

Where the Australians Rest

A description of many of
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Prepared under instructions from the Minister of State for Defence
(Senator G. F. PEARCE).

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*With the Compliments and Deepest Sympathy
of the Minister of State for Defence,
Senator G. F. Pearce.*

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General G. F. EDWARDS,
1920.



The Missing : "To an Unknown Soldier."

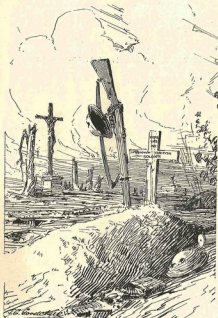
NOT only those whose relatives or friends lie buried in known graves, marked with their names and their record, may draw some comfort from these pages. Those, also, who have lost some dear relative or friend of whom there has been no trace nor word since the day when he fell in battle, may learn here something of the place in which he rests. For the authorities have been making every effort that not one soldier whose remains can be found on these old battlefields shall go without a soldier's honourable burial.

In all too many cases, alas, those who fall upon the field of battle, fall in some part of the field where no friend can reach them alive. The burial parties, which work wherever it is possible, often in danger, cannot reach them under the machine guns of the enemy. Months afterwards, sometimes years, the battle rolls beyond that place, and these poor forms are dealt with as tenderly as the time and place allow. The officials of the Graves Registration Unit examine carefully each part of the old No Man's Land, and erect a cross, or other symbol, wherever these brave men are found. Often the spot has been already marked by some soldier fixing beside the grave the rifle which lies near it, or laying reverently upon the little mound some shrapnel-torn helmet that may once have belonged to him who lies there. In a few instances, the names of these men are found on their identity discs, or on the sodden papers which may sometimes still lie beside them. But too often there is left no trace or clue to the soldier's name. Private or officer, he lies there, "An Unknown Soldier." Sometimes

even the Germans so marked their graves. Near Albert, on the field of Dernancourt, were found two crosses over the graves of Australian privates buried close to the front line by the Germans. Those who interred them took them for Englishmen, and the crosses were each marked, in pencil: "To a Brave English Soldier."

These graves, the graves of those who were marked "Missing" during the war, whose remains will never be identified, are being tended by the authorities with exactly the same care as those of soldiers whose names are known. The remains of unknown soldiers have been carefully collected from every battlefield—Anzac, Helles, Suvla, Palestine, Pozieres, Fromelles (Fleurbaix), Bullecourt, Flers, Messines, Ypres, Polygon Wood, Passchendaele, Zonnebeke, Villers-Bretonneux, Dernancourt, Peronne, and the Hindenburg Line, and every other known field where this work is possible—and reverently buried in one of the cemeteries nearest to the place where they laid down their lives.

It is only possible, in the space of a small book, to give an idea of these cemeteries as they appear at present. Cemeteries in each district have been chosen for illustration, so that those whose dear ones lie in that neighbourhood may be able to visualize, if not the actual place of burial, at least one of the cemeteries in that district. These cemeteries are controlled by the Imperial War Graves Commission, to whom the Graves Registration Unit hands them over as soon as it has finished its work. The War Graves Commission, on which Australia and the other Dominions are represented, is a permanent body, which will tend British graves for all time. In these cemeteries the soldiers of the British Empire lie—those who came from all over the world to give their lives for the same cause, and by whose deeds and sacrifices we now live free. No difference could be made between the graves of officers and other ranks in a war where the full strength of nations was used without respect of persons. Yet some sort of central idea was needed that should symbolize our common sacrifice wherever



GRAVE OF AN UNKNOWN SOLDIER.

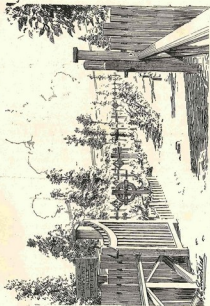
our dead might be laid, and it was realized by the War Graves Commission that, above all, each cemetery and individual grave should be made as permanent as man's art could devise. If any resting places under heaven are made beautiful by men's hands, these will be, upon which the whole affection of the Empire will lavish its care. Indeed, some of the cemeteries already lie amongst the most beautiful scenes upon the earth.

Those whose relatives or friends were reported as being "missing" at Pozieres or Mouquet Farm will find the cemeteries into which unknown soldiers from those fields are being gathered described in the chapter on Pozieres. Those whose dear ones were missing at Fromelles or Fleurbaix will find the cemeteries into which the unrecognised dead of that battle have been gathered dealt with in the chapter upon the Rue Petillon Cemetery. Other cemeteries in this area are the Anzac Cemetery and the Bonjean Cemetery at Armentieres. In each case, such of the unknown who have been found are buried in cemeteries nearest to the battlefield, and a tablet, with the names of all those who were reported missing inscribed thereon, will be placed on the wall of the cloister in the cemetery nearest to the battlefield on which they fell. In the chapters which follow, describing the cemeteries, the nearest battlefields to those cemeteries are mentioned.

Soldiers' graves in France and Belgium are situated on battle-scarred hills; around orchards and meadows of populous towns and little villages; in glades almost tropically dense; and on slopes of the sea coast.

Plain headstones of a uniform type, measuring 2 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 3 in., will ultimately take the place of the frail wooden war crosses. On these headstones there will be space for a religious symbol of the dead man's faith, and also for his regimental number and badge. In each cemetery a large stone cross of sacrifice and a stone altar of remembrance will be erected. On the latter will be inscribed the following words:—

"THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE."



ANZAC CEMETERY, SALLY, SUR LA LYS.

FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

ANZAC CEMETERY.

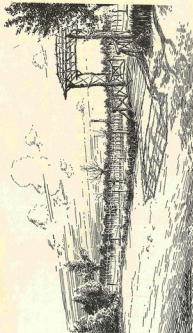
ANZAC Cemetery, on the road from Sailly to Estaires, is in the Armentieres sector, and not far from Fleurbaix. In this district, on 9th July, 1916, the Australians fought their first big battle in France.

It was the 5th Australian Division, with the 11th British Corps, which took part in this fight. Sir Douglas Haig commended the 5th Division for maintaining the Anzac tradition, although the effort did not realize all that was desired.

For three years the line shifted but little in this area. It was held with grim resolution. In places the opposing trenches were not more than 100 yards apart. Yet, such was the strength of these trenches on the green flats, and such the unsleeping vigilance of the machine guns, that the dead in No Man's Land could not be gathered until long after active hostilities had ceased. In many places the trenches were strengthened by shelters of reinforced concrete. One needs to see the shell holes at the Sugar Loaf salient, edge to edge, of varying width and depth, to appreciate something of the violence of that fighting at Fleurbaix in July, 1916. In summer they are covered by a tangle of grass and weeds; in winter they become water-holes, frozen at times or covered with snow.

Many who fought in the battle of Fleurbaix are buried in the Anzac Cemetery; some in the Communal Cemetery, near the old ruined Church. Others rest at Laventie and Le Thilloz; and some were carried to the back area of Etaples.

One walks into the Anzac Cemetery over a little wooden bridge with painted railing. Willow trees grow along a ditch near the roadway, and the cemetery is in the midst of cornfields. Across the narrow, cobble-stoned roadway is a Canadian cemetery. The Monastery on Mont-des-Cats, 12 miles away, is visible.



RUE PETILLON CEMETERY, FLEURBAIX

RUE PETILLON CEMETERY.

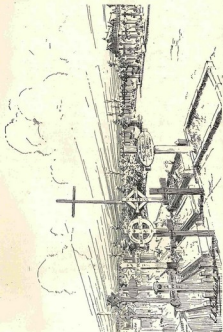
FOUR miles from Fleurbaix township is the Rue Petillon Cemetery. One-third of its 646 crosses mark Australian graves, and on some of them six or eight names appear.

