

Coalville Times At War

Friday January 7th 1916 (Issue 1244)

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COALVILLE POLICE COURT

Lancelot J. Twells, labourer, Coalville, was summoned by his wife, Sarah Twells, for desertion, on February 24th last. There was no appearance.

Inspector Dobney said the defendant had joined the Seaforth Highlanders and Capt. Stevenson had informed witness that the man was making an allotment to his wife. The latter had seen witness and told him she would be satisfied with that and would not go on with the case.

The Bench remitted the costs.

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LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Temporary Major Burkitt, M.D., of the North Midland Field Ambulance has received many congratulations in connection with the honour of being recently "mentioned in despatches." Major Burkitt has spent considerable time at the Front, and before the war had many years' service in the Leicestershire Yeomanry. He is a popular medical practitioner in the Whitwick and Coalville district, a former chairman of the Coalville Urban Council, and a Justice of the Peace of the County. Since the war, he has been as active in military duties, despite his age, as he was formerly in the public and political life of the district.

Congratulations will be offered to three local gentlemen whose names appear in the "London Gazette" for promotion. Second-Lieut. J. P. W. Jamie (son of Dr. Jamie) has been promoted to Lieutenant (temporary) and commissions have been granted to Dr. J. W. Archibald (Ellistown) and the Rev. J. E. Davis (a former curate at Hugglescote).

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Having joined the army, the manager of the Coalville Olympia, Mr P. H. Haywood, left on Tuesday?

At the Coalville Police Station, on Wednesday night 68 local gentlemen were sworn as special constables for war purposes, only one who was invited to attend being absent?

Another trainload of wounded men from the front arrived at Leicester on Wednesday evening, and were removed to the Base Hospital?

The secretary of the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild, Mrs L. L. Baldwin, of London Road, has received over 900 letters and postcards from soldiers and sailors thanking the members of the Guild for gifts received?

Lieut. J. Emmerson, of the Leicestershire Regiment mentioned in the despatches, received from Viscount French, is one of the three soldier sons of Mr J. Emmerson, manager of the Bagworth Colliery?

A good number of Derby recruits joined the Coalville Citizens for drill last Sunday morning?

One of the first fifty Territorials to leave Coalville, Mr W. Hatford, of Highfields Street, formerly organist at Ashby Parish Church, has been visiting Coalville this week on leave from France?

A memorial service for the late Pte. Hall, of the Leicestershire Regiment, recently killed in action, is to be held at Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday next?

The treasurer of the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild has received £1 1s from Mr S. Boot, secretary of the Coalville Liberal Club, being the proceeds of a concert, also £1 1s from the directors of the Coalville Conservative Club?

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BAGWORTH WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Co-Operative Guild met in the schoolroom on Monday evening, a fair number being present. Mrs Percival presided. Mrs Dorsett (secretary) reported that parcels had been sent to soldiers as follows: 46 parcels of socks, towels, soap, stationary, pencils and cigarettes. The whole amounted to the sum of £16 10s 10d. Replies had been received from most of the recipients. The secretary also reported on the distribution of the Christmas parcels in the village. A social evening followed.

SOLDIER WOUNDED

Mrs A. Smith, of Little Bagworth, received the news last week that her son Percy, had been seriously wounded during an engagement in France. He was to have had a few days' leave the same week as it happened. Mr Smith's son has been at the front almost from the commencement of the war and has been mentioned in despatches. He was in charge of a large gun.

TEA AND CONCERT

A tea and concert was held in the London Road Baptist School, Coalville, on Saturday in connection with the Soldiers' Comforts League, the proceeds being to provide comforts for soldiers who have gone from the chapel. About 80 sat down to tea. Miss May Odell presided at the concert at which the programme was provided by the members of the Coalville Mixed Concert Party, Mr F. Clay conducting. Mr O. Ratcliffe was the pianist.

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ASHBY PATRIOTIC CONCERT

A concert was given in the Town Hall on Wednesday night, the proceeds being for the benefit of British prisoners of war interned in Germany. The first part of the programme consisted of humorous musical and dramatic recitals by Mr Willis C. Crisford of Birmingham, and dances by Miss I. Methven, these being followed by a play entitled, "The Rest Cure," in which the characters were admirably taken by Mrs Logan, Mrs W. P. Musson, Mrs Kenyon, Miss Hastings and Mr A. E. Mammatt.

The death occurred on Tuesday at his residence at the Callis, after a brief illness, of Mr William Baxter, tailor. Deceased, who was over 70 years of age, was one of the members of the old Volunteer movement, and was a familiar figure in the band. Two of his sons are now serving in the army.

COALVILLE MAN'S PATRIOTISM

TRAVELLED 14,000 MILES TO ENLIST



A striking instance of British patriotism is that displayed by Pte. William Brooks, of the 1st Leicesters, who having been seven months in the trenches in France, was recently at Coalville on leave and has just returned to the front. Pte. Brooks is a son of Mr Arthur Brooks, a miner at the Snibston pit, who resides on the Coalville Road, Ravenstone, and from a boy of 14 till he was nearly 23 years of age, also worked in the Snibston mine. But his 23rd birthday was spent on the high seas, he having decided to emigrate to Australia. He had been there about three years – he is now 27 – and was in the bush, in the backwoods of Queensland when war broke out. The call for volunteers, appealed strongly to him and he decided to return home. He was invited to join the

Australian contingent, with a payment of 6s per day, but he preferred to return to Leicestershire and join his own county regiment. To do this he had to travel 14,000 miles. The first stage of the journey was a 44 mile tramp to reach the stage coach. In this conveyance he was travelling for a fortnight, then three stages by train of 24 hours, 11 ½ hours and 22 hours brought him to Sydney. Here he joined the R.M.S. Omrah as a trimmer, and after a fortnight took over the duties of stoker. He was 3 ½ months on the water, travelling with the first Australian contingent of soldiers who were coming to assist the motherland in the great war. In this convoy there were 45 ships conveying troops and on the vessel on which Brooks was working, were 44 prisoners from the German "Emden."

Brooks reached his home at Ravenstone in time to spend the Christmas of 1914 with his parents. Then he went to Wigston Barracks and enlisted in the 1st Leicesters, with whom he went to the front about five months later and has taken part in several engagements.

Pte. Brooks is attached to a bombing party, of which Lieut. Pickbourne (son of the Rev. F. Pickbourne, pastor of the Coalville London Road Baptist Church) has charge, and among a few war trophies which he brought home on a recent visit was a discharged hand grenade of the type which he and his comrades are now engaged in hurling at the enemy.

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S EXCITING VOYAGE

CHASED BY A SUBMARINE

Pte. Nathan Partner, of Coalville, who enlisted in the Leicesters, and was transferred to another regiment, writing to his wife, in Mammoth Street, Coalville, said he was on 'the angry deep' and was expecting to reach _____ the day after he wrote, *"if we do not get torpedoed, as we are in a very dangerous part now, but I hope and trust we shall get through all right. It is very hot out here, and it will be getting hotter every day, but it is really beautiful. We are still eleven thousand miles off our destination, so you can tell we feel lonely on board when we see nothing at all. I hope you will have a good Christmas."*

In another letter to his wife, Partner says: *"Just a line to tell you I am still alive, but we have had a very trying experience. We were chased by a submarine. We 'fell in' dressed for jumping overboard in life belts, but our gunner let fly two shots, and whether he hit or not, we saw no more of it."*

FORMER COALVILLE SCOUT IN AFRICA

INTERESTING LETTER

The following letter has been received by a Coalville resident.

4th December, 1915

"Dear Sir, - I have just received a 'Coalville Times,' in which I am very sorry to see in the list of killed, the names of a great number of my old scout friends. I suppose most of the old scout boys are serving somewhere with the colours. Little is said in the newspapers about the fighting in the 'Cameroons,' but all of us out here are eager to add another bit on to the Empire. The nature of the country, which is practically all dense bush, makes the fighting very difficult, but it is hoped that the operations here will be soon over. I am glad to say that I am keeping fairly well in spite of the climate which is extremely trying to Europeans. Christmas will be over by the time you receive this letter, but I hope you spent a happy one, under the circumstances. - Yours etc."

Sapper L. P. Wallis, 75682
Royal Engineers, Wireless Section
Cameroon Expeditionary Forces
West Africa.

Sapper Wallis is son of the late Mr Wallis, formerly postmaster at Coalville.



COALVILLE SAILOR

SAVED FROM THE "NATAL"

A Coalville sailor, Mr Austin Morris, son of Mr William Morris, picture framer, of Belvoir Road, was a gunner on board the ill-fated ship, "Natal," but, happily, his name appears on the list of survivors. His father has written making enquiries, and

received a reply from Austin on Wednesday morning stating that he had come through alright, and except for a cold, was quite well. Gunner Morris who is an old Coalville Wesleyan Schoolboy, had previously had some exciting experiences in connection with the war. By chance, he took part in the North Sea battle, which ended in the sinking of the German cruiser, "Blucher," being on board Admiral Beatty's flagship, the "Lion" which was one of the leading vessels in the attack, but had to drop out of the line owing to having been struck. At the time the "Lion" went into action, Morris had only just gone on board for gunnery practice.

