

DEATH OF CAPTAIN T. S. B. KEMBLE

We much regret to report the death of Capt. Thomas S. B. Kemble, of the 3rd Battalion Essex Regt., which occurred on Monday in Selangor, F. Malay States. Capt. Kemble, who was only 25 years of age, was the elder son of Capt. H. F. Kemble, R.N., D.L., J.P., and Mrs. Kemble of Great Claydons, East Hanningfield. The cause of death was fever.

Capt. Thomas Seymour Brand Kemble was born on the 20th. June, 1883. He was educated at Horris Hill, Berks, and at Eton. At the earliest date it was possible to enter, viz., on his 17th. Birthday, the late Colonel Digby Neave applied for him to be gazetted to his regiment, the 3rd. Essex (Militia), then embodied at Dublin. Since that date he has been almost continuously employed, and was promoted to Captain in July, 1905, at the age of 22. During the manoeuvres in Essex he acted as A.D.C. to General Grahame, and also to Colonel Lucas during two volunteer trainings. On the disbandment of the 3rd. Essex Regt. Capt. Kemble was gazetted to the Special Reserve. In January last he sailed to Selangor to take up rubber growing, and shortly before his death he had been given a responsible post as manager of a rubber estate.

The deceased officer was extremely popular with the officers and men of his regiment, and was much respected and loved by the inhabitants of East Hanningfield and the neighbourhood. As an instance of how the same qualities stood him in good stead among the natives, on his return recently from hospital after an attack of fever, 600 Malays under his supervision voluntarily paraded before him, and through their head man, gave him a verbal address of welcome.

Capt. T. S. B. Kemble was absolutely devoted to all field sports, and had out in the Malay States a “Bobbery pack” to hunt deer, wild pig, jackals, etc. One of his most treasured possessions was a hunting horn which his father had sent out to him.

A memorial service will be held at East Hanningfield Church to-day (Saturday) at 3.45pm.