

weeks. After landing, we had heavy fighting for a couple of weeks and then settled down to trench warfare, which is a slow and wearisome business. On August 7, a further advance was decided on, and for four days the fighting was simply terrific. The first fortnight's fighting was only child's play compared with this. I was up in the thick of it during those four awful days, and I hope I never see anything like it again. Our men, and many British and Indian troops, charged a succession of hills and held on grimly despite most desperate counter-attacks. Our boys fought nobly, and I can say without boasting that there are no troops to excel them. No matter how severe the assault, they never broke or wavered for an instant. I cannot tell you of our losses, but the casualty lists will tell their own tale. The greatest loss that our Infantry Brigade suffered was in the death of Colonel Malone. His work over here has been magnificent, and he has proved himself to be every inch a soldier. In this last great fight he rose to the occasion, and made fame for himself and the Battalion he commanded. On Sunday, August 7, his men had the foremost position, and from daylight till dark they fought like tigers. Colonel Malone, who did not know what fear was, remained all day in the thick of the battle encouraging his brave men by his own example. About 6 p.m. he was struck down by a burst of shrapnel, and died without a word. He received Holy Communion from me a short time before his death.

The chaplains over here have both had rather a bad time. One priest has been killed and two wounded. The two Protestant chaplains, who landed here with me on April 25, have both been badly wounded. Father Dore, who came from New Zealand with me, was shot in the back last Sunday, but I am happy to say that I was able to get him away quickly to the hospital ship where the doctor assured me that the wound was not serious. An Australian Presbyterian chaplain who was hit about the same time died a few minutes after being brought in. We chaplains are not taking senseless risks, but there is absolutely no safety line here, and we are under fire of some sort most of the time. I have to thank God for my narrow escapes, and so far have not been touched. I am keeping fairly well, but am worn and very thin. The weather is trying, and the hills are very steep. The doctors had insisted that I should go away for a rest, and I had made up my mind to go on the very day that Father Dore was hit, but then I cancelled all arrangements, and will now hang on till some other priests come. A month ago I would have been sorry to leave my soldiers, but now they have nearly all left me, so I could go away to-morrow with no regrets.'

Reefton

The Rev. Father Galerne, during his late visit to the North Island, was met by a number of West Coasters, who presented him with a framed photograph of the monument erected in Victoria Square, Normandy, in memory of fallen comrades during the troublesome times of the 'sixties.

On Sunday evening, after devotions, representatives of the congregation assembled at the presbytery for the purpose of bidding good-bye to Mr. Henry Orpwood, who was to leave next morning for Trentham. On behalf of the congregation, Rev. Father Galerne presented Mr. Orpwood with a wristlet watch and a purse of sovereigns, at the same time paying a tribute to the departing member's many good qualities. Mr. Orpwood was also the recipient of a set of military brushes, a safety razor, case of pipes, and a fountain pen.

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UNHAPPY MEXICO

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Interesting comments on the state of anarchy in Mexico, and the reasons why it is being allowed to continue, were made by his Grace Archbishop O'Shea in an interview with a *Dominion* reporter. His Grace has just returned from a visit to America, and in the course of his journeyings in the States he passed through the town of El Paso, on the American frontier, in which town Huerta, an ex-President of the Republic, is held as a prisoner by the United States Government. At El Paso American soldiers were patrolling the frontier.

'There is a very strong feeling among large sections of the American people that it is a disgrace to the United States that things should have been allowed to get into the state they now are in Mexico,' said the Archbishop. 'America made a show of interfering in the beginning, but the plain truth is that she is not even yet prepared to intervene seriously. She has no soldiers. She is utterly unprepared for war, even with Mexico. Of course, in time America could beat Mexico, but it might take two or three years, and the sacrifice might be very heavy. That is the real reason why the Americans backed out of the business. They have been trying by diplomatic means to bring about a settlement, and they have called in the help of the South American Republics. The other day I read a cablegram which stated that the Pan-American Congress had agreed to recognise Carranza. That seemed to me altogether an unlikely possibility when I was there, because the general opinion was that neither Carranza nor Villa was fit to rule any decent country. The aim of the Congress was to have elections conducted in a constitutional way, in order that a president might be elected who would keep some sort of order.'

'The mistake America made was to allow arms and munitions to go into Mexico to the different rebel leaders. If America stopped this, as they seemed to be on the point of doing when I left, the troubles in Mexico would fizzle out. But as long as America allows arms to go into Mexico for any scoundrel who gets up against the Government, there will be trouble. Until this trade in arms is stopped no Government can rule in Mexico. There are so many of these rebels—bandits and highwaymen they are in fact—who, if they can get arms, will get a following, and will fight any Government. The trade in arms is the result in the first place of the greed of the American manufacturers, and Americans admitted to me that the illicit trade was the crux of the whole matter. Had these scoundrels who are disturbing Mexico to-day not been helped, Huerta, so I was informed, would have been able to maintain a stable Government. It is true that Huerta was no saint, but he was better than these others—Villa and Carranza. I was informed, also, that he was not so black as he was painted, and that, especially in regard to the report that he was implicated in the murder of President Madero, he was unjustly charged.'

'Mexico is a most difficult country to govern. I met several Mexicans and they told me a lot of things. They all agreed that the Americans were to blame for exporting arms into the country. Many of the Mexican people are only half civilised, and in all of them there is a strong infusion of Indian blood. Americans now see that what Mexico really needs is a strong man, a dictator, to set up a Government and to maintain it, and to keep down insurrection. They want another President like Porfirio Diaz. Many unkind things were written about him, but he was the only man who could maintain law and order there. He is the sort of ruler that would not suit us or the Americans, because we do not need such a ruler, but he is the only sort of man who can save Mexico. It is nonsense to talk of representative government for Mexico for a long time yet.'

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