

**A BLUE DEVIL OF FRANCE;
EPIC FIGURES
AND STORIES OF THE
GREAT WAR, 1914-1918**

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A Blue devil of France; epic figures and stories of the great war, 1914-1918 by Gustav P. Capart & J. C. Drouillard

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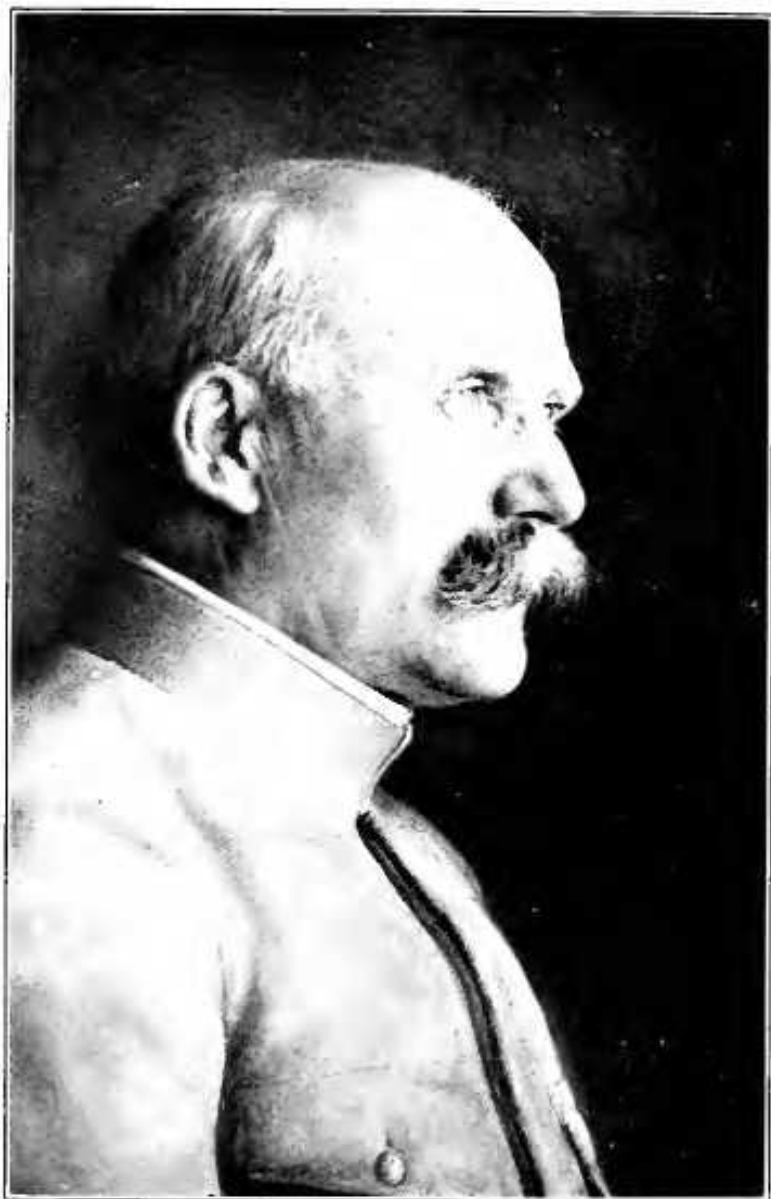
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GUSTAV P. CAPART & J. C. DROUILLARD

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EPIC FIGURES
AND STORIES OF THE
GREAT WAR, 1914-1918**



Persevering
Energetic
Triumphant
Ardent
Intrepid
Nil.....melior!

A BLUE DEVIL *of* FRANCE

*Epic figures and stories of the Great War,
1914-1918*

BY
CAPTAIN G. P. CAPART
LATE OF GENERAL PÉTAINE'S STAFF

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL FRENCH
BY
J. C. DROUILLARD



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TO
M. PAUL BIZET
M. DESIRÉ MARBAIS
MY FRIENDS

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

THIS volume contains an ensemble of true episodes about the French *poilu* taken from my diary.

The reader will regret, perhaps, the absence of continuity in the following chapters; that will rapidly disappear, however, when he sees the characteristic figures he should better know and love for a long time to come. A scruple has always guided me: to write the truth. I have been strict in writing nothing but what I have seen or heard.

In giving these souvenirs to the American public, I have had but one object: to mold in relief the warlike virtues of the admirable soldiers of France with whom I have fought for more than three years.

Mothers, wives, sweethearts and children of the heroes fallen in defense of their country, will find in these pages a precious consolation: they will see that with just reason they can be proud of their cherished dead.

I ask indulgence, much indulgence of the public. I have written these lines simply and faithfully during a long and painful convalescence; many times I have felt that my physical forces would abandon me before I could arrive at the end of my task. I shall be fully recompensed for these efforts if I know I have brought

to my readers the emotion and feeling, which I still experience, of those epic hours.

CAP. G. P. CAPART.

THE LAWRENCE HOSPITAL

Bronxville, New York

June 2, 1918