

less than 21 Army Corps took part in the advance. This being the case, the Allied Armies whose left became in great danger of being turned by the surrender of Namur after an afternoon's attack, had to retire far quicker and much further than had been contemplated at first. This retreat, called forth tributes of admiration from strategists the world over ; it never became a rout but was carried out as a " forced march ". On the second of September the retreat of the British came to a halt as von Kluck seemed to change his plans. On the fourth the famous German General suddenly directed his Army to the South east. Some writers deny that von Kluck did alter his plans at all, but the better opinion, confirmed by Sir John French himself, supports the theory that he did. The reasons for this change are fairly obvious : — on his left his scouts had discovered the presence of huge French forces, in front of him he had General French's " contemptible little Army ", in a state of what he thought to be complete exhaustion. The most reasonable thing was to break through the line between the British and French Armies and to outflank Joffre's forces. On the fifth of September Generals French and Joffre held a meeting and decided that this was the time for the Allies to take the offensive again. To the small British Forces and the French 5th. Army was given the task of rolling back von Kluck's 2500.000 men. Our offensive began in the very best conditions ; the enemy was marching sideways and found it hard to defend itself. In two weeks the Germans were thrown back across the banks of the river Aisne, where they took strongly entrenched positions.

This battle, whereby more than half of the territory, conquered by Germany was returned to France, proved to be the turning point of the war. Only experts realized in what dangerous circumstances the Allies had been placed by the German preponderance in Northern France and to what danger they were exposed by the hasty retreat they had to make from the Belgian frontier. The Germans, besides being thrown back a considerable distance over a front of tremendous length, were completely checked in their offensive. All their efforts on the western front have since proved costly and fruitless ; all the successful offensive movements have been made by the Allies.

" MUD."

Camels can stand where there's nothing but sand
Fishes can ford any flood
Pigs that are rotters can stand upon trotters
We have to stand upon mud.

Rats run on railings and sparrows on pailings
A collar can stand on a stud
Turtles are quickest where mud is the thickest
We have to stop in the mud.

Snails could'nt climb if it were'nt for slime
" Willie " can wallow in blood
Dabbled with dirt, you can slip on a shirt
We only slip on the mud.

Moths can eat holes and burrow like moles
Cattle can tackle the cud ;
Puppies can stand and eat from your hand
We have to eat in the mud.

A cat with a kick can get clear in a trick
Noah could battle in the flood
Gout has a passion for every new fashion
We suffer only from mud.

P.

Lt. Col. P. Wright, O.C., No. 1 Canadian Field Ambulance was a welcome visitor last week. Colonel Wright came across as second in command and was recently promoted, following the appointment of Colonel Ross as A.D.M.S., 1st. Canadian Division.

Captain Tidmarsh is temporarily attached for duty to. No 1 Convalescent Camp — where he is doing Surgery and is acting Sanitary Officer.

A happy sentiment from Kipling :—
" We' re goin' 'ome, we' re goin' " ome
Our ship is at the shore,
An' you must pack your' aversack,
For we won't come back no more ".
—♦—

Heard around barracks... " Hang it all ! I owe J. G. tuppence. I guess I'll let him give me a haircut and call it square....