

*A brief encounter in time to celebrate the life
and Stockton family of.....*

ROBERT NICHOLSON
1880- 1961

**Awarded the
MILITARY MEDAL
WWI 1914 -1918**

**At Stockton-on-Tees Town Hall
By His Worship the Mayor
on
Tuesday 4 March 1919**

“Presentation of Military Medal to Sergeant R. Nicholson, 131632, Royal Engineers”

“The Mayor presented to No. 131632, Sergeant R. Nicholson, R.E., The Military Medal awarded to him under the following circumstances: -

“On the 16th April, 1918, at St. Jans Capel, for gallant conduct and devotion to duty whilst in charge of Horse Transport bringing R.E. material urgently required for wiring the line. All roads were heavily shelled, but after many efforts and having three horses badly wounded, including the one he was riding, and one wagon damaged, which he repaired while being heavily shelled, he succeeded in getting up all the stores, thus saving the situation. Without these stores no work could have been done and 500 men, who were waiting would have had to be withdrawn and the line left unprotected.”



Left: Front of the Military Medal
Right: Front of the Great War of Civilisation Medal



Left: Back of the Military Medal
Right: Back of the Great War of Civilisation Medal

Reference source: Minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 1919. Information sent by Hannah (Stockton Reference Library) via email on Tuesday 20 December 2011.

- G/761 Sjt. W. E. Mortimer, R. Fus. (Fulham).
 9306 Sjt. H. Moseley, M.G. Corps (Bradford).
 47382 L./C. C. Mowat, M.G. Corps (Mt. Florida).
 17436 Cpl. A. Mowl, Worc. R. (Eastbourne).
 Deal/4167 Pte. H. Moxon, R.M. Med. Unit. (Salford).
 373 Pte. W. H. Mudd, Dur. L.I. (Normanby).
 159183 Gnr. D. Muir, R.F.A. (Glasgow).
 38408 Gnr. E. J. Mulholland, R.H.A. (Woolwich).
 G/12152 Cpl. G. Mulliner, R. Fus. (Whitmore).
 250370 Cpl. P. Mullins, Manch. R. (Dunmore).
 10883 Cpl. T. J. Mundy, K.R.R.C. (Middlesex).
 200767 Pte. A. Munns, Linc. R. (Soham).
 48546 Sjt. R. A. Murfitt, R.H.A. (Swetham).
 2249 Dvr. J. Murphy, R.F.A. (Merthyr, Glam.).
 6892 Sjt. M. J. Murphy, I. Gds. (Kilmorna).
 52671 Pte. P. Murphy, L'pool R. (Liverpool).
 M2/149152 Pte. F. Murray, A.S.C. (Edinburgh).
 1164 Pte. (L./C.) C. G. Musgrave, Linc. R. (Cleethorpes).
 16519 Pte. T. Mutimer, Suff. R. (Worlingworth).
 17303 Pte. R. Myatt, C. Gds. (Reading).
 48445 L./C. J. Myers, L'pool R. (Liverpool).
 55846 Spr. A. H. Mynett, R.E. (Stroud).
 500330 Spr. H. E. Nash, R.E. (Fishponds, Bristol).
 18771 Pte. H. Neale, R. War. R. (Upton Park).
 D/4219 Cpl. H. T. Neale, Dns. (Wakefield).
 166130 Gnr. J. Neale, R.G.A. (Seaton Delaval).
 536047 Pte. S. C. Neale, R.A.M.C. (Greenwich).
 16571 Cpl. F. W. Neasham, Dn. Gds. (Evenwood, Durham).
 487 Cpl. R. Needs, W. Gds. (Walworth).
 41769 L./C. P. Needle, R.E. (Alveston).
 32827 Pte. (L./C.) T. Neeley, R. Lan. R. (Liverpool).
 45770 Spr. A. Neil, R.E. (Bathgate).
 26068 Cpl. J. D. Nelmas, M.G. Corps (Bristol).
 21941 Pte. F. Nelson, Dur. L.I. (West Hartlepool).
 123055 Dvr. D. T. Nevill, R.F.A. (Catford).
 303343 Pte. C. New, A. & S. Highrs. (Chryston).
 43140 Pte. W. Newbold, Linc. R. (Basford).
 19533 Cpl. (A./Sjt.) E. P. Newman, R.A.M.C. (Tottenham, N.).
 37035 Pte. J. A. Newton, E. York. R. (Darlington).
 241503 Sjt. R. Nicol, Gord. Highrs. (Peterhead).
 S/43677 Cpl. T. A. Nicol, Gord. Highrs. (Gardenstown-by-Banff).
 12189 Pte. E. Nichols, W. Rid. R. (Bingley).
 32000 Cpl. G. W. Nichols, R.E. (London, W.).
 41004 Cpl. G. Nicholson, W. York. R. (Beverley).
 131632 Cpl. R. Nicholson, R.E. (Stockton-on-Tees).
 37286 Pte. C. D. Dixon, York. L.I. (Burnley).
 21023 Pte. G. Nixon, R.S. Fus. (Kilmarnock).
 38385 Pte. J. Noble, North'd Fus. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).
 M/301384 Pte. W. J. Nodes, A.S.C. (Bayswater).
 M2/082349 Pte. F. J. Nolan, A.S.C. (Bermondsey).
 12437 Pte. P. Nolan, S. Gds. (King's Norton).
 29558 Sjt. E. Norman, R.G.A. (Guernsey).
 8150 Pte. M. Norman, Labour Corps (Leeds).
 23969 Pte. R. A. Norman, L'pool R. (St. Helens).
 162315 Gnr. A. E. Norris, R.G.A. (Leeds).
 33862 Pte. J. Norris, N. Lan. R. (Cheltenham).
 G/65325 Cpl. B. G. North, R. Fus. (Balham).
 35390 Sjt. T. North, R.F.A. (Huddersfield).
 280212 Sjt. A. Nunn, R.G.A. (Thetford).
 25833 Cpl. (L./Sjt.) W. Nutt, Som. L.I. (Taunton).
 14530 Sjt. W. Nuttall, R. Lan. R. (Bamber Bridge).
 62916 Sjt. G. L. O'Donnell, R.F.A. ([E] Pembroke Dock).
 33399 A./L./C. F. Ogden, Manch. R. (Oldham).
 DM2/134644 Pte. H. Ogden, A.S.C. (Sleaford).
 15117 Pte. (L./C.) J. J. Ogilvie, S. Gds. (Lambeth).
 6060 Sjt. (A./Coy. S.M.) J. O'Hara, E. Lan. R. (Preston).
 13976 Pte. J. O'Hara, R.S. Fus. (London).
 R/13761 Pte. (L./C.) B. O'Leary, K.R.R.C. (Cork).
 31862 Pte. P. J. O'Neill, R.A.M.C. (Dublin).
 41051 Pte. J. R. Ord, M.G. Corps (Wingate).
 48935 Pte. L. R. Orme, L'pool R. (Blackburn).
 18361 Sjt. F. Ormsby, Shrops. L.I. (Rochdale).
 D/7879 L./C. R. Orrill, Dn. Gds. (Nuneaton).
 48873 L./C. A. Osborne, Lan. Fus. (Willesden).
 174334 Bomdr. A. O'Shea, R.F.A. (East Grinstead).
 11084 A./Cpl. R. Oswald, H.L.I. (Edinburgh).
 45287 Pte. J. O'Toole, Hrs. (Dublin).
 201162 Pte. E. C. Otter, Linc. R. (Lincoln).
 203226 Pte. S. T. Ottey, Linc. R. (Bestock).
 36191 Pte. A. Ough, Leic. R. (Devonport).
 65873 L./C. A. E. G. Packer, M.G. Corps (Berkhamstead).
 10/603 Cpl. F. G. Page, E. York. R. (Hull).
 M2/050856 Pte. W. H. Page, A.S.C. (Folkestone).
 53659 Pte. R. Painter, M.G. Corps (Ealing).
 66647 Whlr. Gnr. R. F. Painter, R.G.A. (Blandford).
 Z/170 Cpl. E. O. Palmer, R. Bde. (Layton).
 M2/115456 Pte. F. E. Palmer, A.S.C. (Upper Holloway).
 36717 Sjt. W. Paramor, D.C.M., R.F.A. (Devonport).
 311000 Spr. F. Parfitt, R.E. (Dorking).
 30184 Cpl. T. J. Parfitt, R.G.A. (Ashford).
 120553 Cpl. A. Park, R.E. (Benton).
 34927 Pte. G. S. Park, R. Scots (Cowdenbeath).
 12087 Cpl. A. Parker, R. Fus. (Ashford).
 474689 Spr. A. Parker, R.E. (Derby).
 106666 Cpl. C. Parker, R.E. (Howden).
 82139 Pte. E. Parker, M.G. Corps (Hackney).
 275426 Sjt. G. Parker, Manch. R. (Hulme).
 11709 Pte. I. Parker, M.G. Corps (Colne, Lancs.).
 9605 Pte. P. Parker, L'pool R. (Liverpool).
 28651 Pte. T. Parker, R.S. Fus. (Glasgow).
 Ch/19537 Cpl. (A./L./Sjt.) G. W. Parkes, R.M.L.I. (Ilford).
 24264 Cpl. P. Parrish, R.F.A. (Linfield).

