

HOW THE FOURTH BATTALION FOUGHT UNDER HEAVY FIRE

STORY FROM SIR MAX AITKEN THAT WILL BE READ WITH PRIDE THROUGHOUT PROVINCE

FOURTH BATTALION CAME UNDER WITHERING FIRE—COL. BIRCHALL, CARRYING A LIGHT CANE, RALLIED THE LINE, AND THEN FELL DEAD

Thus Reads a Deathless Despatch, on Valor of the "Fourth Ontarios," Who Took Part in the Desperate Advance at Ypres on April 23—Sir Max Aitken Writes Home as Eyewitness.

By Sir Max Aitken.
The Canadian Eye-witness.
London, May 1.—The following communication is from Sir Max Aitken, the Canadian record officer now serving with the Canadian division in France, and its publication is authorized by the War Office.
The recent fighting in Flanders, in which the Canadians played so glorious a part, cannot, of course, be described with precision of military detail, until the war has made possible the co-ordination of relevant facts, and the piecing together in a narrative both lucid and exact of much that is hitherto considered right that the mourning in Canada to-day for husbands, sons or brothers who have given their lives for the Empire should have with as little reserve as military considerations allow the rare and precious consolation which, in the agony of bereavement, the record of the valor of their dead must bring, and, indeed, the mourning in Canada will be very widely spread for the battle which raged for so many days in the neighborhood of Ypres was bloody, even as men appraise battles in this callous and life-engulfing war. But as long as brave deeds retain their glory, the stand made by the Canadians in those desperate days, will be told by fathers to their sons, for in the military records of Canada this defence will shine as brightly as in the records of the British army the stubborn valor with which Sir James MacDonnell and the Guards beat back from Hougomont the division of Foy and the army corps of Helles.

DROVE GUARDS BEFORE THEM
The Canadians have wrested the trenches over the bodies of the dead and earned the right to stand side by side with the superb troops who, in the first battle of Ypres, broke, and drove before them the flower of the Prussian Guards. Looked at from any point the performance would be remarkable. It is amazing to soldiers when the genesis and composition of the Canadian division is considered. It contained, no doubt, a sprinkling of South African veterans, but it consisted in the main of men who were admirable raw material, but who, at the outbreak of war, were neither disciplined nor trained as men count discipline and training in these days of scientific warfare. It was, it is true, commanded by a distinguished English general. It staff was supplemented, without being replaced by some brilliant British staff officers. But in its higher and regimental commands were to be found lawyers, college professors, business men and real estate agents, ready with cool confidence to do battle against an organization in which the study of military science took the exclusive part of laborious lives.

COOL, RESOURCEFUL
With what devotion, with a valor how desperate, with resourcefulness how cool and how fruitful, the amateur soldiers of Canada confronted overwhelming odds, may perhaps be made clear, even by a narrative so incomplete as the present.

The silent of Ypres has become familiar to all students of the campaign in Flanders. Like all salients it was, and was known to be, a source of weakness to the forces holding it, but the reasons which led to its retention are apparent, and need not be explained.

On April 22 the Canadian division held a line of roughly five thousand yards, extending in a north-westerly direction from the Ypres-Poelcapelle railway, to the Ypres-Poelcapelle road, and connecting at its terminus with the French troops. The division consisted of three infantry brigades, in addition to the artillery brigades. Of the infantry brigades the first was in reserve, the second was on the

OUR FALLEN HEROES

"Who lives if England dies?"
Was it but yesterday,
In idle mood, we read the words,
And lightly tossed away."
To-day, with streaming eyes,
Our country we review,
Our brave, our great, our true,
Our dead! Oh, hear them call,
"Save of your best! Give! Give!
Sons of the Empire, and be brave!
"Who lives if England dies?"
—G. K.

right, and the third established contact with the allies at the point indicated above.

OPENING OF THE BATTLE.

The day was a peaceful one, warm and sunny and except that the previous day had witnessed a further bombardment of the stricken town of Ypres, everything seemed quiet in front of the Canadian line. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon a plan carefully prepared, was put into execution against our French allies on the left. Asphyxiating gas of great intensity was projected into the trenches, probably by means of force pumps and pipes laid out under the parapets. The fumes aided by a favorable wind floated backwards, poisoning and disabling over an extended area those who fell under their effect. The result was that the French were compelled to give ground for a considerable distance. The glory

CAPT. EWART OSBORNE IS STILL REPORTED MISSING

His Last Letter Home—Much Anxiety Expressed for Popular Officer—Other Casualties are Pte. A. Hamilton and C. Kirby.

