

Research undertaken by Mr. G. Chambers – summary of entries in the Stamford Mercury pertaining to WW1. Entry codes pertain to the cumulative data record sheet for the WW1 project eg 03/09-SMA-GSC-SOC = date of event/source/researcher/category

Stamford Mercury 1916

03/09-SMA-GSC-SOC

In the paper 14/01 under the heading "VTC's First Public Appearance" it reports the recently formed Voluntary Training Corps in charge of the commandant, the Mayor (Mr.W.E. Martin) made their first appearance in public on Sunday afternoon, when, to the number of 130, they undertook a route march via Great and Little Casterton. The smartness of the corps indicated the interest that has been taken in the movement by members during the short period of time since its inauguration locally.

04/09-SMA-GSC-SOC

The Mercury of 28/01 under the title, "German Field Piece on View." Not a little excitement and interest was aroused in Stamford on Saturday afternoon by the arrival of a German 77mm field gun captured at Neri on September 1st, 1914. The weapon which is about the equivalent of the British 18-pounder was detrained at Messrs Blackstones siding and a procession headed by the Mayor, escorted it by way of St. Paul's Street, High Street, Red Lion Square and Red Lion Street to Broad Street. A crowd of some thousands was assembled there...the gun was of very great interest to the town because it was one of the twelve captured by an old Stamfordian, Lieutenant-Colonel W.G. Thompson, sometime ago...The authorities regretted they could not allow the gun to remain in the town more than a month but as to the purpose to which these weapons had hitherto been put, to stimulate recruiting...they could assure them every effort to see that the gun was given to Stamford as a permanent trophy.

The Reverend J.D. Day, sub-commandant of the VTC recounted the story of the capture of the gun...near Compiegne. They(L Battery of the RHA) went into action about 205 strong and in a short while less than 40 men were able to sit or stand to serve the guns...Fortunately relief came from the 3rd Army Corps, including some of the Lincolns and not only were the guns of L Battery rescued but twelve German guns...were captured.

04/09-SMA-GSC-McLEOD.C.C.

In the 11/02 edition p4 entitled, "Honour for Driver of One of Stamford's Motor Ambulances.) His many friends in the Bourne and Stamford Districts will be pleased to learn that Mr.C.C. McLeod, of Bourne, is doing excellent work in France as a driver of one the two motor ambulances named after the town...and purchased as a result of the Mayoress's Fund and the Farmers Union has been honoured by the King by being made a Knight of Grace.

04/09-SMA-GSC-HILL W.

Another Stamfordian Killed at the Front. Towards the end of last week, Mrs Hill of Frisby Buildings received a letter from Captain Leslie Fairweather, intimating that her husband, 12015 Private Walter Hill of the 8th Battalion, Lincs. Regiment was killed whilst on duty in the trenches on January 30th...although he was not killed outright, he was unconscious after he was struck by a bullet and did not suffer any pain. The Captain adds, "On such occasions as

these it's hard to express one's feelings adequately but Hill has caused a gap in the section it will be impossible to fill. Of a quiet disposition he was liked by everybody...always did his work well, and was willing to do his best...Writing to Mrs Hill (on Feb. 1st) the Rev. W. Douglas Stedman, chaplain to H.M. Forces attached to 8th Lincs. Regiment...states that Private Hill was buried... at Bon Jean Cemetery, Armentieres...Deceased who leaves a widow and four young children, was the only son of Mr Sam Hill of Vine Street, an employee of Messrs. Blackstones Foundry, where Private Hill also worked as a moulder...He was about 30 years of age..

05/10-SMA-GSC-C.H.CUNNINGTON

Stamfordian Among the Last to Leave Gallipoli. Amusement Caused by Wolffs Wireless. Mr A.C. Papworth, Postmaster at Stamford has received an interesting letter from Sapper C.H. Cunnington...You would see from the papers that Suvla and Anzac have been evacuated. I was at the former. We had a very anxious time at the last, and hoped and prayed that we should not "click out." We had dodged a large number of shells from time to time, and we did not want to go too close on the last day...For instance a huge shell burst about 100 yards away from a few of us who were fetching water. I need not say that we "scuttled" for shelter...of course communications had to be kept up until the very last moment. I finished my duty at 11.00pm and our party embarked at 2.30am the next morning...we were kept in the boat at the pier until about 4.00am...and had to wait until 5.00am then we sailed. The Turks were quite "sold" over and I am glad to say they only sent one shell which passed over us.

We were highly amused afterwards when we read the Wolff's wireless of what the Turks had done. The real truth was the enemy was expecting an attack from us that very night and had been furiously busy strengthening their wire entanglements.

Life on this island is somewhat different from that on the hillside at Suvla. There is no cliff scaling to do... we are kept fit with physical drill and route marches...There is a large number of sheep and goats on the hills and a few farmsteads and one occasionally sees a man ploughing in the old world style-oxen and wooden plough.

05/10-SMA-GSC-WRIGHT R.

On p4 of 25/2 under the heading of "Promotion in the Field" Sergeant Dick Wright, son of Mr Horace Wright of 10, St. Peter's Hill has gained an honourable distinction by being promoted on the field to 2nd Lieutenant...He was wounded in the leg at the latter end of August... He has been home on seven days leave and returned to the 4th Lincolns on Tuesday.

05/10-SMA-GSC-CLARK H.

Two Sons Killed in Battle. The misfortunes of war have indeed fallen heavily upon Mr and Mrs E. Clark of 27, East Street who having lost one son- a victim of a snipers bullet- have this week received intimation of the death of their youngest son, Herbert Clark, aged 21 of the 7th Lincolns in which regiment he enlisted in September 1914...A lieutenant says he was killed in action whilst bravely doing his duty under heavy fire and adds, "His death is keenly felt by all his comrades and myself. I cannot speak too highly of his conduct whilst serving his country in the ranks." From information contained in a letter sent by Sergeant J. Woodward it appears that after coming through a heavy bombardment the regiment was leaving the trenches for a brief rest when the unfortunate soldier was hit in the head by a sniper and died almost instantaneously apparently suffering no pain...Before enlisting the gallant soldier was employed as a moulder at the Martins Cultivator Works.

05/10-SMA-GSC-PRIVATE COLLINS.

Presentation. At the Hole-in-the-Wall inn on Friday night, Private Collins formerly in the employ of Mr J.P. Thomas, Broad Street was presented by a number of well-wishers, with a silver mounted pipe on the occasion of him taking up service with $\frac{3}{4}$ Lincs. Regiment.

*06/10-SMA-GSC-TURNHILL J.*Enough Narrow Escapes to Fill a Book. Last Impressions of Gallipoli.

Appended are extracts from a very interesting letter received by Mr Wilingham Turnill of Little Casterton, from his son Corporal Jack Turnill who had some thrilling experiences as a despatch rider with the Expeditionary Force on Gallipoli, and who is now in Egypt...We are seeing a bit more of the world. It's a great experience, well worth six months in Gallipoli...Yes we got shelled alright, especially from Christmas onwards; it was a merry little hell...the Turks attacked the last night but one, and suffered pretty badly, so that kept them quiet the last night luckily. When I look back on those last few weeks I wonder how on earth we came through. I had enough narrow escapes to fill a book, and the roads got into a dreadful state through shell-holes. Telegraph wires were continually broken, so we were kept pretty busy. Thank goodness my nerves held out all right...Life seemed so precious when we knew it was only a matter of holding out for a few days, and then a rest... Shell-fire is very peculiar. Each gun has its own peculiar noise, and you get to judge direction pretty well by the sound of the shell...sometimes chaps get wounded by bits of shell hundreds of yards away, and yet it is possible to have one burst within a few yards and escape unhurt. (I have done it myself, so I know.) There is no doubt plenty of sensation. One of the worst I think is to be on a bike (the engine drowns the noise of a shell) and see chaps walking close by suddenly drop flat on their faces to avoid splinters. You it's no good stopping...and if you open the throttle you will perhaps run into it, so the only thing to do is sit tight and go on. Another peculiar one was being down on the beach. They used to keep a look-out at night to look for the flash of the gun over in Asia. He would then blow a horn which gave one about twelve seconds before the shell arrived, and one could never be sure whether it was going to be where you would be standing or not. Shrapnel is rotten stuff too...I remember one day I went down to Seddul Bahr. There was a short jetty out to the 'River Clyde'. Just as I got to one end a 6 inch shell fell on the other. Two burst in her bows while I was on the bridge, five in succession in the 'Messina', an old battleship sunk to form a wall of the harbour, and several more all along the beach. Another near one I had: one from Asia entered the ground practically at my feet; luckily it didn't burst, and so every day we got through by a miracle.

