

TITANIC STRUGGLE AROUND CHARLEROI AND MONS TOLD FROM ALLIES' SIDE

(Special cable to "The Chicago Tribune" from a correspondent whose information was obtained from British and French sources.)

Boulogne.—When the history of the tremendous struggle in the neighborhood of Mons and Charleroi—a titanic combat lasting five days—is written the historian will pen perhaps the most glorious chapter which has ever been or ever will be added to the history of British and French arms.

When in the course of time we are able to weigh up all the features of that stupendous combat, in which were locked the vast stern forces of Prussian military autocracy and the pick of British and French military strength, the forces of freedom; when we know the gain and loss the tragedy and heroism of it all, there will shine resplendently forth a stirring story of martial glory which will make it matter but little which way the advantage went.

Gathers Story From Soldiers.

From the lips of those who took part in it, from the wounded out of the battle of giants, from the refugees who fled from their blurred and blackened homesteads and their villages devoured by fire and shattered by shell, I have during the last two days heard enough to be able to piece together the story of a struggle which dwarfs all the decisive battles of the world.

It was a fight against the finest cohorts of the kaiser, endeavoring to crush their way through the allies' lines by sheer weight of numbers, aided by all the strength of the artillery that could be brought into action.

Meets the British Wounded.

(Here the correspondent takes up his story of a meeting with the British wounded.)

It was all so quietly said I could not help casting my eyes again over the trim, khaki-clad figure of the little soldier who had come through that ghastly ordeal, come through it to tell me in a few short hours afterward that he was eager to be with the forces at the front again. "And," he added, "I shall have to go to England without a cap. A shrapnel bullet knocked mine off in the darkness."

I turned to his companion. "Yes," he said, "that's the story. It was the first time the German artillery really got at us. As a rule, their big gun fire was mighty poor, though they did go in for quantity. In the trenches we used to watch the German gunners trying to hit conspicuous parts of Mons, and every time they missed we gave them a cheer which they could hear."

Work of the Artillery.

"They are not shots, either. It was really astounding what they could miss. I think we can beat everybody at marksmanship."

"And the British artillery?" I asked. "Why, it was magnificent. If there had only been more of it. But there the Germans got us. As it was, it was perhaps a good deal more than they ever expected."

"On one occasion—I think it was late on Monday—we held a position about 500 or 600 yards from the German lines. We could see them quite clearly. They were mostly standing up. Fresh troops, I think they were, being brought up for another attack."

"The order was given us to fix bayonets. It was evidently to be a charge—the thing we especially had been waiting for. In the sunlight our bayonets flashed and we waited for orders."

Hail of Bullets Comes.

"The Germans must have seen our bayonets flashing, for they went down on their faces. If there is one thing they fear it is a bayonet attack. There developed suddenly a hail of bullets and the order to charge did not come."

"We retired a little way after that and before night fell advanced to much the same position again. Just as darkness came we could see the ground well in front of us simply littered with German dead. It cost us a lot, too."

"At one time early next day we got within a couple of hundred yards of their dead. I am sure we must have nearly wiped out those in front of us."

Fight Rages Furiously.

From others I have gathered how furiously for days the fight raged against the French forces on the right of the British. The English soldiers speak in highest praise of the coolness under fire of the French infantry.

In the end, however, the fierceness of the successive onslaughts was too much for the exhausted French troops, against whom the ever-fresh forces of the enemy were hurled. It was here, indeed that the long encounter was really decided. Gradually weight told—weight of regiments and of artillery.

With magnificent heroism the men held their positions. If they gave a yard the enemy bought it at tremendous cost. But they were ready and prepared to pay it, and pay it they did.

The final order to retire came. Slowly the French positions on the right of the British were given up throughout Tuesday.

700 Held Back 5,000.

London.—A British correspondent from Boulogne writes:

It has taken the British expeditionary force just four days to shatter the illusion which has been drummed into every German that the fighting qualities of British troops are negligible beside the mighty race whose business is war.

The uhlan is at least a wiser man

today. He has found that breaking a British line of steel is not such easy work as harassing a countryside shorn by murder of its men folk.

