

TH OF BURKE'S PASS MAN.

and Mrs Smart, Burke's Pass,
received a letter from Private Wm.
ie, in which the writer says:—

"It is with the deepest sympathy and regret that I am writing to you, to tell you of your son Charlie's end. All the boys out here who knew him join with me in sending you and your family our heartfelt sympathy, for Charlie was loved and respected by all who knew him, and we his mates out here feel his loss very much. Charlie and I were on the same gun that day, and I assure you that if ever a man deserved recognition for bravery it was Charlie. He hardly ever left the gun all day, though we were subjected to terrific shell-fire and machine-guns all the time. It was only after the protection of in front of the guns had been battered down by shells and the Turks were within sixty yards that his gun had to be withdrawn about twelve yards into a more convenient place to be able to get at the charging enemy. It was in the act of changing positions that I got wounded, and when I was taken away Charlie was shooting away again, as cool as ever. When I got to the dressing station I heard that he had been hit by a piece of a shell which destroyed the gun. I was sent on to a dressing station straight away so did not get a chance to see him again. He was brought down to the first dressing station but did not live long. Even at the last he wished others to be taken to the dressing station before him. You should be proud of your noble son, one of the whitest men out here, and one always thought of others before himself. If ever we get back to the place where he was buried I will see that his grave is properly done up, and a fitting cross erected on it."

Copy

Newspaper

@
Timaru

31 March
1918