A small rustic gate gives entry to the enclosure. Trees in the vicinity show the effects of shell fire. A concrete "pill-box," within a few feet of the Cemetery, bears the name of "Bolton Hall." Behind the German trenches was the village of Fromelles; and viewing the battlefield from this position, from the rising ground, and inside a German reinforced concrete observation post, one can understand how formidable was the task of capturing such strongholds. One "pill-box," with walls 3 feet thick, is marked "Mariehaus, 1916." The German was already, at that early date, alive to the protection which such structures give against artillery fire. Mazes of ungalvanized barbed wire of unusual strength, length, and number of spikes, added to the water ditches, increased the well-nigh insuperable difficulties of attack. Such are Fromelles and Fleurbaix. The story of many men who fell there in No Man's Land will never be known. Our losses at Fleurbaix were heavy—it was probably the most costly single combat in which Australians have ever engaged—and many a brave son is mourned as the result of the bitter struggle in this sector.

The cemeteries here are well kept, and Nature assists in veiling, if not repairing, the ravages of war.

ARMENTIERES: BONJEAN CEMETERY.

NOT far from the railway line, which leads into Armentieres from the busy manufacturing city of Lille, is the Military Cemetery of Bonjean. To the west, a few hundred yards away, flows the River Lys. Two large spinning factories are prominent in the view, their tall smoke-stacks and towers having massed the shells which fell frequently around.



BONJEAN MILITARY CEMETERY, ARMENTIERES

Amid many a shattered home and ruined factory, 3,000 brave men rest in the cemetery at Bonjean. Two-storied brick villas, with red tiled roofs, form a border on the eastern side. Mont Kemmel is visible, 7½ miles away.

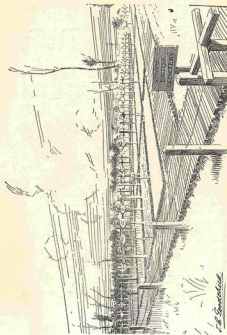
Armentieres will recover from the effects of war; but its military cemeteries, beautiful with flowers, will remain; and the people of this French city can never forget the heavy sacrifice which was made by the British and the Australians to keep it free.

PLOEGSTEERT.

PLOEGSTEERT WOOD was well known to Australian troops. The village and Wood are north from Armentieres, and about 6 miles east of Bailleul. The little village of Rosmarin, 2 kilometres from Ploegsteert, survives. Even the village of Ploegsteert is not entirely gone. In July, 1917, Ploegsteert Wood was occupied by Australian troops, dumps, and head-quarters during the operations at Messines.

Standing at the foot of Hill 63, one looks at the entrances to the vast catacombs, in which thousands of troops used to live. Just below, in the Wood, is the cross road known as Hyde Park Corner. One road leads to Ploegsteert village, one up to Messines, and another back to Neuve Eglise. Red Lodge was a brick cottage at the beginning of Ploegsteert Wood. The Wood is about 3,000 yards in length, and 1,000 yards in width. The tall crowded trees, with the thick undergrowth on the flat marshy land, immediately behind the British line, formed for years a wonderful protection against the eyes of the Germans, and the place was therefore comparatively unmolesied. Only when the neighbourhood became thronged with guns and troops before the Battle of Messines did this quiet area awaken to the crash of shells pounding through the trees.

In the Strand Cemetery, the black-and-white crosses erected to the memory of Australia's dead are conspicuous. Two brothers sleep here in one grave.



STRAND BRITISH CEMETERY, PLOEGSTEERT WOOD.

The background to the Strand Cemetery is formed by lofty trees, with Royal Park extension and Royal Berks Cemetery on both sides of the road near Hyde Park Corner. Ploegsteert Wood partially survived the high-explosive shells; and Nature, with a veil of green leaves, has almost completely hidden its many scars.

BAILLEUL.

BAILLEUL was one of those French towns on the borders of Belgium which enjoyed much prosperity, through war trade and traffic, until the German advance in March and April, 1918. The town, with its long street leading up from the railway station to the public square on the summit of a gently rising hill, was noted for vineyards in the vicinity. The pre-war population was 13,800. Bailleul is sheltered on the east by a range of hills, the dominating point being Ravensberg, one mile from the town.

There were several aerodromes about Bailleul; and around one of them has grown the legend of an Allied airman, who, proving to be a spy, was discovered and shot. Bailleul flourished until it marked the limit of the German advance in April, 1918, when the enemy was also stopped outside Hazebrouck with the assistance of the 1st Division, A.I.F. Bailleul had suffered from German shells before, and the concentrated artillery fire of the Allies now quickly laid it in ruins.

In the military extension of the Communal Cemetery of four acres there are over 4,000 war crosses; and in the civilian portion, 13,000 graves.

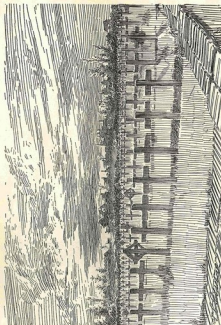
HILL 60.

A MONUMENT stands on Hill 60, part of the great battlefield of Ypres, and is engraved as follows—

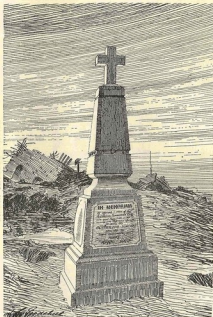
To the officers and men of the 1st Australian Tunnelling Coy. who gave their lives in the mining and defensive operation at Hill 60.

October, 1916—July, 1917.

Erected by their Comrades in Arms, 1919.



BRITISH CEMETERY, BAILLEUL.



TUNNELLERS' MONUMENT ON HILL 60.

Passing out of Ypres by the Lille gate, and bearing south-east for 3 miles, one comes to Hill 60. Near the roadway leading to it are three cemeteries. The Railway Dug-outs' Transport Farm Cemetery, containing 2,000 graves, is near the broad-gauge railway line which now runs over Hill 60, and a short distance from the Zillebeka-road. A quarter of a mile away is Blague Poote Farm Cemetery, near Shrapnel Corner, containing 1,000 graves. In the Larch Wood Cemetery, just behind Hill 60, amid the evidences of bitter strife, rest the remains of many an Australian hero.

The famous Hill itself holds a dominating position in a long and irregular ridge of rising ground facing Mont Kemmel and the city of Ypres; where the railway cutting goes across the top, its rich, soft, chocolate loam shows to a depth of 20 feet. Irregular craters, like deserted brick pits, mark the spot where the gigantic mines were exploded by the Tunnellers.

Close to one crater is a German observation post, of reinforced concrete and steel rails, such as are used on the railway. A view from this point extends over the Ypres battlefield looking west, along the Menin-road to the right, and 3 miles away to Mont Kemmel, on the left. Standing here, one may say of the country for 10 miles in depth and 20 miles in length, that no part of the Western Front saw more continuous and bitter fighting.

WYTSCHAETE—MESSINES

THE names of Hill 60, Wytschaete, and Messines are all closely associated with the terrific fighting in which the Australians were engaged under General Plumer in securing the commanding situations which these names represent. The 3rd and 4th Divisions, A.I.F., took part at Messines on the right flank in the great battle of June, 1917.

From the Wytschaete Ridge, near the border of Belgium and France, one looks over to Warneton, Comines, Wervicq, and Menin. The latter is a town divided by the River Lys, the north bank belonging to Belgium, and the southern to France.

The villages of Wytshaete and Messines are blotted out. The land, holed and torn, has the appearance of a deserted alluvial gold-field. The ground is covered now in long grass, thistles, and docks, intermingled with marguerites, poppies, and other flowers. A rose-bush, bearing crimson flowers, survives amid the battered monuments in the civilian cemetery.

The first German soldier marched into Messines on the first Sunday of October, 1914. Fighting began on 30th October, 1914, and the British retired. Messines remained in German possession until 7th June, 1917, when it was recovered by the valour of British, New Zealand, and Australian troops.

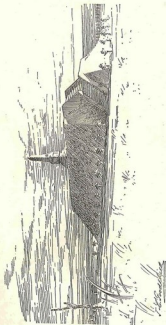
In 1918 we retired once more from the spot which cost so much blood and treasure to win and hold, to return again over the shell-swept and devastated area, finally triumphant.

POLYGON WOOD.

