

**GENERAL FRENCH
AND
ADMIRAL JELlicoe**

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General French and Admiral Jellicoe by Archibald Rae

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ARCHIBALD RAE

**GENERAL FRENCH
AND
ADMIRAL JELlicoe**



H.M.S. "Iron Duke," Super-Dreadnought (Flagship of Admiral Sir John K. Jellicoe);

*for sale at
12. 1000 to be written for by Miss Toole 1964*

GENERAL FRENCH
and
ADMIRAL JELlicOE

ARCHIBALD
RAE



LONDON & GLASGOW
COLLINS' CLEAR-TYPE PRESS

Dedicated

TO

THE BRAVE SOULS

WHO, TO MAINTAIN NATIONAL HONOUR, TRUTH,
AND RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR 'A SCRAP OF PAPER,'
HAVE GIVEN UP THE COMFORTABLE EASE OF
PEACE FOR THE FORTUNES OF WAR IN AIR, ON
LAND, AND ON THE SEA.

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Army, and probably he himself values just as highly as any other glowing panegyric that has ever been made upon his military prowess by the orators of his day, the striking testimonial penned from the South African veld during the last Boer War by a non-commissioned officer of a regiment of irregular scouts then serving under him: 'I thank God for General French, for he has a heart as well as a head, and he possesses some regard for human life.'

A man who finds one of his greatest delights in puzzling out some intricate tactical movement required by the exigencies of the battlefield, but who yet finds time, after a stressful day of combating the enemy's fierce onslaughts in engagements of international moment, to visit the field hospital and speak a kindly word of cheer and encouragement to his men, Sir John French has been thus admirably word-sketches: 'In character he is a man of cold persistence, and of fiery energy, cautious, yet audacious, weighing his actions well, but carrying them out with the dash that befits a leader. He is remarkable for the quickness of his decision, being alert,

resourceful, and determined.' His tenets as a leader of men are far enough removed from those of the 'blood and iron' school upon which the German Army has plumed itself and has built up its ruthless policy of all-crushing militarism.

Ready with the mailed fist to strike the enemy whenever the occasion may arise, he is yet himself an excellent example of his own summing up of a great general's genius: 'I believe I am right when I say that not a few of the greatest military commanders the world has known have been distinguished by a certain grand simplicity of character. Indeed, this quality seems, if not essential, at any rate of very great value to a military commander, because it is most likely to mean fixity and singleness of mind and purpose, of power of concentration, and of wise direction of thought.'

General French comes of a fighting stock. The family is of Franco-Irish extraction, and proudly claims relationship with Lord de Freyne. For some generations the Frenches were settled in Roscommon, from which county Sir John's grandfather migrated to