

sive flank to his company. On 8th August, though the battalion on his right was held up, he led his platoon forward and gained his objective, and then went out under very heavy fire and obtained information which was of the greatest value to his company commander in safeguarding his right flank. Throughout the operations he showed exceptional gallantry and resource.

T./Lt. Stanley Edgar Spruce, M.M., 254th Tunnell's Coy., R.E.

At Bellinglise on 29th September, 1918, this officer assisted in carrying out a reconnaissance of the bridgehead under machine-gun and artillery fire. Despite the continuous shelling of the gap he carried on till overcome by the fumes from the bursting shells. He afterwards carried back the report to headquarters.

2nd Lt. Godfrey Henry Robert Stancourt, 6th Bn., Lond. R., attd. 1/18th Bn.

The result of an attack on St. Pierre Vaast Wood, on the 1st September, 1918, left the enemy in possession of some commanding ground, whence they caused many casualties. Reinforcements were sent up, and as it was necessary to clear them off or withdraw, he took command, and, although these men had never been in action before, he led them with such magnificent courage and determination that the enemy were completely beaten, many being killed, and two officers and sixty-one other ranks being captured.

T./2nd Lt. John Henry Stanley, Devon. R., attd. 1/5th Bn., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty at Havrincourt on 13th September, 1918, both in attack and against a counter-attack. When part of his company got separated in the village, he collected them and led them to their objective in the darkness and through heavy machine-gun fire, his example having a fine effect on all ranks.

Lt. (A./Capt.) John Howard Staple, R.A.S.C., T.F., attd. Hdqrs., 2nd Bde., R.G.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty between Oostaverne and Houthem on 5th October, 1918, in moving batteries into position near the latter place. Having got one battery into position, he returned to fetch up another. As he got to it a shell demolished the front limber wagon. While clearing away the dead horses and debris, another shell struck a limber, destroying it, and wounding an officer and two men. He quickly and coolly got the road cleared.

Lt. Charles Brian Stead, 8th Bn., W. Yorks. R., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and able leadership at Havrincourt on 14th September, 1918, when he brought his company up to strengthen the line. He found the enemy had penetrated the line, and at once organising bombing parties, led them forward, clearing the front, and entering a dug-out, captured eight prisoners. During the following night and day he worked incessantly, consolidating the defence.

2nd Lt. Charles Henry Steele, 1st, attd. 9th Bn., R. Irish Fus.

For conspicuous gallantry near Dadizeele on the 30th September and 1st October, 1918, while commanding his platoon. His leadership was largely instrumental in the capture of an important strong point, when many of the enemy were killed and captured. For thirty-six hours he held on to an exposed position under heavy trench mortar and machine-gun fire.

2nd Lt. James Steele, R.F.A., T.F., attd. A/82nd Bde.

For coolness and gallantry in action near Combles on 29th August, 1918. He took forward a sniping gun into an enemy position and did great damage to their infantry, teams and wagons. On another occasion he again took his gun forward with the infantry and fired some 500 rounds over open sights, causing the enemy many casualties.

T./Lt. William Chandos Steele, Midd'x R., seconded 12th Bn., M.G. Corps.

On 25th August, 1918, he was detailed to take his section forward with the infantry. He went forward with the attacking waves and when touch was obtained with the enemy on the ridge east of Mametz, he brought his guns into action in front of the infantry. By the fire of his guns he put several hostile machine guns out of action, drove the enemy from the position they were holding, and inflicted heavy casualties on them as they were retiring. By his prompt action in getting his guns into action he enabled the advance to be continued.

T./Lt. Harold Joseph Steer, R.A.O.D.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty at Bus on the night of 24th/25th September, 1918. For seven hours and a half one night the railhead where he was was incessantly shelled, hundreds of shells falling in the vicinity and on an ammunition dump, setting fire to a stack of grenades. He and the parties under him did yeoman service preventing other dumps and railway wagons catching fire. He got away two trains by hand down a slope, and personally extinguished a fire which had started in a loaded ammunition truck.

Lt. John Henry Stephens, 5th Bn., E. Lancs. R., T.F., attd. 11th Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 28th September, 1918, in the attack near Ploegsteert. He led his platoon against a pillbox which was holding out, although surrounded, and fired his revolver through the loophole while his men bayoneted the garrison from behind. He then got the best of the enemy who counter-attacked.

T./Lt. Cuthbert Stephenson, 15th Bn., D.L.I.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty at Villers Guislain on 18th September, 1918, when he reached his final objective with his company, and held on for thirty hours until finally relieved, although his right flank was in the air. His determination in organising and leading bombing parties was the main factor of the success of the operation.