THE BOYCE BROTHERS.

Valley, who had four sons at the front (one, Tom, was killed on 10th November), has received word that Frank has been awarded the military medal for conspicuous work in the field.

Eddie, writing on the approach of winter, remarks:—"We know exactly what we will want this year, and, besides, we are a bit more acclimatized. We have been in France more than 18 months now, and, although it has not been all one big picnic by any means, on the whole I am not sorry I came. Tom and Jim were in the best of health when I saw them last week. Jim was recommended for good work in the line in the last stunt, but he hasn't heard anything more about it."

Frank writes, among other things:—"I never feel more confident of victory than when we are in the line. Our boys can beat old Fritz hollow every time. I met quite a crowd of Tallangatta chaps on the edge of the whirlpool before the barrier went up. Amongst them were, Tom, Jim and Eddie [three brothers of the writer], Wallie and Cyril Dyring, Toby Hodson, Will Nichol [since killed], and S. Rousseau, from Granya. Since writing last, I have been promoted to corporal, which means another rise of 1/a day. There is a piano in to night's billet. We have two or three good pianists and a violin, so the boys are having an impromptu. concert."