

by the battery. We have telephonic communication with the company and battalion commanders in the trenches which we cover, but the communication is usually broken as fast as we can repair it during the bombardment. In that case we resort to signals by way of lights of different colors by night, and smoke balls, colored, by day. Since the end of September we have been fairly quiet, but for the daily artillery duels, of which you hear so much. We were not actually engaged in the attack of 25th September, but bombarded for two or three days and made feint gas and smoke attacks, endeavouring thereby to hold the German reserves in front of us.

"During the battle of Ypres and Festubert, I was in the 2nd Brigade Ammunition Column and was responsible for the supply of small arm ammunition, lights, etc., to the 2nd Infantry Brigade. At the best it is a very 'dirty' job—as the Germans make it a point to shell every yard of road between the trenches and the maximum range of their guns. Many a time we have lost our horses, escaping ourselves without a scratch.

"During Givenchy and since, I have been in the 7th Battery. I was unfortunate enough to have been sent to hospital in Bailleul on 2nd October, where I was kept for three weeks. I had 'trench fever'—a name given to the ailment which is very prevalent among the Canadians during the wet weather.

"We expect to be here all winter, though there is a rumour that we will go to Serbia, but hardly think it. To sum up, we have only taken a fall out of the Germans, single handed, and I think they will let us have a victory some day. The 2nd Division are now holding up their end on our left—my elder brother is among them, while my young brother expects to be sent over shortly.

"I have never heard of Jim Still out here. Do you know when he came over, and with what arm and unit? You, of course, heard that John Low died of wounds received in the attack on the wood to the west of St. Julien, on the night of 22nd April, when they recovered the previously captured battery of 4.7 guns, which had supported us. That was not a Canadian battery as so many believe—but were British guns detailed to support us. They were to our left rear, behind the French Colonial troops who, you remember, broke before the gas."

The following letter from LIEUT. R. E. N. JONES is dated 6th November, 1915:

"We have been busy, as usual, furnishing fatigue parties every day, and the weather has been simply terrible. Our trenches are needing attention, of course, under the circumstances, and Fritz can be seen working away at his just as hard, and, we hope, harder. A 28th officer tells me that, when the usual morning fog lifted the other day, one of his men, who was out in front, found himself a few yards from a German, who said: 'You had better go back, or I shall have to shoot you.' One of our Brigades in this neighbourhood, it is said, during the very bad spell this past week, was not molested while at work on parapets, and returned the compliment, allowing the enemy to work undisturbed and in full view. Is it not absolutely absurd? One would think there was no war some days, about breakfast or dinner time, as not a shot is fired by either side for sometimes an hour or so."