

Great War Documents and Resources – Battle Honours



PRIVATE JOSEPH ARROWSMITH M. M.

Pte. Joseph Arrowsmith, Nantwich Road, Middlewich enlisted at Middlewich on the 20th. November, 1915, joining the Grenadier Guards (2nd. Batt.), and now belongs to the Machine Gun Section. After training he went to France on the 28th. August, 1916.

He went through the Battle of the Somme, going over the parapet several times, and on one occasion got slightly wounded.

On July 31st. last he was in the Battle for Pilken Ridge in which the British were successful. He went over the top, and sustained a shrapnel wound on the right side of the head. Instead of going to the dressing station he had the wound bandaged up ^{in the trenches} there, and pluckily carried on, helping with the dressing of the wounded under fire, and carrying them a short distance to the rear for the R. A. M. C. to pick up. His bravery can better be imagined when it is stated that the Germans were actively shelling them at the time, shells dropping all round him, and killing two of his companions. After the battle his Captain told him he should recommend him for the Military Medal, and the Brigadier General of the Guards Division decorated him with the ribbon about a fortnight later.

Pte. Arrowsmith was in the battle for Passchendale Ridge in October last in which his brother of the 4th. Batt. of the Guards was unfortunately killed when he first went in the trenches. He has taken part in several raids. He has fought side by side with the French, his machine gun being on the extreme right of the British line, next to the French, so that we may say he has been the British Army's right-hand man!

Private Thomas Bancroft, 21241, 11th. Batt., King's Liverpool Regiment, is a native of Middlewich, and is 26 years old. Prior to joining the Army he worked at the Roundhouse, Leese, and afterwards on the L. & N. W. Railway at Liverpool.

He enlisted on 10th. November, 1914 at Liverpool, and went to France on 18th. May, 1915. His Battalion proceeded straight to Ypres for about six months, afterwards going to Arras, and from there to the Somme.

In the Somme Battle they followed the King's Royal Rifles over the parapet on the 18th. August, 1916 to take Devil's Wood. They took all they were ordered to do, and consolidated their position. When they had finished there was only half of their number left, and only one officer remained. He was recommended for the Medal by the Trench Mortar Battery of the King's Royal Rifles, and the Ribbon was pinned on in France by General Cooper. As a proof of his modesty he informed me that he did not know exactly how he had earned the distinction, but I elicited the fact that he had been dressing the wounded under fire.

He returned from the Somme to Arras for the offensive last Easter (9th. April), subsequently proceeding to Ypres, where they were standing to for the purpose of reinforcing the Cheshires at the time Sergt. James Ruane of Middlewich got wounded.

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the Army on 14th. May, 1917, had
employed at the Electro Bleach & By-Prod etc
went to France in October, 1917. He is in the
Machine Gun Corps, and has been in hard-fought engagements at
Cambrai, Bullecourt, Armentieres and Soissons Wood.

On the 21st. March last the enemy sent gas over the British
lines, and this was followed by an intense bombardment. The
Germans then attacked. Pte. Beckett perceived them coming over
the top, & warned the officers, & the guns were got out & opened
fire. They resisted the enemy for several hours, but two of
the Bosche shells dropped by the guns, blowing them up and the
men with them. Their officer, Lieut. Percy, of Liverpool, had
his hand blown off & his leg severely shattered. Pte Beckett
succeeded in getting him away to the dressing station. He &
the officer were the only two who got clear, all the others being
either killed or taken prisoner, two gun teams being captured.
Pte. Beckett himself got slightly wounded in the shoulder.

Pte. Beckett then gallantly volunteered to try to get a section
of men out of a position which was almost surrounded by the
enemy, who had got round their left flank. He got to them, and
found that the Germans had put some of their guns out of action
and they had had to take cover in a dug-out. He led the
officer and men in a direction which enabled them to escape
from the oncoming enemy, who shortly afterwards took possession
of the position.

For his splendid services, done at great risk, Pte. Beckett
was awarded the Military Medal.

Loc-Cpl. JOSEPH CLARKE M. M.

Loc-Cpl. Joseph Clarke of Webb's Lane, Middlewich was one of the
first in the town to join up, as he enlisted on the 21st. August,
1914. He went to France in the following year. He was posted
to the 27th. Field Ambulance of the R. A. M. C., & has been in
the line throughout the War. The notable engagements he took
part in include the Battle of Loos, the Somme, & the fighting at
Ypres & Cambrai. He was attached to a famous fighting Division -
the 9th. Scottish.

On March 21st. last they were expecting the great GERMAN
offensive. The 21st. Division was on their right. The Huns
opened their attack by gas-shelling them for about five hours.
Loc-Cpl. Clarke's unit passed about 400 stretcher cases through
in 24 hours. The enemy eventually broke through the 21st.
Division, but the 9th. held their position. They then got
isolated, and the Huns were creeping round them. Orders were
given to retreat. Loc-Cpl. Clarke's unit had 40 stretcher cases
on their hands, & it was necessary that some should stay behind
with them. Volunteers were called for, & a Sergeant, Loc-Cpl.
Clarke & two privates courageously volunteered. They were in
an old farm-house on a hill, devoid of cover of any kind, & were
shelled heavily all the time, being out off for about six hours.
The 4th. South Africans made a counterattack, and drove the Huns
back towards the original line, & thus liberated them, & they
got all their cases away. About 23 German planes bombed & machine-
gunned them while they were retreating. After marching a
considerable distance, they halted for a rest, & the enemy
dropped four bombs on huts where they were sheltering. Each
bomb demolished a hut, and 25 casualties were caused. Word came
that they must evacuate, as the Germans were marching all through
the night. Again an appeal was made for volunteers, and again
was it promptly responded to by the same gallant quartette.
The Engineers blew up a bridge to retard the enemy, and our
brave boys had to carry the cases and wade the stream. They
reached the "Reserve" guns which stay behind on a retreat to

the guns and limbers as best they could, and by their coolness &
bravery they got all of them away. As they cleared out of the
street of one village the Huns entered at the other end of the
street. One of their party got wounded. They reached the main
body after marching for three hours.

The Field Ambulance was created for this kind of work, and
consequently such work does not often come in for recognition;
but theirs was out of the ordinary, and their plucky conduct
was noted, and the Sergeant was awarded the D. C. M., and Loc-Cpl.
Clarke and the two privates the M. M.

It should be added that two of Loc-Cpl. Clarke's brothers
also joined up in 1914, and another brother enlisted when of age,
two being in France, and one in Mesopotamia, so that the family
scout-honour remains untarnished, & reflect the rays of that sun
which has never set over this great liberty loving Empire of ours.

Great War Documents and Resources – Battle Honours



LTJL-CPL. JAMES JINKS M. M.

Ltj-Cpl. James Jinks joined the 8th. North Staffs. Regt. in November, 1914, and went to France in July, 1915, where he was ultimately transferred to the West Yorks. He has a brother in Mesopotamia who was wounded at the Dardanelles.

