In Memory Of

FRED KNOWLES

Private 17143
20th Bn., Manchester Regiment
who died on Saturday, 1st July 1916. Age 25

Born Denton, Manchester **Enlisted** Manchester **Residence** Hyde, Cheshire

Died How Killed in action **Theatre of War** France & Flanders

Additional Inf. Son of Robert and Lizzie Knowles, of 140, George St. Hyde, Ches.

Commemorative Information

Cemetery: DANTZIG ALLEY BRITISH CEMETERY, MAMETZ, Somme, France
Grave Reference/ Panel Number: V. J. 5.
Location: Mametz is a village about 8 kilometres east of the town of Albert. The Cemetery is a little east of the village on the north side of the road, D64, to Montauban.

Historical Information: Dantzig Alley British Cemetery was named from a German trench. Mametz was carried by the 7th Division on the 1st July, 1916, after very hard fighting at Dantzig Alley and other points. The cemetery was begun later in the same month; it was used by Field Ambulances and fighting units until the following November. The ground was lost in March, 1918, and regained in August, and a few graves were added in August and September, 1918. The cemetery consisted, at the Armistice, of 183 graves, now in Plot I; but it was then very greatly increased by the concentration of graves (almost all of 1916) from certain smaller burial grounds and from the battlefields North and East of Mametz. There are now over 2,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, some 500 are unidentified and special memorials are erected to 17 soldiers from the United Kingdom, known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials record the names of 70 soldiers from the United Kingdom and one from New Zealand, buried in other cemeteries, whose graves were destroyed by shell fire. Five French and seven German graves have been removed to other cemeteries. The cemetery covers an area of 5,722 square metres and is enclosed by a brick wall. The following were among the burial grounds from which British graves were brought to this cemetery:- AEROPLANE CEMETERY, FRICOURT, on the old German front line to the South of Fricourt village. It contained the graves of 24 N.C.Os. and men of the 20th Manchesters who fell on the 1st July, 1916. BOTTOM WOOD CEMETERY, FRICOURT, on the South edge of a small wood between Mametz and Fricourt Woods. This was a Field Ambulance station for some months from July, 1916, and the cemetery contained the graves of 98 soldiers from the United Kingdom, five from New Zealand and one from Australia. BULGAR ALLEY CEMETERY, MAMETZ, 230 metres East of the village, named from a trench. It contained the graves of 24 soldiers from the United Kingdom, who fell on the 1st July, 1916, and all but one of whom belonged to the 22nd Manchesters. HARE LANE CEMETERY, FRICOURT, at the North-West corner of the village, named from a trench. It contained the graves of 54 soldiers from the United Kingdom who fell on the 1st and 2nd July, 1916, and of whom 49 belonged to the 10th West Yorks. MAMETZ GERMAN CEMETERY, in which 12 soldiers from the United Kingdom were buried by their comrades in July and August, 1916. This cemetery was near the crossing of the Fricourt-Maricourt and Mametz-Bray roads. MANSEL COPSE CEMETERY, MAMETZ, on the Fricourt-Maricourt road, near the present Devonshire Cemetery: and MANSEL COPSE WEST CEMETERY, MAMETZ, 460 metres further West. These contained the graves of 51 men of the 2nd Border Regiment, who fell on the 1st July, 1916. MONTAUBAN ROAD CEMETERY, CARNOY, which contained the graves of 25 soldiers from the United Kingdom (almost all of the 18th Division) who fell on the 1st July, 1916.