

"The Battle of Dorking"

John T. G. Carr, of Hartland (N. B.), writes to The Telegraph as follows: "I have heard the remark recently that the Germans were afraid to venture into the open sea on account of seaickness. The enclosed (The Battle of Dorking) published some forty years ago in a London journal would seem to bear this out and might be of interest at the present time."

THE BATTLE OF DORKING

I served as gunner's mate
When I was twenty-eight—
That's fifty gano dominis ago;
And our ship which was the "Spanker,"
Was a riding at her anchor,
One Sunday night in August you must know.

I was chewing of a quid,
Which I ordinary did
O' Sundays, for I sort o' think it's right,
When our gunner—Ben's his name—
Did quite suddenly exclaim,
"And his exclamation was, 'Blow me tight.'"

Says he: "My jolly mates,
This here Lloyd's paper states,
As we're going to fight them German
Furriers!"

Whereupon we tars, in spite
Of its being Sunday night,
Stood up and gave three hearty British cheers.

Well, we sailed away to meet
This famous German fleet,
Consisting which there'd been no end
Of law;

For in six weeks they had planned,
And built, and launched and manned
The finest fleet a nation ever saw.

We had cruised about on Sunday,
But about six bells on Monday,
When as smooth as any mirror was
The water,

Right on the horizon
Rose a cloud as black as pison;
"Twas the foe a-steaming down upon
Our quarter.

"Twas all as still as death,
There was not a sigh or breath,
But our Admiral wore a smile upon
His cheek;

The foe was on our larboard,
But right away to starboard
Was a very little tiny narrow streak
Close.

A-ucklin' werry sly,
And a-winkin' of his eye,
Our Admiral gave orders for to run,
And the enemy gave chase,

For the Germans as a race,
Have a preference for fighting ten to one.

At seven we fell a whiff,
At eight it blowed a stiff,
At nine it was blowing half a gale,
But at ten the waves ran higher
Than St. Paul's Cathedral spire,
And my language to describe the same
Do fall.

We kept a 'lectric light
A-burnin' all the night;
But on Tuesday, in the morning, about
Three,

A gunner up and spoke,
"Darn me if any smoke
Is coming from their chimney pots," says he.

Just then we heard a shout,
And our Admiral sung out,
"Send a signal up to wear about and close."

Then fore and aft we ran;
To his post stood every man;
And louder than the storm our cheers
Arose.

We searched them, and took aim,
And the word to fire came,
And our volley down the line of battle
Rosed;

But the Germans answered not—
Not a solitary shot—
But her ensign fluttered down by the
board.

We were speechless werry nigh,
As our comin' was so why,
The sponge they should so quickly
Upwards chuck it,
Till Bismark we espied
Hanging pallid o'er the side,
And Mollie sinking down beside
a bucket.

All their gunners, all their stokers,
Lay as fit as kitchen pokers,
All a-groaning from the bottom of
their soul;
For all the precious crew,
Unaccustomed to the blue,
Invalided when the ships began to roll.

TWO GERMAN SUBMARINES ACCOUNTED FOR WHEN THREE BRITISH CRUISERS SINK

Fighting on land has given way for the moment as a news factor to the daring raid in the North Sea by five German submarine boats, which have torpedoed and sunk three British armored cruisers, the Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue, and in turn lost two of their own number under the fire of the British guns.

Along the battle line in France reports indicate that while the fighting is still progressing no great gains have been made by either side, and that the critical period, when one side or the other is to be returned victor, is still to come.

The Russians are reported to have taken the fortified town of Jaroslau, on the San river northwest of Pzemyel, from the Austrians, and a Rome despatch credits the Montenegrins and Serbians with having captured from the Austrians Sarayewo capital of Bosnia, and several other important towns in the Balkans. The British have repulsed a German attack in their eastern territory, the Germans retreating with losses.

Gen. Louis Botha, the famous Boer general and now premier of the Union of South Africa, has issued a general order to the British operations against German Southwest Africa.

It is reported that the French are again bombarding the important Austrian port of Cattaro.

Lord Kitchener, the British war minister, has approved the proposition for the formation of a Welsh army corps.

