

## Middlesex Will Leave Trail of Ruin and Death On Their Road to Berlin

Nauwigewauk Man Writes of Gallant Charge of Western Battalion and of the Last Moments of Augustus Hodgson.

Signaller Irving D. Appleby, of Nauwigewauk, attached to the Canadian Brigade Headquarters, first contingent, has been heard from again. This time he has written a most affecting letter to a western mother whose son had fallen in battle. Mrs. E. C. Hodgson, of Melfort (Sask.), received this letter, which is reproduced in Canada, an illustrated weekly published in London, England.

The letter follows: "Your heart would have swelled with pride you could have seen him in his last hour on earth; smiling, light-hearted, faithful, and pure of speech. Never was a piece of ground so torn and strewn with shot and shell as that green meadow over which the Edmonton boys raced, laughing and cheering, toward certain destruction.

"I was endeavoring to keep together the shattered remnants of my line of communication, and was lying behind a heap of rubbish, formerly somebody's home. Hourly things grew worse ahead; the broken 90th, of Winnipeg, dead to all western hearts, were dying where they stood, refusing to retreat, refusing to surrender, dying for food, for water, and from every form of high-velocity metal.

"Attempts had been made to reach them and failed, for the enfilading fire from Fortin, on the right, was terrific. Then, when all appeared lost, your boy's regiment was ordered—or shall I say received permission—to attempt relief. A half company, containing Augustus, came forward in short rushes, cheerfully, yes, joyfully, and eventually reached the tiny bit of shelter where I was lying with my instruments. Here they rested twenty minutes, stripping themselves of all unnecessary weight in preparation for the last dash. Your boy laughed when he saw my shoulder-strap and badge and remarked: 'Wherever you go, you'll find a New Brunswick man hanging out.'

"Then came the moment: 'Forward the 9th,' and as their officer rose to lead he fell dead before them; not a moment's pause, and they went and forward, oh! so gloriously! while I clung to my key and watched with the tears streaming down my cheeks. It is hard sometimes to be on the general staff, instead of in the rank and file. But with all their speed, courage and coolness, flesh and blood was weaker than the tons of iron and steel that were hurled at them, and they fell swiftly. Almost the first to fall was the whom you gave, and, desperation mastering the sense of duty for the moment, I left the key and ran to him. He took but one look at the peaceful blue sky above us, out of which the sun shone serenely; he saw something 'Up There' that caused a smile to ripple over his face, and his light was finished.

"As to his last resting-place, it is in a beautiful garden, in the rear of the place where I was sheltered, his head toward the west, toward home above him the cross of Christ, giving to the world this inscription: 'Pte. Augustus Stewart Hodgson, No. —, 9th Canadian, killed in action April 25th, 1915. 'Better can no man do than this: that a man lay down his life for that of a friend.'"

Just prior to going to France several of the Canadian soldiers wrote interesting details of the camp life in England. Murray Jamieson, formerly of Clover Hill (N. B.), who left a good position in New York to join the Middlesex Regiment and afterwards transferred to a Canadian battalion, writes to Charles Hill, Broken, New York city.

"I am getting my transfer to the Canadian contingent. Many of the Middlesex have gone to the front. The month of September will bring great success to the British army in Europe. I have finished training and am ready to go at any time. Soldiers are leaving for the front nearly every day, all anxious to get at the enemy. Two Zeppelins flew over our barracks, but were driven off by the English air craft. Am sending you two English handkerchiefs, two hat badges and two war biscuits. I may go to the front at any time."

An interesting example of the vagaries of nature sometimes exhibits was and one day last week by Walter Jones, who discovered a bunch of ripe strawberries, in color and size quite the equal of any to be found in June.

### PETITODIAC

Petitodiac, N.B., Sept. 28—Mrs. Harry and Miss Alice Keith have returned from a pleasant visit with relatives in St. John.

Misses Mabel Macdonald and Mae Inner are guests of Mrs. J. C. Jones. Mrs. Taylor is the guest of her son, F. A. Taylor, of Moncton.

Miss Annie Nelson has returned to Moncton, after spending a week at her home here.

Mrs. Nathan Steeves is the guest of his daughter, Mrs. E. H. Rice, of Moncton.

Misses Mabel Macdonald, Mae Palmer and Mrs. L. B. Stockton, motored to Moncton on Friday.

