

Mons  
The Marne  
The Aisne  
Flanders

Vol 10

THE DESPATCHES OF  
SIR JOHN FRENCH

# The Despatches of Sir John French

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With a Map

Vol. I

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To  
Lady French

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I  
MONS

I : France, *7th September*, 1914.

To Field-Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum,  
K.P., G.C.B., O.M., etc.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report the proceedings of the Field Force under my command up to the time of rendering this despatch.

1. The transport of the troops from England both by sea and by rail was effected in the best order and without a check. Each unit arrived at its destination in this country well within the scheduled time.

The concentration was practically complete on the evening of Friday, the 21st ultimo, and I was able to make dispositions to move the Force during Saturday, the 22nd, to positions I considered most favourable from which to commence operations which the French Commander-in-Chief, General Joffre, requested me to undertake in pursuance of his plans in prosecution of the campaign.

The line taken up extended along the line of the canal from Conde on the west, through Mons and Binche on the east. This line was taken up as follows :—

From Conde to Mons inclusive was assigned to the Second Corps, and to the right of the Second Corps from Mons the First Corps was



## Mons

posted. The 5th Cavalry Brigade was placed at Binche.

In the absence of my Third Army Corps I desired to keep the Cavalry Division as much as possible as a reserve to act on my outer flank, or move in support of any threatened part of the line. The forward reconnaissance was entrusted to Brigadier-General Sir Philip Chetwode with the 5th Cavalry Brigade, but I directed General Allenby to send forward a few squadrons to assist in this work.

During the 22nd and 23rd these advanced squadrons did some excellent work, some of them penetrating as far as Soignies, and several encounters took place in which our troops showed to great advantage.

2. At 6 a.m., on August 23rd, I assembled the Commanders of the First and Second Corps and Cavalry Division at a point close to the position, and explained the general situation of the Allies, and what I understood to be General Joffre's plan. I discussed with them at some length the immediate situation in front of us.

From information I received from French Headquarters I understood that little more than one, or at most two, of the enemy's Army Corps, with perhaps one Cavalry Division, were in front of my position ; and I was aware of no attempted outflanking movement by

## An Unexpected Message

the enemy. I was confirmed in this opinion by the fact that my patrols encountered no undue opposition in their reconnoitring operations. The observation of my aeroplanes seemed also to bear out this estimate.

About 3 p.m. on Sunday, the 23rd, reports began coming in to the effect that the enemy was commencing an attack on the Mons line, apparently in some strength, but that the right of the position from Mons and Bray was being particularly threatened.

The Commander of the First Corps had pushed his flank back to some high ground south of Bray, and the 5th Cavalry Brigade evacuated Binche, moving slightly south: the enemy thereupon occupied Binche.

The right of the 3rd Division, under General Hamilton, was at Mons, which formed a somewhat dangerous salient; and I directed the Commander of the Second Corps to be careful not to keep the troops on this salient too long, but, if threatened seriously, to draw back the centre behind Mons. This was done before dark. In the meantime, about 5 p.m., I received a most unexpected message from General Joffre by telegraph, telling me that at least three German Corps, viz., a reserve corps, the 4th Corps and the 9th Corps, were moving on my position in front, and that the Second Corps were engaged in a turning

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movement from the direction of Tournay. He also informed me that the two reserve French divisions and the 5th French Army on my right were retiring, the Germans having on the previous day gained possession of the passages of the Sambre between Charleroi and Namur.

3. In view of the possibility of my being driven from the Mons position, I had previously ordered a position in rear to be reconnoitred. This position rested on the fortress of Maubeuge on the right and extended west to Jenlain, south-east of Valenciennes, on the left. The position was reported difficult to hold, because standing crops and buildings made the siting of trenches very difficult and limited the field of fire in many important localities. It nevertheless afforded a few good artillery positions.

When the news of the retirement of the French and the heavy German threatening on my front reached me, I endeavoured to confirm it by aeroplane reconnaissance ; and as a result of this I determined to effect a retirement to the Maubeuge position at daybreak on the 24th.

A certain amount of fighting continued along the whole line throughout the night, and at daybreak on the 24th the 2nd Division from the neighbourhood of Harmignies made a

### Sir Charles Fergusson Hard Pressed

powerful demonstration as if to retake Binche. This was supported by the artillery of both the 1st and 2nd Divisions, whilst the 1st Division took up a supporting position in the neighbourhood of Peissant. Under cover of this demonstration the Second Corps retired on the line Dour-Quarouble-Frameries. The 3rd Division on the right of the Corps suffered considerable loss in this operation from the enemy, who had retaken Mons.

The Second Corps halted on this line, where they partially entrenched themselves, enabling Sir Douglas Haig with the First Corps gradually to withdraw to the new position ; and he effected this without much further loss, reaching the line Bavai-Maubeuge about 7 p.m. Towards mid-day the enemy appeared to be directing his principal effort against our left.

I had previously ordered General Allenby with the Cavalry to act vigorously in advance of my left front and endeavour to take the pressure off.

About 7.30 a.m. General Allenby received a message from Sir Charles Fergusson, commanding 5th Division, saying that he was very hard pressed and in urgent need of support. On receipt of this message General Allenby drew in the Cavalry and endeavoured to bring direct support to the 5th Division.

During the course of this operation General

## Mons

De Lisle, of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, thought he saw a good opportunity to paralyse the further advance of the enemy's infantry by making a mounted attack on his flank. He formed up and advanced for this purpose, but was held up by wire about 500 yards from his objective, and the 9th Lancers and 18th Hussars suffered severely in the retirement of the Brigade.

The 19th Infantry Brigade, which had been guarding the Line of Communications, was brought up by rail to Valenciennes on the 22nd and 23rd. On the morning of the 24th they were moved out to a position south of Quarouble to support the left flank of the Second Corps.

With the assistance of the Cavalry Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien was enabled to effect his retreat to a new position ; although, having two corps of the enemy on his front and one threatening his flank, he suffered great losses in doing so.

At nightfall the position was occupied by the Second Corps to the west of Bavai, the First Corps to the right. The right was protected by the Fortress of Maubeuge, the left by the 19th Brigade in position between Jenlain and Bry, and the Cavalry on the outer flank.

4. The French were still retiring, and I had

## Le Cateau

no support except such as was afforded by the Fortress of Maubeuge ; and the determined attempts of the enemy to get round my left flank assured me that it was his intention to hem me against that place and surround me. I felt that not a moment must be lost in retiring to another position.

I had every reason to believe that the enemy's forces were somewhat exhausted, and I knew that they had suffered heavy losses. I hoped, therefore, that his pursuit would not be too vigorous to prevent me effecting my object.

The operation, however, was full of danger and difficulty, not only owing to the very superior force in my front, but also to the exhaustion of the troops.

The retirement was recommenced in the early morning of the 25th to a position in the neighbourhood of Le Cateau, and rearguards were ordered to be clear of the Maubeuge-Bavai-Eth Road by 5.30 a.m.

Two Cavalry Brigades, with the Divisional Cavalry of the Second Corps, covered the movement of the Second Corps. The remainder of the Cavalry Division with the 19th Brigade, the whole under the command of General Allenby, covered the west flank.

The 4th Division commenced its detrainment at Le Cateau on Sunday, the 23rd, and by the morning of the 25th eleven battalions

## Mons

and a Brigade of Artillery with Divisional Staff were available for service.

I ordered General Snow to move out to take up a position with his right south of Solesmes his left resting on the Cambrai-Le Cateau Road south of La Chaprie. In this position the Division rendered great help to the effective retirement of the Second and First Corps to the new position.

Although the troops had been ordered to occupy the Cambrai-Le Cateau-Landrecies position, and the ground had, during the 25th, been partially prepared and entrenched, I had grave doubts—owing to the information I received as to the accumulating strength of the enemy against me—as to the wisdom of standing there to fight.

Having regard to the continued retirement of the French on my right, my exposed left flank, the tendency of the enemy's western corps (II.) to envelop me, and, more than all, the exhausted condition of the troops. I determined to make a great effort to continue the retreat till I could put some substantial obstacle, such as the Somme or the Oise, between my troops and the enemy, and afford the former some opportunity of rest and re-organisation. Orders were, therefore, sent to the Corps Commanders to continue their retreat as soon as they possibly could towards the

### Gallant Fight of the 4th Guards Brigade

general line Vermand-St. Quentin-Ribemont.

The Cavalry, under General Allenby, were ordered to cover the retirement.

Throughout the 25th and far into the evening, the First Corps continued its march on Landrecies, following the road along the eastern border of the Forêt De Mormal, and arrived at Landrecies about 10 o'clock. I had intended that the Corps should come further west so as to fill up the gap between Le Cateau and Landrecies, but the men were exhausted and could not get further in without rest.

The enemy, however, would not allow them this rest, and about 9.30 p.m. a report was received that the 4th Guards Brigade in Landrecies was heavily attacked by troops of the 9th German Army Corps who were coming through the forest on the north of the town. This brigade fought most gallantly and caused the enemy to suffer tremendous loss in issuing from the forest into the narrow streets of the town. This loss has been estimated from reliable sources at from 700 to 1,000. At the same time information reached me from Sir Douglas Haig that his 1st Division was also heavily engaged south and east of Maroilles. I sent urgent messages to the Commander of the two French Reserve Divisions on my right to come up to the assistance of the First Corps, which they eventually did. Partly owing to this



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assistance, but mainly to the skilful manner in which Sir Douglas Haig extricated his Corps from an exceptionally difficult position in the darkness of the night, they were able at dawn to resume their march south towards Wassigny on Guise.

By about 6 p.m. the Second Corps had got into position with their right on Le Cateau, their left in the neighbourhood of Caudry, and the line of defence was continued thence by the 4th Division towards Seranvillers, the left being thrown back.

During the fighting on the 24th and 25th the Cavalry became a good deal scattered, but by the early morning of the 26th General Allenby had succeeded in concentrating two brigades to the south of Cambrai.

The 4th Division was placed under the orders of the General Officer Commanding the Second Army Corps.

On the 24th the French Cavalry Corps consisting of three divisions, under General Sordêt, had been in billets north of Avesnes. On my way back from Bavai, which was my "Poste de Commandement" during the fighting of the 23rd and 24th, I visited General Sordêt, and earnestly requested his co-operation and support. He promised to obtain sanction from his Army Commander to act on my left flank, but said that his horses were too

August 26th

tired to move before the next day. Although he rendered me valuable assistance later on in the course of the retirement, he was unable for the reasons given to afford me any support on the most critical day of all, viz., the 26th.

At daybreak it became apparent that the enemy was throwing the bulk of his strength against the left of the position occupied by the Second Corps and the 4th Divisions.

At this time the guns of four German Army Corps were in position against them, and Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien reported to me that he judged it impossible to continue his retirement at daybreak (as ordered) in face of such an attack.

I sent him orders to use his utmost endeavours to break off the action and retire at the earliest possible moment, as it was impossible for me to send him any support, the First Corps being at the moment incapable of movement.

The French Cavalry Corps, under General Sordêt, was coming up on our left rear early in the morning, and I sent an urgent message to him to do his utmost to come up and support the retirement of my left flank; but, owing to the fatigue of his horses he found himself unable to intervene in any way.

There had been no time to entrench the position properly, but the troops showed a

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magnificent front to the terrible fire which confronted them.

The Artillery, although outmatched by at least four to one, made a splendid fight, and inflicted heavy losses on their opponents.

At length it became apparent that, if complete annihilation was to be avoided, a retirement must be attempted ; and the order was given to commence it about 3.30 p.m. The movement was covered with the most devoted intrepidity and determination by the Artillery, which had itself suffered heavily, and the fine work done by the Cavalry in the further retreat from the position assisted materially in the final completion of this most difficult and dangerous operation.

Fortunately the enemy had himself suffered too heavily to engage in an energetic pursuit.

I cannot close the brief account of this glorious stand of the British troops without putting on record my deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered by General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien.

I say without hesitation that the saving of the left wing of the Army under my command on the morning of the 26th August could never have been accomplished unless a commander of rare and unusual coolness, intrepidity, and determination had been present to personally conduct the operation.

## General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien

The retreat was continued far into the night of the 26th and through the 27th and 28th, on which date the troops halted on the line Noyon-Chauny-La Fere, having then thrown off the weight of the enemy's pursuit.

On the 27th and 28th I was much indebted to General Sordét and the French Cavalry Division which he commands for materially assisting my retirement and successfully driving back some of the enemy on Cambrai.

General D'Amade also, with the 61st and 62nd French Reserve Divisions, moved down from the neighbourhood of Arras on the enemy's right flank and took much pressure off the rear of the British forces.

This closes the period covering the heavy fighting which commenced at Mons on Sunday afternoon, 23rd August, and which really constituted a four days' battle.

At this point, therefore, I propose to close the present despatch.

I deeply deplore the very serious losses which the British Forces have suffered in this great battle ; but they were inevitable in view of the fact that the British Army—only two days after a concentration by rail—was called upon to withstand a vigorous attack of five German Army Corps.

It is impossible for me to speak too highly of the skill evinced by the two General Officers

## Mons

commanding Army Corps ; the self-sacrificing and devoted exertions of their Staffs ; the direction of the troops by Divisional, Brigade and Regimental Leaders ; the command of the smaller units by their officers ; and the magnificent fighting spirit displayed by non-commissioned officers and men.

I wish particularly to bring to your Lordships' notice the admirable work done by the Royal Flying Corps under Sir David Henderson. Their skill, energy and perseverance have been beyond all praise. They have furnished me with the most complete and accurate information which has been of incalculable value in the conduct of the operations. Fired at constantly both by friend and foe, and not hesitating to fly in every kind of weather, they have remained undaunted throughout.

Further, by actually fighting in the air, they have succeeded in destroying five of the enemy's machines.

I wish to acknowledge with deep gratitude the incalculable assistance I received from the General and Personal Staffs at Headquarters during this trying period.

Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Murray, Chief of the General Staff ; Major-General Wilson, Sub-Chief of the General Staff ; and all under them have worked day and night unceasingly with the utmost skill, self-sacrifice,

### Skill, Self-Sacrifice and Devotion

and devotion ; and the same acknowledgment is due by me to Brig.-Gen. Hon. W. Lambton, my Military Secretary, and the Personal Staff.

In such operations as I have described the work of the Quartermaster-General is of an extremely onerous nature. Major-General Sir William Robertson has met what appeared to be almost insuperable difficulties with his characteristic energy, skill and determination ; and it is largely owing to his exertions that the hardships and sufferings of the troops—inseparable from such operations—were not much greater.

Major-General Sir Nevil Macready, the Adjutant-General, has also been confronted with most onerous and difficult tasks in connection with disciplinary arrangements and the preparation of casualty lists. He has been indefatigable in his exertions to meet the difficult situations which arose.

I have not yet been able to complete the list of officers whose names I desire to bring to your Lordship's notice for services rendered during the period under review ; and, as I understand it is of importance that this despatch should no longer be delayed, I propose to forward this list, separately, as soon as I can.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. D. P. FRENCH, Field-Marshal,  
*Commander-in-Chief the British Forces in the Field.*

II  
THE MARNE

II : France, *17th September, 1914.*

To Field-Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum,  
K.P., G.C.B., O.M., etc.

My Lord,

**I**N continuation of my despatch of September 7th, I have the honour to report the further progress of the operations of the Forces under my command from August 28th.

On that evening the retirement of the Force was followed closely by two of the enemy's cavalry columns moving south-east from St. Quentin.

The retreat in this part of the field was being covered by the 3rd and 5th Cavalry Brigades. South of the Somme General Gough, with the 3rd Cavalry Brigade, threw back the Uhlans of the Guard with considerable loss.

General Chetwode, with the 5th Cavalry Brigade, encountered the eastern column near Cérizy, moving south. The Brigade attacked and routed the column, the leading German regiment suffering very severe casualties and being almost broken up.

The 7th French Army Corps was now in course of being railed up from the south to the east of Amiens. On the 29th it nearly



## The Marne

completed its detrainment, and the French 6th Army got into position on my left, its right resting on Roye.

The 5th French Army was behind the line of the Oise between La Fère and the Guise.

The pursuit of the enemy was very vigorous ; some five or six German corps were on the Somme, facing the 5th Army on the Oise. At least two corps were advancing towards my front, and were crossing the Somme east and west of Ham. Three or four more German corps were opposing the 6th French Army on my left.

This was the situation at 1 o'clock on the 29th, when I received a visit from General Joffre at my headquarters.

I strongly represented my position to the French Commander-in-Chief, who was most kind, cordial, and sympathetic, as he has always been. He told me that he had directed the 5th French Army on the Oise to move forward and attack the Germans on the Somme, with a view to checking pursuit. He also told me of the formation of the Sixth French Army on my left flank, composed of the 7th Army Corps, four Reserve Divisions, and Sordêt's Corps of Cavalry.

I finally arranged with General Joffre to effect a further short retirement towards the line Compiègne-Soissons, promising him,

## General Joffre's Plan

however, to do my utmost to keep always within a day's march of him.

In pursuance of this arrangement the British Forces retired to a position a few miles north of the line Compiègne-Soissons on the 29th.

The right flank of the German Army was now reaching a point which appeared seriously to endanger my line of communications with Havre. I had already evacuated Amiens, into which place a German reserve division was reported to have moved.

Orders were given to change the base to St. Nazaire, and establish an advance base at Le Mans. This operation was well carried out by the Inspector-General of Communications.

In spite of a severe defeat inflicted upon the Guard 10th and Guard Reserve Corps of the German Army by the 1st and 3rd French Corps on the right of the 5th Army, it was not part of General Joffre's plan to pursue this advantage ; and a general retirement on to the line of the Marne was ordered, to which the French Forces in the more eastern theatre were directed to conform.

A new Army (the 9th) had been formed from three corps in the south by General Joffre, and moved into the space between the right of the 5th and left of the 4th Armies.

Whilst closely adhering to his strategic conception to draw the enemy on at all points

## The Marne

until a favourable situation was created from which to assume the offensive, General Joffre found it necessary to modify from day to day the methods by which he sought to attain this object, owing to the development of the enemy's plans and changes in the general situation.

In conformity with the movements of the French Forces, my retirement continued practically from day to day. Although we were not severely pressed by the enemy, rearguard actions took place continually.

On the 1st September, when retiring from the thickly-wooded country to the south of Compiègne, the 1st Cavalry Brigade was overtaken by some German cavalry. They momentarily lost a Horse Artillery battery, and several officers and men were killed and wounded. With the help, however, of some detachments from the 3rd Corps operating on their left, they not only recovered their own guns but succeeded in capturing twelve of the enemy's.

Similarly, to the eastward, the 1st Corps, retiring south, also got into some very difficult forest country, and a somewhat severe rearguard action ensued at Villers-Cotterets, in which the 4th Guards Brigade suffered considerably.

On September 3rd the British Forces were in position south of the Marne between Lagny and Signy-Signets. Up to this time I had been

## Offensive Movement Ordered

requested by General Joffre to defend the passages of the river as long as possible, and to blow up the bridges in my front. After I had made the necessary dispositions, and the destruction of the bridges had been effected, I was asked by the French Commander-in-Chief to continue my retirement to a point some 12 miles in rear of the position I then occupied, with a view to taking up a second position behind the Seine. This retirement was duly carried out. In the meantime the enemy had thrown bridges and crossed the Marne in considerable force, and was threatening the Allies all along the line of the British Forces and the 5th and 9th French Armies. Consequently several small outpost actions took place.

On Saturday, September 5th, I met the French Commander-in-Chief at his request, and he informed me of his intention to take the offensive forthwith, as he considered conditions were very favourable to success.

General Joffre announced to me his intention of wheeling up the left flank of the 6th Army, pivoting on the Marne and directing it to move on the Ourcq; cross and attack the flank of the 1st German Army, which was then moving in a south-easterly direction east of that river.

He requested me to effect a change of front

## The Marne

to my right—my left resting on the Marne and my right on the 5th Army—to fill the gap between that army and the 6th. I was then to advance against the enemy in my front and join in the general offensive movement.

These combined movements practically commenced on Sunday, September 6th, at sunrise; and on that day it may be said that a great battle opened on a front extending from Ermenonville, which was just in front of the left flank of the 6th French Army, through Lizy on the Marne, Mauperthuis, which was about the British centre, Courtecon, which was the left of the 5th French Army, to Esternay and Charleville, the left of the 9th Army under General Foch, and so along the front of the 9th, 4th, and 3rd French Armies to a point north of the fortress of Verdun.

This battle, in so far as the 6th French Army, the British Army, the 5th French Army and the 9th French Army were concerned, may be said to have concluded on the evening of September 10th, by which time the Germans had been driven back to the line Soissons-Reims, with a loss of thousands of prisoners, many guns, and enormous masses of transport.

About the 3rd September the enemy appears to have changed his plans and to have determined to stop his advance South direct upon

## The German Retreat

Paris ; for on the 4th September air reconnaissances showed that his main columns were moving in a south-easterly direction generally east of a line drawn through Nanteuil and Lizy on the Ourcq.

