GORITZ TORN TO PIECES IN LAST GERMAN DRIVE

Correspondent Sees Shell-Battered City Just Before the Italians Retreated.

PAINTS PICTURE OF RUIN

Newspaper Man Have Narrow Escape as They Watch Artillery Battle—Outlines of City Still There, but It is a City Swept by Bombardment.

Headquarters of the Italian Army, Northern Italy.—Gorizia is a symbol. "On to Gorizia!" was the cry of the duke of Aosta's soldiers as they pressed through the little town of Lucinico a few months ago, and "On to Gorizia!" was down to the Isonzo river, then through the bridge leading to the city, when the cry changed to "Gorizia at last!"

Then this was reversed when the overwhelming invading force of Austro-Germans took up the same cry, "On to Gorizia!" pressing down from the north, across the northern bridge to the city and ending with "Gorizia at last!"

Thus Gorizia has become a symbol of the "Drang nach Osten" idea has occurred. It was one of the dominant points forward on the Italian line, the center of a vast arc of fighting front stretching from Plezzo, far in the north, down to the Adriatic at Monfalcone, and it was the most populous and important city in the Italian province of Friuli which the Italians had seized off the Austro-Hungarian Austria—some six hundred square miles in all. And so Gorizia was symbolic of that entire region which has twice changed hands in this war, and of the furthest advance in the first Italian campaign.

I went to Gorizia and saw the city on the one or three by anyone except but trip made there by anyone except a correspondent with the correct begin. The rear of the great Austro-German offensive already had commenced, though for the moment it was thought to be a spasmodic renewal of the enemy's attack which had been gripped and thrust back from around. Here we were to view Mount Gabriel, Mount Mrzli, the Flamming plateau and the whole range of ground which had been the scene of the bloody struggle for the possession of Gorizia. Everything showed the havoc of the long-continued artillery battle, some collapsing entirely, others with their front wall torn away, revealing the interiors with their bold goods showing from the street. Many were pierced with shell holes and Monastir. The environs of a city were also pitted with shell holes caused by bombardment.

Trip to the Citadel.

The trip to the citadel was the event of the day. This is a huge, high, old-time moat and battlements and a drawbridge