

It is feared a local lad has gone down with the ill fated battleship "Formidable". Midshipman John Slingsby, youngest son of the late Rev. C. S. Slingsby, and of Mrs Slingsby (of Farnham Lodge, and formerly of Scriven Hall) was on the battleship at the time of the explosion, and his mother has received a notice from the Admiralty that he is not amongst the list of saved.

10 Deep sympathy will be felt with Mrs Slingsby, who had watched her son's growth from childhood into youth with a true mother's affection and pride. She had placed him on the road to a career, which was his choice, and with boyish ambition he had tried to assure her that he would in time rise to be an Admiral. That his career should be summarily ended almost before it had commenced is one of the tragedies of war. He had hardly completed his education at the Royal Naval Colleges at Osbourne and Dartmouth, and had not yet reached his 17th birthday.

It is just over two years ago that his father, the Rev. C. S. Slingsby, met his death on the hunting field, and it is a coincidence that both tragic events happened on ill-starred Friday. The opening day of the year 1915 will certainly be remembered as an unfortunate one for the British Navy.

The Slingsby family has for generations been connected with the Army and Navy, and a brother and two uncles of Midshipman Slingsby are officers in the army, his brother (Major Thomas Slingsby) having served some years in India.

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CLARO TIMES

6 FEBRUARY 1915

THE RIFLE CLUB

The Claro Rifle Club, which is really a Knaresborough organisation, has had a year of remarkable activity, and has finished with a substantial balance in hand, as well as an increased membership, whilst the prospects for the ensuing year are exceedingly bright. The club was established about thirty years ago, but it has never been brought to the notice of the public so prominently as during the past few months.

30 The war has had a stimulating effect upon the membership, and almost daily members can be seen at the miniature range in the Castle Yard School, at practice with a rifle. When a local Defence League was formed a short time ago, the club was invited to join hands with the League, but its members wisely preferred to keep the old organisation distinctive and separate. A new organisation which comes into being as a result of a wave of enthusiasm is not unlikely to experience a reaction, and pass away with the same rapidity which marked its birth. And if an older association were merged into it, the chances are that it, too, would be carried down to the grave. The Rifle Club, therefore, declined the well meant invitation. Today, the club stands with a credit balance of £33, and a membership of over sixty, which includes several most enthusiastic lady members. In addition to this membership, upwards of thirty members of the Defence League have regular practice on the range, thus adding to the revenue. The members of the club are justly proud of their President, Lieut. Colonel W. F. Collins, who is with the Scots Greys at the front. According to Mr G. E. Arnold, chairman

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of the committee of the Rifle Club, Lieut. Col. Collins (then a major) had an interesting experience in South Africa. He was invalided at Bloemfontein, and received careful attention at the hands of a Canadian nurse, Major Collins got into conversation with the nurse, and to his delight he found she was a Knaresborough girl. She had emigrated to Canada, and had volunteered as a nurse on the outbreak of war.

16 April 1915

KNARESBORO' LADY'S WAR SERVICE

Rural Postman's Duties Filled with Success.

A THIRTEEN MILES' ROUND.

(SPECIAL TO "TIMES AND GUARDIAN")

Much admiration is displayed towards Miss Wood, of Tockwith House, New Scriven, Knaresborough, for the courage and initiative she has shown in volunteering her services in the stead of one of the local postmen, who has enlisted. The old Castle town of
10 Knaresborough has contributed handsomely, in proportion to its population, to the army and the navy, and the shortage of labour is one of the results of the call to arms. Local farmers in particular have experienced much difficulty in getting through their work, and in order to assist them the Knaresborough Rural District Council have agreed to allow some of their workmen to help on the farms in cases of urgency.

This was one of the things which impressed Miss Wood, and when the local post office had advertised for a postman without success, she immediately offered herself for the post.

"I had no idea what my round would be," she said to a "Knaresborough Guardian representative," and when I called at the Post office and made my application, the Post
20 Mistress laughed outright and asked me if I was really serious. 'Certainly,' I replied; 'somebody must do the work and release the man who can fight.' The Postmistress could not give me a definite answer then and there, but when I called the following day, she informed me that the postal officials had agreed to my appointment.

UNSELFISH MOTIVES

"I am not doing this work for what I can get out of it," Miss Wood continued. "It is prompted by a desire to do my little bit in this great crisis, and at the same time let one more man take his place in the righting line. I have a brother who has served fifteen years in the Navy, and only three or four months ago he was granted his long service and good conduct medal. At present he is Chief Engine room Artificer on one of his majesty's battleships.