SAVED BY HIS WATCH

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S NARROW ESCAPE

Private H. Gardner, of the 10th Hussars, whose wife resides at 66, Margaret Street, Coalville, is at home spending a few days' leave from the front this week. Gardner, formerly belonged to the Leicestershire Yeomanry and was transferred to the Hussars. He has been at the West front for 15 months, and has had some thrilling experiences, having been in several engagements, the most exciting being the recent fighting at Loos.



Gardner is a typical British soldier, full of optimism and mirth, and in relating some of his experiences to the writer only seemed to see the humorous side of the grim episodes in which he has figured. At one place, where the enemy had been driven out, Gardner relates that he entered a chateau, under officer's orders, and found eight dead Germans round a table as though they had been playing cards. Several French coins were on the floor. At first, he did not know the men were all dead, and alone facing eight of them required a little nerve.

On another occasion, Gardner was saved by a watch he was wearing in his breast pocket – he produced the battered watch and also a piece of shrapnel with which it was pierced. Gardner has three times been "gassed" by the Germans, though not seriously, and once a flying piece of shrapnel caught the bridge of his nose, cutting it, but with these exceptions, he has come through his 15 months of fighting unscathed and is looking remarkably well.

BATTRAM SOLDIER KILLED

FORMER MEMBER OF NAILSTONE COLLIERY RESCUE PARTY

News has been received of the death in action of Sapper R. Ashby, of Battram, who formerly belonged to the Nailstone Colliery Party and was attached to the Royal Engineers. Writing to Mrs Ashby, of Battram, Sapper W. Barrs, of Ibstock, in the same company, says: "I am sorry to inform you that your husband, Robert Ashby, was killed in action in



the early hours of December 21st, and was buried on that date. I and some of the others who were left attended the funeral. I would have written sooner, but I am only just getting over it, as I had a marvellous escape from death myself. I and all the company sympathise with you and the family in your sad bereavement. Your husband died the death of a hero, as he was trying to save others at the time. He was well liked by all the officers and men. I will tell you more about it when I come home. He suffered no pain at all."

Another letter to the wife from 2nd Lieut. R. B. Ireland, conveys the heartfelt sympathy of the officers, sergeants and fellow comrades of No. 1 section and states: "He was killed whilst doing his duty for his country. It may give you a little satisfaction to know that he had my utmost confidence. He had done his duty well and his loss will be greatly felt by us."

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LOCAL CHIT CHAT

We learn that the Rev. J. E. Davis, mentioned in our last issue, was not the former curate of Hugglescote. The Rev. G. A. Davies, who used to be at Hugglescote, has been a lieutenant in the 5th Leicestershire Regiment for the last eight months and has served in France. He is now a captain in the Rifle Brigade and is going to Persia shortly.

Mrs Briggs, of 15, Bagworth Row, Hugglescote, has received intimation that her husband has been recommended for the D.C.M. He and also his son are sappers in the Royal Engineers, and both are at the front. The house in which they were billeted was shelled by the enemy and it was for bravery in rescuing the wounded that Sapper Briggs and another man have been recommended for the honour. Mrs Brigg's son was wounded. We hope to give further details next week.

One of the "Coalville Fifty," Pte. Edgar Boot, son of Mr A. Boot, of Park Road, is at home on leave this week, after having been in hospital for three months, through being badly gassed by the enemy. He has not yet quite recovered from the effects of the gas, but is reporting himself at headquarters on Monday next.

Mrs Tunks, Appleby Magna, wife of Pte. T. Tunks, of the 5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.) on Monday, gave birth to triplets, two girls and a boy. The mother and children are doing well. Pte. Tunks is with his regiment at the front.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Lance-Corporal J. Emmerson of the 1/5th Leicestershire Territorial Regiment has been awarded the D.C.M.?

Coalville Swifts will play the Royal Garrison Artillery on the Fox and Goose ground tomorrow?

The members of the Citizen Corps and Army Reserve (men who have attested) will parade on Sunday morning at Coalville Parish Church?

The Coalville Volunteer Aid Detachment require further recruits from local men and applications should be made to Quartermasters Glover and Morris?

Corpl. Harry Marson, son of Mr Tom Marson, of Bakewell Street, Coalville, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant?

Pte. W. Houtt, on leave from France, on Sunday visited the Coalville Men's Adult School which he attended regularly before joining the forces?

Lord Derby's scheme of recruiting has been re-opened and both married and single men between the ages of 18 and 41 years may now be attested at the Coalville Recruiting Office in Hotel Street?

It is said that the song, "It's a long, long way to Tipperary," brought over to France by the British Expeditionary Force, has resulted in its composer receiving £2,000 in royalties on public performances given in that country?

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LOCAL NEWS

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S DEATH

Mrs Spencer, of Bradford, widow of the late Mr Nat. Spencer, formerly of Belvoir Road, Coalville, has received a letter from Lord Kitchener expressing the sympathy of the King and Queen with her on the death of her son, Pte. George Spencer, of the 3/5th Leicesters, which occurred recently while he was in training in Yorkshire. Mrs Spencer has also received a letter of condolence from Lord Aberconway and one from Capt. T. L. Angel. Before the war, Pte. Spencer worked at the Whitwick Colliery and lodged with his sister Mrs Plowman, at Ravenstone.

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WHITWICK

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening for Pte. J. A. Hall, of the Leicestershire Regiment, recently killed in action, and whose wife and child reside at the Dumps, and his parents live in Silver Street, he being a former Whitwick collier. There was a large congregation, which included the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps under Commandant G. F. Burton, and the Boy Scouts. The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) gave an appropriate address and Mr R. West (organist) effectively played the Dead March.

HUGGLESCOTE NURSE IN EGYPT

INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF THE VOYAGE

An interesting letter appears in the Hugglescote Parish Magazine from Miss Doris Moore (daughter of Mr D. S. Moore, of Hugglescote) who sailed for Egypt a few months ago having offered her services to the military authorities as a nurse after attending local classes and passing the necessary examinations. The letter is as follows:

17 General Hospital, Alexandria, Egypt

“Dear Friends – I thought perhaps you would like to hear about my goings and doings since leaving home – and Hugglescote. Well, the first six days I spent in London at the Hotel Yorke with forty-nine other St. John’s Nurses, while arrangements were being made for our voyage to Egypt. These were completed by the 26th October when we entrained at Waterloo for Southampton. On reaching Southampton we embarked on the hospital ship, ‘Carisbrook Castle’. This is a fine ship of 7,564 tons. We sailed at 3 pm and saw many interesting sights along the Isle of Wight, especially Needle’s Point with the beautiful lighthouses. At 5.39 we lost sight of land, and by morning we had reached the Bay of Biscay. There we saw several whales and porpoises – quite a novelty to most of us. The sea was rather rough about here, so I did not feel ‘quite well, thank you.’ But after two nights and a day in my bunk I got up feeling as fresh as a lark and found we were near the coast of Portugal. Here we saw Cape St. Vincent and the River Tagus running into Trafalgar Bay. The lighthouses again were simply splendid. The Strait of Gibraltar was reached at eleven o’clock on Friday night. All had special permits to stay up and see this wonderful sight, and as the moon was at full we saw it to advantage. The sky and water were beautifully clear. These, with the beautiful fortress, made a wonderful picture. It was a sight I hope never to forget. We saw several Spanish towns all lit up and the searchlights were lovely. The snow was on the hills although the climate is much warmer than the English. The signalling from stations and boats was quite interesting. The next land we sighted was Algeria. The African scenery is beautiful, especially at sunset. The mountains look all colours and the sky orange. On Monday we passed an African convict isle. It is like a mountain in the sea with lots of little huts all over it for the prisoners to live in. Later in the day we saw Geza and Malta which are very pretty. Through glasses we could see soldiers walking up the hillside. Next we arrived at Alexandria Harbour after ten days’ pleasant sailing, where were seven other hospital ships, also a number of transport ships. From here we could see a large part of the town. The houses are of a yellow colour, with many large palm trees. There are lots of four wheeled carriages, mostly drawn by mules, and all the natives are very dark, and the men wear arum skirts of very bright colours, some yellow, blue, green, red, pink, etc., and carry parasols. This greatly adds to the picturesqueness of the place.

We passed our time on board in many varied ways. The services were very bright and conducted very much like our own service at Hugglescote Church. After service we had processions round the dock singing hymns. One hymn was number 595. This made us all think of home.

We had many R.A.M.C. men on board who greatly added to the pleasure of the voyage by frequently arranging little entertainments. Many of the items were such as Mr Bellward contributes at our own concerts.

Though the voyage was very pleasant, we were not quite out of danger, for on one occasion we sailed between floating mines, and on Monday previous to our landing on

Thursday, we had a wireless to say, "Hurry up! A submarine is following you." However, we landed safely, and have got to work in real earnest. If time permits, I shall be pleased to send you an account of some of the work here, for next month's magazine."