THE TOWN OF SAINT-JAN-CAPPEL 1918

Saint-Jan-Cappel (*Cappel meaning old chapel*) is a small town situated north of Bailluel in Monts De Landre, French Flanders. It was used by the allies as a military base during most of the war. The War Diaries confirm that the forces had use of a hospital in this area. The village was also used as a rest and relief area for soldiers in the Flanders area of the front.

At the beginning of 1918 the Russians had withdrawn from the war and this released German soldiers from the eastern front. In the March the Germans launched the Kaiserschlacht (Kaiser's Battle or to be correct Kaiser's Massacre as Kaiserschlacht actually says in German) in the hope of reaching the coast and surrounding the allied forces. The main operation, Michael, was launched in the Somme area. This quickly made great gains towards Amiens. In an effort to defend Amiens and half the German advance, General Haig rushed troops from the Flanders area thus weakening the front.

On the 9th April the Germans launched a second offensive, Georgette, in the Flanders area, with the hope of taking advantage of the depleted allied front. The aim was to run through the Hazebrouck area towards the sea, separating the allied troops from the coast and severing the supply lines.

Over the next few days the Germans made rapid advances and Saint-Jan-Cappel came under heavy bombardment, necessitating the evacuation of the town. The town was severely bombed and almost completely destroyed.

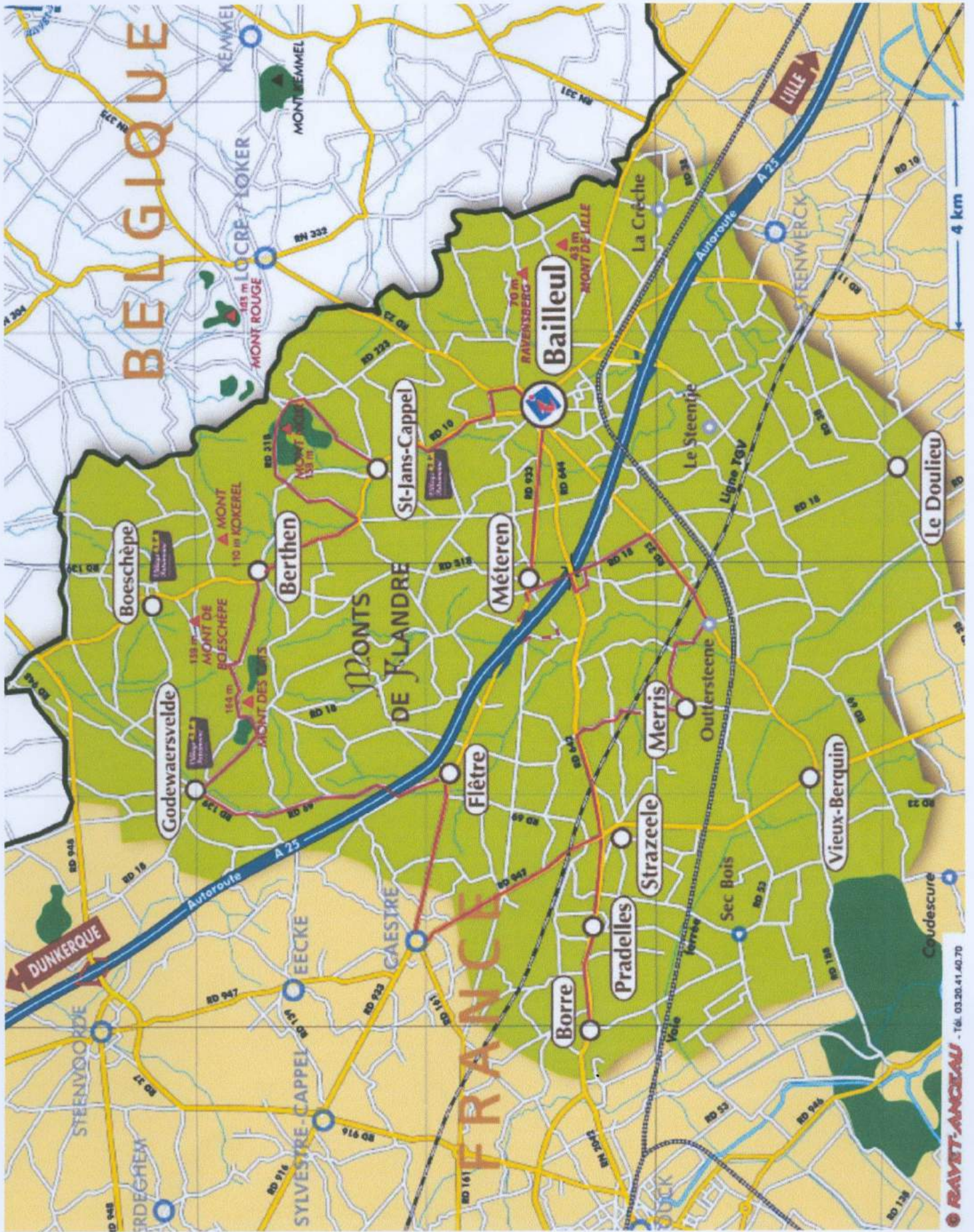
Fortunately General Haig saw the danger and persuaded the French to rush troops into the area. The German advance was finally halted. This was to be the last major offensive conducted by the Germans.

