Chronicles of Cliveden.

Vol. I., No. 16. SATURDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 1918. THREEPENCE.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ... ... MAJOR J. D. MORGAN.

EDITORIAL STAFF ... ... PTE. W. C. PIKE. GNR. A. S. BARTLETT. A./SERGT. BAKER.

Editors may come, and Editors may go;
But the CHRONICLES OF CLIVEDEN go on
for ever.

Beautiful, and original, is it not? Yes, it is - - - NOT! What has happened? Has the Editor had a sudden brain storm? Never in the memory of the oldest reader of this most sedate journal has he shown such definite symptoms of shell-shock! In the heart-searching words of the old song that mother used to sing, "Oh! dear! What can the matter be?"

Can it be the same Editor? Aye—there's the rub! For even after the most casual glance the intelligent reader (and, of course, there are many such among the subscribers to the CHRONICLES) will gather that a change of Editors is suggested. A certain gifted few, possessing that rare power of deduction personified in our old friend S. Holmes, Esq., will no doubt, by now, have concluded that the change is already an accomplished fact. And such is the case, dear readers. Nor could so momentous an occasion be allowed to pass unnoticed. Accordingly, in a few simple, but well chosen, words there follows a short history of the CHRONICLES OF CLIVEDEN. The first number was published on June 30th, 1917. A thousand copies were printed, and quickly sold at threepence per copy. Major Meakins was Editor-in-Chief, the other members of the editorial staff being—L./Cpl. W. C. Pike, Pte. F. Heasell and Pte. E. Baker.

It was decided from the beginning to make the CHRONICLES as much a hospital paper as possible; in other words, the reading matter and illustrations were to be the work of the hospital staff, the personnel, and the patients.

This policy has been followed with but few exceptions. Everyone who is interested in the paper is aware of the success which has been attained.

Though not a money-making scheme, it is nevertheless necessary to "make ends meet," nay more, to provide a small sinking fund. This was accomplished within three months of the appearance of the first number. The price was then reduced to twopence a copy. This has, until now, been sufficient to cover all costs; no single number having been issued at a loss; but times, like Editors, change. Added expenses in printing, paper, &c., now force us to return to the original charge of threepence. We feel that the *esprit de corps* of our readers will keep them with us in spite of this added cost.

Our satisfactory financial position has been due, to a considerable extent, to the generous way in which our friends in the neighbourhood have supported us with their advertisements; we hope for a continuance of their patronage. During the Christmas season a Special Number of the CHRONICLES was brought out. It was sold at sixpence per copy, for the benefit of the Hospital Comforts Fund. The entire issue was sold, and, as a consequence, a cheque was sent to the Fund for £8 12s. 6d., as well as some £2 13s. 6d. worth of Bovril.

The original Editorial Staff of the paper has remained unchanged until the present time. To them is due the credit for the marked success which has been achieved. But change appears to be the order of the day, for during the past week Pte. Heasell (a patient) has left the Hospital, his place being taken by Gunner A. S. Bartlett. And now there comes the resignation of Lt.-Col. Meakins, who, owing to the press of other work, has found it necessary to relinquish his position as Editor-in-Chief. That he does so with regret we have no doubt, for no one can create, and so successfully carry on, an enterprise of this (or any) kind without keen regrets at having to give up his position of control while yet the task remains unfinished.

That this regret will be shared by the numerous readers of the CHRONICLES is equally certain, for all must recognise that it is due to Lt.-Col. Meakins' ability and enterprise that this paper has attained its present highly successful position.

We feel that we are only fulfilling the wishes of all in extending to him a hearty vote of thanks.