

**WITH THE FRENCH  
EASTERN ARMY**

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With the French eastern army by W. E. Grey

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**W. E. GREY**

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BY

W. E. GREY

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HODDER AND STOUGHTON

LONDON NEW YORK TORONTO

MCMXV



## A TRIBUTE TO OUR FRENCH ALLIES

EARL KITCHENER in the House of Lords :  
" During all this time the long line from Lille to Verdun was maintained intact by our French allies against constant attacks from the German forces. The French Army have shown the greatest tenacity and endurance and have displayed the highest fighting qualities in thus defending their position against any advance of the Germans. For although they have made notable advances at various points, they have never yielded up a yard of their country since I last addressed your lordships.

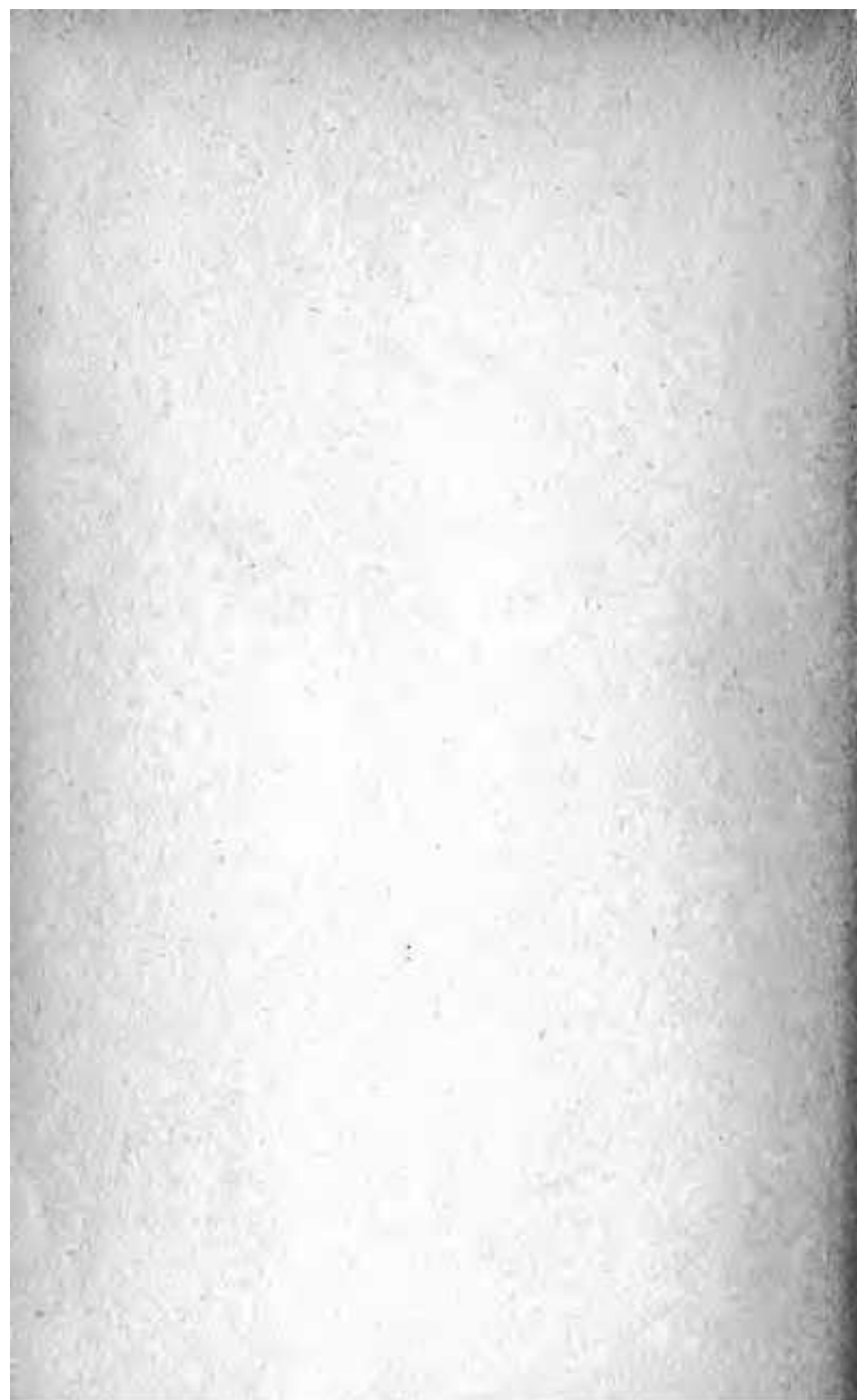
EARL CURZON : " Glad I was to hear the noble Earl include in his tribute words regarding the tremendously heavy part that has been played by the French. We are rather apt in this country—it is a pardonable fault, concentrating our attention as we do on the fifteen or twenty miles

where our own troops are fighting—to think that is the centre and focus of the war. Do not let us forget that it is not more than one tenth of the line held by our allies, and it is due to their patience and the strategy of the French commander and to their endurance that France, who is fighting our battle just as much as her own, has so gallantly held her own all the way from Switzerland to the sea.”



## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. GERMANY'S WESTERN SCHEMES -	9
II. THE INSPIRATION AND THE MAN -	33
III. THE FIGHTING IN THE CONQUERED PROVINCES - - - -	57
IV. A HEAVY FRENCH DEFEAT - -	78
V. THE FIGHT FOR NANCY - -	97
VI. BEATING THE CROWN PRINCE -	113
VII. IN THE VOSGES - - -	133
VIII. THREATENING THE GERMAN LEFT	149
IX. A POSTSCRIPT: THE "NIBBLES" BECOME GREAT "BITES" -	167



## CHAPTER I

### GERMANY'S WESTERN SCHEMES

ATTENTION in England has been concentrated first on the brilliant retreat effected by General Joffre and Sir John French on Paris, then on the battles of the Marne and the Aisne, and next on the long series of capital engagements in that cockpit of Europe, Belgium. Because of this, little interest has been shown in the fighting on the right of the Allied line. The British troops have had no share worth mentioning in that. The whole brunt of it has fallen on the French and they have acquitted themselves there with a skill and a bravery worthy of their finest records.

The unfortunate absence of war correspondents will prevent for ever many heroic deeds done in these months of struggle against Germany's invading hordes from becoming known. This volume is an attempt at doing some justice to the work of our