

Major [unclear] wrote: "His loss, both to me personally and to the battalion, is very greatly felt. He was loved by his men, as was only natural, since his one thought was for their comfort and happiness. To me he was invaluable, and he has contributed probably more than anyone else to the state of efficiency of this battery. His knowledge of gunnery was profound, and his reconnaissance and observation reports were a model. We miss him terribly." He *m.* at All Saints', Aughton, 29 April, 1916, Eleanor Beatrice, dau. of the Rev. George Harvey, Vicar of Aughton, and had a dau., Muriel Elizabeth Gordon, *b.* 3 Feb. 1917.

**VEITCH, JOHN ALEXANDER**, Private, No. 515055, 14th Battn. (London Scottish) The London Regt. (T.F.), only s. of John Veitch, of Dunmurray, Pitlochry, by his wife, Agnes J., dau. of Alexander Scott; *b.* Pitlochry, co. Perth, 20 March, 1897; educ. Higher Grade School there; Perth Academy, and Skerry's College, Glasgow; was a Civil Servant; joined the London Scottish 23 Feb. 1917; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 4 July, and died at No. 45 Casualty Clearing Station 25 Nov. 1917, of wounds received in action during the advance on Cambrai. Buried at Achiet-le-Grand. His Commanding Officer wrote: "Your son was one of the men in my platoon in whom I placed absolute confidence, and on the day on which he was wounded he had done his share in one of the stiffest fights through which we have passed." *Unm.*

**VENN, WILLIAM HENRY**, Private, No. 45228, 2/6th (Territorial) Battn. The Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regt.), s. of the late W. Venn, by his wife, Hannah Maria (Pleasant View, Blackmill, near Bridgend), dau. of Thomas Reed; *b.* Blackmill, 29 Nov. 1892; educ. Nantymoel Boys' Council School; was a Miner; enlisted in the North Staffordshire Regt. in June, 1917; served with the Expeditionary Force in France from the following Sept., and was killed in action at Bourlon Wood 30 Nov. 1917. Buried where he fell; *unm.*

**VENNER, WILLIAM FREDERICK FOURACRE**, 2nd Lieut., 13th (Service) Battn. The Hampshire Regt., attd. Royal Engineers, only s. of the late William John Day Venner, by his wife, Annie, dau. of Aaron Fouracre; *b.* Reading, co. Berks, 12 Aug. 1893; educ. Lord Weymouth's Grammar School, Warminster, where he was a member of the O.T.C.; entered the firm of Venner & Sons, Read-