Yours sincerely

Nurse D. E. M. Moore

CORRESPONDANCE

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S HUMOUROUS LETTER

"Dear Sir, - Just another line or two, hoping this will find you full of good spirits. Of course, I am not alluding to 'Johnny Walker' nor yet 'Sloan's Gin,' nothing of the kind. Well, I am pleased to say that I have been out here now a matter of eight months and am still going strong. Sir, the last letter I wrote to you alluded to the young men who had not enlisted. I naturally thought that Coalville was swarmed with young men, but I find it is quite different. I have just been speaking to a young man who came back from Coalville on leave and he said that there is hardly anyone left in Coalville who were able to come. I was very much surprised, at the same time I was very pleased. He also told me that when he landed in Coalville the only men that he saw were two policemen and the sanitary inspector. It must be rather hard on the ladies, both married and single. But at the same time it shows that Coalville is doing its duty towards the country. I shall have to close my letter now as it is past time. Wishing you all every success in the New Year. There was a certain party from Coalville wrote and asked me my opinion of the war. I hope you will print this and tell them that I think the last five years will be the worst. Another party writes, "If you do not soon return I shall have to give up my licence." From one of your regular readers."

Pte. A. Elkin

2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards

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ACCIDENT TO A SOLDIER AT LOUGHBOROUGH

Whilst working in a parting-off lathe at Loughborough on Monday, Private Edward McManus, 21, of the R.F.A. met with an accident. He was cutting a bar of wheel in two when his clothing was caught and he was pulled round the shafting. On examination at the hospital it was found that his left leg had been broken in two places, and there was a bad cut on the head. Inquiries on Monday night showed that he was very comfortable. He is a native of Etherington.

SOLDIER'S WIFE DROWNED AT LEICESTER

On Saturday morning the body of a young woman was found in the canal near Birstal Mill, Leicester. It was subsequently identified as that of Rose Burgess, aged 28, the wife of Corporal Burgess, who is serving abroad with the Mechanical Transport. The deceased woman had been missing from her home in Mansfield Street for five weeks.

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HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER DIES OF WOUNDS

HIS LAST LETTER HOME

“FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT”

The War Office authorities on Monday notified Mr and Mrs Oliver Pratt, of 5, Wilkin's Lane, Hugglescote, that their son, Pte. Oliver Pratt, of the 8th Leicesters, died on New Year's Day from wounds received in action on December 27th.

The first intimation of the sad event was contained in a letter written on December 28th by one of the chaplains, R. M. Shelton, as follows:

“I write to tell you that Pte. Pratt, of the 8th Leicestershire Regiment, has been rather badly wounded. I trust he will soon get better. He was hit by a shell. He will, I expect, be soon in England. May God bless him and restore him to health and strength.”

Another letter dated December 29th, from L. Hamilton, Church of England chaplain stated, *“I am sorry to tell you that your son is in hospital, No. 4 Casualty Clearing Station, very seriously wounded. He is well looked after and everything that is possible will be done for him. I am afraid his case is a very, very serious one, as it is a spinal wound. I will let you know his condition again. He is not suffering much pain.”*

On January 3rd, the same chaplain wrote, *“I hope my letter prepared you for the sad news that I have to send you now. Your son passed away on Saturday afternoon. All possible was done to spare him pain, but his wound (spinal) was hopeless from the first. He has been laid to rest in the soldiers' cemetery and his grave marked with a cross, his name and regiment. I am grieved to have this sad duty to carry out and another mother's heart to bring sorrow to, yet pride that your boy was brave in life and, I believe, happy and at peace with Christ.”*

Under date January 3rd, Lieut. E. S. Allen wrote, *“It is with the deepest regret that I am writing to tell you your son has died from a wound received in the trenches a week ago today. As his platoon officer I have known your son now for over a year and I feel it all the more as he is the first of my men who has lost his life. There is so little one can say in a case like this. I believe he suffered very little pain. A piece of shell hit him in the back and must have touched his spine. He was very cheerful when he left the trenches. This, I am aware, will do very little to soften the blow, but I wanted just to assure you of my sympathy and grief at your loss.”*

Capt. H. L. Beardsley, of the 8th Leicesters, also wrote, *“On behalf of myself and the other officers of B. Co. please accept our deepest sympathy in the loss of your boy, who died of wounds received during our tour in the trenches. A piece of shrapnel hit him in the shoulder blade, and, I fear, reached his spine. A thoroughly good and conscientious lad we shall miss him greatly. What few words of comfort I can write I know are small to the loss you have sustained, but in the knowledge that he died fighting for his King and country, you have the only consolation I can offer you in your great loss. Yours in sincerity and with kindest sympathy.”*

The official notice received on Monday morning was accompanied by a letter from Lord Kitchener, which stated, *“The King commands me to assure you of the true sympathy of*

His Majesty, and the Queen in your sorrow." In his last letter to his parents, which was written on Boxing Day, the deceased soldier stated that he was in excellent health. Referring to how they spent Christmas, he said, *"We had some pork and veal, some very nice plum pudding and mince pies. They have done their best to make us quite happy. I hope you all at home had a very nice Christmas and will have a happy new year. . . . We shall be in the trenches by the time you get this letter, but God is good and we must "Fight the good fight with all our might."* My thoughts were with you on Christmas day all day long. . . . But we must make the best of it. I hope the war will soon be over and that we shall soon be home again. It would be grand if it ended like that very soon."

He received his fatal wound the next day. The deceased soldier was single and would have been 22 years of age last Tuesday. Like his father, he formerly worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery. The deceased's father has been at home for several weeks with blood poisoning in his hand through a wound received while at work.

Pte. Pratt enlisted on September 5th, 1914, and he had been at the front in France about six months. He was a popular member of the Hugglescote Church Lad's Brigade for over four years, a regular communicant at the Parish Church and former scholar of the Sunday School.

MEMORIAL SERVICE



A memorial service was held at the Hugglescote Parish Church on Sunday morning when an appropriate address was given by the new curate, the Rev. H. V. Williams. The members of the Church Lad's Brigade attended and with muffled drums accompanied the singing of the hymn "Fight the good fight," while from the altar steps one of the buglers sounded the "Last Post."

COALVILLE OFFICER WOUNDED

2ND LIEUT. F. SCOTT



Mr W. V. Scott, L and N. W. R. station-master at Coalville East, has received intimation that his son, Lieut. F. Scott, was wounded in action on Boxing Day and is now in a London hospital. Lieut. Scott was superintending work for supporting the sides of the trench, when the enemy opened fire and a bullet, after striking an iron object in use in the work, caught the officer in the left eye. An operation was performed at Rouen hospital, before Lieut. Scott was moved to England, and though it was a nasty wound, it is hoped that the sight of the eye will be saved.

The wounded officer went to the front in July last year and was this week to have come home on leave. Before the war he was at Cambridge University studying for the teaching profession and had then been in the Officer's Training Corps at Cambridge for 18 months.

FORMER COALVILLE CORPORAL KILLED

OLD CHRIST CHURCH SCHOOLBOY

Corpl. L. G. Beck, of the 1st Leicesters, is officially reported to have been killed in action on December 21st. He was a son of the late Mr James Henry Beck, of 71, Park Road, Coalville, formerly an engine-driver on the Midland Railway, who died last year. Corpl. Beck attended the Coalville Christ Church School and after leaving there worked for a time in Coalville, but he subsequently went to Leicester, and before the war was engaged in the machine room at the office of the "Leicester Mercury." His wife resides in Parliament Street, Leicester. He was 27 years of age and had been over a year at the front. His sister, Mrs Curtis, resides at 71, Park Road.



The deceased soldier had a most genial disposition and several amusing letters from him which appeared in our columns last year will probably be remembered by readers. In a letter recently received by Mrs Curtis from the deceased's wife, the writer states that she has received her husband's watch and his chums had written a nice letter saying they would send his other belongings as soon as they could.

COMMISSION FOR A COALVILLE DOCTOR

LIEUT. J. W. ARCHIBALD



As briefly stated in our last issue, a commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps has been granted to Dr. J. Webster Archibald, who has left Coalville to take up his military duties this week. He has proceeded to Derby and after a short stay there will go on to Aldershot to complete his training. He has been attached to the North Midland casualty clearing station and expects to leave for France in about three months' time.

Dr. Archibald is a Scotsman, his native country being Morayshire, and he came to Coalville a little over six years ago as assistant to Dr. J. S. Hamilton, with whom he has since entered into partnership, and he practised chiefly at Ellistown, where he has been residing.

In local circles and also as a practitioner, Dr. Archibald enjoys much popularity, and he has received many congratulations on the step he has taken and the honour conferred upon

him, and he leaves the district with the good wishes of a large number of friends. In due course, after the war is over, the doctor hopes to resume his work with Dr. Hamilton in Coalville and District.

FORMER COALVILLE MAN HONOURED

AWARDED THE KING'S MEDAL



A name appearing in the recent list of honours conferred by His Majesty the King was that of Mr J. Clamp, Superintendent of the Borough Police Force at Derby, who has received the King's Medal, and this has particular interest for the older residents of Coalville and district, inasmuch as Superintendent Clamp is a Coalville man. He was a son of the late Mr James Clamp, for many years undermanager of the Whitwick Colliery, and numerous relatives of his still reside in this district, two brothers being Mr S. Clamp, licensee of the Wagon and Horses Inn, Ashby Road, Coalville, and Mr Herbert Clamp, a carpenter in the employ of Messrs. Griffin Bros. of Hugglescote.

