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STEPHANO, October 4th. FLORIZEL, October 7th.
FLORIZEL, October 17th. STEPHANO, October 18th.
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HEROIC CHARGE OF THE BRITISH COLD-STREAM GUARDS IN SOLID WAVES

Captured the Enemy's Trenches by Frontal Assault—Held Their Ground Against the Fiercest Counter-Attacks

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE FIELD, Sept. 25.—(By Philip Gibbs).—(Despatch to the London Daily Chronicle).—Some most notable fighting qualities in the battle of Friday were shown by troops who were responsible for the centre of the attack directed against Flanders and the country immediately to the right of that village.

Those who had the task of assaulting Flanders itself were mostly recruited from the London area. They had not seen much fighting before going into the great fire of the Somme Battle. Their General, who raised and trained them, was sure of them, and had taught each man the task expected of him, so that, whatever might befall, their officers the men should not be mere sheep without sense of direction.

Long and Hard Way

When they formed up in the line to the north of Delville Wood with awkward bits of a German trench thrust down upon their flank, they had three lines in front of them, over a distance of about 2,500 yards, barring their way to Flanders. It was a long and hard way to go, but they leaped forward in solid waves of eager men following a short and violent barrage from the heavy guns.

In a few minutes from the start the first two waves dropped into the German trench line, running diagonally from the real Flanders line. They found it choked with German dead, killed by gun fire, and among them only a remnant of living men. The first two waves stayed in the trench to hold it. The others swept on and smashed their way over the shell craters under machine gun and shrapnel fire to the outskirts of Flanders, which they reached between nine and ten o'clock in the morning.

"Tanks" Smashed the Wires

Some of the London men were held up by barbed wire, protecting a hidden trench, which had not been previously observed, and a call was made for one of the "Tanks," which had come rolling up behind. It crawled forward, walked the shell craters, and smashed the whole length of barbed wire in front, firing rapidly upon the German bombers in the trench and putting them out of action. This enabled the whole line to advance into Flanders village, at the tail of another "Tank," now famous for its adventures there.

The victorious troops found little opposition in the village. Curiously enough, it was not strongly defended or fortified. There were few of the tunnels and dug-outs which make many of these places hard to capture, and the Germans were utterly demoralized by the motor monster which appeared as a bad dream before them. They flung a heavy barrage, but the British had few casualties.

Almost a Record Advance

An attempt was made to reach Gueudecourt and some Tanks reached the outskirts of that new objective. The infantry attack failed owing to the massed machine gun fire, and the men fell back to a new line of trenches hastily dug by the Germans before their defeat, which now gave the British useful cover. This was 2,700 yards from the starting point at dawn and was almost a record as a continuous advance.

The Germans rallied and made two counter-attacks, one at three o'clock in the afternoon and the other between four and five. They were tragic attempts. Some of the machine gunners lay in waiting for them and mowed down the rows of men, as they came bravely forward. It was such a sight as I watched at Fosse Farm when solid bars of tall men crumbled and fell before the scythe of bullets.

At 6.30 o'clock the following evening the British troops made another attempt to reach Gueudecourt in co-operation with the men on the right, but they were unable to get the whole distance in spite of a heroic assault after two days' of heavy fighting.

I must tell a little more in detail, the story of the Guards in this battle. The Guards had their full share of fighting and of difficult ground with strong forces against them. They knew that would be so, before they went into the battle, and yet they waited the hour of attack with eager and strong hearts, quite sure of their courage, proud of their name, full of trust in their officers, and eager to give a smashing blow at the Germans. They went away as one might imagine the Knights and Yeomen of England at Agincourt.

For the first time in history the

Coldstreamers, three battalions of them, charged in line, solid waves of them. Behind them were the Grenadiers and again behind these men the Irish. They had gone not more than 200 yards before they came under an enfilade fire of massed machine guns. The noise of this fire was so loud and savage, that although hundreds of guns were firing, not a shot could be heard, it was just a stinging staccato hammering of German Maxim.

"Get at 'em, Lily-Whites!"

Many fell, but the lines were not broken. Gaps were made in the ranks, but they were closed up. The wounded did not call for help, but cheered on those who swept past and on shouting, "Go on, Lily-Whites," (which is the old name for the Coldstreamers). "Get at 'em, Lily-Whites!"

They went on at a hot pace with their bayonets lowered. Out of the crumpled earth, all pits and holes and hillocks, tore up by the great gun fire, gray figures rose and fed. They were German soldiers, terror-stricken by this rushing tide of men. The Guards went on. Then they were checked by two lines of trenches wired and defended by machine guns and bombers. They came up on them quicker than they expected.

Some of the officers were puzzled. Could these be trenches, marked out for attack, or other and unknown trenches. Anyhow they must be taken, and the Guards took the by frontal assault in the face of the continuous blasts of machine gun fire.

Huns Fought to the Death

There was hard and desperate fighting. The Germans defended themselves to the death. They bombed the British who attacked them with the bayonet, served their machine guns until they were killed, and then only surrendered when the British were on top of them. It was bloody work for an hour or more. By this time the Irish Guards had joined the others. All the Guards were together, and together they passed the trenches, swinging to the left inevitably under a machine gun fire which poured upon them from their right, but going steadily deeper into the German lines until they were 2,000 yards from their starting place.

