

Clarence Henry Crook - 17th March 2015

The Dawlish Gazette
SATURDAY, March, 27, 1915

Mr J H Crook, of Golden Terrace (a member of the Dawlish Town Band), received the sad news on Tuesday of the death at the front of his second son, Pte. Clarence Crook, of the 2nd Devons. The news was sent by Pte. H Langdon, of C Company, a comrade, who said his death, on the 18th inst., was instantaneous. He added : "I feel his death very much as he was a very great chum of mine. I saw that he was buried alright and saved his belongings, which are in the charge of the Company Sergeant- Major" - In view of subsequent events, a letter which Mr Crook received from his son only a day or two before, dated 16th inst., is of pathetic interest. In this he says: "We have had a big battle and given the Germans what they want. Have had a very rough time of it. Should not like to go through very much of that, but it's got to be done. Roll on the time for coming home again."

The deceased was only 19 in December last year. He went to the front in November. Pte Stoye, whose death we record above, was in the same company. There is also another Dawlishian, Pte. Sid Crook in this company.