06/10-SMA-GSC-ORGANIS

On p3 of the Mercury of 3rd March in the section, War news in Brief was the heading: Verdun overshadows all else... On p4 the local news under the heading, Conservative Club...recommended that the club be open daily at 2.00pm and that wounded soldiers receiving treatment at the local hospitals and soldiers home on leave be allowed the use of the premises as honorary members.

06/10-SMA-GSC-COWIE A.W.S.

Wounded Officer. In the official casualty list published on Monday there appeared the name of 2nd Lieutenant A.W.S. Cowie, 7th Regiment. Lieutenant Cowie is well known in Stamford, having for the last three and a half years been classical master at the Grammar School, and his numerous friends in the district will be pleased to hear the injury is not serious, consisting of a bullet wound in the top of the right arm...

06/10-SMA-GSC-CHAPMAN A.

Local Soldier's Critical Condition. In a communication from the Record Office, Lichfield received by Mr and Mrs Charles Chapman of 5, White Swan Yard, Scotgate...the authorities state that their son, Private Albert Chapman, of the Notts and Derby Regiment, aged 22 who was seriously wounded in the head during an engagement on the 14th February was in a dangerous condition. A few days ago his father visited the hospital in France...his gallant son was just able to utter a word or two. Private Chapman, before donning khaki was employed by the Midland Railway Company...He had been at the front for a little over twelve months...

06/10-SMA-GSC-JORDAN H.E.

On p4 of the Mercury dated 10th March, under the heading, Stamford Teacher Killed. The sad news of the death of Sergeant H.E. Jordan, Signalling Section, 11th Essex Regiment has been received by Mr. Markwick, Headmaster of the Stamford Boys School where Mr Jordan had been engaged as an assistant master from the beginning of July 1913 until he joined the army in September 1914. He was out 'salvaging' telephone wires near the firing trenches on February 24th and was shot through the body by a sniper and died the same day...His age was 25 and his home was at Guestwick, East Dereham. He was a quiet and unassuming young man and a fully certificated teacher of much promise. For a time he was Scoutmaster of the Stamford Troop of Boy Scouts. The boys stood silently at the salute, while the sad news was conveyed to them by the Headmaster...

07/10-SMA-GSC-WADE I.

Missing Territorial Reported Killed. The death is now officially announced of Private I. Wade of the Machine Gun Section, 1st/4th Lincs. Regiment who had been missing since October 13th last, when his regiment took part in the memorable charge for the Hohenzollern Redoubt. Before joining the Stamford Territorials he was employed as a fitter at Messrs Blackstones Company works. His brother has been wounded and his brother-in-law has been missing for nine months.

07/10-SMA-GSC-TRIBUNAL.

On p8 of the Mercury under the heading Stamford ; Twenty seven applications for exemption from military service came before the Stamford Tribunal on Saturday...twelve temporary exemption certificates from one to three months were granted upon grounds of business indispensability and five fireman were exempted temporarily until July...Six applications were refused...There were twenty nine appeals before the Tribunal on Monday evening...of these seven were refused...fifteen conditional certificates were issued, and a milkman was granted absolute exemption so long as he remained in his present occupation...One applicant applied for a certificate of exemption on the ground of conscientious objection...the Tribunal after private deliberation refused to grant exemption of any kind.

07/10-SMA-GSC-RICE C.F.

On p4 of the Mercury of 24th March under the heading, Naval Artificer Killed....The distressing intelligence has reached Mrs Rice, who is at present living with her mother, Mrs Clarkson of 5, Trafalgar Terrace, that her husband, Cecil Frank Rice has met his death while serving aboard one of our naval craft. Mr Rice who formerly resided at Peterborough came to Stamford some years ago, and was employed at Messrs Blackstones Company Works as a fitter, about two years since he became an engine room artificer in the Navy. He was only 28 years of age and leaves two small children.

07/10-SMA-GSC-SOCIAL

Breaches of Lighting Order. Heavy Penalties Imposed. Thirty two residents were summoned at the Police Court on Saturday for breaches of the lighting regulations...The proceedings were not without touches of humour. One defendant stated if the policeman had been a minute later or earlier the light would have been out. The Mayor: Unfortunately the Zeppelins do not wait for the policeman.

07/10-SMA-GSC-PARKER A.

On p4 of the Mercury dated 31st March headed Another of War's Tragedies. ...Private Albert Parker, who prior to enlisting soon after the outbreak of war, was employed at Messrs Williamsons and Cliff's brickworks. He lived at 3, Zebra Cottages, Casterton Road and although the news is unofficial it is feared that it is only too well founded. The source of it is Private F. Webb, another Stamford man in the same regiment, the Lincolnshires, who writes that Parker was shot in both legs, and his injuries proved fatal. Parker was 34 years of age, leaves a widow and five children (all girls) of tender years, the youngest of whom, 16 weeks he has never seen...

07/10-SMA-GSC-ORGANIS.

Young Primrose Leaguer's Work for Wounded. Organised by Mrs F.K. Parker, one of the keenest workers of the Stamford Habitation of the Primrose League, a band of nearly two dozen 'Buds,' the name by which the members of the juvenile branch of the Habitation are known, has been busy making a systematic canvas of the town for old bottles to be sold in aid of a fund to send wounded or sick soldiers to a convalescent home at Lowestoft...

07/10-SMA-GSC-BROWN W.

On p4 of the Mercury dated 7th April under the heading, Prisoner of War. News has been received through the American Embassy that Walter Brown of the Lincolns, reported missing after the Battle of Loos is a prisoner of war in Hanover. Before enlisting in September 1914 Lance Corporal Brown was a fitter employed by Messrs Blackstones and Company. He was wounded in the head by shrapnel fire but has now recovered.

16/10-SMA-GSC-HUNT A.S.

On Friday evening Lance Corporal A.S. Hunt 1st/4th Lincs. Regiment, who in civilian life is foreman of the testing shop of Messrs Blackstones and Company was honoured by his shop mates...A collection had resulted in the purchase of a very handsome luminous-dialled wristlet watch and this was presented by Mr. Frank Carter...Hunt made a feeling response, and hearty cheers were given for him and all 'Blackstonians' on service. Taking advantage of his temporary return to England, Lance Corporal Hunt was next morning wedded by special licence, Miss Frances Cumberland of St. Martin's...Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Hunt left for a brief visit to Bury St. Edmunds, his home prior to his return to the Front...

16/10-SMA-GSC-BOUGHTON E.

On Saturday morning Edgar Boughton of Barnack Road who belongs to 1st/4th Lincolns and was home on leave was presented in the turnery at Messrs Blackstones with a luminous-faced wristlet watch...

16/10-SMA-GSC-Naylor G.

Sergeant G. Naylor who during the past eight months has had a great number of recruits through his hands, has recently relinquished the duties of recruiting sergeant.

16/10-SMA-GSC-SOCIAL

Air Raid Precautions The commandant of the VTC (the Mayor)...appealed for volunteers for an ambulance section to be formed...The section which will work under the supervision of the Medical Officer to the Corps. (Dr. Milner) and Mr. J. Wells, Conduit Road, will comprise eight stretchers and haversacks, the latter containing all the necessary equipment to deal with twelve cases each. In the event of an air-raid warning they will assemble at the town Hall...The inhabitants feel very grateful to the members of the Fire Brigade and the special constables for their zealous attention to their duties, which have been rather exacting during the past few days.

16/10-SMA-GSC-SOCIAL

Belgian Concert Artistes at Stamford ...two grand concerts have been arranged to be held at the Assembly Rooms...the propagation of the work of the British Society for the relief of Belgian wounded...

