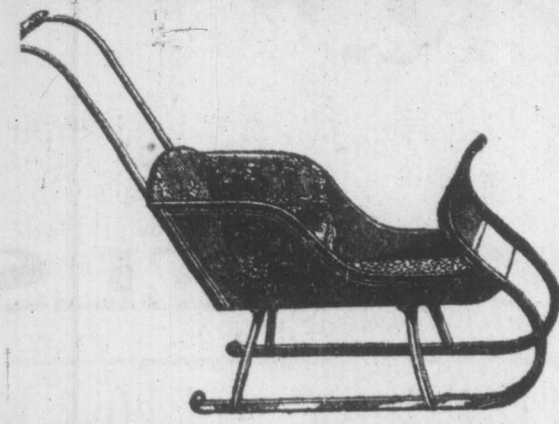
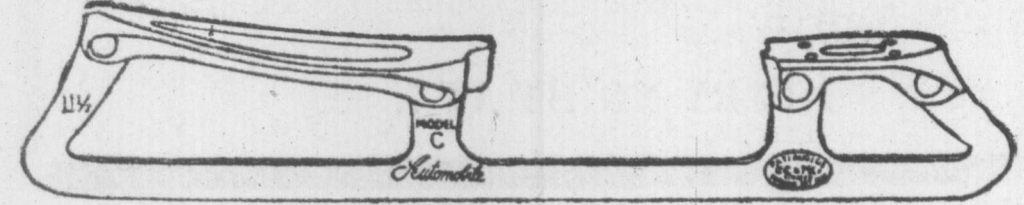


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Stories From The Front

A member of the London Scottish, who was wounded while they were receiving their baptism of fire, gives the following description of their charge:

As we had expected and hoped for, we soon received instructions to take the enemy's position, and with the order "Fix bayonets, Charge!" we scattered across the large beet-field which lay between us and the enemy as fast as our legs could carry us.

A large number, including myself, never succeeded in reaching the German trenches, being victims to the hail of lead let loose upon us, but the remainder, though blown with the sprint over the rough ground, used their bayonets with all their might and main.

Our lines were broken three times, so desperate was the resistance of the Germans, who appeared to be endless in numbers, but our men, nevertheless, reformed on each occasion, and under heavy fire, charged again and again with bayonets already dripping with blood.

At length we took the position, though only — (deleted) of the whole battalion were able to answer the subsequent roll call.

Hero Into Death.

A striking tribute to the bravery of a British officer is paid by Bandman Imeson, of the 4th Middlesex Regiment, in describing the death of Lieutenant Williams, of the same regiment.

"He was a hero," said Imeson, who is in hospital at Barnstaple. "When in the trenches he would expose himself to danger so as to take good aim with his rifle, although we frequently requested him to get under cover."

"His answer was, 'Look at the boundaries, men don't waste a shot; take careful aim so that each shot tells.'"

"It was while he was taking aim that he was shot through the stomach, and later died. His last words were, 'Men, give it to them.'"

Belgians Understood Scotch.

Writing to his father at Cheshire, Harry Eastwick, who is a motor mechanic with the transport section of the expeditionary force, tells an amusing story of how a Scotchman got disgusted at his inability to make a shoemaker understand what he wanted to purchase. He first relates his experience in conveying badly wounded Belgians—some of whom were almost dead—to hospital, and adds that it was "not a very pleasant job." He then proceeds:

There is a joke going round about one of the Scotchmen in our section who thinks he can speak French. Of course the people round here speak Flemish, and he did not know that it is very like Scotch. He went into a shop to buy some things, and, of course, tried his French. After a lot of jabber he gave it up as a bad job and tried them with more English, which only made matter worse, especially as his pals were all laughing at him. So in disgust he lapsed into broad Scotch, when the people immediately understood him.

Used to Cover Retreat.

How he was left alone in a trench and used by the Germans for cover is narrated by Private William Davies, of the 1st North Lancashire, formerly of Oswestry United Football Club. He says:

"During our rushes forward a few of us got a little in advance of our firing line and within 300 yards of the

enemy's trenches, on which we kept up a good fire.

Owing to the terrible din and smoke of the battle we neither heard nor saw an order to retire or advance. My chums on either side of me had been hit. My rifle had become jammed owing to the heat and mud, so glancing round for another rifle I was greatly surprised to find that our men had retired and I was alone.

Just on the point of getting up I heard a shout from the right, and I found a line of German infantry within twenty yards of me. Being without a rifle I merely lay still, but felt very uncomfortable when two of them lay behind me and used me for cover. After a time they passed on, but one had been hit in the throat.