LEAVING the Menin-road on the right when coming out of Ypres, and travelling eastwards for 6 kilometres, after passing Chateau Wood Cemetery and Cambridge-road, leaving Passchendaele far away to the left and Zonnebeke 2,000 yards in the left rear, one reaches Polygon Wood. Here, on an eminence known as the Butte, a permanent memorial to the members of the 5th Division, A.I.F., is being erected. The Butte is a large mound of soft, sandy loam rising to 22 feet. On this will stand the monument, 32 feet in height, dominating the tableland.

The ground plan of the Butte is in the form of a huge cross, 222 feet in length and 36 feet in width. Polygon Wood Cemetery is at the base of the mound, on the east. From isolated graves in the surrounding undulating lands, the dead are being brought to their last resting place in the permanent cemetery at Polygon Wood. Leaves still sprout from the broken and battered trees of the Wood, which was captured on 26th September, 1917.

To the south-east the church spire of Terhand rises above the hills, 3 miles away. In the valley to the north a mound of broken bricks marks the site of Zonnebeke Church, and one



DIVISIONAL MONUMENT, POLYGON WOOD, BROODSEINDE

sees the broad-gauge railway lines, which run from Ypres past Passchendaele and on to Roulers. In this area the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Divisions were heavily engaged during September, October, and part of November, 1917.

PASSCHENDAELE.

PASSCHENDAELE, about 6 miles to the north-east of Ypres, is known to all Australian soldiers. During September and October, 1917, the five Australian Divisions took part in the successful operations around Passchendaele and the Broodseinde Ridge to the south of it. Passchendaele was the centre of some of the longest and heaviest bombardments of the war, in October, 1917. It also marks approximately the northern point of the British operations. The 25 miles between Passchendaele and the coast of Nieuport was at the end of the war held chiefly by the Belgians.

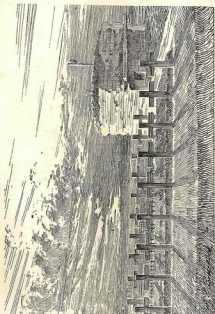
One may pass the road leading to Passchendaele and never know that a thriving village once stood there. The Tynecot Cemetery among the Passchendaele ridges will ultimately contain 10,000 graves. Encore Wood, a short distance away, is one of the spots where many Australian soldiers are buried.

The strong "pill-boxes," of reinforced concrete, and the double and triple storied observation posts along the whole of this area, are striking evidence of the part which cement and steel played in the German defences. The charm of trees is lacking here: along the roadway only shattered stumps are seen.

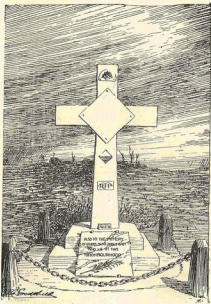
There is a small marble monument, erected to the memory of the members of the 20th Battalion, A.I.F., who fell in this neighbourhood.

MONT KEMMEL.

MONT Kemmel lies 5 miles to the north-east of Bailluc. This famous spot, 500 feet above sea level, is at the eastern end of a range, the highest point of which faces the old German lines. For nearly 5 miles the irregular hills run westward, ending with Mont-des-Cats.



TYNECOT BRITISH CEMETERY, BROODSEINDE, PASSCHENDAELE.



MEMORIAL AT PASSCHENDAELE

The little village at the foot of the range remained secure until the enemy's advance, in 1918, when it was blotted out. No frail-built estaminet or stately church could stand such a rain of jagged steel. Battered stumps alone remain where a fine avenue of trees once graced the Mont.

On the plains north of Kemmel, behind the Ypres salient the heroic dead sleep in thousands. In Lijssenthoek Cemetery, near Poperinghe, there are 17,000 crosses. Many Australians are buried here, including an officer who had won the Victoria Cross. Seven aviators lie in graves side by side.

The cemetery of Lijssenthoek is well kept, and in spring-time and summer it is radiant with flowers: roses, sweet william, pinks, asters, and irises. Hops and wheat and oats, growing in the fields, and an avenue of poplar trees down the centre path, all add to the beauty of the largest military graveyard in France.

On the flats behind the great battleground of Ypres are cemeteries: one at Brandhoek, one at Vlamertinghe, near the church, and a third at Doringham, near La Lovie, on the Crombele-road, containing 1,000 graves. Another is on the hills, near the Monastery of Mont-des-Cats.

YPRES.

YPRES, the scene of many conflicts, was the centre of a struggle unparalleled in history. Ypres is known as the City of Fear. Its majestic ruins are mute evidence of what the city suffered.

From the vantage ground of Mont Kemmel, or Messines, or Passchendaele, it is always the ruins of Ypres that meet and impress the eye. The city has prospered for centuries on the flat lands of Belgium, disturbed at times by the tumult of battle, but long noted for its triumphs of industry. Its roads radiate to the once thriving town of Poperinghe in the west, Langemarck and Roulers to the north-east, Menin and Courtrai in the east, and Bailleul, Armentieres, and Lille (the Birmingham of France) to

the south. The name of Ypres is linked, in the world's memory, with Mons, and the Marne, the Aisne, Cambrai, Kemmel, St. Quentin, Villers-Bretonneux, and Verdun. It was a pivot the retention of which by the Allies meant the salvation of the Channel ports of Calais, Dunkirk, and Boulogne.

In the Ypres sector the land has been drenched with the blood of brave men; a quarter of a million soldiers sleep under its battle-torn ground. Scarcely a tree, for 5 miles eastward, escaped the violence of the war storm. Shattered and dead, they stand like gaunt monuments to the men who fought and fell. There are many cemeteries in this district, and the ground is dotted with little wooden crosses.

On the road running south-east to the town of Menin (where the River Lys divides Belgium from France) are places whose names are graven deeply in the memory of thousands of Australian soldiers.

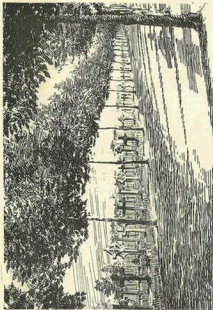
Along the Menin-road, near Hooge Ridge, is "Tanks' Cemetery." So many of these engines of war of varied types, from monsters down to the little whippets, had their thick steel hides holed and torn here that the spot is regarded as their graveyard.

Hooge Crater Cemetery, running down towards Sanctuary Wood, was selected as one of the permanent burial grounds. It is on the Menin-road, about 2½ miles from Ypres. Burr Cross roads and Hell Fire Corner are near by—the scenes of memorable war experiences. The Ypres Town Extension Military Cemetery is just outside the city, off the Menin-road, and behind the Belgian civilian burial ground. Some men of the Railway unit from Australia are buried here—they made their sacrifice with the others.

The number of French crosses here is evidence of the toll which the soldiers of the tricolour paid. Just by the green hedge, which divides the civilian cemetery from that of the soldiers, a simple white cross marks the grave of H.H. Prince Maurice of Battenberg. The little mound is bordered by bricks placed on edge, and a few small plants are growing on the grave.



LILLE GATE CEMETERY, YPRES.



LISSERFONTEIN MILITARY CEMETERY.

One large cross is the monument of seven Australians of "B" Company, 2nd Pioneer Battalion, 29.9.1917; and another that of eight sappers of the 8th Field Company, Australian Engineers. A young officer who had won the Victoria Cross lies buried here.

On some graves is placed the soldier's steel helmet, pierced and broken. The grave of an "unknown soldier" is marked by a rifle, standing upright, in lieu of a headstone.

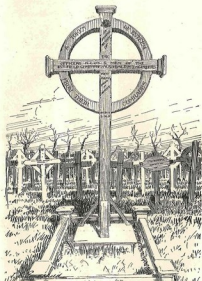
Within the city gates there are three military cemeteries. In a district where upwards of 4,000,000 men, armed with every modern device for destruction, fought for mastery for four years, the death toll was heavy indeed.

In the Ypres Reservoir Cemetery, behind the ruins of the Cloth Hall, and not far from Salvation Corner, are 1,500 graves. A prominent cross and circle, 8 feet in height, and surrounded by a low wooden railing, is the memorial of officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the 15th Australian Field Engineers, who were killed in action 26.9.1917-3.10.1917.

