

Field Marshal Viscount French of Ypres

WHEN the whole story of the war comes to be known", said Lord Roberts, "the masterly way in which the retreat from Mons, under vastly superior numbers, was carried out, will be remembered as one of the finest military exploits ever achieved". The man who achieved it was Lord French past-master in the art of war, to whom soldiering was as the air he breathed. It was his contemptible little army of 80,000 men with both flanks in the air, without supports and with its left enveloped by Von Kluck, which retreated sullenly, stubbornly past the forts of Maubeuge, past the forest of Mormal, stemming the German tide which flowed through Northern France, then counter-attacked to hurl the enemy back beyond the Aisne.

