

August our headquarters moved up to Biefvillers, a point beyond where we were in March when we were pushed back. In less than two weeks we were at Havrincourt, our heavies being in the wood. I shall for a long time remember how our cars rocked like a ship at sea, with the firing of the guns in the bombardment before our boys took Cambrai.

Three days after Cambrai was taken we moved up to Marcoing, and a few days later through Bourlon to Marquion. From the last named place we went to Sauchy Cauchy, and the same week moved up to Aniche. September found us in Somain, where we remained for three weeks. In their retirement the Huns as usual had done all the mischief possible. Cambrai was the first big town we struck on the new advance which I had not previously seen, several smaller places we passed were badly destroyed. One piece of work we did at the Nord Canal just outside Havrincourt should be mentioned. The canal had been drained around here by the Germans, revealing a well-laid brick bottom and sides. The road above this, going around by the slag heap, was in sight of the enemy, so we cut a road into the canal at a certain point and ran along the canal bottom with motor and horse transport, etc., and came out again on a ramp about a mile further along.

The railway had been badly broken up by the retreating enemy, and there were several bridges to be replaced. The Canadian cavalry operating with the cavalry brigade, got into a tight corner on the outskirts of Rumilly, and we saw several horses and raiders in the canal as we went by.

Cambrai was badly smashed in places, but by far the greater destruction was to furniture, houseful after houseful of beautiful and most exquisitely carved furniture was mutilated in every conceivable way.