

MILITARY FUNERAL AT LUTON.

Rifleman B. Whittemore.

Large numbers of people witnessed the full military honours accorded the late Rifleman Bertie Whittemore, one of five fighting sons of Mr. and Mrs. Whittemore, of 42, King's-road, Luton, at the funeral on Thursday.

Rifleman Whittemore died last Saturday week in a military hospital at Sandgate, Kent, from terrible wounds received at the front on May 10th.

His body was brought to Luton on Tuesday, and the Mayor (Councillor W. J. Primett) was instrumental in arranging for full military honours, and attended the Church Cemetery with the Mayoress.

The Rev. G. F. Sloan, of the Luton Parish Church, officiated at the interment. All along the route from King's-road to the Cemetery there were manifestations of public sympathy, and around the graveside a dense crowd assembled.

A gun carriage and team for the conveyance of the coffin was supplied by the 4th Staffordshire Battery, 2/3rd Brigade, North Midland R.F.A. A Union Jack covered the coffin, and on the coffin and the gun carriage were many of the very beautiful floral tributes which were received by the relatives. The band of the 2/6th Batt. Sherwood Foresters played on the route to the Cemetery, while at the head of the procession there was a firing party of the 2/7th Notts and Derby Regt. (a rifle battalion), who marched with arms reversed. About 200 other men from this battalion, with several officers, followed the coaches.

Three volleys were fired over the grave, and the "Last Post" was sounded at the close of a very impressive ceremony.

The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. Whittemore (father and mother), Messrs. Gus Horace, Ernest, Lee, and Victor Whittemore (brothers), Misses Bessie and Maggie Whittemore (sisters), Mr. and Mrs. A. Burgess (sister and brother-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. F. Craddock (sister and brother-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. H. Stares (sister and brother-in-law), Mrs. E. Whittemore, Mrs. Gus Whittemore, Mrs. H. Whittemore (sisters-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. H. Allen (uncle and aunt), Mr. Percy Whittemore (cousin), and Mr. H. Odell (a comrade from the trenches). A number of friends followed.

It was stated in error in the "News" on Thursday last that Mr. Victor Whittemore had been on H.M.S. Victory. This should have read H.M.S. Queen Mary.