

VIVID PORTRAYAL OF SOLDIERS LOT BY LONDON ARTIST

Eating Breakfast Under the Terrific German Machine Isn't All Pleasure.

SNIPERS ARE ON THE JOB ALWAYS

Underground Nature of Warfare Described—Letter Brings Remarkable Contributions of Stories of the Great War.

London, Dec. 24.—Under what picturesque circumstances men often move forward to the firing line is described by a London artist, a member of the honorable artillery corps, who with the sensitive eye of his craft, tells of his impressions with more than ordinary vividness. His letter is undated, but was presumably written somewhere in Belgium.

"After doing work at over one country," he writes, "we find ourselves in another, with every prospect of having a very hot time, which we have all been praying for. At the last place but two we were digging a second line of trenches and came in for some very hot fire. The next day they caught us as we went to dig in slightly more advanced trenches; and we lay in a small ditch for about three hours with shell and rifle bullets jumping about over our heads and flicking leaves of the stunted willow trees in our ditch. One was quite safe and rather bored, as it poured with rain. I played a game of piquet with the man next me and won two francs, then the rain stuck the cards together.

"The night before last we left at about 3. It was quite pitch black and intensely cold, and snow lay heavily everywhere on fields, roofs and trees as we marched silently through the village and out into a long, long road with a wonderful avenue of trees like Hobbema's famous picture at the national gallery. On we go, hardly able to keep our footing on the frozen and uneven ground, and always, like a tremendous surf beating on an iron shore, comes the booming of guns. Rockets shoot up, leaving a long stream of stars, and showing up the silent country, snowbound and very peaceful-looking, until one comes to a village totally deserted, ruined walls, heaps of debris and great shell holes in road and roof telling their dreadful story. And as if a miracle had happened, there stands the church untouched.

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FREE OF MURDER AFTER 22 YEARS

Joseph Gantt Acquitted of Killing Brother in Pittsburgh in '92.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Joseph Gantt, arrested at his home in Chicago in connection with the death of his brother, Frank, twenty-two years ago in Pittsburgh, was acquitted in that city yesterday of a charge of murder. The indictment on which he was tried was returned against him in 1892. It was found last summer when a doek in the district attorney's office fell apart. Gantt was arrested in September. Joseph and his brother Frank were ex-convicts. Both had reformed and gone to work and were living with their parents in Pittsburgh. One day the police picked up Grand Gantt as a suspect. At the dinner table the following night Joseph accused Frank of returning to his old ways of crime. There was an argument. The table was upset as both brothers jumped to their feet. The lamp was dashed to the floor. The room was in darkness. The mother and father brought another light. They found Frank dead on the floor from a knife wound. Joseph was gone. Gantt is now nearly 60 years old. He insisted when placed under arrest that his name was Frank J. Clark. He worked all over the country the last twenty-two years. He served in the war against Spain, fighting at Santiago as a member of the Fifth Mississippi Volunteers, known as the "Immunes," because none of the men in it contracted tropical fevers. Gantt is married. His wife is a deaf-mute. They live at 2128 West Harrison street. Gantt's last employment was that of a structural iron worker.

THE WEATHER. North Dakota: Unsettled tonight and Friday; probably light snow. Not so cold in east portion tonight. UNIVERSITY READINGS. 7 a. m. —27; maximum —4; minimum —27; north wind 9 miles; barometer 30.47.



The Spirit of Christmas

The spirit of Christmas is the spirit of the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you."

It is the spirit of good will —of mutuality—of co-operation.

This is the spirit that should prevail each day throughout the year and in all the activities of our daily lives.

It is the altruistic spirit—and, crystallized into general daily practice it becomes really self-interest of the highest type.

More and more it actuates our business life as well as our social life.

A Spirit of Helpfulness—a desire to serve is the spirit which actuates the efforts of the newspapers of this city, the best city in the land.

