

LIEUT. BRADFORD'S GREAT GALLANTRY

Widespread sympathy will be extended to Mr. M. D. Bradford, of Brooklands House, Cambridge, and of the University Arms, in the death of his gallant son, Lieut. Alfred Royal Bradford, Cambridgeshire Regiment, who was killed in action in France on October 14th. Lieut. Bradford was twenty-two years of age. He was educated at Mr. R. A. A. Beresford's preparatory school, Hunstanton, and Bedford Grammar School, where he obtained his colours in the cricket eleven (1911-12). He was also a member of the School O. T. C.

On the outbreak of war he enlisted in a Public Schools battalion, and eventually obtained a commission in the Cambridgeshire Regiment (May, 1915). He transferred to another battalion of the regiment in July, and joined his unit at the Front. He was promoted, and became machine-gun officer. His Major wrote last month:

I found Bradford was doing hero's work with his Lewis gun at a point twenty yards from where Butlin lay in keeping the Boches¹ off—who by this time far outnumbered us. If anyone deserves the V.C.² Bradford does for his work that night. He made repeated efforts by himself to get Butlin in, and when I arrived he had just made his third attempt.

His Major afterwards wrote:

By the loss of your son the regiment loses one of the bravest and coolest soldiers that ever walked. He had won the love and admiration of all ranks by his cheerfulness and coolness under the most trying conditions, and particularly on the night when he made repeated efforts to rescue Captain Sir Guy Butlin, Captain Adam, and Mr. Shaw. It is very difficult to express to you the sorrow of the whole regiment.

(The Cambridge Chronicle and University Journal, October 25, 1916)

¹ i.e. the Germans.

² Victoria Cross, the highest award for bravery.