

## January 1915

My dear friends and parishioners,

We enter the year 1915 under the pressure of great national anxieties, and in circumstances absolutely unprecedented in the history of our country and indeed of the world. This terrible war of the nations, which has now raged mainly on the Continent of Europe, but also in every quarter of the globe, for the last five months, shows no signs of slackening or of exhaustion on either side in spite of immense sacrifice of human lives, and the untold misery and ruin which it has already produced. Our enemies have imported into it elements of wanton savagery and "frightfulness" such as the world has never seen even in the dark ages, and which make all hope and prospect of peace well nigh impossible-at any rate at present. But we must all pray very earnestly for it, and meanwhile that we may have strength to accomplish the work God gives us to do, and patience to endure the burdens He gives us to bear. I am thankful that so many of our sons have already recognised their duty and offered themselves willingly to their country's service. Let us hope that this may soon be said not only of some, but of *all*. I append a list of those who are now serving by land and sea in various capacities. I am disappointed that so few attend our daily intercessions in Church. I announced on Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, that on the first Sunday of the year, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, services will be held throughout the country (and in India and the Colonies) - at Wing Church at 8 and 10.30 a.m. and 3 and 6 p.m. On this day H.M. the King invites *all* his subjects to join with him in prayer to Almighty God for success to our arms.

For some weeks the ladies of Wing, assisted by many kind and indefatigable friends, have been hard at work and have been able to forward a Christmas present of comforters, socks or mittens with chocolate and tobacco, to every one of our men now serving by sea or land, both at home and abroad. We have had a great many grateful and (in the case of those already at the front) touching and interesting replies. Great pains were taken to get their correct addresses and the parcels seem to have come to hand and at the right time.

Apart from the war our domestic history has been marked by few events. We have lost Mrs. Fountaine, of Lower Wingbury, and Mr. Horne, of Cottesloe, also Mrs. Hammerton and Miss Thomas, and several of the older generation have passed away in the course of the year. Many of us have (indeed few have *not*) to mourn the loss of relations and friends who have fallen in the war. The weather of the past year has been exceptionally fine and the crops though, I believe, somewhat deficient in quantity were got in under favourable conditions. Would that we had been able to look back upon it as a year of peace as well as plenty! We can only pray very fervently (as I hope you all do) that this terrible strife with all the miseries and losses it has entailed may soon come to an end and issue in a lasting peace.

Your faithful friend and pastor,  
FRANCIS H. TATHAM.

### **WING MEN NOW SERVING WITH THE FORCES.**

Albert Bandy, R.F.A.; Chas. Badrick, R. Bucks. Hussars; Harvey Beard, R. Flying Corps (Expeditionary Force); Harry Beilby, Gren. Guards; Chas. Beilby, Rifle Brigade; Jesse Bolton, Oxf. L. Inf; James Bolton, Worc. Regt.; Wm. Bull, Ox. L. Inf; Alec Bates, R. Fusiliers; John Bock, R.A.M.C.; Wm. Corkett, Beds.