Ltj-Cpl. Jinks has been "over the top" four times. On one occasion he received shrapnel wounds in the elbow and left leg and in Septr. last was badly wounded in the abdomen by shrapnel and operated on at the front. He has seen considerable fighting in different parts of the line.

~~On one occasion~~ In May, 1917 there was a big bombardment on, the Germans sending over large numbers of gas and other shells. For two days they prevented food from being sent up to those in the front line trench. Ltj-Cpl. Jinks was the only one who knew the way to the trench, having taken messages there as Battalion Orderly; and the Commanding Officer asked him to guide a ration party to it. A party of about 60 men set off on a pitch-dark night. At times he thought he had lost the way on account of the numerous shell-holes which had been made. Just before they got to the communication trench, about half-way across, they were shelled very heavily, the enemy star-shells having revealed them. One shell burst about five yards behind him, killing three of the party, and scattering the others. It was with considerable difficulty that he managed to get them together again in the dark, and he does not hesitate to say that they had all naturally got "the wind up" more or less. Eventually they delivered most of the bully beef, biscuits and water to the front line trench, thus enabling the men in the firing line to hold to their positions. On their return the Quartermaster Sergeant informed the officer, and he recommended him for the Military Medal.

Ltj-Cpl. Jinks was also mentioned in Dispatches for carrying a message to the firing line about Christmas, 1916 when the Germans had shelled the communications and destroyed all the telephone wires.

PLATE LIEUTENANT JOHN WOODBINE M. M.

Pte. Woodbine joined the Lancs. Fusiliers in Septr., 1914, and after training was discharged on account of foot trouble. He however presented himself again at Manchester, and was delighted when he was accepted. He went for training & proceeded to France in 1915 with the 12th. Manchesters.

He went through the Battle of the Somme and other prior engagements. At Delville Wood he was severely wounded in the head & right shoulder, & it was feared at one time that he would lose his arm. After treatment in Devonshire hospitals he returned to France in 1917.

He took part in the fighting at Arras, & on the night of 16th. Septr., 1917 he acted as a stretcher bearer in a raid by the whole ~~British~~ Battalion on the enemy's trenches for the purpose of getting information, destroying machine guns, dug-outs, ~~saps~~ etc. They inflicted a lot of casualties & took many prisoners. When returning the enemy shelled them violently with trench mortars. It was while this shelling was going on that he brought in a sapper who was badly wounded & had been blinded, getting him down the communication trench and across No Man's Land as best he could. After putting him in a shelter he went over again & fetched in a sergeant-major who had both legs broken. Both are now recovering. Afterwards before daybreak he brought in the bodies of several who had been killed. Subsequently the Germans bombed their way down to the front line, so that his plucky action saved the two men from being killed or taken prisoners. He was recommended to the Captain by the platoon & sergeant, & awarded the Military Medal on the 24th. Septr.

Great War Documents and Resources – Transport Battalion



21st. August 3.

The O.C. Midland Area Detachment,
17th. South Lancs Regt.,
Room No. 7,
Educational Offices,
Margaret Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Dear Sir,

Pte. A.C. Johnson, No. 63024.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday's date with reference to the above, and we are extremely pleased that you will permit this man to work with his wife until the whole question of Soldier Boatmen's Wives is settled definitely.

Obviously it is much more satisfactory for a man to work with his own Wife who has been used to that kind of work all her life than to have two men on a boat doing the same work, and at the same time reducing the wage of these men very considerably.

Yours truly,
HENRY SEDDON & SONS LTD.

RECEIVED
26 OCT 1917
Ans'd. ✓

CANAL CONTROL COMMITTEE.
(BOARD OF TRADE.)
MIDLAND SUB-COMMITTEE

Telegrams: Vivamus, Birmingham.
Telephone: Central 765.

NORWICH UNION CHAMBERS,
CONGREVE STREET,
BIRMINGHAM.

October 25th. 1917

Messrs H. Seddon & Sons,
Salt Works,
Middlewich.

Dear Sirs:

With reference to the recent call here of Mr. Seddon Junior respecting men from the Transport Workers Batt:

I have this morning heard from Mr. Morgan, District Superintendent of Coal Mines, Stoke upon Trent that there is a possibility of slack being carried by water from the Fenton Collieries to your Salt Works at Middlewich, but that you state that you have no steerers to man the boats.

Mr. Seddon Junior will remember that when he called here he was informed that we could furnish men from the Transport Workers Battalion, but that we could not guarantee that they were efficient boatmen, and he decided to talk the matter over with his father and write to us further on the subject.

I might add that many Traders on the Midland Canals are already using this class of labour and ~~that~~ with excellent results and I shall be glad to hear that you will make an effort to get the traffic to your works on the Canal.

Yours faithfully,

PER PRO H. HOWARD HUMPHREYS,
CHAIRMAN.



Middlewich Division.

List of Persons willing to act as Special Constables for the Parish of Middlewich.

✓ Charles Frederick Lawrence,	Kinderton Street,	Town Clerk.
✓ Henry Cambridge,	Wheelock Street,	Furniture Dealer.
✓ Peter Croft,	Wheelock Street,	Confectioner.
✓ Alfred Foster,	Lower Street,	Clogger, etc.
George Mann,	Hightown,	Saddler.
✓ John Hurst,	Hightown,	Clogger.
John Walton,	Nantwich Road,	Grocer, etc.
○ Peter Wakefield,	Holmes-Chapel Road,	Labourer.

Police Office,
Middlewich,

29th November 1917.

Superintendent.

Great War Documents and Resources –



(E15) 5/16 G16/613 M. & C. Ltd.

DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATIONS, Regulation No. 41a.
List of Male Employees between the ages of 18 and 41.
(See Instructions overleaf.)

Name and Address of Employer						
1	2	2a	3	4	5	6
Name and Initials	Present Address (If registered under the National Registration Act at that address insert (R) in Column 2a)	Insert M if Married or a widower with a dependent child	Insert S if Single or a widower without a dependent child	Age	Date of engagement by present employer	Employed as a
33. Fairbanks S.	15 North Heath Middlewich	R	M	-	21	Lumpsum
34. Lynch F.	33 "	R	M	-	22	Lofter
35. Gaffney E.	30 Brook Lane "	R	M	-	25	8 ⁰
36. Robinson John	2 Flag Alley "	R	M	-	35	8 ⁰
37. " James	16 Brook Lane "	R	M	-	40	Lumpsum
38. Wicker Joe	20 Princess St Wharfedale	R	M	-	41	Waller
39. Gordon W.	52 Leaworth St Wimbor	R	M	-	35	Ry. Wagon Repairer
40. Cartledge J. Y.	4 Res Bank, Middlewich	R	M	-	23	Boat Captain
41. Niel Samuel	1 Flag Alley "	R	M	-	39	Black discharge
42. Higgins Geo.	Kantwick Rd	R	M	-	33	Joiner
43. Turner J. A.	19 Mint St Parabach	R	M	-	29	Wheelwright
44. Cowley J.	113 Ryegate Lane Northwich	R	M	-	28	Captain of Steamer
45. Hewitt F.	4 Hursey Rd Barabots	R	M	3	30	Engineer "
46. Arnold J.	32 Samuel Rd "	R	M	-	32	Wate
47. Taylor B. J. W.	Canal Side, Middlewich	R	-	5	20	" Canal Boat
48. Searge Jack	Brook Lane	R	-	5	21	" " "

10th December, 1915.

