

juncture, the V. corps commander being appealed to, ordered up two Canadian battalions (the 2nd. and 3rd.) then forming part of the Corps reserve into the front line held by the unfortunate French victims of the gas attack.

Yet it was manifest that Turner's left flank was still more or less 'in the air.' The French General, Putz, was doing his utmost to rally his troops of the 45th. division, and prepare a counter-attack in the hope of regaining the lost trenches, and called on General Alderson to assist him. Meanwhile French troops were mixed up with the Canadian left, and while long sections of French were unmanned, others were swarming with troops of various units without direction.

A serious feature of the situation now revealed itself. In addition to the fifty odd guns which fell into the hands of the Germans on the left, four British 4.7s. forming the second London Heavy Battery which had been attached to the Canadian Division and posted behind the French, fell to the enemy. The loss of these guns made it for days impossible to reply to the enemy's heavies which he had brought down from Ostend, and which wrought much havoc among our troops.

That night (April 22nd.) witnessed wild fighting. There was a five mile breach in the British line, which if the enemy had seized his chance might well have been rushed and Ypres would surely have fallen. But he never followed up his dishonourable *coup* and the chance was for ever lost.

They might however still hope to take the Canadian 3rd. Brigade's (Turner) flank, now that it was bent back and unsupported. It was a critical moment. The 13th. battalion (Royal Highlanders of Montreal) and the 15th. (48th. Highlanders) were on the exposed left of the line. To fill the gap General Turner extended his formation to the utmost, and ordered his men to shoot without ceasing as long as they had a round left. Some Canadian guns pivoted around and