Another British casualty list again shows a large proportion of officers among the killed, wounded or missing.

General French has issued a further report on the British operations in France, bringing them up to September 18.

The Hamburg-American Line steamer Spreewald, armed as an auxiliary cruiser, and two German colliers, have been captured by the British cruiser Berwick in the North Atlantic.

It is reported that a vessel of 32,000 tons has been sunk by a mine in the North Sea.

London, Sept. 22, 9:15 p. m.—The daring raid of German submarines across the North Sea, which resulted this morning in the sinking of the three British cruisers, Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy, has momentarily diverted attention from the battlefields of the continent.

This was one of the things which the British navy has been led to expect, for the German navy has quite lately shown that their plan was to reduce British naval superiority by submarine raids and the sowing of mines, and they have been training their young officers for sallies of this kind.

Nevertheless, it came as a shock to Englishmen that big ships such as those sunk could so easily be attacked and destroyed, while the German fleet has been able to remain in safety in its mine and fortress protected harbors.

However, the British fleet must keep the sea to insure Great Britain's food supply, and in doing so, must run great risks.

The ships which were sunk, while obsolete, still were very useful vessels, and it is a little satisfaction to England to know that her cruiser fleet is still double in number than that of Germany, and that, as Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, has said, she will be able to build during the war three to Germany's one.

Meantime there have been no important changes on the battlefronts in northern France. The opposing armies continue to gain a little here, and lose a little there. These gains might tell, in the long run, but have not brought any decisive result for either side.

The French official report issued this afternoon again lays some stress on the announcement that an advance is being made by the allies' left wing on the right bank of the River Oise, from which point both the public and the military experts look for first indications of how the battle is likely to end.

NEW ARMY OPERATING FROM PERONNE.
Although the official reports do not go beyond saying that the Germans have been forced to give ground before the French attacks, and speak of Noyon and the district around that city as the centre of the operations, some correspondents describe the allies' left as extending from just west of Noyon to as far north as Leatrec, from which point, or Peronne, the new army, of which there have been so many reports, but no confirmation, is supposed to be operating, to threaten the German right wing.

If this is true, the German right is in a very dangerous position, for it cannot extend much further north or west of St. Quentin. Its position runs—there is a heavy rain throughout the night of Sept. 14-15, and during the 15th, the situation of the British forces underwent no essential change. But it became more and more evident that the defensive preparations made by the enemy were more extensive than was at first apparent.

"Where our men are holding the forward edges of the high ground on the north side are now strongly entrenched. They are well fed and in spite of the wet weather of the past week are cheerful and confident.