Superintendent Clamp joined the Derby Borough Police Force in June 1878, and by 1882 had gained a position on the detective force. Three years later he was promoted detective-sergeant, inspector in 1891, and superintendent and chief clerk in 1894. The recommendation for the King's Medal was made by the Chief Constable, Capt. H. M. Haywood, with the endorsement of the Watch Committee.

AN ABSENTEE

Daniel Buckley, a private in the 3rd Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, was brought before Mr George Brown, at the Ashby Police Court on Friday on a charge of being absent without leave. He admitted the offence but said it was owing to the death of his mother. He had sent a certificate of her death to the authorities with an application for extended leave, but it had not come. In remanding defendant to await an escort, the magistrate said he was sorry for him, and hoped that in the sad circumstances his punishment by the military authorities would not be severe.

SERVICE FOR THE UNFIT

ATTESTATION NOT TO BE REFUSED

Instructions have been issued to local recruiting officers not to refuse enlistment or attestation of men who, while not physically fit for general service, are yet capable of performing other duties. It is understood that men will now be accepted who are able to do service in one of the following categories:

Home service
Garrison (police) duty at home or abroad
Clerical and other sedentary Army occupations
Trench-digging or road-making

The new order had come into operation since the close of the original Derby scheme, and it is possible that men who were rejected under that scheme may be required later to offer their services if they are fit to perform one or other of these duties.

Friday January 21st 1916 (Issue 1246)

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GALLANT LEICESTERS

THE D.C.M. AWARDED TO TWO "TERRIERS"

The King has approved the award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal to two privates of the Leicestershire Regiment for acts of gallantry and devotion to duty whilst serving with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders. The details are as follows:

No. 2243 Private W. H. Hallam, 1/5th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment (Territorial Force).

For conspicuous bravery on the 13th October, 1915, at Hohenzollern Redoubt, when with one companion only, he held back the enemy for many hours. They were both utterly exhausted, but volunteered to continue to keep the enemy at bay until the trench had been blocked, which was eventually successfully done. Both he and his companion gave a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

No. 2677 Private A. A. Johns, 1/4th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment (Territorial Force).

For conspicuous gallantry on the 13th October, 1915, when, with a party of five men, he cleared with bombs the right flank of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, encountering about ten of the enemy. He then proceeded across the open under heavy machine-gun fire to the east face, and with bombs held back every attack while a party of the Monmouthshire Regiment dug themselves in.

Page 4

LOCAL NEWS

The following is a copy of a certificate which has been received by Pte. J. G. Thompson, son of Mr Thompson, insurance agent, of Belvoir Road, Coalville.

"Royal Naval Division – Dardanelles, July 28th, 1915. This is to certify that No. 166 Pte. J. G. Thompson, of the Portsmouth Battalion, Royal Naval Division, behaved in a gallant and courageous manner in action on April 28th – May 3rd, 1915, at Kaba Tepe. A. Paris, Major-General, commanding the Royal Naval Division."

An official of one of the local Recruiting Tribunals asks us to state for the information of men who have been put into later groups they should watch for the proclamation calling up those later groups as any further appeal cannot be entertained if ten days are allowed to elapse from the date of the issue of the proclamation calling up those later groups to the appeal being made.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

One hundred and seventy-two wounded soldiers arrived at Leicester on Sunday night, including seventy-two cot cases?

Another draft of recruits for the Naval Division left Leicester on Monday afternoon for the Crystal Palace?

Page 6

LOCAL OFFICER WOUNDED

LIEUTENANT S. T. HARTSHORNE

Second-Lieutenant Samuel T. Hartshorne belongs to Gelsmoor, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. After receiving instruction under Captain Trotman with the Nottingham University Officers' Training Corps, he received a commission in the 9th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment in September, 1914. His name appeared in a recent list of wounded.

LEICESTER SERGEANT'S D.C.M.

ONE OF SIX BROTHERS IN THE ARMY

Sergt. Joseph Winder, 2nd Seaforth Highlanders, who has been awarded the D.C.M. is a son of Mr Harry Winder, 35, Milligan Road, Leicester, and is one of six brothers serving in the army. Another brother, since dead, has also served in the forces.

Sergt. Winder is 22 years of age and joined the army in September, 1912.

WAR HONOURS

FOR THE LEICESTERS

LONG LIST FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

A supplement to the "London Gazette" contains a long list of honours and decorations for officers and men for war services. The names of the recipients occupy 55 pages of the "Gazette," and include a number of local interest. Notable are Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Jones and Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Martin who have been made members of the Third Class of Companions of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. Other Leicestershire Territorial officers and also a number of men figure in the list. The local awards are as follows:

ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE

To be additional members of the third class of Companies of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George for services rendered in connection with military operations in the field. To be dated 1st January, 1916 –

Lieut.-Colonel Charles Herbert Jones, Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)
Lieut.-Colonel (temporary) Robert Edmund Martin, Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)

AIDE-DE-CAMP (EXTRA) TO THE KING

For distinguished service in the field (Jan. 1st). To be Aide-de-Camp (extra) to the King:

Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet Colonel (temporary Brigadier-General) C. G. Blackader, D.S.O.
Leicestershire Regiment.

D.S.O.

To be Companions of the Distinguished Service Order.

Major William Shirley Norton Toller, Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)
Captain Francis Latham, Leicestershire Regiment.

HONORARY MAJOR

Quartermaster and Honorary Captain J. Crowley, Leicestershire Yeomanry, Territorial Force (Riding Master and Honorary Lieutenant in Reserve of Officers, 1st Dragoons)

MILITARY CROSS

Temporary Captain Harold Hartley, general list, late Leicestershire Regiment (Service Battalion)
Temporary Captain Claude Gordon Douglas, M.D., R.A.M.C.
Lieutenant Norman Gerald Salmon, Leicestershire Regiment (Special Reserve)
Second-Lieutenant (Temporary Lieut.) Aubrey Gordon de Appleby Moore, Leicestershire (T.F.)
No. 1062, Squadron-Sergt.-Major Henry Allen Swain, Leicestershire Yeomanry (T.F.)

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL

376 Sergeant-Major C. H. Ruddock, headquarters, 46th North Midland Field Co. R. E. (T.F.)
7695 Company Quartermaster-Sergeant H. Patrick, 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Regiment.
515 Lance-Sergeant J. W. Wagg, 1st North Midland Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C. (T.F.)
7832 Private S. Bolesworth, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment
12392 Lance-Sergeant J. Gandy, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.
7709 Corporal R. B. Bullimore, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.
9041 Corporal A. Cherry, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.
706 2nd Corporal R. Moreton, 2nd/1st North Midland Field Co. R.E. (T.F.)
2552 Lance-Corporal J. Emerson, 1st/5th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)

3354 Private A. W. Healey, 1st/4th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)
2579 Private C. Hurley, 1st/5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)
2610 Private A. Parker, 1st/4th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.)
4440 Colour-Sergeant (Acting Sergeant-Major) R. E. Small, Permanent Staff 1st/5th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment
1230 Driver A. Hawkins 1st/3rd North Midland Brigade, R.F.A. (T.F.)

RED CROSS DECORATION

Awarded the Royal Red Cross Decoration, 1st Class

Territorial Force Nursing Service, Miss C. E. Vincent (principal matron), 5th Northern General Hospital, Leicester.

LIEUT.-COL. C. H. JONES

Lieut.-Colonel Charles Herbert Jones has been with the 5th Leicesters since the war. He is a master at Uppingham School and has been mentioned in dispatches. He was wounded in the fighting at Kemmel about May last year and prior to going to the Western theatre of war was out in South Africa as a lieutenant with the Volunteer Service Camp. Lieut. James has held command of the 5th Battalion for some time.

LIEUT.-COLONEL R. E. MARTIN

Lieutenant-Colonel (Temporary) Robert Edmund Martin, Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.) is a son of the late Mr R. E. Martin, The Brand, Woodhouse Eaves, near Loughborough. He is a member of the Leicestershire County Council, the Barrow Rural District Council and Board of Guardians. Always a keen officer, he assumed command of the 4th Leicesters from Colonel Harrison, who was invalided home. Colonel Martin is the managing director of the Mountsorrel Granite Company. At Loos he was wounded in the early part of last year. His brother, Major W. F. Martin, was killed in May last, when the Leicestershire Yeomanry met with severe casualties at Ypres.

LIEUT. A. G. DE A. MOORE

Second-Lieutenant (Temporary Lieutenant) Aubrey Gordon de Appleby Moore is a son of the Rev. C. T. Moore, of Appleby Magna, and a brother to Mrs Byron. He went out to the front with the 1/5th Leicestershire Regiment, and was later transferred to the Tunnelling Section of the Royal Engineers. He has done most excellent work, and joined the forces some little time prior to the outbreak of hostilities. He was gazetted second-lieutenant on December 1st, 1913, and temporary lieutenant, August 30th, 1914.