German cavalry, estimated to number 5,000 men, may have overwhelmed a little British force of 700 which was hourly awaiting relief, but not before its own ranks had been sadly thinned, nor yet without having recourse to the base expedient of mounting quick firers in Red Cross wagons.

Supporting Force Falls.

It was not for the 700 to reason why. The supporting force never appeared. They just stood their ground to a man, and it seems that only 300 remain. When all was lost there ensued no *saute qui peut*. Calmly harassing their pursuers with a murderous fire, all that was left of them retreated with the wounded of the convoy intact.

It is a simple story, a last stand one, that should thrill every British heart. On Wednesday morning British troops had taken up a position slightly in the rear of the town (censor forbids name of town) upon high ground. On the extreme right of a semi-circular position were two high guns of garrison artillery.

At first these found an excellent range, dealing death by wholesale to the invaders, who were some miles away. Then with the steady German advance the range was lost toward 1 p. m.

Position Becomes Critical.

The fight had begun at 11:30 a. m. The position became critical for the heroic British defenders. As every vital minute slipped by anxious eyes looked back for the promised help that was never to come.

Even at a terrible disadvantage—at least ten to one infantry and artillery—the artillery was holding its own, when hordes of uhlands seemed suddenly to sweep down through the town. They galloped, with amazing disregard for themselves, on to the very muzzles of the enemy's field guns.

There must have been 3,000 of them here alone. A survivor tells me (the correspondent):

"The last I saw was one of our officers holding a revolver in either hand, firing away, screened by the guns. He alone must have accounted for a dozen uhlands. They were falling on all sides of him."

Towards 2 p. m. the 300 gallant survivors, the majority of them wounded, began to fall back. They reached a safe position by nightfall.

Keep Up Continuous Attack.

The uhlands kept up a continuous attack, and at midnight two hostile airmen began dropping bombs on the British camp, but fortunately without causing its destruction. Perhaps I may be permitted to give verbatim the following eloquent summing up from a gunner who was shot in both legs:

"They won't be so cocksure the next time we give them hell."

I have been able to gather details of severe engagements in which British troops were concerned. On Wednesday morning at 6 o'clock detachments 3,000 strong bivouacked after a forced march of 17 miles. Through lack of air scouts (I am asked to emphasize this point) the exact position in the neighborhood of hostile troops in superior numbers was misjudged.

Leave Wall of Dead.

Within an hour with the uhlands leading the way, the Germans swarmed down on our fatigued men, approaching within 50 yards. With the quick firers the British position, however strong, and the Germans were repulsed, leaving a wall of dead.

By all accounts the German plan of campaign is being carried out regardless of human life. The German artillery fire is spoken of as deadly, but the infantry is beneath contempt.

After repulsing attack after attack and not suffering considerably, the British force was able to select and save a base five miles distant. That the attacking force was more or less crippled is clear, for they made no effort to follow up their opponents.

Lauds Conduct of French.

An Amiens dispatch to the Daily Chronicle says:

"The French retirement before the German horde advancing from Namur down the valley of the Meuse was masterly. The Germans won their way at a cost in human life as great as in defeat; yet they won their way."

"For France that retirement is as glorious a story as anything in her annals."

"It was nearly a fortnight ago that the Germans began concentrating their heaviest forces on Namur, pressing southwards over the Meuse valley. After the battle of Dinant the French army was heavily outnumbered and fell back gradually in order to gain time for re-enforcement to come to its support."

"The French artillery was posted on the heights above the river and swept the advancing Germans with a storm of fire. On the right bank the French infantry was entrenched, supported by field guns and mitrailleuses. The infantry did deadly work, holding the positions with great tenacity and dropping back only to occupy new positions just as doggedly."

"The fighting extended for a considerable distance on both sides of the Meuse, and many side line engagements were fought by the cavalry. There was a memorable encounter near Metzleres which was evacuated last Monday the French taking up magnificent positions commanding the town and bridges."

FEW MISTAKEN IDEAS IN RAISING DUCKS



Pure-Bred Indian Runner Ducks, the Kind That Require but Little Water and Stand Up Well on Their Legs.

(By ANNA GALIGHER.)

