

STEWART, ROBERT JOSEPH.

M.C., V.D., B.E. : Major, R.E., Dunsterforce, Persia, Russia, Turkestan and India ; also Captain 34th and 2nd Battns. and Special List, A.I.F., Gallipoli and France.

Enlisting 17th August, 1914, was appointed second-lieutenant 2nd Battn. on 28th and, sailing 18th October, was wounded at Gallipoli on April, 1915, returning to Australia. Transferring to 34th Battn. 2nd April, 1916, and re-embarking with 3rd Division, served in France from November, 1916, to 28th January, 1918, when transferred to Special List and allotted to Dunsterforce. Promoted lieutenant, 1st February, 1915 ; captain, 1st August, 1916. Proceeding to Persia, served at Hamadan, Bijar and Zingan, being attached to R.E. and in charge of engineering works in all three districts from June, 1918, with rank of temporary major. On disbandment of Dunsterforce joined Norperforce, operating in same area from 17th September, and returned to Australia 9th April, 1919. Awarded M.C.* and Mentioned in Despatches.

* " He handled his company with great efficiency although he had lost all his officers, and captured his objective in the face of heavy machine-gun fire, afterwards establishing his men in a good defensive trench."—*London Gazette*, 24th August, 1917.