On the 5th September several of these columns were observed to have crossed the Marne ; whilst German troops, which were observed moving south-east up the left bank of the Ourcq on the 4th, were now reported to be halted and facing that river. Heads of the enemy's columns were seen crossing at Changis, La Ferté, Nogent, Château Thierry and Mezy.

Considerable German columns of all arms were seen to be converging on Montmirail, whilst before sunset large bivouacs of the enemy were located in the neighbourhood of Coulommiers, south of Rebais, La Ferté-Gaucher and Dagny.

I should conceive it to have been about noon on the 6th September, after the British Forces had changed their front to the right and occupied the line Jouy-Le Chatel-Faremoutiers-Villeneuve Le Comte, and the advance of the 6th French Army north of the Marne towards the Ourcq became apparent, that the enemy realised the powerful threat that was being made against the flank of his columns moving south-east, and began the

## The Marne

great retreat which opened the battle above referred to.

On the evening of the 6th September, therefore, the fronts and positions of the opposing armies were roughly as follows :

### ALLIES.

*6th French Army.*—Right on the Marne at Meux, left towards Betz.

*British Forces.*—On the line Dagny-Coulommiers-Maison.

*5th French Army.*—At Courtagon, right on Esternay.

*Conneau's Cavalry Corps.*—Between the right of the British and the left of the French 5th Army.

### GERMANS.

*4th Reserve and 2nd Corps.*—East of the Ourcq and facing that river.

*9th Cavalry Division.*—West of Crecy.

*2nd Cavalry Division.*—North of Coulommiers.

*4th Corps.*—Rebais.

*3rd and 7th Corps.*—South-west of Montmirail.

All these troops constituted the 1st German Army, which was directed against the French 6th Army on the Ourcq, and the British Forces, and the left of the 5th French Army south of the Marne.

### General De Lisle's Brigade

The 2nd Germany Army (IX., X., X.R. and Guard) was moving against the centre and right of the 5th French Army and the 9th French Army.

On the 7th September both the 5th and 6th French Armies were heavily engaged on our flank. The 2nd and 4th Reserve German Corps on the Ourcq vigorously opposed the advance of the French towards that river, but did not prevent the 6th Army from gaining some headway, the Germans themselves suffering serious losses. The French 5th Army threw the enemy back to the line of the Petit Morin river after inflicting severe losses upon them, especially about Montceaux, which was carried at the point of the bayonet.

The enemy retreated before our advance, covered by his 2nd and 9th and Guard Cavalry Divisions, which suffered severely.

Our Cavalry acted with great vigour, especially General De Lisle's Brigade with the 9th Lancers and 18th Hussars.

On the 8th September the enemy continued his retreat northward, and our Army was successfully engaged during the day with strong rearguards of all arms on the Petit Morin River, thereby materially assisting the progress of the French Armies on our right and left, against whom the enemy was making his greatest efforts. On both sides the enemy was



## The Marne

thrown back with very heavy losses. The First Army Corps encountered stubborn resistance at La Trétoire (north of Rebais). The enemy occupied a strong position with infantry and guns on the northern bank of the Petit Morin River ; they were dislodged with considerable loss. Several machine guns and many prisoners were captured, and upwards of two hundred German dead were left on the ground.

The forcing of the Petit Morin at this point was much assisted by the Cavalry and the 1st Division, which crossed higher up the stream.

Later in the day a counter attack by the enemy was well repulsed by the First Army Corps, a great many prisoners and some guns again falling into our hands.

On this day (8th September) the Second Army Corps encountered considerable opposition, but drove back the enemy at all points with great loss, making considerable captures.

The Third Army Corps also drove back considerable bodies of the enemy's infantry and made some captures.

On the 9th September the First and Second Army Corps forced the passage of the Marne and advanced some miles to the north of it. The Third Corps encountered considerable opposition, as the bridges at La Ferté was destroyed and the enemy held the town on the

## Guns and Prisoners taken

opposite bank in some strength, and thence persistently obstructed the construction of a bridge ; so the passage was not effected until after nightfall.

During the day's pursuit the enemy suffered heavy loss in killed and wounded, some hundreds of prisoners fell into our hands and a battery of eight machine guns were captured by the 2nd Division.

On this day the 6th French Army was heavily engaged west of the River Ourcq. The enemy had largely increased his force opposing them ; and very heavy fighting ensued, in which the French were successful throughout.

The left of the 5th French Army reached the neighbourhood of Château Thierry after the most severe fighting, having driven the enemy completely north of the river with great loss.

The fighting of this army in the neighbourhood of Montmirail was very severe.

The advance was resumed at daybreak on the 11th up to the line of the Ourcq, opposed by strong rearguards of all arms. The 1st and 2nd Corps, assisted by the Cavalry Division on the right, the 3rd and 5th Cavalry Brigades on the left, drove the enemy northwards. Thirteen guns, seven machine guns, about 2,000 prisoners, and quantities of transport

## The Marne

fell into our hands. The enemy left many dead on the field. On this day the French 5th and 6th Armies had little opposition.

As the 1st and 2nd German Armies were now in full retreat, this evening marks the end of the battle which practically commenced on the morning of the 6th instant ; and it is at this point in the operations that I am concluding the present despatch.

Although I deeply regret to have had to report heavy losses in killed and wounded throughout these operations, I do not think they have been excessive in view of the magnitude of the great fight, the outlines of which I have only been able very briefly to describe, and the demoralisation and loss in killed and wounded which are known to have been caused to the enemy by the vigour and severity of the pursuit.

In concluding this despatch I must call your Lordship's special attention to the fact that from Sunday, August 23rd, up to the present date (September 17th), from Mons back almost to the Seine, and from the Seine to the Aisne, the Army under my command has been ceaselessly engaged without one single day's halt or rest of any kind.

Since the date to which in this despatch I have limited my report of the operations a great battle on the Aisne has been proceeding.

### Forcing the Enemy Back

A full report of this battle will be made in an early further despatch.

It will, however, be of interest to say here that, in spite of a very determined resistance on the part of the enemy, who is holding in strength and great tenacity a position peculiarly favourable to defence, the battle which commenced on the evening of the 12th instant has, so far, forced the enemy back from his first position, secured the passage of the river, and inflicted great loss upon him, including the capture of over 2,000 prisoners and several guns.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. D. P. FRENCH, Field-Marshal,  
*Commander-in-Chief, the British Forces in the Field.*

III  
THE AISNE

III : France, *8th October, 1914*

To Field-Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum  
K.P., G.C.B., O.M., etc.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report the operations in which the British Forces in France have been engaged since the evening of the 10th September.

1. In the early morning of the 11th the further pursuit of the enemy was commenced ; and the three Corps crossed the Ourcq practically unopposed, the Cavalry reaching the line of the Aisne River ; the 3rd and 5th Brigades south of Soissons, the 1st, 2nd and 4th on the high ground at Couvelles and Cerseuil.

On the afternoon of the 12th from the opposition encountered by the 6th French Army to the west of Soissons, by the 3rd Corps south-east of that place, by the 2nd Corps south of Missy and Vailly, and certain indications all along the line, I formed the opinion that the enemy had, for the moment at any rate, arrested his retreat and was preparing to dispute the passage of the Aisne with some vigour.

South of Soissons the Germans were holding Mont de Paris against the attack of the

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right of the French 6th Army when the 3rd Corps reached the neighbourhood of Buzancy, south-east of that place. With the assistance of the Artillery of the 3rd Corps the French drove them back across the river at Soissons, where they destroyed the bridges.

The heavy artillery fire which was visible for several miles in a westerly direction in the valley of the Aisne showed that the 6th French Army was meeting with strong opposition all along the line.

On this day the Cavalry under General Allenby reached the neighbourhood of Braine and did good work in clearing the town and the high ground beyond it of strong hostile detachments. The Queen's Bays are particularly mentioned by the General as having assisted greatly in the success of this operation. They were well supported by the 3rd Division, which on this night bivouacked at Brenelle, south of the river.

The 5th Division approached Missy, but were unable to make headway.

The 1st Army Corps reached the neighbourhood of Vauxcere without much opposition.

In this manner the Battle of the Aisne commenced.

2. The Aisne Valley runs generally East and West, and consists of a flat-bottomed depression of width varying from half a mile to

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two miles, down which the river follows a winding course to the West at some points near the southern slopes of the valley and at others near the northern. The high ground both on the north and south of the river is approximately 400 feet above the bottom of the valley, and is very similar in character, as are both slopes of the valley itself, which are broken into numerous rounded spurs and re-entrants. The most prominent of the former are the Chivre spur on the right bank and Sermoise spur on the left. Near the latter place the general plateau on the south is divided by a subsidiary valley of much the same character, down which the small River Vesle flows to the main stream near Sermoise. The slopes of the plateau overlooking the Aisne on the north and south are of varying steepness, and are covered with numerous patches of wood, which also stretch upwards and backwards over the edge on to the top of the high ground. There are several villages and small towns dotted about in the valley itself and along its sides, the chief of which is the town of Soissons.

The Aisne is a sluggish stream of some 170 feet in breadth, but, being 15 feet deep in the centre, it is unfordable. Between Soissons on the west and Villers on the east (the part of the river attacked and secured by the British Forces) there are eleven road bridges across it.



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On the north bank a narrow-gauge railway runs from Soissons to Vailly, where it crosses the river and continues eastward along the south bank. From Soissons to Sermoise a double line of railway runs along the south bank, turning at the latter place up the Vesle Valley towards Bazoches.

The position held by the enemy is a very strong one, either for a delaying action or for a defensive battle. One of its chief military characteristics is that from the high ground on neither side can the top of the plateau on the other side be seen except for small stretches. This is chiefly due to the woods on the edges of the slopes. Another important point is that all the bridges are under either direct or high-angle artillery fire.

The tract of country above described, which lies north of the Aisne, is well adapted to concealment, and was so skilfully turned to account by the enemy as to render it impossible to judge the real nature of his opposition to our passage of the river, or to accurately gauge his strength ; but I have every reason to conclude that strong rearguards of at least three army corps were holding the passages on the early morning of the 13th.

3. On that morning I ordered the British Forces to advance and make good the Aisne.

The 1st Corps and the Cavalry advanced

## The Broken Girder

on the river. The 1st Division was directed on Chanouille viâ the canal bridge at Bourg, and the 2nd Division on Courtecon and Presles viâ Pont-Arcy and on the canal to the north of Braye via Chavonne. On the right the Cavalry and 1st Division met with slight opposition, and found a passage by means of the canal which crosses the river by an aqueduct. The Division was therefore able to press on, supported by the Cavalry Division on its outer flank, driving back the enemy in front of it.

On the left the leading troops of the 2nd Division reached the river by 9 o'clock. The 5th Infantry Brigade were only enabled to cross, in single file and under considerable shell fire, by means of the broken girder of the bridge which was not entirely submerged in the river. The construction of a pontoon bridge was at once undertaken, and was completed by 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

On the extreme left the 4th Guards Brigade met with severe opposition at Chavonne, and it was only late in the afternoon that it was able to establish a foothold on the northern bank of the river by ferrying one battalion across in boats.

By nightfall the 1st Division occupied the area Moulins-Paissy-Geny, with posts in the village of Vendresse.

The 2nd Division bivouacked as a whole on

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the southern bank of the river, leaving only the 5th Brigade on the north bank to establish a bridge head.

The Second Corps found all the bridges in front of them destroyed, except that of Condé, which was in the possession of the enemy, and remained so until the end of the battle.

In the approach to Missy, where the 5th Division eventually crossed, there is some open ground which was swept by heavy fire from the opposite bank. The 13th Brigade was, therefore, unable to advance ; but the 14th, which was directed to the east of Venizel at a less exposed point, was rafted across, and by night established itself with its left at St. Marguërite. They were followed by the 15th Brigade ; and later on both the 14th and 15th supported the 4th Division on their left in repelling a heavy counter-attack on the Third Corps.

On the morning of the 13th the Third Corps found the enemy had established himself in strength on the Vregny Plateau. The road bridge at Venizel was repaired during the morning, and a reconnaissance was made with a view to throwing a pontoon bridge at Soissons.

The 12th Infantry Brigade crossed at Venizel, and was assembled at Bucy Le Long by 1 p.m., but the bridge was so far damaged

## Chivres and Vregny

that artillery could only be man-handled across it. Meanwhile the construction of a bridge was commenced close to the road bridge at Venizel.

At 2 p.m. the 12th Infantry Brigade attacked in the direction of Chivres and Vregny with the object of securing the high ground east of Chivres, as a necessary preliminary to a further advance northwards. This attack made good progress, but at 5.30 p.m. the enemy's artillery and machine-gun fire from the direction of Vregny became so severe that no further advance could be made. The positions reached were held till dark.

The pontoon bridge at Venizel was completed at 5.30 p.m., when the 10th Infantry Brigade crossed the river and moved to Bucy Le Long.

The 19th Infantry Brigade moved to Billy Sur Aisne, and before dark all the artillery of the Division had crossed the river, with the exception of the Heavy Battery and one Brigade of Field Artillery.

During the night the positions gained by the 12th Infantry Brigade to the east of the stream running through Chivres were handed over to the 5th Division.

The section of the Bridging Train allotted to the Third Corps began to arrive in the neighbourhood in Soissons late in the

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afternoon, when an attempt to throw a heavy pontoon bridge at Soissons had to be abandoned, owing to the fire of the enemy's heavy howitzers.

In the evening the enemy retired at all points and entrenched himself on the high ground about two miles north of the river, along which runs the Chemin-des-Dames. Detachments of Infantry, however, strongly entrenched in commanding points down slopes of the various spurs, were left in front of all three corps with powerful artillery in support of them.

During the night of the 13th and on the 14th and following days the Field Companies were incessantly at work night and day. Eight pontoon bridges and one foot bridge were thrown across the river under generally very heavy artillery fire, which was incessantly kept up on to most of the crossings after completion. Three of the road bridges, *i.e.*, Venizel, Missy and Vailly, and the railway bridge east of Vailly were temporarily repaired so as to take foot traffic, and the Villers Bridge made fit to carry weights up to six tons.

Preparations were also made for the repair of the Missy, Vailly and Bourg Bridges so as to take mechanical transport.

The weather was very wet and added to the difficulties by cutting up the already

## Sir Douglas Haig

indifferent approaches, entailing a large amount of work to repair and improve.

The operations of the Field Companies during this most trying time are worthy of the best traditions of the Royal Engineers.

4. On the evening of the 14th it was still impossible to decide whether the enemy was only making a temporary halt, covered by rearguards, or whether he intended to stand and defend the position.

With a view to clearing up the situation, I ordered a general advance.

The action of the First Corps on this day under the direction and command of Sir Douglas Haig was of so skilful, bold and decisive a character that he gained positions which alone have enabled me to maintain my position for more than three weeks of very severe fighting on the north bank of the river.

The Corps was directed to cross the line Moulins—Moussy by 7 a.m.

On the right the General Officer Commanding the 1st Division directed the 2nd Infantry Brigade (which was in billets and bivouacked about Moulins), and the 25th Artillery Brigade (less one battery), under General Bulfin, to move forward before daybreak, in order to protect the advance of the Division sent up the valley to Vendresse. An officers' patrol sent out by this Brigade reported a considerable

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force of the enemy near the factory north of Troyon, and the Brigadier accordingly directed two regiments (the King's Royal Rifles and the Royal Sussex Regiment) to move at 3 a.m. The Northamptonshire Regiment was ordered to move at 4 a.m. to occupy the spur east of Troyon. The remaining regiment of the Brigade (the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment) moved at 5.30 a.m. to the village of Vendresse. The factory was found to be held in considerable strength by the enemy, and the Brigadier ordered the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment to support the King's Royal Rifles and the Sussex Regiment. Even with this support the force was unable to make headway, and on the arrival of the 1st Brigade the Coldstream Guards were moved up to support the right of the leading Brigade (the 2nd), while the remainder of the 1st Brigade supported its left.

About noon the situation was, roughly, that the whole of these two brigades were extended along a line running east and west, north of the line Troyon and south of the Chemin-des-Dames. A party of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment had seized and were holding the factory. The enemy had a line of entrenchments north and east of the factory in considerable strength, and every effort to

## Attacks and Counter-Attacks

advance against this line was driven back by heavy shell and machine-gun fire. The morning was wet and a heavy mist hung over the hills, so that the 25th Artillery Brigade and the Divisional Artillery were unable to render effective support to the advanced troops until about 9 o'clock.

By 10 o'clock the 3rd Infantry Brigade had reached a point one mile south of Vendresse, and from there it was ordered to continue the line of the 1st Brigade and to connect with and help the right of the 2nd Division. A strong hostile column was found to be advancing, and by a vigorous counter stroke with two of his battalions the Brigadier checked the advance of this column and relieved the pressure on the 2nd Division. From this period until late in the afternoon the fighting consisted of a series of attacks and counter attacks. The counter strokes by the enemy were delivered at first with great vigour, but later on they decreased in strength, and all were driven off with heavy loss.

On the left the 6th Infantry Brigade had been ordered to cross the river and to pass through the line held during the preceding night by the 5th Infantry Brigade and occupy the Courtecon Ridge, whilst a detached force, consisting of the 4th Guards Brigade and the 36th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, under



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Brigadier-General Perceval, were ordered to proceed to a point east of the village of Ostel.

The 6th Infantry Brigade crossed the river at Pont-Arcy, moved up the valley towards Braye, and at 9 a.m. had reached the line Tilleul—La Buvelle. On this line they came under heavy artillery and rifle fire, and were unable to advance until supported by the 34th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, and the 44th Howitzer Brigade and the Heavy Artillery.

The 4th Guards Brigade crossed the river at 10 a.m. and met with very heavy opposition. It had to pass through dense woods; field artillery support was difficult to obtain; but one section of a field battery pushed up to and within the firing line. At 1 p.m. the left of the Brigade was south of the Ostel Ridge.

At this period of the action the enemy obtained a footing between the First and Second Corps, and threatened to cut the communications of the latter.

Sir Douglas Haig was very hardly pressed and had no reserve in hand. I placed the Cavalry Division at his disposal, part of which he skilfully used to prolong and secure the left flank of the Guards Brigade. Some heavy fighting ensued, which resulted in the enemy being driven back with heavy loss.

About 4 o'clock the weakening of the counter attacks by the enemy and other indications

## Valuable Services

tended to show that his resistance was decreasing, and a general advance was ordered by the Army Corps Commander. Although meeting with considerable opposition and coming under very heavy artillery and rifle fire, the position of the corps at the end of the day's operations extended from the Chemin-des-Dames on the right, through Chivy, to Le Cour de Soupir, with the 1st Cavalry Brigade extending to the Chavonne—Soissons road.

On the right the corps was in close touch with the French Moroccan troops of the 18th Corps, which were entrenched in échelon to its right rear. During the night they entrenched this position.

Throughout the Battle of the Aisne this advanced and commanding position was maintained, and I cannot speak too highly of the valuable services rendered by Sir Douglas Haig and the Army Corps under his command. Day after day and night after night the enemy's infantry has been hurled against him in violent counter attack which has never on any one occasion succeeded, whilst the trenches all over his position have been under continuous heavy artillery fire.

The operations of the First Corps on this day resulted in the capture of several hundred prisoners, some field pieces, and machine guns.

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The casualties were very severe, one brigade alone losing three of its four Colonels.

The 3rd Division commenced a further advance and had nearly reached the plateau of Aizy when they were driven back by a powerful counter attack supported by heavy artillery. The division, however, fell back in the best order, and finally entrenched itself about a mile north of Vailly Bridge, effectively covering the passage.

The 4th and 5th Divisions were unable to do more than maintain their ground.

5. On the morning of the 15th, after close examination of the position, it became clear to me that the enemy was making a determined stand ; and this view was confirmed by reports which reached me from the French Armies fighting on my right and left, which clearly showed that a strongly entrenched line of defence was being taken up from the north of Compiègne, eastward and south-eastward, along the whole valley of the Aisne up to and beyond Reims.

A few days previously the Fortress of Maubeuge fell, and a considerable quantity of siege artillery was brought down from that place to strengthen the enemy's position in front of us.

During the 15th shells fell in our position which have been judged by experts to be

## Sir Charles Fergusson

thrown by eight-inch siege guns with a range of 10,000 yards. Throughout the whole course of the battle our troops have suffered very heavily from this fire, although its effect latterly was largely mitigated by more efficient and thorough entrenching, the necessity for which I impressed strongly upon our Army Corps Commanders. In order to assist them in this work all villages within the area of our occupation were searched for heavy entrenching tools, a large number of which were collected.

In view of the peculiar formation of the ground on the north side of the river between Missy and Soissons, and its extraordinary adaptability to a force on the defensive, the 5th Division found it impossible to maintain its position on the southern edge of the Chivres Plateau, as the enemy in possession of the village of Vregny to the west was able to bring a flank fire to bear upon it. The Division had, therefore, to retire to a line the left of which was at the village of Margu rite, and thence ran by the north edge of Missy back to the river to the east of that place.