30 "Were you deterred when you were told that the round was a rural one?" I ventured to ask Miss Wood.

"Not in the least," she answered. "To tell the truth, I was very glad to have got an outside job, because I am fond of the open air. But of course we women who volunteer to do men's work cannot expect to have things all our own way, and I am prepared to sacrifice some comfort."

"My duties begin at 6 o'clock in the morning. First of all I have four pillar boxes to empty, and this takes men about twenty minutes, and another ten minutes is occupied in sorting the letters and parcels. My delivery round is quite thirteen miles, and includes Ferrensby,

Arkendale, and outlying farms, finishing at Shepherd's Wood, near Allerton. I am a good cyclist, and so far I have experienced no difficulty in covering the distance in the scheduled time – 6.30 to 10.30am. Naturally, my appearance with the letters called forth some surprise and comment in the country, but on the whole people were complimentary rather than critical.”

NO TIME FOR WEeping

10 “I am of opinion,” Miss Wood said, “ that women can do a great deal of work which they would never dream of doing in ordinary times, and I personally would not object to farm work. Women must work nowadays, and not weep. I am one who believes in acting and not talking as much. Several weeks ago I was seriously thinking of volunteering to do some sort of local work, and I was glad when I found a channel to do my little bit. I think it is silly for women to shun outdoor life, even farm work. A splendid example of the usefulness of women on the land is set by the Belgian people, but of course their land is now a shambles. Women in this country were happy on the holdings, and there is no reason why certain farm work should not afford even pleasant and certainly healthy occupation for English girls and women. If a boy of eleven or thirteen years of age can be usefully employed on the farm, I am sure women could be more useful, and I would not object to be ordered about as an ordinary employee.”

20 Miss Wood has resided in Knaresborough for eleven years, and has held various offices in connection with the Wesleyan Church, and at the present time she holds the post of reporting secretary for the local branch of the B.W. Temperance Association.

CLARO TIMES

23 April 1915

IMPRESSIVE SERVICE AT KNARESBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH

LADY EVELYN COLLINS AND THE ROYAL SCOT GREYS.

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30 It was appropriate that Major W. F. Collins, who only returned from the front on Tuesday, should attend. Amongst the notable people present were Admiral Sir Francis and lady Bridgeman, Col. Smithson, D.S.O., commanding the second 1st Yorkshire Mounted Brigade); Lieut. Col. E. Stanyforth(2nd First Yorkshire Hussars); Major E. C. Meysay Thompson, M.P., and Mrs Meysey-Thompson; Lady Furness, Lady Enid Vane, Mrs W. G. Charlesworth (Fysch Hall, Knaresborough), Mrs G. Foster and Miss Foster, Major Fordyce (Scots Greys), Lady Ingilby, Mrs Wilmot, Mr A. H. Wilson (Royal Scots Greys), Mrs Wormald (Leethley Hall), Mrs Wilmot Smith (Boroughbridge), Mrs Smith (Bilton Hall), Mrs Slingsby (Farnham Lodge), Mrs Bryde (Kirkman Lodge), Major A. E. Collins (Yorks Hussars), Lady Mountgarret, Mrs Bell (daughter of Col. Stanyforth), Miss Dent (Ribston Hall), Mrs and Dr. Mackay (Knaresborough), and Miss Stables (Scriven).

40 The principal object of the service was to raise money for the Royal Scots Greys' regimental fund for the sick and wounded incapacitated through the war.