16/10-SMA-GSC-SOCIAL

The Great Blizzard. Last week's blizzard had...serious consequences in this locality...considerable damage was done to private property; chimney pots were dislodged and walls blown down...It is believed well over one hundred trees were brought down in Burghley Park...Roads to the country districts all around were blocked for days by fallen trees or telegraph poles...

16/10-SMA-GSC-SWANSON J.G.

In the Mercury dated 21st April on p4, Killed in Retreat from Mons. Sergeant John George Swanson, son of Mr. and Mrs J. Swanson of Ryhall and brother of Mrs. E.A. Laughton of 1, Laxton's Court, Stamford has this week been officially reported killed. Aged 40, he was at the outbreak of war, upon the completion of 21 years service in the 1st Lincolns, sent to France with the 1st Expeditionary Force and was reported wounded on or about August 26th 1914 after the retreat from Mons...The gallant warrior saw service in the Egyptian Campaign, gaining the Atbara and Omdurman medals; he was at Malta for some time, and spent about 18 years of his military career in India...

16/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS

Flower Sales for War Charities. Primrose Day (Wednesday) and Thursday were fixed by the Stamford Habitation of the Primrose League as flower days in aid of local branches of the Hospital Supply Depot and the Lincs. Red Cross Society. A vast array of blooms had been kindly given by residents of the town and district...

16/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

In the Mercury of 28th April on p4, Bandages for the Wounded. The flower sales...realised the gratifying sum of £40 14s 2d.

16/10-SMA-GSC-WISE T.

Doubly Bereaved By the War. Mrs. Wise of 6, Pearsons Court, St. Peters Hill has received news of the death in action of her husband. Thomas Wise, Lincs. Regiment was posted as missing last June. Prior to enlisting a month or two after the outbreak of war, Wise was employed at Messrs Williamson and Cliff's backyard and he had previously served seven years in the Northants Militia. This is the second bereavement she has suffered...her brother, Private Chas. Bone, Beds. Regiment, son of Mr. and Mrs Bone, Billings Buildings, High Street being killed some months ago.

16/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

In the Mercury of 5th May on p4: A Use for Waste Paper...Lady Battie-Wrightson has started a depot at 12, St. John's Street, which will be open on Fridays for the receipt of waste paper and obliterated postage stamps. These are to be turned into money for war

16/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

Flag Day. Organised by the committee of the local Needlework Guild and Hospital Supply Depots, a highly successful sale of St. George's flags took place on Friday...The total amount raised by the sale was £49 3s 5d...

16/10-SMA-GSC-LEGISL.

Cigarettes Out During Air Raids. A charge of using abusive and threatening language was preferred against Bernard Edinborough, 31, Broad Street...Special Constable Wyles said there had been an air raid warning. He requested the defendant to put out his cigarette. As he failed to do so witness attempted to take the cigarette from him and defendant said he would knock his head off...Defendant had been at the front for 14 months, had been promoted corporal there, and had been through the battles of Ypres, Neuve Chapelle and Hooge...and he (Mr. Pugh for the defendant) suggested it was very childish to rake up the bye-laws to prosecute the defendant for such a trivial thing in times like these. The Mayor said the case would be dismissed, an announcement which was received with some applause in court.

19/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

A Happy May Day Effort. Monday witnessed another successful effort arranged by Miss Richardson, on behalf of local men serving abroad. The streets of the town were perambulated by a donkey drawing an effectively decorated wicker carriage in which was seated one of the wounded soldiers of Lady Battie Wrightsons hospital to caricature the May Queen... They obtained no less than £14 9s 11d...

19/10-SMA-GSC-PEASGOOD A.

Homecoming of Stamford's DCM. Though nothing in the nature of a public welcome had been officially arranged...a large number of townsfolk met RSM A. (Gus) Peasgood when he stepped off the train...on Wednesday evening. He has come home on a month's leave prior to returning to the Front. Being of the opinion that the occasion should not pass without some expression from his fellow townspeople of their admiration...one or two prominent residents decided to organise a testimonial to this local hero...Miss Richardson and Mr. Garmston Chapman succeeded in raising £12 7s 6d which was handed over to RSM Peasgood at the station by Lieutenant R.C. English, on behalf of the organisers.

19/10-SMA-GSC-LEGISL.

Village Lighting Offences. Several cases of infringement against the lighting regulations were heard by the St. Martin's (Stamford) Petty sessional Justices on Friday. John Mitchell, Collyweston who pleaded not guilty was stated to have allowed light to be seen from two bedroom windows...Fined 5s. (There were several similar offences.)

19/10-SMA-GSC-WRIGHT W.R.

Young Local Officer Killed. ...Lieutenant William Richardson Wright has been killed in action...The deceased officer was the younger son of the late Mr. Horace Wright and of Mrs Wright of 10, St. Peter's Hill. Having completed several years of service with the local Territorial Company, he patriotically volunteered for service abroad with his old at the outbreak of war. He...remained with his regiment on active duty...until early this year when he came home to take a commission...and had the honour ...of being attached to his old battalion in the Lincs... Lieutenant Wright was 24 years of age and was a young man of striking personality and splendid physique. For some years he had been connected with the ironmongery business...

19/10-SMA-GSC-NATNL.

A Week Among the Sinn Feiners. A number of Stamfordians who were attending the Dublin Spring Show at Ballsbridge last week will have cause to remember their visit to the Emerald Isle in 1916. Two of them arrived home on Sunday night after several days of thrilling experiences in the midst of the Sinn Fein rebellion. Mr. Levi Hayes, 95, Ryhall Road and Mr.G.W. Scott, 42, Queen Street, Northfields. They are in the employ of Messrs Blackstones and the Martin Cultivator Company respectively...Both of them stayed at the same boarding house in Dublin, in a part which the rebels held by force...The rebels had taken possession of the houses on either side of the one they were staying at, and decided to remove to safer quarters...Fortunately they got into a quieter part...The journey through the streets was fraught with not a little danger, shots from the rebels...passing over their heads. On the Friday they were able...to obtain passports, and they took the boat the following evening. All their personal belongings they had to leave behind...

19/10-SMA-GSC-SGT.MAYES.

Deeping St. James. News has been received by the relatives of Sergeant Mayes of the Northants Regiment that he is lying in hospital in Rouen suffering from a serious gunshot wound in the head.

20/10-SMA-GSC-MARTIN G.E./ATKINSON H.E.

More War Victims. ...Sergeant George E. Martin, Grenadier Guards has been killed in action...Sergeant Martin who was about 36 years of age leaves a widow and five children...He left the town some five years ago. During his residence here he was a member of the composing staff of this journal in which capacity his father was an old and faithful servant of the Mercury...On Wednesday Mr. J.E. Atkinson received a telegram...that his Private H.E. Atkinson, Lincs. Regiment had been wounded in the back and neck and is in Cambridge.

20/10-SMA-GSC-LEGISL.

Too Much Light. Heavier fines at the Police Court...The Rev. J.D. Day was charged in respect of two successive nights...Mr. M.H. Pugh for defendant admitted the offences, but said these were the opening nights of the term, and Mr. Day's responsibilities was very great, for in addition to the ordinary supervision of the school, he had 180 windows to attend to. A fine of £1 was imposed in each case.

21/10-SMA-GSC-PEASGOOD A.

In the Mercury dated 26th May, p4 under the heading, Another Gift for Sergeant Major Peasgood ...a handsome gold lever watch has been procured, and this will be handed over to him privately before his return to the Front early next week. It bears the inscription: "Presented to RSM A. Peasgood, 4th Lincs. Regiment by a few friends and fellow townsmen, in recognition of his gaining the DCM at the Battle of the Hohenzollern Redoubt October 15th 1915"...

21/10-SMA-GSC-PARKER F.E./SMITH E.M.

Gifts to Local Soldiers. Two more soldiers home on leave...were honoured by fellow employees...They are Sergeant F. Eustace Parker, 1st/4th Lincolns, younger son of Councillor and Mrs S. Parker, St. Stephen's Villa, Ryhall Road and 2nd Air Mechanic Ernest M. Smith, RFC, son of Mr. and Mrs A.T. Smith, Laurel Villa, Recreation Road. The latter, who was in the drawing office of the firm was given by the office staff and other employees of Messrs Blackstones and Company a handsome luminous-dialled wrist watch...and Sergeant parker received a luminous-dialled wrist watch and a pipe from shop mates in various departments...

