



St John the Baptist Mission Church, latterly St Anne's RC, Lees Moor



DEWSBURY SACRIFICES

A LEES MOOR WAR MEMORIAL.

UNVEILED BY MAJOR LISTER INGHAM.

St. John the Baptist Mission Church, Lees Moor, Thornhill, was crowded on Saturday afternoon last, when the war memorial erected in the church was unveiled and dedicated. The memorial is in the form of a triptych and two pictures and is one of the most beautiful in any church.

The Rector of Thornhill (the Rev. H. T. Hayman) conducted the service, and there were also present the Vicar of Thornhill Lees (the Rev. J. E. Goffion) and the Rev. G. Cutcliffe (formerly curate at Thornhill and Vicar of Barley Carr, and now of Huddersfield), and Mr. R. Parkinson (Local Court magistrate).

Major Lister Ingham performed the unveiling ceremony, and said that we in the present age needed no memorial more reverent to us of the war but future generations would be reminded of the sacrifices that were made. The design of the memorial was an admirable one. On the two side panels were representations of the Crucifixion, swords synonymous of the wars of the Church and a reminder that the war was fought for right. In the centre was a representation of the Great Sacrifice on Calvary, with the inscription underneath: "Greater love hath no man than this," while on the top was a representation of a lamb, the emblem of the Patron Saint of the Church. A message of comfort and hope was carried by the two pictures on the sides of the triptych. He was sure that that memorial would convey to all a sense of duty to mankind, their country, and their God.

The Rector, in the course of a brief sermon, said that of all the themes of such a service, three points impressed him most. Firstly, it was a reminder of the favours we had received from Almighty God in days past and the favours we were continually receiving. He was not quite certain that these favours were always appreciated by the recipients. Cases of ingratitude were to be found in the Bible, said the Rector, and he quoted the stories of Joseph and the brother and the healing of the ten lepers. The men whose names were inscribed on the memorial gave their all, and should not be forgotten. Secondly, the memorial reminded him of the unselfishness of these men. "To-day there was a lot of selfishness about, but the men who had given their all said, when the moment of danger came, they were ready to give their lives for those at home. Thirdly, he was reminded of the tremendous need of peace in the world at the present time. When we thought of the lives sacrificed in the war, and what the war meant to all, there was a feeling for the necessity of peace now and for the future. What would bring peace? We should never get peace abroad until we realised we must have peace at home. Civilization would not bring peace. Ecclesiastes would not bring peace. The League of Nations is on its way, so far as it went, might do something to bring peace, but we should have the real peace only by the exercise of the Spirit of Christ. In proportion as we lived the life of Christ, so in proportion should we be bringing peace nearer ourselves."

During the service Mr. W. Bates sounded the Roll of the Last Post.

The memorial contains the following inscription:—To the Glory of God and in loving memory of the old boys of St. John the Baptist Sunday School who gave their all in the cause of their King. "Faithful unto death." The names inscribed on it are:—Edgar Raymond Bowyer, Ernest Denton, George Kershaw, Gordon Ladd, Wilson Marston, William Henry Pease, Arthur Pearson, Frank Tomlinson, Norman Tomlinson.

The cost of the memorial has been defrayed by collections by means of the envelope system, and the collection at the service was in aid of Earl Haig's Fund.



Killed After Three Years of Warfare.

Sergt. Geo. Kershaw (30), Manchester Regiment, eldest son of Mrs. Kershaw, Lees Terrace, Thornhill Lees, is officially reported to have been killed in France on August 24th. He enlisted in November, 1914, went to France three years ago, and up to the time of his death had never had a scratch. He was an old boy of Thornhill C. E. and Lees Moor Sunday Schools and in civil life worked in Manchester as a joiner. Two brothers, Sapper Fred Kershaw, R.E., and Sapper Edgar Kershaw, R.E., are serving in France.

SHOT THROUGH THE HEART.

YOUNG THORNHILL LEES SOLDIER KILLED.

"SO GOOD AND NOBLE A FRIEND."

Pte. Norman Tomlinson, of the First 4th K.O.Y.L.I., who was killed on the 8th November, makes the fifth Thornhill soldier to give up his life for his country. The bitter news came to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson, 138, Lees Hall Road, Thornhill Lees, in a letter from Lieut.-Colonel Haslegrave, who states that their son was shot through the heart by a bullet whilst on a ration party. He adds that he died bravely fighting to uphold the honour and flag of the King and country he loved so dear, and that he is buried in a small military cemetery just behind the firing-line, alongside Capt. A. C. Chadwick and some other of his fallen comrades.

The dead soldier was a particularly fine young man, and his death will come as a terrible blow to a host of friends. He joined the local Territorials in February, 1914, and worked hard to qualify for going to camp at Whitby, where, as will be remembered, the First 4th K.O.Y.L.I. were when the war clouds burst. If he had lived he would have attained his twentieth birthday to-day. Since a child of seven he sang in the choir at Lees Moor Independent Methodist Chapel, being afterwards a Sunday school teacher. He has two brothers with the Colours—Pte. Frank Tomlinson, of the Third 5th Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, now in training near Mansfield, and Pte. Harold Tomlinson, Royal Horse Artillery, in training at Woolwich.