It took over 10 Years to rebuild Saint-Jan-Cappel.



Reference Source: A Moody: <http://en.calameo.com/books003376332744ba21bb26>
 Battle of Lys –https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Lys%281918%29 and –
<http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history-of-the-lys-begins>
 Operation Georgette –
[Http://www.wcgc.org/spring1918/content.asp?menuid=35&submenuid=&menuname='Georgette'%20overview&menu=subsub](http://www.wcgc.org/spring1918/content.asp?menuid=35&submenuid=&menuname='Georgette'%20overview&menu=subsub)
 Also: Spring Offensive (Kaiserschlacht) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spring_Offensive
 Operation Michael -
<http://www.cwgc.org/spring1918/content.asp?Menuid=34&submenuid=35&id=84&menuname=Operation+Michael&menu=subsub>

Saint-Jens-Cappel



*Robert Nicholson responded to the call and signed on aged 35 years 8 months. (Reference enlisting papers enclosed)
 Newspaper copy reference source: Dennis Headlem
 (Member of the Headlem Stockton Clock making family)

FREDERICK NATTRASS BOY
 SECONDARY SCHOOL
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 Price 2s. per dozen of each date (round dozens only, not assorted). List of dates on foot of last page.

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A.D. 1914 A.D.

WAR WITH GERMANY

NO REPLY TO BRITISH ULTIMATUM. FRANCE, RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA-HUNGARY INVOLVED

The United Kingdom is now at war with Germany. In accordance with our obligations under the Treaty of 1839, the British Government informed Germany that, unless German troops were immediately withdrawn from Belgium, a State of War would be deemed to exist. No reply has been received from Berlin; so war has come.

A FATEFUL DECISION

It is no secret that the German invasion of Belgium has provided a solution to the internal dissensions of our own Cabinet. That body has been in almost constant session for some days, and several Ministers were known to be against any Continental war. It has only recently been disclosed that Staff talks with the French have put us under an obligation to defend the north and west coasts of France from German attack. The Foreign Secretary (Sir Edward Grey) has made proposal after proposal for the peaceful settlement of points of dispute; but all have been brushed aside by the Germans. Germany, therefore, stands clear as an aggressor, with Austria-Hungary only a little less guilty.

The Royal Navy has been fully prepared for many weeks, and the First Lord of the Admiralty (Mr Winston Churchill) has kept the Reserve Fleet in being instead of dispersing it after its recent exercises. Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., has assumed supreme command of the Home Fleets with Rear-Admiral Charles E. Madden, C.V.O., as his Chief of Staff. The Prime Minister (Mr Asquith) has given up the office of Secretary of State for War, and Lord Kitchener has succeeded him. An Expeditionary Force is to be sent to France and Belgium within a few days. The Royal Proclamation is printed overleaf. Many thousands of recruits are needed by both Services, and all able-bodied young men should volunteer at once.

YOUR KING & COUNTRY NEED YOU

A Call to Arms

An addition of 100,000 men to His Majesty's Regular Army is immediately necessary in the present grave National Emergency

Lord Kitchener is confident that this appeal will be at once responded to by all those who have the safety of our Empire at heart

TERMS OF SERVICE

General Service for a period of 3 years or until the war is concluded

Age of Enlistment between 19 and 30

HOW TO JOIN. Full information can be obtained at any Post Office in the Kingdom or at any Military depot.

God Save The King

MEN OF THE MOMENT

We publish below a new portrait of Field Marshal Lord Kitchener now War Minister, alongside a cartoon dated 1900 of Mr Winston Spencer Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty. (The cartoon was entitled "A Promising Child".)



RECENT LEADING EVENTS

- 28 June. Assassination at Sarajevo of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria by Gavrilo Princip. This young Bosnian was the agent of the Serbian Union or Death Society (the Black Hand), a terrorist organization.
- 20 July. Visit to St Petersburg of the President (M. Poincaré) and the Prime Minister (M. Viviani) of France.
- 23 July. Austrian 48-hour ultimatum to Serbia. It demanded a Serbian apology for the assassination, suppression of anti-Austrian publications, dismissal of officials alleged to be unfriendly to Austria, and punishment of the assassin and his abettors.
- 25 July. Austrian assurances to Russia that no Serbian territory would be annexed. French assurances to Russia of firm support.
- 26 July. International conference to settle Austro-Serb dispute proposed by Sir Edward Grey. This was accepted by France and Russia and rejected by Germany and Austria-Hungary.
- 28 July. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.
- 29 July. General Russian mobilization ordered by the Czar.
- 31 July. 12-hour ultimatum by Germany to Russia, demanding cessation of military preparations on the Russo-German frontier.
- 1 August. Germany declared war on Russia.
- 2 August. Germany invaded Luxembourg.
- 3 August. Germany declared war on France, on the flimsy pretext of frontier violations. Germany invaded Belgium. British ultimatum to Germany.
- 4 August. United Kingdom declared war on Germany.