Regt.; Fred Corkett, R.F.A.; Thos. Dickens, 17<sup>th</sup> Lancers; George Dimmock, Gren. Guards.; Edw. Doggett, R.H.A.; George Faulkner, R.F.A.; W. French, Lincolnshire Regt.; Alec Gates, R.H.A.; Wm. Gates, 2<sup>nd</sup> Life Guards; Sidney Gates, Beds. Regt.; W. G. Garforth, Lieut. Scots Guards; Jasper Gardner, R. Bucks. Hussars; Alfred Green, Beds. Regt.; Edwin Green, London Scottish; Robert Green, Camerons; John Green, Bucks. Hussars; Edward Guess, R.N., H.M.S. "Hampshire"; Sidney Guess, L.K.A.; Wm. Guess, Beds. Terr.; Horace Haines, Bucks. Hussars; John Hall, L.K.A.; Reg Harris, L.K.A.; Chas. Hatley, R.E.; James Holton, Bucks. Hussars; Joseph Hammerton, Duke of Lancaster's Own; Fred Horne, R.E.; Dennis Horne, Bucks. Hussars; Edwin Jordan, Beds. Regt.; Fred Jordan, Beds. Yeomanry; Lionel Jordan, L.K.A.; Owen Kempster, Ox. L. Inf.; Harry Kempster, Oxf. L. Inf.; Arthur Kempster, Canadian Contingent; Harry Kent, L.K.A.; Wm. Kenning, Beds. Regt.; Jesse Lane, R.N., Wireless Operator Torpedo Boat; Percy Lane, Beds. Regt.; Frank Langley, James Laurence, Samuel Lawrence, Bucks. Hussars; Victor Laurence, Beds. Terr.; Wm. Morton, Frank Nelson, Harry Page, Bucks. Hussars; Eric Pantling, R.N. (formerly H.M.S. "Pegasus"), James Paxton, Worc. Regiment; Wm. Pease, Beds. Regt.; Sidney Piper, R.E.; Earnest Pollard, Bucks. Hussars; Wm. Pollard, Oxf. Lt. Inf.; Arthur Pratt, L.K.A.; Harry Pratt, Beds. Terr.; Wm. Pope, L.K.A.; Herbert Prime, Ox. Lt. Inf.; Edward Ramsay, K. R. Rif.; Edwin Randall, Gren. Guards; Reg. Randall, Sherwood Foresters; James Reeves, L.K.A.; Lionel Rothschild, Major, Bucks. Hussars; Evelyn Rothschild, Anthony Rothschild, Lieuts. Bucks. Hussars; Joseph Rogers, Ox. Lt. Inf.; Lewis Rogers, Bucks. Hussars; Thomas Rowe, R.F.A.; Frederick Smith, Bucks. Hussars; Walter Samuels, 17<sup>th</sup> Lancers; Wm. Stansfield, Beds. Terr.; Ernest Syrratt, Henry Thompson, L.K.A.; James Timms, Red Cross Motor; Harry Watson, N. Staffordshire Regt.; Ernest Willis, 7<sup>th</sup> Norfolks; Wilfred Willis, Red Cross Motor; Horace Willis, R. Fus.; Geo. Woodwards and Chas Wright, Bucks. Hussars.

**12<sup>TH</sup> BATTN. WEST YORKSHIRE REGT.**- Since December 5<sup>th</sup> we have had a portion of this newly formed Battalion quartered at Wing, numbering about 130 men, under the command of Capt. Daniells. It consists mainly of recruits; they work hard all day and have made marked progress. The weather has been so wet that the Hall has been invaluable to them (what "a boon and blessing to our men" our Hall is in war as in peace!) and the Recreation Ground is in constant use for drilling. The Vicar put the Reading Room at their disposal for a club, and the Wesleyan Schoolroom has also been lent for the same purpose. They are billeted entirely in Wing, and we believe they are very generally pleased with their accommodation as we are with their quiet and orderly behaviour. On the evening of Boxing Day the Badminton Club entertained them at tea in the Hall. After a substantial repast the tables were cleared away, and then followed a concert. Miss H. Tatham's Morris Dancers, Mrs. Gates's songs, Capt. And Miss Daniell's club display, and several of the soldiers charmed the company in turn, and a delightful evening was brought to an end by light refreshment and the singing of the National Anthem.

It is an interesting coincidence that this Regiment is really the old 14<sup>th</sup>, the famous Buckinghamshire Regiment which distinguished itself at Corunna, Waterloo, and later in India at Bhurtpore. In 1881 regimental numbers were abolished. The Bucks. men were merged in the Bucks. and Oxon. Light Infantry and the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment then became the Prince of Wales' Own West Yorkshire Regiment. The Vicar (their hon. Chaplain) told the men in his Christmas sermon what probably few of them knew before, that, though they were spending this Christmas far away from their own Yorkshire homes, they were actually spending it in the original home and birth-place of their own Regiment.

**OFFERTORY RECEIPTS.**

	£	s.	d.	
Dec. 6, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun. in Adv.	2	3	9	Sick & Needy.
		3	10	U.M.C.A. (chl.)
13. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1	17	3	Church Exps.
		4	9	C.E.M.S.
20. 4 <sup>th</sup>	2	5	6	Church Exps.
25. Christmas Day	4	7	3	Sick & Needy.
27. Sun. after Xmas	2	0	4	Sun. School