### FUNERAL OF HENRY WATHEN

Harcourt, Sept. 28—The funeral of late Henry Wathen, whose death occurred on Wednesday last, was held in the family residence on Friday afternoon. Services at the house and were conducted by Rev. A. D. McLeod, assisted by Rev. J. R. McLeod and Rev. E. Best and a large number of people, among them many friends of the deceased from Moncton, St. John and Campbellton, followed to the site of his last resting place. The late Wathen was pleasantly fond of waders and was lovingly remembered by many friends in the beautiful floral offerings that covered his casket.

The deceased, who was in his 70th year, had been in the railway mail service for almost thirty years, having retired only a few years ago. He was a man who enjoyed the confidence and respect of all with whom he came in contact in a business or social way. He was always ready to lend a helping hand to the needy and foremost in any movement for the good and uplift of the community, and will be missed not only in his home but in a large circle of friends. He is survived by one son, W. G. Thurber, Miller, and five daughters, Mrs. W. G. Thurber, Miller; Mrs. S. Dunn, Harcourt; Mrs. S. Williams, Greenfield; Mrs. J. W. Fox, Toronto, and Miss Lydia, at home.

good tea"

## BATTALION WILL WINTER HERE

Companies at Fredericton, Woodstock and Sussex—Winter Quarters Arranged For Troops in Canada

Ottawa, Sept. 27—Plans for the winter quarters of the 45,000 to 50,000 troops who will be in training in Canada this winter were approved by the militia council this afternoon. The work of fitting up the various buildings selected is now being rushed under the direction of Lieut.-Col. A. P. Deroche, director of works and buildings, and by the middle of next month most of the men will be comfortably settled for the winter either in the various completed armories or in other large suitable buildings acquired by the department. Temporary cooking and sleeping accommodations will be established in each building, thus making outside billeting unnecessary, excepting in a few instances where some of the men may have to be lodged elsewhere.

Lieut.-Col. G. S. Cantlie, Officer Commanding the 42nd Royal Highlanders, in accordance with the recruiting plan for rural centres, announced by the minister of militia yesterday, local arrangements will be made for the temporary billeting at local centres of small units, as recruits will be quartered at Fredericton, Woodstock and two companies in Sussex.

One Battalion in St. John.

In the maritime provinces, two battalions will be quartered at the I. C. R. pier, No. 2, Halifax; one battalion in the St. John dell hall, one heavy battery in the Charlotte town agricultural building; one company in Sussex; one company in Woodstock and two companies in Fredericton.

Western troops will be quartered at Winnipeg, Regina, Moose Jaw, Prince Albert.

Writing from East Sandling, England, Sept. 27—Lieut. Gifford of St. John, now with the 26th Battalion, in a letter to Thomas Murphy of the mailing department of the Telegraph, says the boys have been having a fine time since crossing to the motherland. The letter was written on Sept. 18, and said the 26th was all ready to leave for France at a moment's notice. The C. A. M. C. had gone already. The sergeant had been up to London twice and had pleasant visits. "All the fellows up there still in 'clives," he said, "wear green glasse—the khaki is so trying on their eyes."

"We received our field kitchens a couple of weeks ago, and they were excellent. We are now fitted completely from head to foot for foreign service, including gas helmets and kitcheners' boots. I've got out my hunting license and expect to have some sport when we get into the game country, which will be soon, for we are just getting ready for our final war kit inspection."

More Recruits From Richibucto

Richibucto, Sept. 28—A very largely attended recruiting rally was held last evening in the temperance hall. No pains had been spared in making the old hall an attractive place, and the Union Jack was very much in evidence. An honor roll in a prominent position, contained the following names, of Richibucto young men who have enlisted since the opening of the war: James Irving, Lieut. Arthur Leger, Edgar Lawton, Hayward, Stanley, Lee, Haines, Guy, Pierce, Russell Long, Stanley, Vautour, Bourque, McInerney, Harold, McInerney, Laurence O'Leary, Major W. E. Forbes, Cecil Curwin, Leigh McBeath, Lieut. Harry O'Leary, Alonzo Johnson, Joseph Haines, Leigh Bell, Harry Graham, Robert Stewart.

The last named resigned his position as station master at Rexton and went to Sussex on Wednesday.