A RUMOUR DENIED

The Press Bureau authorizes us to state that there is no truth whatever in the rumour that Russian soldiers have landed in or passed through Great Britain on their way to France or Belgium.

STOP PRESS NEWS

Board of Admiralty regrets to announce H.M. Ships *Aboukir* (Capt. J. E. Drummond, R.N.), *Hog* (Capt. W. S. Nicholson, R.N.), & *Cressy* (Capt. R. W. Johns, R.N.) sunk by enemy submarines.

Can there be peace in Ireland?

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

FOR more than fifty years Irish affairs have bedevilled English politics, and it is one of the ironies of history that the country that has proved itself so pre-eminently suited to the task of bringing peace and prosperity to so large a portion of the earth's surface should have failed to bring unity and contentment to its own nearest neighbour. Since 1801 Ireland has been part of the United Kingdom, but many Irishmen have regarded this as highly undesirable. Home Rule could have been granted at almost any time since 1850 if all Irishmen could have agreed among themselves. But Ireland is deeply divided. The agricultural and Roman Catholic South wants independence, the industrial and Protestant North does not. The minority claims that the majority would oppress it.

THE HOME RULE BILL

The Parliament Act of 1911 was passed with the help of Irish Nationalist votes, and their price was Home Rule. In April 1912 Mr Asquith honoured his obligations and introduced a Home Rule Bill into the House of Commons. This provided for a bicameral Parliament for Ireland, but with continued representation at Westminster. After Party demonstrations of the wildest kind this Bill was twice passed by the Commons and twice rejected by the Lords. It was passed for the third time by the Commons on 26 May this year, and, under the Parliament Act, it only required the Royal Assent to become law. Opposition to this Bill was intense in Ulster, and a brilliant leader was found in Sir Edward Carson, K.C., M.P. He coined the slogan "Ulster will fight and Ulster will be right"; and in trenchant fashion he proceeded to expose the Bill's principal weakness, viz., that it proposed to expel Ulster from the United Kingdom against the wishes of the majority of Ulstermen. On 28 September 1912 a Covenant was signed in Belfast pledging resistance to Home Rule, and by December 100,000 Ulster Volunteers had

been raised, most of them armed. A Provisional Government was set up.

SIR EDWARD CARSON'S POPULARITY

The enormous influence of Sir Edward Carson can be measured from this eye-witness account of his visit to Belfast on 12 July (Orange Day) this year. "Countless Union Jacks were displayed in every village along both shores of the Lough. Every vessel at anchor, including the gigantic White Star liner *Britannic*, was dressed; every fog-horn bellowed a welcome; the multitude of men at work in the great Shipyards crowded to places commanding a view of the incoming packet, waved handkerchiefs, and raised cheers for Sir Edward; fellow-passengers jostled each other to get a sight of him as he went down the gangway and to give him a parting cheer from the deck; the dock sheds were packed with people, many of them bareheaded, and barefooted women also pressed close with the hope of touching his hand or of hearing one of his kindly and humorous greetings. On landing, Sir Edward addressed a mass meeting and said: 'I will give the Government the alternatives: Give us a clear cut for Ulster or come and fight us. In a very short time, unless they are prepared to leave us alone, we will recognize the Provisional Government and no other Government.'

A RAY OF HOPE

Meanwhile the Southern Irish have also been arming. The National Volunteers have been gun-running, and there was a clash with the Army near Dublin on 27 July. A Speaker's Conference has been held, but it has failed to reach agreement. The only ray of hope appears, as we go to press, from an unexpected quarter. The wanton declaration of war by Germany has rallied all Irishmen to the Crown. Sir Edward Carson has called on all Ulstermen to fight the Germans, and Mr John Redmond, the Nationalist leader, said yesterday: "The coasts of Ireland will be defended from foreign invasion by our armed sons. For this purpose Nationalist Catholics in the South will be only too glad to join hands with armed Protestant Ulstermen in the North." All men of good will must hope that this war-time unity of purpose will persist in Ireland after victory has been won.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

St Paul's Cathedral is in danger. So much stonework has been corroded by London air that the Dean and Chapter are appealing for £70,000. This is for the fabric only, the foundations being left for later consideration.

THE KING—A PROCLAMATION REGARDING THE DEFENCE OF THE REALM

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS by the Law of Our Realm it is Our undoubted prerogative and the duty of all Our loyal subjects acting on Our behalf in times of imminent national danger to take all such measures as may be necessary for securing the public safety and the defence of Our Realm,

And whereas the present state of public affairs in Europe is such as to constitute an immediate national danger,

NOW, THEREFORE, We strictly command and enjoin Our subjects to obey and conform to all instructions and regulations which may be issued by Us or Our Admiralty or Army Council, or any Officer of Our Navy or Army, or any other person acting in Our behalf for securing the objects aforesaid, and not to hinder or obstruct, but to afford all assistance in their power to, any person acting in accordance with any such instructions or regulations or otherwise in the execution of any measures duly taken for securing those objects.

Given at Our Court at BUCKINGHAM PALACE, this Fourth Day of August, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and in the Fifth Year of Our Reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING

A JUST CAUSE

WAR has come. In spite of all that could be done to avert it, in spite of every appeal for arbitration, and in spite of every dictate of reason and common sense, Germany has decided that her will must prevail. France, Russia, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the United Kingdom have been successively attacked or insulted, and it has become obvious to all thinking men that there can be no peace in Europe until the aggressors have been checked. All war is evil and modern science offers to every combatant weapons more terrible than any used before. The results in human misery may well be horrifying. Already hundreds of thousands of young men have been torn from home, farm, factory, and office to fight their countries' battles.

