

company, having lost all officers and senior N.C.O.'s, was compelled to withdraw from an exposed position, he, under very heavy machine-gun fire, rallied the men on the new line taken up. His conduct throughout was admirable.

428610 Spr. J. T. Cottam, M.M., 123rd Fd. Coy., R.E. (Preston).

For conspicuous gallantry and coolness displayed on the River Selle, near Montay, 15th-20th October, 1918. He did splendid work in preparing and erecting bridges under heavy artillery and machine-gun fire and in close proximity to the enemy. Throughout these operations he showed an absolute disregard of any of the enemy attempts to check work, and by his fine example encouraged those with him.

19230 Sjt. J. Cotton, 1st Bn., K.O.S.B. (Stoke-on-Trent).

For most conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On 28th September, 1918, near Veldhoek, in command of a platoon, by his fine leadership he materially assisted the advance of his company. When his platoon was held up by heavy machine-gun fire from four pill-boxes, he led the assault on the position, which fell after a short hand-to-hand fight, capturing the guns and taking several officers and O.R.'s prisoners. He did splendid work.

6305 Sjt. J. Couch, M.M., 2nd Bn., K.R.R.C. (High Shields).

For conspicuous gallantry and initiative during the operations 24th September, 1918, north of Gricourt. When in command of a platoon he came across a small party of another unit held up by heavy machine-gun fire. Engaging the enemy on the flanks, he led the assault and dislodged them, inflicting heavy casualties. By his prompt and gallant action he enabled the other unit to get forward. Throughout the day he showed great coolness and initiative.

531181 Sjt. R. Coulthard, 2/15th Bn., Lond. R. (Longtown).

On the 14th October, 1918, during the attack on the enemy positions covering the Lys, near Bousbecque, he displayed conspicuous gallantry and fine leadership. He led his platoon with great dash and determination, attacking several pill-boxes and capturing several machine guns and forty-five prisoners. Throughout the whole of the operations he displayed the same soldierly qualities and initiative, and his conduct was of the highest order.

200053 Sjt. (A./C.S.M.) G. Cowe, 12th Bn., R. Scots (Edinburgh).

For conspicuous gallantry on several occasions in action between Ypres and the Lys during October, 1918, and especially near Cuerne on 17th October, when he crossed a half-submerged pontoon bridge with his men under very heavy enemy fire, and, when all officers except one and a large number of men had become casualties, he displayed the greatest devotion to duty and ability in re-organising his men and leading them on, regardless of personal danger.

S./43042 Sjt. G. Cowie, 8th Bn., R. Highrs. (Stanley).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when acting company serjeant-major during the fighting east of Ypres from 28th September to 4th October, 1918. On several occasions he gathered a few men together and led them forward to fill gaps which arose during the advance. During an enemy counter-attack he, under heavy machine-gun fire, rallied and led forward to the line being formed on the left flank, groups of men whose leaders had been killed and wounded. The fearless way in which he moved up and down the line taken up had a most inspiring effect on the men.

8403 Sjt. (A./C./Q./M./S.) E. J. Crabb, M.M., 7th Bn., Bord. R. (Kentish Town).

For marked gallantry and able leadership during the attack on the Forêt de Mormal on 4th November, 1918. Under heavy hostile machine-gun fire he rallied two sections which had become disorganised and successfully led them around the flank of the machine-gun position. By bringing intense fire to bear on them he caused the garrison to surrender and captured the machine gun, thereby enabling the company to continue the advance. He did excellent work throughout the operations.

16990 Pte. J. Craig, 2nd Bn., R. Sco. Fus. (Irvine).

During the recent advance east of Ledeghem from 14th October to 17th October, 1918, he displayed the highest qualities of gallantry, coolness and devotion to duty in the face of heavy enemy machine-gun fire. On 14th October, near Spark Farm, he rushed an enemy machine-gun post single-handed and bombed the crew who were holding up the advance on the right with their fire. This act was successful in silencing the gun, and he took five prisoners. Immediately afterwards he was wounded. Throughout his conduct was an inspiring example to his comrades.

S/6212 Sjt. P. Craig, M.M., 8th Bn., R. Highrs. (Arran).

For great courage and devotion to duty throughout operations 28th September to 27th October, 1918. During a patrol encounter north of Ledeghem, when the enemy attempted to capture one of his patrol who had been badly wounded, he immediately rushed in among them and drove them off and enabled the wounded man to be brought in to our lines, he himself forming the covering party. East of the Lys, when the battalion was ordered to fill a wide gap on the night of 22nd/23rd October, he did most valuable patrol work by locating several enemy posts.

205672 Sjt. H. Crane, 9th Bn., Essex R. (Whitwell).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On the 12th October, 1918, after his platoon commander had become a casualty in the advance north of Courcelles, he led his men in a most skilful manner, and reached his objective and captured 16 prisoners. When forced to retire he succeeded in bringing back his prisoners, and later again pushed forward and established his platoon on his