Enquiries set on foot to-day reveal the fact that the casualty list, so far as it concerns the 48th Highlanders, continues to mount up. The official list to-day contains the names of many officers of the regiment commanded by Col. J. A. Currie, and Capt. J. E. Osborne and Lieut. Hugh A. Barwick are among the missing. The former officer's father, Mr. J. K. Osborne, who is staying at the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, and who is connected with the Massey-Harris firm, got a message from his wife in London in the following words: "Osborne among missing."

POPULAR OFFICER.
Only Thursday a reassuring cable came from the other side regarding the captain, and it was hoped that he was safe and well. In any case it is presumed that he has not been injured. He is a popular and clever officer, devoted to his profession, and is very popular with his brother officers and men. He has always taken great pride in the 48th, and commanded No. 4 double company.

LAST LETTER HOME.
In one of his last letters from the front, Captain Osborne wrote as follows: "The day before yesterday (April 7th) the whole division was moved and we did an eighteen-mile march, which, by the way, was very well handled. We did the whole distance on schedule time, losing very

few men, and the troops arrived in their new billets in good condition. A great deal of the marching here is on cobblestone roads, which are very hard on the feet, and while a few men are lost from exhaustion, it is more feet which cause the great proportion of the casualties.

GOOD MARCHING.
"I am glad to say that my fellows did the journey very well, indeed. We are now in quite a different part of the country, and some distance behind the line; in fact, practically for the first time in nearly six weeks we are out of range of shell fire. The country is more picturesque, which is, perhaps, more or less accentuated by the fact that spring has set in and the countryside has taken on a more pleasing aspect. Just what they are going to do with us we do not know, but no doubt we will take over a new bit of the line."

VISIONS OF HOME.
"I am fit as a fiddle, but after a few months of this life, visions of home and a civilized existence take on a very rosy hue. I suppose we may be expecting some of the second contingent soon. I hear they are a fine lot and well trained. We are to be inspected to-morrow by Gen. Alderson. The regimental work here is quite different to what we have been accustomed to—we use the double company system, which is superior to the old formation."

LOCAL CASUALTY LIST INCREASING

Four Names Added To-day, All Wounded—Further Names Expected.

Brantford's casualty list received considerable increase this morning in the addition of four names to the roll of fallen in battle. These names subjoined are to-day's toll for the battle of Langemarck, and subsequent engagements, in which the fourth battalion, Ontarios, took part.

CASUALTIES TO DATE.
Pte. K. Anthony, Scotchman, wife residing 250 Brock, wounded.
Pte. C. Kirby, Englishman, residing 118 West Hill, wounded.
Pte. A. Hamilton, Englishman, wounded.
Pte. Robert MacCartney, 18 Mt. Pleasant street, wounded.
Pte. MacCartney, who resided at 18 Mt. Pleasant street, was a candy-maker by trade, and was employed at the Paterson Biscuit Company for a period of five years before his enlistment. He served for two years in the Dufferin Rifles, and was a keen and

Pte. A. Hamilton



Reported Wounded To-day.
efficient militiaman. On the call for recruits, he responded and was one of the first to enlist.

PTE. R. ANTHONY
The name of pte. R. Anthony, No. 11325, was in the casualty list yesterday, and Mrs. Anthony had official confirmation this morning.

Pte. T. Kirby



Reported Wounded To-day.

received from her husband was to the effect that he was returning to the trenches after having been in the hospital for some time from ptomaine poisoning, from eating tinned meat.

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Lieut. A. Cockshutt



Lieut. Ashton Cockshutt, eldest son of Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, M.P., and Mrs. Cockshutt, who enlisted the first week of the war with the Tenth Battalion in Calgary. Previously he belonged to the 163rd Calgary Rifles and held the rank of lieutenant nearly a year before the war commenced. He was in the recent action, but no news has been received of his welfare.

FRENCH OFFICIAL NOTICE

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Paris, May 1, 2.45 p.m.—The French War Office this afternoon gave out the following official statement on the progress of hostilities:
"No change has been reported in the general situation on the front since the giving out of the official communication of last night."
"Ten more shells fell on Dunkirk during the evening of yesterday (Friday), and there were several victims."

The San Carlo Opera Company has gone bankrupt at Philadelphia with artists unpaid.
Chicago police can wear wrist watches and wear gossamer uniforms this summer.
Mrs. J. F. Fisher of Le Grande, Ore., was bitten by a mad coyote, that entered the town.

LADS FROM ANTIPODES ROUT TURKISH ARMIES AT SARI BAIR FIGHT

Australian and New Zealand Contingents, in the Thick of Desperate Fighting Which Occurred, Acquitted Themselves Nobly, Although the Casualties Were Heavy.

London, May 1.—After very serious fighting, in which the Turks offered a stubborn resistance, British troops have firmly established themselves on the Gallipoli Peninsula and made considerable advance toward the narrows of the Dardanelles, while the French have cleared Cape Kum Kale, on the Asiatic side of the straits of the Turks. Thus it may be said that the second and most serious attempt to force the Dardanelles has been fairly launched.

