

No. S/107 Corporal Alfred Drake, 8th Battalion, The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own).

For most conspicuous bravery on the night of 23rd November, 1915, near La Brique, France.

He was one of a patrol of four which was reconnoitring towards the German lines. The patrol was discovered when close to the enemy, who opened heavy fire with rifles and a machine gun, wounding the Officer and one man. The latter was carried back by the last remaining man. Corporal Drake remained with his Officer and was last seen kneeling beside him and bandaging his wounds regardless of the enemy's fire.

Later, a rescue party crawling near the German lines found the Officer and Corporal, the former unconscious but alive and bandaged, Corporal Drake beside him dead and riddled with bullets. He had given his own life and saved his Officer.

No. 1147 Corporal Samuel Meekosha, 1/6th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, Territorial Force.

For most conspicuous bravery near the Yser on 19th November, 1915.

He was with a platoon of about 20 Non-Commissioned Officers and men, who were holding an isolated trench. During a very heavy bombardment by the enemy six of the platoon were killed and seven wounded, while all the remainder were more or less buried.

When the senior Non-Commissioned Officers had been either killed or wounded Corporal Meekosha at once took command, sent a runner for assistance, and, in spite of no less than 10 more big shells falling within 20 yards of him, continued to dig out the wounded and buried men in full view of the enemy and at close range from the German trenches. By his promptness and magnificent courage and determination he saved at least four lives.

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the appointment of the undermentioned Officers to be Companions of the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of their gallantry and devotion to duty in the field:—

Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Charles Howard, 8th Battalion, Prince Albert's (Somerset Light Infantry).

For conspicuous gallantry and ability on the night of 15th/16th December, 1915, near Armentieres. He organised with the greatest energy and skill a successful raid by his battalion on the German trenches. His example inspired all ranks with enthusiasm and confidence. He displayed complete indifference to personal danger during the withdrawal of the raiding force under heavy fire. Lieutenant-Colonel Howard has been previously brought to notice for gallant work near Loos on 26th September, 1915.

Major Stewart Francis Newcombe, Royal Engineers.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty near Anzac, Gallipoli Peninsula, on 29th October, 1915.

During rescue operations he entered a mine tunnel soon after the first casualties were reported, and, although suffering from the effects of fumes, he continued to lead rescue parties till he was completely disabled by the gas. One officer lost his life on this occasion in the attempt at rescue.

Captain Malcolm McBean Bell-Irving, Royal Flying Corps (Special Reserve).

For conspicuous and consistent gallantry and skill during a period of nine months in France, notably on 19th December, 1915, between Lille and Ypres, when he successfully engaged three hostile machines. The first he drove off, the second he sent to the ground in flames, and the third nose-dived and disappeared. He was then attacked by three other hostile machines from above, but he flew off towards Ypres, and chased a machine he saw in that direction. He overhauled it and had got to within a hundred yards when he was wounded by a shell and had to return.

Captain Alexander Findlater, M.D., 1st London Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps, Territorial Force.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on several occasions, notably on 29th September, 1915, at Chocolate Hill, Gallipoli Peninsula. He crossed over two hundred yards of open ground under very heavy shell fire to render aid to two wounded men. He saved the life of one, but the other was beyond help.

Temporary Captain Richard Hall Huntington, 8th Battalion, Prince Albert's (Somerset Light Infantry).

For conspicuous gallantry and skill on the night of 15th/16th December, 1915, near Armentieres. He was in command of a raiding party of his battalion, which, largely owing to his skill, entered the German trench undiscovered, and, after disposing of all the enemy found in the trench, were very ably withdrawn. Captain Huntington was previously brought to notice for good work at the Chalk Pit, near Loos, on 26th September, 1915.

Temporary Captain Ernest Charles Jackson, 5th Canadian Infantry Battalion.

For conspicuous gallantry on 15th December, 1915. He commanded the attack on a German advanced barricade on the Mesines road with great dash and determination. Previously, on 7th November, 1915, he displayed great daring in entering a German sap opposite our trenches on Hill 63, and in withdrawing under heavy fire.