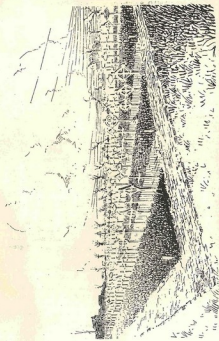
A few yards from the Reservoir Cemetery is the Middle Cemetery, which contains 500 graves. Near the Asylum lie 200 of the Allies' dead; and on the ramparts near the Lille gate there is yet another burial ground. One mile outside the city, in the direction of St. Jean, there are six cemeteries.

In the sector of 10 miles from Armentieres to Ypres, and travelling 30 miles east to the River Scheldt, the 2nd Army, during the last few weeks of war, captured 10,800 German prisoners and 300 guns, and set free the industrial districts of Northern France, including Tourcoing, Roubaix, and Lille. This thrust also relieved the ports of Ostend and Zeebrugge and the important town of Bruges, which were used by the enemy as submarine bases.

The memories of Ypres can never fade. A few Uhlans marched into it during 1914, but were quickly expelled. Since then no enemy has trodden its riven streets, except as a prisoner.



MONUMENT TO ENGINEERS, RESERVOIR CEMETERY, YPRES.



RESERVOIR CEMETERY, YPRES.

BOULOGNE.

It was not always in the forward battle area that fallen soldiers were buried. Often wounded men were carried to the back areas, where, notwithstanding the skill and tender nursing in the great hospitals, they died.

The Therlincthun Cemetery, near Boulogne, 70 miles from Ypres, contains 4,000 graves. It is immediately outside the high stone wall of Therlincthun Chateau, and within sight of the sea. Following the winding roadway along the coast from Boulogne, past the quaint French houses, and above the high cliffs (not unlike those of Sydney Harbor) for a little over 2 miles, you reach one of the military cemeteries of the back areas. A tall stone column, erected by the French to the Armies of Napoleon, stands on rising ground a mile distant.

The uniform white crosses, 5 ft. 6 in. in height, erected to the memory of American soldiers, are a conspicuous feature in Therlincthun. The cemetery is sheltered on three sides by hills in horseshoe formation, covered by natural verdure, or cultivated. The sea wind blows across the graves.

ETAPLES.

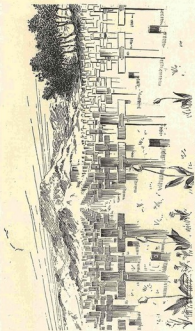
ANOTHER cemetery in the back area, with 11,600 graves, is Etaples, on the coast, not far from Boulogne. At Etaples are buried some of the Australians who fought at Fleurbaix, in July, 1916. The River Canche flows into the sea on one side of the cemetery; on the opposite side, cream-coloured sand-dunes, partly covered in furze and stunted grass, form the background.

It was near Etaples, in May, 1918, that the German air raiders dropped heavy bombs on some of our hospitals close to a railway centre. The attack was unexpected, and resulted in 280 casualties, including two nurses of the No. 1 Canadian Hospital.

On the graves at Etaples are small slabs of marble, 9 inches square, engraved with gilt letters. Six hundred officers are buried here, and sixteen nursing sisters.



CEMETERY AT THERLINCTHUN, WIMEREUX.



BRITISH CEMETERY, ETAPLES.

Excavations along the banks of the river near the sea show where the white chalk was tunnelled into shelters not unlike the dug-outs of the firing line on the Somme. Along the river flat three large holes filled with water mark where bombs fell.

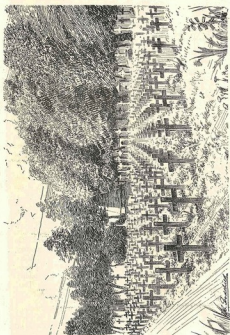
Flowers bloom on the graves, which are tended with loving care. Etaples is now a haunt of peace. No sound of hostile aircraft breaks the silence of the skies. Cattle browse by the riverside, and a cool ocean wind fills the sails of fishing craft, which cruise where the river flows into the sea.

LE HAVRE.

THE relation of Le Havre and Rouen to the Somme area in the south is somewhat like that of Etaples and Boulogne to the Ypres sector in the north. Above the port, on the highland which is swept by every wind that blows, is the great burial ground of the city of Le Havre.

Over 500,000 British soldiers are buried in the cemeteries of France and Belgium. To Le Havre, on the mouth of the Seine, came many of the men from overseas. It was used as one of the great bases, in conjunction with Rouen, for active operations. Five miles from Le Havre, in the pretty Lizarde valley, near Rouelles, the Australian base depot was situated. The historic town of Harfleur, immortalized by Shakespeare, with Schneider's famous gun-works adjacent, lay between. On the heights overlooking the sea at Sanvic is the French cemetery, "Sainte Marie," a portion of which is occupied by soldiers' graves. This cemetery, where English, American, French, Canadian, New Zealand, South African, and Australian soldiers sleep side by side, has everywhere the grace of flowers. There are avenues of trees whose branches shadow many a tomb.

Amid these beauties at Sanvic, near Le Havre, close to a large monument to the "Patriotic Soldiers of France," who died 1870-71, 500 Australians are resting. Below, the broad estuary of the Seine links the river with the sea.



ST. MARIE CEMETERY, LE HAVRE.

ROUEN.

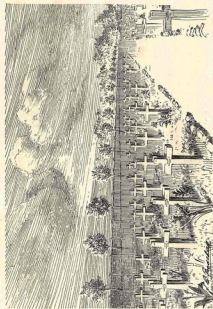
ROUEN, on the banks of the Seine, 50 miles inland from Le Havre, in the direction of Paris, will live in the memory of thousands of Australians who passed through its ancient streets. Rouen is one of France's fairest cities, and memorable as the place where the Maid of Orleans was burnt in the market place, and her ashes thrown contemptuously into the river. The magnificent Cathedral, with a spire 500 feet in height, is the great architectural feature of the city.

Along Rouen's lovely valley the British troops were poured towards the fighting line. Now, in the cemetery of St. Sever, 4 miles from the old cathedral, there are 13,000 graves, and 600 are those of Australian soldiers. This cemetery adjoins the civilian burial ground; and women hand-workers tend the soldiers' graves with loving care.

BULLECOURT.

ON the 80 miles of Western Front, which was held chiefly by British troops, and reached from Chaulnes, south of the Somme, to Armentieres, in the north, there are many places where the Australian soldier won distinction. At Bullecourt, during April and May, 1917, the men of the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Divisions of the A.I.F. displayed their valour, endurance, and resource. The names of Arras, Croisilles, Monchy, Vault, Noeuil, Lagnicourt, Bullecourt, Riencourt, and Quent are all associated with the terrible fighting which took place in this district south-east of Arras.

The fine old city of Arras, situated on hilly country, suffered in the war, but much of it was saved from destruction. Along the road from Peronne to Bapaume and Arras war crosses, with the metal tricoloured disc and imitation ribbon, show the extent to which the valiant French troops suffered. On from Bapaume to Croisilles it is the same. Beyond Croisilles, at Bullecourt, Australians paid their price in full. The village of Bullecourt has become a memory. One might pass along the road and never know that a village existed there in 1914. The land is as shell-torn as that at Passchendaele and Messines, and is covered now in rank growths.



BRITISH CEMETERY, ST. SEVER, HOUIEN.

Bullecourt is hilly and treeless, with long undulating stretches. A signboard denotes where 900 French villagers once lived. Beyond Bullecourt is Riencourt, which 300 Australians almost reached, many of them never to return. After the years of war, their remains were gathered, and placed in nameless graves. The little wooden cross to an "unknown soldier" is the saddest of all memorials in a military cemetery.

At Ecoust Cemetery, on the road to Bullecourt, is the grave of an Australian Signaller who had won the Military Medal.

POZIERES.

