

tion with his guns great difficulty was experienced owing to the mud, heavy going and hostile shell fire. This warrant officer was indefatigable in his efforts to get the battery into position, and afterwards in keeping the battery in action, showing the greatest disregard for his personal safety under heavy shell fire. His excellent and fearless example had a wonderful effect on the morale of his men.

25330 Pte. T. H. Seel, N. Lanc. R., attd. Sig. Bde. (Nelson).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When carrying a message from brigade headquarters to a forward station he was badly wounded in both thighs and in the head by a shell when within five hundred yards of his destination. Notwithstanding this he continued his journey crawling, and successfully delivered his despatches, by his pluck and determination earning the admiration of all.

534821 L./Cpl. G. J. Seeley, Lond. R., attd. K.R. Rif. C. (Dursley).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a heavy hostile bombardment his dug-out was blown in. He and another man cleared the entrance and reached the river which was between them and safety. Finding that several of their comrades were unable to swim they crossed and recrossed the river for ropes, by means of which the whole party was safely got across. Had it not been for the courageous and resourceful action of these two men their comrades would not have escaped.

202908 Sjt. G. Shackleford, R. Berks. R. (near Reading).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. When his platoon commander became a casualty early in the attack he took command of the platoon and led it with great gallantry, taking part in three successive attacks on an enemy strong point. He showed great initiative and courage, and by skilful dispositions saved many casualties.

5399 B.S.M. A. Sharp, R.F.A. (Reading).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when conveying an ammunition convoy to the battery position. With great skill and coolness he led it through heavy shell fire and delivered all the ammunition, and although running into a heavy fire on the return journey, which caused several casualties to men and horses, his fine example and disregard of personal danger prevented a stampede and enabled him to bring the convoy back to the wagon lines in perfect order. He displayed exceptional presence of mind and good leadership in a critical situation.

14369 Sjt. G. Sharp, G. Gds. (St. Albans).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack upon the enemy's line. When his platoon was held up by very heavy rifle and machine-gun fire from a concrete blockhouse he collected a few men and rushed the position, killing the hostile gunner and enabling our advance to continue. Twenty of the enemy were captured in this stronghold entirely owing to his able dispositions and the splendid dash and gallantry with which they were carried out.

203146 Sjt. A. T. Sharpe, Bedf. R. (Dunstable).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a raid on the enemy's lines. On reaching the enemy's trench he showed admirable dash and fine organisation in overcoming confusion caused by the smoke of the bombardment, and in helping his officer to get his party to their objective. On returning to the front line, under an intense enemy bombardment, he gave valuable assistance in attending to the wounded, although wounded himself. He showed great fearlessness and initiative.

G./18536 Sjt. H. Shaw, Midd'x R. (Swindon).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an attack he took command of his company before the first objective was gained, when all the officers and non-commissioned officers had become casualties. It was largely owing to his energy and splendid fighting qualities that his company was able to gain and hold its final objective.

268545 Pte. W. Shaw, L'pool R. (Oldham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his company was held up during an attack by machine-gun fire from front and flanks, he volunteered to take a message to a Tank 600 yards distant under concentrated machine-gun fire, and by this act of gallantry succeeded in bringing the Tank to the assistance of his company. His fearlessness and determination whilst thus engaged greatly stimulated his comrades in their advance.

11095 Sjt. J. H. Shelton, Notts. & Derby. R. (Derby).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Finding himself in command of two platoons early in an attack, he handled them with most conspicuous success, exhibiting at all times a complete disregard for his own safety. He controlled his section of the captured trenches for a distance of some 100 yards, and consolidated his position so successfully and skilfully that he was able to withstand two counter-attacks, and to inflict severe losses upon the enemy. On one occasion he rushed a strong point under machine-gun fire, and bombed its occupants at close range. By this splendid act of fearlessness and initiative he captured the position single-handed.

19363 Pte. C. W. Shere, E. Surr. R. (Walton-on-Thames).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in an advanced Lewis gun post. After his N.C.O. had been wounded, he took charge and held the post under the most trying conditions, carrying on for ten hours, although badly wounded in both legs, until his post was relieved—when he collapsed. Although a young soldier, his pluck and devotion to duty have set a magnificent example to those under him.

8735 Cpl. F. A. Sherman, R.F.A. (Forest Gate, E.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in rebuilding his gun-pit under heavy shell fire when it had been three times blown in. The shelter was repeatedly hit by