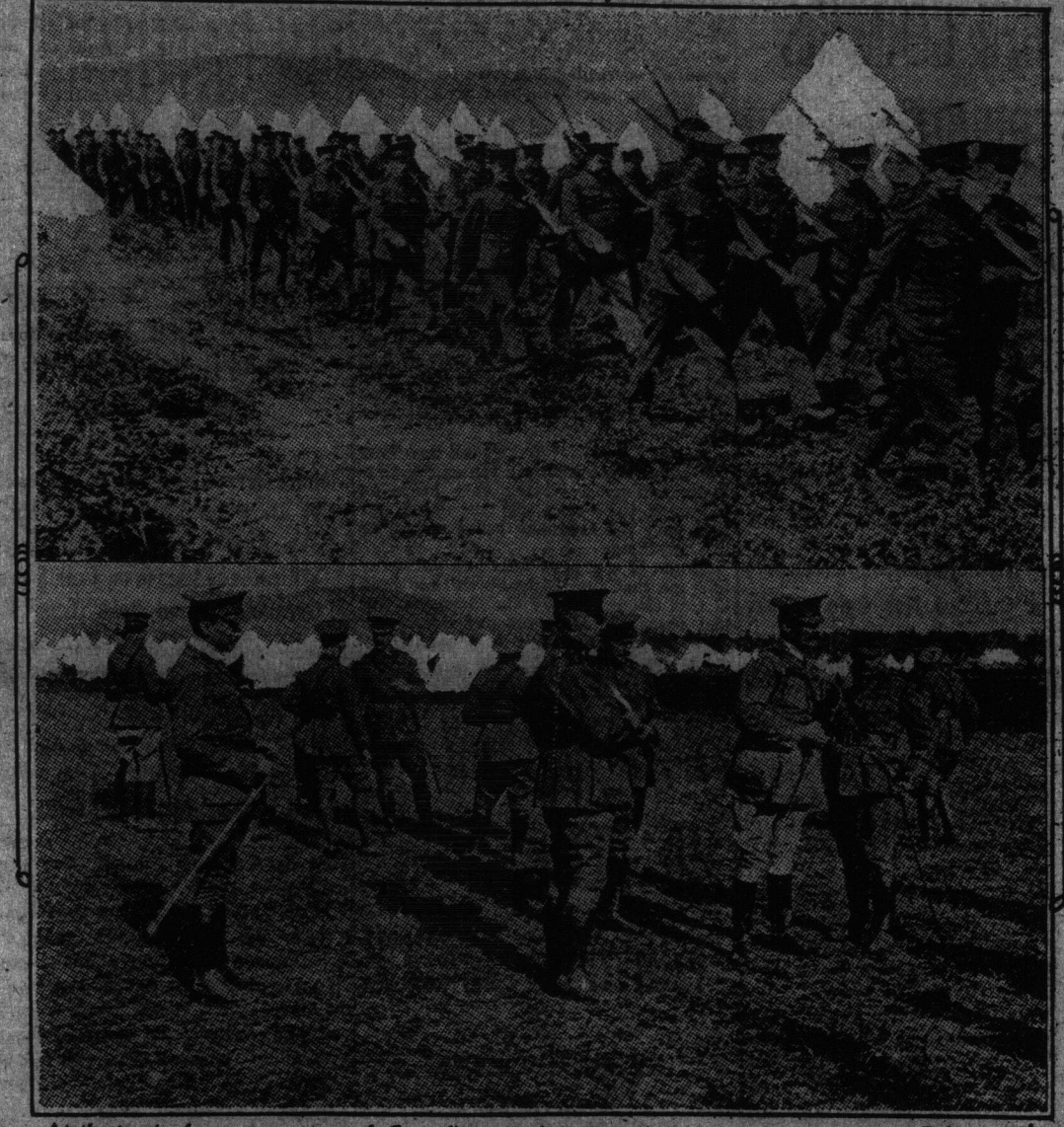
"The bombardment by both sides has been very heavy and on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday was practically continuous. Nevertheless, in spite of the general din caused by the reports of the immense number of heavy guns in action along our front on Wednesday, the arrival of the French force acting against the German right flank was at once announced on the east of our front some miles away by the continuous roar of their quick-firing artillery with which their attack was opened.

"So far as the British are concerned the greatest part of this week has been passed in bombardment, in gaining ground by degrees and in beating back severe counter-attacks with heavy slaughter. Our casualties have been severe, but it is probable that those of the enemy are heavier.

"The rain has caused a great drop in the temperature and there is now a distinct feeling of autumn in the air, especially in the early morning.

"On our right and left the French have been fighting fiercely and have also been gradually gaining ground. One village has already during this battle been captured and re-captured twice by each side, and at the time of writing remains in the hands of the Germans.

With Canadian Forces at Valcartier



At the top is shown a company of Grenadiers on their way through camp to the ranges. Below is Col. Victor Williams the camp commandant and his staff. Col. Williams is the fourth figure from the left of the picture.



CANADIAN INFANTRY COMING INTO THE CAMP AFTER A MORNING'S RIFLE PRACTICE.

FRENCH TELLS OF FIGHTING DAY BY DAY

London, Sept. 22—9:35 p. m.—The following despatch from Field Marshal Sir John French's headquarters of the British army operations up to Sept. 18, was issued tonight:

"General Headquarters, Sept. 18, 1914.—At the date of the last narrative, Sept. 14, the Germans were making a determined resistance along the River Aisne. Opposition, which it was at first thought might possibly be of a rear guard nature, not entailing material delay to our progress, has developed and has proved to be more serious than was anticipated.