Richibucto has furnished at least one other Robert A. Patterson, who enlisted at Halifax, while a senior student at Dalhousie University. At the close of the year, he received the degree of B. A. in absentia.

Private Patterson had served in the mission fields of New Brunswick during college vacations and each year was so well liked that he received substantial purses of money as well as his promised salary.

Between the addresses, the orchestra under the leadership of Professor B. E. Johnson, furnished good music.

At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Samuel L. C. to the recruiting officers Lieutenants Kewick, O'Leary and Brooks, also to the orchestra for their splendid music.

Two young men came forward to enlist, and after being greeted with warm wishes given seats on the platform. The meeting closed with God Save The King.

"Why don't you open a bank account?" "I would if I could afford it."—Boston Transcript.

Believed Canadians Not in Latest Fight.

Ottawa, Sept. 28—Up to this afternoon the militia department was still awaiting news that would definitely indicate whether the Canadians are fighting in the big offensive movement on the British front.

The belief prevails in official quarters that they have not yet been engaged.



BRIGADIER-GENERAL MERCIER who, as commanding officer of the new brigade formed in France, will direct the destinies of the 6th Mounted Rifles.

## BRITISH MAKE BIG ADVANCE IN MESOPOTAMIA

London, Sept. 29, 3:20 p.m.—The British have won an important victory in Mesopotamia. The Turks are in full retreat toward Bagdad.

The British are pursuing the retreating Turks. Announcement to this effect was made in the house of commons today by Austin Chamberlain, secretary of state for India.

Mr. Chamberlain read telegrams from General Nixon, commanding the forces in Mesopotamia relating the outcome of recent fighting.

General Nixon reported that one position carried by the British constituted a long line of defences astride the river Tigris. At a point seven miles east of Kut, two Brigades crossed the river from the right bank and by a forced march reached the left wing of the Turkish position, carrying it by assault. By nightfall the whole position had been carried.

The Turkish losses in dead are described as very severe. The Turks clung to their trenches with the greatest tenacity, and they were filled with corpses when the British finally carried them.

A number of guns, many rifles, several hundred prisoners and quantities of ammunition were captured. General Nixon gives the British casualties as "under five hundred."

A second despatch from General Nixon says: "The enemy's position in advance of Kut-el-Amara was captured with many prisoners and guns."

The enemy is in full flight toward Bagdad. Our forces are pushing in pursuit. Details will follow."

General Nixon's second despatch indicates that the British forces have made a long advance in the interval since the previous official report. Kut-el-Amara is on the Tigris river about 150 miles below Bagdad and more than 200 miles from the river, north where the force first landed at Fao.

Official record of the campaign in Mesopotamia has been bare of detail and little has been known here-to-fore of these operations. The last official statement conveyed the inference that the fighting on this front was comparatively unimportant, consisting of skirmishes between relatively small forces.

It is not improbable that a new expeditionary force has been sent in by the British. Scattered reports during the last few weeks have shown that large bodies of troops were being forwarded towards Turkey. Both Italian and British troops are believed to have been detached, but it was generally assumed that their forces would be employed on the Gallipoli front or in Syria.

Canadians In Artillery Battle; No Casualties

London, Sept. 29—(Montreal Gazette Cable)—Lieutenant Walter Hyde, of Montreal, the first Canadian officer to arrive in London after the British victory of Saturday, is at the Piccadilly Hotel.

He told the Montreal Gazette correspondent that his battery had been engaged for five days previous to the infantry assault at a spot from which no advance was intended to be made, the battery's violent attack being due to a desire to deceive the Germans. The battery's attack culminated last Saturday when it threw 1,500 18-pound shells in eight hours.

Lieutenant Hyde said that no casualties occurred in his battery, although 40 or 50 German shells fell in close proximity to it.

Gold Watch For Richibucto Recruit

Alonzo Johnson, Richibucto, was tendered a presentation reception and dance in the Globe Theatre hall on Wednesday evening, given by his friends in honor of his enlistment with the 64th Battalion.

During the evening Judge H. M. Ferguson, of Rexton, read the presentation speech while Emile Le Blanc, one of his schoolmates, presented him with a gold military watch, which was suitably engraved. The watch was beautifully decorated with hunting, maple leaves and cut flowers. Music by the 22nd orchestra, B. E. Johnson, leader, and Miss Mame Murray, pianist. The party was chartered by Mrs. W. R. Robertson, of Boston. Friends being present from Moncton, St. John, Chatham and Boston.

