

## **CROPPER, CECIL HOWE.**

D.S.O., M.C., B.E. : Major, R.E., B.E.F., France.

Enlisting at Aldershot 1st December, 1914, as lieutenant 11th Service Battn. Northumberland Fusiliers and crossing to France 20th March, 1915, served with 173rd Field Coy. R.E., being in first draft of Mining Engineers, mining enemy trenches for Aubers Ridge attacks in May and September. Was in command of 250th Coy. R.E. (Tunnelling) from 15th October, preparing some of the deep mines for the Battle of Messines and was invalided thence to England about April, 1916. Returning to France after seven weeks, was appointed to command 257th Coy. and engaged in battles around Nieuport where wounded 26th July. On recovery was at Ypres in 1917, Arras in 1918, and until the end of the War on general engineering work. Promoted captain, 15th October, 1915; major, 3rd March, 1916. Awarded D.S.O. 3rd June, 1918, and M.C. in 1917 and Mentioned in Despatches. Recommended by G.O.C. 17th Corps for C.R.E. of a Division, 29th June, 1918.

Early education at The Armidale School.