CLARO TIMES

7 May 1915

DISTRICT NEWS

KNARESBOROUGH AMBULANCE – The following is a list of subscriptions to the Knaresborough Ambulance. – Miss Tennant £2; Miss Clark 10s; Mr and Mrs Fountain 5s; Mrs Davey 2s.6d; Mrs Gell, 2s.6d; Miss Carter, 2s.6d; Mrs Wetherall, 2s.6d; Mr and Mrs Wallace, 5s; Mrs Mackay, 2s.6d; Mr C. B. Southwell, 5s; Miss Houfe 2s. 6d; Miss Wailey, 2s; Mr H. Stead, 2s. 6d; Mr Alexander, 10s; Mrs Alexander, 10s; Mr Norman Alexander, 5s; Mr and Mrs A. Watson, Beckett's Bank, 10s; Mrs Arthur North, The Close, 1'0s; Mr and Mrs Gott, 10s; Miss Kirby, 5s; Mr. W. A. Lyth, 2s. 6d; Mrs Morrison, Park Villas, 5s; Mr Linley, 5s; Mrs Clarkson, 3s; Mrs Wilson, York Place, 5s; Miss Lawson, 5s; Miss Sweating, 10s; Mrs Groves, 10s; Dr. Robinson, £1; Mr Green, 2s. 6d; Mr Bray, 5s; Mrs Bray, 2s. 6d; Mrs Milne, 2s. 6d; Oliver Bros, 2s; Nurse Daniel, 1s; Mrs Lion, 2s. 6d; Mrs Hamilton, 2s. 6d; Dr Steinbach, 5s; Mr C. E. Charlesworth, £1; Knaresborough House, 10s; Mr and Mrs Lamming, 2s. 6d; W. B. Moss and Sons, 10s; Mr E. Pickersgill, 2s. 6d; Mr S. Day, 5s; W. Parr & Sons, 5s; Mrs Slingsby, 3s; Mr and Mrs Wallace Gill, 10s; Miss Johnstone, £1. 1s; Mrs Crankshaw, 2s. 6d; Miss Abbot, The Yews, 10s; Mrs Wilson, Huntercombe, £1; total, £17. 17s. 6d.

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CLARO TIMES

21 May 1915

WARNING TO RESIDENTS: The following notice has been made to the residents of Knaresborough – “Notice is hereby given that in the event of a Zeppelin Air Raid over the town an alarm will be given by the Town Hall Bell, being rung in an intermittent manner, and not continuously as for a fire. In the case of a raid and bombs being thrown, the inhabitants are advised to take shelter in cellars (where available).”

CLARO TIMES

4 June 1915

FORMER KNARESBRO' FOOTBALLER.

CUTTING THE GERMAN BARBED WIRE DEFENCES.

INDIFFERENCE TO WHIZZ OF BULLETS.

Sergt. Phil. Grimshaw, whose photo we hope to publish next week, joined the colours at the commencement of the war, and rapidly distinguished himself for promotion. He is well known in Knaresborough, and occupied the position of assistant superintendent to the Prudential Assurance Company in this district.

- 10 To those who do not remember him in his professional capacity, he may be known by his active connection with the Knaresborough Association Football Club in its most successful days, having been a member of the committee for some time. Contemporary with him are the well known names of George Walker (hon. Secretary), Benny Thorpe, Clem Chippindale, Cuthbert Storey, Benny Emmett, Gerald Wilkinson, and several others well known as players for the Borough team, all of whom are actively engaged in doing their "little bit" across the Channel.

CLARO TIMES

9 July 1915

20 **A KNARESBOROUGH WEDDING**

The wedding took place quietly, at the Knaresborough Parish Church, on Saturday morning, of Mr Percy Knightson of Mr and Mrs Geo Knight of Old Scriven, and Miss Florence Holmes, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Holmes, of High Bondend, Knaresborough. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. R. J. Hewitt, curate. The bride, who wore a travelling costume of navy blue, with white hat, and carried a bouquet of roses, was given away by her brother, Mr John Holmes. Mr J. F. Holmes was best man. The bridesmaids were Miss Dolly Knight (sister of the bridegroom) and Miss Ena Holmes (niece of the bride) and they were attired in white silk dresses. Later in the day Mr and Mrs Knight left Knaresborough for West Hartlepool, where the honeymoon is being spent.

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CLARO TIMES

6 August 1915

HOSPITAL SUNDAY – The annual hospital Sunday at Knaresborough was held on Sunday last, when the usual appeals for support for the Harrogate Infirmary were made. A special service was held at the Wesleyan Church, a procession previously parading the principal streets. The procession was marshalled in the Market Place, where the various orders of Friendly Societies assembled. Headed by the Boroughbridge Brass Band, the procession proceeded through the principal streets of the town to Scriven, from whence they returned to the Wesleyan Chapel for the service. The Rev. Wm Hill was the special preacher.

10 Collecting sheets had been placed in various parts of the town, and in addition to collections en route of the procession, a house to house collection was made. The collections were most satisfactory, the sum of £28 being raised, the highest total ever reached at Knaresborough for the Harrogate Infirmary.

CLARO TIMES

6 August 1915

THE RECRUITING RALLY

RECRUITS FROM HARROGATE AND KNARESBOROUGH.

