

movement on the enemy's position in the orchard by way of an old German communicating trench, and this attack was made in conjunction with a frontal one.

Little time was available to make dispositions, and as there was no opportunity to reconnoitre the ground, it was very difficult to determine the proper objective; but owing to lack of covering fire, it was undesirable to make an attack on the orchard at that moment, and they accordingly dug themselves in so as to connect up with the Wiltshire Battalion on their right and the Coldstream Guards on the left, and by so doing had gained five hundred yards.

The reserve companies of the 16th Battalion were sent forward to assist in the digging and to relieve the two original companies at daybreak. During the night the 14th Battalion were also withdrawn and their trench occupied by the Coldstream Guards and the 16th Battalion, by stretching out on opposite flanks.

On the morning of the 20th orders were issued for an attack on the orchard that night, and reconnaissance was made of the position by Major Leckie, who is a brother of Colonel Leckie, when patrols were sent out, one of which very neatly escaped from being cut off by the enemy. Another suffered a few casualties.

This showed that the Germans were in full force, but it did not deter our boys, who were as happy as if they were on a pleasure trip to Niagara Falls, but who all realised that they had a hard task before them. But by 7.45 p.m. the Germans realised that the boys from the Land of the Maple Leaf were masters of the situation, for when the order to fix bayonets and charge was given they were at it to a man, and as this charge was practically in daylight the masses of German dead told the story in its true form. Of course, casualties were many, but the Germans were at the least four to one of ours. Our boys were praised highly by the officers and men of the Coldstream Guards, who stated that they never saw a body of troops go forward with such dash, and whose steadiness and discipline were remarkable.

The Germans, although double our number, could not withstand the charge of cold steel, and, as is their habit, retreated to their reserve trenches.