With great skill and tenacity Sir Charles Fergusson maintained this position throughout the whole battle, although his trenches were necessarily on lower ground than that occupied by the enemy on the southern edge of the plateau, which was only 400 yards away.

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General Hamilton with the 3rd Division vigorously attacked to the north, and regained all the ground he had lost on the 15th, which throughout the battle has formed a most powerful and effective bridge head.

6. On the 16th the 6th Division came up into line.

It had been my intention to direct the First Corps to attack and seize the enemy's position on the Chemin-des-Dames, supporting it with this new reinforcement. I hoped from the position thus gained to bring effective fire to bear across the front of the 3rd Division which, by securing the advance of the latter, would also take the pressure off the 5th Division and the Third Corps.

But any further advance of the First Corps would have dangerously exposed my right flank. And, further, I learned from the French Commander-in-Chief that he was strongly reinforcing the 6th French Army on my left, with the intention of bringing up the Allied left to attack the enemy's flank and thus compel his retirement. I therefore sent the 6th Division to join the Third Corps with orders to keep it on the south side of the river, as it might be available in general reserve.

On the 17th, 18th and 19th the whole of our line was heavily bombarded, and the First Corps was constantly and heavily engaged. On

## Charge of the Northhamptons

the afternoon of the 17th the right flank of the 1st Division was seriously threatened. A counter attack was made by the Northamptonshire Regiment in combination with the Queen's, and one battalion of the Divisional Reserve was moved up in support. The Northamptonshire Regiment, under cover of mist, crept up to within a hundred yards of the enemy's trenches and charged with the bayonet, driving them out of the trenches and up the hill. A very strong force of hostile infantry was then disclosed on the crest line. This new line was enfiladed by part of the Queen's and the King's Royal Rifles, which wheeled to their left on the extreme right of our infantry line, and were supported by a squadron of cavalry on their outer flank. The enemy's attack was ultimately driven back with heavy loss.

On the 18th, during the night, the Gloucestershire Regiment advanced from their position near Chivy, filled in the enemy's trenches and captured two maxim guns.

On the extreme right the Queen's were heavily attacked, but the enemy were repulsed with great loss. About midnight the attack was renewed on the First Division, supported by artillery fire, but was again repulsed.

Shortly after midnight an attack was made on the left of the 2nd Division with considerable force, which was also thrown back.

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At about 1 p.m. on the 19th the 2nd Division drove back a heavy infantry attack strongly supported by artillery fire. At dusk the attack was renewed and again repulsed.

On the 18th I discussed with the General Officer Commanding the Second Army Corps and his Divisional Commanders the possibility of driving the enemy out of Condé, which lay between his two Divisions, and seizing the bridge which has remained throughout in his possession.

As, however, I found that the bridge was closely commanded from all points on the south side and that satisfactory arrangements were made to prevent any issue from it by the enemy by day or night, I decided that it was not necessary to incur the losses which an attack would entail, as, in view of the position of the Second and Third Corps, the enemy could make no use of Condé, and would be automatically forced out of it by any advance which might become possible for us.

7. On this day information reached me from General Joffre that he had found it necessary to make a new plan, and to attack and envelop the German right flank.

It was now evident to me that the battle in which we had been engaged since the 12th instant must last some days longer until the effect of this new flank movement could be

## Cavalry in the Trenches

felt and a way opened to drive the enemy from his positions.

It thus became essential to establish some system of regular relief in the trenches, and I have used the infantry of the 6th Division for this purpose with good results. The relieved brigades were brought back alternately south of the river, and, with the artillery of the 6th Division, formed a general reserve on which I could rely in case of necessity.

The Cavalry has rendered most efficient and ready help in the trenches, and have done all they possibly could to lighten the arduous and trying task which has of necessity fallen to the lot of the Infantry.

On the evening of the 19th and throughout the 20th the enemy again commenced to show considerable activity. On the former night a severe counter-attack on the 3rd Division was repulsed with considerable loss, and from early on Sunday morning various hostile attempts were made on the trenches of the 1st Division. During the day the enemy suffered another severe repulse in front of the 2nd Division, losing heavily in the attempt. In the course of the afternoon the enemy made desperate attempts against the trenches all along the front of the First Corps, but with similar results.

After dark the enemy again attacked the



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2nd Division, only to be again driven back.

Our losses on these two days were considerable, but the number, as obtained, of the enemy's killed and wounded vastly exceeded them.

As the troops of the First Army Corps were much exhausted by this continual fighting, I reinforced Sir Douglas Haig with a brigade from the reserve, and called upon the 1st Cavalry Division to assist them.

On the night of the 21st another violent counter-attack was repulsed by the 3rd Division, the enemy losing heavily.

On the 23rd the four six-inch howitzer batteries, which I had asked to be sent from home, arrived. Two batteries were handed over to the Second Corps and two to the First Corps. They were brought into action on the 24th with very good results.

Our experiences in this campaign seem to point to the employment of more heavy guns of a larger calibre in great battles which last for several days, during which time powerful entrenching work on both sides can be carried out.

These batteries were used with considerable effect on the 24th and the following days.

8. On the 23rd the action of General de

## The Enemy's Great Effort

Castelnau's Army on the Allied left developed considerably, and apparently withdrew considerable forces of the enemy away from the centre and east. I am not aware whether it was due to this cause or not, but until the 26th it appeared as though the enemy's opposition in our front was weakening. On that day, however, a very marked renewal of activity commenced. A constant and vigorous artillery bombardment was maintained all day, and the Germans in front of the 1st Division were observed to be "sapping" up to our lines and trying to establish new trenches. Renewed counter-attacks were delivered and beaten off during the course of the day, and in the afternoon a well-timed attack by the 1st Division stopped the enemy's entrenching work.

During the night of 27th-28th the enemy again made the most determined attempts to capture the trenches of the 1st Division, but without the slightest success.

Similar attacks were reported during these three days all along the line of the Allied front, and it is certain that the enemy then made one last great effort to establish ascendancy. He was, however, unsuccessful everywhere, and is reported to have suffered heavy losses. The same futile attempts were made all along our front up to the evening of the 28th,

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when they died away, and have not since been renewed.

On former occasions I have brought to your Lordship's notice the valuable services performed during this campaign by the Royal Artillery.

Throughout the Battle of the Aisne they have displayed the same skill, endurance and tenacity, and I deeply appreciate the work they have done.

Sir David Henderson and the Royal Flying Corps under his command have again proved their incalculable value. Great strides have been made in the development of the use of aircraft in the tactical sphere by establishing effective communication between aircraft and units in action.

It is difficult to describe adequately and accurately the great strain to which officers and men were subjected almost every hour of the day and night throughout this battle.

I have described above the severe character of the artillery fire which was directed from morning till night, not only upon the trenches, but over the whole surface of the ground occupied by our Forces. It was not until a few days before the position was evacuated that the heavy guns were removed and the fire slackened. Attack and counter-attack

## Gallantry and Devotion

occurred at all hours of the night and day throughout the whole position, demanding extreme vigilance, and permitting only a minimum of rest.

The fact that between the 12th September to the date of this despatch the total numbers of killed, wounded and missing reached the figures amounting to 561 officers, 12,980 men, proves the severity of the struggle.

The tax on the endurance of the troops was further increased by the heavy rain and cold which prevailed for some ten or twelve days of this trying time.

The Battle of the Aisne has once more demonstrated the splendid spirit, gallantry and devotion which animates the officers and men of His Majesty's Forces.

With reference to the last paragraph of my despatch of September 7th, I append the names of officers, non-commissioned officers and men brought forward for special mention by Army Corps commanders and heads of departments for services rendered from the commencement of the campaign up to the present date.

I entirely agree with these recommendations and beg to submit them for your Lordship's consideration.

I further wish to bring forward the names

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of the following officers who have rendered valuable service :—General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien and Lieutenant-General Sir Douglas Haig (commanding First and Second Corps respectively) I have already mentioned in the present and former despatches for particularly marked and distinguished service in critical situations.

Since the commencement of the campaign they have carried out all my orders and instructions with the utmost ability.

Lieutenant-General W. P. Pulteney took over the command of the Third Corps just before the commencement of the Battle of the Marne. Throughout the subsequent operations he showed himself to be a most capable commander in the field and has rendered very valuable services.

Major-General E. H. H. Allenby and Major-General H. de la P. Gough have proved themselves to be Cavalry leaders of a high order, and I am deeply indebted to them. The undoubted moral superiority which our Cavalry has obtained over that of the enemy have been due to the skill with which they have turned to the best account the qualities inherent in the splendid troops they command.

In my despatch of 7th September I mentioned the name of Brigadier-General Sir David Henderson and his valuable work in

## Valuable Services

command of the Royal Flying Corps ; and I have once more to express my deep appreciation of the help he has since rendered me.

Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Murray has continued to render me invaluable help as Chief of the Staff ; and in his arduous and responsible duties he has been ably assisted by Major-General Henry Wilson, Sub-Chief.

Lieutenant-General Sir Nevil Macready and Lieutenant-General Sir William Robertson have continued to perform excellent service as Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General respectively.

The Director of Army Signals, Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Fowler, has materially assisted the operations by the skill and energy which he has displayed in the working of the important department over which he presides.

My Military Secretary, Brigadier-General the Hon. W. Lambton, has performed his arduous and difficult duties with much zeal and great efficiency.

I am anxious also to bring to your Lordship's notice the following names of officers of my Personal Staff, who throughout these arduous operations have shown untiring zeal and energy in the performance of their duties :

Aides-de-Camp.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stanley Barry.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Brooke.

Major Fitzgerald Watt.

Extra Aide-de-Camp.

Captain the Hon. F. E. Guest.

Private Secretary.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brindsley Fitzgerald.

Major His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught, K.G., joined my Staff as Aide-de-Camp on the 14th September.

His Royal Highness's intimate knowledge of languages enabled me to employ him with great advantage on confidential missions of some importance, and his services have proved of considerable value.

I cannot close this despatch without informing your Lordship of the valuable services rendered by the Chief of the French Military Mission at my Headquarters, Colonel Victor Huguet, of the French Artillery. He has displayed tact and judgment of a high order in many difficult situations, and has rendered conspicuous service to the Allied cause.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servant,

(Signed) J. D. P. FRENCH, Field-Marshal,

*Commander-in-Chief, the British Forces in the Field.*

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Vatso Vo.



## Mentioned in Despatches

### GENERAL HEADQUARTERS STAFF, ETC.

- Captain A. C. Amy.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. R. C. Atkins.  
Major M. H. Babington.  
Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Barefoot.  
Major W. H. Bartholomew.  
Lieutenant-Colonel W. W. O. Beveridge, D.S.O.  
J. F. Bird (Chaplain 1st Class).  
Major E. A. Bourke.  
Colonel W. G. B. Boyce, C.B.  
S. Bradley (Chaplain 3rd Class).  
Colonel V. T. Bunbury, C.B., D.S.O.  
Major B. B. Burke.  
Colonel E. R. C. Butler.  
Colonel E. E. Carter, C.M.G., M.V.O.  
Colonel A. E. J. Cavendish, C.M.G.  
Major (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) B. E. W. Childs.  
Lieutenant-Colonel S. F. Clark.  
Captain E. W. Cox.  
Major S. L. Cummins, M.D.  
Captain W. E. Davies.  
Colonel C. T. Dawkins, C.M.G.  
Major Hon. H. Dawnay, D.S.O.  
Major C. P. Deedes, D.S.O.  
Major C. Evans.  
Major H. M. G. Fell.  
Lieutenant-Colonel R. Ford, D.S.O.  
Major J. V. Forrest.  
Brigadier-General G. H. Fowke.  
Lieutenant-Colonel (temporary Colonel) J. S. Fowler  
D.S.O.  
H. W. Fox (Chaplain 4th Class).  
Major J. S. Gallie.  
Brigadier-General F. C. A. Gilpin, C.B.

## Mentioned in Despatches

- Major (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) E. G. Faussett  
Godfrey.  
Captain H. D. Goldsmith.  
Major-General E. R. C. Graham, C.B.  
L. H. Gwynne (Chaplain 4th Class).  
Major R. W. Hare, D.S.O.  
Colonel G. M. Harper, D.S.O.  
Major A. M. Henniker.  
Major E. M. Jack.  
Major G. D. Jebb, D.S.O.  
W. Keatinge (Chaplain 1st Class).  
Brigadier-General Sir C. W. King, Knt. M.V.O.  
Major-General W. F. L. Lindsay, C.B., D.S.O.  
Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Loch, M.V.O., D.S.O.  
Captain N. Lowe.  
Colonel E. H. L. Lynden-Bell.  
Major F. Lyon.  
Principal Matron Miss E. M. McCarthy.  
Colonel G. M. W. Macdonogh.  
Major J. G. MacNaught.  
E. G. F. Macpherson (Chaplain 1st Class)  
Colonel C. M. Mathews, C.B., D.S.O.  
Major G. A. Moore.  
Major C. D. Myles.  
Colonel T. J. O'Donnell, D.S.O.  
Captain A. L. Otway.  
J. D. S. Parry-Jones (Chaplain 3rd Class).  
W. H. F. Pegg (Chaplain 4th Class).  
Captain (temporary Major) H. F. P. Percival, D.S.O.  
Major P. P. de B. Radcliffe.  
Lieutenant G. G. Rawson.  
Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Russell.  
Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. M. Shea, D.S.O.  
Brevet Colonel F. Smith, D.S.O.  
Major E. B. Steel.  
Major F. A. Symonds.  
J. G. W. Tuckey (Chaplain 1st Class).  
Major E. V. Turner.  
Major H. Wake, D.S.O.  
Colonel R. Wanless O'Gowan.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Major A. H. Waring.  
O. S. Watkins (Chaplain 3rd Class).  
Major A. L. A. Webb.  
Major Lisle Webb.  
Surgeon-General (temporary), T. P. Woodhouse.  
Captain C. R. Woodroffe.  
A. R. Yeoman (Chaplain 3rd Class).  
Private F. Annette.  
Private W. P. Barsby.  
Lance-Corporal W. Carter.  
Serjeant J. Cook.  
Private W. D. Deane.  
Private W. Flaman.  
Private L. H. Ginman.  
Serjeant A. E. Harland.  
Lance-Serjeant A. Hobbs.  
Serjeant E. H. Jesson.  
Serjeant-Major G. Leighton.  
Serjeant-Major R. J. McKay.  
First Class Staff-Serjeant J. T. Main.  
Corporal W. R. Price.  
Corporal T. Rowland.  
Serjeant G. Sadler.  
Lance-Corporal J. W. Sloane.  
Staff-Serjeant-Major W. Taylor.  
Serjeant V. Tripp.  
Superintending Clerk G. F. W. Willicot.  
Captain C. J. Acland Troyte.  
Captain H. I. R. Allfrey.  
Lieutenant-Colonel N. G. Anderson, D.S.O.  
Major B. D. Anley, D.S.O.  
Captain E. C. Anstey.  
Lieutenant W. M. Armstrong.  
Captain H. D. Baird.  
Major J. Baker.  
Lieutenant-Colonel G. de S. Barrow.  
Captain A. W. Bartholomew.  
Lieutenant W. O. Bell-Irving.  
Brigadier-General Hon. C. Bingham, C.V.O., C.B.  
Captain W. A. Blake.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Colonel W. A. T. Bowly.  
Captain G. F. Boyd, D.S.O.  
Colonel R. C. Boyle.  
Brigadier-General C. J. Briggs, C.B.  
Captain J. E. S. Brind.  
Captain C. F. Brooke.  
Lieutenant W. T. Brooks.  
Brigadier-General E. S. Bulfin, C.V.O., C.B.  
Captain B. F. Burnett-Hitchcock.  
Major H. S. Bush.  
Major Hon. L. J. P. Butler.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. R. Cameron.  
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel N. J. G. Cameron.  
Major J. S. Cawley (dead).  
Captain J. Charteris.  
Brigadier-General Sir P. Chetwode, D.S.O.  
Major A. Chopping.  
Major T. E. Clarke.  
Lieutenant-Colonel G. Conway-Gordon.  
Major B. H. H. Cooke.  
Major C. E. Corkran.  
Lieutenant J. H. M. Cornwall.  
Major G. N. Cory, D.S.O.  
Captain T. S. Cotgrave.  
Lieutenant-Colonel G. Cree.  
Captain R. A. M. Currie.  
Brigadier-General G. J. Cuthbert, C.B.  
Lieutenant-Colonel C. Dalton.  
Major F. E. Ll. Daniell.  
Major J. H. Davidson, D.S.O.  
Captain C. M. Davies.  
Brigadier-General R. H. Davies, C.B.  
Captain O. H. Delano-Osborne.  
Brigadier-General H. B. de Lisle, C.B., D.S.O.  
Captain E. F. G. Dillon, D.S.O.  
Brigadier-General B. J. C. Daran, C.B.  
Captain F. H. Dorling.  
Brigadier-General J. P. Du Cane, C.B.  
Captain F. P. Dunlop.  
Colonel B. Dunsterville.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Major H. M. Durand.  
Captain G. N. Dyer.  
Colonel J. E. Edmonds, C.B.  
Lieutenant C. C. Egerton.  
Colonel R. Fanshawe, D.S.O.  
Major G. J. Farmer.  
Major-General Sir C. Fergusson, Bart., C.B., M.V.O.,  
D.S.O.  
Lieutenant St. J. French Blake.  
Captain E. R. Fitzpatrick.  
Brigadier-General G. T. Forestier-Walker, A.D.C.  
Captain T. N. C. Frankland.  
Lieutenant-Colonel Hon. J. H. Gathorne-Hardy.  
Lieutenant R. Giffard.  
Captain D. S. Gilkison (killed).  
Captain G. H. Gill.  
Brigadier-General Count A. E. W. Gleichen, K.C.V.O.,  
C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Brigadier-General F. M. Glubb, C.B., D.S.O.  
Major (Local Lieutenant-Colonel) A. F. Gordon, D.S.O.  
Captain A. R. G. Gordon.  
Colonel Hon. F. Gordon.  
Captain Viscount Gort, M.V.O.  
Brigadier-General J. E. Gough, C.N.G.  
Lieutenant Lord D. M. Graham.  
Brigadier-General R. Haking, C.B.  
Brigadier-General J. A. L. Haldane, C.B., D.S.O.  
Major P. O. Hambro.  
Major-General H. I. W. Hamilton, C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.  
Captain R. S. Hamilton-Grace.  
Lieutenant J. Harter.  
Brigadier-General J. G. Headlam, C.B., D.S.O.  
Brigadier-General W. B. Hickie, C.B.  
Colonel H. S. Hickson, M.B.  
Captain R. J. T. Hildyard.  
Major A. Hinde.  
Brigadier-General P. E. F. Hobbs, C.M.G.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Home.  
Major Hon. W. P. Hore-Ruthven, D.S.O.  
Brigadier-General H. S. Horne, C.B.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Captain H. C. Howard.  
Captain R. G. Howard-Vyse.  
Brigadier-General A. G. Hunter-Weston, C.B., D.S.O.  
Major R. Hutchison.  
Captain and Adjutant L. C. Jackson, C.M.G.  
Captain J. B. Jenkinson (killed).  
Colonel H. S. Jeudwine.  
Major R. H. Kearsley.  
Brigadier-General H. J. S. Landon, C.B.  
Captain B. P. Lefroy.  
Captain E. H. G. Leggett.  
Major-General S. H. Lomax.  
Colonel E. R. Ludlow.  
Brigadier-General F. W. N. McCracken, C.B., D.S.O.  
Captain F. J. A. Mackworth.  
Lieutenant-Colonel N. Malcolm, D.S.O.  
Colonel R. J. Marker, D.S.O.  
Colonel F. S. Maude, C.M.G.  
Lieutenant-Colonel F. B. Maurice.  
Captain W. J. Maxwell-Scott.  
Brigadier-General G. F. Milne, C.B.  
Major-General C. C. Monro, C.B.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. A. Montgom  
Captain A. L. Moulton-Barrett.  
Major W. P. Newbiggin, D.S.O.  
Captain R. H. Osborne.  
Colonel R. S. Oxley.  
Lieutenant D. Paige.  
Major G. Paley.  
Captain W. L. Palmer.  
Lieutenant J. Penrose.  
Lieutenant C. P. W. Perceval.  
Brigadier-General E. M. Perceval, D.S.O.  
Major (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) A. J. B. Percival  
D.S.O.  
Colonel R. Porter.  
Captain L. A. E. Price-Davies, V.C., D.S.O.  
Major F. F. Ready, D.S.O.  
Captain W. R. Reid.  
Brigadier-General S. R. Rice, C.B.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Brigadier-General S. P. Rolt, C.B.  
Lieutenant-Colonel C. F. Romer.  
Major E. Ryan.  
Colonel W. H. Rycroft, C.B.  
Colonel H. N. Sargent, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant-Colonel H. T. Sawyer.  
Colonel R. H. S. Sawyer.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Schreiber, D.S.O.  
Brigadier-General R. Scott-Kerr, C.B., M.V.O., D.S.O.  
Brigadier-General F. C. Shaw, C.B.  
Major A. B. Smallman.  
Major-General T. D'O. Snow, C.B.  
Captain R. W. M. Stevens.  
Major F. C. Stratton.  
Major H. E. Street.  
Major H. W. Studd, D.S.O.  
Major G. H. F. Tailyour.  
Captain E. N. Tandy.  
Captain J. J. B. Tapley.  
Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. S. Taylor.  
Captain F. M. C. Trench.  
Colonel J. Vaughan, D.S.O.  
Captain J. T. Weatherby.  
Major G. A. W. Weir.  
Second Lieutenant West.  
Captain J. R. Wethered.  
Lieutenant R. H. Willan.  
Brigadier-General H. F. M. Wilson, C.B.  
Brigadier-General F. D. V. Wing, C.B.  
Major J. B. Wroughton.  
Major J. M. Young.  
Corporal (temporary Serjeant) F. W. Joliffe.  
Staff Serjeant-Major S. J. Webster, Army Service Corps

### ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

Lieutenant K. P. Atkinson, Royal Field Artillery.  
Captain R. A. Roger, Royal Engineers.  
Lieutenant I. M. Bonham-Carter, Northumberland  
Fusiliers.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Captain V. D. Bourke, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.

