

Out from the land that loved them, beggared flung,
 Sons from the loins of olden heroes sprung:
 They whom great Caesar chronicled in praise,
 Shalt Thou leave outcast, doom to evil days?
 Shall Belgium's sons, shall this beloved soil
 Whose very mould is martial, be made spoil?
 Lord of the slain in olden battles, hear!
 Till all I love, till all I hold most dear,
 Till my young hero-king shall find his throne,
 Till Belgians shall again sing songs of home,
 I from amid the ruins, night and day,
 Shall cry to Thee, "O God, make Prussia pay!"

A MEMBER OF "CIVILIAN" STAFF AT THE FRONT.

One member of *The Civilian* staff has thus far gone to the front. He is R. Herrod, of the Railway Mail Service, Moose Jaw. He formed part of a crew engaged to take the "Earl Grey" from Halifax to Archangel to be used as an ice-breaker by the Russian Government. The following letter will interest many of our readers:—

S.S. Dwinsk,
 North Shields, England,
 Nov. 20, 1914.

Dear *Civilian*,—You will see that we have completed our portion of service, which Canada undertook to do, and which will show that we can come back.

We had good luck with us all the way, and taking the "Earl Grey" over to Archangel was a very pleasant trip, apart from the danger, which is, of course, in the chances of war. I am pleased to be able to tell you that Bill and myself are enjoying the very best health, and we hope, before long, to get an opportunity to prove that our boys are up to the standard of the Imperial navy. The Canadian troops are very popular over here, and people were greatly surprised to meet with the Canadian navy boys.

We may get distributed around the fleet here, as they have had many losses lately, so we shall see some active service. It is hardly likely that we will get sent back to Canada for a while yet.

Everything appears to prosper on the continent, although we have a stiff job before us, until everything is cleared up.

I was shown round a mail train at Newcastle the other day. The boys in the mail service were very kind when I introduced myself to them, and soon made me feel at home. I was, of course, unable to take a trip with them; they have the same

restrictions as we have in regard to having strangers on the cars, so I did not see them at work on the run.

I received *The Civilian* while here, the mail having been sent to the High Commissioner in London.

I suppose you will be busy about this time with the Annual Convention. I hope the Western Federation sent representatives down.

Our three Civil Servants aboard here are quite well, Angwin, Millward and myself.

Bill was telling me about how he came to leave the navy.

After holding the championship for three years, he was doing his quarterly practice firing, and his first round was a hit, so he had gained that much time and was pumping away as fast as his gun's crew could load. Every shot was a hit. About the fifth round something went wrong, and the gun exploded, killing four men and injuring the rest of the gun's crew. He was unconscious for four days, with his head almost severed from his body and his right side all open.

So you see that he is still unbeaten, and the Canadian navy can claim the navy's unbeaten champion.

I did not know that until a few days before we left Halifax, when an old shipmate of Bill's told me about it.

If we get sent to a ship we may have another opportunity of putting up a record.
 R. HERROD.

NIAGARA FALLS CARRIERS.

At a meeting of Branch No. 36, Letter Carriers' Association, Niagara Falls, Ont., the following officers were elected: President, J. Rothschild; Vice-President, R. Davis; Secretary-treasurer, Russell Ross; Tyler, J. Bell.