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Letter from Cambridge Man Killed at the First Landing.

We publish on page 6 a photograph of Pte. C. Alderton, of the 1st Lancashire Fusiliers, son of Mr. C. Alderton, of 42, Great Eastern-street, Cambridge. Pte. Charles Alderton, who was killed on the 25th April last, the day of landing at the Dardanelles, had served in the Army for nine years and three months (18 months in Ireland and seven years in India). He was sent to Aden on the outbreak of war, and stayed there with his regiment for a considerable time. Then the regiment came to England and were stationed at Nuneaton for 11 weeks, during which time Pte. Alderton had four days' leave. He left Nuneaton on March 16th, 1915, and the following brief narrative is written from his notes of what happened up to April 23rd, two days before he met his death:-

There were something like 200,000 troops at Alexandria, including French, Canadian, Indian and British. The regiment remained there until April 8th, when they sailed for the Dardanelles. The ship went as far as Lemnos, and stayed there until April 23rd, the regiment going ashore and practising landing, outpost duties, route marching, and the attack. Under date April 23rd Pte. Alderton wrote: "Getting ready to leave Lemnos today. Left this evening, 5 o'clock. We are getting near some excitement now. Managed to post letters before I left." This was the last of his notes; he was killed on the 25th.

In his last letter to his brother, dated April 23rd, he wrote:

"I dare say you will be surprised to hear that I have done no fighting up to the time of writing this, though I expect I shall be in the thick of it long before you get this. ... I am still on board ship and getting quite fed up with it. I shall be glad to get on land again, though we are expecting to have a very hot time when we do land. The Turks have everything nicely ready for us. Our regiment has been picked out as one of the first to land. This is really an honour that I suppose we should be proud of; so we shall have to do the best we can and trust to luck. You can bet I shall do my best to pull through safely. You must all enjoy yourselves and not bother about me."