Captain A. B. Burdett, York and Lancaster Regiment.

Brevet Major C. J. Burke, Royal Irish Regiment.

Lieutenant (temporary Captain) G. I. Carmichael, Royal Field Artillery.

Lieutenant A. Christie, Royal Field Artillery.

Lieutenant E. L. Conran, 2nd County of London Yeomanry.

Captain G. W. P. Dawes, Royal Berkshire Regiment.

Lieutenant L. Dawes, Middlesex Regiment.

Captain E. W. Furse, Royal Field Artillery.

Captain H. C. Jackson, Bedford Regiment.

Lieutenant P. B. Joubert de la Ferté, Royal Field Artillery.

Lieutenant D. S. Lewis, Royal Engineers.

Brevet Major C. A. H. Longcroft, Welsh Regiment.

Lieutenant Mapplebeck, Royal Flying Corps.

Lieutenant W. G. S. Mitchell, Highland Light Infantry.

Lieutenant M. W. Noel, Liverpool Regiment.

Lieutenant C. E. C. Rabagliati, Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Brevet Major G. R. Raleigh, Essex Regiment.

Brevet Major J. M. Salmond, Royal Lancashire Regiment.

Lieutenant R. G. D. Small, Leinster Regiment.

Lieutenant (temporary Captain), A. H. L. Soames, 3rd Hussars.

Second Lieutenant N. C. Spratt, Royal Flying Corps (S.R.).

Brevet-Major (temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) F. H. Sykes.

Captain F. F. Waldron, 19th Hussars.

Second Lieutenant C. W. Wilson, Royal Flying Corps (S.R.).

Flight-Serjeant C. Cullen, Royal Flying Corps.

Flight-Serjeant H. Goodchild, Royal Flying Corps.

Serjeant W. Jones, Royal Flying Corps.

Serjeant M. Keegan, Royal Flying Corps.

Corporal S. Kemp, Royal Flying Corps.

Serjeant-Major E. J. Parker, Royal Flying Corps.

Serjeant-Major J. Ramsay, Royal Flying Corps.



## Mentioned in Despatches

Flight-Serjeant A. M. Saywood, Royal Flying Corps.  
Serjeant A. Wilson, Royal Flying Corps.

### HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY

Major Viscount Crichton, M.V.O., D.S.O., Royal Horse Guards.

Captain T. C. Gurney, 2nd Life Guards.

Lieutenant A. L. E. Smith, 1st Life Guards.

Lieutenant D. E. Wallace, 2nd Life Guards.

Corporal of Horse J. Jordon, Royal Horse Guards.

Corporal of Horse A. H. Wilkins, 2nd Life Guards.

### 2ND DRAGOON GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Wilberforce.

Major G. H. A. Ing.

Captain E. S. Chance.

Lieutenant C. A. Heydeman.

Lieutenant A. J. Lamb, D.S.O.

Lance-Serjeant F. Webb.

Corporal G. Short.

Private J. Goodchild.

Private C. Horne.

Private F. W. Ellicock.

### 4TH DRAGOON GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. L. Mullens.

Major G. T. M. Bridges, D.S.O. (now Lieutenant-Colonel).

Captain C. B. Hornby.

Lieutenant H. L. Jones, 13th Hussars (attached).

Squadron Serjeant-Major W. Sharpe.

Farrier Staff-Serjeant W. Old.

Squadron Serjeant-Major F. Talbot.

Quartermaster-Serjeant C. Syzling.

### 5TH DRAGOON GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. K. Ansell (dead).

## Mentioned in Despatches

Captain E. W. S. Balfour.  
Lieutenant V. D. S. Williams.  
Regimental Serjeant-Major C. Pooley (now Second  
Lieutenant).  
Squadron Serjeant-Major W. Langford.  
Corporal J. Peach.  
Serjeant F. Langford.

### 6TH DRAGOON GUARDS.

Major W. G. Home.  
Captain M. N. Kennard.  
Lieutenant R. M. Barnsley.  
Lieutenant W. T. Gill.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major F. J. Gilham.  
Serjeant J. Higgins.  
Lance-Corporal C. Griffiths.

### 2ND DRAGOONS.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Bulkeley Johnson.  
Major A. Lawson.  
Captain W. Long.  
Captain W. Duguid-McCombie.  
Lieutenant G. F. A. Pigot-Moodie.  
Lieutenant J. G. Crabbe.  
Second Lieutenant J. G. R. Cooper.  
Second Lieutenant E. R. F. Compton.  
Lieutenant and Quartermaster D. Coutts.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major Currie.  
Serjeant Cranston.  
Corporal Clunie.  
Private McKeish.

### 3RD HUSSARS.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. A. Kennedy.  
Captain F. J. Du Pre.  
Lieutenant C. F. Clarke.  
Farrier Quartermaster-Serjeant J. Town.  
Serjeant E. Thornhill.  
Corporal E. Walker.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Lance-Corporal G. Davidson.  
Saddler Corporal W. Townsend.

### 4TH HUSSARS.

Major P. Howell.  
Captain J. K. Gatacre, Indian Army (attached).  
Lieutenant K. North.  
Lieutenant R. Sherscon, Indian Army (attached).  
Lieutenant L. H. Cripps (Special Reserve).  
Squadron Serjeant-Major W. Dunsby (since granted a  
commission).  
Squadron Serjeant-Major T. Pateman.  
Serjeant T. Scotcher.  
Serjeant F. Brown.  
Serjeant J. Alexander.  
Serjeant A. Sparham.  
Lance-Serjeant S. Scopes.  
Corporal Wm. Siddons.  
Corporal P. Lonergan.  
Corporal E. Robbins.  
Corporal J. Lynch.  
Corporal A. Page.  
Corporal A. Laver.  
Lance-Corporal W. Ashley.  
Private W. Cooper.  
Private F. Clark.  
Private H. Long.  
Private C. Turp.  
Private D. Newbury.

### 5TH LANCERS.

Major J. B. Jardine, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant B. W. Robinson.  
Lieutenant H. C. Alexander.  
Second Lieutenant W. H. Coulter.  
Lieutenant T. De Burgh, Indian Army (attached).  
Lieutenant Owen Gough, Indian Army (attached).  
Serjeant C. Graham.  
Corporal A. Davis.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Corporal R. Ware.  
Corporal M. Shutt.  
Lance-Corporal E. Wass.  
Corporal D. G. Baker.  
Corporal E. Grant.  
Lance-Corporal G. Inch.  
Lance-Corporal D. Mullock.  
Serjeant F. D. Wyatt.

### 9TH LANCERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel D. G. M. Campbell.  
Captain D. K. L. Lucas-Tooth (dead).  
Captain F. O. Grenfell.  
Captain L. Sadleir-Jackson.  
Lieutenant R. L. Benson.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major H. Durand.  
Serjeant W. Turner.  
Serjeant G. Davids.

### 11TH HUSSARS.

Lieutenant Hon. C. Mulholland.  
Lieutenant J. S. Ainsworth.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major J. Gardner.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major G. W. Joslin.  
Farrier Staff-Serjeant W. J. Jenkins.  
Lance-Corporal A. H. Stevens.

### 12TH LANCERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. Wormald.  
Major E. Crawley.  
Major C. Fane, D.S.O.  
Captain and Adjutant C. E. Bryant.  
Lieutenant D. C. H. Richardson.  
Lieutenant H. A. Brand.  
Lieutenant B. G. Nicholas.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major C. Hart.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major W. Lockyer.  
Squadron Serjeant-Major R. E. Vinc.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Private J. Townsend.  
Serjeant S. Clarke.

### 15TH HUSSARS.

Major F. C. Pilkington.  
Captain Hon. W. A. Nugent.  
Captain A. Courage.  
Captain C. Nelson.  
Lieutenant Hon. E. C. Hardinge.  
Second Lieutenant G. H. Straker.  
Sergeant F. Godden.  
Sergeant H. J. Papworth.  
Serjeant W. Blishen.  
Lance-Serjt. A. J. Earle.  
Corporal W. A. Mackay.  
Corporal G. Sheppard.  
Corporal W. Darley.  
Corporal Garforth.  
Private F. Aspinall.  
Private W. H. Price.  
Private W. Pearce.

### 16TH LANCERS.

Major C. J. Eccles.  
Major C. L. K. Campbell.  
Captain A. Neave.  
Lieutenant E. H. L. Beddington.  
Lieutenant E. R. Nash.  
Lieutenant J. L. Cheyne.  
Lieutenant R. A. J. Beech.  
Lieutenant C. E. H. Tempest-Hicks.  
Lieutenant D. R. Cross.  
Lieutenant R. G. R. Davies.  
Lieutenant J. L. Cheyne.  
Second Lieutenant L. C. Ramsbottom Isherwood.  
Second Lieutenant Lord Woodhouse (attached).  
Squadron Serjeant-Major F. Pargeter.  
Squadron Serjeant Major H. C. Archer.  
Serjeant W. Lindsay.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Serjeant E. Laurence.  
Corporal F. J. Page.  
Corporal G. W. Cooper.  
Lance-Serjeant A. Roberts.  
Saddler-Corporal D. Brown.  
Lance-Corporal W. Jewkes.  
Lance-Corporal G. Fuller.  
Lance-Corporal J. H. Smith.  
Lance-Corporal W. Holden.  
Lance-Serjeant R. Carr.  
Lance-Corporal W. F. Beaumont.

### 18TH HUSSARS.

Lieutenant G. Gore-Langton.  
Serjeant W. G. Burt.  
Shoing-Smith M. Daly.

### 19TH HUSSARS.

Major A. W. Parsons.

### 20TH HUSSARS.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. T. G. Edwards.  
Major A. C. Little.  
Major M. E. Richardson.  
Captain C. G. Mangles.  
Lieutenant D. S. Peploe.  
Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Adams.  
Serjeant J. L. Beavon.  
Serjeant L. H. Halton.  
Serjeant E. Clarke.  
Corporal H. E. Poole.

### MILITARY MOUNTED POLICE.

Serjeant H. Brooks.  
Serjeant F. Willis.

### NORTH IRISH HORSE.

Major A. W. J. C. Visct. Massereene and Ferrard, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant R. A. West.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### SOUTH IRISH HORSE.

Major I. W. Burns-Lindow.

### ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. N. Birch.  
Captain H. K. Bradbury (dead).  
Lieutenant A. H. Burne.  
Lieutenant J. D. Campbell (dead).  
Lieutenant M. H. Dendy.  
Major A. B. Forman.  
Major G. Gillson.  
Lieutenant J. B. Gough.  
Captain W. W. Jelf.  
Lieutenant L. H. Mundy (dead).  
Lieutenant R. L. Palmer.  
Lieutenant G. J. P. St. Clair.  
Captain R. H. Sanderson.  
Major H. S. Seligman.  
Captain H. S. Stanham.  
Lieutenant C. L. T. Walwyn.  
Corporal S. S. Arkininstall.  
Gunner J. B. Carry.  
Serjeant A. Castle.  
Driver A. Conie.  
Serjeant E. Hodder.  
Serjeant H. E. Pitt.  
Gunner J. A. Saunders.  
Driver W. Smith.  
Regimental Serjeant-Major R. Y. K. Walker.  
Serjeant J. Wedlock.

### ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Captain E. W. Browne.  
Captain J. R. Colville.  
Lieutenant G. E. A. Granet.  
Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Hockdale.  
Driver Blackwell, 31st Battery.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Driver W. Mills, 88th Battery.  
Driver Neil, 88th Battery.  
Gunner L. R. Rimington, 88th Battery.  
Trumpeter E. T. Steel, 55th Battery.

### 8TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. Duffus.  
Major F. A. Wilson, D.S.O.  
Captain D. Reynolds.  
Lieutenant E. G. Earle.  
Serjeant T. Brown.  
Trumpeter F. Waldron.  
Driver J. H. C. Drain.  
Driver F. Luke.  
Serjeant Bowers.  
Gunner Garlick.  
Gunner Baker.  
Driver Treloar.  
Driver Hall.  
Driver Prior.  
Gunner Fraser.  
Gunner Turner.  
Driver Robertson.

### 14TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. M. Ross-Johnson, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant A. Dawson.  
Battery-Serjeant-Major W. Count.

### 15TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. F. Stevens.  
Major C. N. B. Ballard.  
Captain A. B. Higgon.  
Farrier Quartermaster-Serjeant H. J. S. Watts.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant V. Hill.  
Driver F. S. Brown.



## Mentioned in Despatches

### 23RD BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. T. Butler.  
Major S. F. Metcalfe.  
Captain E. S. Allsup.  
Lieutenant E. L. B. Anderson.  
Lieutenant D. Hill.  
Lieutenant J. C. Forsyth.  
Battery Serjeant-Major W. Keegan.  
Battery Serjeant-Major W. H. Solman.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant G. Peck.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant J. Smith.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant B. W. Rogers.  
Farrier Quartermaster-Serjeant E. Rivett.  
Serjeant A. L. Perry.  
Corporal A. Johnson.  
Corporal G. Norman.

### 25TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. Gillman.  
Major W. Ellershaw.  
Lieutenant G. E. W. Franklin.  
Battery Serjeant-Major A. Stroudley.  
Trumpeter A. C. Cockaday.  
Serjeant H. Squelch.  
Corporal (now Farrier-Serjeant) S. S. T. Kendall.  
Farrier-Serjeant T. Harrison.

### 26TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. Cunliffe-Owen.  
Major G. H. W. Nicholson.  
Major H. N. Packard.  
Captain T. C. Sinclair.  
Gunner W. J. Franklin.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant Booth.  
Serjeant W. Williams.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant G. Oakes.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### 27TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Onslow.  
Major N. W. Alexander.  
Captain G. Masters.  
Captain F. F. Congreve.  
Lieutenant C. O. D. Preston.  
Second Lieutenant H. E. Chapman.  
Lieutenant L. E. O. Davidson.  
Second Lieutenant R. Staveley.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant A. Board.  
Bombardier F. Holton.  
Driver E. Street.  
Driver C. Burkitt.

### 28TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. Cameron.  
Major G. H. Saunders.  
Captain A. G. Gillman.  
Lieutenant A. R. Rainy.  
Second Lieutenant R. W. McLeod.  
Serjeant W. J. Carnegie.

### 29TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Major H. G. Lloyd.  
Serjeant Sullivan, 127th Battery.

### 30TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY (HOWITZER).

Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Staveley.  
Major L. T. Ashworth.  
Captain A. E. Newland.  
Captain H. K. Sadler.  
Battery Serjeant-Major A. Hall.  
Battery Serjeant-Major A. J. Owen.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant F. C. Maskell.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant J. J. Bourne.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant E. W. Clarke.  
Staff Serjeant-Farrier A. R. Benbrook.  
Serjeant A. G. Cooney.  
Corporal H. W. Stubbs.  
Corporal W. Theobald.  
Bombardier R. J. Fuller.

### 32ND BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. MacCarthy.  
Major H. E. Vallentin, D.S.O.  
Major C. H. Liveing.  
Captain C. A. Mortimore.  
Second Lieutenant C. H. Rogers.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant Kerr.  
Saddler Quartermaster-Serjeant Alger.  
Serjeant Jenkins, 27th Battery.  
Driver O'Brien, 135th Battery.

### 34TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. G. Sandilands.  
Major H. T. Wynter (killed).  
Major H. J. Mackey, M.V.O.  
Lieutenant E. J. M. Robertson.  
Lieutenant J. E. L. Clarke (dead).  
Second Lieutenant H. W. Huggins.  
Second Lieutenant A. A. M. Durand.  
Brigade Serjeant-Major C. Stammers.  
Farrier-Serjeant W. Cook.

### 36TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Stewart  
D.S.O.  
Lieutenant D. R. Macdonald.  
Lieutenant A. L. P. Griffith.  
Second Lieutenant P. E. Inchbald.  
Bombardier W. D. Vellers.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### 40TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. G. Elkington.  
Major G. W. S. Brooke.  
Major C. St. M. Ingham.  
Captain R. A. Anstruther.  
Captain E. L. Ellington.  
Battery Serjeant-Major H. Grant.  
Battery Serjeant-Major C. J. Newcombe.  
Battery Serjeant-Major A. Moore.  
Serjeant J. Clarke.  
Driver F. Price.  
Driver H. J. King.  
Driver W. Dickerson.

### 41ST BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant D. D. Rose (dead).  
Driver W. Chadwick.  
Gunner F. Powe.  
Driver W. Austen.

### 42ND BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. Geddes.  
Major T. Bruce.  
Captain H. L. Nevill, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant P. S. Myburgh.  
Serjeant G. Mallinson.  
Bombardier G. Langley.  
Gunner R. Townhill.  
Gunner W. Scott.  
Driver F. Marshall.  
Driver A. Amy.  
Driver J. Nicholson.  
Corporal J. P. Gallivan.

### 43RD BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Major E. B. Macnaghten.  
Captain F. W. Robinson.  
Captain R. Longstaff.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Serjeant W. Clarke.  
A. Bombardier W. Whitby.

### 44TH BRIGADE, ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY.

Lieutenant-Colonel D. Arbuthnot.  
Lieutenant J. P. Knight.  
Brigade Quartermaster-Serjeant W. H. Jillard.  
Gunner A. Belford.  
Driver C. Kerridge.

### DIVISIONAL AMMUNITION COLUMN.

Captain and Adjutant H. Cornes.  
Captain G. M. A. Gregory.  
Captain E. White.  
Regimental Serjeant-Major R. R. W. Bell.  
Staff-Serjeant-Farrier W. Salter, Royal Garrison Artillery  
Quartermaster-Serjeant H. Cutbush, Divisional Ammunition Column.  
Corporal D. Dixon, 36th Brigade Ammunition Column.  
Gunner J. Henderson, Royal Garrison Artillery.

### ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY.

Brevet-Colonel G. Franks.  
Serjeant S. Elvin.

### 48TH (HEAVY) BATTERY, ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY.

Major C. F. Phipps.  
Captain J. B. Walker.  
Serjeant Teasdale.  
Corporal G. Smale.  
Gunner Keeble.  
Gunner J. Bryant.

