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Sergeant George Anderson.

Royal Scots.

1917—April 23.

1917, April 23 (Monday).—The British advanced north and south of the Scarpe on a front of 12,000 yards. They completed the capture of Trescault and the greater part of Havrincourt Wood. Gavrelle, Guémappe, and the German positions for two and a half miles further south were captured. This was the beginning of the second phase of the battle of Arras.

OFFICIAL notice reached Mr and Mrs Anderson, Stoneyknowe, Newlands, of the death of their eldest son, Sergeant GEORGE ANDERSON, Royal Scots, who was killed in action in France on the 23rd April 1917. The sad news caused quite a gloom in and around Sergeant Anderson's home, where he was well known as a thoroughly steady and respectable lad. Before joining the colours the deceased was in the employment of the County Council. He rallied to his country's call for men on the 7th September 1914, and had been on active service in France since the 2nd July 1915. Sergeant Anderson was in his 23rd year.

The Chaplain of Sergeant Anderson's Battalion wrote to his parents:—"You will doubtless have received from the War Office the sad news of the death of your son, and on behalf of the officers and men of this Battalion I now write to express our sincerest sympathy with you in the great sorrow that has entered your home. On the morning of the 23rd of April Sergeant Anderson went into action with his Company. The battle was particularly fierce at the time, and the machine gun fire of the enemy was doing great damage to our ranks. I understand that he fell while urging his men forward, and died instantaneously. I was not with the Battalion at that time, and so did not see him, but I know he will be buried on the battlefield, probably quite near to the spot where he fell. He was a man who was much respected by all who knew him here. A good soldier and comrade, he was ever ready to answer the call of duty, and I believe willingly laid down his life in the great cause in which he was so nobly serving. That God will strengthen and comfort you in your great sorrow is my sincere and earnest prayer."