"The action now being fought by the Germans along their line may, it is true, have been undertaken in order to gain time for some strategic operation, and may not be their main stand. But if this is so, the fighting is naturally on a scale which, as to extent of ground covered and duration of resistance, makes it undistinguishable in its progress from what is known as a 'pitched battle,' though the enemy certainly showed signs of considerable disorganization during the earlier days of their retirement phase.

"Whether it was originally intended by them to defend the position they took up so strenuously as they have done, or whether the delay gained for them during the 12th and 13th by their artillery has enabled them to develop their resistance and force their line to an extent not originally contemplated, cannot yet be said.

STILL KNOWN AS BATTLE OF AISNE.
"So far as we are concerned, the action still being contested is the battle of the Aisne. The foe we are fighting is just across that river, along the whole of our front to the east and west. The struggle is not confined to the valley of that river, though it will probably bear its name.

"The progress of our operations, and the French armies nearest us, for the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th, will now be described.

"On Monday, the 14th, those of our troops which had on the previous day crossed the Aisne, after driving in the German rear guards, on that evening found portions of the enemy's forces in prepared defensive positions on the right bank and could do little more than secure a footing north of the river. This, however, they maintained in spite of two counter-attacks delivered at dusk and 10 p. m., in which the fighting was severe.

"During the 14th, strong reinforcements of our troops were passed to the north bank, the troops crossing by ferry, by pontoon bridges and by the remains of permanent bridges.

"Close co-operation with the French forces was maintained and the general progress made was good, although the opposition was vigorous and the state of the roads, after the heavy rain, made movements slow.

"One division alone failed to secure the ground it expected to.

"The first army corps, after repulsing repeated attacks, captured 500 prisoners and twelve guns. The cavalry also took a number of prisoners. Many of the Germans taken belong to the reserve and Landwehr formations, which fact appears to indicate that the enemy is compelled to draw on other classes of soldiers to fill the gaps in his ranks.

SURVIVORS SAY TWO OF FIVE SUBMARINES MAKING ATTACK WERE SUNK

Ijmuiden, Holland, via London, Sept. 22—11:26 p. m.—Two of five German submarine boats which attacked and sank the British cruisers Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue were sent to the bottom by the British ships, according to survivors of the cruisers who arrived here this evening.

THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

London, Sept. 22—The British warships Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy have been sunk in the North Sea by submarines, according to an announcement given out by the official bureau this afternoon.

Continuing, the announcement says a considerable number of the crews of these vessels were saved by H. M. S. Lowestoft and by a division of torpedo boat destroyers. Trawlers and their boats also aided in the work of rescue. The Aboukir was torpedoed first, the Hogue and Cressy drew in close to her and were standing by to save her crew, when they also were torpedoed.

The warships Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy are cruisers of the same type. Their tonnage and armament are identical. These vessels had a displacement of 12,000 tons, were 440 feet long, 69.5 feet wide, and drew 26 feet of water. Each one had a complement of 755 men, including officers and crew.

These three cruisers had armaments consisting of two 9.2-inch guns, twelve six-inch guns, twelve 12-pounders and five 3-pounders. The Aboukir and the Cressy were built at Govan in 1900, and the Hogue was built at Barrow in the same year. They cost more than \$3,000,000 each.

SEVEN HUNDRED KNOWN TO BE SAFE.

Harwich, England, Sept. 23, via London, 1 a. m.—It is computed here that 700 men from the British cruisers Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue were saved.

Thirty uninjured officers, survivors of the three sunken warships, arrived here tonight. They had been rescued from the water and wore improvised clothes.

Eighty other survivors were landed at Parkston Quay, three miles west of Harwich.

287 SURVIVORS ON ONE VESSEL.

Amsterdam, via London, Sept. 22—11:21 p. m.—The steamer Feres arrived at Ijmuiden tonight with 287 survivors from the British cruisers sunk by the German submarines. One dead and a few wounded were also aboard.

THIS STEAMER PICKED UP 114 MORE.

London, Sept. 22—6:57 p. m.—A despatch received here from The Hook of Holland says the Dutch steamer Titon has arrived there, bringing twenty British wounded, and some dead, picked up in the North Sea, after the sinking of the British cruisers Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy.