### 108TH (HEAVY) BATTERY, ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY.

Major C. De Sausmarez, D.S.O.  
Captain Sir F. N. Elphinstone-Dalrymple, Bt.  
Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant W. E. Warren.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Captain P. R. Bald.  
Lieutenant R. L. Bond.  
Major M. G. E. Bowman-Manifold, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. H. Boys, D.S.O.  
Captain H. E. Day.  
Captain W. G. S. Dobbie.  
Captain R. V. Howell Doherty.  
Captain G. F. Evans.  
Lieutenant R. B. Flint.  
Captain H. G. Gandy.  
Lieutenant A. E. Grasset.  
Major A. B. R. Hildebrand.  
Major F. G. Howard, M.V.O.  
Captain and Adjutant L. C. Jackson, C.M.G.  
Captain W. H. Johnston.  
Captain O. L. Jordan, 1st Field Squadron.  
Lieutenant G. le Q. Martel.  
Lieutenant C. G. Martin.  
Captain J. J. H. Nation.  
Lieutenant R. F. B. Naylor.  
Lieutenant C. L. Y. Parker.  
Lieutenant J. A. C. Pennycuik.  
Captain R. M. Powell, Royal Garrison Artillery (attached)  
Captain C. H. Prickett.  
Major H. L. Pritchard.  
Major C. Russell-Brown.  
Major E. Sandys.  
Major C. W. Singer.  
Lieutenant G. B. F. Smyth.  
Colonel J. A. S. Tulloch.  
Major G. Walker.  
Lieutenant J. Watson.  
Captain W. N. Webber.  
Captain J. White.  
Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Wilson.  
Lieutenant R. G. Wright.  
Captain T. Wright.  
Pioneer R. Arthur (killed).  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant W. Barnham.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Sapper L. Bloomfield.  
Corporal A. Box.  
Quartermaster-Serjeant W. P. Britton.  
Corporal C. A. Brocklebank.  
Serjeant J. Buckle.  
Sapper H. S. Bunyard.  
Corporal C. W. Cadman, Motor Cyclist.  
Serjeant W. Carvell.  
Serjeant E. Chidgey.  
Serjeant F. Colvin.  
Pioneer E. Cottington.  
Sapper E. Doney.  
Lance-Corporal R. Dorey.  
Serjeant R. Eyres.  
Pioneer R. Fielding.  
Serjeant H. E. Gallagher.  
Corporal J. Geraghty.  
Serjeant E. J. Goodhart.  
Corporal S. W. Hallett.  
Serjeant W. Hayward.  
Serjeant E. W. Hinton.  
Corporal T. G. Hobson.  
Corporal D. Humphries, Motor Cyclist.  
Lance-Corporal R. Hyne.  
Sapper J. Jack.  
Lance-Corporal C. A. Jarvis.  
Sapper M. J. Keane.  
Pioneer L. Layton.  
Corporal W. Lewis.  
Serjeant H. E. Mallows.  
Sapper S. Middleton.  
Sapper C. W. Moreton.  
Corporal T. P. Morris.  
Serjeant W. F. Norrington.  
Serjeant F. Paine.  
Co. Serjeant-Major A. G. Palmer.  
Sapper R. W. Pardy.  
Corporal (since promoted Second Lieutenant) C. F. Portal.  
Corporal A. J. S. Proston.  
Serjeant J. Quinlan.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Serjeant J. Quinney.  
Serjeant A. Q. Roberts.  
Sapper J. R. Roberts.  
Serjeant E. J. Runyard.  
Corporal H. Salt.  
Corporal T. J. Scaife.  
Corporal H. U. Scrutton.  
Corporal J. A. Scrutton.  
Serjeant A. E. Smith.  
Sapper A. J. Sourbutts.  
Corporal S. F. C. Stackard.  
Second Corporal W. Steele.  
Serjeant E. G. Taylor.  
Company Serjeant-Major G. Tibble.  
Second Corporal C. Todd.  
Corporal H. Trepas.  
Serjeant W. Weeks.  
Company Serjeant-Major M. R. G. Williams.  
Sapper W. Winchester.  
Serjeant J. Wood.

### FOOT GUARDS.

#### 2ND BATTALION, GRENADIER GUARDS.

Captain A. Gosselin.  
Lieutenant Hon. W. A. Cecil (killed).  
Lieutenant R. W. Welby (killed).  
Sergeant-Major E. Ludlow.  
Corporal F. Parsons.  
Lance-Corporal P. McDonnell.  
Private C. Rule.

#### 1ST BATTALION, COLDSTREAM GUARDS.

Lieut-Colonel J. Ponsonby, D.S.O.  
Captain W. St. A. Warde-Aldam.  
Lieutenant and Adjutant G. Campbell.  
Lieutenant J. C. Wynne Finch.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. Duggan.  
Serjeant A. White.



## Mentioned in Despatches

Lance-Corporal N. Mitchell.  
Serjeant T. Harris.  
Corporal (temporary Serjeant) T. Fletcher.

### 2ND BATTALION, COLDSTREAM GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Pereira.  
Major R. A. Markham.  
Captain F. Hardy.  
Captain G. B. S. Follett.  
Serjeant-Major J. Clancey.  
Company Serjeant-Major G. Link.  
Serjeant W. Watson.  
Lance-Corporal A. Brown.  
Private F. W. Dodson.

### 3RD BATTALION, COLDSTREAM GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. P. T. Fielding, D.S.O.  
Major T. G. Matheson.  
Captain A. Tritton.  
Lieutenant and Adjutant A. Smith.  
Second Lieutenant C. M. Cotrell Dormer.  
Lieutenant J. L. Huggan, Royal Army Med. Corps (killed)  
C. S. M. Jackson.  
Company Serjeant-Major J. Ivey.  
Serjeant M. Marks.  
Lance-Serjeant W. Small.  
Lance-Corporal B. Prentice.  
Private E. Godding.  
Private E. Batey.  
Private G. Wyatt.  
Private A. Thomas.  
Private H. Chidler.

### 1ST BATTALION SCOTS GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Lowther, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Captain and Adjutant A. L. Stephen, D.S.O.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant G. Blake.  
Private D. Boyle.  
Serjeant-Major T. Tate.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### 1ST BATTALION IRISH GUARDS.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hon. G. Morris (killed).  
Major H. F. Crichton (killed).  
Lieutenant Hon. H. W. Gough.  
Lieutenant H. J. S. Shields, Royal Army Medical Corps.  
Company Serjeant-Major Rodgers.  
Drill-Serjeant A. Winspear.  
Serjeant A. McEnroy.  
Corporal P. Sheridan.  
Private J. Carney.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL SCOTS.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. McMicking, D.S.O.  
Major F. J. Duncan, D.S.O.  
Captain C. L. Price.  
Captain R. P. Morrison.  
Lieutenant G. E. Hall.  
Lieutenant M. Henderson.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. Lamond.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. A. Carleton.  
Serjeant-Major J. H. Martin.  
Serjeant J. Gallagher.  
Serjeant C. Whaley.  
Lance-Corporal I. Voyes.

### 1ST BATTALION ROYAL WEST SURREY REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel D. Warren (killed).  
Captain C. F. Watson, D.S.O.  
Captain R. G. Clarke.  
Captain F. C. Longbourne.  
Serjeant Graham.  
Corporal Hammond.  
Lance-Corporal Debell.  
Private Lawrence.  
Private E. Austin.  
Drummer Wise.  
Drummer Green.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### 1ST BATTALION ROYAL LANCASTER REGIMENT.

Major R. G. Parker.  
Captain C. H. Grover.  
Captain W. A. T. B. Somerville.  
Lieutenant T. J. Uzielli.  
Captain H. Clutterbuck.  
Serjeant-Major Dakin.  
Corporal Wright.

### 1ST BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. S. Ainslie.  
Major C. Yatman, D.S.O.  
Captain H. S. Toppin.  
Captain W. N. Herbert.  
Lieutenant G. O. Sloper.  
Second Lieutenant E. F. Boyd.  
Captain M. Leckie, Royal Army Medical Corps (attached).  
Company Serjeant-Major D. Condon.  
Serjeant A. Laws.  
Serjeant J. E. Fenemore.  
Serjeant J. Squires.  
Lance-Corporal S. Bently.  
Private V. Gorton.

### 1ST BATTALION ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT.

Major A. J. Poole.  
Major W. C. Christie.  
Captain C. F. Burnard.  
Serjeant P. Thornton.

### 4TH BATTALION ROYAL FUSILIERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel N. R. McMahon, D.S.O.  
Major T. R. Mallock, D.S.O.  
Captain L. F. Ashburner, M.V.O., D.S.O.  
Captain L. W. Le M. Carey.  
Lieutenant F. W. A. Steele.  
Lieutenant M. J. Dease.  
Lieutenant G. O'D. F. Thomas O'Donel.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Serjeant-Major E. W. Tyler.  
Company Serjeant-Major G. D. Attewell.  
Serjeant H. Savill.  
Serjeant M. W. Lindsay.  
Serjeant W. F. Osborne.  
Lance-Corporal W. Evans.  
Lance-Corporal G. Moore.  
Private S. Godley.

### 1ST BATTALION THE KING'S (LIVERPOOL) REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Bannatyne.  
Captain J. H. S. Batten.  
Captain and Adjutant E. Hudson.  
Lieutenant D. G. H. H. Scott-Tucker.  
Serjeant-Major T. H. Cuddy.  
Company Serjeant-Major M. Swannick.  
Serjeant M. Fitznolan.  
Lance-Corporal J. Blackburn.

### 2ND BATTALION SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Davidson.  
Captain M. B. Savage.  
Private J. Littlewood.  
Private A. Mutlow.  
Lance-Corporal H. Watkins.  
Serjeant W. Gascoyne.

### 1ST BATTALION NORFOLK REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Ballard.  
Major H. R. Done.  
Captain C. E. Luard, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant G. C. Lyle.  
Captain T. R. Bowlby.  
Company Serjeant-Major A. Haymes.  
Serjeant R. Francis.  
Serjeant C. Pryer.  
Corporal H. Smith.  
Private P. S. Nicholson.

## Mentioned in Despatches.

Private H. Stevens.  
Company Serjeant-Major W. Selves (5th Cyclist Company).  
Serjeant Rushbrook (5th Cyclist Company).

### 1ST BATTALION LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT.

Major C. Toogood, D.S.O.  
Captain F. W. Greatwood.  
Captain H. C. W. Hoskyns.  
Captain R. E. Drake.  
Lieutenant C. O. Holmes.  
Captain G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army Medical Corps  
(attached).  
Serjeant-Major A. Stapleton.  
Serjeant F. Davis.  
Serjeant W. Garrett.  
Lance-Corporal H. Barlow.  
Lance-Corporal A. Brett.  
Lance-Corporal S. Yorks.  
Private E. J. Stroulger.  
Private W. Nix.

### 2ND BATTALION SUFFOLK REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. H. Brett, D.S.O. (dead).  
Serjeant-Major R. Burton.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant W. Curtis.  
Drummer L. Jones.

### 1ST BATTALION SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY.

Major C. B. Prowse.  
Captain L. A. Jones-Mortimer.  
Captain W. Watson.  
Corporal F. Wilcox.

### 1ST BATTALION BEDFORD REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. J. Griffith, D.S.O.  
Captain R. J. McCloughin.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Lieutenant C. E. G. Shearman.  
Lieutenant A. G. Corah (Cyclist Company).  
Serjeant P. Hunt.  
Serjeant R. Hawkins.  
Corporal E. Higdon.  
Private S. Seaman.  
Private W. Jackson.  
Dr. H. Chequer.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel St. John A. Cox.  
Major E. H. E. Daniell, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant F. H. L. Rushton.  
Regimental Quartermaster-Serjeant T. W. Fitzpatrick.  
Serjeant Boyd.  
Serjeant-Major J. F. Plunkett.  
Serjeant J. Burne.  
Lance-Corporal J. Delaney.  
Private N. Fernie.  
Private J. Doherty.

### 2ND BATTALION LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS.

Captain A. H. Spooner.  
Major C. J. Griffin.  
Private Wilcox.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS.

Major C. A. Wilding.  
Lance-Corporal Parkinson.  
Private Kelly, " B " Company.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Smith.  
Major A. M. H. Forbes.  
Captain G. C. Briggs.  
Captain J. D. Tullis.  
Captain H. G. B. Miller.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Captain T. B. Traill.  
Lieutenant B. H. Badham.  
Lieutenant C. J. Lyon.  
Second Lieutenant E. L. L. Anderson.  
Regimental Quartermaster-Serjeant R. Harrison.  
Lance-Corporal G. Mack.

### 1ST BATTALION CHESHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel D. C. Boger.  
Captain J. L. Shore.  
Captain W. S. Rich.  
Lieutenant W. G. R. Elliot.  
Company Serjeant-Major J. W. Francis.  
Serjeant Edge.  
Serjeant W. A. Norris.  
Private Burns.  
Lance-Corporal A. Smith.  
Private F. MacCarthy.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

Private F. Jackson.  
Private E. Edwards.

### 1ST BATTALION SOUTH WALES BORDERERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. B. Leach.  
Major W. L. Lawrence.  
Captain W. O. Prichard.  
Lieutenant and Adjutant C. J. Patterson.  
Lieutenant J. C. Coker (killed).  
Serjeant G. Duffy.  
Private H. Godfrey.  
Private H. Cudlip.

### 2ND BATTALION KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS

Lieutenant-Colonel C. N. Stephenson.  
Major A. E. Haig.  
Major E. S. De Coke.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Captain G. W. Smith.  
Lieutenant J. R. Hamilton-Dalrymple.  
Serjeant-Major N. MacWhinne.  
Company Serjeant-Major R. Fuller.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant Geggie.  
Serjeant Kirkwood.  
Serjeant P. Welsh.

### 1ST BATTALION SCOTTISH RIFLES.

Captain T. S. Riddell-Webster.

### 1ST BATTALION GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Lovett.  
Captain and Adjutant A. H. Radice.  
Second Lieutenant W. F. Watkins (Special Reserve).  
Company Serjeant-Major W. Hodges.  
Drummer C. Fluck.  
Private Law.  
Private T. Orr.

### 2ND BATTALION WORCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Westmacott.  
Lieutenant C. Deakin.  
Lance-Corporal J. Davis.  
Private W. Sheldon.  
Private E. Murrell.  
Private W. Starting.

### 3RD BATTALION WORCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT.

Major W. R. Chichester.  
Captain C. V. Beresford.  
Captain L. C. Dorman.  
Lieutenant S. A. Gabb.  
Second Lieutenant S. A. Goldsmid.  
Company Serjeant-Major M. J. Murphy.  
Company Serjeant-Major F. Workman.  
Company Serjeant-Major H. J. Farley.



## Mentioned in Despatches

Serjeant L. T. Vicarage.  
Serjeant J. Johnson.  
Lance-Corporal W. McNally.  
Lance-Corporal R. Whittington.  
Corporal J. Jewsbury.  
Lance-Corporal J. Bingham.  
Private W. Malonc.  
Private W. Heritage.  
Private J. Ware.

### 1ST BATTALION EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel L. St. G. Le Marchant, D.S.O.  
Corporal J. Lismore.

### 1ST BATTALION EAST SURREY REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Longley.  
Major H. S. Tew.  
Captain E. M. Wolfe Flanagan.  
Captain Hon. A. R. Hewitt.  
Captain M. J. Minogue.  
Captain F. A. Bowring.  
Serjeant-Major G. E. Hyson.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant W. J. Woolger.  
Serjeant R. Hunt.  
Serjeant M. L. Hill.  
Serjeant H. Hunt.  
Private J. Wilkins.

### 1ST BATTALION DUKE OF CORNWALL'S LIGHT INFANTRY.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. N. Turner.  
Major T. H. F. Price.  
Major J. H. T. Cornish Bowden.  
Captain C. B. Woodham.  
Lieutenant A. N. Acland.  
Lieutenant A. J. S. Hammans.  
Company Serjeant-Major J. S. Woolcot.  
Company Serjeant-Major C. Willis.  
Serjeant L. M. Timbury.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Corporal A. J. Richardson.  
Corporal W. Evans.  
Corporal R. Stevens.

### 2ND BATTALION WEST RIDING REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. C. Gibbs.  
Major P. B. Strafford.  
Major E. N. Townsend.  
Major K. A. Macleod.  
Captain C. O. Denman-Jubb.  
Captain J. C. Burnett (O.C. Cyclist Company).  
Second Lieutenant H. K. O'Kelly.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. E. Wiggins.  
Corporal H. Waller.  
Private T. Ford.  
Private J. Robertshaw.  
Private E. Hammond.  
Private H. Sanson.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Major E. W. B. Green.  
Captain C. E. Bond, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant V. E. C. Dashwood.  
Lance-Serjeant C. Clay.  
Serjeant T. Diplock.  
Private J. Still.

### 1ST BATTALION HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT.

Brevet-Colonel S. C. F. Jackson, D.S.O.  
Captain Hon. L. C. W. Palk.  
Captain P. M. Connellan.  
Lieutenant B. B. von B. im Thurn.  
Private J. Holloway.

### 1ST BATTALION DORSETSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. Bols, D.S.O.  
Captain H. S. Williams.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Lieutenant C. H. Woodhouse.  
Lieutenant C. F. M. Margetts.  
Serjeant E. A. Hill.  
Private T. Skipsey.  
Private R. Gent.  
Private W. Shoufield.  
Private J. Iles.  
Lance-Corporal B. Lawrence (5th Cyclist Company).

### 2ND BATTALION SOUTH LANCASHIRE REGIMENT.

Captain W. B. Ritchie.  
Lieutenant L. A. Clemens.  
Lieutenant B. V. Fulcher.  
Lieutenant S. T. Boast (Quartermaster).  
Serjeant-Major T. Roberts.  
Serjeant W. Harrison.  
Serjeant J. Boast.  
Company Serjeant-Major J. Murphy.  
Serjeant A. Leavers.  
Corporal J. Jones.  
Corporal P. McQuiggan.  
Private S. Riddell.  
Serjeant F. Winser.

### 2ND BATTALION THE WELSH REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Morland.  
Captain and Adjutant W. H. Ferrar.  
Captain C. R. Berkeley, D.S.O.  
Lieutenant C. A. S. Carleton.  
Lieutenant G. D. Melville.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. B. Cownie.  
Company Serjeant-Major G. Hunter.  
Serjeant A. Smedley.  
Private W. Fuller.

### 1ST BATTALION ROYAL HIGHLANDERS.

Major J. T. C. Murray.  
Captain Hon. M. C. A. Drummond.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Lieutenant and Adjutant G. Rowan-Hamilton.  
Lieutenant R. C. Anderson.  
Serjeant J. Duncan.  
Lance-Corporal A. Dewar.  
Private J. Reilly.

### 2ND OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. Davies.  
Captain G. Blewitt.  
Private W. R. Carter.  
Private G. F. Payne.  
Private A. Kippax.  
Lance-Corporal H. Apsey.

### 2ND BATTALION ESSEX REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. G. Anley.  
Major G. M. Tufnell.  
Captain and Adjutant L. O. W. Jones.  
Serjeant Purchase.  
Corporal Downes.

### 1ST BATTALION LOYAL NORTH LANCASHIRE REGIMENT

Major A. Burrows.  
Captain L. T. Allason.  
Lieutenant E. J. W. Spread.  
Lieutenant J. G. W. Hyndson.  
Serjeant-Major W. Waterhouse.  
Lance-Corporal F. J. Bowler.  
Private F. Lemar.  
Private J. Poole.  
Drummer G. Gale.

### 1ST BATTALION NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. O. Smith.  
Lieutenant G. St. G. Robinson.  
Lieutenant E. J. Needham.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Second Lieutenant L. H. B. Burlton.  
Company Serjeant-Major H. F. Pitcher.  
Serjeant F. Johnson.

### 1ST ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. D. Graham.  
Captain L. H. Birt.  
Lieutenant C. St.Q. O. Fullbrook-Leggatt.  
Private A. Ross.  
Private E. Philps.

### 1ST BATTALION ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Martyn.  
Major M. P. Buckle, D.S.O.  
Captain R. M. G. Tulloch.  
Lieutenant G. B. Legard.  
Serjeant-Major H. S. Doe.  
Company Serjeant-Major W. Penny.  
Serjeant J. Powell.  
Serjeant J. Saward.  
Lance-Corporal J. Ryan.  
Private G. Biggs.

### 2ND BATTALION KING'S OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Bond, D.S.O.  
Major C. A. L. Yate.  
Major H. E. Trevor.  
Major C. E. Heathcote.  
Captain J. E. Simpson.  
Lieutenant W. de E. Williams.  
Lieutenant C. E. D. King.  
Company Serjeant-Major E. Millen.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant Wall.  
Serjeant C. J. Marchant.  
Corporal A. Medley.  
Lance-Corporal F. W. Holmes.  
Lance-Corporal C. Warrilow.  
Private H. Fendley.  
Private H. Normanton.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### 1ST BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. E. Ward.  
Major R. J. Ross.  
Lieutenant W. Jefferd.  
Corporal J. G. Johnson.

### 4TH BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. A. Hull.  
Major H. W. E. Finch.  
Captain G. Oliver.  
Lieutenant L. F. Sloane-Stanley.  
Company Serjeant-Major R. Sayers.  
Serjeant E. E. Jackson.  
Serjeant G. Varnham.  
Corporal C. Tyler.

### 1ST KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. Northey.  
Lieutenant H. H. Prince Maurice of Battenberg.  
Captain F. G. Willan.  
Lieutenant A. L. Bonham Carter.  
Second Lieutenant H. W. Butler.  
Second Lieutenant A. H. Wilkie.  
Second Lieutenant T. N. Hone.  
Captain H. S. Ranken, Royal Army Medical Corps  
(attached).  
Company Serjeant-Major F. Dickerson.  
Company Serjeant-Major C. F. Schoon.  
Rifleman E. Revell.  
Rifleman P. Warr (killed).

### 2ND BATTALION KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. Pearce-Serocold.  
Major L. F. Phillips.  
Major H. C. Warre, D.S.O.  
Major R. G. Jelf.  
Captain W. A. I. Kay.  
Lieutenant R. J. H. Purcell.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Lieutenant J. H. S. Dimmer.  
Second Lieutenant O. H. C. Balfour.  
Company Serjeant-Major F. Dean.  
Company Serjeant-Major Walton.  
Corporal Chevis.  
Rifleman Varley.  
Rifleman Stagg.