There are, however, worse things even than war and the people of our own land can enter upon this conflict with a clear conscience. We have been reluctant to fight, but we shall not easily swerve from the course of honour. We shall not lightly sheathe the sword that we have not lightly drawn. The KAISER, Europe's evil genius, has referred to our Expeditionary Force as a "contemptible little army", but we would remind the All-Highest of words written of old by a wiser man than him: "Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off." Time will tell, but already the KING and people of this realm have but one purpose: Victory.

More Suffragette Outrages

Westminster Abbey and the British Museum are the latest scenes of Suffragette violence. At the Abbey a bomb exploded with such force that it damaged the Coronation Chair and Stone and the wall of the Edward the Confessor Chapel. At the British Museum a woman, armed with a hatchet, broke 10 large square panes of glass in a cabinet in the Asiatic Saloon and did some damage to a piece of porcelain. This was accompanied by the cry of "Votes for Women!"

HERE AND THERE

News in Brief

Mr M. K. Ghandi has left South Africa for India. General Smuts, Colonial Secretary, has promised that the law regarding Asiatics will be enforced fairly and with due regard to vested interests.

In 1913 the crude birth-rate was 24 per 1,000 and the crude death-rate 14.

The enlarged Kiel Canal has now been opened for traffic. It will enable Germany to move her largest battleships between the North Sea and the Baltic without running the risk of infringing Danish or Norwegian neutrality.

Sir Almoth Wright's vaccine treatment for pneumonia is being successfully used by the gold miners of the Rand.

The effigy of Mr G. Bernard Shaw has been placed in Madame Tussaud's.

OBITUARIES

Lord Roberts

FREDERICK, first Earl ROBERTS of Kandahar, Pretoria, and Waterford ("Bobs" to many thousands of British soldiers) was born at Cawnpore in India on 30 September 1832. He was educated at Eton and Sandhurst, and in December 1851 was gazetted to the Bengal Artillery in the old East India Company's service. He saw a good deal of fighting in India, and during the Indian Mutiny was awarded the Victoria Cross for saving the life of a sowar and for capturing one of the mutineers' standards. In 1868 he was sent to Abyssinia as Quarter-Master-General to Sir Robert Napier. He was soon back in India, however, and in 1880 his brilliant march to Kandahar in Afghanistan earned him the G.C.B. and a baronetcy. From 1885 to 1893 he was Commander-in-Chief, India, and in 1892 he was created a baron. On his return to England he was made a Field Marshal and in 1895 became Commander-in-Chief, Ireland.

Four years later the Boer War broke out, beginning with a series of defeats for British arms. In December 1899 Roberts was sent out to South Africa with Lord Kitchener as his Chief of Staff, and the war rapidly took a more favourable turn. His predecessor, Sir Redvers Buller, had relied too much on regular British infantry, but Roberts encouraged local levies of mounted men, gladly accepted cavalry units from Australia and Canada, greatly increased the numbers of other horsemen, and allowed Kitchener to reform the transport system. Early in 1900 he advanced from Cape Colony into the Orange Free State. On 13 February Bloemfontein was occupied, on 31 May Johannesburg, and on 5 June Pretoria. This wonderful campaign brought the set fighting to an end, and Roberts returned to England, an earldom, and a K.G., leaving Kitchener to complete the war. This took rather longer than had been anticipated.

Roberts was made Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, but he was strangely ineffective. The position itself was abolished in February 1904, and Roberts retired from the Committee of Imperial Defence in November 1905. The remainder of his life, as our readers will know, was spent in advocating conscription and in warning his countrymen of the danger from Germany. He became President of the National Service League, but his arguments made little impression on Mr Haldane, the Secretary of State for War since 1906.



He was the only man ever to be a K.G., a V.C., and an O.M.; and he will long be remembered as an able soldier, a loyal colleague, a popular commander, and a fine Christian gentleman.

Mr Chamberlain

THE RT HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN was born at Camberwell on 8 July 1836, the son of a wealthy Unitarian boot and shoe manufacturer. He was educated at University College School, but at the age of 16 he entered his father's business. In 1854 he was sent to Birmingham and later became a partner in the screw-making firm of his relative, Mr Nettlefold. Thus began his long connexion with that great city. In 1869 he was elected to the Birmingham City Council, and in 1870 became a member of the first School Board. He was Mayor of Birmingham from 1874 to 1876 and initiated such civic advances as the provision of gas works, waterworks, sewage, houses, free libraries, and art galleries.

In politics he was a thoroughgoing Radical, entering the House of Commons in 1876 as the result of a by-election. John Bright was a colleague of his and he soon became the associate and friend of Sir Charles Dilke. He reorganized the Liberal Party by federating local associations. In 1880 Mr Gladstone recognized his outstanding abilities by appointing him President of the Board of Trade. He disliked the policy of coercion in Ireland and he was instrumental in negotiating the "Kilmainham Treaty" with Parnell. The latter, if released from prison, promised to call off the outrages. Chamberlain was always in favour of relieving General Gordon and objected to the Prime Minister's way of truckling to Germany in the matters of Samoa, Zanzibar, and the East African mainland. In 1886 he voted against the Home Rule Bill, which was defeated by

30 votes. This caused the fall of the Government.

Chamberlain had for some time been more and more antipathetic to Mr Gladstone and, as a Liberal Unionist, became Secretary of State for the Colonies under Lord Salisbury in 1893. This was a post very near to his heart, and he did much useful work. For example, in spite of immense difficulties, he persuaded other colonial Powers to sign the Brussels Convention of 1903, which abolished sugar bounties, thus benefitting the West Indies. Later in the same year he resigned because of the abolition of the war-time duties on foreign wheat and hence of the preferential duties on Imperial wheat. He conducted a campaign for closer Imperial union, but in 1906 he was incapacitated by a paralytic stroke, from which he never recovered.

Always pugnacious in politics, he was the kindest of men in his private life, and he endeared himself to the public by such mannerisms as the constant wearing of an orchid in his buttonhole. He was three times married. In 1861 he married Miss Harriet Kenrick. She died in 1863 and in 1868 he married her cousin, Miss Florence Kenrick, who died in 1875. In 1888 he married an American lady, Miss Mary Endicott. By his first wife he had a son Austen, and by his second wife a son, Neville.