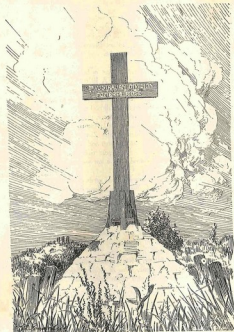
AT Pozieres, on the 15 miles road from Bapaume to Albert, and 18 miles from Bullecourt, the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Divisions, A.I.F., fought during July-August, 1916. Names such as Thiepval, Courcellette, Mouquet Farm, Fricourt, Contalmaison, and Delville Wood were associated with the terrific fighting of the time of Pozieres. Beyond, at Warlencourt, near Le Sars, on the Bapaume-Albert road, a rough chalk mound, 50 feet in height, supports three sets of monuments. This was the famous *Butte de Warlencourt*, associated with the terrible fighting around Flers and Le Sars in the autumn of 1916. One of these monuments, with concrete base, is erected to the Germans who fell from 5th November, 1916, to 25th March, 1918.

Going from Bapaume along the road towards Albert, you come to a Canadian memorial, painted white. Half-a-mile further towards Albert, and 20 yards from the roadway, is the memorial of officers and men of the 2nd Australian Division who fell at the taking of the Pozieres ridge, July-August, 1916.

The battle for Pozieres was fought soon after the Battle of Fleurbaix (50 miles north of Pozieres). These two struggles represent Australia's early effort in France during the summer of 1916. The country around Pozieres is like that at Bullecourt. The eye wanders over undulating ridges for miles. There is nothing striking about the Pozieres ridge. It is similar to dozens of others in the vicinity, though it may have a slight advantage in height. The light rich loam is several feet deep,



1st DIVISION MONUMENT, POZIERES.



2nd DIVISION MONUMENT, POZIERES.

and almost stoneless. The little village had its church and cottages levelled in the strife, but the land is being cleared now for the humble beginning of a new Pozieres. Looking east, from the ruins of Pozieres, you see Mouquet Farm on the left, Centalmaison Wood on the right, and Thiepval Wood and village in the left rear.

A permanent monument, 35 feet in height, is being erected to the 1st Division of the A.I.F. A 1916 "pill-box," built by the Germans and captured by the Australians, will be preserved, and a portion of the shell-torn land will remain as battle left it. The whole area, 400 feet square, will be fenced.

One hundred yards away is a large, unpainted wooden cross, with a brass plate inscribed: "In loving memory of the brave officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the 22nd Infantry Battalion, who were killed in action at Pozieres and Mouquet Farm, 25th July-27th August, 1916." The cross rises from a pyramid of stones and cement, surrounded by a low wooden railing, painted white.

In the cemetery, a few hundred yards down the road, there are 2,000 war graves. Conspicuous among them are three A.I.F. crosses. One is the memorial of the 1st Australian Division; another that of officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the 8th Battalion, who were "killed in action" at Pozieres, 25th July-18th August, 1916; and the third was erected to members of the 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion who fell near Pozieres, 1916. A simple cross, 6 feet in height, is in memory of six officers of the 22nd Battalion, A.I.F.

The town of Albert, a few kilometres away, bore the brunt of war. Masses of stone, piles of broken bricks and mortar, all tempest tossed, form part of the ruins.

PERONNE—MONT ST. QUENTIN.

FROM Albert, on the Ancre, to Peronne, on the Somme, a distance of 17 miles, there are places of deep interest to members of the A.I.F. A few kilometres north is Le Transloy, on the road to Bapaume, a little south of Flers and Gueudecourt; to the east is Roisel; to the south-west,



22nd BATTALION MEMORIAL, POZIERES.

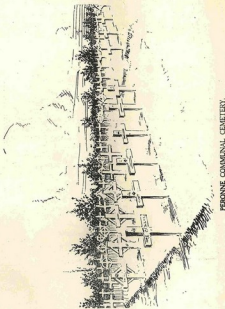
Lihons; and to the west, Corbie and Bray. All who passed the winter between Le Sars and Le Transloy during 1916 remember it with horror.

Peronne is situated on the tortuous Somme, where the river takes a long sweep south to Ham. Its pre-war population, 4,691, exceeded slightly that of Villers-Bretonneux and Corbie. The cemetery of "La Chapellette" is beside the roadway leading into Peronne from Amiens. Crosses bearing the letters "A.I.F." show what the place means to Australians. Upwards of 500 Indians are buried here; and a separate plot is occupied by the graves of Chinese.

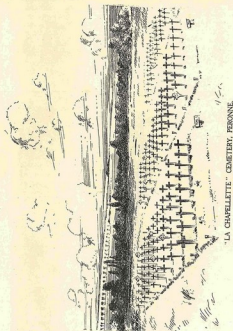
Peronne is situated in the Somme Valley, south of the hill known as Mont St. Quentin. This eminence, proving a vantage ground in guarding Peronne from attack from the west, was the scene of brilliant and heavy fighting on 31st August, and early in September, 1918. In this, the 2nd and 5th Divisions of the A.I.F. took part. The 2nd Division captured Mont St. Quentin with 1,620 prisoners, 2 guns, 18 trench mortars, and 265 machine guns. The 5th Division took Peronne. The land is not given like that of Passchendaele, or Fleurbaix, yet it shows that, in the woods surrounding the chateau on the hill, the artillery fire was intense. Deep dug-outs still remain in the sandy chalk, under soft loam. Nine months after the Armistice was signed, wheat was growing on the summit of St. Quentin. The sugar refinery at the foot of the Mont is in ruins.

On the western side of Mont St. Quentin, on the road leading from Peronne to Bapaume, and half way up the hillside, a permanent monument to the 2nd Division, A.I.F., is being erected.

At the foot of the hill, close to the broad-gauge railway, is the Peronne Communal Cemetery, with the military extension. The stone crosses and monuments over the graves were badly broken during the German advance, and subsequent retreat, in 1918. Prominent among the A.I.F. graves are the wooden



PERONNE COMMUNAL CEMETERY.



"LA CHAPELLETTE" CEMETERY, PERONNE.

crosses, erected by their comrades, to the memory of officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the 53rd Battalion, and to those of the 56th Battalion, who fell in the attack on Peronne, 1st and 2nd September, 1918. Here, also, is the grave of a Corporal of the 54th Battalion who had won the Victoria Cross; he fell on 1st September, 1918.

PROYART.

A FEW kilometres from the town of Besy, on the never-ending chalk hills of the Somme, is the little village of Proyart. Before the outbreak of war, its population never exceeded 625; now it attracts crowds of visitors.

In a secluded natural depression of the valley is a "Big Bertha." This enormous gun, 16 inches in diameter, and over 50 feet in length, was captured by the 3rd Infantry Battalion, 1st Australian Division, 23rd August, 1918. It was presented to the city of Amiens by the Commonwealth Government, and forms an "Australian War Memorial." It was placed in position by the Germans after their advance in 1918 past Peronne and on to Villers-Bretonneux. The enemy never anticipated being compelled to evacuate this territory; but the Allies' victorious armies met them, and Amiens was saved from destruction by shells from "Big Bertha." To Australian troops fell the honour of capturing the biggest gun taken in the War. The breach was blown out by the enemy prior to retreat; and the huge barrel now lies on the ground, pointing towards Amiens. The country about Proyart is dotted with crosses, each marking the spot where a soldier lies buried.

VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.

IN history, Villers-Bretonneux will rank with Verdun, The Marne, Ypres, and Chateau Thierry. The town is situated on one of the long, low ridges, so familiar along the Somme. The chalk, which shows wherever the surface is disturbed, makes the trenches, now that they are filled in, look like white ribbons amid the grass.



2nd DIVISION MONUMENT, MONT ST. QUENTIN

Villers-Bretonneux is 9 miles east of the city of Amiens. To the east, the direction whence the enemy came, lies Peronne, 20 miles away. On the left is Corbie, 3 kilometres distant, nestling in the valley of the Somme; also Morlancourt. On the right is the little village of Cacy. South-east of Cacy is Hangard Wood. Villers-Bretonneux was a thriving industrial centre, noted for its spinning mills, until war crushed it.