### 1ST BATTALION WILTSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Hasted.  
Lieutenant T. H. Wand-Tetley.  
Captain W. I. Cordon (Quartermaster).  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant W. G. Lister.  
Serjeant A. Lodder.  
Lance-Corporal C. Street.

### 2ND BATTALION MANCHESTER REGIMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. James.  
Captain F. S. Nisbet (dead).  
Captain H. Knox.  
Lieutenant J. H. L. Reade.  
Lieutenant J. S. Harper.  
Company Serjeant-Major Wood.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. Morris.  
Serjeant Winterbottom.  
Serjeant M. Richards.  
Serjeant Rice.  
Private Hodges.

### 2ND BATTALION HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. A. Wolfe-Murray.  
Lieutenant A. P. D. Telfer-Smollett.  
Lieutenant Sir A. C. Gibson Craig, Bart. (killed).  
Serjeant J. Nicholson.  
Private J. Webber.  
Private J. Campbell.  
Private G. Wilson.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### 2ND BATTALION SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evelyn Bradford, Bart.

### 1ST BATTALION GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. H. Neish.

Serjeant J. Boyce.

Serjeant J. Dunbar.

Private A. Ross.

### 1ST BATTALION CAMERON HIGHLANDERS.

Lieutenant D. Cameron.

Second Lieutenant R. N. Stewart.

Company Serjeant-Major D. Tavendale.

Serjeant J. Ford.

Private K. Boag.

Private D. Hill.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL IRISH RIFLES.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Bird, D.S.O.

Major C. R. Spedding, D.S.O.

Captain C. L. Master.

Captain C. M. L. Becher.

Captain H. R. Goodman.

Lieutenant S. S. Dillon.

Lieutenant V. L. S. Cowley.

Lieutenant A. N. Whitfield.

Captain S. E. Lewis, Royal Army Med. Corps (attached).

Serjeant E. Henry.

Lance-Corporal H. Murray.

Lance-Corporal J. Behan.

Private J. O'Connor.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS.

Second Lieutenant W. H. Liesching.

Company-Serjeant-Major E. Scrafield.

Serjeant Wilson, " C " Company.

Drummer Corrigan.



## Mentioned in Despatches

### 2ND BATTALION CONNAUGHT RANGERS.

Lieutenant R. I. Thomas (killed).  
Second Lieutenant R. L. Spreckley (killed).  
Serjeant-Major W. Bluen (? Bruen).  
Serjeant M. Duffy.

### 2ND BATTALION ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

Captain H. Hyslop.  
Lieutenant R. M. G. Aytoun.  
Second Lieutenant Ian McA. Stewart.  
Company Serjeant-Major F. Walker.  
Lance-Serjeant J. Taylor.

### 2ND BATTALION ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS.

Lieutenant T. J. Leahy.  
Company Serjeant-Major Hall.  
Serjeant Ray.

### 1ST BATTALION RIFLE BRIGADE.

Major S. H. Rickman.  
Major G. N. Salmon.  
Captain Hon. F. R. D. Prittie.  
Captain G. J. Brownlow.  
Captain Hon. R. G. G. Morgan-Grenville.  
Captain H. L. Riley.  
Lieutenant H. F. Campbell.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant Hedges.  
Serjeant Roberts.  
Corporal J. Smith.

### ARMY SERVICE CORPS.

Captain L. C. Bearne.  
Major H. Cracroft.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Captain O. B. R. Dickey.  
Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. F. Gillespie.  
Captain G. Harding.  
Captain A. Herklots.  
Captain R. R. B. Jackson.  
Major T. P. Johnson.  
Second Lieutenant C. W. R. Langmaid.  
Major J. G. Lecky.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Master.  
Second Lieutenant C. J. Martin.  
Major A. Northen.  
Captain A. F. G. Pery-Knox-Gore.  
Captain H. W. P. Stokes.  
Lieutenant-Colonel E. F. Taylor.  
Captain G. E. Toynbee.  
Lieutenant C. L. St. J. Tudor.  
Captain G. M. Young.  
Staff Serjeant-Major W. Badcock.  
Staff Serjeant-Major M. Burke.  
Corporal E. W. Castle.  
Mechanic Staff-Serjeant Curtis.  
Private C. J. Edwards.  
Corporal E. H. W. Fillmore.  
Lance-Corporal R. Hill.  
Staff-Serjeant F. G. Hogan.  
Mechanic Serjeant-Major T. Hopper.  
Corporal Lomax.  
Lance-Corporal B. Main.  
Driver S. Martin, No. 1 Cavalry Field Ambulance.  
Serjeant F. Myatt.  
Mechanic Serjeant-Major B. W. Nicholson.  
Corporal C. J. Saunders.  
Company Serjeant-Major S. J. Simmons.  
Company Serjeant-Major T. Smith.  
Serjeant H. Tovell.  
Driver Vickers.  
Staff Serjeant-Major V. B. Walter.  
Staff Serjeant-Major S. J. Webster.  
Driver Winser.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Major E. T. F. Birrell.  
Lieutenant L. G. Bourdillon.  
Major S. G. Butler.  
Captain E. D. Caddell.  
Major R. V. Cowey.  
Lieutenant R. V. Dolbey.  
Major H. Ensor, D.S.O.  
Major T. E. Fielding.  
Major R. L. V. Foster.  
Major T. H. J. C. Goodwin, D.S.O.  
Major J. Grech.  
Lieutenant C. Hairsine (Special Reserve).  
Lieutenant C. Helm.  
Major H. A. Hinge.  
Lieutenant H. L. Hopkins (Civil Surgeon).  
Lieutenant W. M. Howells.  
Captain E. B. Lathbury.  
Captain M. Leckie.  
Major O. W. Lloyd.  
Captain J. T. McEntire.  
Lieutenant-Colonel L. A. Mitchell.  
Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Morgan.  
Captain J. F. Murphy (Special Reserve).  
Captain W. M. Nimmo (attached 1st Battalion Loyal  
North Lancs. Regiment).  
Captain C. P. O'Brien-Butler (attached 5th Lancers).  
Captain A. C. Osburn.  
Lieutenant R. A. Preston.  
Major C. W. Profeit.  
Captain F. C. Sampson.  
Captain H. Stewart.  
Captain G. W. W. Ware.  
Lieutenant Wyler (Civil Surgeon).  
Serjeant H. Amsden.  
Serjeant-Major H. J. Anderson.  
Lance-Corporal T. Bennett.  
Staff-Serjeant A. C. Blair.  
Private Burstall.

## Mentioned in Despatches

Corporal F. J. Chatting.  
Corporal R. H. Coad.  
Serjeant-Major T. E. Coggin.  
Serjeant-Major R. R. Cox.  
Private Cuffley.  
Private H. W. Fann.  
Staff-Serjeant J. Gardiner.  
Private R. A. Goodwin.  
Serjeant-Major A. T. Hasler.  
Lance-Corporal J. Jonas.  
Private Leech.  
Corporal G. W. Lefever, Army Service Corps  
(attached).  
Serjeant J. W. Lockwood.  
Serjeant-Major C. R. Loft.  
Private R. Mears.  
Serjeant E. Nicholas.  
Private H. G. Noble.  
Serjeant R. J. Nolan Army Service Corps (attached).  
Corporal F. F. Pettit.  
Corporal B. Plume.  
Serjeant H. M. Prince.  
Staff-Serjeant A. T. Rayer.  
Driver D. Rideout, Army Service Corps (attached).  
Staff-Serjeant A. Spowage.  
Quatermaster-Serjeant E. Steel.  
Private G. Stevens.  
Private R. V. Sworn.  
Private Turner.  
Quatermaster-Serjeant G. B. Walker.  
Lance-Corporal Wass.

### ARMY VETERINARY CORPS.

Captain W. I. Macauley.  
Captain Oliver.  
Captain F. W. Pawlett (T.F.).  
Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Smith.  
Captain E. J. Wadley.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### CHAPLAINS.

- Rev. Monsignor F. Bickerstaffe-Drew, Roman Catholic.  
Rev. J. M. Connor, Presbyterian.  
Rev. T. S. Goudge, Church of England.  
Rev. W. Ketinge, Roman Catholic.  
Rev. E. G. S. Macpherson, Church of England.  
Rev. H. C. Meeke, Presbyterian.  
Rev. O. S. Watkins, Wesleyan.  
Reverend A. R. Yeoman, M.A., Chaplain to the Forces,  
Presbyterian.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### Supplementary List, issued December 4th

#### OFFICERS.

- Colonel J. J. Asser, Commandant, No. 3 Base.  
Lieutenant H. Beddingfield, R.A.M.C.  
Lieutenant G. C. Binsteed, 2nd Batt. Essex.  
Major B. W. B. Bowdler, R.E. (Headquarters Staff).  
Lieutenant C. N. Champion de Crespigny, 2nd Dragoon  
Guards (killed).  
Second Lieutenant J. K. C. Cross, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fus.  
Captain H. C. Forster, 4th Batt. Royal Fusiliers.  
Captain F. D. Hammond, Railway Staff Officer.  
Lieutenant H. D. Harvey-Kelly., R.I. Regt., R. Flying  
Corps.  
Captain Sir F. E. W. Hervey-Bathurst, Staff A.D.C. to  
Inspector-General of Communications.  
Major H. C. T. Hildyard, Railway Staff.  
Lieutenant Lord H. W. HolmPatrick, 16th Lancers (S.R.)  
Major C. F. Hunter, 4th Dragoon Guards.  
Captain (now Major) W. E. Ironside, Staff No. 3. Base.  
Major M. R. de B. James, Staff, No. 2 Base.  
Major R. M. Johnson, Royal Artillery.  
Brevet-Major H. C. Johnson, D.S.O., King's Royal R.  
Colonel F. W. Kerr, D.S.O., Staff (killed).  
Major W. M. St. G. Kirke, R.A. (Headquarters Staff).  
Second Lieutenant H. Lane, 1st Batt. Somerset L.I.  
Captain R. T. Lee, Railway Staff.  
Captain E. R. Lloyd, 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fus.  
Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. C. Longmore, A.S.C.  
Lieutenant-Colonel M. L. MacEwen, 16th Lancers.  
Lieutenant-Colonel (temporary Colonel) A. G. Marrable,  
Commandant No. 2 Base.  
Lieutenant G. A. P. Maxwell, Railway Staff.  
Captain R. K. McGillicuddy, 4th Dragoon Guards.  
Lieutenant W. H. C. Mansfield, Shropshire L.I., Royal  
Flying Corps.

## Mentioned in Despatches

- Lieutenant R. F. H. Massy-Westropp, 2nd Batt. Royal Dublin Fusiliers.  
Colonel A. D. Miller, D.S.O., Staff, Advanced Base.  
Lieutenant I. F. R. Miller, 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Special Reserve).  
Brigadier-General J. Moore, Staff.  
Captain O. H. L. Nicholson, D.S.O., Staff, No. 1 Base.  
Lieutenant F. A. Nicholson, 15th Hussars.  
Captain P. B. O'Connor, Railway Staff.  
Captain R. Ommancey, Royal Engineers Staff (killed).  
Second Lieutenant G. F. Page, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Lieutenant-Colonel A. Parker, 5th Lancers.  
Lieutenant T. T. Pitman, 11th Hussars.  
Captain G. M. Ponsonby, 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (killed).  
Major-General Sir F. S. Robb, K.C.V.O., C.B., Inspector General of Communications.  
Brigadier-General A. E. Sandbach, Commandant No. 1 Base.  
Major Hon. W. D. Sclater-Booth, R.H.A., "L" Batt.  
Captain E. V. M. Shelley, 1st Batt. Royal Warwicks.  
Second Lieutenant M. B. Smith, 1st Batt. Coldstream Guards.  
Brigadier-General A. M. Stuart, Staff, Director of Works.  
Lieutenant H. C. Thompson, 2nd Batt. R. Inniskilling Fusiliers.  
Colonel A. G. Thompson, C.B., Commandant, Advanced Base.  
Colonel S. Westcott, Staff, R.A.M.C.  
Lieutenant-Colonel F. M. Wilson, Assistant Director of Supplies.  
Lieutenant L. S. Woodgate, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs. (killed)  
Captain J. E. S. Woodman, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers.

## Mentioned in Despatches

### WARRANT OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN.

Serjeant R. W. Allsopp, 1st Batt. Beds.  
Serjeant W. E. Archer, 1st Batt. Somerset L.I.  
Lance-Corporal W. Barnes, 1st Batt. Royal Warwicks.  
Private J. Beesley, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Corporal E. Binnie, 2nd Batt. Essex Regt.  
Serjeant J. Bradford, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Acting-Corporal J. Brooks, 1st Batt. Rifle Brigade.  
Serjeant W. Brueton, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Private W. Bryant, 2nd Dragoon Guards.  
Serjeant S. Caldwell, 9th Lancers (killed).  
Corporal C. Cox, 113th Battery R.F.A.  
Bombardier W. Culley, 70th Battery R.F.A.  
B.-S.-M. G. T. Dorrell, "L" Battery R.H.A.  
Gunner J. Dykes, 113th Battery R.F.A.  
Private S. Everson, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Serjeant J. G. V. Ewings, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Serjeant G. Ferguson, 113th Battery R.F.A.  
Serjeant W. Fowler, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Serjeant J. A. J. Fox, 3rd Batt. Coldstream Guards.  
Serjeant J. A. Fraser, 2nd Dragoon Guards.  
Shoeing-Smith G. Freeman, 1st Sec. 4th D.A.C., R.F.A.  
Private E. French, 2nd Batt. Essex Regiment.  
Serjeant J. Gaynor, 2nd Batt. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.  
Serjeant J. Grundy, 2nd Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Bombardier E. G. Harlock, 113th Battery R.F.A.  
Co.-Serjeant-Major P. Heaney, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Private S. Hodgert, R.A.M.C.  
Serjeant E. Howes, 19th Hussars.  
Lance-Corporal R. Jarvis, 2nd Dragoon Guards.  
Serjeant-Major D. S. Jillings, Royal Flying Corps.  
Corporal J. Jones, 1st Batt. Liverpool Regiment.  
Farrier-Staff-Serjeant H. Knight, 19th Hussars.  
Serjeant F. Lelliott, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Serjeant D. Nelson, "L" Battery R.H.A.  
Serjeant R. Neville, 2nd Batt. Royal Irish Fusiliers.  
Corporal J. C. Pike, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
St. Quartermaster-Serjeant C. E. Quarrier, Staff Headquarters.



## Mentioned in Despatches

- Private F. Randerson, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Private W. Richons, R.A.M.C.  
Serjeant J. Rowley, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Lance-Corporal R. Russell, 1st Batt. Coldstream Guards.  
Co. Serjeant-Major W. Sharples, 2nd Batt. Lancs.  
Fusiliers.  
Serjeant W. Sharpley, 2nd Batt. Essex.  
Regimental Serjeant-Major C. Shergold, Royal Canadian  
Eng.  
Private G. Swinscoe, 2nd Batt. Lancashire Fusiliers.  
Private T. Tinker, 2nd Batt. Royal Lancs Fusiliers.  
Private G. Turner, 1st Batt. Royal Lancs.  
Co. Serjeant-Major E. Walker, 1st Batt. E. Surreys.  
Company Quartermaster-Serjeant J. W. Welsh, 2nd Batt.  
Lancs. Fusiliers.  
Shoing-Smith T. J. White, 113th Battery R.F.A.  
Serjeant C. Willcox, 1st Batt. Somerset L.I.

IV  
FLANDERS

IV : France, 20th November, 1914.

To Field-Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum,  
K.P., G.C.B., O.M., etc.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to submit a further despatch recounting the operations of the Field Force under my command throughout the battle of Ypres-Armentières.

Early in October a study of the general situation strongly impressed me with the necessity of bringing the greatest possible force to bear in support of the northern flank of the Allies, in order to effectively outflank the enemy and compel him to evacuate his positions.

At the same time the position on the Aisne, as described in the concluding paragraphs of my last despatch, appeared to me to warrant a withdrawal of the British Forces from the positions they then held.

The enemy had been weakened by continual abortive and futile attacks, whilst the fortification of the position had been much improved.

I represented these views to General Joffre, who fully agreed.

## Flanders

Arrangements for withdrawal and relief having been made by the French General Staff, the operation commenced on the 3rd October ; and the 2nd Cavalry Division, under General Gough, marched for Compiègne *en route* for the new theatre.

The Army Corps followed in succession at intervals of a few days, and the move was completed on the 19th October, when the First Corps, under Sir Douglas Haig, completed its detrainment at St. Omer.

That this delicate operation was carried out so successfully is in great measure due to the excellent feeling which exists between the French and British Armies ; and I am deeply indebted to the Commander-in-Chief and the French General Staff for their cordial and most effective co-operation.

As General Foch was appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to supervise the operations of all the French troops north of Noyon, I visited his headquarters at Doullens on 8th October and arranged joint plans of operations as follows :

The Second Corps to arrive on the line Aire-Bethune on the 11th October, to connect with the right of the French 10th Army and, pivoting on its left, to attack in flank the enemy who were opposing the 10th French Corps in front.

## The Plan of Operations

The Cavalry to move on the northern flank of the Second Corps and support its attack until the Third Corps, which was to detrain at St. Omer on the 12th, should come up. They were then to clear the front and to act on the northern flank of the Third Corps in a similar manner, pending the arrival of the First Corps from the Aisne.

The 3rd Cavalry Division and 7th Division, under Sir Henry Rawlinson, which were then operating in support of the Belgian Army, and assisting its withdrawal from Antwerp, to be ordered to co-operate as soon as circumstances would allow.

In the event of these movements so far overcoming the resistance of the enemy as to enable a forward movement to be made, all the Allied Forces to march in an easterly direction. The road running from Bethune to Lille was to be the dividing line between the British and French Forces, the right of the British Army being directed on Lille.

2. The great battle, which is mainly the subject of this despatch, may be said to have commenced on October 11th, on which date the 2nd Cavalry Division, under General Gough, first came into contact with the enemy's cavalry who were holding some woods to the north of the Bethune-Aire Canal. These were cleared of the enemy by our

## Flanders

cavalry, which then joined hands with the Divisional Cavalry of the 6th Division in the neighbourhood of Hazebrouck. On the same day the right of the 2nd Cavalry Division connected with the left of the Second Corps which was moving in a north-easterly direction after crossing the above-mentioned canal.

By the 11th October Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien had reached the line of the canal between Aire and Bethune. I directed him to continue his march on the 12th, bringing up his left in the direction of Merville. Then he was to move East to the line Laventie-Lorgies, which would bring him on the immediate left of the French Army and threaten the German flank.

On the 12th this movement was commenced. The 5th Division connected up with the left of the French Army north of Annequin. They moved to the attack of the Germans who were engaged at this point with the French ; but the enemy once more extended his right in some strength to meet the threat against his flank. The 3rd Division, having crossed the canal, deployed on the left of the 5th ; and the whole Second Corps again advanced to the attack, but were unable to make much headway owing to the difficult character of the ground upon which they were operating, which was similar to that usually

## The Dorsets

found in manufacturing districts, and was covered with mining works, factories, buildings, etc. The ground throughout this country is remarkably flat, rendering effective artillery support very difficult.

Before nightfall, however, they had made some advance and had successfully driven back hostile counter attacks with great loss to the enemy and destruction of some of his machine guns.

On and after the 13th October the object of the General Officer Commanding the Second Corps was to wheel to his right, pivoting on Givenchy to get astride the La Bassée-Lille Road in the neighbourhood of Fournes, so as to threaten the right flank and rear of the enemy's position on the high ground south of La Bassée.

This position of La Bassée has throughout the battle defied all attempts at capture, either by the French or the British.

On this day Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien could make but little progress. He particularly mentions the fine fighting of the Dorsets, whose Commanding Officer, Major Roper, was killed. They suffered no less than 400 casualties, 130 of them being killed, but maintained all day their hold on Pont Fixe. He also refers to the gallantry of the Artillery.

The fighting of the Second Corps continued

## Flanders

throughout the 14th in the same direction. On this day the Army suffered a great loss, in that the Commander of the 3rd Division, General Hubert Hamilton, was killed.

On the 15th the 3rd Division fought splendidly, crossing the dykes, with which this country is intersected, with planks; and driving the enemy from one entrenched position to another in loop-holed villages, till at night they pushed the Germans off the Estaires-La Bassée Road, and establishing themselves on the line Pont de Ham-Croix Barbée.

On the 16th the move was continued until the left flank of the Corps was in front of the village of Aubers, which was strongly held. This village was captured on the 17th by the 9th Infantry Brigade; and at dark on the same day the Lincolns and Royal Fusiliers carried the village of Herlies at the point of the bayonet after a fine attack, the Brigade being handled with great dash by Brigadier-General Shaw.

At this time, to the best of our information, the Second Corps were believed to be opposed by the 2nd, 4th, 7th and 9th German Cavalry Divisions, supported by several battalions of Jaegers and a part of the 14th German Corps.

On the 18th powerful counter attacks were made by the enemy all along the front of the Second Corps, and were most gallantly



## The Royal Irish Cut Off

repulsed ; but only slight progress could be made.

