

The end was merciful, there was no suffering; this may be some consolation to those who are left to mourn.

Born in New Brunswick, the late Captain Markham saw active service in South Africa. He was one of the original Seaforths who left Vancouver just over a year ago—one of the few officers who came out of Ypres unscathed. The nature of my work brought me often into contact with Major Markham, and if I were to sum up his character it would be in one word—loving-kindness. There was nothing of false pride about him; he was never over-conscious of his stripes. No one ever approached him and was sent empty away. To the meanest private he was considerate and attentive, and among some of us at least, whenever we wanted a special favour, it was a common saying, "Oh, let us go to Markham."

His was a large charity, but although he would often stretch a point when another officer would not, he was always stern and unbending to those who in any way shirked their work. Among his own men—the Signal Section—he was beloved, and that, after all, is the true test of an officer. Assiduous as to their comfort, always giving encouragement, never rebuking without cause, he went about his work "both hands full of gifts," quietly and unostentatiously.

Of the esteem he was held in by his brother officers, I am not in a position to speak—perhaps the crowd of officers around the open grave is the best testimony.

The body was conveyed on the Friday to the Transport lines, and there it lay all night. With the best material at their hand the Pioneers prepared a coffin, and this, covered with the Union Jack, rested in a motor ambulance. On Saturday, 21st August, at 10 o'clock, a start was made for the military cemetery at Armentières, a distance of about five miles. Headed by the band, we walked in solemn procession, the pipes playing "The Flowers of the Forest." The morning was cloudy and promised rain. It began with a drizzle, but developed into a regular downpour. When we were close to the cemetery the clouds lifted, however, and the last rites were said in just a little glimmer of sunshine.