

The Battle of Amiens,

August 8th & 9th, 1918.

The Battle of Amiens was the first of the great counter-offensives in which the British armies were engaged during the latter half of 1918. It was launched by the Fourth Army in conjunction with the French on the right, the troops engaged in the attacks on the 8th and 9th of August being the French, on the right, the Canadian Corps, in the centre, and the Australian Corps, on the left.

The primary object of the attack was to free the Amiens-Paris railway.

To Canadians, however, the battle was an opportunity to revenge the sinking of the Canadian hospital ship "Llandovery Castle"—and hence the official designation of the battle as the "L.C. operations."

The country over which the engagement was to be fought was admirably suited to the rapid advance of all arms. A few trench systems of no great strength, only moderately wired, constituted the first obstacle. An advance of 5,000 yards would not only clear these trenches, but would overrun the enemy's gun positions to a great extent. The next 18,000 yards was over a rolling, open country with only one old and disused trench line running through