In the mighty thrust which Germany made in March, 1918, the drive southward towards Paris was stopped by the French and Americans at Chateau Thierry; while the attempt to capture the important railway centre of Amiens and divide the French and British forces was thwarted, and the enemy driven back by the Australians. The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Divisions, A.I.F., took part in these successful operations during the anxious days of March and April, 1918, while the 1st Division, farther north, was repairing a gap made in the line, filled for the moment by the Fourth Brigade of Guards.

Amiens is the city where peace between France and England was signed 100 years before. It was saved from destruction by the valour of men from one of Britain's Dominions. The Bishop of Amiens, on behalf of the French people, paid a noble tribute to Australian soldiers, and the civilian residents of Villers-Bretonneux on Peace Day presented to the A.I.F. a stone memorial, bearing the inscription:—

*Aux Heros Australiens
Morts pour
La Defense de
Villers-Bretonneux,
24-25 Avril, 1918.
Les Habitants
Reconnaisants.*

While Paris and other cities were gaily celebrating the signing of Peace, at Villers-Bretonneux the people gathered in front of the Mayor's house to honour Australia's dead.



ADLAIDE CEMETERY, VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.

There are four cemeteries near Villers-Bretonneux. The largest is Heath Cemetery, with 2,000 graves, including that of three Australian V.C. heroes. In the Adelaide Cemetery, close to the railway line, 1,800 soldiers are buried. A memorial has been erected to the officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the 13th Australian Infantry Brigade, "who fell in action hereabout in a night attack resulting in the recapture of Villers-Bretonneux, 24-25th April, 1918." There are also memorials to the officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the 49th Battalion, the 50th Battalion, the 51st Battalion, and the 52nd Battalion, A.I.F.

The third cemetery is at Crucifix Corner. The graves are chiefly those of French, English, Australian, and Canadian soldiers. The trees surrounding the broken Crucifix at the corner of the cross-roads, a mile from Villers-Bretonneux, were shattered by shell-fire; but they still put forth leaves at Spring's bidding.

The clear land adjacent to the cemetery is pitted with shell holes; and a broken German tank, with a black cross painted on it, rests amid the grass and poppies.

The fourth—the Australian Military Cemetery—is situate on Hill 104, between Villers-Bretonneux and Corbie, adjoining the site of the proposed Australian National Memorial. Some 1,500 Australians rest here.

To keep green the memory of their valour and endurance in France and Belgium, it has been decided to erect a special memorial to the Australian Corps. An area of 10 acres has been selected on Hill 104, midway between Villers-Bretonneux and Corbie. On this chalk ridge, lightly covered with grass and poppies, one may stand and look out for miles over open, undulating country. The great cathedral at Amiens, 8 miles distant, is etched upon the sky, while some 16 villages famous in the Somme fighting are visible.

Corbie, sheltered in the valley below, where the Somme winds through swamp and reeds, is recovering from its war wounds. Villers-Bretonneux, an equal distance away, on the opposite side of the Monument, was more sorely tried, and will take longer to regain its former prosperity. It is amid these scenes that our noble dead are buried. They sleep far from their homeland; but their memory will never fade.

DIVISIONAL MONUMENTS.

PERMANENT monuments, in the form of an obelisk, are being erected to the Australian Divisions as follows:—

1st Division At Pozieres, on Albert-Bapaume-road, 200 yards from Thiepval Railway Junction.

2nd Division. This monument, at Mont St. Quentin, on the western slope, takes the form of a bronze figure of an Australian soldier bayoneting a German eagle.

3rd Division. Near Mericourt, midway between Corbie and Bray, on the north side of the river Somme.

4th Division. This obelisk will be placed on the Le Verguier Ridge in the Hindenburg Line, dominating Bellelglise, and 1,500 yards south of Bellicourt.

5th Division. The memorial stands on "The Butte," near Polygon Wood, Ypres Sector.

Permanent memorials will be erected at Port Said and Jerusalem for the officers and other ranks who fell in Egypt, Palestine, and Syria, or died in Egypt as the result of the Gallipoli fighting. Another will stand at Lone Pine, on the rugged Peninsula of Gallipoli.

GALLIPOLI.

DEATH took heavy toll of Australians on Gallipoli. More than 9,000 are buried on the Peninsula.

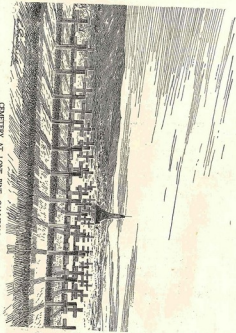
It was on the 25th April, 1915, that the 1st Australian Division and the New Zealanders, in conjunction with British and French troops, made their heroic landing on the narrow beach now known as ANZAC. The struggles at Helles, Quinn's Post, Courtney's Post, Gaba Tepe, and elsewhere during May, and the attacks at Lone Pine and the Nek, Chunuk Bair, and Hill 60, during August, made the name of Anzac echo round the world.

The plan for the cemetery area at Anzac is different from that of any other area, so far as is known. Anzac is, and will probably always remain, by far the most spectacular battlefield upon which troops of the British Empire fought. Its cliffs and gorges, its trenches, and even some of the dug-outs, stand now, and will stand for years, almost exactly as they did on the day of the evacuation—only roofs, timbers, and movable material have gone. The first burial party which visited it, soon after the Armistice, found the remains of Australians still lying at the farthest points which they had reached on the first day of the landing. Some had been buried by the Turks. Others had lain in No Man's Land all these years. In every place over that rugged area where the Australians had fallen, there were their bodies or their graves. In every gully, and near most of the old posts, were the old cemeteries. Some of these had been interfered with by Turkish marauders or pillagers, but there was no evidence of deliberate desecration by the Turks.

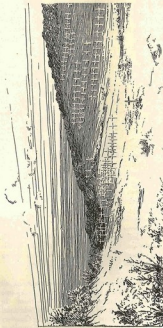
There is a cemetery at Lone Pine, 1,000 yards from the beach, one near the junction of Bridges-road with Shrapnel Valley, two above the beach, a fourth at Brown's Dip, and yet another at Shell Green. The soldiers' cemetery at Ari Burnu (the Turkish name for the Anzac area) is well known to our men.

The port of Chanak is within three days of Alexandria, on the direct route to Constantinople, and, when the cemeteries at Anzac are open to visitors, it will be via Chanak that they will be reached.

CEMETERY AT LONE PINE, CALLIFORNIA.



52



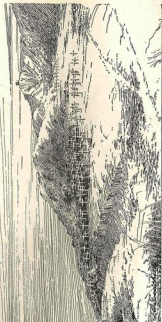
CEMETERY AT BROWN'S DIP, CALLIFORNIA.

53

The plan submitted to the Australian representative upon the Graves Commission in London was, that the Gallipoli battlefields should be acquired by the British Government for the Imperial Graves Commission up to the limit of the farthest point reached in the attacks—i.e., including the ground upon which every British or Australian soldier fell—at any rate at Anzac; that the graves of the men should be preserved where they fell, whenever possible, so that the site of their graves would mark their heroism. The old cemeteries, it was recommended, should be preserved exactly as they were at the evacuation. Paths should be made around the Anzac position to the principal posts, and at each post should be a monument, on which there should be inscribed, as far as ascertainable, the names of all men who fell in attacks made from that post. The remains of such men as were still immediately in front of Quinn's, the Nek, and so forth, should be buried beneath these monuments, so that, although many of these could not be identified, the memorial commemorating their valour would stand. The general plan was adopted by the architectural commission which visited the Eastern graveyards.

Every known grave at Anzac has been marked. Only two Australians (of the Australian Naval Bridging Train) were buried at Suvla, where, differently from Anzac, the graves had to be collected into a more concentrated area. At Cape Helles, all the Australians who were found were buried in a cemetery just behind the line reached by the Australians on 8th May, 1915. The New Zealanders are buried on the far side of the Krithia Nulla, at Helles; most of their remains were found among the trees of the Fir Copse, through which they advanced.