## ONE GREAT BATTLE WOULD WIPE OUT SUPPLIES ON HAND

Canadian Red Cross Needs Steady Contributions to Keep Up Most Important Work at Front.

If one dollar per head of the population of Canada were contributed as one year's income for the Canadian Army Medical Corps and the Canadian Red Cross Society—our military doctor bill would amount to something like \$8,000,000. This could certainly not be considered an excessive appropriation to safeguard the lives of the 80,000 Canadians in Europe.

The income of the Canadian Red Cross in the first year of the war was far from \$8,000,000—in fact not much over a quarter of it. This revenue moreover could not be used merely as income, that is to say a year's running expenses in an existing and complete establishment. Much of it had to go as capital expenditure, to build and equip field dressing stations, stationary hospitals, base hospitals and convalescent homes. Motor ambulances and hospital trains had to be provided. Doctors, nurses and orderlies had to be transported long distances. Supply depots and warehouses had to be purchased or constructed. In short a very elaborate organization had to be provided at great expense absolutely from the very beginning.

Yet all this achievement may be rendered utterly inadequate by one large battle. In two or three short days the demand on the Canadian Red Cross may be doubled or trebled. An avalanche of wounded can in a moment sweep away tons of supplies which it takes months to accumulate.

These few considerations give some notion of the need for a large Red Cross income. After a year's work we can not rest on our laurels and declare that the Red Cross is adequately provided for. The present Red Cross equipment is adequate only in proportion that the war will be brought to an end without further bloodshed.

On the contrary the only reasonable prophecy is that the war will not end without a great increase of bloodshed. The Red Cross has an enormous task in front of it, and the public should contribute generously so that the Red Cross may be able to cope with any emergency however costly and sanguinary.

GENERAL CURRIE IN LEGION OF HONOR

Coveted French Decoration Won by Canadian Brigadier—King George Invests Canadian Officers.

Major General Currie, member of the Legion of Honor.

It was announced in the London Gazette on Friday, September 6, that the president of the French republic has conferred, with the approval of the king, the decoration of the Legion of Honor on the following officers, in recognition of their distinguished service during the campaign:

Croix de Commandeur, Colonel (Temporary Brigadier-General) Arthur William Currie, C.B., Canadian Forces.

Croix d'Officier, Lieut.-Colonel James Henry Mitchell, Canadian Forces.

Officers Decorated by the King.

The following officers were received by the king at Windsor Castle on Saturday morning, September 9, when his majesty invested them with the insignia of Companions of the Orders into which they have been admitted:

The Most Honorable Order of the Bath (Military Division)—Brigadier-General R. E. W. Turner, V.C. (1st Canadian Infantry Brigade, Canadian Corps, fighting in the battle of the Somme).

The Distinguished Service Order—Lieut.-Colonel F. O. W. Loomis, (18th Canadian Infantry Battalion, the Royal Highlanders of Canada, Canadian Corps).

Lieut.-Colonel I. H. MacBrien (1st Canadian Division Staff); Lieut.-Colonel G. B. Hughes (2nd Canadian Division Staff). The latter has gone to France as commander of the First Brigade and temporary brigadier-general.

COL. SHERIDAN, M. P., OF KENT, GETS SNUG BERTH.

Chatham, N. B., Sept. 29—Colonel John Sheridan, of Buctouche, is no longer a member of the provincial legislature. Prominent Conservatives from Kent, here today, say that he has been appointed Indian commissioner, succeeding the late Archie Irving. The duties of the office have been in the hands of George Hutchinson, of Kent, since Mr. Irving's death, but a few days ago he turned over the papers in his private office relative to Indian business to Mr. Sheridan.

The acceptance of an office under the crown vices Mr. Sheridan's seat in the legislature. It is not known whether he has formally sent in his resignation or not.

Some of the charges in connection with public works in Kent county affected Mr. Sheridan, but the acceptance of this office was regarded by the English-speaking members for Kent from any influence of the royal commissioner's report.

## Father in 26th Proud of Son Who Goes to Bombing Detachment

Wm. Gormley, Sr., Writes of His Son's Departure for France and William Jr. Writes Letter While on Board Transport—New Address of 26th is "Army Post Office"—Brothers Meet on Firing Line.