LIEUT. J. EMMERSON

Lieut. (formerly Lance-Corporal) Joseph Emmerson, who is awarded the D.C.M., took part in various mining operations, and in the Hohenzollern Redoubt charge, on October 13th last, since when there has been no news of him. Lieut. Emmerson is a son of Mr J. Emmerson, manager of the Bagworth Colliery who has also his two other sons engaged in the war. One of them is a prisoner of war in Westphalia, and the other, Lieut. A.

Emmerson, who also took part in the famous charge of October 13th, is at present in England.

(See also Page 8 of January 28th, 1916 issue for clarification)

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CHURCH PARADE AT COALVILLE

CITIZEN CORPS AND "DERBY" RECRUITS

A good deal of interest was created at Coalville on Sunday morning by the first combined church parade of the members of the Citizen Corps and men who have been attested under Lord Derby's scheme. About thirty of the latter accepted the invitation and with the citizens there were in all about 70 men on parade.

They assembled at the headquarters of the Corps in Mantle Lane and marched to Christ Church, Coalville, headed by the Coalville Coronation Band, conducted by Bandmaster A. Clarke.

At the commencement of the service, which was conducted by the Rev. S. Hosking (vicar), the congregation sang the National Anthem to the accompaniment of the band. The sermon was preached by the new curate, the Rev. H. R. Harvey, from the text, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." He said the war had brought out much of the best that was in the men of the country and facing death had brought them nearer to God. In letters from the front it was recorded that men were now praying to God who had never prayed before. There was no doubt that the spiritual life of the men who were fighting was being deepened by the experiences through which they were passing and many of them would come back better men. He asked what sort of a reception they were to receive by the Churchmen and Non-conformists of England. Would they come back to find Churchmen better Churchmen, Wesleyans better Wesleyans, Baptists better Baptists and so on. He pleaded that it might be so. A collection was made for the Leicester Infirmary.

After the service, the men again formed into line and were led by the band to Marlborough Square. Before dismissing them the Commandant, Mr C. W. H. Gutteridge, expressed his pleasure at seeing the increased number of army reserve men with them and hoped still more would join them on future occasions and at their drills. They had an excellent range at Mantle Lane where the men would also be welcomed for shooting practice.

Page 8



COALVILLE SOLDIER WOUNDED

Private Sam Hodson, of the R.A.M.C., son of Mr B. Hodson, of High Street, Coalville, has been wounded in France and is now in hospital at Herne Bay. He was struck under the arm with a piece of shrapnel and at one time the wound was thought to be serious, but the latest news is that he is now making good progress.

Pte. Hodson enlisted the day after war was declared and has experienced a good deal of active service.

MARKFIELD CASUALTIES

Private A. Lee, Royal Engineers, succumbed to a severe attack of pneumonia whilst in hospital on January 2nd, and was buried the following day. His parents reside at Ulverscroft.

Private R. Clamp, 1st Leicesters, has been killed in action. He was 30 years of age, and has served for seven years in India. He leaves a widow and two children.

Private H. Davis, 1/5th Leicesters, sustained a broken toe as the result of an explosion in the trenches, and has been invalided home. He was buried by a fall for 1 ½ hours, and unconscious for three days.

MARKFIELD SOLDIER KILLED

Mrs Tebbett, of Bagworth, received the news last week of the death of her nephew, Archibald Lewis Lee, who died in No. 4 General Hospital, Versailles, France. He enlisted in November, 1915, and has been in France since May. He was in the Royal Engineers and was 21 years of age. He was a native of Markfield.



LIEUT. PICKBOURNE WOUNDED

The official list of casualties among officers issued by the Press Bureau contains the name of Lieut. H. Pickbourne, of the 3rd Leicesters, attached to the 1st Battalion, who is reported from General Headquarters, Expeditionary Force, under date January 12th as wounded.

Lieut. Pickbourne received his commission on March 8th, 1915.

HUGGLESCOTE SAPPERS BURIED



Sapper H. Walker.

A FATHER'S BRAVERY TO BE REWARDED

SON AND COMPANION RESCUED UNDER HEAVY FIRE

When some three or four months ago, an appeal was made for about 30 Leicestershire skilled miners to join a party for the front to engage in special mining work, among those who responded, were three Hugglescote men – Mr T. R.

Briggs and his son Ernest Briggs, whose home is at 15 Bagworth Row, Hugglescote, and Mr Heathcote Walker, of Meadow Row, Donington. When leaving Coalville, Briggs sen., promised to do his best to look after the two boys, and letters recently written home show that he splendidly kept his word. The three men were attached as sappers to the 182nd Tunnelling Company of the Royal Engineers and have lately had a most thrilling experience. A house in which about 40 of them were resting was shelled by the enemy and partially demolished, the men being buried in the debris. Five were killed and 21 wounded. The latter included the two young men referred to and all were rescued by Briggs senr., and another man, who are said to have been recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

The incident is described in letters received a few days ago. Ernest Briggs writes to his mother, *"Just a few lines hoping to find you all in the best of health, as it leaves dad and me about the same. Thank God we are spared. The Germans started to bombard us and blew the house down which we were in, burying most of us and killing some. Dad and another man are going to get the D.C.M. for getting the wounded out under heavy shell fire. I think he will soon be coming home to get his honour. Tell aunt, Walker is wounded. I have just come out of hospital and he is in yet."*



Sapper T. R. Briggs.



Sapper E. Briggs.

The letter from Sapper T. R. Briggs (the father) which was written on January 8th, states, *"Just a few lines hoping you and the family are in good health. Ernest and myself are quite well. Thank God for our spared lives. We have had a terrible experience since I sent you my last letter. The Germans bombarded us with a big gun known as 'Jack Johnson' and it played on us from 9 am, until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. It knocked our building down and buried the men in a large cellar. Ernest was buried but we got him out. He was slightly injured and his mates were shaken, but he alright again now. Heathcote Walker is in hospital with a nasty head wound. Me and two more and an artillery major rescued them all. Twenty-one were wounded,*

5 killed outright and 3 have since died of wounds. I will let you know about my honour in my next letter."

It is understood that Walker has sufficiently recovered from his wound as to able to proceed to England and is now in hospital at Newcastle, being expected home in a few days.

DESFORD MAN KILLED

Mr A. Archer, of Hill Entry, Desford, whose son, Private J. W. Archer, of the 1st Leicesters, has been killed in action, has received a profoundly sympathetic letter from Lance-Corporal S. T. Newcombe, of the 1st Leicestershire Regiment, who has been wounded.

The Lance-Corporal states that Archer was in his section and speaking of how deceased was killed, he says, *“They (the Germans) bombarded our trenches practically all day. About 2.15 in the afternoon of November 17th we were well concealed in the trench. A shell burst, and all that I can remember is hearing it burst, and being thrown along the trench. When I came to myself I found I was wounded in the right arm and hand. As soon as I could walk I went to see how the others were. All I could see was a heap of earth and sandbags. Jack’s head was first uncovered, but he was not dead. He was bleeding very heavily owing to a severe wound in the head. He was unconscious, and he remained so until he died.”*

“But I am pleased to inform you,” continued the writer, in simple, yet touching words, *“that he was a very good man, and never failed to do his duty. He was respected by all who came in contact with him – officers and men – and we miss his presence.”*

Lance-Corporal Newcombe adds that he has just come out of hospital. He lost the use of his right hand for a time, but he is glad to say he feels the benefit of the operation he has undergone.

COALVILLE SOLDIERS’ AND SAILORS’ COMFORTS GUILD

We are instructed by the committee of the above guild to thank all those who in any way assisted to make the prize drawing and social such a splendid success and so enable the Guild to continue its work of sending comforts to our soldiers and sailors.

So many people helped us that it is impossible to thank them all individually, but we feel sure that all will be amply repaid for any trouble they may have been at when it is known that the effort realised the handsome profit of £154.

A. E. Baldwin, Hon. Secretary
M. A. Farmer, Hon. Treasurer

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COALVILLE AND DISTRICT

ROLL OF HONOUR

Local Men who have died for their country.

One Hundred and Nine Names

“Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

Appended is a list of names, as far as we have been able to trace them from the file copies of the “Coalville Times,” of the men from this district, who have given their lives for their country:-

William Chambers

Private, of Royal Marines, on board H.M.S. “Pathfinder,” sunk in the North Sea, September 5th, 1914. Mother lives in Margaret Street, Coalville.

L. Henson

Private, of the Coldstream Guards, formerly police constable stationed at New Swannington, died of wounds, September 25th, 1914.

William Ogden Hoden

Private, of the 1st Royal Warwickshire Regiment, killed in action in France, October 13th, 1914. He formerly resided at Page’s Hill, Hugglescote, and left a wife and five children.

George H. Newton

Went down in H.M.S. “Hawke.” Formerly of Bardon Hill

Sydney Herbert Sharpe

Private, of the Coldstream Guards, killed in action in Belgium, November 1st, 1914. He belonged to Heather.

J. C. Andrews

Lance-Corporal, of the 1st Beds. Regiment, killed in action on November 7th, 1914, in France. He was a Ravenstone man.

Thomas Jones

Private, of the Durham Light Infantry, killed in the bombardment of West Hartlepool. Former Thringstone school-master.

