HEROIC FRENCH BANDSMEN LED WAY TO VICTORY AND DEATH

Camille Decresus Relates Dramatic Episode of the Fighting in France — Musicians Played "Marcellaise" During Charge Till All But One of Them Had Fallen — Composer Now in This Country Served as Volunteer Until Rheumatism Incapacitated Him

HAVING served as a volunteer in the army until incapacitation through rheumatism, he related about his honorable discharge, Camille Decresus, the French composer and pianist, who two years ago made a tour of this country with Ysaye, the violinist, has just arrived in this country, and is a guest of ex-Senator William A. Clark at the latter's country place near Greenwich, Conn.

M. Decresus was a member of the same regiment as Collignon, former Prefect, General Secretary to the President of the Republic, and Councillor of the State, who at the age of fifty-eight enlisted, insisted upon remaining a private, and whose memory is now perpetuated at every rollcall of the Forty-sixth Regiment of Infantry, as is that of Le Tour d'Avenza, First Governor of the Republic.

M. Decresus now Collignon, and after the latter's death, in the intervals of duty, composed the music which was a feature of the memorial service held at Fontainebleau recently.

"I was at Javy with my friend Tourret when the war broke out, and we were guests of Senator Clark at his chateau of Irvy, at Petitbougn, near Lyons," said M. Decresus to a New York Times interviewer. "I had never been in the army. When my class was first called to the colors I was rejected because of failure to pass the physical examination. But when our country was threatened, my friend Tourret and I, unlike many French artists and musicians who tucked to this country, and what's more, I fear, created an impression in America that a Frenchman following such a profession possessed above patriotism and military service, felt we owed something to France, and volunteered. They rejected Tourret, but they took me.

Life in Trenches

"In two days we were at Soissons, and immediately we were sent to the trenches. That was in August. I must confess that life in the trenches was not very exciting. Most of the while in those days it was a case of making the time pass. We played cards to the accompaniment of shells screaming overhead or教师, earth in the trench. Whenever the explosion buried some of our comrades, we counted our own cases and resumed our occupations, the effort being always to make sure that each man would not be separated from his comrade in arms. We became hardened to the visits of the shells, and used to crack jokes and make wagers about where they would land. In fact, at one point we were so near the German trenches that our men used to crack jokes with the Germans. A feeling of human solidarity grew up.

"One day I got lost in a 'voyan,' or communication trench, and came near being here. I had been sent back to the third line to bring food, and the first thing I knew I was myself in the open country. Immediate shells began to shell the line, and when the first drill was over, I was instructed that the imprisoned soldier's only plea for safety was a transparent voice, and the alleged one's self to be able to take advantage of any enemy's movement. It seems incredible, but a stone six times as large as a tennis ball would absolutely hide your body if you lie behind it, and after 300 meters an observer cannot detect you. But I carried this drill back to my company where I became a familiar sight. It was really a flimsy spot. The drill was cast about for a stone that was large. It was realmente and I discovered one and staggered myself behind it.

"I cannot tell you how I lay there, but when I discovered I was still alive I began to drag myself away by the butt of my rifle, and then to feel for a trench again. My comrades did not recognize me, and I might have been killed."

GIORDANO CALLED TO ARMY

Tenor Has Been Summoned to Join His Artillery Regiment

Salvatore Giordano, the Italian Tenor, "Snapped" in Oregon

After a successful concert tour in the West, where appearances were made in California, Oregon and Montana, Salvatore Giordano, the Italian tenor, returned to New York recently. Mr. Giordano visited many of these cities last year, when he was leading tenor of the New York Opera Company, and his re-engagement was anticipated with keen pleasure.

At the close of his tour he went to Medford, Ore., where he remained with friends for some time. Here he enjoyed the out-of-door life of the West, indulging in shooting, as he is a good shot and an expert hunter.

Mr. Giordano is now negotiating with the Chicago Opera Company in regard to a contract for next season. This may be interrupted, however, as he has already been called by the Italian Government to join his regiment of artillery in Rome. He may be obliged to sail from America within the next week to present himself for service to his country.

Alois Trnka Aids Pupils of Hanna M. Bodell in Recital

Hanna M. Bodell presented her vocal class an evening of songs reminiscent of her home in Dorf-Astoria, New York, on June 24, with brilliant success. Miss Trnka, the young Czech violinist, and Mme. Victorine Skarine, menace of the violin world, were heard.

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