

News from the Front

April 1915

# A DESERTER SINCE JANUARY

A man named Charles E Peacock (31) soldier, of 161 Smith Street, Stockton, was charged at Middlesbrough with being drunk and a deserter from the army since January. It was stated that his wife died on Tuesday. Detective Supt Stones said he telephoned to the commanding officer suggesting that the man might not be sent back until after the funeral, but as yet had no reply. For being drunk he was fined 7s 6d, or seven days. No action was taken to the desertion. Later at the request of Detective Supt Stones, the defendant was allowed out on bail.

## 17th April 1915 Stockton and Thornaby Herald



## Corporal J.H Shipp (11056)

1<sup>st</sup> Grenadier Guards, was killed in action at Neuve Chapelle. He resided at Stockton and worked at the Malleable Ironworks.



# Poison Gas Used On Soldiers

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1915, during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Ypres, poison chlorine gas was used by the German troops for the first time. Losses during the battle are estimated at 59,000 British troops.

An extract from 5<sup>th</sup> Btn Durham Light A.L Infantrv by Raimes savs: For several days there had been fierce fighting for possession of Hill 60, but otherwise the line had been quiet for many weeks. On April 20<sup>th</sup> the Germans began a furious bombardment of Ypres. Many soldiers and civilians were killed, and within a short time Ypres had become a deserted town, except for the few unfortunate troops who had to remain. On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>, about 5pm, the enemy commenced a heavy bombardment of the French section of the salient, and at the same time a strange greenish cloud of vapour gradually rose from the German lines, and propelled by the wind, moved across to where troops holding the French line were waiting in their trenches wondering what this curious cloud portended. They were soon choking and gasping in the gas. Taken by surprise, and without any means of defence, it is not surprising that most of them gave way.

# STOCKTON'S FALLEN

**Sgt John Edward Appleton**, **D.L.I.** Killed in Action 25/04/1915 buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery Belgium

**Stoker George Thomas Illing** Died at home 20/04/1915, buried in Durham Road Cemetery, Stockton.

L/Cpl Charles Edward Grigg, D.L.I. Died 27/04/1915; he is buried at Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery Belgium.

# L/Cpl John Warin, Kings Own Scottish Borderers

Killed in action 26/04/1915. Commemorated on Helles Memorial.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James C. Dennison Brown, D.L.I.

Died of wounds 27/04/1915, buried at Hazerbrouck communal cemetery.

The following men are all commemorated on Ypres Menin Gate memorial Belgium.

Private George Wass, D.L.I. Died 28/04/1915

Private Samuel Tuttle, D.L.I. Died 27/04/1915

Private Thomas Smith, Kings Own Scottish Borderers

Killed in Action at Battle of Hill 60 18/04/1915.

Private Harold Mills, D.L.I Killed in action 25/04/1915

**Private Thomas Reginald Bronsdon, D.L.I.** Killed in action 26/04/1915

Private George Andrew Brown- D.L.I. Died 26/04/1915

Private John Copeland- D.L.I

Died 26/04/1915

Private Stanley Best- D.L.I Died 26/04/1915

Sgt David Bowen- Canadian Infantry Killed in action 29/04/1915

Private Alfred Davies- D.L.I. Died 28/04/1915

Private Charles Leonard Dobson-D.L.I Killed in action 25/04/1915 Private Thomas Henry Green- D.L.I died 26/04/1915



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### Soldiers Cross Country Run

A cross country run is to be held at Stockton tomorrow. A team composed of runners from the first line 5<sup>th</sup> Durham Light Infantry, now stationed Newcastle, in are competing against a team from the 2<sup>nd</sup> line 5<sup>th</sup> Durham's, stationed in Stockton. A considerable amount of interest has been created in this race, as it is the last race the first line will run before embarking on active service. The race is over a 7 mile course (Colonel Spence Championship course). The start is booked for 11:30 from Stockton. The following will represent the first line 5<sup>th</sup> D.L.I:

Lieut. Faber Sgt.Wilks, Pte.Park Cpl.Sarginson, Pte.Medd Pte.Monument, Pte.Mclean Pte.Pounder Col.Thurgill, Pte.Archibold Lance Cpl.Pretty.

*April 9<sup>th</sup> 1915 North Eastern Daily Gazette* 

Stockton-on-Tees

BOROUGH COUNCIL

### How a Lady Proposed

A soldier, who had lost his arm, during his convalescent stage was invited to take afternoon tea, with a lady in Paris. Whilst having tea, the soldier began to laugh for no obvious reason, and the lady asked him why he was laughing "I was laughing because I had tried to use the arm which I have lost" said the soldier. Although it was not a Leap Year, the lady said promptly let me be your other arm. There was an engagement forth-with.

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1915 Stockton and Thornaby Herald



#### **Co-operative Enterprise**

The opening took place on Thursday of Stockton Co-operative Society's new premises. The no. 24 branch in Richardson Road, Stockton. The branch consists of a grocery and confectionary and fruit departments and has cost £2,400. The entire work has been carried out by the society's own staff under the supervision of Mr Robson, the building manager who acted as architect. April 10<sup>th</sup> Stockton and Thornaby Herald

### Stockton Lieutenant Wounded

News has just been received that Lieut. Faber, son of Mr. E. Faber, solicitor of the 5<sup>th</sup> Durham's, has been seriously wounded in the face and head, and that he lies dangerously ill in hospital at Boulogne. He did not leave Tees-side with his regiment until the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. having taken part in a crosscountry race which was reported in this paper earlier this month. On Thursday he went to the firing line, where in the first few days of actual fighting he was knocked out. Much sympathy is felt for the brave Lieutenant, and the hope expressed that he will make a full recovery.

April 28<sup>th</sup> 1915 North Eastern daily Gazette