It is our hope that we have been of some use to our fellow men, to our city, to our state and that this spirit of helpfulness will stimulate us to even greater efforts in the future.

A Merry Christmas to All Our Readers

Giant Fork of Human Beings Driven Into Russians at Lodz; Remarkable Movement of Germans Against Czar's Tremendous Army

Lodz, Russian Poland, Monday (By automobile courier to Posen, Prussia, Dec. 23.)—London, Dec. 24.—The capture of Lodz, according to a declaration made by General Von Hindenburg, German commander, to a correspondent of the Associated Press, was the turning point of the campaign in Poland. The Russian lines in northern Poland retired on this city for the possession of which there occurred the most bitter struggle of the entire war in this front.

After the Russians, following the most obstinate resistance on their part, were forced to evacuate the town, a general Russian retirement in the direction of Warsaw became necessary. Under the guidance of Major Von Holleben, cousin of the late Baron Von Holleben, who at one time was German ambassador to the United States, the Associated Press correspondent today visited some of the battle fields in the vicinity of Lodz and gained an idea of the nature of operations which led to the capture of the city.

Attack Made From North. According to the general alignment of the Austro-German

forces, they might have been expected to advance from the west. As a matter of fact, the attack was made decidedly from the north and northwest.

They drove their columns into the Russians in the form of a huge pitchfork, with another large force between the tines of the fork.

It looked for a time as if the Russians would be forced to retreat. If retreat at all was possible in the face of the gigantic enveloping movements by the Germans in the direction of their Warsaw base.

Break Force of Attack. The intention was to drive the Russians into the arms of the large Austro-German forces massed to cut off their retreat, but the timely arrival of Russian reinforcements from Warsaw resulted in breaking the easternmost line of the German fork, relieving the situation for the Russians.

Brilliant Military Feat. In one of the operations around Lodz the celebrated "cutting off" of two German corps, which, after being entirely surrounded by the rapid advance of the Warsaw reserves, turned and cut their way

out, and brought with them 12,000 of their would-be captors. The scene of this exploit, which members of the general staff characterized as one of the most brilliant of the war, was the town of Strykow, 10 miles to the north-east of Lodz.

Know How to Fight. About the same distance from Lodz is located the little churchyard of Beschni, where the Russians, in one of the final phases of the struggle for Lodz, showed that in spite of defeats and discouragements, they knew how to fight and die.

The churchyard lies on a small eminence which formed a salient into the German lines. The Germans were able to make the attack from three sides with infantry and artillery. All Russian trenches were enfiladed by shrapnel from one direction or another, but the Russians clung to their positions obstinately.

Find 878 Russian Corpses. When the Germans finally captured the trenches, 878 Russian corpses were found in a space about 80 yards square. It was resistance of this nature which the Germans had to overcome to capture Lodz.

The Russians again are offering obstinate resistance, as was learned from the German staff officers, along the Bura and Rawka rivers, on their positions running north and south, along a line 30 to 35 miles west of Warsaw.

Headless to Fire. A captured Russian officer said what impressed him and his men most was the Prussian "anarchy," silent advance of German troops, assault by line after line of dark fixtures moving toward the Russian position like wavelets of a rising tide, and their utter headlessness of Russian fire which appeared to be wasted on them.

The Russians saw men fall, but the gaps were filled instantly by others from the rear line, and the advance keep on.

"VAGS" UP AGAINST IT.

"Work on Ice Fields or Go to Jail," is Kenosha Ultimatum. Kenosha, Wis., Dec. 24.—"Work on the ice or go to jail as vagrants." This was the final order to the "chronic" dependents of Kenosha today. A week ago the Consumers Ice company took up the proposition of employing Kenosha labor to work on the ice fields. More than 450 men have been employed.

HOSTILE AVIATOR HURLS BOMB INTO DOVER; FIRST AERIAL ATTACK MADE ON ENGLAND; WARSAW REPORTS VICTORY

Dover Castle Evidently the Object of Attack in Raid This Morning Which Was Aided by Heavy Fog—Aviator Made His Escape.

