# TEMPORARY HEROES

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Temporary heroes by Cecil Sommers

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### **CECIL SOMMERS**

# TEMPORARY HEROES





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## TEMPORARY HEROES BY CECIL SOMMERS

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE AUTHOR

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#### FOREWORD

Some talk of Alexander, and some of Hercules. And some don't. This is no thrilling tale of derring do, but a collection of letters written from all kinds of places, mostly unpleasant, in all weathers, chiefly rain, and at all sorts of odd times. They are the impressions of the moment, and are subject to the fits of depression and optimism which attack everybody in the trenches. Thus if in one letter serious doubts are entertained of our power to win it must be put down to the non-arrival of the rum issue, and if in another the war is said to be almost over that is a sign of the reopening of leave rather than any tangible evidence to that effect. The real actors have in every case given way to fictitious characters, but with this exception the letters are practically untouched. It may seem to some that the not infrequent references to the Staff do not show sufficient respect for that much maligned body, but it is necessary to remember that without something to grouse about life in the infantry would be unbearable, and the Staff forms a convenient target for the envenomed darts of the man whose billet leaks or who finds that his account is overdrawn. The writer would be the last to desire, as some people seem to do, an exchange of Staffs with the German Army.



## CONTENTS

CHAPTER T	RUMOURS OF V	VARS	1	088	40	2	82	FAGE I3
11.	Ware				×.		3	43
7222	THE WITCHES'				A1 35	90 92	88	69
	SANCTUARY WO				<b>5</b> 5	8		101
V.	High Life	201		<b>1</b> 65	*		*	117
	선생님이 있었던데요	,,	•	\$8	*	(5)		
VI.	THE "SHATOO	22		203	*			145
VII.	ALARUMS AND	Excu	RSIC	NS	90	*	i i	179
VIII.	"Bon" Times			•	×	3	•	203
IX.	Васк то Ѕсно	ol Ac	AIN				9.	225
X.	THE PUSH	18	22	18	*	3.0	3	237
	ILL	US <b>T</b> I	RA	TION	S			
FLOWI	NG WITH FAIR MA	IDENS	, FR	EE WIN	E.		Fron	Haplace.
Ат ти	E REGULATION V	VALK	OF	ABOUT	A M	ILE AN	D A	FAGE
555 555	HALF PER HO		•				55055 **	34
IT APP	EARS THAT YOU V	Vork	ON	THE ST	AFF .	AFTER	ALL	116
As He	ART-BROKEN AS A	N A.S	.C.,	м.т	OFFIC	ER W	TH-	
7.50% - 7.50%	OUT SPURS		-0000					118
0	UR TOT OF RUM,	RRUM	ı, R	RRUM,	RRRE	RUM .		164
PERCH	ED WELL ON THE	SIDE	OF	му Не	AD,	¥	14	184
Not M	UCH GLORY ABOU	TI T	•				14	188