

lowing upon an attack in which we played a small part and through which the Germans lost three lines of trenches opposite us, we were shelled incessantly for over twenty-four hours. Obviously the Deutschers are not in urgent need of a new Ministry of Munitions yet. One piece of shell flicked my ear in the course of its flight, and another portion hit me on the head, which was fortunately hard enough to withstand the shock.

"They also tried to gas us, but it was not a very great success from their point of view. Certainly the noxious fumes reached us all right as they came over in the form of shells, but as the wind was in our favour the gas was blown back to their own lines.

"After the above happenings we lived in reserve dugouts on the banks of the canal for a week, and had plenty of bathing and some boating. We had quite a good time there except that we were sent out digging every night from 8 o'clock until two in the morning. We then had a week further back still, in wooden huts on the edge of a wood and had a delightful time.

"One of the chief annoyances, however, is the number of lice which get into one's clothing and stubbornly hold on to their position as though quite proud of the part they are playing in the war."

PRIVATE GLASGOW, formerly of the Wadena staff, wrote a letter on 4th July, from which the following is extracted:

"Since I last wrote you I have become a bomb thrower (*i. e.* one who casts hand grenades). I like it much better than the ordinary trench work, for we don't have to do any sentry duty at nights—only being used when we are making an attack or else to repel a German attack. We are kept in a separate company and are attached to the brigade.

"We have just lately been moved to a quiet part of the firing line, a most welcome change from the last couple of places we toured in. After being at the front for a month or so, one's appetite for bloodshed and excitement becomes somewhat sated, and when we get a chance to take things easy for a while, no one raises any objections. They say you can have too much of a good thing.

"I like these Belgians very much. They are good-hearted people, and when we are back having a rest in the billets they are awfully good to us. I think I like them better than the French."

LIEUT. V. CURRAN, formerly Assistant Accountant at Winnipeg, writes from England under recent date. While the letter does not come from the field of active operations, it contains items of a certain amount of interest which are quoted:

"As our company happened to be detailed for duty to-day and all men on fatigue, I am able to steal a few minutes for letters to my friends. I thought perhaps you might be interested in a brief summary of our trip. The ocean voyage was delightful and the weather all that could be desired. We sailed on the Grampian, and one of the best evidences that Britannia rules the seas was