We have raised ducks for a number of years and find that they are easy to raise when one knows how, but it is safe to say that not more than one poultry raiser in every five thousand thoroughly understands duck raising.

Few beginners stay with the business long enough to learn. They start in by guess, so to speak, and give up in disgust, at the end of the first season.

Some people try to raise ducklings on whole wheat, cracked corn, etc. Others insist that ducks of all ages must have a swimming pool. This is all wrong.

Begin by providing good shelter for the ducklings before they are hatched. The houses need not be very expensive, but they must have good roofs and floors. Colony houses are best because it is not advisable to keep large numbers together.

If ducklings of different sizes are kept in the same yards, the smaller ones are sure to suffer.

Never keep more than 35 young ducks in the same house. If the houses are very small 15 will be enough. But when building the duck houses it is a good plan to have them built large enough to be used for sheltering the layers in the winter, if necessary.

Ordinary coops, such as those used by the average farmer for a "hen and chickens," have no place in the duck-raising business. Such coops can neither be kept dry or clean. Needless to say they are not suitable for any other poultry. In cool, damp weather they are little short of death traps.

Have a separate yard for each lot of ducklings. If they are to have free range after the first few weeks, the yards need not be very large. The ducklings cannot fly, therefore, it is not necessary to have high fences. Poul-

try be no roop among your ducklings, providing other conditions are right.

Neither the Pekin nor the Indian Runner ducks require a stream or pond to swim in. A great many people insist that ducks of all kinds require a swimming pool. Right here is where they "fall down."

In case there is no pond at hand, a substitute is forthwith provided. An excavation is made in the ground and then filled with water; and often no other water is provided.

It soon becomes a foul puddle, and the result can be imagined. Of course the ducklings soon begin dying off, and continue to do so until few, if any, are left.

Ducks are naturally very healthy. If properly cared for they will be free from disease and will grow very fast. They never have lice.

However, it is not advisable to keep ducks and other poultry together. Not even with geese. In fact two varieties of ducks will not thrive when put together. If Pekin and Indian Runner ducklings are fed together, the latter will be sure to get the worst of it, and it is the same with the older birds.

All varieties of ducks require about the same kind of food, but some require more than others.

The Pekin is a market duck, while the Indian Runner is usually raised for egg production.

However, there are always some "culs" and surplus drakes that one has to dispose of, and these when fat, bring good prices in the market.

There are two ways of distinguishing ducks from the drakes, namely, the voice or "quack" and the feathers in the tail.

The voice of the duck is loud and coarse, while that of the drake is rather smooth and less loud. Drakes have a few curled feathers in their tails when matured.

Duck eggs hatch in incubators. The eggs have clear shells and are easily tested. We test all of our eggs, no matter whether placed in incubators or under hens.

Be very careful in doing the work, as it is difficult for a beginner to tell whether an egg is good or bad.

At a certain stage during incubation a perfectly good duck egg presents a very queer appearance to the novice.

When held before a strong light, the shell appears to be half empty. Don't get excited and throw the egg away. If you do, the chances are that you will destroy a duckling.

Ordinary chicken hens can be used for hatching duck eggs. If the weather is cool, it is best to leave the hen with the ducklings for several weeks.

Ducklings get along nicely in brooders, but they should only be kept there at night, and at intervals during the day, when young.

All brooders should be placed in a building or under cover, for obvious reasons.

Ducklings soon outgrow a brooder. After the first few weeks they can get along without artificial heat. Keep the brooders clean and thoroughly ventilated.

Don't overcrowd. Large numbers of young fowl are killed by this overcrowding and poor ventilation.

Spring and early summer is the best time to hatch ducks. The beginner who tries to raise ducks in the winter usually makes a failure of it.

There is no advantage in hatching ducklings in winter except where the market offers special inducements in the way of fancy prices. Use judgment always.

Duck eggs require about four weeks to hatch. When hatched the ducklings should be removed from the nest or incubator, and put into a brooder or near the kitchen stove until all are hatched.

Give no food until at least 24 hours old. They will eat almost as soon as hatched if food is offered, but it is not advisable to allow them to do so. However, we always give our ducklings tepid water to drink from the start.

Fowls Unfit for Breeders.

