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The splendid work of the British Army.

London: Parliamentary Recruiting Committee, 1914

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The
Splendid Work
OF THE
British Army.

“It is pleasant for me to be able to tell you that every officer returning from the front has the same account to bring me:

**‘The men are
doing splendidly.’”**

LORD KITCHENER

at the Guildhall, 9th November, 1914.

“The men are doing splendidly”—the men at the front. Wherever news of the British Expeditionary Force comes from—whether from the letters of men in the ranks telling about the brave deeds of their comrades, or from the reports of their officers, or from their Commander-in-Chief, Sir John French—it tells again and again the stirring message: **“The men are doing splendidly”**—the men at the front.

Have you read those thrilling passages in Sir John French’s despatches about the splendid fighting of our men in the long battle for the road to Calais? The Germans had been ordered by the Kaiser to break through the British lines at any cost. They paid the

cost, but they failed in their purpose. Why? Just because the British soldiers, true to their glorious traditions, held their ground against terrific odds and kept the enemy at bay.

Here are some glowing tributes to their work during that battle taken from Sir John French's Despatches:—

“No more arduous task has ever been assigned to British soldiers; and in all their splendid history there is no instance of their having answered so magnificently to the desperate calls which of necessity were made upon them.”


“It fell to their lot (**the Cavalry Corps**) at a time when they had been much weakened by constant fighting, to oppose the advance of two nearly fresh German Army Corps for a period of forty-eight hours pending the arrival of a French reinforcement. Their action was completely successful.”

“The enemy's principal efforts since the 1st November have been concentrated upon breaking through the line held by the First British and Ninth French Corps, and thus gaining possession of the town of Ypres. From the 2nd November onwards the 27th, the 15th, and parts of the Bavarian 13th and 2nd German Corps, besides other troops, were all directed against this Northern line. About the 10th instant, after several units of these corps had been completely shattered in futile attacks, a division of the Prussian Guard, which had been operating in the neighbourhood of Arras, was moved up to this area with great speed and secrecy. • They took a leading part in the vigorous attacks made against the centre on the 11th and 12th, but, like their comrades, were repulsed with enormous loss. Throughout this trying period Sir Douglas Haig, ably assisted by his Divisional and

Brigade Commanders, held the line with marvellous tenacity and undaunted courage. Words fail me to express the admiration I feel for their conduct, or my sense of the incalculable services they rendered. I venture to predict that their deeds during these days of stress and trial will furnish some of the most brilliant chapters which will be found in the military history of our time."

Well may officers report: **"The men are doing splendidly"**—the men at the front.

But what of you men still at home— you men who are eligible (that is physically fit and between the ages of 19 and 38) to join the King's Army, and have not yet done so? Is it not time that you, too, made a stir to win some share in that glorious tribute of praise — "The men are doing splendidly"? Perhaps you have not realised how urgent is the country's need for your services. Well, the man who knows best about that is LORD KITCHENER. He says:—



"I shall want more men and still more until the enemy is crushed."

There is no time for delay. "Those who are declining to place their services at the disposal of their country are prolonging their country's agony," one of our

great statesmen has said. Make up your mind to do **your** part at once to escape that charge.

You do not want to "prolong your country's agony."

You want to see this job finished.

You want to share the glory of making a sacrifice for your country.

You must share in the great task of making your own home safe against the devastation of a barbarous militarism.

How can you do it? **By joining the Army to-day so that you may get the necessary training which will equip you for efficient service when your turn comes.**

The enemy knows that the British forces at the front are "doing splendidly." Let him hear that **in Recruiting for the New Army the British forces at home are also "doing splendidly."**

Read about the splendid work of the British Army at the front and make this your resolve:—

I will do likewise.