WM. GORMLEY, SR.

WM. GORMLEY, JR.

Letters received in St. John, including one by Mrs. J. L. McAvity, by the last English mail speak of the departure of the 26th Battalion from their Kentish camp and embarkation at a point on the coast on September 18. Most of the news is that the men were delighted to get the orders to move and while they give no special indication of landing it is since known that they are safe in France. As the letters were all posted before the transport left the English port few of the letters give anything but personal news.

Promotion of his son, William Gormley, Jr., to the bombing detachment of the 26th, is told of in a letter from Private William Gormley, sr., also of the 26th, received yesterday by the latter's daughter. The 26th appears not to have gone all on one steamer to France, as the father did not expect to leave until the day following the departure of the son. A letter from William Gormley, sr., was written on the transport, but mailed on the wharf just before the steamer cast off.

The letter from the father follows: "Well, dear Willie has gone away to France with the bombers, and it is the dangerous job at the front, but he is too smart to live. He passed in everything they put him in and now they say he is one of the best bombers in the regiment, and they are proud of him."

Well, wife, I am going in the morning, but I don't think I will see Willie. He is with all the officers, but I don't think he will go to the firing line for about five weeks more. He is learning to shoot out of a cannon and he don't like it. Well, wife, he did the best of all shooting at the range."

I am sorry to be separated from him, but I am proud of him, as are all the boys who know him. He didn't like to leave me, but he knows we are at war now and he must do his part. I feel that I should not have left you, but I could not stand with my own son going. I thought it was my place, too. Tell my friends to write."

My new address: No. 6838, 26th Battalion, 2 Company, 8th Platoon, 2nd C. E. F. Army Post Office, London, England.

Leaves Wife and Five Children.

Walter White, 103 Campbell road, brakeman on the I. C. R., left this morning for Sussex, having joined the 64th Regiment for service overseas. Mr. White is a married man with five little children.—Halifax Herald.

First Impressions of War.

A soldier's first impressions of a modern battle field are given in a letter from G. Wilnot Campbell to his mother, Mrs. Campbell, 90 Kennedy street. He says: "I have had my first baptism of fire and it was not so bad; I did not mind it at all. I don't mind bullets any more than you would flies. The shells keep whizzing over our heads, but as long as they don't burst too handy they are all right."

"Everything goes on in the trenches the same as they would out of them, and nobody minds it any. You would not think there was anybody in the trenches any time you were in the only person alive, until you commence to move around and see them coming out of the ground."

"Belgium is a desolate looking place, what I have seen of it. Houses and whole towns are knocked down, but the few people who are left here do not seem to mind it. I have seen old ladies sitting knitting in houses that have been half knocked down by shells and are still in range of shell fire. I like to be hit still in range of shell fire, I like to be hit any time you would never know there was a war at all when you look around and see the little children playing almost in line of fire, but nobody seems to be the least excited."

To meet his brother unexpectedly on the firing line was the experience of which Private Charles J. Damery, of this city, tells in a letter to his sister, Mrs. T. Mallory, 66 Chapel street. His brother Fred, who went over with the first contingent, is posted at a place only three miles from him. They are both well.

Thinks We Fight Redskins.

Private Frank Elliott, of Amherst, who is with the 6th Mounted Rifles, writes that when returning by train after a visit to London an Englishman asked him if the Canadians were not continually accustomed to fighting with Indians. He explained that the Indians were a very peaceful class of citizens he said how long the fish was that he caught last summer.

Illusions.

"All right behind there" called the conductor from the front of the car. "Hold on," cried a shrill voice. "Wait till I get my clothes on!" The passengers craned their necks expectantly. A small boy was struggling to get a basket of laundry aboard.—Puck.

"So Here's upset his canoe and spilled his best girl into the lake, eh? How did it happen? Gathering water lilies, I suppose?" "No; you're wrong. He lost his balance trying to show the young lady how long the fish was that he caught last summer."

WOODSTOCK MAN.

Woodstock, N. B., Sept. 28—(Special)—Robert Kennedy, one of the town's well known citizens, died very suddenly tonight at his home. He has been in excellent good health and attended to his duties during the day. After eating supper he laid down on the lounge and remarked that he was not feeling well, and before a doctor could be summoned he passed away. The deceased is survived by his wife and six children.

SWIFT CALL TO.