Don't buy your breeders from chicks that have been penned in a three-foot space until they are nearly mature. These may come on fast, and if white or buff develop the very white or pale buff color required by the standard of perfection, but nine times in ten the male birds are long and narrow in shape—"spindling"—we would call it in a plant—and not fit for breeders.

Carefully Dressed High Coiffure



OF SEVERAL new high coiffures

there are a noteworthy number in which the hair is waved in the even, Marcel wave, and parted either in the middle or to one side. In others the mass of the hair, after being waved, is brought to the top of the head and piled in a coil directly back of the forehead. A third style shows a part at each side with the hair at the top of the head drawn back to the crown, where it joins the back hair to form a small Psyche knot.

In the coiffure shown in the picture, the hair is waved all around the head. The front portion is parted off and combed forward to be out of the way, while the back hair is brought to the top of the crown and arranged in a short French twist. When this has been pinned to place with short wire hairpins it forms a foundation to which the front hair is afterward fastened.

The front hair is parted and combed down on each side, just above the temple. It is turned back and combed off the face from the temple to the ear. It is brought up to the knot with the ends curled into a puff. The

puff is pinned beside the twist.

This arrangement gives the effect of three puffs across the top of the crown when viewed from the front. Both sides are arranged in the same manner. The hair is drawn loosely back to give a soft appearance about the face and to allow the waves to retain their position.

Any short locks about the forehead are trimmed off in a light, even fringe and curled slightly. They are to be arranged in short curls at each side of the part, or combed across the forehead, according to their becomingness to the wearer.

The middle part is suited to very youthful faces and those past middle life, but the woman in her prime should experiment before adopting it. A side part is more piquant and imparts a youthful look.

With the return of wide-brimmed hats we are likely to have the return of puffs. They are always admired and for the woman who must resort to false hair they are the lightest and most convenient substitute for natural locks.

Corset Cover for the Thin Woman



A FIGURE which is deficient in bust development, either from lack of flesh or other causes, must be helped out by some device. Any number of corsets, corset waists and bust forms are on the market, to supply the deficiencies of the too slender woman.

For present styles the fitted corset-cover or fitted waist, with inside ruffles, is the most satisfactory garment which the thin woman can adopt.

These waists are cut to fit a normal figure. The waist, therefore, is made too large across the bust. To fill this extra room ruffles of fine muslin are sewed to the under arm seams and arm's eye. These ruffles are made by stitching tape or bands of the fabric to a long piece of cambric muslin, or nainsook to form casings. Tapes are run through these casings. The ruffle is made as full as the figure requires and the tapes are drawn up and tied at the center of the ruffle.

When it becomes necessary to launder a waist of this kind the tapes are untied, and the fullness of the ruffle eased along them. They are starched with very thin starch and ironed flat, so that laundering preserves the bust form. Waists of this kind are made to fasten either in front or back.

Those fastenings in front are provided with buttons and button holes. An excellent model, which fastens in the back, does not require either buttons or button holes. The back pieces are sloped down in a "V" shape and finished with tapes which tie around the waist. That is, the back pieces

cross and overlap, and the tapes are tied in front.

The most convenient way to make a shapely waist of this kind is to buy a ready-made corset cover or brassiere and supply it with ruffles. This will give the wearer a normal figure. There is no economy in making a plain undergarment of this kind at home, because the ready-made brassiere sells so cheaply. But there is economy in placing the ruffle, for the simple reason that the work required doubles the price of the waist in the shops.

Perhaps the greatest advantage derived from a waist such as is pictured here is the fact that it may be worn as a substitute for a corset.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

Colored Handkerchiefs.

The snow-white handkerchief is ousted for the moment; not for every hour of the day, but for morning wear especially, and then it is that fancies in colors have the lead. These colored handkerchiefs are not of violent coloring as they were some time since. Instead, they are soft and gentle in tone, some being quiet even to the point of dullness. Quiet grays and browns, yellows and greens, purple tones and dull reds all come with the morning handkerchief, which may be of lawn or, more fanciful still, of the finest nain. Those of nain are mostly in fine stripes with a narrow border of the main coloring; but the lawn mouchoir is more often plain in its quiet coloring with a quarter or half inch hemstitched border of white.