The Titon reported that the disaster occurred at 7:30 o'clock this morning. The Titon picked up 114 survivors, most of whom were transferred to British torpedo boats.

PROBABLY ONE OF SAME CRUISERS.

Lowestoft, England, Sept. 22, via London—3:30 p. m.—It is reported that a vessel of 12,000 tons has been sunk by a mine in the North Sea. Another large vessel is standing by.

BERWICK MAKES CAPTURE IN NORTH ATLANTIC.

London, Sept. 22—9:41 p. m.—The Hamburg-American line steamer Spreewald has been captured by the British cruiser Berwick in the North Atlantic Ocean, according to an announcement by the admiralty tonight.

The Spreewald was fitted out as an armed cruiser. The two colliers carried 2,600 tons of coal and 180 tons of provisions for the German cruisers in Atlantic waters. The Berwick is commanded by Captain Lewis G. Baker.

It was stated also that two colliers had been captured. The total number of German vessels which, according to latest reports, have been captured by British vessels at sea, or by British port authorities, is ninety-two. Ninety-five German vessels were detained in British ports at the outbreak of the war.

Seventy British vessels were held in German ports at the commencement of hostilities, and since then twelve British sea-going vessels, out of the upwards of 4,000 carrying on overseas trade, have been captured and sunk at sea.

The Spreewald is a steamer of 2,214 tons. She was last reported as having sailed from Antwerp, July 12, for the West Indies, and to have arrived at St. Thomas (D. W. L.), Aug. 4.

300 CAPTURED ON STEAMER.

London, Sept. 22—7:07 p. m.—The German steamer Professor Woermann, of the Woermann line, with 300 German reservists on board, has been taken captive and brought into Sierra Leone, on the west coast of Africa, according to information which has reached London.

New British Submarine.
London, Sept. 22—In the light of the distressing news today great interest is now being taken in the possibility of British submarines being able to take revenge.

The new British submarine destroyer of the M class, the first of which, the Murray, was launched at Newcastle, England, in August, are vessels of 975 tons, capable of steaming 85 knots per hour and are equipped to discharge hard-core torpedoes effective against a battleship at a distance of five miles.

The world's most powerful and deadliest naval gun will probably be used by the British fleet in the North Sea if the expected clash between the German and English men-of-war does not come about before the early winter.

In October two new British warships, the Queen Elizabeth and the Warspite, are due for delivery. They mount a new 16-inch gun that is considered the most deadly naval gun in existence.

The British fleet has on duty in the North Sea thirteen ships mounting the 18.5-inch weapon, which has heretofore been without an equal in any of the navies of the world.

The new 16-inch weapon, however, has developed far greater destructive power, and naval experts of the world are anxious to see it in action.

Archbishop's Prayer for British Jackies.
Observing that the attention concentrated upon the British soldiers in the field may have resulted in the nation's thinking less of the "peculiar trial" imposed upon the patience and courage of the British sailors, the archbishop of Canterbury has suggested the following form of prayer to be offered in behalf of the fleet:

"O Thou that slumberest not nor sleepest, protect we pray Thee, our sailors from the hidden perils of the sea, from the snares and assaults of the enemy. In the anxious hours of waiting, steady and support those on whom the burdens of responsibility lie heavily; and grant that in dangers often, in watching often, in weariness often, they may serve Thee with a quiet mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."

"I take this opportunity to repeat what I said at Quebec the other day—that I do sincerely hope that Canada, next spring, will sow double her present area of wheat. There is little hope that this war will be of short duration, and every ear of it will be needed."

KAISER DOING GREAT WORK FOR BRITISH EMPIRE

Sir H. Rider Haggard, whose clamor call to Canada was uttered in St. John during his recent visit, on his return to London, sent the following message to "Canada":

"Like every other Briton I observe with the greatest pride and admiration the ever-swelling tide of Canadian enthusiasm and love. If England and her children stand together thus, who is there that can break them? I wonder if the Kaiser realizes what a great work he is doing in welding the British Empire into one whole, flawless and indissoluble! So, at least, it is.

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