LOCAL TRIBUNAL.

List of men whom we have applied to be treated as "starred men," on the grounds that they are engaged in a reserved occupation and are indispensable.

Name.	Address.	Occupation.	If attested under Lord Derby scheme.
✓ George Noden,	White Horse Alley, Middlewich.	Assistant Lumpman. 2.	Yes.
✓ J.M. Robinson,	2 Flag Alley, Middlewich.	Lofter. 1.	Yes.
✓ John Higginson,	51 Lewin St, Middlewich.	"	Yes. Requested.
✓ J.G. Manley,	38 Booth Lane, Middlewich.	" 1.	Yes.
✓ James Bannaghan,	Seddon St. Middlewich.	Foreman Bricksetter. 9.	No.
✓ George Beckett,	Croxton Lane, Middlewich.	Bricksetter. 4.	Yes.
✓ James Graven,	Bricksetter 35 Brooks Lane, Middlewich.	Bricksetters Labourer. 12.	Yes.
✓ Samuel Field,	1 Flag Alley, Middlewich.	Black discharger. 10.	Requested. <i>Revised</i>
✓ L. Edwards,	7 Sea Bank, Middlewich.	" 3.	Yes.
✓ I.H. Wilson,	Cledford, Middlewich.	Horse Driver. 3.	Yes.
✓ C. Jackson,	Croxton Lane, Middlewich.	Bag man etc. 8.	Yes.
✓ Ed. Clarke,	Chester Road, Middlewich.	Coach Painter. 5.	Yes.
✓ Philip Sant,	Depper St, Middlewich.	Shipping Clerk. 0.	Requested. <i>Medically unfit.</i>



ESTABLISHED 1756.

HENRY SEDDON & SONS, L^{TD}.

MIDDLEWICH.

BRANCHES,
LONDON, THE LONDON SALT CO^Y L^{TD} CAMBERWELL, S.E.
ALSO AT LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER & C.

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THE ADMIRALTY & WAR OFFICE.

MANUFACTURERS OF
ALL QUALITIES OF SALT.

SPECIALITIES,
"X.L.C.R." CHEESE SALT,
FACTORY FILLED & FISHERY SALT.

July 16th 1914.

From meeting to J. W. C. about the will send to Simpson today

My Dear Father,
Simpson. Enclosed letter rec^d
this morning in reply to yours. — We are
giving him a fair proportion of what we have
ready meantime.
Orders on hand from them alone,
unexecuted, 498 tons, & it will
be weeks, perhaps months, before we can catch
up.
Reserved Occupation Committee
Enclosed notice of meeting in Lanch of
Monday afternoon 3.30, at which you,
as one of the Committee will have received
notice to attend. — We sent list of
our men (as per enclosed copy) to Malcolm,
as all other Mftrs. are doing today, so as
to have a complete particulars paper of
military use. — I do hope they won't
touch Simpson, or we shall be entirely closed.
59 of our men have gone in the Army,

Middlewich Local Tribunal.

Voluntarily attested men's Applications for Certificates of Exemption.

Applications ON GROUNDS OTHER THAN THAT MEN ARE IN CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONS must be delivered to the undersigned NOT LATER THAN TEN DAYS AFTER the issue by the Military Authorities of a Public Notice calling up the Groups in which the men are placed. The date of issue is printed AT THE TOP of the Public Notices.

Applications for individual Certificates of Exemption BY OR IN RESPECT OF MEN IN CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONS must be so delivered NOT LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER INDIVIDUAL Notice has been sent to the man by the Military Authorities calling him up for service with the colours.

Applications in respect of men ATTESTED AFTER PUBLIC NOTICE must be delivered NOT MORE THAN TEN DAYS AFTER THE DAY ON WHICH THE MEN WERE ATTESTED.

Applications for the RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES must be made before the date on which the Certificates cease to be in force or not later than seven days after individual notice from the Military Authorities calling men up for service with the colours.

C. F. LAWRENCE,

Town Hall, Middlewich. Clerk.

W. Clarke, Printer, Middlewich.



AN OUTLINE OF THE MILITARY SERVICE ACT.

1. Q. To whom does the Act apply? A. To single men. The Act applies to every man of military age ordinarily resident in Great Britain on August 15th last, who was 18 or over on that date and who will be under 41 on March 2nd, 1916, who (on November 2nd, 1915) was unmarried or a widower without any child dependent on him. The Act applies also to any male British subject who since August 15th has become or hereafter becomes ordinarily resident in Great Britain.

2. Q. To whom does this Act NOT apply?

- A. (1) Men in Great Britain ordinarily resident in the Dominions or Colonies, or resident here merely for their education or some other special purpose;
- (2) Members of His Majesty's Regular or Reserve Forces, or of the forces raised by the Governments of His Majesty's Dominions, and members of the Territorial Force who are liable for foreign service, or who, in the opinion of the Army Council, are not suited for foreign service;
- (3) Men in the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, or men who are recommended for exception by the Admiralty;
- (4) Clergymen, Priests and regular Ministers of any Religious Denomination;
- (5) Officers and men in the Army or Navy who have been discharged in consequence of disablement or ill-health;
- (6) Time-expired men from the Army and Navy;
- (7) Men who have offered themselves for enlistment and have been rejected since August 14th, 1915;
- (8) Men who hold a certificate of exemption—see 4 below.

3. Q. How does the Act affect men not excepted as above? A. Every such man on Thursday, March 2nd, 1916, will be deemed to have enlisted for the period of the War, and to have been transferred to the Reserve. If he considers that he is entitled to exemption, he can apply for a certificate of exemption.

4. Q. Who is entitled to exemption?

A. Any man who can prove to the Local Tribunal:—

- (1) That instead of being employed in military service it is expedient in the National interests (a) that he should be engaged in work in which he is habitually engaged or (b) in which he wishes to be engaged or, (c) if he is being educated or trained for any work, that he should continue to be so educated or trained;
- (2) That if he became a soldier serious hardship would follow owing to his exceptional financial or business obligations or domestic position;
- (3) That he is in ill-health or infirm;
- (4) That he has a conscientious objection to combatant service. The certificate of exemption may be from combatant service only, in which case the man would not be exempt from service in a non-combatant unit, such as the Army Medical Corps. It may be made a condition of exemption that the applicant is, or will be, engaged in work which in the opinion of the Local Tribunal is of national importance.

LOCAL TRIBUNAL For the Urban District of Middlewich

NOTICE is hereby given that forms of Claims and applications in respect of the following can be obtained from the Clerk to the Local Tribunal:—

Claims for postponement of the calling up for Service of attested men, (Section II.) The Tribunal will deal with employers' claims if the place of employment is within the Urban District, and with men's personal claims if such men reside in the District. Notices of claims may be delivered at any time after the attestation of a man, but not later than ten days after the issue of a Proclamation calling up the group in which the man is placed.

