

# London Daily News

The paper for Londoners

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## British warhorses fall short

At 11.15am yesterday morning, the cavalry regiment 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards made an assault on a German position to the North of Mons.

In the last few months, the British cavalry have been moving into position in an ambitious campaign to break the German defences in Belgium.

Initially, the 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards had formed in a wheat field to the South of the German trenches help hide themselves

from the German guns. In a desperate yet gallant cry, the commanding officer, Major Jamie Stuart astride his black horse called Tophorn, proclaimed "Be brave and God save King George!" At that moment, in a spectacular movement of unison, the cavalry regiment drew their sabres as they made ready for their charge.

### The Charge

In a surreal minute, the cavalry began their assault as one mass of horse, men and swords that would surely have crushed the enemy. However, intelligence had not reached the cavalry in time that their assault would most certainly end in doom. The German army had strengthened their position with fresh barbed wired and machine guns that would inevitably cut the 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards to ribbons. As commanding Officer Major Jamie Stuart realised the fate of his men, he tried desperately to call off the charge, but it was too late. The cavalymen fell to the ground like dominoes with their horses cut to ribbons upon the barbed wire. It was a most tragic spectacle. An onlooker from the Royal Horse Artillery, Private Jones said “Those cavalry boys were wiped out as soon as they reached the German defences- I couldn’t help shed a tear”. Another from the North Staffordshire Regiment said “It was heart breaking to see so must suffering and pain, I don’t know how the German army can live with what they did”

### **Casualties**

Of the 625 men and horse who made the assault, only 305 have returned with only 210 ready for a return to action. Captain Philips who was the most senior officer to return said that “The boys did all that they could, but we

couldn’t go up against all that metal and gun fire”.

The feelings among the men were depressed upon their return with Lance Corporal Frederick perfectly summing up the sentiment. “The men are spent, not just physically, but mentally. We have nothing left to give.”

### **The King’s Reaction**

King George reacted to the news with calm determination, giving these words of encouragement, “There may be dark days ahead, but with God’s help we shall prevail.”

The 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards are expected to be given rest and withdrawn from the line in the next few days and one can only hope that more missing and hurt make a full recovery and can return to their families.