S. A. Meakin

Lieutenant, of the 1st North Staffs Regiment, killed in action in France in December 1914. Formerly resided at Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Forester Roberts

Private, of the Northants Regiment, killed in action in France, November 16th, 1914. Formerly employed by Messrs. W. Moss and Sons, Coalville.

Frederick Kirby

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, died from wounds on December 9th, 1914. Formerly resided in Crescent Road, Hugglescote, and worked as a collier.

James Edwin Cox

Private, of the Coldstream Guards, died while in training at Caterham, Surrey. Formerly resided in North Street, Hugglescote.

Alfred Wesson

Sergeant, in the Sherwood Foresters, died of wounds, March 6th, 1915. A former resident of Margaret Street, Coalville.

John Manders

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, died wounds, 15th March, 1915. His wife and two children reside in Belvoir Road, Coalville. He worked at Whitwick Colliery.

James Young

Private, Notts. and Derby Regiment. Died of wounds, 20th March, 1915. A former employee of the Coalville Urban Council, of North Street, Hugglescote.

Owen Hallam

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle, on March 10th. A well-known local footballer, formerly residing at Donnington-le-Heath.

John Williamson

Private of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action, March 10th. A Coalville man.

John D. Sheffield

Corporal of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle on March 10th. Son of the late Mr W. Sheffield, of the Railway Hotel, Coalville.

Ernest Moore

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action on March 10th, 1915. He formerly lived in Ashby Road, Coalville, and was single.

Ernest Hall

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed at Neuve Chapelle, between 10th and 14th March, 1914. His wife and three children reside at Whitwick where he worked as a collier.

James Wardle

Private, of the Grenadier Guards, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle. A former collier, residing at Margaret Street, Coalville.

Val Hull

Private, of the 3rd Bedfords, killed in action in France on April 11th, 1915. He lived at Copt Oak.

Ernest Samuel Boot

Private of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on April 15th. He was employed at Messrs. Stableford's works and resided in Melbourne Street, Coalville.

Thomas Dooley D.C.M.

2nd Lieutenant, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action in France, May 1st, 1915. A former Coalville collier, of Margaret Street, adopted the army as his profession and rose from the ranks.

Albert Johnson

Of the Rifle Brigade, killed in action in April 1915. Formerly resided at Park Road, Coalville.

J. A. Johnson

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, died of wounds on April 16th. A native of Swannington.

Harry Spence

Trooper, Leicestershire Yeomanry, killed in action, May 13th, 1915. He resided at Markfield and was employed by Messrs. Stableford and Co., Coalville.

Samuel P. D. Thomson

Lieutenant of the Leicestershire Yeomanry, killed in action May 13th, 1915. A director of the Ibstock Collieries Ltd.

George Barker

Trooper, Leicestershire Yeomanry, killed in action, May 14th, 1915. A young farmer of Onebarrow, Whitwick.

C. Avins

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action in May 1915. He was an Ashby man.

William Moore

Private, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, killed in action May 1st, 1915. He belonged to Thringstone.

A. Heathcote

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, died of wounds on April 23rd, 1915. A Bagworth collier.

J. G. Poyser

Private, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle, March 10th, 1915. He left a widow and three children at Ashby.

Timothy Betteridge

Lance-corporal, of the 2nd Leicesters. An Ashby man killed at Neuve Chapelle, March 10th, 1915.

John Gadsby

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in May, 1915. A Breedon man.

George Henry Wesson

Sergeant, of the Sherwood Foresters, killed in action on May 9th, 1915. Formerly of Margaret Street, Coalville.

Cecil Thomas Beadman

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on May 19th, 1915. Formerly worked for Messrs. Wootton Bros., Coalville, and resided at Forest Road, Coalville.

Wilfred Pepper

Of the Royal Navy, went down on the "Goliath," in the Dardanelles, May 13th, 1915. His home was at Ellistown.

Charles William Jewsbury

Gunner, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, June 6th, 1915. He was employed by Messrs. Stableford and Co., and resided at Bakewell Street, Coalville.

Frederick Wilfred Hart

5th Leicesters, killed in action, June 8th, 1915. A railwayman, of London Road, Coalville.

Francis Frederick Martin

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, died in England, on June 11th, 1915, from wounds received in action. Buried with military honours at Coalville.

Ernest H. Butler

Of the Australian Contingent, killed in action in the Dardanelles in May, 1915. He lived at Ellistown, being a former colliery clerk.

H. S. Burton

Lance-corporal of the 23rd London Regiment, killed in action on May 25th, 1915. A Whitwick man.

Ernest Tugby

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action on June 7th. He resided in Leicester Road, Whitwick.

Harold G. Blackham

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in May, 1915. Formerly clerk in the Coalville Conservative office.

Fred Whitmore

Lance-corporal, of the Black Watch, died of wounds on May 23rd, 1915. Formerly lived at Hugglescote, a colliery clerk.

Arthur Brownlow

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action on June 21st, 1915. A collier, whose wife and child were residing in Margaret Street, Coalville.

John Ison

Private, of the 1st Canadian Contingent, killed in action in June, 1915. An old Bosworth schoolboy of Measham, who had not long before gone to Canada.

William Barney

Lance-corporal, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on June 30th, 1915. A collier of Cumberland Road, Ellistown.

William Wardle

Lance-corporal, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on July 4th, 1915. He worked at Ellistown Colliery and resided in Main Street, Swannington.

Harry Walker

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, July 2nd, 1915. A Ravenstone man employed by the South Leicestershire Colliery Co.

G. H. Highfield

2nd Lieutenant, of the 3rd York and Lancaster Regiment, killed in action, July 4th, 1915. A former master at Coalville Grammar School.

John George Bennett

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action July 15th. He resided in Beresford Street, and formerly worked for Messrs. Wootton Bros., Coalville.

Walter Gray

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, July 23rd, 1915. He formerly lived in Belvoir Road, Coalville.

John Clibbery

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action July 20th, 1915. A former Ellistown collier, whose father resides in Bakewell Street, Coalville.

George Andrews

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, July 23rd, 1915. A Ravenstone man who worked at Ibstock colliery.

Harry Smith

Petty officer of the Royal Naval Brigade, killed in the Dardanelles, on July 14th, 1915. Formerly worked at Ibstock Colliery.

William Massey

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action August 9th, 1915. A Hugglescote man.

Harry Badcock

Private, 5th Leicesters, killed in action August 1st, 1915. A former Coalville Grammar School boy who resided at Ibstock.

Isaac Hall

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action July 23rd, 1915. A Whitwick collier whose home was at Thringstone.

H. Ing

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action July 30th, 1915. Resided at Waterworks Road, Coalville.

Cyril Ernest Briers

Of the Coldstream Guards, killed in action, July 29th, 1915. He lived with his uncle, Mr B. Baxter, Ibstock.

Fred Pringle

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in August, 1915. An Ashby man.

E. Dowell

Private, killed in action in France, August 17th, 1915. His wife and four children reside at Markfield.

Clifford E. Scott

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in France, September 1st, 1915. Son of Mr W. V. Scott, Coalville East station-master, and formerly clerk in the L and N. W. Goods Office, Whitwick,

Herbert Smith Hurst

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, August 31st, 1915. He was a collier, formerly residing at Parsonwood Hill, Whitwick.

Arthur Charles Johnstone

Private, of the 8th Leicesters, died September 1st, 1915, from wounds received in action the previous day. A collier of Castle Hill, Whitwick.

Alfred Clifford

Private, in the 1st Leicesters, killed in action in September, 1915, in France. He was a Coleorton collier.

Edward H. H. Rawdon-Hastings

Lieutenant, of the Black Watch, died of enteric in hospital at Boulogne, September 15th. Son of Lady Maude Hastings of the Manor House, Ashby.

Bernard Hatter

2nd Lieut., 2nd Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action September 26th, 1915. Only son of Mr T. Hatter, of North Street, Hugglescote.

Walter Irons

Private in the 5th Leicesters, died of wounds received in action in France, September 28th. He formerly worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery and resided at Shaw Lane.

W. L. Pearson

Private, K.O.S. Borderers, killed in action at Gallipoli, on June 28th. He was a Heather man and formerly worked at the Ibstock Colliery.

Walter Shaw

Private in the 9th Leicesters, killed in action September 9th. He was a widower, formerly residing at Swannington and was a labourer.

J. H. Pepper

Private of the 9th Leicesters, died of wounds received in action in France in September. He formerly resided at Newton Burgoland.

Pte. Dolman

Of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, killed in action, October 1915. He formerly worked at Nailstone Colliery and left a widow and two children, residing at South Street, Ellistown.

Joseph Cox

Private in the Grenadier Guards, killed in action, October 1915. He was an Ashby man and formerly captain of the Ashby Hastings F.C.

B. Turner

Private of the 3rd Leicesters, killed in action on September 17th, 1915. He formerly lived at Peckleton and worked at the Desford Collieries.

James Cairns

Private in the Connaught Rangers, killed in action in the Dardanelles on August 21st, 1915. Formerly a Whitwick collier, who leaves a widow and three children.

Frank Underwood

Private in 8th Leicesters, killed in action in October, 1915. Son of Mr John Underwood, of Pare's Hill, Whitwick, and a former employee of the Forest Rock Granite Company.

