best of health. Fine passage will write later. You know my address. I think shall be pleased to have letter soon as you can. Hope you are getting on alright and the children.

Walter

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Christmas 1914



**The Banks of the Yser
Lez Dixmude 25-12-14**

My very dear Sister,

It is from the banks of the Yser that I send you my good wishes for the year 1915. I spent Christmas in the trenches, but I did not regret it as I saw the Germans on the other side of the Yser coming and singing their National Anthem and singing several songs. It is not a joke but it is hard to believe.

My best wishes,

Your brother Emile

Patriotic postcard from war zone to France dated 25 december 1914.
Postmarked 27 december 1914. Arrival 2th january 1915.

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Delayed Mail



Postal stationery card from Brussels to Datchet dated 18th Aug 1914. Franked with additional 5 cent of 1912 Pellens issue to make up foreign rate. Cancelled by Sint Gillis (Bruxelles) 1 E on 18 Aug.

Car did not get away before the German Army occupied Brussels on 21 Aug 1914.

Order n° 31 10th January 1915 stated: **All old Belgium mail to be sorted, handled and kept until further notice.**

In february 1919 the card received a small 'Bruxelles Depart' C.D.S. and was returned to England.
Manuscript Arrived feb 8st 1919.

Message on card written 18 August : From Hospital – money needed urgently – please pay into my Westminster Bank London account The writer was running the clinic (hospital) and the names Ladies helping to run it.

English troops in Flanders Field 1914 - 18

Delayed Mail



Postal stationery card from YPRES to London dated 1st october 1914. Cancelled 'Yper-Ypres' large single S.D.S. Sunday label crossed out.

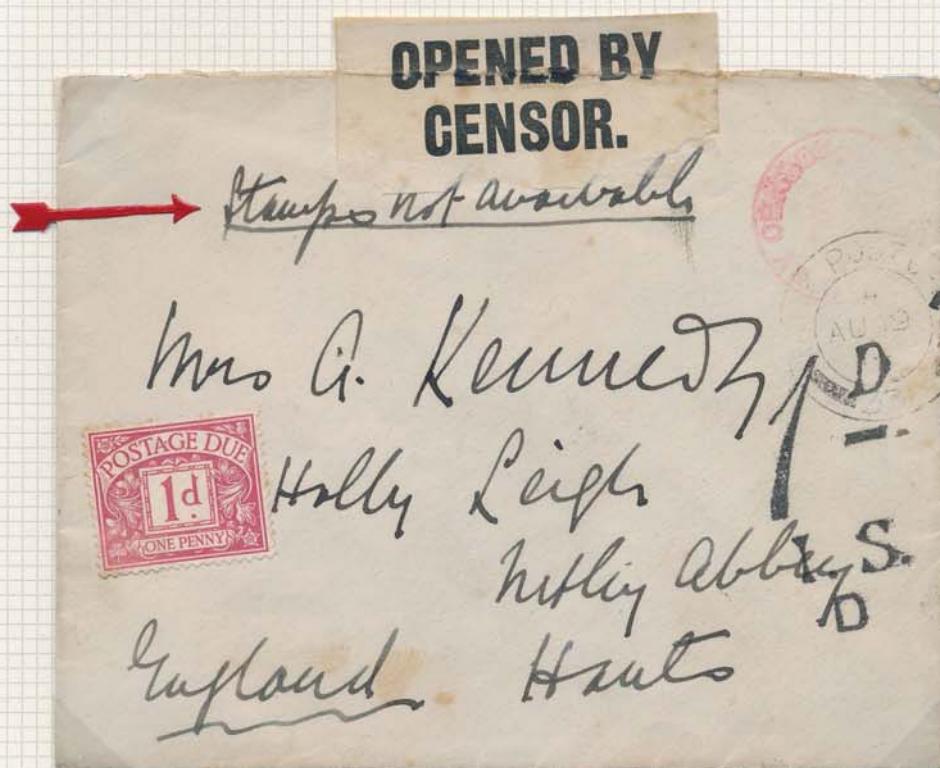
Card did not apparently get away and was taken to Antwerp (indistinct single C.D.S.) where trapped mail was held by the Germans until the end of war.

Released and marked Antwerpen - 1 - Anvers, 22st November 1918 by machine canceller with flame. On reverse boxed ' received 12 dec 1918 of London Bank.

Message on card refers to order of goods 25st August 1914

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Invasion period



Envelope from Belgium to Hampshire dated 19 Aug 1914. It was written by colonel Kennedy R.A.M.C. on his way to Mons and marked 'stamps not available'

Cancelled Army Post Office 33 AU 19. Very early use in the war. Opened and resealed with small label. Red circular censor cachet.

Postage deficient mark 1d ISD and postage due stamp 1d duly applied and tax collected.