At Anzac, in front of the various posts or positions, all unidentified bodies have been collected and buried, in each case at a point where a monument could be erected over them. In every one of the main cemeteries graves were found additional to those marked upon the maps—at Shrapnel Gully Cemetery and Beach Cemetery there were several, and at Ari Burnus Point



SHELL GREEN CEMETERY, GALLIOLI.



SHRAPNEL GULLY, GALLIPOLI.

Cemetery, 14. These were mostly graves of men buried in the very earliest days. The Pope's Hill Cemetery has been added to by burying there the men whose bodies were found in front of Pope's and Quinn's Posts, near by.

The monuments at Anzac are to be at three or four of the main posts. The cemeteries are to be planted with Australian trees, but not so as to alter the aspect of the battlefield. The land has not yet definitely been acquired by the Empire, but the necessary steps are being taken

LEMNOS.

THE main cemetery at Lemnos is on a low hill behind the small town of East Mudros, beside the splendid harbor. The cemetery is surrounded by a high wall, and during the Armistice was still under the charge of the British Royal Engineers. In this large enclosure lie many of those Australians who were brought to Lemnos from the Peninsula during the wild days of the landing, and later, in the fierce fighting of August. Around Lemnos Harbor, in those days, there were spread the white tents of many great hospitals, and many a brave life closed there its lingering struggle. The graves of the French Eastern Expeditionary Force lie there beside those of the British Divisions. And here, comrades in death as in life, men of the glorious 29th Division await, beside those of the Australian Imperial Force, the call that shall awake them.

Among the Australian graves is one of a brigadier, who lost his life in the torpedoing of the *Southland*.

From the hills behind the town, far over the silver sea, can be seen distant mountains, a faint blue against the sky. They are the heights on either side of the Dardanelles. No sound comes from them now. Closed for ever is the tremendous struggle in which these men fought. They sleep beneath the blue sky and the fresh sea breezes, within sight of the steep shores where their sacrifice was made. Across the harbor at Portiano is a second cemetery—near the village church—where are the graves of some Australians.

Cemeteries in England.

HAREFIELD

MANY Australian soldiers died in hospitals, a hundred miles and more from the fighting line, and were buried in English soil.

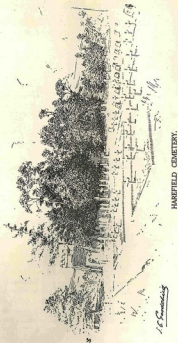
The 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield, 22 miles north-west from London, stands on high ground, 2 miles from Denham Railway Station. Half-a-mile down the village roadway, nestling in the green valley, is Harefield Cemetery, where 200 Australian soldiers are buried. Noble trees guard the graves. Here there are 48 stone and marble scrolls, in memory of Australians. Six are to men who served and suffered on the stern heights of Gallipoli. These uniform stone memorials were erected "as a token of respect" by the dead soldiers' comrades in hospital.

BROOKWOOD.

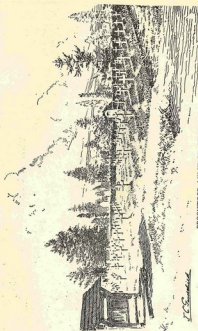
THE cemetery at Brookwood, with an area of 500 acres, is 24 miles south-west of London. It was opened in 1851, and 183,000 civilians are buried in the enclosure. A plot about an acre in extent is the military portion. Here 3,000 soldiers were buried in the past two years.

Each part of the Empire has its section in Brookwood Cemetery. There are 383 neatly painted crosses where Australians sleep. The soldiers' graves are amid the pine trees. Around them the short flowering heath grows luxuriantly in sandy soil. The Australians' memorial is a neatly painted board with gable top. The inscribed names are protected by glass.

The toll of death from causes only indirectly incidental to the war is heavy. All but ten of 130 South African graves were filled in two weeks by the ravages of blackwater fever. Influenza was responsible for many deaths.



HAREFIELD CEMETERY.



BROOKWOOD MILITARY CEMETERY.

J.C. ...

Bisley rifle ranges are adjacent to the cemetery, and the sharp sound of rifle fire tells ever and anon of those distant scenes where Death reaped so abundant a harvest of manhood. The surroundings of the graves at Brookwood are such as the friends of those who lie there would wish for them. The grounds are spacious, varied, and well kept. Our soldiers rest amid rural beauty.

LARK HILL.

SITUATED on the wind-swept hills of ancient Salisbury, the huge military camp at Lark Hill, in Wiltshire, has painful memories for Australian soldiers who passed the winter of 1916 there. Lark Hill Cemetery is near the village of Durrington, in the valley of the Avon. On the opposite side of the Camp, 3 miles away, is Stonehenge. The huge, lichen-covered stones probably formed a temple of old time. There is evidence that the short grass-covered ridges of Salisbury have been a burial ground for 3,500 years.

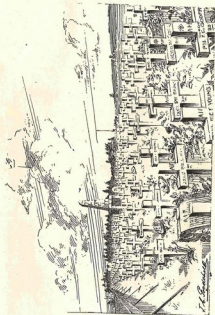
The most striking monument in Lark Hill Cemetery is a red granite obelisk, 18 feet in height, upon which is engraved:—

Erected by their Comrades,
1917.

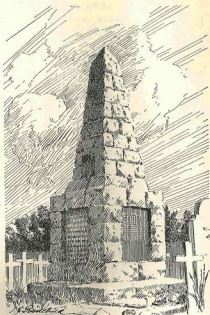
To the glory of God and in Memory of the men of the
First Training Battalion,
Australian Imperial Service,
who died
on Active Service at
Lark Hill.

One marble headstone is erected to the memory of a Queensland member of the 9th Field Artillery; another, in sandstone, is to a gunner from Tasmania.

Salisbury Cathedral looms over the town, 9 miles away. And out at Stonehenge, whose chalk hills resemble the ridges and valley of the Somme, our soldiers are sleeping. Close by are the thatched cottages of the village; and there the Avon flows



DURRINGTON CEMETERY.



MONUMENT TO AUSTRALIANS, LARK HILL CEMETERY,
DURRINGTON.

MALTA.

IN the days of the Peninsula campaign, when the rush of casualties strained every resource, both of hospitals and ships, many British and Australian wounded were taken to Malta, the small historic island in the Mediterranean sea, a day's steaming from the foot of Italy. The island is one of the earliest homes of the world's civilization. Its people are a mixture of Italian, Sicilian, Arab, and Phœnician, which, long centuries ago, had so blended as to be a separate race.

The chief city, Valetta, lies around a harbor as deep and indented as that of Sydney, on a very small scale, where the great docks and arsenal of the British Mediterranean fleet are situated side by side with the grey stone ramparts of earlier times. The city is crowded around the harbor.

On a slope near the city's outskirts lies the Pieta Cemetery. The gardens are some of the most beautifully kept in Malta, with their dark cypress trees. The cemetery has been increased by taking in part of the adjoining slope for the graves of soldiers. Here, on terrace after terrace, are the graves, cut in the rock of which the island is made. In all, 174 Australians are buried in Pieta Cemetery.

On a hill also on the outskirts of Valetta, commanding a wonderful view of the island, lies the Adolorata Cemetery. Stone paths and terraces lead up the hill, bordered by flowers and stately cypress. Deep under the shade of the pine trees on the hill top, on a terrace of stone which has been bought by the military authority for soldiers' graves, on the most beautiful site in the cemetery, are the graves of 28 Australians. As with all other military graves in Malta, these are marked by stone slabs inscribed with the soldier's name.

In the centre of the island, on a steep hill overlooking the island from sea to sea, lies the village of Imtarfa. Here the great stone barracks were used during the war as a hospital. And in the little cemetery, beside the road which winds up the steep ascent, lie a few Australians who died here. They were

tenderly cared for by English sisters in the great hospital near by. At St. George's Bay, on the northern outskirts of Valetta, close by the rocky border of the sea, lie other Australians who died in the hospital near by. Adjacent to the St. George's Barracks is a hall, presented by the Australians for the use of British troops in return for the kindness which they received in Malta, and still called the Australian Hall.