Applications by unstarred men, whether attested or not, employed in the Urban District, or by their employers, that such men should be treated as starred men on the ground that they are actually engaged in an occupation which has been regarded as a starred occupation for the purposes of the National Register, (Section VI.)

Notices required to be sent to the Local Tribunal shall be sent to the Office of the Clerk of the Middlewich Urban District Council, Town Hall, and may be delivered at or sent by post to that Office.

Dated this twenty-ninth day of November, 1915.

C. F. LAWRENCE,
Clerk to the Local Tribunal.

Great War Documents and Resources –



24 December 1914
Dear Friends of Middlewich I am very pleased to receive the contents that you have sent round to all the Soldiers & Sailors from Middlewich Well I dont no how to thank you for it is a present I shall treasure all my life I am sorry to say that I should be a Prisoner of War when I receive such a splendid present but it is pleasing to no that though we are out of sight we are still in the minds of our Middlewich Friends I will be too late to wish all the People a Merry Christmas but I wish them all a Happy New Year I received all the contents only the Pipe & Matches they took the Pipe because they ~~do~~ allow us to smoke I hope the War will soon be over as it is not very pleasant here as a Prisoner I have no more to say only to thank the Committee for the Kindness they have done me I received the Parcel on the 23rd of December so I am writing back without delay I remain one of a many who is having hard times from Patrick Hazell Hameln - A - Near Germany

Rembahn Camp
Münster in Westphalia
Germany July 22 - 1916

Adresse exacte de l'expéditeur :
Nom et prénom :
Gefangenelager 2, Münster i. Westf. (Allemagne).
Block 4, Lager 2, Chambre 3

Dear Mr Lawrence,
This is to let you know that I am receiving your parcels regularly & in good condition. I have been in hospital with pneumonia I could not write for some time I am getting gradually better again now. Hoping you will excuse me. Thanks to the committee. Yrs sincerely, R. Holman

Dear Sir just a few lines to let you know I am quite well I do not want you to send me any more parcels of eatables as I am working on a farm but you may send me cigarette and socks and an English and German book as I am getting on fairly well with the German of language and can also speak good French. Yours truly
Joseph Higgins
9/4/15

Great War Documents and Resources –



Friedrichsfeld, 27/12/15

Dear Sir In answer to your letter dated 26th you would be pleased if you could forward me an over coat my height being 5ft 9 inches and a pair of boots and I thank you very much for the parcel of food stuffs and under clothing you sent me on the 20th I will send you a photograph at the first opportunity and the soldiers here at this camp and another Middlewich man has given the name of the St. Quentin so I think I have told you all this time thanking you again for your kindnesses from the St. Quentin.

Défense d'écrire à l'ence. Recrire très lisiblement.

April 25th 1915 Dear Sirs

In acknowledgement of the parcel of the 25th March I cannot express my thanks as I should like to, as I can neither find a lot of space on this card, but please accept my thanks and as heartfelt as man can thank, I have also received the soap which you sent me & again I thank you the parcel was just perfect & I don't think I ever enjoyed anything more, as it is such a while since I started anything in that line. There are eight of us here with Belgians & French prisoners & I can assure you life is very dull, but thank God we are all in good health, hoping to find you all the same. I remain yours for ever grateful

W Marshall

(47) POST CARD

THIS SPACE FOR COMMUNICATIONS. THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN HERE.

8th Cheshires
Parkhouse Camp
Salisbury Plain

Dear Sir Will you kindly send us a prospectus for the next year at night school. We have nothing to read but we are all right every other way

Johnson & Hodgkinson

Mr J Woodley
Chester Road,
Middlewich
Cheshire

2

Sennelager, Feb 27 1916

Dear Sir Many thanks for your parcel from time to time which arrive quite safe & in good condition I am sure our needs are being supplied most wonderfully & I wish to thank all concerned. I am keeping in good health up to the present, hoping you are & all in the dear old homeland. May the time soon come when I shall be with you all once more, so near I close with kind regards from J. W. M.

Great War Documents and Resources –



Kriegsgefangenenlager.
Limburg, Jan 24th 1916

Dear Sir your letter to hand sorry to hear of mothers death I would liked to have seen her dear old face again but I take good heart as, no matter what sacrifices we hear of in these times we must be prepared to meet them. I will now close wishing health, wealth and happiness to all in the dear old town. Yours very sincerely
J. McHugh



Great War Documents and Resources –



MIDDLEWICH.
ROLL OF HONOUR.
WOUNDED.
LANCE-CORPORAL S. H. SUTTON.
 Lance-Corporal S. H. Sutton is in hospital suffering from wounds. Writing to his parents, Superintendent and Mrs. Sutton, on February 24th he states: "I suppose by this time news will have reached you that I am 'in dock undergoing repairs.' It happened on the 15th, the day of a big attack. I was in charge of a bombing party at the time. I lost one man in going over. When we got in the trench we worked along according to our instructions and barricaded where we finished. The enemy started to shell my bombing flag, and managed to knock it over three times, but it went up again each time. We had just completed the work when a shell burst on the side of the trench, a splinter catching me on the left arm, breaking the bone just above the elbow. I am now doing quite well, and the arm is not at all painful."

MIDDLEWICH.
TETTON SOLDIER WINS D.C.M.
SPLENDID GALLANTRY.
 For most conspicuous gallantry. Although subjected to heavy fire, he put an enemy machine-gun out of action by bombing, and though wounded, continued bombing, withdrawing the pins with his teeth, and throwing with his left hand.
 Such is the official record of an heroic deed, which has earned for Private Frank Shaw, of Pear Tree Cottage, Tetton, Middlewich, the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and its very brevity throws into distinct relief the unflinching heroism and spartan character of the man.
 His modesty is shown in the following letter which Mrs. Shaw received from her son, dated June 7th:—
 "Just a few lines trusting you are all well. We are still having very warm weather out here." He casually mentions his decoration thus: "I have been awarded the D.C.M. and George Shaw has got the Military Medal, so you see we are not doing so bad. If we have the luck to come home we will have a good 'do.' I have not much news, but hope to see you soon. My hand is all right now; it was only a slight wound." The Private George Shaw referred to is a native of Moulton.
 Private Frank Shaw is 36 years of age, and the eldest son of the late Mr. John Shaw, market gardener. He was employed at the Middlewich works of Messrs. Brunner, Mond and Co., and enlisted in the autumn of 1914. Twelve months later he went to the front with the Cheshires. Subsequently his regiment was drafted to



Pte. F. Shaw.