20 Twenty three recruits were enrolled in Harrogate on Saturday as the result of the demonstration, and seventeen others have enlisted at the Station Square Recruiting Office since Saturday, up to Thursday afternoon.

Thirteen recruits were obtained at Knaresborough on Wednesday, and two more were enrolled on Thursday. After the meeting in the Knaresborough Market Place, ten men were immediately medically examined and attested, and within ten minutes were clothed in khaki.

The Royal Field Artillery and Royal Garrison Artillery are now open for both drivers and gunners, and the Royal Army Medical Corps is open to all.

CLARO TIMES

20 August 1915

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ACCIDENT

A remarkable number of accidents has occurred at Knaresborough recently, and another was added to the list on Wednesday, when Mr Cecil Coverley Cutler, a Sec Lieut, in the 3rd/6th Manchester Regiment, stationed at Southport, was riding a motor cycle down the Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, in the afternoon, when he ran into the back of a motor car. He received a wound on the right leg, and ear badly cut, and the skull badly crushed. He was removed to the Harrogate Infirmary, where he lies in a serious condition. This

morning we were informed that he had passed a restless night, and showed little if any improvement.

CLARO TIMES

5 November 1915

KNARESBOROUGH VOLUNTEER TRAINING CORPS.

PRESENTATION OF THE "SLINGSBY RIFLE."

MR. A. BROWN THE WINNER.

10 A special parade of the Knaresborough members of the Volunteer Training Corps was held at the Cattle Market, Knaresborough on Tuesday evening, when Commander C. H. R. Slingsby, R.N., was present, and presented to Mr A. Brown, of Knaresborough, the Lee-Enfield service rifle given by him for competition in rifle shooting amongst the members of the corps.

There was a good muster of members of the corps, there being about forty on parade, half of whom wore the uniform.

On his arrival, Commander Slingsby returned the salute of the company, which he then proceeded to inspect, along with Mr J. W. Watkin, commandant, Mr T. L. Shaun being second in command.

20 After the inspection, Commander Slingsby congratulated the men on their very smart appearance, and on there being such a good muster. He was glad to see that the traditions of the Home Brigade were being kept up, and more than kept up.

THE PRESENTATION

At the presentation Commander Slingsby was supported by the Rev. Canon Hancock (Vicar of Knaresborough, Mr C. V. R. Charlesworth, Mr Joseph Radcliffe (commanding officer of the Ripon Division Battalion Volunteer Training Corps), Major Hardcastle, Mr A. A. Gibson, and Mr W. H. Coverdale.

30 CANON HANCOCK said they would all wish to congratulate Commander Slingsby on his recent promotion, and they hoped that before very long they would be able to congratulate him upon his promotion to captain, for he was sure he would have deserved it before the end of the war. He wished to say how pleased he was to see so many gentlemen interested in the volunteer movement there. Most of them were beyond the age limit, but when he looked round he thought how well they were represented in that corps. He thought that before long they would have a good many additions. They had every reason to congratulate Knaresborough. It had always done well in whatever it had taken up. He would like to give it the title of a town which always did its duty. He hoped they would always bear that in mind. That generation would, and he hoped the next generation would emulate its example. He was sure that all present took a very keen interest in that corps, and he was glad to see that

Sir Joseph Radcliffe, their chief also took a very deep interest in their little town. He had pleasure in asking Commander Slingsby to make the presentations.

Commander Slingsby congratulated Mr Brown upon his work, for he knew that he had well won the rifle.

Mr Brown thanked Commander Slingsby for the rifle, which he said had been the cause of a very[illegible]

[illegible]

10 It was a very great source of pleasure to him to know that they had they had been able to carry out that rifle from [illegible] and their friend Mr Brown , had won it even though he knew so little of the rifle and had to shoot with his left shoulder and left eye. It showed great personality and keenness. He was glad to find that the competition had been the means of stimulation and interest. Continuing, Commander Slingsby they should help in all they could to make the recruiting scheme a success. If they knew any eligible men, there was always a rifle being in his Majesty's Service. He hoped he would all assist in the great movement and would assist and get in the unmarried men first. It was very unfair that elderly men with family responsibilities should go and the unmarried young men stay behind. He hoped that as far as this part of the country was concerned, recruiting would be regular, and there would be a constant stream of young strong men. He thought the elderly men would also do their bit in assisting recruiting. In conclusion he wished again to congratulate Mr Brown and Mr
20 Hall. Mr Brown was a persistent trier and Mr Hall a runner up and splendid shot. He congratulated the men upon their drill and the smartness of the corps, and he also congratulated the new members.

