

mud for a bit only to have to struggle to their feet again. I had to visit guards over a huge area, necessitating a walk of about six miles, and next day as I passed the village church around which dozens and dozens of British soldiers are buried, I saw that three of the H.E.'s we had heard the night before had fallen in the pretty churchyard and ripped open probably eight to ten graves."

The following is a letter from CAPTIAN J. C. MAC-PHERSON, formerly of the Calgary branch, dated Belgium, 27th November, 1915:

"I received the other day a copy of "Letters from the Front" part two. It is greatly appreciated by us all, and we are greatly interested in it. We all think a lot of it and the way it is gotten up.

"At the time of writing we are in the front line doing our little bit. For a change we have had two fine days, but the mud everywhere is very bad. My Company has a decent bit of trench this time, although fairly close to Fritz, at one point very close—It is only thirty yards from the Germans. We occupied the section referred to very recently and got a warm reception. It was there that a company—the 28th Battalion—got blown up with some sixty casualties two days after we left it. One is in greater danger from bombs, hand and rifle grenades, trench mortars, etc., than from artillery fire, as owing to the proximity there is the danger of shells falling in our own lines. I have seen German shells, and big ones at that, falling in their own front line trenches.

"There have been several heavy bombardments on our front recently, but apparently Fritz has something up his sleeve as he keeps very quiet. We have witnessed some very exciting air fights during the last few days and there is something very fascinating about them. Up to the present, I have seen two planes brought down. It is wonderful how they get through—sometimes a single plane will have several hundred shrapnel shells sent after and over it, and not one will hit. Of course they are all shrapnel and burst in the air around the planes."

The following is a letter from LIEUT. F. C. BIGGAR, formerly Manager of the Virden branch, dated 28th November, 1915:

"It is a very long time since my last letter to you, but many things have interfered. For nearly two months our Company was extremely short of officers, and this meant very heavy duties for those we had; and afterwards, when we filled up our establishment, I was acting as second in command, and this kept my nose pretty close to the grindstone.

"The interval has not been very full of incident. We worked away on our section of the line digging trenches, both firing and communication, until we were told that we had made it one of the strongest bits of the British line. We were still there, though, at the time, back in Divisional Reserve billets, when the big Loos attack came off. For several days we would hear the continuous roar of guns, both from there on our right and from Ypres