In addition to the D.C.M. Private F. Shaw has also received an Italian decoration. This news reached Mrs. Shaw in a letter dated March 22nd from Private George Shaw, which read:—
 "What do you think of him (Frank) being awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy's medal. I was very glad when it was read out to us that he was in the honours."
 Private F. Shaw was wounded in the arm on October 28th last year, and in a letter to Mrs. Shaw Sergeant Hodgkinson (Middlewich) said:—
 "Don't let it upset you, as I don't think it is serious. I hope his arm will soon be all right, for he is one of our best men."
 He was one of the men who got in the enemy trenches during the attack, and got his own back by a long way with his bombs.
 In a letter to Private Shaw's brother at the front Sergeant Hodgkinson said:—
 "No doubt you have heard Frank has been wounded in the right elbow. I believe he did very good work in an attack we had just over a week ago. He was one who got in the enemy's trench, and when he could not use his right arm he threw his bombs with his left." In January Sergeant Hodgkinson wrote to Mrs. Shaw to the effect that her son's wound was improving, but he had narrowly escaped having his arm amputated.
 Finally Mrs. Shaw had a letter from Private George Shaw, dated May 31st, in which he said:—
 "You will be surprised to hear that Frank is back again. I was surprised to see him back so soon, although I knew he was not badly wounded. Sergeant Hodgkinson is back again with the regiment; he was only slightly wounded. I don't know what to think of Frank, whether he is lucky or unlucky. He cannot get to 'Blighty,' but still he was lucky to come out this last time. He got buried with a shell, but happily it only just caught his hand. I tell you it was a pretty 'hot shop' for a few days."
 From the above letters it would appear that Private Shaw was awarded the D.C.M. for his splendid work on October 28th. He rejoined his regiment in the spring and was slightly wounded in the hand subsequently.
 The brothers Shaw, of Tetton, are well-known homing pigeon fanciers, and have won numerous prizes, both for long and short distance flights.

STRETCHER BEARER'S DANGEROUS WORK.
INTERESTING LETTERS FROM PTE. WESTRAY.
 Pte. F. L. Westray, a stretcher bearer in the 9th Battalion Cheshire Regiment, at present in France, has written some interesting letters to his wife, who lives in Wheelock-street. In a letter dated August 28th he states:—
 "I am still in the land of the living after my first experience in the trenches. We have just come out, and we are going to another part on Sunday to reinforce some more of our lot. Well lass, I can tell you that I consider myself very lucky that I am living. We went in for 48 hours on Tuesday night, and it was all right up to Thursday afternoon. We were thinking we should come out without a casualty, but not so. I was going to get my tea when they started, and I can tell you we soon had to get out of it. I just managed to get to cover when one of their shells burst just where I left. Then we had to go and attend the wounded, and while there another shell came in the same place and wounded two of the stretcher bearers. I can assure you our job is not all honey, for we have to go on in the thick of it to get the wounded out and under cover."
 "You can't help laughing to hear our fellows and the Germans talking to one another. One German shouted over and wanted to know if there was any one from Manchester, as he had a wife living there. He was one of the Saxons, who are the best of the lot. For the majority of them were living in England before the war started. He shouted over and told us to keep our heads down the next day, for the Prussians were coming in to relieve them, and they are just the reverse. After they had finished we had to take the two killed and bury them in their oil sheets. A cross was put on each grave, and their drums generally make some kind of a wreath."

MIDDLEWICH WAR ITEMS.
ALMOST A PRESENTIMENT.
 The following letter from Corp. Geo. Yozak, of the 2nd Cheshire Regiment, has a pathetic significance in view of the fact that it arrived shortly before the announcement of his death was received:—"Dear father and mother,—I hope you are all enjoying the best of health. As far as myself, I am in the pink of condition at present. Give my best respects to all. Please do not write any more letters to me, because I cannot give you my address or whereabouts, but by the time you receive this letter I shall be on my way to do my duty for my country, as I enlisted for. Should I never see you all again, I wish you all the best of luck and prosperity through life. I am going with a British soldier's heart, and that is a heart that does not fear death."
 A memorial service to the late Corp. Yozak was held at the Congregational Church on Sunday evening. There was a crowded attendance, including a large number of relatives and friends of the deceased. During the service appropriate hymns were sung. At the close of his sermon the Rev. J. W. Fortnum made a touching reference to the dead soldier, who formerly attended the Centenary Sunday school.
AGRICULTURAL SHOW ABANDONED.
 At the annual meeting of the Middlewich and District Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday, it was decided, in consequence of the war, to abandon the annual show this year.
PRISONER SENDS FOR FOOD.
 There is reason to believe that British prisoners in Germany are being underfed, for practically every letter which arrives contains a request for staples. Pte. T. Hulme, of the Cheshire Regiment, who is a prisoner of war at Soltan, Hanover, Germany, has written home for clothing because they are so cold, and also for food. In his letter he expresses the opinion that it will not be long before he comes home. When that takes place he is looking forward to a jolly time.

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RED CROSS SOCIETY.
The following amounts have been received towards the maintenance of the hospital: Mr. J. A. Kay, £1 1s.; employees of Henry Soddon and Sons, Ltd., £2 10s. 3d.; employees of the Middlewich Salt Co., Ltd., £1 7s.; employees of Brunner, Mond and Co., Ltd., £1 19s.; Progressive Whist Society, £2 2s.; employees of the Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., £2 16s. 6d.; and Mr. T. Kuseco, 5s. Mr. Frank Helms, of the Royal Navy, has sent a parcel of books for the hospital.

MIDDLEWICH MAN IN THE DARDANELLES.
Mr. Sidney Sant, who joined the Royal Navy some two years ago as an engine-room artificer, and is now on H.M.S. Dublin, is experiencing naval warfare in the Dardanelles. Writing recently to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. Sant, of Lewin-st., Middlewich, he refers to the great relief it will be on going ashore after eight months on board ship. "You have been reading about us getting in the way of some shots," he writes, "and I suppose you are anxious to know what it feels like. Well, it is a little exciting. You see, we were picking up our station on Sunday evening, and having just anchored we were all off duty and walking about the deck." Continuing, he says that the first signs of battle came when a shot passed over the ship and immediately all the crew ran for shelter, except the gunners, who directed their attention to the guns and soon gave the enemy more than they bargained for. About thirty holes were made in the funnel and rendered it something like a pepper-box. One shell fell on the after deck, but luckily no one was hit. It did not take the Dublin's gunners long to find the range, and when they did, about ten minutes' rapid fire silenced the enemy's guns.

MIDDLEWICH.
THE FATE OF PRIVATE JAMES HOLLINSHEAD.
The wife and relatives of Private James Hollinshead, a canal boatman, of King's Lock, Middlewich, who is on active service with the Cheshires, have been very disturbed recently by the rumour that he is dead. Inquiries were made at Shrewsbury, and on Wednesday morning a reply came to hand to the effect that the latest information received there was that he was transferred to an entic depot at — on November 1st. There was no further report.
Private Hollinshead is 39 years of age, and has been connected with the North Staffordshire Canal all his life. He enlisted in April, 1915, and was subsequently drafted to the front. He had a miraculous escape, a bullet striking his haversack. In consequence of the bad drinking water he fell sick and went into hospital. Later he took part in further fighting. For three months his relatives had no correspondence from him and naturally they grew very uneasy, but eventually a letter arrived stating that he had been down six weeks with enteric fever. The last letter from him was dated December 8th, and was written from an entic depot.

