

Sussex and Surrey Courier 1st September 1917 page 5

A FAMILY'S SACRIFICES.—Few local families have given more to their country than that of Mr. G. Martin, who lives at 81, Lingfield-road. It will be remembered that some time ago we announced the death in action of Edward (Tiny) Martin, whose death occurred on the 9th of May, 1915. The next to go was Edgar Martin. He left the A.S.C. and joined the Berkshires, and was killed on the 3rd May, 1916. He was one of a party of eight to volunteer to bomb a German trench and was the only one who did not get back. Mr. G. Martin has two very kindly letters from officers relating to his brother Edgar's daring and bravery in that last fight for his country. The youngest brother, William, was very deaf, so was exempted altogether from the Army. This exemption and the death of his two brothers, especially Tiny's, affected him deeply and he was found drowned in the river Medway at Maidstone on the 22nd of April last. Another brother, Alfred, came from Canada at the end of last autumn and was killed in action on April 30th of this year. Jack, another of the family, is still living and at work in France. He was home on leave a month ago. Though nerve shattered, worn and suffering much from rheumatism, he was grateful to be still alive. He has had many narrow escapes. Yet one more brother, Charlie, who used to play in the Blue Mantles Football Club and who has been living in America, has just joined the Canadian Engineers for active service and he will no doubt be over here in a month or so. So out of seven brothers only the eldest is left at home. Though it has its sad side, it is a fine patriotic record.