

and bombarded our men out of the captured trench with a new heavy description of bomb. We still hold the communication trenches, which had been constructed during the night. To sum up, a good advantage of at least 500 yards—including two lines of Turkish trenches—has been made along a front of nearly three miles in the centre of our southern section; but we are back to our original right and left, and making a fresh effort now to advance the left, to bring it up to line with the centre. The Turkish position there, however, is extraordinarily strong, and naturally so, with a deep ravine on one side and the sea on the other."

BIOGRAPHICAL.

South Australia.

LIEUT. OWEN SMYTH.

Sincere regret was expressed in the Civil Service in Adelaide when it became known that a son of Mr. C. E. Owen Smyth, I.S.O. (Superintendent of Public Buildings) had been killed in action at the Dardanelles. Lieut. Trevor Owen Smyth was serving with the 10th Battalion of Infantry. He was educated at St. Peter's Col-



LIEUT. OWEN SMYTH.

lege. At one time he was a subaltern in the 10th Adelaide Rifles, but eight or nine years ago he resigned to go into "the bush." He was at Cuthero, Frome Downs, and later was in Queensland. He had intended to take up sheep raising in the north-eastern State, but when war was declared he offered his services for the front, and joined the South Australian Infantry under Col. Weir. Deceased was a noted shot with both rifle and revolver, and was an expert horseman.

HONOURS FOR AUSTRALIANS.

The Military Cross.

In connection with the birthday honours awarded to Australian soldiers, it is explained that the Distinguished Service Order decoration is for officers only, and for distinguished service in the field. The corresponding award for men is the Distinguished Conduct Medal. The new decoration, entitled the Military Cross, is a cross of silver, having on each arm the Imperial Crown, and bearing in the centre the letters "G.R.I." No person is eligible for this decoration unless he is a captain, a commissioned officer of a lower grade, or a warrant officer. The military cross is worn immediately after all orders, and before all decorations and medals, the Victoria Cross alone excepted. It is worn on the left breast, attached to a white ribbon with a purple stripe. Lieut. A. P. Derham, who has been awarded the Military Cross, is a son of Mr. T. P. Derham, of Derham and Derham, solicitors, Melbourne. He is attached to the 5th Battalion, and was wounded early in the fighting at the Dardanelles. Lieut.-Col. W. R. McNicoll, who has received the Distinguished Service Order, commands the 6th Australian Battalion at the Dardanelles, having succeeded Lieut.-Col. J. M. Semmens. Before going to the front he was a schoolmaster at Geelong.

"WATCH AUSTRALIA!"

Mr. Churchill's Vindication.

LONDON, June 6.

Mr. Winston Churchill (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) in an address on Saturday in defence of the operations at the Dardanelles while he held the post of First Lord of the Admiralty, said that Major-Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton's army on the Gallipoli Peninsula, and the supporting allied fleet under Admiral John Michael de Robeck, separated by only a few miles, had achieved a victory such as the war had not seen elsewhere. When he spoke of a victory, he was not referring to those victories which crowded daily the placards of the newspapers. He was speaking of a victory in the sense of a formidable fact which would shape the destinies of nations and shorten the duration of the war.

"Beyond those few miles of ridge and scrub on which our French comrades and our gallant Australian and New Zealand fellow-subjects are fighting," he said, "lie the destruction of the enemy's fleet and army, the fall of a world-famous capital, and the probable accession of further powerful allies. The struggle will entail heavy risks and will mean enormous losses and cruel; but victory is certain, and that will make amends. There never was a great subsidiary operation in which more complete harmony of strategic, political, and economic advantages were combined, or which stood in a truer relation to the main decision which is in the central theatre of the war. Through the Narrows of the Dardanelles, and across the ridges of the Gallipoli Peninsula, lie some of the shortest paths to triumph and to peace. We are confronted with a foe who, without the slightest scruple, would extirpate us—man, woman, and child—by any method open to him. To fail is to be enslaved or destroyed.

"Not to win a decisive victory is but to have all the misery over again, and after an uneasy truce to fight under less favorable circumstances, and perhaps alone. After what has happened, there cannot be peace until the German military system has been shattered, torn, and trampled upon, so that it will be unable to resist our will, decision, and conquering power."

Mr. Churchill concluded:—"Above all, let us be of good cheer. The loyalty of our dominions and colonies vindicates our civilization. The hate of our enemies proves the effectiveness of our warfare. "If you are anxious and depressed, you should watch Australia and New Zealand, in this last and finest crusade, smiting down the combined barbarisms of Prussia and Turkey. You should see Gen. Botha holding South Africa for the King, or you should witness Canada defending to the death the last few miles of shattered Belgium. Then across the smoke and carnage of the immense battlefield, look forward to the vision of a United British Empire on the calm background of a liberated Europe."

"The nation must bend anew, and work together for a supreme effort. The times are hard, and the need is dire. The agony which Europe is suffering is infinite, but the might of Great Britain, hurled unitedly into the struggle, will be irresistible. We are the great reserve of the allied cause. That reserve must march on to victory as one man. (Applause.)