"WAR SAVINGS" EFFORT AT THE COUNCIL SCHOOL.
A War Savings Association was formed in connection with the Council School last October, the average weekly savings being about 2s. Last week the officials (Mr. F. A. Lidbury, Mr. W. Epps and Miss Derbyshire) decided to make a special effort to raise £50. The result exceeded all anticipations, the splendid total of £138 3s. 4d. being subscribed between Monday and Friday. Two hundred and six war savings certificates were purchased. The membership has increased from 240 to 420.

MIDDLEWICH.
ROLL OF HONOUR.
KILLED.
PRIVATE C. MADDOCK.
Mrs. G. Dale, of 16, Newton-bank, Middlewich, has received the news that her nephew, Private Charles Maddock, of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, was killed in action on the 9th March. He was a grandson of the late Mr. John Maddock, and was 21 years of age and was well known in the town and district. He was formerly employed by Mr. Henshall, farmer, of Brown Hayes Farm, Bylady, where he was highly respected. He joined the Colours on February 14th, 1916, and commenced training at Farnborough, Hants. He went out to the front in June, and in his last letter to his aunt he remarked that he was shortly expecting to be at home on leave.

DIED OF WOUNDS.
PRIVATE SYDNEY JACKSON.
Mrs. Jackson, of Croxton-lane, Middlewich, has received news that her son, Private Sydney Jackson, aged 27, has died from wounds in hospital. The first intimation that he had been wounded was received from the matron, stating that the young man was wounded in the back and left hand on the 27th January. She, however, thought that he would go on all right and would soon be in England. Mrs. Jackson also received a letter from her son when in hospital, in which he stated that his wounds were very bad, but he thought they would soon be healed up, and she had no reason to upset herself. Some little time afterwards a second communication was received from the matron, which was less hopeful, and Mrs. Jackson's worst fears were realized some days later upon receipt of a telegram stating that her son had died. Mrs. Jackson has two other sons in the Army; one is with the Cheshire Regiment, and the other is in a Red Cross Hospital in Scotland recovering from trench fever. The relatives have received a message of sympathy from the Urban Council.

MIDDLEWICH.
IN HOSPITAL.
GUNNER T. OAKES.
Gunner Thomas Oakes, R.F.A., has been admitted to the North General Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, suffering from an injury to the knee. It appears that his gun team stampeded, and he was run over by the wheel of the gun carriage.

LANCE-CORP. MCHUGH RECEIVES MILITARY MEDAL.
Lance-Corporal McHugh, of the Manchester Regiment, whose home is at Middlewich, was presented last week with the Military Medal at Ripon by the Duke of Connaught. It is interesting to recall the circumstances under which McHugh won the distinction which has just been conferred upon him. In March, 1916, at great personal risk, he rescued 20 miners from a mine that had filled with gas. All the men recovered. For that piece of work he was mentioned in dispatches. At the end of June, 1916, he took part in a general engagement in which the Manchesters distinguished themselves. McHugh acted as a runner, and had to get messages through under fire from headquarters to the various companies.
There was a heavy bombardment on at the time, but he was successful in executing all orders. Whilst crossing "no man's land" on July 1st he was wounded by shrapnel in the shoulder and hand, an artery being severed. He managed to get to a dressing station, and was eventually transferred to a London hospital. The officer for whom he was carrying messages (Captain Culliffe, of Brooklands) was killed.

MIDDLEWICH.
ROLL OF HONOUR.
DIED OF WOUNDS.
SERGEANT FRED PARKER.
Sergeant Fred Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Parker, formerly of Cledford, but who are now in residence at Rusholme, Manchester, has been killed. Sergeant Parker, who was attached to the signal company of the Royal Engineers, met with his death as the result of wounds received in action on March 27th. Describing the circumstances, Lieutenant L. P. Pigeon, his officer, wrote:—
"It is with the deepest regret that I am writing to offer you my sincerest sympathy in the loss of your son. I myself, and, in fact, the whole section, feel his loss most keenly. He was one of the best, and always cheerful under all conditions, and altogether fearless in circumstances such as those of the 26th March—and there were many similar occasions. On the afternoon of the 26th March he was following up the main assault on the enemy's trenches with the telephone cable, and had turned round to signal back to headquarters when he was hit in the back by a bullet.
"That evening, on my way back from the trenches, which we had just captured, I found him, and with the help of a couple of men, brought him back to the dressing station. He was quite cheerful all this time, and told me how it happened, and asked if we had taken the trench. He was greatly pleased when I told him we had. After I had seen his wound dressed and he had been made as comfortable as circumstances would permit, I left him. When I went to inquire about him in the morning I was greatly shocked to learn that he had died soon after I left him—about two a.m. on the 27th, as near as I can make out."

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THE LATE SERGEANT FRED PARKER.

As announced in last week's "Guardian," Sergeant Fred Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Parker, formerly of Cledford, but now of Rusholme, Manchester, has died from wounds received in action on March 27. He was attached to the signal company of the Royal Engineers. A native of Grays, Essex, he came to live in Middlewich when about 12 years of age. He gained a County Council scholarship and spent three years at Sandbach Grammar School, afterwards putting in an intermediate course at Sir John Deane's Grammar School, Northwich, finally going to Borough-road College, Gileworth, London. Later he secured an appointment as schoolmaster on board the training ship Exmoor, off Grays, Essex. He joined the Territorials, and on the outbreak of war volunteered for active service. He went out to the front about two years ago.

SHOT BY A PRISONER.

A wounded enemy prisoner was being taken to the rear of the lines by Private Farrington, Sutton-lane, Middlewich, when he shot Farrington in the arm with a revolver. Farrington is now undergoing treatment in a Chester Red Cross hospital.

MIDDLEWICH.

CLEDFORD SOLDIER'S DEATH.

News has been received of the death of Private Charles Littlemore, the son of Mr. William Littlemore, chemical worker, of Warmingham-lane. The news came from his cousin, Private Thomas Littlemore, of 15, Booth-lane.

The deceased and his cousin are both 19 years of age, and enlisted together on January 4th of the present year. The following is an extract taken from Private T. Littlemore's letter, dated May 8th: "I am broken-hearted, having lost my only cousin and pal, Charley. I don't know what I shall do without him, for I shall miss him more than anybody, for we were together all the time." The writer refers in most affectionate terms to his cousin, and adds: "We must all try and keep a good heart, and look on the bright side of our sad bereavement."

The deceased, before joining the Army, was employed by the Electro Bleach and By-Products Co., whilst his cousin is a boatman in the employment of Messrs. Meskin, of Hanley.

Mr. William Littlemore has received official news of his son's death from the War Office.

MIDDLEWICH.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

SAPPER PERCY EARL.