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Christmas 1914

*The Banks of the Yser
Lez Dixmude 25-12-14*

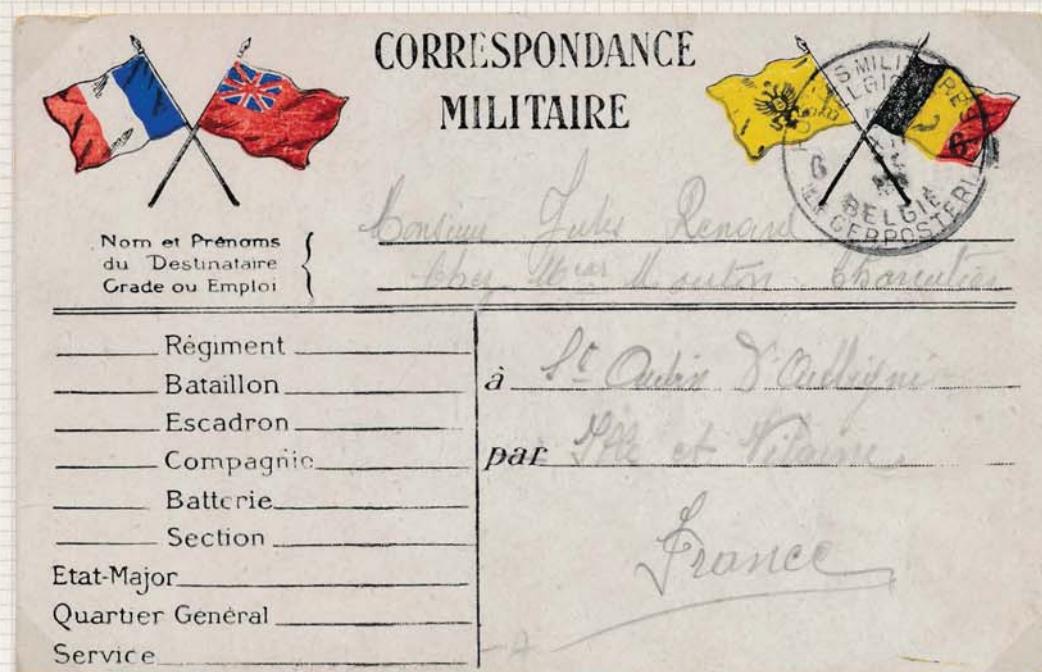
My very dear Father,

At the time of writing to you, one of my friends said to me look there are the Germans. I looked and saw about 50 of them strolling on the banks of the Yser. Its very strange but I say it is true.

There was even one passing a bottle of Cognac to a Grenadier. Its a joke, but that's how it is.