Sir John Tenniel

SIR JOHN TENNIEL was born in Kennington on 28 February 1820. As a youth he studied at various art schools and became a close friend of Charles Keane. In 1836 he exhibited at the Society of British Artists and in the following year (when still only 17) at the Royal Academy. In 1848 he illustrated an edition of Aesop's *Fables*. This attracted the attention of Mark Lemon, Editor of *Punch*, and in 1850 he joined the staff of that paper. From 1862 onwards he contributed a weekly cartoon, usually with a political theme, and in 1864 succeeded John Leach as first cartoonist. His last contribution appeared on 2 January 1901. In 1893 he was knighted, a rare honour for one of his profession. His cartoons were never vulgar or scurrilous, but he pierced his victims with shafts of exquisite wit and humour. His most famous picture was probably "Dropping the Pilot" (1890), which showed the Kaiser dismissing Bismarck. He never used models or even natural objects for his drawings. Of his book illustrations, those which he did for *Alice in Wonderland* (1865) and for *Through the Looking-Glass* (1872) will surely win him imperishable fame.

THE THEATRE

"Pygmalion"

BY

George Bernard Shaw

The Pygmalion of this play is Professor Henry Higgins, a philologist, and his Galatea is a flower-girl named Eliza Doolittle. Instead of carving her from stone, he takes her as a "rough diamond" with a Cockney accent and proceeds to cut and polish her into a lady. After six months of this treatment Eliza has acquired a mincing speech with some dreadful lapses, and after twelve months she might pass for a duchess. She then turns on her benefactor and complains that he has ruined her life. As a flower-girl she might have been a useful citizen, but as a society lady she is good for nothing.

This play is not one of Mr Shaw's best. It contains an intolerable deal of verbiage, and it might well be cut by a third. Act I is desultory; Acts II and III are not to be missed on any account; Act IV is dull; and the interest in Act V ceases with the departure of Eliza's father, a dustman. This man is made the instrument of gibes at traditional British morality, but he is an amusing character. In spite of the handicaps imposed by the dramatist, the production is good and the acting is excellent. Mrs Patrick Campbell is altogether delicious as Eliza, while Sir Herbert Tree, as Professor Higgins, gives one of the best performances of his career.

BOOKS RECEIVED

JACK LONDON: *The Valley of the Moon*.
JOSEPH CONRAD: *Chance*.
G. K. CHESTERTON: *The Flying Inn*.
HORACE ANNESLEY VACHELL: *Quinneys*.
"SAKI": *Beasts and Super-Beasts*.

SPORT

CRICKET

This year's County Championship was won by Surrey for the first time since 1899. The University Match ended in a win for Oxford by 194 runs. It is feared that the war will seriously interfere with first-class cricket.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

The F.A. Challenge Cup Final between Burnley and Liverpool at the Crystal Palace was witnessed by His Majesty the King. This is the first time that such a match has been honoured by the presence of a reigning monarch.

DEATH OF THE POPE

Our Rome Correspondent informs us of the death of Pope Pius X. Born in 1835 as Guiseppe Melchior Sarto, he was elected Pope in 1903. His term of office will be chiefly remembered for the French Government's secularization of Church property and schools in 1905 and for his condemnation in 1907 of the Modernist doctrines of such men as Loisy and Houtin. He also made many administrative reforms inside the Vatican. His most probable successor appears to be Cardinal della Chiesa, Archbishop of Bologna.

DEVELOPMENT IN WEST AFRICA NORTH AND SOUTH NIGERIA AMALGAMATED

Lagos

Britain's West African territories of Northern and Southern Nigeria have from 1 January been combined in the single Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria. Sir Frederick Lugard becomes Governor, with the seat of his administration at Lagos.

The amalgamation of these two territories has been foreseen since 1912, when Sir Frederick Lugard was made Governor of both Administrations. The new Nigeria is a country four times the size of the United Kingdom, with an unhealthy climate and a primitive population; its chief value lies in the palm oils and ground nuts which are exported for use in manufacturing soap and margarine.

A feature of the new Administration is the creation of the Nigerian Council. In addition to the Governor and the members of the Executive Council, this contains a number of unofficial members whom the Governor nominates, and who include Africans as well as Europeans. The Nigerian Council has no legislative power, but gives expression to public opinion.

The choice of Sir Frederick Lugard as Governor (he will bear the personal title of Governor-General) is a guarantee of a continued progressive and humane policy towards the natives. Sir Frederick will be remembered as the originator of the system of Indirect Rule, by which native chiefs are confirmed in office and rule, with British advice and supervision, according to their own tribal customs, so far as these do not conflict with civilized ideas of justice and humanity. Back-

PANAMA CANAL OPENED

A Vital Link

The Panama Canal is now open for traffic, although its formal opening has been postponed. This concludes a long chapter in the history of Central America. The project for a canal was first mooted in the sixteenth century, but engineering science was not sufficiently far advanced for such a difficult undertaking. In 1850 the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty was signed between the United Kingdom and the United States of America, by which both Powers agreed not to obtain or maintain any exclusive control of the proposed canal and to guarantee its neutrality. Before the revolution of 1903 Panama was part of Colombia, and in 1870 the Colombian Government granted rights to Ferdinand de Lesseps, the celebrated builder of the Suez Canal. De Lesseps organized a company in France, and in 1880 work was begun on a sea-level canal. This company failed in 1889 and its successor, floated in 1894, likewise failed in 1899. In 1901 the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty between the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. gave the latter Power the sole right of construction. In 1903 the new country of Panama granted the U.S.A. the perpetual lease of a zone 5 miles wide on each side of the future canal. The U.S.A. paid £2,000,000 and still pays £62,500 per annum.

THE NEW CANAL

In 1907 Lt General George W. Goethals was appointed chief engineer and work began with great energy. The chief obstacle was malaria and, without the discoveries of Sir Ronald Ross about the mosquito, the Americans would have been helpless in the face of huge mortality. An efficient sanitary system and a pure water supply were installed and an elaborate code of health rules was strictly enforced. Another difficulty was landslides. More than once these blocked the Culebra Cut, which runs through the mountain backbone of the Isthmus of Panama. The Canal

ward peoples are thus educated in the principles of administration, so that they may eventually be able to assume the government of their own countries. But for Nigeria that is still a distant prospect.