Sapper Percy Earl, of Middlewich, has died of wounds received in action. The news was sent to his home in New King-street by the Rev. Anthony F. Penn, chaplain, who wrote:

"I deeply regret having to tell you that your boy Percy has passed away. He came into this station yesterday (May 15th) suffering from severe wounds in the head, arm and thigh. He was unconscious, and died shortly afterwards. May God bless and cheer you in your sorrow."

Sapper Earl's sterling character gained for him the esteem of his comrades in khaki, and in a letter expressing sympathy on behalf of the officers and men of his company, the lieutenant said:—

"Your son had only been with my company a few days, and I had hardly time to get to know him, but one of my officers spoke very highly of him."

Sapper Earl was a son of the late Mr. J. Earl, and was 33 years of age. He was a member of the Church of England, taking an active interest in the work of the church and Bible Class. By occupation he was a plumber, and for ten years had been engaged at his trade at Lytham. A little over two years ago he became engaged by the Nestle Anglo-Swiss Milk Company, at Middlewich, and for twelve months was amongst his old friends. During this time he regularly sang in the choir at the Parish Church, and renewed his connection with various public institutions. It was in March, 1916, that he joined the colours, enlisting in the Cheshire Regiment, but five weeks later was transferred to the Royal Engineers, leaving England for foreign service in November last.

Amongst other letters Mrs. Earl has received is one from Sapper Andrew Simpson, who was side by side with Sapper Earl ever since they were in training, and who wrote before he had heard of his chum's death in the hospital. He refers to having inquired about Sapper Earl's condition, and added, "He was wounded by a shrapnel shell bursting while he was going up the line. His chums made it as easy as they could for him."

MIDDLEWICH.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SAPPER EARL.

A service to the memory of Sapper Percy Earl, who died from wounds sustained in action, was held at the Parish Church, Middlewich, on Sunday afternoon. Members of the family and friends were present, also Mr. O. B. Whitehead (chairman of the Urban Council), Mr. R. T. Worth (manager of the Nestle and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co.), where the deceased was last employed, and members of the Manchester Unity, I.O.O.F. As a mark of appreciation to the deceased's connection with the church the choir was present. The hymns sung were "Christ enthroned in highest heaven," "Hear what the Voice from heaven proclaims," "O Lord, to Whom the spirits live," and "To Thee, our God, we fly."

The service was conducted by the Rev. C. W. M. Bromley, who referred to the noble work allotted to Sapper Earl, and the manner in which he had fulfilled his duties. He went forth to fight without grumbling, and did his work well, and they prayed that God might grant him light and refreshment and peace. The organist (Mr. C. H. Wright) played the Dead March from "Saul," and the congregation sang the National Anthem.

DOG'S GOOD WORK.

The Middlewich branch of the British Red Cross Society has many enthusiastic supporters, but none more interesting than the enterprising fox terrier "Jack," belonging to Mr. Stockton, of the Red Lion Hotel. The funds of the society have this week benefited to the extent of £7 16s. by the efforts of this dog, his total contributions to this date amounting to £22 16s. 3d.

MIDDLEWICH.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

WOUNDED.

CORPORAL R. MOORES.

Corporal R. Moores, of the Cheshires, whose home is in Kinderton-street, is a patient in the Leeds hospital. He was wounded a week or two ago, and an operation had to be performed. He did not make satisfactory progress, and was removed to England, and the latest report is that he is doing well. Corporal Moores was a painter in the employ of Messrs. H. Scddon and Son, and went to the front two years ago, having enlisted at the beginning of the war.

PRIVATE T. SANT.

Private Thomas Sant, of the Cheshire Regiment, has been severely wounded. It was found necessary to amputate the right leg, and he is now reported to be making fairly satisfactory progress in a hospital at Clapton. Sympathetic letters have been received from his sergeant, and also a lady visitor to the hospital. He was formerly employed at the milk factory, and enlisted in May, 1915. His brother, William, died from tetanus abroad in August, 1915. Private Thomas Sant was wounded by a bullet in the thigh in September last, and only returned to the front in February.

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MILITARY MEDAL FOR PRIVATE J. JINKS.

Middlewich people will hear with pride that another of their soldier lads has been awarded the Military Medal—Private James Jinks, of the West Yorks Regiment, whose home is at the Turn ... Middlewich.



Pte. J. Jinks.

The news is contained in a letter dated June 12th, which has been received by his mother. He states: "I was awarded the Military Medal a fortnight ago. . . . I shall be able to tell you a fine yarn when I come home. As to how I won the medal I dare not tell you all now, but I got it for taking a ration party up the front line when the enemy was 'stafing' a little. . . . Of course this medal has nothing to do with me being mentioned in Sir

Douglas Haig's dispatches." Private Jinks is 20 years of age, and will celebrate his majority next month. Before the war he was employed on the canal with his father, Mr. Fred Jinks, and when the war broke out he enlisted at the age of 18. Two years ago he went to the front with the Cheshires, and has since been transferred to the West Yorks Regiment. Last summer he was wounded with shrapnel in the arm and leg and was invalided home, but went out to the front again in September. A few months ago he was mentioned in dispatches for meritorious conduct, and last week wrote to his mother, informing her that he had been awarded the Military Medal, but gave very few details. Private Jinks has a brother at the front. At a meeting of the Urban Council on Monday Mr. O. B. Whitehead (chairman) referred to the honour which had been conferred upon Private Jinks, and it was decided to send a letter of congratulation to the parents, and also to make arrangements for a presentation when he came home on furlough.

ANOTHER MILITARY MEDALLIST.

Another soldier to bring honour to his native town of Middlewich is Private Thomas Bancroft, who has written to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Bancroft, to inform them that he has been awarded the Military Medal. Private Bancroft, who is in the King's (Liverpool Regiment), worked for the L. and N.-W. Railway Company when he joined up, and he has been on foreign service since April, 1915. Previously he was employed by Mrs. Slack, farmer, of



Pte. T. Bancroft.

Leese. He was home on leave about twelve months ago.

MIDDLEWICH.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

KILLED.

PRIVATE J. WHITTAKER.

Mrs. W. Whittaker, 30, Seddon-street, Middlewich, received official intimation last week that her son, Private John Whittaker, of the Cheshire Regiment, was killed on September 5th, 1916. He had previously been reported as missing, but no further news of him had come to hand until the letter referred to.

Private Whittaker, who was 26 years of age, was the youngest of two soldier brothers. Prior to the war he was for a number of years employed in the gardens at Bostock Hall. He enlisted in October, 1914, and was wounded in July last year. After being treated at the base hospital he returned to his regiment, and his mother received a letter from him on August 30th. He must have been killed shortly after returning to the firing-line.

MISSING.

PRIVATE O. CLARE.

Private Christopher Clare (28), of the Cheshire Regiment, who has a wife and two children living at Cledford, has been reported missing since the beginning of June, and fears are entertained as to his fate. He went to the front at the beginning of the year, and has taken part in some severe fighting. Before the war he was employed at Murgatroyd's salt works. His brother, Private George Clare, has been at the front a year and nine months.

MIDDLEWICH WAR ITEMS.

