

the face. He could not get on as the gas fumes put out his light, but on the arrival of an Officer with a torch he followed him and dragged him out after he had been overcome by the fumes. Corporal Thomson collapsed when half-way out and had himself to be rescued.

30686 Corporal B. Trice, 6th Ammunition Column, Royal Field Artillery.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 24th July, 1915, near Nasiriyah (Mesopotamia), when he acted as Serjeant-Major of the Machine Gun Battery, and was largely responsible for its successful landing from the barge. Subsequently he brought it into action under a heavy fire. His courage, resource and devotion to duty were most marked.

2887 Private E. G. Verrall, 1/4th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 24th July, 1915, near Nasiriyah (Mesopotamia). During the assault, in which he was wounded, Private Verrall gave a fine exhibition of courage and resource, and his example and devotion to duty were of great encouragement to all with him.

350 Serjeant F. Wallbank, 1/6th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment, T.F. (attached 137th Brigade, Mining Section).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion on the 10th September, 1915, near Ypres. The enemy blew in a mine, burying two men. Serjeant Wallbank, who was in the mine, sent all the uninjured men to the shaft, and then attempted to reach the buried men with no protection save his smoke helmet, which was useless against the gas caused by the explosion. Driven back by the gas, he repeated his attempt, accompanied by another Non-Commissioned Officer. Both were badly affected by the gas, but managed to reach the shaft.

Later in the day it was decided to camouflet the enemy, and, although the gas overcame most of the men working in shifts, his companion continued working until he had to be carried to the shaft, while Serjeant Wallbank remained until the work was finished, but collapsed on reaching the surface. Both Non-Commissioned Officers showed the greatest bravery and devotion.

7361 Serjeant W. Wannell, 2nd Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 24th July, 1915, near Nasiriyah (Mesopotamia). Serjeant Wannell was one of the first into the enemy's trenches, and he led a party from point to point in the close fighting which followed, clearing trench after trench with the bayonet or with rifle fire. He also used hand grenades with great effect.

10290 Lance-Corporal (Acting Serjeant) W. H. A. Watkins, 2nd Battalion, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

For conspicuous gallantry on the 25th August, 1915, at Givenchy. A small mine was exploded at the head of a sap. Lance-Corporal Watkins, a bomber, who was in reserve, on hearing the noise of the explosion, on his own initiative collected two other bombers and hurried up at once to give assistance.

Again on the night of the following day, at the same place, during a determined bomb attack by the enemy, he voluntarily remained on duty all night, at times climbing out of the trench to enable him to reach the German trenches better. His bravery, coolness and example were of the greatest benefit to all ranks.

6690 Staff-Serjeant P. G. Wells, 2nd Battalion, Cameron Highlanders (Indian Unattached List).

For conspicuous gallantry on the 24th July, 1915, near Nasiriyah (Mesopotamia). Staff-Serjeant Wells led his platoon, at a critical period in the attack, with great courage and ability until he fell severely wounded. His fine example was of the greatest value to all ranks with him, and his devotion to duty most marked.

79705 Sapper H. R. Wenlock, 170th Tunneling Company, Royal Engineers (formerly No. 10485, 2nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the night of the 21st-22nd August, 1915, at Cuinchy, when he sank a shaft, 4 feet deep, in No. 7 Mine, in 2 hours, knowing that the Germans were working within a few feet of him. Twelve men had already lost their lives at different times in the same mine only a few days previously.

Private Wenlock never hesitated to carry out his task, and owing to his bravery and determination the enemy were successfully forestalled.

82129 Sapper J. W. Wood, 170th Tunneling Company, Royal Engineers.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the night of the 21st-22nd August, 1915, at Cuinchy, when he sank a shaft, 4 feet deep, in No. 7 Mine in 2 hours, knowing that the Germans were working within a few feet of him. Twelve men had already lost their lives at different times in the same mine only a few days previously.

Sapper Wood never hesitated to carry out his task, and owing to his bravery and determination the enemy were successfully forestalled.

2030 Private H. G. Wooldridge, 1/4th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 5th July, 1915, at Gurmah