21/10-SMA-GSC-ATKINSON H.E.

Death From Wounds. Mr. John Edward Atkinson, (manager at Messrs Higgs and Son, St. John's Street) received the sad news...that Private Henry Ernest Atkinson, 23 years, of the Lincs. Regiment had passed away at the 1st Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge. He returned to the scene of active operations last February...About a week ago his father received a telegram that his son was in hospital at Cambridge and, in response to advice went to see him. He found the young soldier had been seriously injured...After much suffering he passed away as stated...

As a result of conscription being introduced in 1916 Tribunals were set up to assess the veracity of individuals and employers claims for exemption from military service.

21/10-SMA-GSC-LEGLIS.

Military Service Tribunals. A sitting was held at the Town Hall on Wednesday evening...thirty cases were dealt with. Six claims were refused.

21/10-SMA-GSC-HALLAM G.

In the Mercury dated 2nd June on p4, under the heading, Territorial Killed. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs A. Hallam of 2, St. George's Square who have been officially informed of the death in action of the youngest of their three sons, Private George Hallam, 1st/4th Lincs. Regiment. Deceased who was 21 years of age, enlisted in October last, up to which date he

was employed at Messrs Blackstones and Company works. He was an efficient and fearless soldier, and met his death while on a hazardous bombing expedition...

21/10-SMA-GSC-ATKINSON H.E.

Interment of a War Victim. The burial...of Private H.E. Atkinson, son of Mr J.E. Atkinson, 60, Conduit Road...took place at Stamford cemetery on Saturday afternoon...

21/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

On p5, Reading For The Troops. Stamford and other towns in Lincolnshire have not been slow in responding to the appeal for books and magazines for the troops, large consignments have been despatched from the local post office...

21/10-SMA-GSC-LEGLIS.

In the Mercury dated the 9th June on p2. Notice. The present difficulties as to paper supplies have made it necessary for us to reduce the size of our paper. **(It was reduced from eight to six pages.)**

21/10-SMA-GSC-WOMEN

In the Mercury dated 16th June on p2. Lady Farm Workers. Two Stamford young ladies- Miss Williamson and Miss Lenton-have proved the utility of women labour on the farm. They have latterly been engaged in the pursuits of husbandry on the Quarry Farm, Little Casterton Road, occupied by Messrs Williamson and Cliff.

21/10-SMA-GSC-COZENS A.

Mr. and Mrs William Cozens, Torkington Street have received official intimation of the death of their son, Private Arthur Cozens, 6th Lincs. Regiment who took part in the ill-starred Gallipoli campaign and who had been reported missing since last August...

21/10-SMA-GSC-COX J.

Twelve Months in German Hands. Stamford Man Among Exchanged Prisoners in Switzerland. After being incarcerated in Germany close on twelve months, Sergeant J. Cox, 1st Lincs. Regiment...has been fortunate enough to be exchanged for one of our prisoners, and was among the batch of men being cared for by the Swiss at chateau d'Oex...In a letter to a relative, Mr. J. Griffiths, 9, Melbourne Road, he says: " The Germans would not let me come home, but I am out of their clutches now, and we are having the time of our lives. We are right up among the Alps...We had a splendid reception all through Switzerland...It was a hearty cheer we received as we crossed the border at Konstance...When we travelled in Germany we always got a fist in our face and a sneer, so you can imagine what we all felt like when we heard the cheering...I don't know how to thank them all enough for what they have done for us"...the writer of this letter is well known to many in the town...for his gallantry he was promoted to the rank of sergeant...As a result of his wounds he had to have his left leg amputated while in the hands of the enemy and in view of this disablement and the tortures of mind and body to which he was subjected while in Germany, the remarkable cheerfulness of his letters speaks volumes for the spirit of the British soldier.

21/10-SMA-GSC-WOOD M./RITCHIE G.L.

In the Mercury dated 23rd June on p2. Mentioned in Dispatches. The honour of being mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's dispatch published on Friday has fallen to the lot of two officers well known to many in Stamford. Temporary Lieutenant M.H. Wood, Lincs. Regiment who was History and French master at the Grammar School at the time war broke out, and who went abroad with the local foreign service Territorials, and Temporary Captain G.L. Ritchie, Royal Scots Fusiliers, who was French master at the school three years ago. It is also of interest that the headmaster's brother, Temporary Lieutenant M.S.D. Day, Royal Engineers was also mentioned.

21/10-SMA-GSC-NATNL.

In Memoriam. A memorial service for the late Lord Kitchener and the victims of the recent naval battle was held at St. George's Church on Sunday evening...

21/10-SMA-GSC-CHAPPELL G. /FISHER J.

In the Mercury dated 7th July on p2. Wounded. News has been received from his brother at the Front that Gunner George Chappell the second of the four soldier sons of Mr. and Mrs H.H. Chappell, 17, Lumby Terrace, Water Street, has been wounded in the knee. On Tuesday Mr. and Mrs H.N. Fisher, High Street, received a letter from their son, Corporal Jack Fisher, a well known and popular member of the Territorial Corps., which he joined on the outbreak of war, stating that he is in hospital suffering from injuries to his face caused by the explosion of an enemy shell.

21/10-SMA-GSC-MITCHELL E.G.

Bad News of a Local Officer. On Wednesday, Mrs T. Mitchell, 52, St. Leonards Street received a telegraphic notification from the War Office, that her son 2nd Lieutenant E.G.(Ted) Mitchell was in hospital in France dangerously ill and granting permission for his relatives to visit him. His sister (Miss M. Mitchell) and a brother-in-law (Mr. Brady of Sheffield) left for France next day. Lieutenant Mitchell joined the Sportsman Battalion soon after the outbreak of war and was gazetted to a commission in the Lincs. Regiment thirteen months ago. He had been abroad about eight weeks. He is well known in the athletic world having gained fame as a walker.

21/10-SMA-GSC-RECRUIT.

In the Mercury dated 14th July on p1. Recruiting Notice. Under Army Council Instructions many men who were medically rejected for the Army will have to be re-examined...

21/10SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

On p2 Victims of the Push. Two of the three soldier sons of Mr. and Mrs C.L. Moody, Belle Vue, Barnack Road, both of whom are in the Lincs. Regiment were wounded in the British Offensive last week. Corporal Vincent R. Moody, the younger of the two, is in hospital at Edinburgh having had the calf of his left leg shot away by shrapnel, and Sergeant L.C. Moody, the eldest son,..was in a French hospital suffering from injuries, the nature of which was unknown. Other local men...who have been wounded are Private George Edgley, youngest son of Mrs Edgley 6, Brasenose Cottage, Brasenose Lane, who had only been in France about three weeks, having been previously wounded in the Gallipoli campaign and who is now in hospital in Leeds; Private H. Newbon, son of Mr. and Mrs H. Newbon, Hit or Miss Inn, Foundry Road, who has seen sixteen months service and who is now in Hollywood Park Hospital, Lancashire, a bullet having penetrated his side; Private C. Powley, son of the late Mr. and Mrs Powley, Bath Row who lies in Bristol Hospital and whose injuries are

reported to be of a serious nature; Private George Dawson, son of Mr. J. Dawson, 5, St. Peter's Hill who wrote to his relatives from a base hospital; and Corporal F. Sharpe, son of Mr. and Mrs T. Sharpe, 97, Cemetery Road, who is in hospital at Glasgow with a wound to the calf of the left leg. News lacking confirmation from official sources,... coming from other local men in the Corps., has been received of the death of two more brave Stamford Territorials; Private Percy Oldham, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs E. Oldham, 2, Sunnybank, East Street and Private Arthur Hodgett, son of Mr and Mrs John Hodgett 50, Scotgate... Hodgett was home on leave as recently as a month ago. Oldham was 21 years old...and Hodgett was 24.