Sir Joseph Radcliffe thanked Commander Slingsby for his presence, and said they were very grateful to him. He was sure that he wished him every success.

Mr B. W. Charlesworth said [illegible]

30 There was one thing he wished to congratulate them on more than anything else, and that was they would never be in the list of conscripts. They were volunteers. Many of them had been soldiers before, and they would not hesitate to become soldiers again. He congratulated Mr Brown on winning the rifle, and he prayed that he might never use it on active service in this country, but he was satisfied that, if he had to use it he would do so to great advantage. He congratulated Mr Brown upon his having won the rifle at no great a disadvantage, and he congratulated the men upon their appearance. They were a lot of soldiery looking men , and looked to there with every confidence. When the time came – if it ever would come – they would undertake to do what no Briton had ever done better before (Applause)

The proceedings terminated with three hearty cheers for Commander Slingsby, and three for Sir Joseph Radcliffe.

26 November 1915

KNARESBOROUGH ELIGIBLES

Married Men Set the Example.

PROGRESS OF THE CANVASS.

(Special to the "Harrogate and Claro Times.")

10 The work of canvassing the men of Knaresborough who are eligible for enlistment in His Majesty's Army under the new recruiting scheme of Lord Derby, has now been proceeding for three weeks, with, as regards the numbers of men responding, more or less satisfactory results. The canvass has revealed however, that a goodly proportion of the men responding are married men, and that of the single men remaining, few, no doubt, have not come forward and offered themselves in a way that had been expected. The married men are enlisting or promising to enlist at a better rate than the single, but it should be remembered that the number of single men at present remaining in the town is very limited, and that the married men are, as was to be expected, much the larger body. Most of Knaresborough's single men of military age are in khaki, but it is a very desirable thing, and one which would add lustre to the town's brilliant record, that the remaining single men should enlist immediately of their own accord.

20 The canvassers have covered more than half the town, and the names of the workers and their districts are as follows:-

Cheapside, Castlegate, Castle Yard, and Market Place – Cr. J. W. Burton and Mr J. W. Barker.

Fisher Street and Chapel Street – Mr Percy Jackson.

Abbey Road – Mr De Lacy and Mr J. F. Holmes.

Park Grove, Park Avenue, Alexandra Place and Scriven Road – Mr A. A. Gibson.

High Street – Mr De Lacy and Mr J. F. Holmes.

Gracious Street, Windsor Lane and Iles Lane – Mr S. Aldred and Mr J. W. Bramley.

Finkle Street and Jockey Lane – Mr N. R. Croft.

30 Park Row, Stockwell Road, Chain Lane, Park Lane, and Hambleton Grove – Mr T. Horsman and Mr J. E. Ellis.

Halfpenny Lane, Carmires Avenue, Beech Grove, and Blind Lane – Mr Murray.

York Place – Mr J. Yates.

Bond End and Church Lane – Rev. Canon Hancock, and Mr W. W. Davy.

Briggate – Rev. F. E. Crankshaw and Cr. W. Cassells.

Fisher Gardens and Crawford Yard – FReV. Prior Cummins.

Castle Ings Road and Brewerton Street – Mr C. W. H. Greaves.

Lower Bondend and Waterside – Cr. Coleman.

Meadley Square and Raw Gap – Mr W. Wilkinson.

10 The canvassers are working under the direction of Mr A. A. Gibson, who is acting as chairman, with Mr T. Horsman secretary. It is interesting to note that the clergy and members of the Urban District Council, as well as ordinary civilians, are assisting in the work of canvassing. The canvass is proceeding very satisfactorily, and half the cards have already been returned; also, as a result of the canvass, a fair number of men have joined the army for immediate service.

Men wishing to enlist under the group system should apply at the National Reserve Club, Kirkgate, Knaresborough, any weekday evening, from 6 to eight o'clock, when they will be examined by Dr. Shann.

CLARO TIMES

10 December 1915

Knaresborough Council Meeting

REQUEST FOR BILLETING TROOPS IN KNARESBOROUGH

20 The Clerk said he had received a letter from the Knaresborough and District Licensed Victuallers' Association, which stated that at a meeting of the Association held recently a resolution was passed that they should approach the Urban Council and ask them to apply to the War Office for troops to be billeted in Knaresborough during the winter. The resolution stated that Knaresborough had sent upwards of 500 men to the Army and Navy, and nothing had come into the town to replace that loss, there being no munitions output. If troops were billeted during the winter, trade might be brisker. They respectfully submitted the resolution, which they hoped the Council would forward to the proper quarter.