From the 19th to the 31st October the Second Corps carried on a most gallant fight in defence of their position against very superior numbers, the enemy having been reinforced during that time by at least one Division of the 7th Corps, a brigade of the 3rd Corps and the whole of the 14th Corps, which had moved north from in front of the French 21st Corps.

On the 19th the Royal Irish Regiment, under Major Daniell, stormed and carried the village of Le Pilly, which they held and entrenched. On the 20th, however, they were cut off and surrounded, suffering heavy losses.

On the morning of the 22nd the enemy made a very determined attack on the 5th Division, who were driven out of the village of Violaines, but they were sharply counter-attacked by the Worcesters and Manchesters, and prevented from coming on.

The left of the Second Corps being now somewhat exposed, Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien withdrew the line during the night to a position he had previously prepared, running generally from the eastern side of Givenchy, east of Neuve Chapelle to Fauquissart.

On the 24th October the Lahore Division of the Indian Army Corps, under Major-

## Flanders

General Watkis, having arrived, I sent them to the neighbourhood of Lacon to support the Second Corps.

Very early on this morning the enemy commenced a heavy attack, but, owing to the skilful manner in which the artillery was handled and the targets presented by the enemy's infantry as it approached, they were unable to come to close quarters. Towards the evening a heavy attack developed against the 7th Brigade, which was repulsed, with very heavy loss to the enemy, by the Wiltshires and the Royal West Kents. Later, a determined attack on the 18th Infantry Brigade drove the Gordon Highlanders out of their trenches, which were retaken by the Middlesex Regiment, gallantly led by Lieutenant-Colonel Hull.

The 8th Infantry Brigade (which had come into line on the left of the Second Corps) was also heavily attacked, but the enemy was driven off.

In both these cases the Germans lost very heavily, and left large numbers of dead and prisoners behind them.

The Second Corps was now becoming exhausted, owing to the constant reinforcements of the enemy, the length of line which it had to defend and the enormous losses which it had suffered.

3. By the evening of the 11th October the

## The Enemy Routed

Third Corps had practically completed its detrainment at St. Omer, and was moved east to Hazebrouck, where the Corps remained throughout the 12th.

On the morning of the 13th the advanced guard of the Corps, consisting of the 19th Infantry Brigade and a Brigade of Field Artillery, occupied the position of the line Strazeele Station-Caestre-St. Sylvestre.

On this day I directed General Pulteney to move towards the line Armentières-Wyt-schaete ; warning him, however, that should the Second Corps require his aid he must be prepared to move South-East to support it.

A French Cavalry Corps under General Conneau was operating between the Second and Third Corps.

The Fourth German Cavalry Corps, supported by some Jaeger Battalions, was known to be occupying the position in the neighbourhood of Meteren ; and they were believed to be further supported by the advanced guard of another German Army Corps.

In pursuance of his orders, General Pulteney proceeded to attack the enemy in his front.

The rain and fog which prevailed prevented full advantage being derived from our much superior artillery. The country was very much enclosed and rendered difficult by heavy rain.

The enemy were, however, routed ; and the

## Flanders

position taken at dark, several prisoners being captured.

During the night the Third Corps made good the attacked position and entrenched it.

As Bailleul was known to be occupied by the enemy, arrangements were made during the night to attack it; but reconnaissances sent out on the morning of the 14th showed that they had withdrawn, and the town was taken by our troops at 10 a.m. on that day, many wounded Germans being found and taken in it.

The Corps then occupied the line St. Jans Cappel-Bailleul.

On the morning of the 15th the Third Corps were ordered to make good the line of the Lys from Armentières to Saily, which, in the face of considerable opposition and very foggy weather, they succeeded in doing, the 6th Division at Saily-Bac St. Maur and the 4th Division at Nieppe.

The enemy in its front having retired, the Third Corps on the night of the 17th occupied the line Bois Grenier-Le Gheir.

On the 18th the enemy were holding a line from Radinghem on the south, through Perenchies and Frelinghien on the north, whence the German troops which were opposing the Cavalry Corps occupied the east bank of the river as far as Wervick.

## The Third Corps

On this day I directed the Third Corps to move down the valley of the Lys and endeavour to assist the Cavalry Corps in making good its position on the right bank. To do this it was necessary first to drive the enemy eastward towards Lille. A vigorous offensive in the direction of Lille was assumed, but the enemy was found to have been considerably reinforced, and but little progress was made.

The situation of the Third Corps on the night of the 18th was as follows :

The 6th Division was holding the line Rad-ingham - La Vallée - Emnetières - Capinghem-Premesques-Railway Line 300 yards east of Halte. The 4th Division were holding the line from L'Épinette to the river at a point 400 yards south of Frelinghein, and thence to a point half a mile south-east of Le Gheir. The Corps Reserve was at Armentières Station, with right and left flanks of Corps in close touch with French Cavalry and the Cavalry Corps.

Since the advance from Bailleul the enemy's forces in front of the Cavalry and Third Corps had been strongly reinforced, and on the night of the 17th they were opposed by three or four divisions of the enemy's cavalry, the 19th Saxon Corps and at least one division of the 7th Corps. Reinforcements for the enemy

## Flanders

were known to be coming up from the direction of Lille.

4. Following the movements completed on the 11th October, the 2nd Cavalry Division pushed the enemy back through Flêtre and Le Coq de Paille, and took Mont des Cats, just before dark, after stiff fighting.

On the 14th the 1st Cavalry Division joined up, and the whole Cavalry Corps, under General Allenby, moving north, secured the high ground above Berthen, overcoming considerable opposition.

With a view to a further advance east, I ordered General Allenby, on the 15th, to reconnoitre the line of the River Lys, and endeavour to secure the passages on the opposite bank, pending the arrival of the Third and Fourth Corps.

During the 15th and 16th this reconnaissance was most skilfully and energetically carried out in the face of great opposition, especially along the lower line of the river.

These operations were continued throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th ; but, although valuable information was gained, and strong forces of the enemy held in check, the Cavalry Corps was unable to secure passages or to establish a permanent footing on the eastern bank of the river.

5. At this point in the history of the

## Ghent and Antwerp

operations under report it is necessary that I should return to the co-operation of the forces operating in the neighbourhood of Ghent and Antwerp under Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, as the action of his force about this period exercised, in my opinion, a great influence on the course of the subsequent operations.

This force, consisting of the 3rd Cavalry Division, under Major-General the Hon. Julian Byng, and the 7th Division, under Major-General Capper, was placed under my orders by telegraphic instructions from your Lordship.

On receipt of these instructions I directed Sir Henry Rawlinson to continue his operations in covering and protecting the withdrawal of the Belgian Army, and subsequently to form the left column in the eastward advance of the British Forces. These withdrawal operations were concluded about the 16th October, on which date the 7th Division was posted to the east of Ypres on a line extending from Zandvoorde through Gheluvelt to Zonnebeke. The 3rd Cavalry Division was on its left towards Langemarck and Poelcappelle.

In this position Sir Henry Rawlinson was supported by the 87th French Territorial Division in Ypres and Vlamertinghe, and by the 89th French Territorial Division at Poperinghe.

## Flanders

On the night of the 16th I informed Sir Henry Rawlinson of the operations which were in progress by the Cavalry Corps and the Third Corps, and ordered him to conform to those movements in an easterly direction, keeping an eye always to any threat which might be made against him from the north-east.

A very difficult task was allotted to Sir Henry Rawlinson and his command. Owing to the importance of keeping possession of all the ground towards the north which we already held, it was necessary for him to operate on a very wide front, and, until the arrival of the First Corps in the northern theatre—which I expected about the 20th—I had no troops available with which to support or reinforce him.

Although on this extended front he had eventually to encounter very superior forces, his troops, both Cavalry and Infantry, fought with the utmost gallantry, and rendered very signal service.

On the 17th four French Cavalry Divisions deployed on the left of the 3rd Cavalry Division, and drove back advanced parties of the enemy beyond the Forêt d'Houthulst.

As described above, instructions for a vigorous attempt to establish the British Forces east of the Lys were given on the night



## Sir Henry Rawlinson

of the 17th to the Second, Third and Cavalry Corps.

I considered, however, that the possession of Menin constituted a very important point of passage, and would much facilitate the advance of the rest of the Army. So I directed the General Officer Commanding the Fourth Corps to advance the 7th Division upon Menin, and endeavour to seize that crossing on the morning of the 18th.

The left of the 7th Division was to be supported by the 3rd Cavalry Brigade, and further north by the French Cavalry in the neighbourhood of Roulers.

Sir Henry Rawlinson represented to me that large hostile forces were advancing upon him from the east and north-east, and that his left flank was severely threatened.

I was aware of the threats from that direction, but hoped that at this particular time there was no greater force coming from the north-east than could be held off by the combined efforts of the French and British Cavalry and the Territorial troops supporting them until the passage at Menin could be seized and the First Corps brought up in support.

Sir Henry Rawlinson probably exercised a wise judgment in not committing his troops to this attack in their somewhat weakened condition ; but the result was that the enemy's

## Flanders

continued possession of the passage at Menin certainly facilitated his rapid reinforcement of his troops and thus rendered any further advance impracticable.

On the morning of the 20th October the 7th Division and 3rd Cavalry Division had retired to their old position extending from Zandvoorde through Kruiseik and Gheluveld to Zonnebeke.

6. On the 19th October the First Corps, coming from the Aisne, had completed its detrainment and was concentrated between St. Omer and Hazebrouck.

A question of vital importance now arose for decision.

I knew that the enemy were by this time in greatly superior strength on the Lys, and that the Second, Third, Cavalry and Fourth Corps were holding a much wider front than their numbers and strength warranted.

Taking these facts alone into consideration it would have appeared wise to throw the First Corps in to strengthen the line; but this would have left the country north and east of Ypres and the Ypres Canal open to a wide turning movement by the 3rd Reserve Corps and at least one Landwehr Division which I knew to be operating in that region. I was also aware that the enemy was bringing large reinforcements up from the East which could

## An Important Movement

only be opposed for several days by two or three French Cavalry Divisions, some French Territorial troops, and the Belgian Army.

After the hard fighting it had undergone the Belgian Army was in no condition to withstand, unsupported, such an attack ; and unless some substantial resistance could be offered to this threatened turning movement, the Allied flank must be turned and the Channel Ports laid bare to the enemy.

I judged that a successful movement of this kind would be fraught with such disastrous consequences that the risk of operating on so extended a front must be undertaken ; and I directed Sir Douglas Haig to move with the First Corps to the north of Ypres.

From the best information at my disposal I judged at this time that the considerable reinforcements which the enemy had undoubtedly brought up during the 16th, 17th and 18th had been directed principally on the line of the Lys and against the Second Corps at La Bassée ; and that Sir Douglas Haig would probably not be opposed north of Ypres by much more than the 3rd Reserve Corps, which I knew to have suffered considerably in its previous operations, and perhaps one or two Landwehr Divisions.

At a personal interview with Sir Douglas

## Flanders

Haig on the evening of the 19th October I communicated the above information to him, and instructed him to advance with the First Corps through Ypres to Thourout. The object he was to have in view was to be the capture of Bruges and subsequently, if possible, to drive the enemy towards Ghent. In case of an unforeseen situation arising, or the enemy proving to be stronger than anticipated, he was to decide, after passing Ypres, according to the situation, whether to attack the enemy lying to the North or the hostile forces advancing from the East : I had arranged for the French Cavalry to operate on the left of the First Corps and the 3rd Cavalry Division, under General Byng, on its right.

The Belgian Army were rendering what assistance they could by entrenching themselves on the Ypres Canal and the Yser River ; and the troops, although in the last stage of exhaustion, gallantly maintained their positions buoyed up with the hope of substantial British and French support.

I fully realised the difficult task which lay before us, and the onerous rôle which the British Army was called upon to fulfil.

That success has been attained, and all the enemy's desperate attempts to break through our line frustrated, is due entirely to the marvellous fighting power and the indomitable

## The British Soldier

courage and tenacity of officers, non-commissioned officers and men.

No more arduous task has ever been assigned to British soldiers ; and in all their splendid history there is no instance of their having answered so magnificently to the desperate calls which of necessity were made upon them.

Having given these orders to Sir Douglas Haig, I enjoined a defensive rôle upon the Second and Third and Cavalry Corps, in view of the superiority of force which had accumulated in their front. As regards the Fourth Corps, I directed Sir Henry Rawlinson to endeavour to conform generally to the movements of the First Corps.

On the 20th October they reached the line from Elverdinghe to the cross roads one and a half miles north-west of Zonnebeke.

On the 21st the Corps was ordered to attack and take the line Poelcappelle-Passchendaele.

Sir Henry Rawlinson's Command was moving on the right of the First Corps, and French troops, consisting of Cavalry and Territorials, moved on their left under the orders of General Bidon.

The advance was somewhat delayed owing to the roads being blocked ; but the attack progressed favourably in face of severe opposition, often necessitating the use of the bayonet.

## Flanders

Hearing of heavy attacks being made upon the 7th Division and the 2nd Cavalry Division on his right, Sir Douglas Haig ordered his reserve to be halted on the north-eastern outskirts of Ypres.

Although threatened by a hostile movement from the Forêt d'Houthulst, our advance was successful until about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when the French Cavalry Corps received orders to retire west of the canal.

Owing to this and the demands made on him by the Fourth Corps, Sir Douglas Haig was unable to advance beyond the line Zonnebeke-St. Julien-Langemarck-Bixschoote.

As there was reported to be congestion with French troops at Ypres, I went there on the evening of the 21st and met Sir Douglas Haig and Sir Henry Rawlinson. With them I interviewed General De Mitry, Commanding the French Cavalry, and General Bidon, Commanding the French Territorial Divisions.

They promised me that the town would at once be cleared of the troops, and that the French Territorials would immediately move out and cover the left of the flank of the First Corps.

I discussed the situation with the General Officers Commanding the First and Fourth Army Corps, and told them that, in view of the unexpected reinforcements coming up of

## On the Defensive

the enemy, it would probably be impossible to carry out the original rôle assigned to them. But I informed them that I had that day interviewed the French Commander-in-Chief, General Joffre, who told me that he was bringing up the 9th French Army Corps to Ypres, that more French troops would follow later, and that he intended—in conjunction with the Belgian troops—to drive the Germans East. General Joffre said that he would be unable to commence this movement before the 24th ; and I directed the General Officers Commanding the First and Fourth Corps to strengthen their positions as much as possible, and be prepared to hold their ground for two or three days, until the French offensive movement on the North could develop.

It now became clear to me that the utmost we could do to ward off any attempts of the enemy to turn our flank to the North, or to break in from the eastward was to maintain our present very extended front, and to hold fast our positions until French reinforcements could arrive from the South.

During the 22nd the necessity of sending support to the Fourth Corps on his right somewhat hampered the General Officer Commanding the First Corps ; but a series of attacks all along his front had been driven back during the day with heavy loss to the enemy.

## Flanders

Late in the evening the enemy succeeded in penetrating a portion of the line held by the Cameron Highlanders north of Pilkem.

At 6 a.m. on the morning of the 23rd a counter attack to recover the lost trenches was made by the Queen's Regiment, the North-amptons and the King's Royal Rifles, under Major-General Bulfin. The attack was very strongly opposed and the bayonet had to be used. After severe fighting during most of the day the attack was brilliantly successful, and over six hundred prisoners were taken.

On the same day an attack was made on the 3rd Infantry Brigade. The enemy advanced with great determination, but with little skill, and consequently the loss inflicted on him was exceedingly heavy; some fifteen hundred dead were seen in the neighbourhood of Lange-marck. Correspondence found subsequently on a captured German Officer stated that the effectives of this attacking Corps were reduced to 25 per cent. in the course of the day's fighting.

In the evening of this day a division of the French 9th Army Corps came up into line and took over the portion of the line held by the 2nd Division, which, on the 24th, took up the ground occupied by the 7th Division from Poelzelhoek to the Becelaere-Passchendaele Road.



## Redistribution

On the 24th and 25th October repeated attacks by the enemy were brilliantly repulsed.

On the night of the 24th-25th the 1st Division was relieved by French Territorial troops and concentrated about Zillebeke.

During the 25th the 2nd Division, with the 7th on its right and the French 9th Corps on its left, made good progress towards the North-East, capturing some guns and prisoners.

On the 27th October I went to the headquarters of the First Corps at Hooze to personally investigate the condition of the 7th Division.

Owing to constant marching and fighting, ever since its hasty disembarkation, in aid of the Antwerp Garrison, this division had suffered great losses, and were becoming very weak. I therefore decided temporarily to break up the Fourth Corps and place the 7th Division with the First Corps under the command of Sir Douglas Haig.

The 3rd Cavalry Division was similarly detailed for service with the First Corps.

I directed the Fourth Corps Commander to proceed, with his Staff, to England, to watch and supervise the mobilisation of his 8th Division, which was then proceeding.

On receipt of orders, in accordance with the above arrangement, Sir Douglas Haig

## Flanders

redistributed the line held by the First Corps as follows :

(a) 7th Division from the Chateau east of Zandvoorde to the Menin Road.

(b) 1st Division from the Menin Road to a point immediately west of Reytel Village.

(c) 2nd Division to near Moorslede-Zonnebeke Road.

On the early morning of the 29th October a heavy attack developed against the centre of the line held by the First Corps, the principal point of attack being the cross roads one mile east of Gheluvelt. After severe fighting—nearly the whole of the Corps being employed in counter attack—the enemy began to give way at about 2 p.m. ; and by dark the Kruiseik Hill had been recaptured and the 1st Brigade had re-established most of the line north of the Menin Road.

Shortly after daylight on the 30th another attack began to develop in the direction of Zandvoorde, supported by heavy artillery fire. In face of this attack the 3rd Cavalry Division had to withdraw to the Klein Zillebeke ridge. This withdrawal involved the right of the 7th Division.

Sir Douglas Haig describes the position at this period as serious, the Germans being in possession of Zandvoorde Ridge.

Subsequent investigation showed that the

## The Emperor's Orders

enemy had been reinforced at this point by the whole German Active Fifteenth Corps.

The General Officer Commanding First Corps ordered the line Gheluvelt to the corner of the canal to be held at all costs. When this line was taken up the 2nd Brigade was ordered to concentrate in rear of the 1st Division and the 4th Brigade line. One battalion was placed in reserve in the woods one mile south of Hooge.

Further precautions were taken at night to protect this flank, and the Ninth French Corps sent three battalions and one Cavalry Brigade to assist.

The First Corps' communications through Ypres were threatened by the advance of the Germans towards the canal ; so orders were issued for every effort to be made to secure the line then held and, when this had been thoroughly done, to resume the offensive.

An order taken from a prisoner who had been captured on this day purported to emanate from the German General, Von Beimling, and said that the Fifteenth German Corps, together with the 2nd Bavarian and Thirteenth Corps, were entrusted with the task of breaking through the line to Ypres ; and that the Emperor himself considered the success of this attack to be one of vital importance to the successful issue of the war.

## Flanders

Perhaps the most important and decisive attack (except that of the Prussian Guard on 15th November) made against the First Corps during the whole of its arduous experiences in the neighbourhood of Ypres took place on the 31st October.

General Moussy, who commanded the detachment which had been sent by the French Ninth Corps on the previous day to assist Sir Douglas Haig on the right of the First Corps, moved to the attack early in the morning, but was brought to a complete standstill, and could make no further progress.

After several attacks and counter-attacks during the course of the morning along the Menin-Ypres-road, south-east of Gheluvelt, an attack against that place developed in great force, and the line of the 1st Division was broken. On the south the 7th Division and General Bulfin's detachment were being heavily shelled. The retirement of the 1st Division exposed the left of the 7th Division, and owing to this the Royal Scots Fusiliers, who remained in their trenches, were cut off and surrounded. A strong infantry attack developed against the right of the 7th Division at 1.30 p.m.

Shortly after this the Headquarters of the 1st and 2nd Divisions were shelled. The General Officer Commanding 1st Division was wounded, three Staff Officers of the 1st Divi-

## Staff Officers Killed

sion and three of the 2nd Division were killed. The General Officer Commanding the 2nd Division also received a severe shaking, and was unconscious for a short time. General Landon assumed command of the 1st Division.

On receiving a report about 2.30 p.m. from General Lomax that the 1st Division had moved back and that the enemy was coming on in strength, the General Officer Commanding the First Corps issued orders that the line, Frezenberg-Westhoek-bend of the main road-Klein Zillebeke-bend of canal, was to be held at all costs.

The 1st Division rallied on the line of the woodseast of the bend of the road, the German advance by the road being checked by enfilade fire from the north.

The attack against the right of the 7th Division forced the 22nd Brigade to retire, thus exposing the left of the 2nd Brigade. The General Officer Commanding the 7th Division used his reserve, already posted on his flank, to restore the line ; but, in the meantime, the 2nd Brigade, finding their left flank exposed, had been forced to withdraw. The right of the 7th Division thus advanced as the left of the 2nd Brigade went back, with the result that the right of the 7th Division was exposed, but managed to hold on to its old trenches till nightfall.