22/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

On p2 of the Mercury dated 21st July under the heading Casualties. News was received on Sunday that Private R. Stangar, Lincs. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs A. Stangar has been wounded in the advance made by the British on the Western Front. Writing from hospital in Boulogne, he stated that he had been wounded just above the right knee, but his injury was slight. Sapper Walter Webb, Royal Engineers, son of Mr and Mrs W. Webb, 3, South View Terrace, New Cross Road is in hospital at Liverpool suffering from shock as a result of a bomb explosion. Lieutenant T. Fraser, Essex Regiment, who was the popular sergeant major when his battalion was stationed in Stamford last year, is reported ...killed in action. Before leaving Stamford he was recipient of a presentation at the Crown Hotel from his brother non-commissioned officers in his regiment.

22/10-SMA-GSC-RECRUIT.

In the Mercury dated the 28th July on p2. Stamford and the Navy. We are informed by Sergeant R. Pollock, the local recruiting agent of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, that for the special classes of work in connection with that arm of the services has been, and continues to be, exceedingly good in Stamford.

22/10-SMA-GSC-Hart L.H.P.

An Accident in France. We learn that Captain L.H.P. Hart of Stamford is in hospital at Winchester suffering from a dislocated knee, the result of an accident while engaged in bayonet exercise in France...

22/10-SMA-GSC-COWIE A.W.S.

Local Officer Killed ...2nd Lieutenant A.W.S., Lincs. Regiment had been classics master at the Grammar School, a position he had held for about three and a half years. He immediately in the Hunts. Cyclists Corps but in January last year he was gazetted to a Lieutenant in the Lincolns...he went out with a draft in October last, and was slightly wounded in the right arm in February...

22/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

Casualties. Mr and Mrs C. Baxter, Scotgate have received intimation that their eldest son, Private Alfred J. Baxter, a bomber in the Leicestershire Regiment has been wounded by shrapnel in the knee, and their second son, Private Chas. R. Baxter, Canadian Royal Highlander has been wounded in the face and shoulder...Private C. Knighten, Lincs. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs C. Knighten 4, All Saints Street has been admitted to hospital suffering from disordered action of the heart. Mr and Mrs F. Goddard, 9, Bentley Street, has received intimation that their only son, Private W. Goddard, Leics. Regiment, who was

formerly a moulder at Messrs Blacksones and Co. Works, has been wounded in the side by shrapnel, and is in hospital at Devonport.

22/10-SMA-GSC-ENGLISH R.C.

Death of Lieutenant R.C. English The news of the death which occurred at the residence of his father-in-law at Grantham on Tuesday of Lieutenant Richard Cornforth English of Stamford, created a painful sensation in the borough, for though it was known for some time he was seriously indisposed and that he had just undergone an operation for appendicitis... the announcement genuinely shocked all classes and was received with intense regret. The only son of Mr R.M. English, Clerk to the Magistrates and Registrar of the County Court of Stamford, and of the late Mrs English, Bleak House...Lieutenant English was only 24 years old. He was educated at Rugby, and studied for the law, and on being admitted a solicitor in November, he joined his father in the firm of Messrs English and Son...by his untimely end a promising career is cut short. Deceased's domestic and social life was marked by the characteristics of the true English gentleman. He had a healthy love of open air pastimes...During his residence in Stamford he acted as Captain and secretary of Burghley Park Cricket Club...He also played for the MCC. Rugby football was another game in which he was an enthusiast playing for the Notts. County team and the now defunct Stamford Club. He was a member of the Stamford Amateur Operatic Society. Soon after the outbreak of war Lieutenant English enlisted as a Private in the Army Service Corps (motor transport section) and a few months later took a commission...He served abroad for some time...It lately became necessary for him to undergo the operation referred to, and Lieutenant English's desire was to have this at Grantham. The operation...appeared to be quite successful but during the weekend bronchitis supervened and though deceased rallied for a time pneumonia developed and the end came at three o'clock on Tuesday morning...

22/10-SMA-GSC-SHELVEY F.C.

In the Mercury dated the 4th August on p2 under the heading Soldier's Mishap. Private F.C. Shelvey, Lincs. Regiment, son of Mrs Shelvey of Water Street has lost the sight of his right eye through an accident while practising bomb throwing at Brocton Camp...

22/10-SMA-GSC-DE CANN H.J.

Another Officer Killed. Much sympathy will be felt with Superintendent R. De Cann, Chief of the local constabulary, and Mrs De Cann of Cecil Terrace in the great loss they have suffered by the death in action of their younger son, 2nd Lieutenant Harold John De Cann...Aged about 20, the gallant young officer was gazetted towards the end of last year, and went to France a few weeks ago...In civil life he was a member of staff of the Union of London and Smith's Bank at Lincoln...His brother is serving with the Colours and his only sister is nursing in a war hospital.

22/10-SMA-GSC-HART L.H.P.

Military Promotions. The congratulations of his many friends will be extended to Captain L.H.P. Hart of Stamford, officer commanding the local of Territorials in pre-war days, who has been gazetted temporary Major in the Lincs. Regiment.

22/10-SMA-GSC-EDMONDS P.N.

Kut Prisoners. A post card dated from August (Asiatic Turkey) has been received by the relatives of 2nd Lieutenant P.N. Edmonds, RFA. A member of the Kut garrison which surrendered to the Turks (25th June)...He was allowed to write four lines only. Lieutenant

Edmonds is a nephew of Mr Orlando Edmonds of Northfield House...2ND Lieutenant Edmonds writes: Yazgad, Turkey in Asia-Arrived June30th. Two months journey on foot, donkeys, cart, trains. Quite well. Quarters decent. Food sufficient. Very cold in winter. Want heavy underclothes, sweater, etc. No sugar obtainable. Send saccharin, cocoa, jam etc., books, a pipe...and money if possible...your p.c. May 23rd arrived.

22/10-SMA-GSC- MARKWICK W. P.

2nd Lieutenant W.P. Markwick, 2nd Norfolk Regiment, second son of Mr W.F. Markwick, headmaster of Stamford Boys School, has been gazetted Lieutenant, promotion dating from August 5th.

22/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

For Wounded Soldiers Necessities. Successful Effort at Rock House. ...The Mayor and Mayoress are to be congratulated on the success of the garden fete... The weather was propitious and about 1500 visited the fete. There was no lack of attractions...a baby show...flower stall...fancy goods...literary and doll stall...cakes, ices and honey...provisions and grocery...sweets and chocolate...pottery, china and bric-a-brac...Considerable amusement was occasioned by the efforts of gentlemen competitors in a millinery test. (**This is just a flavour of what was on offer. Also admitted are a long list of contributors and prize winners.**) Among others rendering assistance were Messrs Walter Goodley and Cecil Chambers(**my grandfather**)...The receipts amounted to over £195.

23/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

More War Victims. Known to many residents of Stamford as a courteous member of the staff of the local branch of National and Provincial Bank of England for two years or so, the news of the death from wounds of 2nd Lieutenant Geoffrey Harryman will be received with unfeigned regret...About twelve months ago he joined the Naval Brigade...subsequently he obtained a commission in the Manchester Regiment...He was the son of Mr Chas. Harryman of Holly Road, Retford and was 22years old. From the matron of a hospital in France, Mrs Needhad, 44, Conduit Road has received the sad news that her son, Sergeant George Hitchcock, Lincs. Regiment, has died in that institution of wounds in the head, shoulder and arm. Deceased who was 24 years of age was in the army prior to the war, being in India with his regiment when hostilities broke out and going to France shortly afterwards. He had, therefore been through practically the whole of the conflict except for a short period after being wounded in the Battle of Neuve Chapelle.

23/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

In the Mercury dated 25th August on p2 War Casualties. News this week has been received of the injury in the fighting on the Western Front of several more local soldiers. Private W. McNally, East Yorkshire Regiment, the well known professional swimmer has been wounded in the neck; Robert Dennis, Notts. and Derbys. Regiment of 6, School Terrace, Recreation Ground Road in the leg; Private Charles Hall, Sherwood Foresters of 9, School Terrace in the knee; and Private George Crockford of the Camerons, whose parents reside at 24, Ryhall Road, in the neck. Mr Jes. Healey, St. George's Street has received official intimation that his only son, Private J. Healey of Stamford Territorial Corps. is in Leeds Hospital with injuries occasioned by shell fire. A letter has been received informed him that the latter had no less than sixteen wounds in the arm and shoulders.

