

Death of a Territorial in India.

Details have been received as to the death of Corporal H. E. Johnson, of "G" Company, 5th Batt. Royal West Kent, who died of heat-stroke on May 5th at Jhansi, India. Corporal Johnson lived at Warwick House, South Darent, and before the war broke out was assistant master at St. James' Boys' School, Gravesend. He enlisted in August last, volunteered for foreign service, and was drafted in October with the 5th West Kents to India. The following letter has been received from one of his chums:

"I will tell you, as far as it is in my power, the particulars leading up to and concerning Corporal Johnson's death. He passed peacefully away on Wednesday, May 5th, and the funeral took place at Retreat (6.30 p.m.) the same evening. The funeral was accompanied by full military honours. The cortege, which left the mortuary at 5.45 p.m., was headed by the Regimental Band. Next came the firing party, which consisted of 12 men of his own section, the Company Sergeant-Major and a Corporal. This was followed by the gun carriage bearing the coffin, which was covered by a Union Jack, and wreaths from the Captain, the Sergeants' Mess, the Corporals' Mess, and the Company. The carriage was drawn by a full team of six horses, and the pall-bearers were myself and five other corporals of the Battalion. All corporals not on duty, all six officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of 'G' Company, and representatives from the other companies, followed, mustering in all 400 men. The service was held at the graveside, the Chaplain (the Rev. Dunlop) officiating. After the coffin had been lowered into the grave the three volleys were fired, the buglers sounded the 'Last Post,' and the band played 'Abide with Me.' We then left the graveside and marched back to barracks, and I felt and knew I had lost a true and sincere chum, and I know the company felt they had paid their last tribute to a true comrade. Asking your acceptance of my sincerest and deepest sympathy. — Yours sincerely, Corporal J. R. Felmingham, Assaye Barracks, Jhansi, India."