John Frederick Farrar



Rank: - Captain

Regiment: - West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) 2nd Battalion

Died from Pneumonia: -1st November 1918

Cemetery: - Douai British Cemetery, Cuincy, Nord, France A7

"AND WE IN FAITH AND HONOUR KEEP THAT PEACE FOR WHICH THEY PAID"

Dewsbury District News, 9 Nov 1918

Family Details

John Frederick was born in Batley on the 7th September 1884 the son of Jabez and Sarah Farrar nee Middleton who had married on the 21st January 1880, at All Saints, Church, Normanton. He was baptised at Purlwell Wesleyan Chapel, Batley on October 30th 1884 when the address given was Great Wood Street, Purlwell. Jabez came from Halifax and Sarah from Snydale (Normanton)

The children were all born in Batley, Sarah Ellen 1883, John Frederick, Ethel 1886, Mary 1890 and in 1891 the family was living at 27, Commercial Street, Batley employing a servant, Emma Medlock and Jabez was an ironmonger.

John Frederick attended Batley Parish Church and Wheelwright Grammar Shool, Dewsbury.

A decade later John Frederick had also become an ironmonger and the census shows Edith was born in 1893.

Before 1911 Jabez retired and the family moved to live in a seven roomed home at 2, Rhodes Street, Halifax. Sarah Ellen was an elementary school teacher and John Frederick was an agent for iron-founders.

Jabez died on the 8th December 1916 when the family lived at 30, South Parade, Halifax.

Jabez whilst in Batley was an Ironmonger and ex- President of Batley Tradesman's Association.

Service Details

John Frederick first served abroad on the 12th July 1916 when his regiment was fighting the Battle of Albert on the Somme.

In 1917 the regiment fought at
The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line
The Battle of Pilkem
The Battle of Langemarck
which were phases of the Third Battle of Ypres

In 1918 they fought at
The Battle of St Quentin
The actions at the Somme crossings
The Battle of Rosieres
The actions of Villers-Bretonneux *which were phases of the First Battles of the Somme 1918*
The Battle of the Aisne 1918
The Battle of the Scarpe
The Final Advance in Artois in which the Division captured Douai

John Frederick was admitted to hospital at 62nd Casualty Clearing Station with influenza on the 28th October and died of pneumonia on the 1st November 1918. (His medal card states 2nd)

John Frederick was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial Addenda.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group