

IN THE TRENCHES.

IMPRESSIONS UPON RECEIVING PARCELS AND LETTERS.

TO the friends and relatives of Canadian soldiers who send parcels to us it may seem a common occurrence; yet in the life of a soldier in France it is a very marked episode. A parcel at any time is a very welcome gift, but more especially when in the trenches. When the rations arrive the men do not, as you would suppose, first inquire where their rations are, but who has got the mail, and if the senders of parcels could but see the expressions that adorn a soldier's countenance on the receipt of a parcel they would be amply repaid.

Immediately upon the receiver opening his parcel friends gather near, cigarettes are passed around, and anything known as "eatables" promptly devoured. Then, if permissible, cigarettes are lit, and the fragrance of Canadian tobacco thoroughly enjoyed.

Tobacco especially is welcomed by the soldiers, neither French nor English tobacco being very well liked by Canadians.

The parcel from Canada serves a double purpose, for, outside of the material value, it helps a Canadian to know that though he is many miles from home the people of Canada remember him, and have a very deep interest in his welfare while "doing his bit."

On behalf of the boys "somewhere in Flanders," we wish to thank the people of Canada for doing so much to help make life easy for the boys in the trenches.

CHARACTER STUDY OF A "FORTY-NINER."