Then it was necessary to call a halt. Many officers and men had fallen. To go further would be absolute death. The troops on the right had been held up. The Guards were up in the air, with their flank open to all the fire that was flung upon them from the German lines.

Guards Held the Line

The temptation to go further was great. The German infantry was on the run. They were dragging their guns away. There was a great panic

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HOME

The dearest word in the English language, next to that of mother, is home.

To the man or woman who, because of circumstances, has been forced out into the world there always come dark moments when memories drift back, carelessly, and cling about the home of childhood.

Such reflections are not always redolent with sweetness. Some of the homes of childhood are not always happy homes, but when the wearied heart, at last finds happiness, when the soul rests in peace at home, the very names become sacred.

There is nothing so filled with content as the home where happiness presides. It may be a simple one, but a kiss will sometimes make a humble meal satisfying and sustaining; it will make a meager repast a banquet.

When man and woman life contentedly together the old theory of bread and cheese kisses is no longer a myth.

When God breathed life into the lungs of Adam, and he awoke in Eden, to find Eve by his side, even in that earliest day of the world's history, to Adam paradise was home.

To the god among his descendants home is a paradise. The first sure symptoms of a mind in health is rest of heart, and the pleasures that can be found only at home.

When once we awaken to the real benefits that home affords we become convinced that our home joys are the most comforting that the earth extends. The joy of parents is in their children, the holiest joy of humanity. It makes the lives of men and women pure and good, it lifts the parents, in the eyes of their children, up to heaven.

When home is ruled according to God's word, declares Spurgeon, angels might be asked to stay with us and they would not find themselves out of their element.

To the young man and woman who are beginning the better part of their life as husband and wife, home becomes, and should always remain, a resort of joy, of peace and plenty, where supporting and supported, friend and relatives can mingle as Nature intended.

The strength of a nation is to be found in intelligent, well ordered homes.

Yes, home is the one spot in all the world supremely blest, a dearer, sweeter spot than any other that may be found, and it rests with us to preserve and keep it such.

Relations Strained to Danger Point

BERLIN, Sept. 25.—For the last week rumours have gained wide circulation in Germany that relations with Denmark were strained to a dangerous point. Similar rumours also had it that Holland was restive and war-feverish. However, a director of the Reichsbank, whose utterances apparently were inspired, announced on the Boerse: "The disquieting rumours regarding our relations with Denmark are without the slightest basis. These rumours were maliciously disseminated in Germany by English agents. Germany's relations with Denmark continue friendly, and there is not the slightest ground for believing they will change in the near future. The same holds good for Holland, regarding which groundless rumours likewise have been disseminated in order to call forth uneasiness."

among them men who had been hiding in the trenches, but the German machine gunners kept to their posts (to prevent a rout, and the Guards had gone far enough through the bullets. They decided wisely to hold the line they had gained and to dig in where they stood and make forward posts with strong points. They had killed a great number of Germans and taken 200 prisoners. So they halted to dig and took cover as best they could in the shell craters and broken ground, under a fierce fire from the Germans.

A Dreadful Night
The night was a dreadful one for the wounded and for the men who did their best for the wounded, trying to be deaf to agonizing sounds. Many of them had hair-breadth escapes from death. One young officer in the Irish Guards lay in a shell hole with two comrades, and then left it for a while to cheer up other men lying in the surrounding craters. When he came back he found his two friends dead, blown to bits by a shell.

In spite of all these bad hours the Guards kept cool, kept their discipline and their spirit. The Germans launched counter-attacks against them, but were annihilated.

The Guards held their ground and gained honor for the self-sacrificing courage which has ever given a special meaning to their name. With the other regiments, they struck a vital blow at the German line of defence.

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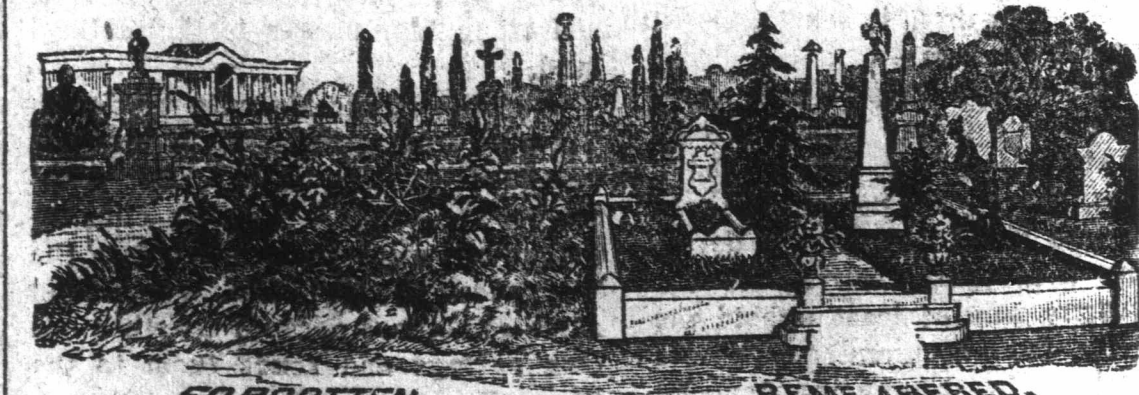
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