TERRIFIC BATTLE IN THE EAST RAGES WITHOUT LULL ON EVE OF CHRISTMAS; LITTLE CHANGE IN POSITIONS

That is Indicated in Various Official Reports Today—French Battleship Torpedoed But the Damage is Only Slight.

Petrograd—Heavy German defeat reported Warsaw

London, Dec. 24.—A hostile aeroplane dropped a bomb over Dover this morning and then disappeared, according to a statement issued by the official press bureau.

The text of the statement follows: "An aeroplane of the enemy dropped a bomb while passing over Dover this morning. The missile fell in a garden and exploded, but no damage was done.

"The aeroplane was seen for a few seconds only. It left immediately, passing out over the sea. The British aeroplane went up, but did not see the enemy again.

"The weather was foggy."

This German raid from the air on Dover is the first news of an authentic character of any hostile aircraft visiting Great Britain. The machine came from the direction of Deal, flying very high. It was sighted from Dover until it suddenly emerged from the clouds. Apparently Dover castle was the objective of the raid, as the bomb thrown from the aeroplane fell at the rear of St. James's rectory, which is located directly in front of the castle. Windows of the rectory and several houses were broken.

Although accounts vary as to the present status of military affairs in Poland, it is evident that the zone of heaviest fighting has shifted southward from Soczew, a town on the Bura river, 30 miles from Warsaw, toward which Germans for several days have directed their principal efforts.

The Austro-German forces operating from the Cracow base are attempting to push northward into Poland. In this effort, however, they are meeting with determined resistance from the Russians. A semi-official statement from Petrograd says that Russian successes in Galicia continue, and that in the Carpathians the Austrians have been thrown back.

Another sortie by the garrison at Przemysl, which long has been under attack by Russians, is said to have resulted disastrously for the Austrians.

Heavy fighting continues in France and Belgium, but thus far the renewed activities have accomplished little, neither side being able to drive the other from strongly fortified positions held so long.

London, Dec. 24.—Christmas eve finds little change in the underground warfare now being conducted in the western war theater, where General Joffre, commander in chief of the French armies, still appears to be cautiously feeling for an opening in the strongly entrenched German line, across France and Belgium.

In the east the supreme German effort continues to be made before Warsaw, where forces of the German, with the center of the Russian seeking to check them, sway back and forth along the banks of the rivers, barring the way to the Polish capital.

The Russian claim successes in these encounters, but during the last ten days the Germans have advanced appreciably, and it is said they are now bringing up their 42 centimeter guns preparatory to siege operations.

In Galicia the Austro-German forces still have made no further progress, while in the north the Russians are reported to have pushed the Germans further back into East Prussia.

BERLIN SAYS FEW ATTACKS ARE DELIVERED.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—The official communication issued by the German headquarters says in part: "The enemy did not renew his attacks in the neighborhood of Neuport yesterday. At Bixchoote, we took 230 prisoners on December 22. The enemy was again active yesterday in the neighborhood of Chalons. Infantry attacks followed fierce artillery attacks made by the enemy."

SLIGHT SUCCESSES CLAIMED BY FRENCH.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The French official statement, issued this afternoon, recites a series of French successes of apparently minor importance from the sea of the north to the frontier of Alsace on the south. The locations where the French troops gained advantage are given as Lys, in the region of the Alsace, near Champagne, near Perthes in the Argonne, in the forest of Apremont, also near St. Die. Fog prevented fighting near Arras and Verdun. There have been artillery activities southeast of Amiens, near the Villa Sur Torbe, and also in the forest of Apremont.

FRENCH SHIPS TORPEDOED; SLIGHT DAMAGE.

London, Dec. 24.—An official statement issued in Paris late today says that the Austrian submarine torpedoed a French battleship in the Gulf of Otranto. The battleship was damaged only slightly. No one was killed. The Gulf of Otranto is in the Adriatic, at the southern end of Italy.

