

# ABBOTT and HOLDER Ltd

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## **Fortunino Matania R.I. (1881-1963)**

‘Keeping off a night attack’.

Pen, brush, ink and grey wash. Signed.

Inscribed verso: ‘25<sup>th</sup> Dec 1915, page 327’, stamped: ‘The Sphere no.8(?)3’.

Illustrated: *The Sphere*, London, 25<sup>th</sup> December, 1915, p.327.

Lit: Lucinda Gosling, *Goodbye, Old Man: Matania’s Vision of the First World War*,  
History Press, 2014, Ill. p.131.

13.75x9.75 inches.

**£4000**

‘During the retirement to a new line of trenches a handful of men were left behind to personate a company as best they could while our men were withdrawing. I saw one of our fellows firing his rifle and also blazing away with a star pistol. The result was that the enemy was successfully bluffed into imagining we were there in force.’ (Extract from *The Sphere*).