Other "A.D.s" are: A.D. 1588, 1605, 1642, 1666, 1689, 1704, 1746, 1774, 1789, 1805, 1815, 1837, 1848, 1901, 1914 and more are in preparation. Your suppliers will take a standing order for each new "A.D." The "A.D.s" are on the London and Kent Book Lists and can be requisitioned (in round dozens of each date) like ordinary text books.

is just over 50 miles long, almost the whole of it above sea level. There are 12 locks each 1,000 feet long, and through these locks ships are towed at the rate of 2 m.p.h. by electric "mules" (small locomotives). The Miraflores Lock is 54 feet 8 inches above sea level and the Gatun Lock is 85 feet above sea level. The tolls are 5s. 0d. (\$1.20) per net ton for laden ships and 3s. 0d. (72 cents) for ships in ballast.

SOME SHORTER ROUTES

The principal value of the Canal will probably lie in stimulating trade between the east and west coasts of North America. New York, for example, will now be no less than 7,873 miles nearer San Francisco. The distance by sea from the west coasts of both North and South America to Europe will be much reduced, and it will become an economic proposition to ship wheat from Vancouver to Liverpool. The distance between England and New Zealand (not Australia) will be shortened by some 900 miles. It places the West Indies once more on a great highway of shipping. In time of war it will enable the United States to concentrate the U.S. Navy in either the Atlantic or the Pacific. It remains to be seen what other effects the Canal may have on international trade and politics.

ANOTHER DISASTER AT SEA

Liner Sinks in Ten Minutes

At 1.45 a.m. yesterday the Canadian Pacific mail steamer *Empress of Ireland*, bound from Quebec for Liverpool, was rammed and sunk by the Norwegian collier *Storstad*. The liner sank like a stone and no less than 1,023 lives were lost. This terrible accident occurred in the River St Lawrence, 20 miles east of Father Point.

RELATED RECOGNITION

After 150 years' careful consideration the War Office has given permission for the Black Watch and the King's Royal Rifle Corps to bear on their Colours the distinction "North America, 1763-64" in recognition of their services rendered during the war against the Red Indians.

To The South Pole SHACKLETON SAILS AGAIN

Sir Ernest Shackleton has left for the South. He proposes to cross Antarctica from the Weddell Sea to the Ross Sea, taking the South Pole *en route*. This will be the longest Polar journey ever undertaken, a distance of 1,700 miles over ice at a high altitude and the first 700 miles will be in an absolutely unexplored region. He has with him 105 Canadian dogs which will haul sledges.

PRICES AND PRODUCTION IN 1913

Our Industrial Correspondent writes: Figures published by the Board of Trade show that in 1913 wholesale prices were 18 per cent higher than in 1900. In London the 4 lb. loaf cost 5½d. Retail food prices were 11.6 per cent higher than in 1900, retail clothes prices 17.4 per cent higher, and agricultural wages 14.2 per cent higher. The following percentages of agricultural products came from within the United Kingdom: eggs, 65; butter, 40; cheese, 20; pig meat, 76; wheat and flour, 21; barley, 58; oats, 79; beans, 72; beef and veal, 61; mutton and lamb, 54; milk, 95. Steel output was 7,600,000 tons, less than one-seventh of it by Bessemer converters. New ships were exported to the value of £11,000,000 besides 488,000 tons of second-hand ships of unknown value.

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

The Eugene Sandow Machine will give you strength to fight your battles of life for years to come. Price 12s. 6d. Apply to the Sandow Health Institute.

Cook-General wanted. Board, lodging, laundry, and £50 p.a. Apply: Mrs. Strong, Bryanston Square, W.

"My Valet" cleaning and dyeing service presses and repairs clothes within 24 hours. Gentlemen's wardrobes kept in complete order for 12s. 6d. per month. No restrictions as to quantity.

Beautiful Hair. Ladies, enhance the beauty of your hair by using Hinde's Hair Curlers. From all Chemists and Hairdressers.

The Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street. 500 bedrooms. Luncheons 2s. 6d. Special 5-course table d'hôte dinners, 3s. 6d. Private rooms for club dinners and other functions.

Girl, eager to do something, would be delighted to write letters to any one going to the front, who will perhaps not get many. Apply Box A.2986.



This is Robert standing on the left back with a cigarette in his mouth. He has two stripes so likely a Corporal and before receiving his Military Medal when he was made a Sergeant. He is wearing riding boots. It was taken somewhere in France. Compared to him, who was nearly 36 when he joined, it is noticeable how very young most of the soldiers look. Did his advanced years and life experiences help him to Manage 235 Army Troop Company of the Royal Engineers any better in these terrible times?

Here is Robert again on the right, somewhere in France.
The gentleman on his left looks very much like the
soldier second from the right on the previous shot.





On the back of the picture postcard is written:

"One of my Pals, Corporal Wilson. A Middlesbro youth and a very decent chap. He is our Mess Corporal"

Would be good to know something more about him and perhaps identify his current family. Maybe someone will have some news to share and develop!

SOME OF ROBERT'S DAMAGED WW1 BRITISH ARMY SERVICE RECORDS

The **British Army World War One Service Records** are **War Office (WO)** records also known as the **WO363 records** and the '**Burnt Documents**'. In 1940 there was a World War Two bombing raid on the War Office in London where the records were held. During this raid, a large portion (approximately 60 per cent) of the 6.5 million records were destroyed by fire. The surviving service records have been known as the '**Burnt Documents**'.

Although many of these records suffered water damage following the bombing raid, all surviving service and pension records were microfilmed by The National Archives, where both collections are held as part of a major TNA conservation project.

Ref.<http://ww1photos.com/AncestrySoldiersRecords.html>

Summer
2014

lifeline

YOUR SUPPORT

YOUR RED CROSS

YOUR WORLD

FRANCE
ITALY
MALTA
GIBRALTAR
SALONIKA

EGYPT
MESOPOTAMIA
HOLLAND
SWITZERLAND
RUSSIA



**WORLD WAR ONE -
90,000 VOLUNTEERS,
ONE REMARKABLE
LEGACY**

The role of the Red Cross
in the First World War

**HOW NURSES WOULD HAVE DRESSED WHEN
ROBERT WAS IN HOSPITAL IN 1916!**

Refusing to ignore people in crisis

FORM B. 103
Casualty Form—Active Service.Regiment or Corps 235th Army Troops Co. R. E.Regimental No. 131633 Rank Captain Name Nicholson RobertEnlisted (a) 6-10-15 Terms of Service (a) D. of War Service reckoned from (a) 6-10-15Date of promotion to present rank } 1-2-18 Date of appointment to lance rank } 1-2-18 Numerical position on roll of N.C.O.s. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc. during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form A. 36, or official documents.
Date	From whom received				
26.5.16.	OC 235 th A.T. Coy.	Admitted to Hospital	on Service	23.5.16	B213 Pt II 0 No 9 d
2.6.16	—	Rejoined unit from Hospital	—	30.5.16	B213 Pt II 0 No 1
24/8	—	awarded the "Military Medal" Authy: London Gazette O.S.		29/10/18	13
		14 days leave to			
		Despatched to U.K.			
		Date: 21.2.19			

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars (b) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

0854

HOW NURSES DRESSED IN EARLY 50'S AT STOCKTON AND THORNABY HOSPITAL.