23/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

In Mercury dated 1st September on p2. More War Victims. Mr and Mrs C. Chapman, 5, White Swan Yard, Scotgate have received official intimation that their son, Private Charles Chapman of the Notts. and Derbys. Regiment was killed in action on August 8th. Prior to enlisting last March, deceased, 28 years of age was engaged in farm work at Wisbech. His brother is in hospital with wounds in the head. Private Alfred Woodward, Lincs. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs A. Woodward, 35 East Street who was reported missing twelve months ago after an engagement in Gallipoli has now been reported to be presumed as killed, nothing having been heard of him in the interim. Lance Corporal Herbert Wattam, Lincs. Regiment who until last February was a member of the borough Police Force, and Private J.H. Gunston, formerly a porter on the L. and N.W. line at Stamford, are in hospital with wounds, the former in the back and left foot and the latter in the chest and arm.

23/10-SMA-GSC-WEEKES A.

In the Mercury dated 8th September on p2. From Stamford to Egypt. Mr T. Blunt, secretary and curator of the Institution, has courteously allowed us to peruse a number of interesting letters from members of the Essex regiment who were formerly billeted in Stamford...all are unanimous in their thanks for the hospitality shown to them...Private Albert Weekes waxes enthusiastic over a visit to Rameses temple and the King's chamber in the heart of one of the pyramids...

23/10-SMA-GSC-GOODLEY H.E.

More Lincolns Go Out. A farewell concert took place in the Sergeants Mess of 2nd/4th Lincolns on Friday in honour of the departure of a rather big draft. Among them were several from Stamford, notably Sergeant H. E. Goodley, who in civil life is a popular member of the fire Brigade...

23/10-SMA-GSC-OSBOURNE J.R.

The Ever-Increasing Roll of Honour. Three Sons Killed in Battle. The deepest sympathy will be felt for Mr and Mrs A. Osborne, 2 Newboul Cottages, Casterton Road who have had the grievous misfortune to lose three sons in war. Private Levi Osborne, East Yorks. Regiment was killed New Year's Day, 1915 and Private Alf Osborne, a member of the Territorials on September 2nd 1915, and now the stricken parents have received official intimation that a third son, John Robert Osborne, Notts. and Derbys. Regiment has laid down his life in the service of his country. Deceased who was 26 years of age, had served seven years in the army, and previous to joining was in the employ of Mr A. Mount of Great Casterton...A fourth son who has nine years experience of army life is still with British Forces on the Western Front.

24/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

Local "Steelbacks" Killed. Wounded ten months ago in both legs, Private Victor Atkins, Northants Regiment has been killed. His parents are Mr and Mrs J.T. Atkins, 2, September last, in the Northants Regiment and going abroad three months later, Private Albert V. Bagley, son of Mr and Mrs C. Bagley, 58, Queen's Street, Northfields has been killed in action, his parents receiving official intimation of the fact on Friday last. His brother is serving abroad with the Royal Fusiliers.

Five Sons Serving; One Missing, Another Wounded. Mr and Mrs H. Betts, 5, Duncombs Yard, Water Street have five sons serving their King and country-four in the Army and the

other in the Senior Service. From his wife who lives at Willesden, they have heard that the third boy, Private Bert J. Betts who had been abroad with the Northants Regiment just twelve months, has been wounded...This is the second time he has been wounded. The Quartermaster Sergeant of his Company writes that the fourth son, Frank C. Betts, who is also in the Northants Regiment, is missing...The second of the five gallant boys, Private Wilfred Betts, Lincs. Regiment has been invalided out of the service after being abroad some months.

24/10-SMA-GSC-DOWNS A. and R.

Uncle and Nephew Wounded. Private Albert Downs, Lincs. Regiment, a well known member of the Stamford Town F.C. and his nephew, Private R. Downs, Leics. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Judson Downs, Burrells Court, West Street of whom were employed at Messrs. Williamson and Cliff's brickyard in pre-war days have been wounded and are in hospital in France.

26/10-SMA-GSC-BETTS B.J.

In the Mercury dated 22nd September on p4. Two Brothers Missing. Missing a fortnight ago we announced that misfortune had befallen two of the five sons of Mr and Mrs H. Betts...It was then reported that Private Bert J. Betts had been wounded and that Private Frank Betts was missing, but news has since been received that the former is also missing...

26/10-SMA-GSC-GREEN F.

Great Sacrifice. Reported missing eleven months ago, Private F. Green of the Stamford Territorials has now been officially posted as presumed killed,...The gallant soldier, who was 21 years old and in civil life was an employee of Messrs E.F. Young and Son, Grocers, was the son of Mr F. Green of Elton but had made his home with Mrs Parkinson, 16b, Austin Street.

26/10-SMA-GSC-PARR G.

Wounded. Corporal Gilbert Parr, Lincs. Regiment, who has recently been promoted,..has written to his wife, who lives at 6, School Terrace, from a hospital in France, stating that he has been wounded in the face, a bullet entering his jaw and emerging through his mouth. The hero of this remarkable escape from death who had been previously wounded in the shoulder, is one of our "amateur" soldiers, enlisting shortly after the outbreak of war. He has...been recommended for bravery in carrying wounded to a place of safety.

26/10-SMA-GSC-GRANT V.

In the Mercury dated 29th September on p4. Former Station Master's Son's Death. Much sympathy is felt for the widow and three children of Private Vernon Grant who resided at 40, Ryhall Road, in the bereavement they have suffered by his death as the result of malarial fever. Deceased, who was the youngest son of the late Mr William Grant,...the respected Midland Railway stationmaster...was 31 years of age. Educated at the Endowed School, St. Peter's Hill...He had been employed by the Martin Cultivator Company. He enlisted a few months after the outbreak of war, and had been abroad about thirteen months...

26/10-SMA-GSC-DAY G.

After Two Years in the Trenches....Private G. Day, Lewis machine gun section of the Sherwood Foresters, of Stamford, has now been wounded and is in hospital at Sheffield...he states he was on the point of entering the enemy first line trench in the recent advance when he was bowled over with a couple of wounds in the left ankle. After lying there sometime he was picked up by a captured German-a rare instance of Hun chivalry- and carried by him to the dressing station. Day, who has just passed his 20th year, is making a favourable recovery.

26/10-SMA-GSC-STUBLEY J.E.

Killed In Action. ...John Ernest Stubley, Lincs. Regiment, 51, Cemetery Road has been killed in action. Deceased, who was 25 years old was in civil life employed by Mr John Woolston. Three months after war broke out he joined the Colours, and though promoted Corporal during his training he relinquished his stripes before going out to the Dardanelles in July of last year. After being invalided home with dysentery...he went out to Egypt and was transferred to another sphere of operations and again raised to the rank of Corporal. His brother is a driver in the Army Service Corps...

26/10-SMA-GSC-GRANT A.

Among the local Territorials reported missing after the historic engagement of the Hohenzollern Redoubt last October was Private Arnold Grant, son of Mr and Mrs J.A.D. Grant, formerly of Crown Street, and now of Newark. His relatives have now been informed...he must be presumed to have fallen in action. Private Grant was 21 years old.

26/10-SMA-GSC-WEBB A.H.

In the Mercury dated the 13th October on p4. War Casualty. Sergeant A.H. Webb of the Lincs. Regiment, whose home is in New Road, Northfields, has had one of his hands smashed by fragments of a shell, one finger being blown off. He lies at Norwich Hospital...he had previously been wounded in the right arm, and in the latter limb there still is a piece of shrapnel.

26/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

Stamford Heroes Killed. Official news was received on Friday, that Lance Corporal George Harry Nickerson (Lincs. Regiment), of the Black Horse Inn and late of Barnack Road, was killed at the battle of Hohenzollern Redoubt on October 13th last year. He was reported missing some time ago...Deceased was a member of the choir of St. Augustine's, Broad Street and was secretary of the Excelsior Whist club. He was an old volunteer and had finished his time when the war broke out, but joined again immediately...Another son John Nickerson, joined Kitchener's Army when the war started and has been with the Lincolns on active service since May last year.