Fight Against Odds.

Writing to his wife at Bradford, Private S. Bennison 2nd Manchester Regiment, now lying wounded in a hospital in Rouen, France, sends a vivid description of a fight in which he took part near a farm against overwhelming odds. The section with which he was engaged was subjected to an enfilading fire while in a trench, and at first thought their own comrades had mistaken them for Germans. There were only 14 men, including the officer, and when it was found that there were 300 Germans attacking them they were told to retire.

"We were just starting to retire," he proceeds, "when the Germans made a bayonet charge. Some of our chaps stopped behind a turning haystack, which wasn't much cover. Another chap and I could not run. We stood and fired three shots each—all we had in the magazines. I know for a fact I killed one German and wounded another. Then we had to drop our packs—except rifle and ammunition—and ran through a burning farm house. The Germans would not follow us, but kept firing after us. A last we reached our company, and later formed up with another company, and made a bayonet charge which sent the Germans back to their own quarters."

Hit in Drain Pipes.

An amusing story of a German who crawled up a drain pipe in an effort to escape after being wounded is told by Private Haseldine, of the 13th Royal Lancers, in a letter to a friend at Husbands, Bosworth, Rugby. He says:

"We had to go off on patrol duty, and soon found plenty of Germans. We dismounted and went on foot. I wounded one fellow, and he fell in an open ditch by the side of the road. By the time I got to the place he had gone up a drain pipe, so I told him if he did not come out I would shoot up the pipe. He begged for mercy and came out, and I took him prisoner. . . . You would have laughed at the German coming out of the drain smothered in mud, and Tommy standing over him with his rifle ready."

"Last Post" in a Bedroom.

There was a touching incident at the funeral at Willey, Shropshire, of Major Arthur Weld-Forester, M.V.O., of the Grenadier Guards, son of Lord and Lady Forester, who died from wounds received in action. Major Weld-Forester was buried with military honors. The "Last Post" was sounded by trumpeters of the Grenadier Guards, who visited the hall, and also sounded the "Last Post" in the dead officer's bedroom.

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1st Nfld. Regiment

Applicants for Commissions for Foreign Service in the First Newfoundland Regiment (Reserve Force) will apply by letter to the Honorary Secretary of the Reserve Force Committee on or before the 15th inst. In the application full particulars of age and record of any service in His Majesty's Forces or Brigade should be stated.

V. P. BURKE,
Hon. Secretary,
Reserve Force Com.

Press Bureau Mum On Loss of "Audacious"

Kept the Affair Quiet So As Not To Depress People—Had Other Reasons

THE "New York World" of Dec 3rd says:

The fact that H. M. S. Audacious which was mined on the north coast of Ireland, has been raised and is now in dry dock at Belfast, which was first printed in the World of last Saturday, was confirmed in despatches received by other N. Y. newspapers yesterday.

In that connection it is interesting to note that as yet no word of the disaster to the big superdreadnought has been permitted to be published in a British newspaper. While all the details are known to thousands in official life and in the newspaper world, the great mass of the British public is in absolute ignorance of either the sinking or subsequent raising of the vessel.

The Explanation.

And this is the explanation given to the writer by the head of the Press Bureau about the middle of November:

"The Admiralty has decided not to permit the facts regarding the Audacious to be printed. Whether I agree with that decision is of no importance, because it is merely my duty to carry out its instructions."

"First of all, the Germans do not yet know that the Audacious has been sunk. It has not been printed in German newspapers and it has not yet been sent out in the German wireless official news."

Keeping It Quiet.

"We do not intend to let it be printed here, because we do not wish to depress our people."

"By the time the Audacious is aloft again and in service we shall have added to our fleet two dreadnoughts of greater power than the Audacious, which are building for the Chilean navy, and which were taken over by His Majesty's government."

"The two announcements will be made simultaneously, and the accident to the Audacious will be then merely an unimportant incident."

"But you know the story was sent by steamer to the American newspapers and that these newspapers will soon be here in London, do you not?" he was asked.

"Yes, I know that, but that is a matter outside of my department," was the reply.

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St. John's, N.F.
March 15th, 1914.

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You are free to make any use of this that you think proper. I feel that I am completely cured and I trust that other sufferers will find the blessing of health again by using your medicine.

Yours truly,
MRS. STACEY.

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THURSDAY, 10th of December, at 6 p.m.

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Gaulois	Pushthrough	Richards Hr.
Francois	Cape LaHune	Ramea
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