Cr. Duckett moved that the resolution be sent to the War Office at York.

Cr Wilson seconded.

30 Cr Eddy said he had been asked to mention the same thing. They found in their own immediate district, a certain number of troops billeted, but none with them. A suggestion had been made that it would be wise to appoint a sub-committee to get in touch with the War Office, and obtain direct information. He, for one, could not see why Knaresborough could not have troops when there were some at Wetherby, and Knaresborough had a shooting range. He had great sympathy for the Licensed Victuallers, and realised that the time they were passing through was a very hard one. His conviction was that if troops were billeted it would be a great acquisition to the town, and would have a stimulating effect in the winter months.

Cr. Horspool supported Cr. Eddy. It was only reasonable, he said, what they asked for. He thought there should be a sub-committee appointed to carry it further.

The Chairman said they should forward the resolution to the General in command, Headquarters, York.

Cr. Wright suggested that a petition should be sent to that Council, stating that accommodation for troops could be found in Knaresborough.

Cr. Barker seconded, and it was carried.

CLARO TIMES

31 December 1915

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NO TROOPS FOR KNARESBOROUGH.

TRADESMEN'S REQUEST IMPRACTICABLE

LETTERS OF EXPLANATION

The Knaresborough Tradesmen's Association recently wrote to the military authorities requesting that a battalion of troops should be quartered in the town. Replies have been received stating that it was impracticable to detach one battalion to send to Knaresborough, and it was thus unlikely that troops would be sent.

The following is the Tradesmen's letter:

20 Sir – We desire to bring before you the wish of the townspeople and traders of Knaresborough that troops should be quartered in the town.

We are quite sure that ample accommodation is available to house 1,000 to 1,200 men quite easily.

We would also point out that we have an excellent shooting range with a radius of up to 800 yards within a mile of the town, good spacious fields for drilling, an excellent water supply, and good sanitary conditions. These essentials you will find in adequate degree.

Nearly 500 of our townsmen have already joined the colours, and another 400 are ready under the "Derby Scheme". It is obvious that this means a great loss to the town financially.

May we suggest that the arrival of a battalion of soldiers would be a great boon to the town, and would in some degree compensate for the prospective loss of nearly 1,000 men.

30 We are proud that our town has so nobly responded to the call, and we believe few towns can show a like result – NEARLY 20 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION.

Knaresborough has old military associations, many being able to remember the time when the old Militia were quartered in the town.

As representatives of the Traders of Knaresborough, we ask that you will favourably consider the idea of sending us a battalion at an early date.

Signed on behalf of the Traders' Association,

B. BROWN, President.

W. CRAVEN, Chairman.

J. W. BURTON, Secretary.

The following reply was received from Major Tulloch, writing from Ripon on 21st December, 1915 –

Gentlemen – General Sir Bruce Hamilton has asked me to write and thank you for your very patriotic offer to billet troops in Knaresborough.

10 While quite appreciating the fine spirit in which this offer is made, and the excellent way in which the town has responded to the call to arms, he very much regrets that he is unable to assist you in this matter.

In order that the training of units may be satisfactorily carried out, it is essential that they should be together, so that they can be supervised, and their training co-ordinated. Consequently, he very much regrets that he is unable to carry out the wishes of the Knaresborough Tradesmen's Association with regard to sending a single battalion to Knaresborough.

He feels quite sure that you will quite understand that at present military considerations and the rapid training of troops are of paramount importance – Yours sincerely,

R. TULLOCH, Major, G.S.,

20 Ripon Training Centre.

This reply from the Headquarters of the Northern Command at York was as follows –

Gentlemen, I am desired by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., and to inform you that it has already been noted, from a letter received from the Clerk to the Urban District Council at Knaresborough, that your town is favourable situated in regard to available accommodation, to provide, if required, for about 1,000 solders.

30 However, as has already been pointed out to the Clerk of the Urban District Council, it is essential for purposes of discipline and training that battalions of a Brigade should be concentrated as much as possible. There is, therefore, no present likelihood of one being detached to Knaresborough. – Yours faithfully,

M.E.R. RAINSFORD, Colonel,

Assistant Quartermaster General,

Northern Command.