It is also regretted that another lance corporal of the Lincolns, J.H. Cant met with the same fate...he also had been missing since October 13th 1915...Deceased was the only son of Sergeant J.O. Cant and Mrs Cant of 1, North Street, Stamford. He was apprenticed at Mr S.F. Halliday's and was employed some time on improvement and extension work at Apethorpe Hall...It is a sad coincidence that he left the trenches for the battle on his 21st birthday...

Last week Mr Jonas Letts of Beadsworth Court, St. Leonard's Street was informed of the death in the trenches in France of his only son, Private John Letts, Lincs. Regiment. Deceased only joined the Colours in April of this year and was home on leave in July last. He went out to France in August. Previous to joining the Army he was employed at the Electric Works...

27/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

In the Mercury dated 20th October on p4 Christmas Gifts for the Troops. ...On Friday November 3rd an effort is to be made in the town to collect a substantial sum of money... for the purpose of providing plum puddings and other Christmas gifts for men on active service...In previous years the work has been carried out...by private individuals, but as all organisations must now be registered, the Ladies Needlework Guild... have taken in hand.

27/10-SMA-GSC-WOMEN.

Accident to a Munition Worker. A young woman named Dorothy Bell of Bentley Street, employed in the turning shop at Messrs Blackstones met with a serious accident last week, having a couple of fingers cut off through getting her hand caught in the machinery...

27/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

Local War Casualties. The sad news has reached Stamford of the death in action of Private Ernest Littledyke of the Australian Expeditionary Force and son of Mrs Littledyke of All Saint's Street who was 35 years of age and a popular player in the Stamford Town F.C.. About five years ago he emigrated to Australia...He joined the Australian Expeditionary Force at the outbreak of war and after undergoing training he was sent to Egypt. Here he was taken ill and was dispatched to Malta and after recovering he was sent to France. A comrade records the following tribute to this Stamford hero: "In face of danger he never flinched and he was recognised throughout the Battalion as one of the best and bravest." News has been received by Mrs Clarke of Scotgate that her son, Private R. Clarke, 19, of the Lincs. Regiment who has been missing since the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt, is now presumed dead...Private Clarke was formerly employed by the Urban Electric Company in Stamford... Private B. Charity of the Leics. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Charity of 73, Scotgate is lying in hospital seriously wounded...He has two brothers in the Army in France and one in the Navy.

27/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

In the Mercury dated 27th October on p4. More War Casualties. Private J.P. Potter, son of Mr and Mrs E. Potter of Kings Road is reported killed in action. He joined the 7th Essex Regiment when it was stationed in Stamford in April last year, being then only 17 years old. He was afterwards transferred to the London Rifle Brigade. He was formerly in the employ of Mr C. Gray, St. Mary's Hill.

Private William Thorold of the Lincs. Regiment, son of Mr and MR Thorold of Doughty Street reported missing twelve months ago is now certified as being killed. He was 20 years of age and formerly an employee at Messrs. Blackstones works.

Private H.J. Fox of the Grenadier Guards, a former Stamfordian and son of Mr and Mrs J. Fox, now of Nottingham, is also reported killed.

Yet another name of local interest figures amongst the recently fallen. We refer to S. Drake who was a bomber in the London Scottish. He was the elder son of Rev. S.B.

Drake...Deceased who was a grandson of Mr R. Drake of Northfields...was married the week before war broke out, and leaves a widow and a child.

27/10-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

"Our Day" celebrated in most parts of the country on Thursday in last week, was observed in Stamford on Friday...It is expected the amount (raised) will be over £400. The effort was on behalf of the funds of the British Red Cross Society. A large number of young ladies and several wounded soldiers paraded the thoroughfares during the day...

27/10-SMA-GSC-LEGISL.

Lighting Prosecutions. At the petty sessions...the Rev. P.H.D. Ogle, Rector at St. John's was summoned for neglecting to effectively shade a light at his house on Empingham Road on the evening of October 7th. Special Constable Glitherow said a very bright light was showing from one of the windows, the blind not having been drawn...He had twice previously had to make complaints about the lighting, the last time on the occasion of an air raid. Fined £1.00.

27/10-SMA-GSC-GEORGE J.L.

In the Mercury dated 3rd November on p4. A Stamford "Terrier" Obtains Lieutenancy. Private J.L. George, son of Mr George, Stationmaster at the Great Northern Railway Station, who went out with the other Stamford boys, has just been promoted to the rank of 2nd Lieutenancy...It will be remembered this young man was wounded on the Hohenzollern Redoubt in October last year, being shot in the head and having a marvellous escape of his life...

27/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

Two More War Casualties. The friends of Sergeant H.E. Goodley of the Lincs. Regiment were informed on Tuesday, that he had succumbed on Friday to Injuries (gunshots in the abdomen) received on October 24th. The deceased who was only 18 years old was the youngest son of Mr and Mrs George Goodley, Conduit Road. He was formerly in the employ of Mr E.E. Howes as a carpenter, and was a member of the Fire Brigade. Enlisting soon after war broke out, he received very rapid promotion...

Private Austin Lawless, fourth son of Mr and Mrs Lawless of the Fox and Hounds in Water Street is another who has given his life for his country. His principal injury was in the leg, which was amputated, but gas poisoning setting in, he died soon after. He was 29 years of age and had been at the Front for about a year and a half. He was formerly employed on a fishing smack in Grimsby. Private J. Bussingham of Northfields is reported to be in hospital in France, dangerously wounded. He is 19 years old.

28/10-SMA-GSC-BOWER W.E.C.

Doctor Bower Killed in Action. ...the death of Lieutenant W.E.C. Bower, of the RAMC has been killed in action. The deceased was a few years ago a medical practitioner in Stamford...He was also surgeon to the Stamford Juvenile Foresters.

28/10-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

In the Mercury dated 10th November on p4. Lance Corporal H. Shelvey of the Kings Own Royal Lancs. Regiment, grandson of Mrs Shelvey of Water Street, is reported killed in action. He was formerly in the employ of Messrs Lowe, Son and Cobbold and was 27 years of age.

Private Victor Bolland and Sergeant W.A. Weatherington, two Stamford men and both of the Lincs. Regiment are reported to have been wounded.

28/10-SMA-GSC-HISSEY M.H.

Captain Hissey Killed in Action. The Stamford list of casualties grows week by week and today we regret to announce that Captain Maurice Henry Hissey has been added to the number...Deceased was a well known and highly respected townsman. He had been in Stamford about five years as managing clerk for Messrs Richardsons, auctioneers and

estate agents. He enlisted soon after the outbreak of war...He had recently been promoted to the rank of Captain in the Berkshires...

28/10-SMA-GSC-RANSOME W.T.S.

Bravery of Stamford Terrier. Sergeant W.T.S. Ransome of the Stamford Company ... has received from the C.O. of the north Midland Division, the following message: "Your C.O. and Brigade Commander have informed me that you have distinguished yourself by conspicuous bravery on the field..."

28/10-SMA-GSC-WATSON B

Naval Man Honoured. The King of Belgium has awarded Bernard Watson RN (son of Mr and Mrs F.A. Watson of Tinwell Road) the Belgian Cross for good progress and ability during the Belgian coast operations. King Albert personally decorated the recipient...With the exception of the ribbon, honours are not permitted to be worn in wartime and the medal is being sent home to be taken care of by the parents. Watson who was formerly employed at Messrs Hart and Sons, Broad Street and has been Assistant Scoutmaster associated with the Endowed Schools has achieved success since joining the Navy...

28/10-SMA-GSC-LEGISL.

Stamford Tribunal. Revising Previous Decisions. Acting on the application of the military authorities, the Stamford Tribunal met at the town Hall...to go into about 50 cases which had previously come before them...The mayor(Mr W.E. Martin) presided...this revision of cases was deemed necessary owing to the alteration which had been made in regard to the urgent and absolute want of men, particularly young single men. In the early days of the Tribunal he (Major Dove, the military representative) thought they had been too liberal in granting exemptions...certified exemptions were alright but national interests come first. They must have all the single men, and all the married men up to 35 years of age...

28/10-SMA-GSC-WARREN R.

