

Indian Troops in France: Sons of the East in the Land of Gauls



During the battle of the Aisne a novel sight was witnessed at the village of Ribecourt when a patrol of French Dragoons met a detachment of Moroccan Spahis. Nothing could better illustrate the cosmopolitanism of the European battles. The French troops are advancing toward the reader. Not long ago this was one of the quaint villages visited by all Torontonians who ever went motoring in France. The ruined gable belongs to a famous little omelet shop.



The gallant conduct of the French Algerian soldiers in the war has already been the subject of special mention from the front. This picture shows a convoy under care of these troops at Frane-le-Port. Note good-humored faces.



These are not the actual Indian fighting men, but a group of their helpers engaged in filling the cartridge belts of the regiment. There are certain things which the dignity of the Indian fighter does not permit him to do.



Note the contrast between the northern French countryside and King George's dark-skinned gentlemen-fighters from India, swinging along the road towards the firing line. The censor forbade publishing the exact whereabouts the picture was taken. The troops have been rapidly acclimatized in France, and in spite of the censor's ban on reports, have been known to have played an important part in several engagements already.