West Sussex & the Great War Project www.westsussexpast.org.uk





Mid-Sussex Times 29th September 1914 page 7

MID-SUSSEXIANS' LETTERS FROM THE FRONT.

Below are printed extracts from letters and postcards received by various residents in Mid-Sussex from relatives serving in the British Expeditionary Force :-

HAYWARDS HEATH

Mrs. H. Pattenden, of 7 Hollybank Cottages, Triangle Road, Haywards Heath, has received the following letter from her son, GEORGE PATTENDEN, who is serving with the Hampshire Regiment in the Expeditionary Force:—"Dearest Mother,—We can thank God that up to the present I am safe and well. We have had bad times and many narrow escapes from death, and I trust in my Maker to rule my life for the future. I can't tell you too much, only to say I am well and trust you all are the same. If I come home, which God knows is still in the balance, I shall have a lot to tell you. So now I will say 'Mizpah' and trust peace may soon be proclaimed and we can all meet

From Private ALLEN GASTON BOTTING, of the Royal Field Artillery, whose parents live at Myrtle Cottages, New England Road, Haywards Heath, on reaching Paris:—"Still on the move. French most enthusiastic. One and all give us a cordial welcome."

LINDFIELD.

Mrs. Bowers, of 3 Luxford Road, Lindfield, last week received a letter, dated September 15th, from her son, Private BARRINGTON BOWERS, machine gun section of the 20th Hussars, 5th Cavalry Brigade, Expeditionary Force. He wrote: "Having a few minutes to spare I thought I would drop you a line to say I am still all right, luckily. Nearly all of us got cut up yesterday. There were shells bursting all yesteriay. There were shells bursting all round us, and we had to gallop away for our lives. That was the third time we were caught like that. We have had some very bad weather. I don't think the war will last much longer, as they say the Russians are in contact with them. A battle started last Saturday, and it is still raging all round. We live pretty fair, considering the times. We live pretty fair, considering the times. I have seen Arthur Pullen since I have been out here." Mrs. Bowers' husband has also answered the call to arms. He is a National Reservist, and is at Colchester with "B" Squadron 20th Hussars.

CUCKFIELD

William Hards (Royal Horse Artillery) in a letter to his wife at White-man's Green, Cuckfield, thanking her for writing paper, &c., says he is all right and well, but he could not get anything to write on as the Germans had looted every

write on as the Germans had looted every place he came to. "We have been wet through day by day for three weeks, and had to let our clothes dry on us. We have to do fourteen hours a day without rest."

FRANK HENLEY (9th Lancers), of Ansty, Cuckfield, has sent an official post-card to say he is quite well. It was his regiment which went through the now-famous phayers of a few weeks age. charge of a few weeks ago.