Paulyn C. J. Reginald Rawdon-Hastings

Captain, 5th Leicestershire Territorials, killed in action, October, 1915. Son of Lady Maude Hastings, of the Manor House, Ashby.

Bernard Whittaker

Private of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action on September 25th or 26th, 1915. He formerly lived in Leicester Road, Whitwick, and worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery.

George Gadsby

Private of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action October, 1915. He left a wife and one child living at Mill Row, Hugglescote, and formerly worked at Ibstock Colliery.

Percy Lawrence Smith

Private of the 1st Hants Regiment, killed in action. He was a Ravenstone man.

Walter Woodward

Trooper in the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, died of wounds received in action on October 9th, 1915. Son of Mrs Woodward of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

E. Pringle

Corporal, in the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, October, 1915. An Ashby man, brother of Pte. Fred Pringle, also killed in action.

George Fletcher

Private in the 5th Leicesters, reported killed in action October, 1915. Son of Mr George Fletcher, of No. 9, Ibstock Road, Ellistown.

R. C. Lawton

Lieutenant, 5th Leicesters, died of wounds received in action, October, 1915. Son of Mr Lawton of Boothorpe, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

C. Page

Private in the Worcestershire Regiment, killed in action, May 15th, 1915. A former Coalville policeman.

Samuel Thomas Berkin

Private in the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards, killed in action September 27th, 1915. A Swannington man, formerly employed at Messrs. Stableford and Co's Works, Coalville.

Frank William Woolhouse

Private in the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, October, 1915. A Whitwick collier, who resided at Albert Street, Coalville.

Gerald Stewart

Captain, 10th Hussars, and **John Stewart**, Lieutenant, Royal Irish Guards, both killed in action. Only sons of Mr C. H. and Lady Mary Stewart, of Cliftonthorpe, Ashby.

Fred Davis

Private, in the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle. Aged 26, single, formerly worked at South Leicestershire Colliery, and lived with his sister, Mrs Massey, late of 154, Ashby Road, Coalville.

Edward Jarvis

Private of the 1st Grenadier Guards, killed in action, October 17th, 1915. He formerly resided at 88, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, and worked at the Snibston Colliery.

Harry Toon

Private, 9th Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France on November 15th, 1915. He was aged 20, formerly worked at Coleorton Colliery and lived at Griffydam.

C. H. Smith

Private, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, killed in action in France, November 1915. His parents reside at Nottingham Road, Ashby.

A Litherland

Private, 1/5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, November 1915. His home was at Chapel Yard, Ashby.

Frederick Barttam

Private in the 5th Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.) killed in action in France, October 13th, 1915. An Osbastone man.

W. Hadland

Private in the 5th Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.) died of wounds received in action in France, November, 1915. He was formerly employed on the Cadeby estate of Messrs. Scott and Brown.

Joseph A. Hall

Lance-Corporal in the 9th Leicesters, killed in action in France, December 9th, 1915. He was a Whitwick collier, aged 22 years, and his wife and child reside at the Dumps.

Charles W. Cook

Private, 10th Leicesters, killed in action in France, December 10th. Aged 22, an Ashby man.

Robert Ashby

Sapper of Royal Engineers, killed in action December 21st, 1915. A Battram man and former member of the Nailstone Colliery Rescue Party.

L. G. Beck

Corporal in the 1st Leicesters, killed in action December 21st, 1915. Late of Leicester and formerly of Park Road, Coalville, aged 27.

Oliver Pratt

Private, 8th Leicesters, died on New Year's Day, 1916, from wounds received in action in France on December 27th. He was a collier at the South Leicestershire Colliery and resided at 5, Wilkins Lane, Hugglescote.

J. W. Archer

Of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action, November 17th, 1915. He formerly lived at Hill Entry, Desford.

A Lee

Private, of the Royal Engineers, died of pneumonia. He belonged to Ulverscroft, Markfield.

R. Cramp

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action, January 1916. A Markfield man.

George Spencer

Private in the 3/5th Leicestershire Regiment, died while in training in Yorkshire, December 1915. Son of the late Mr Nat. Spencer, of Belvoir Road, Coalville.

Alfred Bernard Smith

Private of the Grenadier Guards, died January 5th, 1916, from wounds received in action in France the previous day. A former employee of Messrs. Stableford and Co., aged 19 years, of Main Street, Swannington.

Stanley Samuel Snell

Private in the 2nd Leicesters, posted wounded and missing in France, from September 21st, 1915, death officially confirmed January 12th. Had spent 5 years in the army, son of Mr S. Snell, of Snibstone.

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LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Lieut. Donald Carruthers, of the Royal Army Medical Corps, has been promoted to the rank of captain. He is the son of Mr and Mrs R. J. Carruthers, of Hill Street, Ashby.

In accordance with the decision of the Government that all public museums and galleries should be closed, the British Museum (including the Natural History Museum) will shortly be closed to the public. The reading room will remain open, but will be closed at dusk.

Miss M. E. Dickinson, of the 1st Western General Hospital, Liverpool, has been awarded the Royal Red Cross decoration for Territorial Force nursing service. Miss Dickinson is the

daughter of the late Mr William Dickinson and Mrs Dickinson, now of Prestop Park Farm, Ashby.

The headmaster of the Coalville Belvoir Road Council School (Mr T. Frith), has hit upon a very happy idea in connection with the splendid record possessed by the school in regard to the number of old boys now serving in the forces. It is surprising to find that there are no fewer than 185 such boys, and Mr Frith is having all their names neatly printed on a pretty card of patriotic design, with an expression of good wishes, a copy of which is being sent to each of the boys. The card is worded as follows: "*Coalville Belvoir Road Council School T. Frith, headmaster. All good wishes for the new year from the teachers and children. A small tribute to your gallant service in the cause of honour, justice and liberty, for King and Country.*" We hope to publish in our next issue a list of the old boys' names and the regiments in which they are serving.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Yesterday was the Kaiser's birthday?

The Military Tribunal met again in the Coalville Council Chamber on Wednesday night, and dealt with a good number of appeals?

A good number of "Derby" recruits in the groups called up, left Coalville on Wednesday?

Men who attain the age of 41 years before the date appointed for the Military Service Bill to come into operation will not be liable to the obligation to serve?

Up to the end of 1915, there were 170 men from Whitwick serving in the forces, nine had been killed in action, and two reported missing?

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TEA AND DANCE

A very successful tea and dance were held in conjunction with the Coalville Adult School auxiliary of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild in the Bridge Road Hall, on Wednesday. There were two sittings down at the tea. Mr E. Hawthorn was M.C. and Mr J. Cooper played for dancing. The proceeds were for the purchased of working materials.

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ANOTHER HONOURS LIST

AWARDS TO GALLANT SOLDIERS

Another long list of honours awarded by the King to officers and men of the Army for conspicuous acts of bravery and gallantry in France and Flanders, the Dardanelles, Mesopotamia, and East Africa, appears in a supplement to the "London Gazette." The awards comprise four V.C.'s, seven D.C.O.'s, 34 Military Crosses and 179 D.C.M.'s whilst two men obtain a clasp to the D.C.M. previously won by them.

Temporary Second-Lieutenant A. E. Eaton, late of the 7th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, now attached to a tunnelling company of the Royal Engineers, receives the D.S.O. and two more "Tigers" have earned the D.C.M. – Lance-Corporal W. Dalby, of the 9th Battalion (attached to a trench mortar battery), and Sergeant C. Mellors, of the 7th Battalion.

THE LOCAL D.C.M.'S

The local winners of the D.C.M.'s and the services for which the honours are given are thus reported:

Lance-Corporal W. Dalby, 9th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment (attached to 93rd Trench Mortar Battery).

"For conspicuous gallantry near Bienvillers on 28th November, 1915. When a trench mortar was being fired, one of the bombs, owing to a defective charge, fell near the gun position. Shouting to the men near to run clear, regardless of all other danger, he reloaded the 50lb bomb in which the fuse was still burning, and fired it clear of our trenches."

Sergeant C. Mellors, 7th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.

"For conspicuous gallantry near Bienvillers on the night of 24th December, 1915. When a grenade had fallen from a "West" bomb thrower into our trench, he jumped down from the parapet, seized it, and threw it out of the trench. The grenade exploded as it left his hand. His promptness and bravery saved many casualties."

Other winners include Lance-Sergeant M. Limb, and Lance-Corporal M. C. Rust, 1/6th Battalion, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment, T.F. for conspicuous good service on November 25th, 1915.

"1631 Lance-Sergeant Limb and Lance-Corporal Rust each led a patrol to inspect the German wire opposite the Boar's Head, near Neuve Chapelle, and brought back useful information on which a plan of attack was founded. On the night of the bombing attack, they behaved with great gallantry and coolness."

11711 Sergeant N. Hinett, 1st Battalion, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment.

"For conspicuous gallantry near Rue due Bois, on 24th December, 1915, when with great promptness and courage he picked up a bomb which had fallen in the trench and threw it over the parapet, where it immediately exploded. His brave action saved many casualties. His name has been brought to notice on three previous occasions for gallant conduct."

