

17337 Private W. Shaw, 9th Battalion, Cheshire Regiment.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 25th September, 1915, near Festubert. When a retirement was ordered he helped a wounded Officer back to safety behind our parapet. He then heard that the Officer, whose servant he was, was wounded and at once went out again to his assistance under an exceptionally accurate and heavy machine-gun and rifle fire, being himself wounded in so doing.

16965 Corporal E. G. Sheldrake, 9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment.

For conspicuous gallantry and resource on the 25th September, 1915, near Festubert. During the advance on the enemy's trenches, although twice wounded, he continued to advance, and by his coolness and bravery gave great encouragement to the men with him. Afterwards he rendered great assistance in collecting and bringing back the remainder of his company, at the same time contributing greatly to cover the retirement of two machine-guns. He was under a very heavy and continuous fire the whole time.

9838 Serjeant H. Sheppard, 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 26th September, 1915, at the Quarries, near Vermelles. During the attack Serjeant Sheppard showed great coolness and resource in rallying men to repel bomb attacks by the enemy, and his fine example of devotion to duty gave great encouragement to all with him. He had previously been brought to notice in connection with gallantry and good work performed in May at Richebourg.

43279 Corporal W. L. Shortridge, 16th Signal Company, Royal Engineers.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 26th September, 1915, near Hulluch, when he laid a telephone wire to the gun trench under heavy fire and remained on the end of it for half an hour in the open in rear of the gun trench until ordered to withdraw. He showed great coolness, bravery and devotion to duty.

1773 Serjeant C. G. Simpson, 1st/6th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, Territorial Force.

For conspicuous gallantry on 24th September, 1915, on the Yser Canal. Owing to heavy bombardment by the enemy with trench mortars, a platoon was ordered to withdraw. While this was being done, a dug-out was blown in by a trench mortar. Serjeant Simpson, in company with another Non-commissioned Officer, hearing groans, went back, started digging and finally dug out two men. While doing so they were exposed to heavy fire from the enemy's trench mortars, and were in view of the enemy the whole time. Their bravery and total disregard of danger were very marked.

3/4130 Serjeant J. Smellie, 8th Battalion, Royal Highlanders.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 25th September, 1915. During the operations against Fosse 8, although wounded, he refused to retire and carried on his duties throughout the day. On the 26th and 27th September, when all the Officers had been killed or wounded, he showed great bravery in leading his company, until seriously wounded through the head.

4708 Serjeant W. R. Smethurst, 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 25th September, 1915, near Le Rutoire. During the first assault, when numbers of men in the first line were falling back suffering from gas fumes, and at a critical time when good leading was essential, Serjeant Smethurst got his men well in hand, and, although the gas and smoke were very thick, he led them forward, and by his bravery and example materially assisted in the attack, in which he was wounded.

12234 Private H. Smith, 3rd Battalion, Coldstream Guards.

For great bravery and resource on the 8th October, 1915, near Loos. The enemy, having made an attack with great determination along the trenches occupied by his battalion, were successful in taking the trench on the left of that occupied by Private Smith and five other men, and came pouring into it. The situation was most critical. Realising what had happened, he, accompanied by the other men, sprang forward and faced the enemy, driving them with bombs foot by foot down the trench and recapturing the whole of it. This they did in face of a determined opposition, clearing out of the trench at least ten times their number, and thus saving a critical situation.

5589 Private W. Smith, 2nd Battalion, East Kent Regiment.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 28th September, 1915, in the operations round Fosse No. 8. When the enemy threatened our right flank, Private Smith, although not a trained bomber, went forward alone with a box of bombs, and bombed the enemy. Unable to hold them in check from the trench, he jumped on to the parapet, and lit and threw the bombs from there, being under a heavy fire the whole time. Although wounded in the left arm, he held the enemy in check until his regimental bombers arrived. His bravery and devotion to duty were very marked.

9417 Serjeant W. D. Sowter, 1st Battalion, Cameron Highlanders.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 25th September, 1915, in the assault near Hulluch. As Machine-gun Serjeant of the Battalion he