

WORK OF BRITISH TROOPS IN EARLY STAGES OF THE WAR

Heroism of the Little Army Which Fought at Mons Can Never be Forgotten—Deeds of Gallantry Have Been Written Indelibly on the Records of British Arms—Seven Divisions Rushed Into the Jaws of Death to Stem the German Hosts Marching to Paris and the Coast.

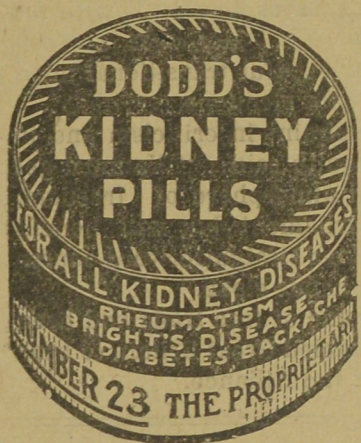
HALO CROWNS .-UTNskdwaf There must be, in the news from France today, more, even than during the last few weeks of stupefying action a thrill of sadness for the British people, not submerged even by the victories of today.

Baubeuge and Mons. What traditions and legends they have left for the soldier man of England in the future! What deeds of gallantry were written imperishably upon the records of British arms in the blood of the dauntless regular army of the tight little island!

Liege and Namur, Louvain and Antwerp probably are better remembered in this country as dark stars of that German hosts. But to those who recall with clarity the dire days when the world was trying to grasp the immensity of the calamity that had befallen it, Maugeuge and Mons stand out like beacon lights—the one recalling the unquenchable valor of the British "regular," all too soon forgotten by the world in the aligning of vast armies drawn from civil life; the other, bearing testimony to the spirituality and deep religious fervor which swept the ranks of the Allied armies as they, even that early, groped with the thought that they were, in very truth, crusaders for the right.

Maubeuge is one of the great fortresses of France. Liege and other strong modern works have been battered to pieces by the Hun great guns, but the professional military man of that day, steeped in the lore of years, could not easily give up his faith in fixed, permanent military works.

So the commanders of that marvelously efficient little British regular army of seven divisions, which was rushed to France to thrust itself into the jaws of death to stem the German hordes, believed that Maubeuge could not hold out. A considerable force of the English therefore, retired upon Maubeuge and as the invaders advanced, became shut up in the fortress. There they held for days. The Hunnish tide swept on and the fortress of Maubeuge was surrounded by the entire German army. At last the handful that was left surrendered. No tale, so far as is known here, ever has come to light of what the defenders of Maubeuge endured or what was their fate after surrender.



The "Angels of Mons" have become one of the traditions of the British service. The little British force, bravely contesting every inch of ground, their breasts constantly toward the foe, fighting grimly in the face of constant retreat, realizing they were being slaughtered and losing their fight despite all they could do, sleepless for days and nights on end, without adequate food or water and with no rest, knowing that few of their number ever would see England again, began to see visions.

They saw bright angels garbed in white, with halos of shimmering fire bestriding snow white horses, and leading the men of England toward safety and glory. When the tale first reached England it attracted little attention, being set down as the vagary of a man crazed by his experiences.

But when it began to come from intelligent men of rank, and from hundreds of sources, it began to spread. London papers made serious studies of the causes which could have led men to see such things. It was variously explained that they had been the victims of an optical illusion, that they had been at least temporarily demented and the religious hysteria endangered by constant facing of death had given rise to mental phantoms and that the whole thing was a psychological phenomenon. It was estimated by the correspondent of a London paper that seventy-five per cent of the private soldiers who had been in the Mons region would have been willing to make affidavit that they actually saw the "Angels of Mons."

The American Duchess

"The Duchess of Marlborough," said a London correspondent, "still looks like a slim young girl. I saw our 'American duchess,' as the English call her, at a charity concert at the Ritz last month with her two stalwart soldier sons, the Marquis of Blandford and Lord Ivor Spencer Churchill, and she looked more like the young men's sister than their mother.

"Slender and graceful and girlish, the duchess still retains all her girlish wit. A patroness at the concert came to her and said:

"Did you know, duchess, we're to have an extra number? Dear lady Constance has volunteered to give us one of her barefoot dances."

"The duchess turned to her soldier sons and said with a smile:

"Didn't I tell you, when I spilled the salt at luncheon that something dreadful was bound to happen?"

RUFFSTUFF.

We are ashamed to spring this tale, And yet we hate to duck it, A fellow gets a little pale Before he kicks the bucket.

—Luke McLuke.

This story, too, so gray wit hage, Your risibles may vex; A man gets nothing when at last He passes in his checks. —Memphis Commercial Appeal.

FAKE APPEAL OF THE WOMEN OF GERMANY

F'ton, 16th Nov. 1918.

