



The Women Will Have To Finish It.

Gunner G. Sheppard, No. 28723, 12th Battery, R.F.A., with the Expeditionary Force, writing to his mother at Ganes Buildings, Melksham, on May 23rd says:---

"I am writing to let you know that I am all right and well, and glad that you are all the same. I received the tobacco quite safe. We have been here about 10 days. When this battle is finished we shall shift. I have seen some sights these last few days. I don't think this will last much longer. You ask me if we had plenty of food. We get plenty of 'bully' and biscuits, and that is about all. We have not seen much bread lately. My mouth is quite sore biting them. They would be all right if they were not so hard. Tell Ruthey Fred will want some good teeth when he comes out here. You said you hope we should come home safe, all of us, but I don't think there will be many men left to finish this. I expect the women will have to finish it. I have not seen Bert or Jim or Ern yet. What Division are they in? But we chaps have not got much time to look after them. Old Charley and I have just made a tin of tea, so we are doing well. He and I were in a very bad place the other day, so I looked at him and I said: 'Charley, we have backed the winner this time.' He said: 'Looks like it.' But, thank God, we have got back all right."

Wiltshire Times, 1915