

SECOND-LIEUT. FREDERICK W. EVANS,

OF THE

21ST MIDDLESEX REGIMENT attached ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

DURING his third period of service at the Front Sec.-Lieut. Frederick W. Evans, of the Middlesex Regiment, attached Royal Flying Corps, was brought down in an aerial combat behind the German lines on May 23rd, 1917, and died in a German Military Hospital on May 26th, 1917.

He was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Evans, of Glen Hill, London, N. W. 11th Hussars, of the glorious charge of the charge of

Born in London on March 12th, 1894, he was educated at the Holloway Coleridge Polytechnic School, and Beckenham, Suffolk, whence he joined his father's firm at Beckenham Green.

A month after the outbreak of War he joined the Queen's West

and the following January left for France where his distinguished conduct in the field won him a recommendation for a commission. In November, 1915, he returned to England, being gazetted as Sec.-Lieutenant to the 21st Middlesex Regiment on the 16th of that month.



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For the second time he proceeded to the Front in June, 1916, returning to England in February, 1917, to train for the Royal Flying Corps, and on May 15th, 1917, he left again for France to act as an observer for three months with the 20th Squadron Royal Flying Corps, after which period he was to return to England to train as a pilot; but a week later the gallant young officer met his earthly end, a message being afterwards dropped into our lines by a German airman stating that Lieut. Evans had "died of wounds," and was buried at Bousberque.

Both in his own Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment and in the Squadron his death is much regretted, a Lieutenant in the former writes :—

"Your son was my platoon Commander Mr. Evans was regarded by us
"all as a very fine young man, a thorough sportsman with an unblemished reputation
"for grit and dash."

Later one who had known Lieut. Evans for over two years and who shared many hardships with him at Loos and Maroc and the fearful winter in the desolate district round Rancourt, wrote :—

"If I achieve as much popularity and affection in my platoon as your son did in
"his I shall be quite satisfied. It may interest you to know that on one occasion
"when your son was given charge of one of these minor enterprises that receive little
"notice in the paper, but which was by no means easy of accomplishment, two men in
"his platoon who were attached to the Quartermaster's Department and who were
"therefore not in the trenches, made a special journey with the ration party to the
"front line to ask the Company Commander if they might take part in the affair and
"go over 'with Mr. Evans.'"

The tragedy of Lieut. Evan's early though glorious death is the greater from the fact that he leaves a widow and infant daughter, having married Miss Esther Irwin on June 3rd, 1916.

A keen athlete and fond of sports of all kinds, he captained the Regimental football team in France.

That indomitable courage which overcomes all obstacles and which is so necessary to the successful soldier and airman was his most striking characteristic. Now his courage has triumphed over even death itself and in that land for ever hallowed by our glorious and blessed dead he sleeps amongst loyal brothers-in-arms.