Dear Mr. Editor

Late newspapers tell us that women's organizations in Germany are sending plausible communications to leading women in the United States of America in endeavors to have some of them exert their influence with the "men folk" in taking such steps as would modify certain clauses of the armistice. They say they have been starving during the progress of the Great War. Probably true enough, but was not the war Made in Germany? They willed war, hoping it would mean starvation, plague and other untold suffering for all civilized people. But now that "the worm has turned" and "the biter has been bitten" they whine for what they intended to deprive their foes of. Methinks "there's a nigger in the wood-pile." German women are asking women of the United States to appeal for changes in the armistice terms so that more locomotives and cars will be available for carrying food to hungry citizens of the Fatherland. The little saying about "the female of the species" is still perfectly true.

The Allied leaders will not, however, be bamboozled by insincere whimpers of German femininity. The Allies are arranging adequate food supply for needy enemies, and the German women are well aware of this. They also are aware that if the Huns had been victorious no such humane action on their part would have been thought of towards foes of Germany and her weakling war-partners. How did the Kaiser appease the hunger and the sufferings of the people of Serbia, Roumania, Belgium, France, Poland, Russia? How? By taking away even what they had and what little they could occasionally procure, and feeding it to gluttonous and wine-bibbling half-human soldiers in German uniforms, who were privileged to commit offences of the most heinous nature against afflicted populace. And now the villainous Teuton schemers (through their equally villainous and designing women) actually ask their noble conquerors for railroad equipment to transport food to alleviate suffering brought on by their own unscrupulous and diabolical planning, sending their request via the United States of America, whose real power they at last are forced to recognize. Would those railway trains be used as they tell our sisters to the South for carrying food? We will not weaken nor take a step backward in spite of Teuton cunning, even if women do "act" as pleaders. Our Allied Command can take care of the vanquished without suggestions no matter how indirectly they may be offered.

Yours faithfully,

B. E. BRITISH

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We might get fined for pulling this, But still we'd like to note How sheepish even wise guys are When some one gets their goat.

—Spokane Spokesman-Review.

If we get "called" for adding this Charming poetic jool, Or even fired, we hope that we Will manage to keep cool.

—Macon Telegraph.

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WHY THEY SHOULD LEARN TO PARLEY VOUS

(Chicago News)

"What we should do," said the landlady at the Budd boarding house, "is to learn French so we will be able to talk to our boys in the tongue they are accustomed to when they come back."

"Oui, oui!" ejaculated the funny boarder. "Oh, la la!"

"The only way to learn French is to talk it all the time," declared the pretty teacher. "For instance, I might say, 'Jimmy Brown maintenant est a Paris.'"

"Ate a what?" asked the dense boarder.

"Maintaining what?" asked the inquisitive boarder.

"I did not say maintaining anything nor ate anything," explained the pretty teacher. "Maintenant" means now. I said "Jimmy Brown is now in Paris."

"That's too big a word to mean merely 'now,' declared the logical boarder. "Nowadays when paper costs so much and printing is so expensive they ought to take shorter cuts. If it takes that many letters to mean 'now' it must take a couple of pages to mean a word like 'xanthochroi,' if they could do it even then."

"English is the best language in the world to explain things in, but there is still much to be desired," said the boarder in arrears, sadly.

"Now you people are not obeying the rules," said the argumentative boarder. "This conversation was to have been carried on in French. You were saying that Jimmy was in Paris? he continued politely addressing the pretty teacher.

"Oui," responded the pretty teacher. "Il demure dans une petite maison."

"What's he demurring about?" asked the inquisitive boarder.

"Did he join the Masons?" asked the fraternal boarder.

"I didn't say anything about demurring nor the Masons, either," explained the pretty teacher. "Demure" means 'lives' and 'maison' means 'house'.

"Gee, whiz! I thought 'demure dans,' meant hesitation waltz," said the society boarder.

"It's going to be a tough language for us fellows to learn when we can't tell whether a person is talking about a hesitation waltz, a fraternal society or simply a place where a fellow wivies," declared the cross boarder.

"But it's a great, little old language just the same," declared the argumentative boarder. "We need it to order stuff by in the restaurants and for names for laundries and hairdressing parlors."

"Besides," added the enthusiastic boarder, "it is the language of love."

"Then I'm ready for a lesson," announced the romantic boarder, glancing slyly in the direction of the pretty teacher.

PRUNES STILL ON TAX LIST

Ottawa, Nov. 18.—The Canada Food Board announces that the United States food administration has notified the country that all restrictions on the export of dried fruits into Canada, with the exceptions of peaches, apples and prunes, have been released. Canadian importers, however, still require an import permit from the Canada Food Board.

A clergyman says kissing is a relic of the dark ages, and we must admit that much of it is still done in the dark.

Observing the efforts children make to get themselves spoiled, one might almost think that the primary ambition of the human race is to grow up and be hanged.

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