## Flanders

Meantime, on the Menin road, a counter-attack delivered by the left of the 1st Division and the right of the 2nd Division against the right flank of the German line was completely successful, and by 2.30. p.m. Gheluvelt had been retaken with the bayonet, the 2nd Worcestershire Regiment being to the fore in this, admirably supported by the 42nd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. The left of the 7th Division, profiting by their capture of Gheluvelt, advanced almost to its original line ; and connection between the 1st and 7th Divisions was re-established. The recapture of Gheluvelt released the 6th Cavalry Brigade, till then held in support of the 1st Division. Two regiments of this brigade were sent at once to clear the woods to the south-east, and close the gap in the line between the 7th Division and 2nd Brigade. They advanced with much dash, partly mounted and partly dismounted ; and, surprising the enemy in the woods, succeeded in killing large numbers and materially helped to restore the line. About 5 p.m. the French Cavalry Brigade also came up to the cross-roads just east of Hooge, and at once sent forward a dismounted detachment to support our 7th Cavalry Brigade.

Throughout the day the extreme right and left of the First Corps' line held fast, the left being only slightly engaged, while the right

## The Worcesters

was heavily shelled and subjected to slight infantry attacks. In the evening the enemy were steadily driven back from the woods on the front of the 7th Division and 2nd Brigade ; and by 10 p.m. the line as held in the morning had practically been reoccupied.

During the night touch was restored between the right of the 7th Division and left of the 2nd Brigade, and the Cavalry were withdrawn into reserve, the services of the French Cavalry being dispensed with.

As a result of the day's fighting eight hundred and seventy wounded were evacuated.

I was present with Sir Douglas Haig at Hooge between 2 and 3 o'clock on this day, when the 1st Division were retiring. I regard it as the most critical moment in the whole of this great battle. The rally of the 1st Division and the recapture of the village of Gheluveld at such a time was fraught with momentous consequences. If any one unit can be singled out for especial praise it is the Worcesters.

7. In the meantime the centre of my line, occupied by the Third and Cavalry Corps, was being heavily pressed by the enemy in ever-increasing force.

On the 20th October advanced posts of the 12th Brigade of the 4th Division, Third Corps, were forced to retire, and at dusk it was evident

## Flanders

that the Germans were likely to make a determined attack. This ended in the occupation of Le Gheir by the enemy.

As the position of the Cavalry at St. Yves was thus endangered, a counter-attack was decided upon and planned by General Hunter-Weston and Lieutenant-Colonel Anley. This proved entirely successful, the Germans being driven back with great loss and the abandoned trenches reoccupied. Two hundred prisoners were taken and about forty of our prisoners released.

In these operations the staunchness of the King's Own Regiment and the Lancashire Fusiliers was most commendable. These two battalions were very well handled by Lieutenant-Colonel Butler of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

I am anxious to bring to special notice the excellent work done throughout this battle by the Third Corps under General Pulteney's command. Their position in the right central part of my line was of the utmost importance to the general success of the operations. Besides the very undue length of front which the Corps was called upon to cover (some 12 or 13 miles), the position presented many weak spots, and was also astride of the River Lys, the right bank of which from Frelinghein downwards was strongly held by the enemy.



## Excellent Work by the Third Corps

It was impossible to provide adequate reserves, and the constant work in the trenches tried the endurance of officers and men to the utmost. That the Corps was invariably successful in repulsing the constant attacks, sometimes in great strength, made against them by day and by night is due entirely to the skilful manner in which the Corps was disposed by its Commander, who has told me of the able assistance he has received throughout from his Staff, and the ability and resource displayed by Divisional, Brigade and Regimental leaders in using the ground and the means of defence at their disposal to the very best advantage.

The courage, tenacity, endurance and cheerfulness of the men in such unparalleled circumstances are beyond all praise.

During the 22nd and 23rd and 24th October frequent attacks were made along the whole line of the Third Corps, and especially against the 16th Infantry Brigade ; but on all occasions the enemy was thrown back with loss.

During the night of the 25th October the Leicestershire Regiment were forced from their trenches by shells blowing in the pits they were in ; and after investigation by the General Officers Commanding the 16th and 18th Infantry Brigades it was decided to throw

## Flanders

back the line temporarily in this neighbourhood.

On the evening of the 29th October the enemy made a sharp attack on Le Gheir, and on the line to the north of it, but were repulsed.

About midnight a very heavy attack developed against the 19th Infantry Brigade south of Croix Maréchal. A portion of the trenches of the Middlesex Regiment was gained by the enemy and held by him for some hours till recaptured with the assistance of the detachment from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders from Brigade Reserve. The enemy in the trenches were all bayoneted or captured. Later information from prisoners showed that there were twelve battalions opposite the 19th Brigade. Over two hundred dead Germans were left lying in front of the Brigade's trenches, and forty prisoners were taken.

On the evening of the 30th the line of the 11th Infantry Brigade in the neighbourhood of St. Yves was broken. A counter-attack carried out by Major Prowse with the Somerset Light Infantry restored the situation. For his services on this occasion this officer was recommended for special reward.

On the 31st October it became necessary for the 4th Division to take over the extreme right

## Indian Infantry Movements

of the 1st Cavalry Division's trenches, although this measure necessitated a still further extension of the line held by the Third Corps.

8. On October 20th, while engaged in the attempt to force the line of the River Lys, the Cavalry Corps was attacked from the South and East. In the evening the 1st Cavalry Division held the line St. Yves-Messines : the 2nd Cavalry Division from Messines through Garde Dieu along the Wambeck to Houthem and Kortewilde.

At 4 p.m. on the 21st October, a heavy attack was made on the 2nd Cavalry Division, which was compelled to fall back to the line Messines-9th kilo stone on the Warneton-Oostaverne Road-Hollebeke.

On the 22nd I directed the 7th Indian Infantry Brigade, less one battalion, to proceed to Wulverghem in support of the Cavalry Corps. General Allenby sent two battalions to Wytschaete and Voormezeele to be placed under the orders of General Gough, Commanding the 2nd Cavalry Division.

On the 23rd, 24th and 25th several attacks were directed against the Cavalry Corps and repulsed with loss to the enemy.

On the 26th October I directed General Allenby to endeavour to regain a more forward line, moving in conjunction with the 7th Division. But the latter being apparently quite

## Flanders

unable to take the offensive, the attempt had to be abandoned.

On October 20th heavy infantry attacks, supported by powerful artillery fire, developed against the 2nd and 3rd Cavalry Divisions, especially against the trenches about Hollebeke, held by the 3rd Cavalry Brigade. At 1.30 p.m. this Brigade was forced to retire, and the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, less one regiment, was moved across from the 1st Cavalry Division to a point between Oostaverne and St. Eloi in support of the 2nd Cavalry Division.

The 1st Cavalry Division in the neighbourhood of Messines was also threatened by a heavy infantry column.

General Allenby still retained the two Indian Battalions of the 7th Indian Brigade, although they were in a somewhat exhausted condition.

After a close survey of the positions and consultations with the General Officer Commanding the Cavalry Corps, I directed four battalions of the Second Corps, which had lately been relieved from the trenches by the Indian Corps, to move to Neuve Eglise under General Shaw, in support of General Allenby.

The London Scottish Territorial Battalion was also sent to Neuve Eglise.

It now fell to the lot of the Cavalry Corps, which had been much weakened by constant

### Three Excellent Regiments

fighting, to oppose the advance of two nearly fresh German Army Corps for a period of over forty-eight hours, pending the arrival of a French reinforcement. Their action was completely successful. I propose to send shortly a more detailed account of the operation.

After the critical situation in front of the Cavalry Corps, which was ended by the arrival of the head of the French 16th Army Corps, the 2nd Cavalry Division was relieved by General Conneau's French Cavalry Corps and concentrated in the neighbourhood of Bailleul.

The 1st Cavalry Division continued to hold the line of trenches east of Wulverghem.

From that time to the date of this despatch the Cavalry Divisions have relieved one another at intervals, and have supported by their artillery the attacks made by the French throughout that period on Hollebeke, Wytschaete and Messines.

The Third Corps in its opposition on the right of the Cavalry Corps continued throughout the same period to repel constant attacks against its front, and suffered severely from the enemy's heavy artillery fire.

The artillery of the 4th Division constantly assisted the French in their attacks.

The General Officer Commanding Third Corps brings specially to my notice the excellent behaviour of the East Lancashire

## Flanders

Regiment, the Hampshire Regiment and the Somersetshire Light Infantry in these latter operations ; and the skilful manner in which they were handled by General Hunter-Weston, Lieutenant-Colonel Butler and the Battalion Commanders.

9. The Lahore Division arrived in its concentration area in rear of the Second Corps on the 19th and 20th October.

I have already referred to the excellent work performed by the battalions of this Division which were supporting the Cavalry. The remainder of the Division from the 25th October onwards were heavily engaged in assisting the 7th Brigade of the Second Corps in fighting round Neuve Chappelle. Another brigade took over some ground previously held by the French 1st Cavalry Corps, and did excellent service.

On the 28th October especially the 47th Sikhs and the 20th and 21st Companies of the 3rd Sappers and Miners distinguished themselves by their gallant conduct in the attack on Neuve Chappelle, losing heavily in officers and men.

After the arrival of the Meerut Division at Corps Headquarters the Indian Army Corps took over the line previously held by the Second Corps, which was then partially drawn back into reserve. Two and a half brigades of

## Colonel Norie of the Gurkhas

British Infantry and a large part of the Artillery of the Second Corps still remained to assist the Indian Corps in defence of this line. Two and a half battalions of these brigades were returned to the Second Corps when the Ferozepore Brigade joined the Indian Corps after its support of the Cavalry further North.

The Secunderbad Cavalry Brigade arrived in the area during the 1st and 2nd November, and the Jodhpur Lancers came about the same time. They were all temporarily attached to the Indian Corps.

Up to the date of the present despatch the line held by the Indian Corps has been subjected to constant bombardment by the enemy's heavy artillery, followed up by infantry attacks.

On two occasions these attacks were severe.

On the 13th October the 8th Gurkha Rifles of the Bareilly Brigade were driven from their trenches, and on the 2nd November a serious attack was developed against a portion of the line west of Neuve Chappelle. On this occasion the line was to some extent pierced, and was consequently slightly bent back.

The situation was prevented from becoming serious by the excellent leadership displayed by Colonel Norie, of the 2nd Gurkha Rifles.

Since their arrival in this country, and their occupation of the line allotted to them, I have

## Flanders

been much impressed by the initiative and resource displayed by the Indian troops. Some of the ruses they have employed to deceive the enemy have been attended with the best results, and have doubtless kept superior forces in front of them at bay.

The Corps of Indian Sappers and Miners have long enjoyed a high reputation for skill and resource. Without going into detail, I can confidently assert that throughout their work in this campaign they have fully justified that reputation.

The General Officer Commanding the Indian Army Corps describes the conduct and bearing of these troops in strange and new surroundings to have been highly satisfactory, and I am enabled, from my own observation, to fully corroborate his statement.

Honorary Major-General H. H. Sir Pratap Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., A.D.C., Maharaja-Regent of Jodhpur; Honorary Lieutenant H. H. The Maharaja of Jodhpur; Honorary Colonel H. H. Sir Ganga Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., Maharaja of Bikanir; Honorary Major H. H. Sir Madan Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., Maharaja-Dhiraj of Kishengarh; Honorary Captain The Honourable Malik Umar Hayat Khan, C.I.E., M.V.O., Tiwana; Honorary Lieutenant Raj-Kumar Hira Singh



## Emperor's Orders to the Prussian Guard

of Panna ; Honorary Lieutenant Maharaj-Kumar Hitendra Narayan of Cooch Behar ; Lieutenant Malik Mumtaz Mahomed Khan, Native Indian Land Forces ; Resaldar Khwaja Mahomed Khan Bahadur, Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides ; Honorary Captain Shah Mirza Beg, are serving with the Indian contingents.

10. Whilst the whole of the line has continued to be heavily pressed, the enemy's principal efforts since the 1st November have been concentrated upon breaking through the line held by the First British and 9th French Corps, and thus gaining possession of the town of Ypres.

From the 2nd November onwards the 27th, the 15th and parts of the Bavarian 13th and 2nd German Corps, besides other troops, were all directed against this northern line.

About the 10th instant, after several units of these Corps had been completely shattered in futile attacks, a division of the Prussian Guard, which had been operating in the neighbourhood of Arras, was moved up to this area with great speed and secrecy. Documents found on dead officers prove that the Guard had received the Emperor's special commands to break through and succeed where their comrades of the line had failed.

They took a leading part in the vigorous

## Brilliant Chapters in our History

attacks made against the centre on the 11th and 12th ; but, like their comrades, were repulsed with enormous loss.

Throughout this trying period Sir Douglas Haig, ably assisted by his Divisional and Brigade Commanders, held the line with marvellous tenacity and undaunted courage.

Words fail me to express the admiration I feel for their conduct, or my sense of the incalculable services they rendered. I venture to predict that their deeds during these days of stress and trial will furnish some of the most brilliant chapters which will be found in the military history of our time.

The First Corps was brilliantly supported by the 3rd Cavalry Division under General Byng. Sir Douglas Haig has constantly brought this officer's eminent services to my notice. His troops were repeatedly called upon to restore the situation at critical points, and to fill gaps in the line caused by the tremendous losses which occurred.

Both Corps and Cavalry Division Commanders particularly bring to my notice the name of Brigadier-General Kavanagh, Commanding the 7th Cavalry Brigade, not only for his skill but his personal bravery and dash. This was particularly noticeable when the 7th Cavalry Brigade was brought up to support the French troops when the latter were driven back

## Brilliant Chapters in our History

near the village of Klein Zillebeke on the night of the 7th November. On this occasion I regret to say Colonel Gordon Wilson, Commanding the Royal Horse Guards, and Major the Hon. Hugh Dawnay, Commanding the 2nd Life Guards, were killed.

In these two officers the Army has lost valuable cavalry leaders.

Another officer whose name was particularly mentioned to me was that of Brigadier-General FitzClarence, V.C., Commanding the 1st Guards Brigade. He was, unfortunately, killed in the night attack of the 11th November. His loss will be severely felt.

The First Corps Commander informs me that on many occasions Brigadier-General the Earl of Cavan, Commanding the 4th Guards Brigade, was conspicuous for the skill, coolness and courage with which he led his troops, and for the successful manner in which he dealt with many critical situations.

I have more than once during this campaign brought forward the name of Major-General Bulfin to Your Lordship's notice. Up to the evening of the 2nd November, when he was somewhat severely wounded, his services continued to be of great value.

On the 5th November I despatched eleven battalions of the Second Corps, all considerably reduced in strength, to relieve the

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infantry of the 7th Division, which was then brought back into general reserve.

Three more battalions of the same Corps, the London Scottish and Hertfordshire Battalions of Territorials, and the Somersetshire and Leicestershire Regiments of Yeomanry, were subsequently sent to reinforce the troops fighting to the east of Ypres.

General Byng in the case of the Yeomanry Cavalry Regiments and Sir Douglas in that of the Territorial Battalions speak in high terms of their conduct in the field and of the value of their support.

The battalions of the Second Corps took a conspicuous part in repulsing the heavy attacks delivered against this part of the line. I was obliged to despatch them immediately after their trying experiences in the southern part of the line and when they had had a very insufficient period of rest ; and, although they gallantly maintained these northern positions until relieved by the French, they were reduced to a condition of extreme exhaustion.

The work performed by the Royal Flying Corps has continued to prove of the utmost value to the success of the operations.

I do not consider it advisable in this despatch to go into any detail as regards the duties assigned to the Corps and the nature of their work, but almost every day new

## The Royal Flying Corps

methods for employing them, both strategically and tactically, are discovered and put into practice.

The development of their use and employment has indeed been quite extraordinary, and I feel sure that no effort should be spared to increase their numbers and perfect their equipment and efficiency.

In the period covered by this despatch Territorial Troops have been used for the first time in the Army under my command.

The units actually engaged have been the Northumberland, Northamptonshire, North Somerset, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire Regiments of Yeomanry Cavalry; and the London Scottish, Hertfordshire, Honourable Artillery Company and the Queen's Westminster Battalions of Territorial Infantry.

The conduct and bearing of these units under fire, and the efficient manner in which they carried out the various duties assigned to them, have imbued me with the highest hope as to the value and help of Territorial Troops generally.

Units which I have mentioned above, other than these, as having been also engaged, have by their conduct fully justified these hopes.

Regiments and battalions as they arrive come into a temporary camp of instruction, which is formed at Headquarters, where they

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are closely inspected, their equipment examined, so far as possible perfected, and such instruction as can be given to them in the brief time available in the use of machine guns, etc., is imparted.

Several units have now been sent up to the front besides those I have already named, but have not yet been engaged.

I am anxious in this despatch to bring to Your Lordship's special notice the splendid work which has been done throughout the campaign by the Cyclists of the Signal Corps.

Carrying despatches and messages at all hours of the day and night in every kind of weather, and often traversing bad roads blocked with transport, they have been conspicuously successful in maintaining an extraordinary degree of efficiency in the service of communications.

Many casualties have occurred in their ranks, but no amount of difficulty or danger has ever checked the energy and ardour which has distinguished their Corps throughout the operations.

11. As I close this despatch there are signs in evidence that we are possibly in the last stages of the battle of Ypres-Armentières.

For several days past the enemy's artillery fire has considerably slackened, and infantry attack has practically ceased.

## The Field of Operations

In remarking upon the general military situation of the Allies as it appears to me at the present moment, it does not seem to be clearly understood that the operations in which we have been engaged embrace nearly all the Continent of Central Europe from East to West. The combined French, Belgian and British Armies in the West, and the Russian Army in the East are opposed to the united forces of Germany and Austria acting as a combined army between us.

Our enemies elected at the commencement of the war to throw the weight of their forces against the armies in the West, and to detach only a comparatively weak force, composed of very few first-line troops and several corps of the second and third lines, to stem the Russian advance till the Western Forces could be completely defeated and overwhelmed.

Their strength enabled them from the outset to throw greatly superior forces against us in the West. This precluded the possibility of our taking a vigorous offensive, except when the miscalculations and mistakes made by their commanders opened up special opportunities for a successful attack and pursuit.

The battle of the Marne was an example of this, as was also our advance from St. Omer and Hazebrouck to the line of the Lys at the commencement of this battle. The rôle which

## Flanders

our armies in the West have consequently been called upon to fulfil has been to occupy strong defensive positions, holding the ground gained and inviting the enemy's attack ; to throw these attacks back, causing the enemy heavy losses in his retreat and following him up with powerful and successful counter-attacks to complete his discomfiture.

The value and significance of the rôle fulfilled since the commencement of hostilities by the Allied Forces in the West lies in the fact that at the moment when the Eastern Provinces of Germany are in imminent danger of being overrun by the numerous and powerful armies of Russia, nearly the whole of the active army of Germany is tied down to a line of trenches extending from the Fortress of Verdun on the Alsatian Frontier round to the sea at Nieuport, east of Dunkirk (a distance of 260 miles), where they are held, much reduced in numbers and morale by the successful action of our troops in the West.

I cannot speak too highly of the valuable services rendered by the Royal Artillery throughout the battle.

In spite of the fact that the enemy has brought up guns in support of his attacks of great range and shell power ours have succeeded throughout in preventing the enemy from establishing anything in the nature of



## The Work of the Royal Artillery

an artillery superiority. The skill, courage and energy displayed by their commanders have been very marked.

The General Officer Commanding Third Corps, who had special means of judging, makes mention of the splendid work performed by a number of young Artillery Officers, who in the most gallant manner pressed forward in the vicinity of the firing line in order that their guns may be able to shoot at the right targets at the right moment.

The Royal Engineers have, as usual, been indefatigable in their efforts to assist the infantry in field fortification and trench work.

I deeply regret the heavy casualties which we have suffered ; but the nature of the fighting has been very desperate, and we have been assailed by vastly superior numbers. I have every reason to know that throughout the course of the battle we have placed at least three times as many of the enemy hors de combat in dead, wounded and prisoners.

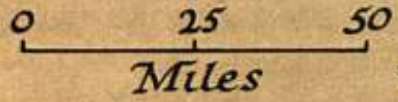
Throughout these operations General Foch has strained his resources to the utmost to afford me all the support he could ; and an expression of my warm gratitude is also due to General D'Urbal, Commanding the 8th French Army on my left, and General Maud'huy, Commanding the 10th French Army on my right.

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I have many recommendations to bring to Your Lordship's notice for gallant and distinguished service performed by officers and men in the period under report. These will be submitted shortly, as soon as they can be collected.

I have the honour to be,  
Your Lordship's most obedient servant,  
(Signed) J. D. P. FRENCH, Field-Marshal,  
*Commander-in-Chief, the British Forces in the Field.*

# SKETCH MAP of the area covered by the despatches



From The Fortnightly Review.

