

2nd Lieutenant Charles Frederick King
20th September 1917

Dawlish Gazette – 6th October 1917

The Dawlish Gazette,
SATURDAY, OCT.. 6, 1917.

The War.

Deep sympathy has been expressed with Mr J F King (organist, Parish Church), and Mrs King, of Longlands, Dawlish, in their anxiety regarding their eldest son, Lieut. Charles F King. A War Office telegram received last week-end, stated: Lieut. C F King missing since 20th—25th [Sept]. Should any further news come to hand it will be forwarded. In the course of a letter which he wrote to his parents a day or two before the 20th, Lieut. King said, alluding to an approaching offensive: "I am honoured by having to lead over the first rush.....I'm lucky, but it's a hard nut to crack." Lieut. King was very well up in tactics; indeed he was a man on the subject in his O.T.C. Battalion, as well as in shooting. Not long since, when home on furlough, he gave an instructive lecture to the Dawlish Volunteer platoon. He might have stayed behind as Lecturer and Instructor, but he chose to go to the Front, and was taken from the Devons and attached to the King's Liverpool Regiment.

Dawlish Gazette – 13th October 1917

"PRO PATRIA:"

Unfortunately a letter received by Mr and Mrs J F King, of Longlands, on Thursday, leaves little doubt but that their eldest son, Lieut. Charles King, attached Liverpool Regiment, officially reported as missing, made the great sacrifice when leading his platoon in the recent successful offensive.

The letter is as follows:—"Dear Mrs King,—I felt it my duty to write and tell you how awfully sorry I was to hear of the sad news that your son was killed in action on the 20th ult. He went over with his platoon under the second in command of my Company. I was away on a course at the time and when I returned heard the news. I have made numerous enquiries as to his death and now understand that he was killed by machine gun fire and death was instantaneous. This is just from information from one of the men of my Company. . . . It is difficult to get authentic news. Your son's servant states that the last he saw of Mr King was up at a place called 'Galapoli'; after that he was never seen. And it is feared that he was killed. It was a great blow to me. Although he had not been long with the Battalion I thought a great deal of him, and found what a good soldier and fine fellow he was. He did awfully good work and was very popular with the men and all officers. His loss is keenly felt in the Battalion.—Yours faithfully, G Tyson."

MR. & MRS. J. F. KING & FAMILY beg to thank numerous friends for the kindly sympathy extended to them in their bereavement.
Longlands, Dawlish.