In an official statement issued last night, the Admiralty gives the first detailed story of the landing of the troops. The Turks made a desperate resistance at several places, but the British troops now hold strongly entrenched positions on the Gallipoli Peninsula as far inward as Krithia, about five miles from the tip.

THE BRITISH STATEMENT
The British War Office last night made public an official communication concerning the operations of the allies against the Dardanelles:
"The disembarkation of the army in the Dardanelles began before sunrise on April 25. Six different beaches were used, and the operation was covered by the whole fleet."
The landing was immediately successful on five beaches, although it was opposed with vigor by a strongly entrenched enemy in successive lines which were protected by barbed wire entanglements, in some places fifty yards wide, and supported by artillery.

"On the sixth beach, near Seddul Bahr, the troops could not advance until evening, when a fine attack by the British infantry from the direc-

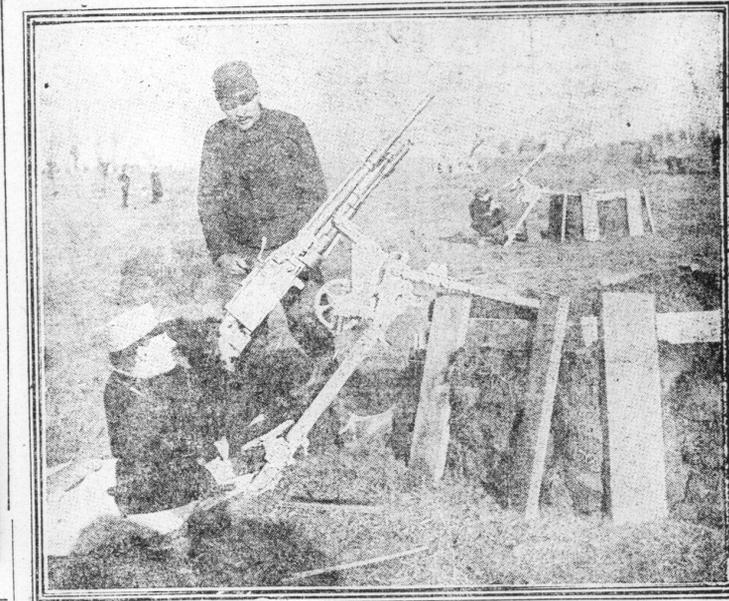
tion of Cape Tekeli relieved the pressure on their front. The arrangements for landing had been concerted in the utmost detail between the fleet and the army."
"The result of the first day's operations was the establishment of strong British, Australasian and New Zealand forces at three points, namely, the Australian and New Zealand troops on the lower slopes of Sari Bair to the north of Baba Tepe; of British troops at Cape Tekeli, at Cape Helles and near Morte Bay, and of a French force on the Asiatic shore at Kum Kale, after a gallant attack toward Yeni Shehr."

DISSEMBARKING THE ARMY.
"During the afternoon of the 25th strong counter-attacks by the enemy began and hard fighting took place. Meanwhile the disembarkation of the army proceeded, and was continually favored by good weather."
"At daybreak on the 26th the enemy was still holding the village and position of Seddul Bahr, which was a labyrinth of caves, ruins, trenches, pits and entanglements. Aided by the gun fire of the fleet this position was stormed by the British in frontal attack through undamaged wire entanglements. Seddul Bahr was taken about 2 p.m., four pom-poms being captured. The situation at this end of the peninsula was definitely secured and the disembarkation of French and British forces proceeded."

"On the morning of the 27th, after repulsing a Turkish attack upon their left towards Cape Helles, the allied force advanced and at 8 p.m. was established in an entrenched line running from a point about two miles north of Cape Tekeli to a small pla-

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A MACHINE GUN OF THE ALLIES READY FOR ACTION.



A FRENCH AIR COOLED MACHINE GUN IN SOUTHERN FLANDERS.
Guns for the projection of bullets—that is, mankilling rather than battering pieces—were in use in the sixteenth century. They were called by fanciful names, such as "Murderer" and are frequently mentioned in the records of the Anglo-Spanish wars. Some of them had more than one barrel. In modern times the first effective machine gun was that invented by the American, Dr. Gatling, which was used during the last stages of the civil war of 1861-1865. A modification of the Gatling, mounted on a field carriage, was used by the French during the war of 1870-71. It was not, however, very effective, as its stream of bullets scattered so much on leaving the grouped barrels. The above illustration shows a French machine gun fitted up so as to repel enemy aircraft. This machine gun is air cooled and not water cooled. The explosion of the charge which propels the bullet also causes a rush of air through a small hole in the side of the barrel which cools the gun, thus making it independent of water.