

The Forty-Niner

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MORE DECORATIONS ARE WON BY FORTY-NINERS FOR HEROISM AND SERVICE.

List of honours conferred on members of the Edmonton Regiment since the last issue of this magazine, together with the brief narratives of the exploits for which the decorations were awarded. The cold official descriptions of the heroic deeds of these men leave much to the imagination.

VICTORIA CROSS.

Private J. C. KERR, Reg. No. 101465, who, at —, France, on the 16th day of September, 1916, during a bombing attack, while acting as first bayonet man, when he knew that bombs were running short, and while the enemy were resisting vigorously—although one of his fingers had been blown off at the second joint by a German bomb—jumped out of the trench and ran along the parapet a considerable distance and came into close contact with the enemy, firing at point-blank range and killing and wounding many of them, whereupon, the enemy believing themselves to be cut off, desisted from the fight and surrendered, and 62 prisoners were taken. The action of this man at this juncture undoubtedly resulted in the capture of the 62 prisoners above mentioned and in the taking of 250 yards of enemy trench, thereby making it possible for this battalion to occupy and hold the ground gained in the general attack. Private Kerr then, with two other men, escorted the prisoners across open ground and under heavy fire to a support trench and returned and reported himself for duty to his company commander before his wounds had been dressed.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

Major G. W. MACLEOD, who, at —, France, on the 15th day of September, 1916,

while acting as Second-in-Command of the Edmonton Regiment, went forward into the fight and selected the ground to be consolidated and directed the consolidation of the whole line gained by the battalion, and who, although severely wounded, made his way to Battalion Headquarters and made a complete report on the situation, and thereafter proceeded to Brigade Headquarters and rendered a full report and statement on the situation to the G.O.C., being all the time in open and unknown ground, in the darkness, and under heavy fire from the enemy's artillery, machine-guns, and rifles, and by his coolness, courage, and energy, was a splendid example to officers and other ranks. This officer has distinguished himself on a number of other occasions.

Major J. B. HARSTONE, who, at —, France, between the 15th and 17th days of September, 1916, led his company with coolness and great courage in the attack, and, while out of touch with his Battalion Commander, carried on in seizing points of vantage and in organising and consolidating same, and thereafter assumed command of elements of other units and organised them for the attack, and captured further ground, consolidating and organising the same, the whole time being in open ground and under heavy fire, and by his coolness, energy, and determination inspiring all ranks in the performance of their duty.

MILITARY CROSS.

Lieutenant S. J. DAVIES, who at —, France, on the 16th day of September, 1916, organised an attack of 15 other ranks, including bombers, and bombed down 200