*My best wishes from
your son who loves you*

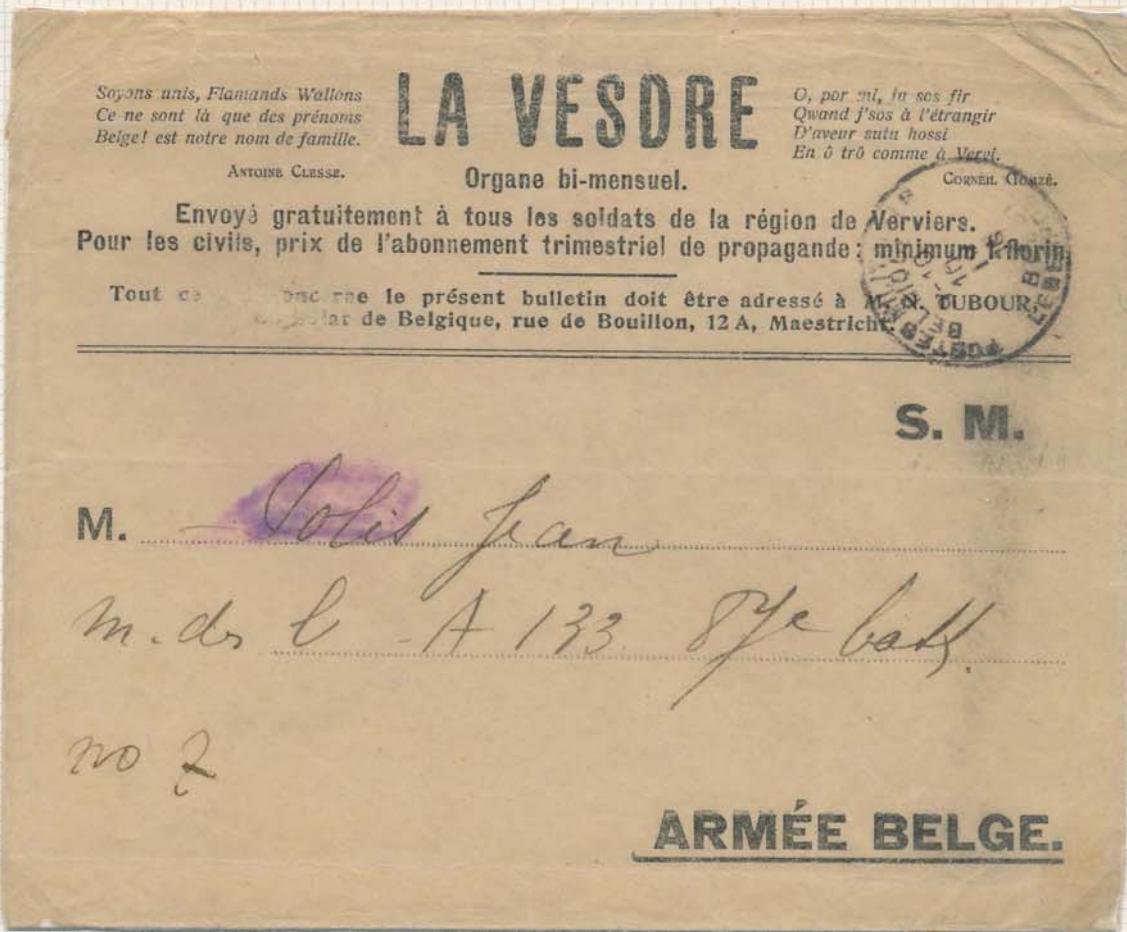
Emile



Patriotic postcard from war zone to France dated 25 December 1914.
Postmarked 27 December 1914. Arrival 2nd January 1915.

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Ware Zone to War Zone



La Vesdre envelope from War Zone to War zone, dated 10 nov. 1916. Cancelled P.M.B un – numbered.

Note reference to the Région de Verviers via Maastricht

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

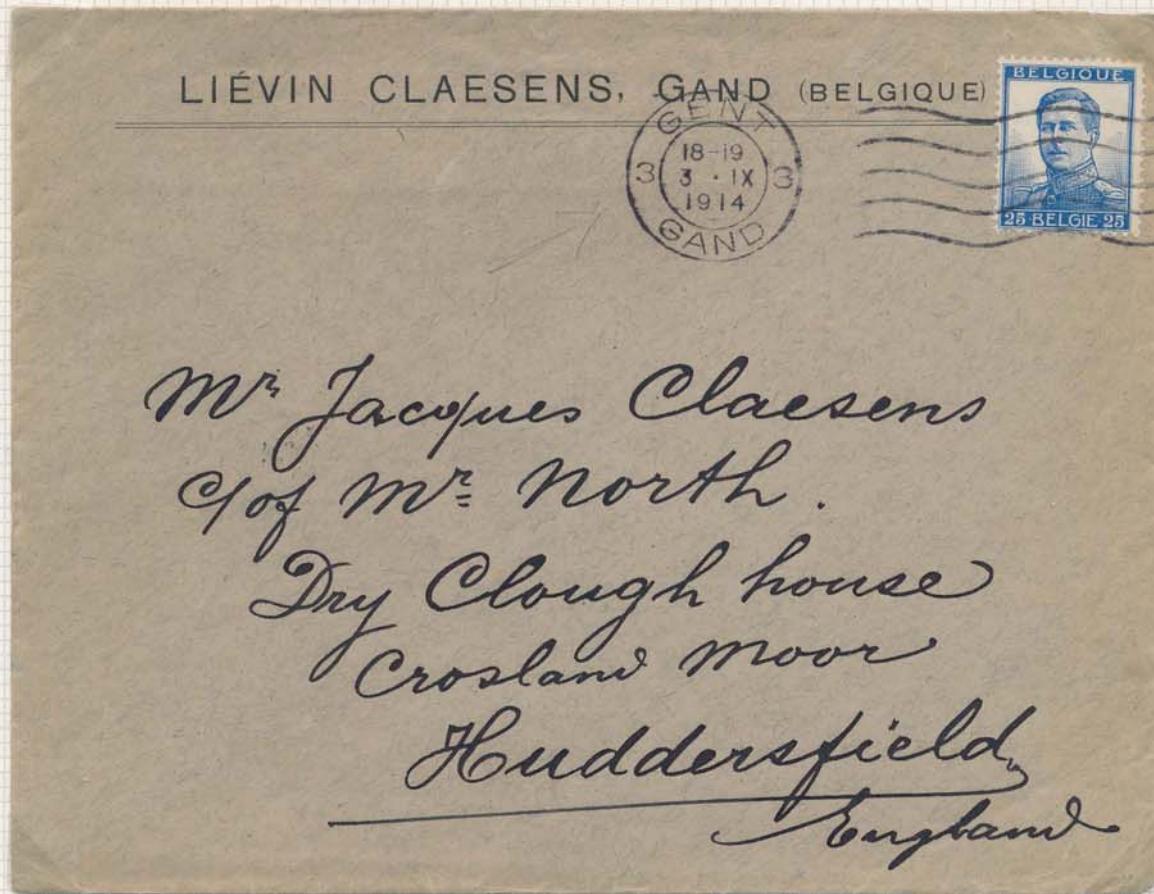
Overmeire



Postcard from Overmeire to Overmeire dated **26 september 1914**.
Manuscript S.M. Cancelled single C.D.S.

English troops in Flanders Fields 1914 - 18

Invasion period



Envelope from Gent tot Huddersfield dated 3e september 1914. Franked with 25 cent Pellens of 1912 issue. Cancelled Gent 3 Gand machine cancel with flame. Backstamped arrival Huddersfield 7 september.

See enclosed on reverse – postnote pad: *The German Soldiers are conducting themselves here as barbais. They not respect anything, it is awful.*