LIEUT. T. WORTH REPORTED MISSING.

TWICE WOUNDED IN GALLIOLI BATTLE.
The news reached Middlewich on Saturday that Lieut. Tom Worth, son of Mr. R. T. Worth, manager of the Nestle and Anglo Swiss Condensed Milk Factory, Middlewich, is reported missing. Lieut. Worth was attached to the 1-7th Cheshire Territorial Regiment, and the fact of his being amongst the missing after severe fighting on the Gallipoli Peninsula was officially notified to Mr. Worth from the Regimental headquarters at Shrewsbury, the message reading—'Regret to inform you Lieut. T. Worth has been missing since August 10th.'

In a letter to his home at Winsford Captain H. F. Rigby, of the 1-7th Cheshires, makes a significant reference to Lieut. Worth. During an advance on the Turkish position he was hit in the right breast, and seeing Lieut. Worth lying wounded he crawled to him, and remained by his side for 6½ hours. The Lieutenant then had the misfortune to get hit a second time, Captain Rigby having what he describes as a 'miraculous escape.' He managed to crawl back to the field ambulance, and was eventually taken with other wounded in a man of war to a hospital on the island of Lemnos, which is in the Aegean Sea.

Hopes are entertained that Lieut. Worth's wounds were not fatal, and that he was attended to by the Red Crescent. In that event he will be a prisoner in the hands of the Turks, and some weeks may elapse before a message can be got through acquainting the family of the fact. In the meantime Mr. and Mrs. Worth and family have the heartfelt sympathy of all in their terrible anxiety. Lieut. Worth is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Worth, of the Limes, Middlewich, and is in his 22nd year. He received his commission shortly after war was declared, and prior to that he was in the Officers' Training Corps at Shrewsbury. He had been successful in an examination of the Surveyors' Institute, and at the time he joined his regiment he was studying for his B.Sc. in engineering. When at college he was a fast sprinter, and as he would be leading his platoon during the engagement in which he was wounded it is possible that in his excitement he got fairly well in advance of his men, and thus formed a target for the marksmen in the Turkish trenches.

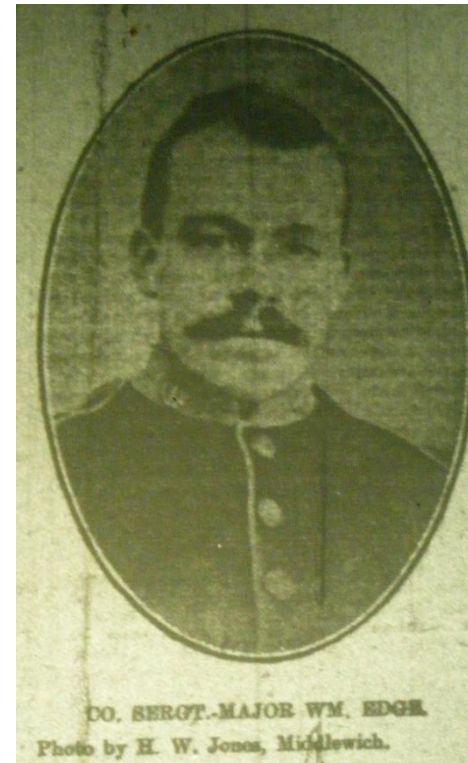
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ber 2014.
The last letter received by Mr. and Mrs. Jones was dated Oct. 13. In it the deceased referred to some family matters, and then continued—"Things have been quiet out here lately, but there will be a smash before long; everyone is waiting for the day to come. When it does come we shan't be able to see the Turks for dust! I am still all right, although not exactly in the best of health; but still I cannot grumble, as I have managed to keep out of the way of the bullets. We are getting better food than formerly, and to-day we have been allowed to buy a few luxuries; they won't be rebuffed."
Curiously enough, a postcard was written a fortnight before the letter, and received five days later, i.e., on the 6th inst. After writing the above Sapper Jones was admitted to the hospital.



ANOTHER MIDDLEWICH MAN KILLED.
DIED FIGHTING THE TURKS.
As a result of the severe fighting on the Gallipoli peninsula, death has claimed a brave Middlewich man in Private John Wilkinson, son of Mrs. Wilkinson, Lewin-st. The official news came on Tuesday, and was to the effect that Wilkinson was killed in action on August 10th.
Prior to enlisting, the deceased was employed by Mr. Wilkinson, farmer, Kinderton. He was 39 years of age, but so keen was he on going to the front and doing his "bit" that he gave in his age to the recruiting officer as 28. The last letter read from him was written shortly after the landing and before going into action. The following is an extract:—"We had a good voyage; it upset us all, but we pulled through, and I think every man will do his best. I mean to do mine anyway."
Deceased has two brothers in the 9th Cheshires in Flanders, viz., Private Jonas Wilkinson and Private James Wilkinson.



Regiment was subsequently relieved by the Indian troops and were out of the firing line for a time. Showing how the battalion suffered at Ypres, where they suffered hardships in the trenches for 16 days, it may be stated that when they went into the trenches they were between five and six hundred strong, but came out 18 days later with only 250. Sergt.-Major Edge, who received his promotion at La Bassée, took over the O Company and went with them into the trenches. When they first went into the trenches they were 120 strong, but on the roll call they were left with only 30, the remainder being killed or missing. While there they charged the Prussian Guards, and they were always able to hold their own. It was reported that the enemy on one occasion had broken through the lines, and O Company was sent to drive them out, which they managed to do. Second Lieut. Anderson was one of the bravest men he had ever met. He led the attack right to the enemy's lines and was killed on the top of their trenches, riddled with bullets. Sergt.-Major Edge said he took command and succeeded in holding the position until orders were given to them to retire to their own regiment.
GUARD FOR THE KING.
After Ypres the Cheshires were given a short rest, and were also given the honour of providing a guard for his Majesty the King and also the Prince of Wales. They were personally congratulated upon their work in the trenches by General French, and on the following day by General Smith-Dorrien.

GALEDONIAN PIPER'S RECRUITING CAMPAIGN.
The Galedonian Pipers' band, in charge of Lieut. W. J. West, visited Middlewich on Friday, as part of their great recruiting campaign. The band has gained quite a name for itself during the past eight months, having visited many of the principal towns in the country, and as the result of their efforts it has been estimated that 11,000 recruits have enlisted. They arrived from Holmes Chapel in motor-cars, which had been kindly lent by gentlemen in the neighbourhood, and were met by the recruiting officer, the Rev. J. W. Fortnum, who accompanied them on a march through parts of the town.
A meeting was held in the Bull Ring, presided over by the Rev. C. W. M. Bromley, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. O. B. Whitehead. The chairman introduced Lieut. West, who addressed a large gathering for forty minutes. It was a stirring speech, and there is no doubt that it had some effect, several recruits having since been sent to different depots.
During the afternoon the members of the band were shown through Messrs. Goddons' salt works and the old parish church, and they afterwards sang on the tower. Subsequently the band proceeded to Northwich, where another big demonstration took place.