Acknowledging Socks.

A N.C.O. at the Front who had become rather embarrassed with trying to suitably acknowledge presents of socks from numerous "Sisters" in Canada, and who was, nevertheless, anxious that the supply should be maintained, finally struck upon the following "Lay" which served both as an acknowledgement and as an intimation for more. With great success he dispatched the following lines to each sender.

THE SOXOLOGY.
(KILO-METRE)

Here are the socks so comfy and white,
　They came with the mail to the trenches to-night.
They were knit by a dear Canadian "Sister,"
　To save my feet from many a blister.

There are the old socks, stiff and wet.
　And stained right through with two weeks' sweat,
They stuck so tight they'd hardly quit,—
　But these of yours are a beautiful fit.

There is the shell hole I fell in tonight,
　When on patrol out there on the right,
There's the old sap with its "gooey" floor.
　Where I sank a good twelve inches or more.

Hum! Here are your socks once comfy and white,
　That I just pulled on so gladly tonight,
Behold them now, all soaked and mucky,
　Their first time on was sure unlucky.

Ah! These socks of your I'll ne'er discard,
　I'll wear them still their stiff and hard.
But if you're on another pair, my dear,
　Then I don't mind how soon they're here.

Holding Down the Hero

Sir Francis Elliott who fills the trying post of British Minister at King Constantine's Court, is fond of telling the following story of the guide who was showing an American gentleman around the tombs in St. Paul's :—

"That, Sir," said the guide, "is the tomb of the greatest 'ero Europe or the world hever knew—Lord Nelson's. That marble sarcophagus weighs forty-two tons. Hinside that is a steel receptacle weighing twelve tons, an' hinside that is a leaden casket 'ermetically sealed, weighing two tons. Hinside that is a mahogany coffin 'olding the hashes of the great naval 'ero."

"Wal," said the Yankee, after a few minutes' meditation, "I guess you've got him. If he ever gets out of that, telegraph me at my expense."