Nowhere will Australian graves be more tenderly cared for than in this British colony, where, amid scenes that have been historical since the days of Christ, some hundreds of our finest soldiers lie.

GRAVES OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

WHEN a prisoner of war died in German hands he was given by the enemy a soldier's grave. Some of these, which our advancing troops found in the graveyards close behind the German lines at Peronne, Mericourt, Hermies, and elsewhere, were as well tended as those of the German soldiers, engraved with the names and regiments of those who lay there, exactly in the same manner as the grave of each German soldier.

Even in far Turkey, in the wild passes of the Taurus Mountains, there are the graves of Australian soldiers, who were captured in Turkey and employed by the Germans on railway construction works. High up on the summit of the railway line in the Amanus mountains, not far from Karapınar, near Hadschkiir, are the graves of perhaps a score of British or Dominion soldiers. On one of these lonely graves can be read the name of a private of the 14th Battalion, A.I.F., who died on New Year's Day, 1917. Steps are being taken to trace all such outlying graves in Turkey.

EGYPT.

EGYPT will always be a place of pilgrimage for Australians. For over four years, from the day when the First Australian Division marched into its camp below the age-old Pyramids, to the day when the last Light Horseman left Cairo, the history of our people was deeply associated with that of Egypt. It was the Australian base throughout the fighting in Gallipoli, Sinai, and Palestine. To the great hospitals here thousands of our wounded and sick returned from the Landing, from Lone Pine, from Romani and Rafa, Gaza, and the terrible summer in Jordan Valley.

And throughout Egypt, but especially in Cairo and Alexandria, the cemeteries will bear witness for ever of the sacrifice which Australia made. There is no doubt that, so long as Australia lasts, these cemeteries will be visited constantly by those who pass through Egypt on their way to Europe. And there, in the beautiful gardens, beneath the cypresses with the bright flowers of the east springing around them carefully tended, they will rood for themselves, from many and many a headstone, the evidence of brave men's sacrifice.

Chathy Military Cemetery, situated about a mile and a half from Alexandria, is surrounded by a high stone wall, and on either side are cemeteries of various denominations. A broad path leads down the centre, and at the side and overhead many grape vines are growing. The war graves were scattered in plots throughout the cemetery, but are now being concentrated in the rear half. The Australian graves, numbering 462, occupy places among the Imperial graves, and are planted with trees and flowers.

Hadra Cemetery is about half-a-mile from Chathy. It is a new military cemetery, and is neatly laid out in large plots; a broad path down the centre has a low hedge on either side. The cemetery is uniform, containing only the crosses of the Graves Registration Unit. The Australian graves number 23; they are in excellent order.

The cemetery at Cairo is divided by a beautiful avenue of trees. The left half is occupied by civilian, and the right half by war graves. A high stone wall surrounds the cemetery, and large trees are growing along the borders of the plots, which are planted with flowers, watered from small irrigation channels. The Australian graves number 488. Many have stone crosses.

A mile south of the railway station, Minia Cemetery lies in the midst of cultivated land, and is surrounded by a stone wall. It is well laid out, and planted with peppercorns and banana trees. The eight graves of Australians here are in excellent order.

There are 36 Australian graves in the cemetery at Tel-el-Kebir, which is close to the Cairo-Port Said railway line, and about 200 yards from the Tel-el-Kebir station. The cemetery is planted with trees, and surrounded by a high stone and iron rail fence.

Suez Military Cemetery is close to civilian cemeteries of various religious denominations. The surrounding country is desert, but the cemetery is well laid out and well cared for. Forty-one Australians are buried here.

The Military Cemetery at Ismailia is rather unusual in its design, being laid out in three rows of graves, extending for a distance of 220 yards. There are 79 well-tended graves of Australians here. The cemetery is planted with pine and peppercorn trees.

Kantara Cemetery, situated on the east side of the Suez Canal, near Kantara East railway station, contains the graves of 138 Australian soldiers. Like that at Suez, the cemetery is in a desert-like locality, but is well kept. It is surrounded by a low, barbed-wire fence.

Situated about 2½ miles, in a westerly direction, from the town, Port Said Military Cemetery is close to the sea, and adjoins the civilian cemetery, the two being enclosed by a brick wall. The Australian graves number 64, and are scattered in various plots. The cemetery is neatly laid out, and has been planted with a small, shrub-like plant.

The work of exhumation has been completed now in Egypt, Palestine, and Syria, but a further search, to trace unlocated graves, is being made in the Jerusalem and Gaza sectors. Permanent cemeteries have been established at many places, from Cairo to Damascus. Upon cemeteries being completed by the Graves Registration Unit of the directorate, they will be handed over to the Anglo-Egyptian War Graves Executive Committee, in the case of Egypt, and to the Inspector of Works of the Imperial War Graves Commission, in the case of Palestine and Syria. Permanent headstones, walls, and monuments will be erected in memory of our illustrious dead.



SINAI AND PALESTINE.

AUSTRALIAN troops took a leading part in all the victories won in Sinai and Palestine, and they paid the price of ever being in the forefront of battle.

When the Turkish Armies were finally defeated, in September and October, 1918, there were graves of Australian soldiers in many lonely places; where the larks sing in spring-time and early summer, and the land is alight with flowers; on barren hillsides, and in the silent desert, between the hills and the sea.

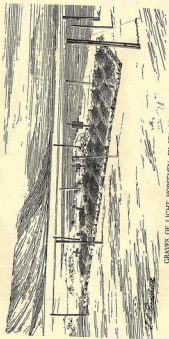
El Arish Cemetery, near the beach, and about 1½ miles from the railway station, is surrounded by tall date palms. A barbed-wire fence runs round it. Here are the graves of 88 Australian soldiers.

Beerahba Cemetery lies 200 yards south of the railway station, which is the terminus of a branch line from the Palestine military railway. The surrounding country is of an undulating nature, without vegetation, but in the cemetery itself many young eucalyptus trees have been planted, and are flourishing. There are 174 Australian graves here, and they are in perfect order.

Two miles north of the railway station, the military cemetery at Dier-el-Belah is surrounded by flat country, cultivated in patches. The cemetery, which contains the graves of 37 Australian soldiers, is enclosed by a low hedge of shrubs, with trees here and there.

Ninety Australians rest in Gaza Cemetery, 400 yards east of the railway station. The country is of a flat, undulating nature, with scattered trees. The cemetery is surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, and all the graves are carefully tended.

Ramleh Cemetery, where 62 Australians are buried, is nearly 1 mile east of Ramleh, and 2 miles from Ludl station. A rough track leads to it from Ramleh, through olive groves and cactus hedges. It is in good order, and is surrounded by a barbed-wire fence.



GRAVES OF LIGHT HORSEMEN, BY SEA OF GALILEE.

Jerusalem Military Cemetery lies on the western slope of the Mount of Olives, facing the Holy City. The country is rocky, with little vegetation. Here there are 136 Australian graves, which are well cared for.

West of the town, at the foot of Mount Carmel, is Haifa Cemetery, reached by a fair metal road. It is surrounded on three sides by a low stone wall, on the fourth by a wire fence. Many pine trees grace the cemetery, which is well cared for, and contains 28 Australian graves.

An Empire's Monument.

THE CENOTAPH AT WHITEHALL.

SITUATED in one of the busiest thoroughfares of London is a memorial which differs from all others. It is not erected to the memory of any individual, or Company, Battalion, Brigade, Division, or Army; it is not a monument of any specific sect or creed or nationality; it is the memorial of 1,000,000 soldiers and sailors who died that Liberty might live. The simple inscription is—

“THE GLORIOUS DEAD.”

Coloured troops from Africa, India (both East and West), are honoured together with the soldiers of Australia, Canada, Newfoundland, South Africa, New Zealand, Great Britain, and her smaller dependencies.

The monument stands on the roadway between the Houses of Parliament and the Nelson column in Trafalgar Square. Thousands of civilians bare and bend their heads, and place wreaths at the base of the memorial; while soldiers, in pride and sorrow, salute “THE GLORIOUS DEAD.”



CENOTAPH, WHITEHALL.