Stamford Connection with a Canadian Military Quartette. "When the Canadians sprang to the attack at Courcellette on the morning of September 15th there never fell a braver and truer soldier than Sergeant Robert Warren" says the Hamilton (Ontario) Gazette. His father, Robert Warren, (brother to Mr Henry Warren, silversmith, St. Mary's Street) was born on the premises now occupied by Miss Higgs, baker and confectioner, opposite the Post Office. He emigrated many years ago and married a shrewd and kindly Scotswoman. Proud of the British Empire, the Union Jack was always a conspicuous object in his dining room. While out of regard for his birthplace he named one of his seven sons, "Cecil" and another "Burleigh"...The deceased soldier was physical director of the YMCA at Brandon, Manitoba, and in the early stages of the war he joined the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles. His platoon officer described him as, "a good soldier and a good, true-hearted man who was liked by his men and also by everybody else."

28/10-SMA-GSC-WARREN W.

His brother Sergeant William Warren of the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, also took part in the protracted heavy fighting on the "Western Front." He was shot through the hip and after being in hospital in England for some months he lately sailed for Canada. His home is at Victoria, British Columbia where on volunteering for active service he left a wife and seven young children. An eighth was born to him while he was in camp in England.

28/10-SMA-GSC-PALMER W.A.

William Arnold Palmer, of the Canadian Cameron Highlanders, (son of Rev. F.W.H. Palmer of Snettisham, Norfolk and a son-in-law of Mr G.H. Burton of Stamford) was in hospital near London, having been wounded in action. He helped to capture a German trench and firing from it for some time he was hit in the leg by shrapnel. In spite of his wound he crawled about 200 yards to deliver a message, one of his special duties being that of a dispatch runner...

28/10-SMA-GSC-CLARK J.

In the Mercury dated the 17th November on p4. Local Casualties. Private J. Clark, a member of the Stamford Territorials, and a former employee at Messrs Blackstones who was reported missing twelve months ago is now certified to have been killed. He was 19 years of age and son of Mrs E. Clark of Alexandra Road.

28/10-GSC-SMA-GSC-HEALEY J.W.

Between Twenty and Thirty Wounds. **Healey's name was misspelt in the original report and corrected in the next edition of the paper.** Private Healey of the Lincs. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Healey, 21, St. George's Street is now home on leave, having recently been discharged from a military hospital in Leeds where he received treatment after undergoing a terrible ordeal somewhere in France. Though only quite a young fellow, a former member of the Stamford Town Band, he has some grim stories to relate of his experiences in the trenches...Private Healey was brought down by shrapnel and received between twenty and thirty wounds in the arms and shoulders. His steel helmet protected his head and a notebook his heart and thus saved his life, splinters of shrapnel striking him in both places...The notebook which he had in his left pocket bears the mark where another piece struck him.

28/10-SMA-GSC-DOBBS H.W. AND BOYER G.W.

In the Mercury dated 1st December on p4. Two More Stamford Men Fall. We regret to announce today the death of...Private Henry F. Dobbs of the Lancs. Regiment and Private George W. Boyer of the Sherwood Foresters. The wife of Dobbs who lives in West Street has been informed that her husband was killed by a shell on November 15th. He was the son of Mr and Mrs E. Dobbs of the water Street Dairy and before the war was in the employ of Messrs Hart and Sons, painters and decorators. Private Boyer (**paper misprinted his name as Sargent?**) was also a married man, his wife residing at 8, Castle Cottages, Sheep Market. A letter from his Captain informs her that he was killed by a shell during a German attack. He was formerly in the employ of Messrs Blackstones and Co...

28/10-SMA-GSC-SARGENT G.H.

Wounded. Intimation has been received that Private G.H. Sargent (Warwicks. Regiment) of East Street is in hospital suffering from a wound in his left hand.

28/10-SMA-GSC-MARQUESS OF EXETER.

In the Mercury dated the 8th December on p4. Stamford Honoured. The many friends of Lieutenant-Colonel, the Marquis of Exeter will have noticed with pleasure that his lordship, who is with his battery in Egypt, has been mentioned in dispatches sent home by Sir Archibald Murray, commanding the Egyptian force, when giving an account of the desert battle in the Qatia District when a Turkish force of 18,000 was defeated and 4,000 prisoners,

several guns and war material was captured. In the same dispatch mention is made of Private C.B. Lee of the Army Service Corps., of Barn Hill who, before joining the Army, was in the office of Messrs Phillips, Evans and Dalton Solicitors.

06/11-SMA-GSC-THROWER P.J.

Sapper Thrower Wins Military Medal. Sapper P.J. Thrower of the Royal Engineers has been fortunate enough to win the Military Medal... Sapper Thrower, who is the only son of Mr C.H. Thrower, headmaster of the Bluecoat School, was formerly on the staff of the Stamford Post Office. He has been in France 23 months and had his first leave a fortnight ago. On returning to duties he found the decoration awaiting him.

06/11-SMA-GSC-FUNDS.

Plum Pudding Fund. The sum raised...amounted to £52 3s 8d...

06/11-SMA-GSC-LAVENDER H.F.

Missing. We regret to hear that another Stamford soldier is reported missing since October 23rd, viz. Private H.F. Lavender of the Lincs. Regiment who was formerly in the employ of Messrs Secombe and Son, St. Mary's Street as a cabinet maker. He was 25 years of age.

06/11-SMA-GSC-PRICKETT

In the Mercury dated 15th December on p4. A.B. Private A.B. Prickett whose home is in Alexandra Road is reported as having been wounded, and is now in the Welsh hospital at Netley. He has been previously three times incapacitated during the war.

06/11-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

Memorial Service. On Sunday afternoon a service of commemoration for the men from St. George's parish who have fallen in the war was held in the church where there was a large attendance. The names of the men, thirty one in all, are: O. Andrews, C.C. Baker, H. Brumwell, C. Butcher, V.H. Bagley, E.G. Clark, H. Clark, R. Clark, J.E. Cole, C.R. Cole, W.H. Dawtry, L. Green, B. Grant, G. Hallam, L.E. Hughes, R. Lack, J. Letts, H. Lant, H.G. Mason, P. Oldham, E. Rawden, C. Sismore, I. Wade, W. Wardle, W. Wigginton, A. Woodward, W. Walker, F. Whincup, G. Williams and C. Wallis... Among the congregation was the Marchioness of Exeter and the wounded soldiers from Burghley House...

06/11-SMA-GSC-PLOWRIGHT R.

In the Mercury dated the 22nd December on p2. Promotion at the Front. R. Plowright, of the York and Lancaster Regiment, whose home is at 12, Stanley Street, and who went out as a Private, has just been promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

06/11-SMA-GSC-CASUALTIES.

More Local Casualties. A late member of the Stamford police force- PC Harris- has just been killed in action. He belonged to the Lincs. Regiment of which he was a NCO... He was about 30 years of age and a south Lincs. Man. Privates Bert and Frank Betts, son of Mr and Mrs H. Betts of Water Street, have been missing for some time, and it's now believed that information has now been supplied which establishes beyond a doubt that Bert has been killed. His wife, who resides in London has received his pocket book containing family

photographs and the sender states that he took it from a dead body at the Front. Deceased who was about 30 years of Information has been received that Private George Miles of the Warwicks. Regiment has been badly wounded and is in hospital at Sheffield. He is the son of Mr and Mrs Miles of 1, Cooches Court and before the war was a compositor in London. Lieutenant R.E. Wichenford Sandall, Lincs. Regiment, son of Lieutenant-Colonel T.E. Sandall of Stamford was reported wounded...We are informed he is not seriously hurt, but is in hospital, where his injuries from an exploding bomb have been attended to...he was out on patrol duty at .night, when he and his men encountered a German bombing party.

06/11-SMA-GSC-THOMPSON R.

In the Mercury dated the 29th December on p2. Horrors of the Trenches. Private R. Thompson, youngest son of Mr Thompson, stud groom at Burghley House is in the Newport (Mons.) hospital in a very serious condition, suffering from trench fever. Gangrene has set in, and he has lost several of his toes...He joined the East Yorks., Cycling Corps., and after a time transferred to the West Yorks. Infantry.