

Dawlsh Gazette – 17th June 1916

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

A service in memory of Lord Kitchener, the Rev. G A Browning, M.A. (naval chaplain), and other Dawlishians who had fallen in their country's service, was held at the Parish Church last Tuesday at noon. There was a large attendance, the church being well filled.

With but one variation (a different psalm being chosen) the beautiful and moving service of the Burial of the Dead was gone through. The Rev W P Alford (vicar) conducted the service, which opened with the heart-stirring strains of Beethoven's noted composition, "on the death of the Hero," finely played by Mr J F King (the organist). The first hymn struck the note of assured hope and triumph over the dark and devious ways of this world :

Jesus lives ! no longer now
Can thy terrors, death, appal us

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Life, nor death, nor powers of hell
Tear us from His keeping ever.

The congregation sang the hymn with strength and fervour. The psalm appropriately chosen was the 130th : "Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord." Then the lesson, St. Paul's inspired discourse in I. Corinthians, commencing in the 20th verse of the 15th chapter : "Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept." The usual prayers and responses followed, and before the Blessing, all joined in singing the grand hymn so bound up with the Festival of All Saints,

For all the Saints who from their labours rest,
with its beautiful verse :

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong
Alleluia !

and its final expression of Christian faith :

But lo ! there breaks a yet more glorious day.

The Dead March in *Saul* then pealed forth from the organ, and afterwards the National Anthem was heartily sung. As the congregation quietly left the church, the strains of "O Rest in the Lord," fittingly concluded a plain and dignified service.

Amongst those attending were the members of the Urban Council and representatives of other public bodies ; the members of the Dawlish detachment of the V.A.D. (commandant, Mrs Hildyard) ; and the Derby Recruits, accompanied on this occasion by some old Volunteers, all under Hon. Instructor G S Ford.

In the evening muffled peals were rung by the Parish Church ringers in honour of Lord Kitchener and the Dawlishians who have fallen in the naval battle.