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“YOU’VE GOT TO BE A RUSTLER”, SAYS McINTYRE--SO HE’S A KING’S CORPORAL

MAC WANTED A REST MORE THAN HE WANTED THE CROSS OF ST. GEORGE WHICH THE KING WAS ANXIOUS TO PIN ON HIS BREAST, SO HIS MAJESTY HAD TO WAIT UNTIL MAC DECIDED HE WAS RESTED ENOUGH TO TRAVEL TO WINDSOR. McINTYRE, A SPLENDID CANADIAN WHOSE HEIGHT AND STRENGTH WE ALL ENVY, DID GREAT WORK AT YPRES. BEING A KING’S CORPORAL, THEY CAN’T REDUCE MAC BELOW THAT GRADE WITHOUT THE KING’S CONSENT.

Upon meeting Sergeant Perley McIntyre one is at once impressed with his huge stature and frame upon which a service uniform refuses to hang properly in spite of the attempts of army tailors to apply their arts. When interviewing him with a view to obtaining information as to his career (and he has SOME record) one is struck by his delightful and elusive reticence.

What is written here represents hours of patient search and not what our burly sergeant has to say of himself.

Sergeant McIntyre gained distinction in the South African war, serving with the Strathcona Horse—and wears both the Queen’s and King’s medals for that conflict. It is not to be wondered at, then, that at the outbreak of the present war he was one of the first to offer his services.

He was out west, farming, when war broke out, and travelled east and enlisted as a Sapper in the First Field Company of Canadian Engineers, under our present Colonel.

Soon Promoted.

Proceeding overseas with this unit to Salisbury and thence to

France, he was soon singled out for promotion, being made a Lance Corporal the second day after landing. In this capacity he was put in charge of works of varying nature, one in particular being the construction of a trestle bridge over the Yser Canal during the second battle of Ypres. This was an urgent job and everything was in readiness to start work. The Hun however had located the materials placed near the site of the work and had spent his time shelling it—so that when McIntyre and his party arrived, after dusk, to start work they found all the material damaged and useless.

More material was soon assembled and the next night saw a good start made on the bridge. On the third night Sergeant (then Lance Corporal) McIntyre was wounded by a shell, compelling him to retire. The bridge, 114 feet long, was however soon completed afterwards.

Goes “Blighty”.

This wound necessitated his return to England where he stayed three months. Returning to France he was in charge of working parties putting in gun emplacements in front line trenches, and

other trench work. It was during the construction of a gun emplacement with heavy timber overhead that he received his second wound, a timber from above falling on him. Ten months in hospital were necessary to restore him to active life but could not fit him for further service in France.

He was therefore appointed Sergeant-Instructor in trench war-

the Cross of St. George, (a medal prized and valued in the Russian army to the same extent as the Victoria Cross in the British army) and when told that he had three days’ leave to go to London to receive the medal he said he’d rather have a rest than the decoration!

Gets Decorated.

While convalescing in a London hospital from his second wound he was sent for by the King. While pinning on the medal, at Windsor Castle, His Majesty remarked: “You are the man who would rather have a rest than leave France to be decorated.”

In addition to this honour he was created a King’s Corporal, a unique honour indeed—carrying with it certain privileges, one of which is that he can never be reduced below that grade and can never be in want.

Sergeant McIntyre speaks in highest praise of the treatment he received at the Duchess of Connaught’s Hospital at Taplow.

One cannot know McIntyre without feeling that the straight and narrow path is either too direct or too confined for him, and one is not surprised to know that he and a sergeant undertook to blow up a Hun listening post on their own authority. Proceeding into No-Man’s-Land they reconnoitred the object of their intentions, sized it up, returned for explosives, set to work, mined it, and blew it up.

Scares His Friends.

This unexpected happening caused—
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SERGEANT PERLEY McINTYRE,
Cross of St. George, King’s
Corporal. Now Instructor
at E. T. D.

(Photo by Pinsonnault)

fare at the school at Seaford. From there he proceeded to Bexhill-on-Sea in the same capacity at the C.O.T. School and later to Shoreham: thence to Canada to take up similar duties at our depot.

For the excellent work on the bridge over the Yser Canal and general duties at the second battle of Ypres he was recommended for