Surname	Hobbs
Forename(s)	William Henry
Initials	WH
Age	23
Honours/Awards	
Date died	12/03/1915
Rank	Corporal
Regiment	The Kings (Liverpool Regiment)
Unit/Squadron	4 <sup>th</sup> Bn.
Service Number	13437
Cemetery/Memorial	Vjeille-Chappelle New Military Cemetery
Grave Reference	Richebourg-St. Vaast Churchyard. Mem. 7.
Further Information	Resided at 4 Guinea Bank, Demesne Street, Seacombe



**News Report** 

## Killed At Neuve Chapelle

Circumstances especially sad connect themselves with the death in the capture of Neuve Chapelle of Corporal William Henry Hobbs, of the 4<sup>th</sup> Liverpool Regiment. He lost his life within a week of his arrival in France, and apparently during his first day in the trenches.

The news of his death has reached his home at 4, Guinea Bank, Demesne Street, Seacombe, in a letter from a cousin, Lance Corporal Stanley Scott, who enlisted with him in August and was fighting beside him.

From this it appears that Corporal Hobbs was mortally wounded in the head, being struck by a piece of shrapnel. He lived for about a quarter of an hour afterwards, but was insensible throughout.

His cousin remained with him until the end. Corporal Hobbs was drafted to

France on March 6<sup>th</sup>, and he died on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Twenty-three years of age, he was in civilian life a railway guardsman in Liverpool. His experience in the Territorial's made him an especially useful recruit to the new armies. For several years he had been a member of the  $9^{th}$  Liverpool, serving for some time as bugler, but he had withdrawn from the corps before war broke out. However, he immediately enlisted in the  $4^{th}$  Battalion when the call to arms came, and his smartness early marked him for promotion, so that very soon he was wearing a corporal's stripes. Prior to the war he had given useful service to the Scout movement.

## References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

<u>back</u>