WOUNDED SOLDIER IN A SCUFFLE

FAMILY JARS AT MEASHAM

At the Ashby Police Court on Saturday, Henry Saunders, 30, soldier, Georgina Saunders, 27, his wife, and Wm. Ensor, 55, labourer, who is step-father of Saunders, all of Measham, were summoned for violent conduct at Measham, on January 8th.

The soldier and his wife pleaded guilty, and Ensor not guilty.

P.C. Holmes stated that about 9 pm he was on duty at Measham, and was called to a disturbance in Hinck's Yard. When he was a hundred yards off he heard shouting and screaming and found all three defendants struggling on the ground. They were fighting, shouting and swearing. They all had blood on their faces and a crowd of people were there.

The clerk: It was a regular affray?

Witness: Yes sir.

The clerk: Were they under the influence of drink?

Witness: Yes, all of them. I had to carry Saunders home. – He added that Saunders had been wounded and had been discharged from the Army in consequence.

Ensor alleged that Mrs Saunders struck him with a beer bottle because he was going to tell her husband about her misdeeds while he was at the front. He (Ensor) only defended himself. He was not the worse for drink. He got them both out of the house and was holding them by the wrists when the policeman came.

Supt. Lockton: Have you had any beer this morning?

Defendant: I have had a glass.

The policeman had been fetched two or three times before to the same bother that day, hadn't he? – I don't know, I had been at work. Saunders said his step-father called his wife names, and when he took her part he was kicked on the leg on which he was wounded. He could not get up, and was thrown out.

The woman corroborated this, and denied hitting Ensor with a beer bottle. She said he knocked it off the table himself. He caught hold of her and tried to strangle her.

Defendants were each fined 12/6 or seven days, and were allowed 10 days to pay. Ensor said he should have to write for his to his two sons who were at the front.

MAYOR OF LEICESTER AT THE FRONT

EXCITING MOMENTS UNDER FIRE

The Mayor of Leicester (Ald. North), addressing a large body of wounded soldiers who were entertained by the Leicester Co-Operative Society, at the De Montfort Hall, on Saturday afternoon, mentioned that he had just returned from a visit to the front. He was one of a party of civilians who were conducted to the British trenches, in the vicinity of which he witnessed a severe German bombardment. Shells dropped and burst within a short distance of the party, and at one spot where they had to cross two large open fields, shrapnel appeared to be bursting in all directions. He did not mind telling them that it was with great feelings of relief that they reached a place of safety. He was filled with admiration with what he saw of the bravery of our troops, and felt proud of the race to which they belonged.

SCENES AT WIGSTON BARRACKS

The first of the 'Derby' recruits in the Leicester district reported themselves at Glen Parva Barracks on Thursday for service with the colours. It was thought at one time that the scenes of August, 1914 would probably be repeated, and there would be a great flood of men that would tax the resources of the barracks to the uttermost, but the vast organisation that has grown up handled the problem very capably. Only a portion of the men attested in Groups 2, 3, 4 and 5 under Lord Derby's scheme are being called up on any one day, so that the number who presented themselves at the barracks on Thursday was smaller than most people expected for the first day. The men were put through a most searching medical examination, and then allotted to different units of the Service. Practically all the men on Thursday were sent into Territorial Battalions of the Leicestershire Regiment.

They spent the day in the barracks, going through the preliminaries of recruit drill, and anyone who saw them at the work could not fail to be impressed with the keenness to learn and the cheerful carriage of the young men. They tramped up and down the barrack square at the 'quick march' or 'formed fours' with a smartness of mien that augurs well for the future of the service that is to have its ranks supplemented by their presence. The recruits went off from the barracks a few days' ago to their training camps, being escorted to the stations by the Depot Band.

ASHBY POLICE COURT

ABSENTEE SOLDIER

George Wykes, (35), private in the 10th Leicesters, was summoned for being an absentee from his regiment at Rugeley camp. P.C. Drury deposed to arresting the man at Oakthorpe, he admitting that sixteen of them "broke camp." Defendant was remanded to await an escort.

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ELLISTOWN VICAR'S GIFT

TO WOUNDED SOLDIER

An interesting event took place at St. Christopher's Church, Ellistown, on Sunday evening. In the congregation was Lance-Corporal J. Clark, of Whitehill, Ellistown, of the 2nd Leicesters, who was wounded at Neuve Chapelle, and had had to have his right leg amputated. In the course of the service the Vicar (the Rev. F. Boothby) stepped from the pulpit, and approaching the wounded soldier, remarked, "God bless you," at the same time handing him a bag containing £5, which was the congregation's last Easter offering to the Vicar. Further details and photo of Clarke will appear in our next issue.

IBSTOCK SOLDIER'S PLEASANT SURPRISE

THE WAY TO TREAT TOMMIES

Private Joseph Smith, a young married man of Ibstock, who returned to the front on Wednesday, related a pleasant experience when he arrived home the previous week. He had come practically straight from the trenches through to Leicester, and whilst waiting for a local train a gentleman, noticing his 'trenchy' appearance, accosted him and took him to have a first-class dinner. During the conversation, it turned out that the stranger was a Desford gentleman farmer.

On Monday evening last, Mr Smith was again honoured by a supper party being arranged for his benefit at the house of his parents, when Mr E. W. Mee kindly undertook to do the necessary baking gratis. Private Smith enlisted soon after the war broke out.

SNIBSTON SOLDIER'S DEATH

THREE WEEKS AFTER HIS WEDDING

A letter from the War Office dated January 12th has been received by Mr Samuel Snell, of Snibston, blacksmith at the Ibstock Colliery, stating that the death of his son, Private Stanley Samuel Snell, of the 2nd Leicesters, has now been confirmed, and expressing sympathy with the parents.

Private Snell had been in the Army about 5 years, and was in India when war broke out. Before going to France he paid a visit to his parents at Snibston, and was married on September 1st. About three weeks later, on Sept. 25th he was posted as wounded and missing, and the letter above referred to has now been received in reply to enquiries.

COALVILLE CORPORAL ON A VISIT

LIFE IN THE TRENCHES

Corporal G. H. Wardle, of the 7th Leicesters, is this week staying with his sister, Mrs Kinsey, wife of Mr T. Kinsey, manager of the Coalville Liberal Club and Institute, having a few days' leave from France, where he has been at the front since last July.

He enlisted in October, 1914, being formerly employed at Messrs. Stableford's works. He received his first stripe in about six months and was made a corporal about a month before leaving for France on July 29th.

Wardle is looking remarkably well and when this writer, in conversation with him mentioned this fact, the soldier laughingly replied that an open-air life with a bit of excitement thrown in now and then, seemed to suit him. He has regularly taken his turn in the first line of trenches, which are quite close to those of the enemy, having four days in and four days out. He says that just now things are very much the same as they have been all along. He has not yet taken part in any big engagement, but has been in a few minor affairs, and the constant shelling provides a few thrills. Air duels over the trenches, he says, are almost of daily occurrence. Since the weather improved, life in the trenches has become much more agreeable. For a time it was very wet and uncomfortable, but things are much better now. While sleeping in dug-outs with the water trickling in sometimes is not quite as nice as being in a feather bed, he says they make the best of it, and the spirits of our troops generally are excellent. Several times in and out of the trenches, Wardle has run against Coalville men. He returns to France tomorrow.

SWANNINGTON SOLDIER DIES OF WOUNDS

A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF MESSRS. STABLEFORD AND CO.

STRUCK BY A SHELL WHILE ON SENTRY

Another local soldier who has made the supreme sacrifice for his country is Private Alfred Bernard Smith, of the 3rd Battalion, Grenadier Guards, eldest son of Mr Obadiah Smith, a Whitwick collier, who resides at Main Street, Swannington. A letter dated January 17th, from the War Office, states that Private Smith died on January 5th from wounds received in action the previous day.



The bereaved parents have also received a letter from a mate of the deceased who was with him at the time. The writer states that on January 4th, Smith was on sentry duty, and about midday a shell fell about three yards from him, a sergeant and three other privates knocking them all of a heap. Smith got up and ran for about 100 yards. Then he sat down and said, "Oh, my stomach," and asked to be allowed to lie down. They put him on some sandbags, and in a while the stretcher party came and took him to the clearing station. He died at 8.15 the next morning from two severe wounds in the back.

Lord Kitchener has also written expressing the sympathy of the King and Queen. Private Smith was only 19 years of age, and before the war was employed at Messrs.

Stableford and Co.'s engineering works, Coalville. He enlisted in September, 1914, and had been at the front in France about three months. Most of his training was done at Chelsea where he attended a military school and gained two certificates. He had joined the army for 12 years, and intended after then to join the Metropolitan Police Force.

AN ELLISTOWN D.C.M.

"Dear Sir, - I shall be glad if you will correct the report concerning the award of the D.C.M. to my son, Lieut. Joseph Emmerson, of the 1/4th Leicesters.

The award was given to my nephew, Lance-Corporal Jabez Emmerson, 1/5th Leicesters, for gallantry during mining operations near Ypres, on July 30th, 1915.

Lieut. Jos. Emmerson was mentioned in Sir J. French's final dispatch. This fact, and the same name initial, no doubt gave rise to the misunderstanding."

Yours faithfully
J. Emmerson.