

Verdun, which will ever be remembered as the greatest defensive battle of all ages, showed the culminating point of French military genius, French valor and French efficiency. Verdun is the answer, and how eloquent and conclusive, to the Kaiser, who deluded himself into believing and who dared to proclaim "La France légère"—Impotent France

The more recent successes of France on the Somme and at Verdun have clearly demonstrated that her valor and her strength and her genius were not exhausted at Verdun, as the Germans have proclaimed and as a few of her admirers at one time probably feared. France to-day is unconquered and unconquerable. France to-day is conquering the Germans.

PARIS.

Under the immediate surveillance of the Admiralty and the guidance of the War Offices of England and France, our party composed of all the Parliamentary Delegates from the Dominions and of several members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, was taken over to France, where we spent a week visiting the Capital and the theatre of the war on the Somme and in Picardie.

No words could give an adequate idea of the cordiality and enthusiasm with which we were received by the President of the French Republic and its civil and military leaders, nor of their kindness and magnificent hospitality.

It was my proud privilege, and one which I shall never forget, to be selected to express the fervent thanks of the British Parliamentarians to the illustrious President of the Republic, for the warmth and very apparent sincerity of his cordial welcome; to reaffirm the irreducible resolve of the British Empire and every part of it, to contribute by every means in their power to the common task of crushing forever the mad attempt of German world domination, and to endeavour to convey to him some of the infinite sympathy and unbounded admiration of the British peoples all around the globe for the trials of France and the magnificence of the spirit, efficiency and heroism of her people.

After several large official dinners and receptions, where we had the honour of meeting most of the great men of France, and at one of which I had the pleasure of listening to a most eloquent speech from the Prime Minister of France, and another, also, delivered in French, by one who fought against us in the Boer war and is now a loyal Britisher and member of the Parliament of South Africa; the inspection of hospitals and a visit to the huge and superb aerodrome "Le Bourget", where we saw 120 of the finest flying machines, some of them capable of travelling 140 miles an hour at an elevation of 10,000 feet, we were taken first to Senlis, about 27 miles from Paris. This is, as you will remember, the town nearest Paris which the advance guard of Von Kluck's army reached and the most of which the barbarians burnt, after brutally murdering its Mayor.

ON THE SOMME.

From there we proceeded towards the French front, on the Somme; our first stop being at Compiègne, one of the oldest cities of France and in the neighborhood of which human passions, human cupidity and human ambition enacted so many wide conflicts, in which Romans, Gauls, Normans, Germans and French participated in turn.

We then crossed the Aisne, on a bridge then recently constructed by French engineers, in the place of one there destroyed by the Germans, and