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PORTUGAL FAVORS ENTERING THE WAR

Lisbon, Dec. 24.—The Portuguese chamber yesterday voted favoring preparations for Portugal joining England in the war against Germany. The whole was taken immediately after the announcement by the colonial secretary of another attack by the Germans upon the Portuguese province of Angola, in Africa.

BLEASE FREES 16 AS XMAS GIFT

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 24.—Governor Cole L. Blease gave Christmas presents to 16 convicts by granting them paroles. Nine were serving terms for manslaughter. More pardons are expected to come.

PETROGRAD MAKES SOBRIETY RECORD

Petrograd, Dec. 24.—For the first time in the history of Petrograd, four consecutive days have passed without an arrest for drunkenness, notwithstanding these days included two Russian holidays and Sunday. This is one of the results of the recent governmental order forbidding the sale of alcoholic liquors.

WOULD CONSOLIDATE SCHOOLS.

Grafton, N. D., Dec. 24.—Petitions were sent out from the county superintendent's office during the week for the consolidation of school districts. No. 39, 94, 49 and 41, with district No. 64, which is the Conway district. If the consolidation is carried out it will include all of Eden township and part of Oge township.

TO RESUME HER WORK IN MEXICO

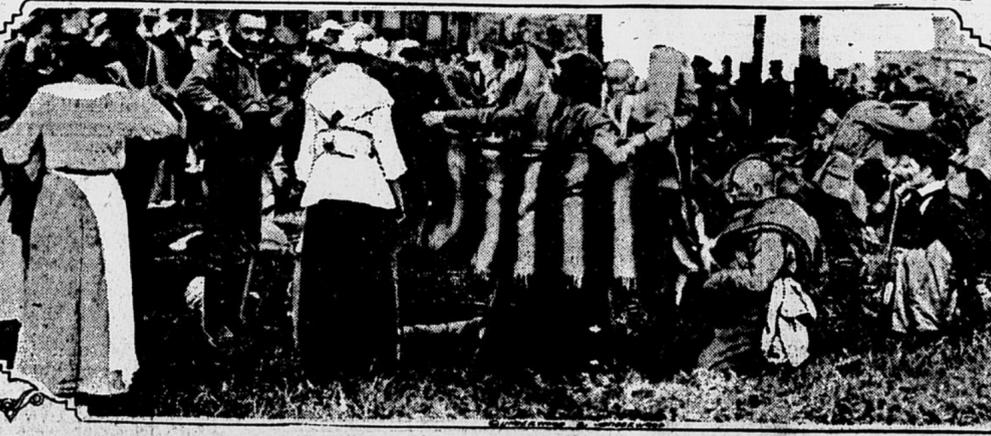
Miss Dora Gladden Will Go Back to Her Post in the Southern Republic

Miss Dora Gladden, formerly of Grand Forks, who has been engaged in mission work in Mexico for several years, but who has been in the United States for several months because of disturbed Mexican conditions, will return to her work in that country very shortly.

Miss Gladden goes to the mission school where she was engaged at the time the United States took a hand in the situation by seizing Vera Cruz. In a letter to Mrs. E. Hayward of this city, Miss Gladden says she has been kept out of the school through the heroic work of a Miss Temple, one of the mission workers, and among the missionaries she is regarded as somewhat of a heroine because of her success.

Miss Gladden expects to return to her Mexican work by way of El Paso, being at present at Chula Vista, Cal., visiting her mother. School resumes at the Mexican mission January 7, and Miss Gladden will be there then.

HERE'S SCENE IN WARSAW AS GERMAN FORCES APPROACH THE POLISH CAPITAL



This photo, just received from Warsaw, shows wives, sweethearts, sisters and mothers with the Russian soldiers who are gathering their armaments in preparation for the supreme struggle which will take place when the Germans attempt to take the city.