Robert is second from the left.



ROBERT HAD A SHORT STAY IN HOSPITAL

... please drop this Certificate in a Post Office letter box.

Army Form Z. 11.

"This document is Government property. It is no security for debt, and any Person being in possession of it, either as a pledge or security for debt, or lawful authority or excuse, is liable under Section 166 (9) of the Army Act to a fine of twenty pounds or imprisonment for six months, or to both fine and imprisonment."

PROTECTION CERTIFICATE AND CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY

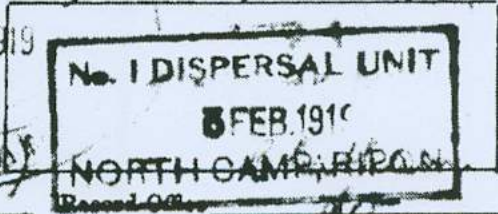
(SOLDIER NOT REMAINING WITH THE COLOURS)

Dispersal Unit Stamp and date of dispersal.

Surname
(Block letters)

NICHOLSON

- 5 FEB 1919



Christian Names

Robert
131632

Regtl. No.

S. A. T. Coy

Rank

R. E.

Unit

Regt. or Corps

Record Office: *Grassington Arms*

I have received an advance of £2.

† Address for

Beckton on Tees

(Signature of Soldier)

Francis

The above-named soldier is granted 28 days' furlough from the date stamped hereon pending (as far as can be ascertained) which will date from the last day of furlough after which date uniform will not be worn except upon occasions authorized by Army Orders.

Theatre of War or Command

1890

Born in the Year

A

Medical Category

Shannon

Place of rejoining in case of emergency

Specialist Military Qualification

* If for Final Demobilization insert 1.
Disembodiment insert 2.
Transfer to Reserve insert 3.

† As this is the address to which pay and discharge documents will be sent unless further notification is received, any change of address must be reported at once to the Record Office and the Pay Office as noted above, otherwise delay in settlement will occur.

Rob. Nichol

This Certificate must be produced when applying for an Unemployed Sailor's and Soldier's Donation Policy or, if demanded, whenever applying for Unemployment benefit.

Date

5/2/19

Office of Issue

NORTH CAMP, RIPON

Policy issued No

2084232

(3)

0856

with the Colours
 in this Form should be not
 a Disability due to Military
 service to this effect in the presence
 with which he is suffering, who will witness the
 claim is made or not. This Form will be forwarded
 in the case of every Officer direct to the Secretary,
 in the case of every Soldier, to the Record Office of his Unit.

If the Officer or Soldier has previously been
 discharged from the Army, Royal Navy or the
 Royal Air Force, he will state
 (a) Former Regiments or Corps with Regi-
 mental Number

NAME OLSON
 (Block letters.)

Christian Names in full { ROBERT } (b) Dates of discharge

Permanent address BRASSFINISHERS ARMS
STOCKTON ON TEES (c) Causes of discharge
 (d) Particulars of Pension or Gratuity received
 (if any)

Age last birthday 39 years

First joined (Date) 6. 10. 1915 at (Place) Middleborough

Medical Category or Grade in which joined A

TO BE CANCELLED
 IF A CLAIM IS MADE

I do not claim to be suffering from a disability due to my military service.

Place of Examination Field Signature of Officer or Soldier
Walker

Date 27th Jan'y 1919 Signature of Officer witnessing

Before the claimant answers questions 1-8 the following should be read by, or to, him:-
 "Your statement will be checked by Official Records. In answering question 2, any special
 matters which in your opinion caused or aggravated any disability which you are suffering
 must be clearly stated."
 The claimant will answer the questions in his own words and after completing the form will sign it.
 The Officer will witness the signature. If the claimant cannot write, he will affix his mark, such as
 being witnessed.

THIS PORTION IS NOT TO BE COMPLETED IF A CLAIM IS NOT MADE.

- (a) In what countries have you served during this war and for what periods?
 (b) In what capacity?
- If you are suffering from any disease, wound or injury, state what it is, the date upon which it started, and what in your opinion was the cause of it.
 (If more space is required a sheet of foolscap should be used and attached firmly to this form.)
- Give the names of any Hospitals in which you have been treated for the above disabilities during this war.
- Did you suffer from the disease or injury mentioned in above answer to Question 2, or anything like it before joining the Army? If so, give details and dates.
- Give the names and addresses (if you know them) of any Hospitals you were in or Doctors who attended you before you joined the Army.
- Give the name of your National Health Approved Society and, if possible, your membership number.

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
NICHOLSON	P.G.	Sgt	86833
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	PA/101	846	9772
BURTON	do	do	do
STAR	PA/2 A2	228	
Theatre of War first served in	07		
Date of entry therein	3-8-15		

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
NICHOLSON	R.E. (M.D.)	Sgt	1862650
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	do	do	do
BURTON	do	do	do
STAR	do	do	do
Theatre of War first served in	Egypt 21/1/1919		
Date of entry therein			

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
NICHOLSON	R.G.	Sgt	131632
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	R.G./101	340	14954
BURTON	do	do	do
STAR	do	do	do
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
NICHOLSON	S. G.D.S.	Sgt	15346
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	SG/101	87	911
BURTON	do	do	do
STAR	do	do	do
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
NICHOLSON	R.G.	Sgt	40982
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	R.G./101	145	4111
BURTON	do	do	do
STAR	do	do	do
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
NICHOLSON	S. G.D.S.	PTE	16375
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	SG/101	87	911
BURTON	do	do	do
STAR	do	do	do
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

