

Sunday

16th Aug.

42.

G. D. GARDNER. (541)

PMX 98039.

MESS 31

HMS Edinburgh

Castle.

Dear Mr & Mrs Lane.

40 G.P.O

London.

It is with deepest regret that I write these few lines this evening, & my sincerest condolence is extended to yourselves & the fiancée of your dear son Charles.

We were great chums having met in Barracks & travelled out together, - possibly you have heard of me & one day I hope I may have the pleasure of meeting you to let you have some full details of the last Respects to be paid to our messmate at the Cemetery ashore at Freetown this morning.

I had the honour to be

present amongst about 100
men with the Captain Commander
of the Edinburgh Castle, at the
Naval Funeral, at 10:30 AM.

Charles & I had a lot in
common as we found out
whilst messing together, - we
were both able to talk of
old friends whom we knew
in Brethren Assemblies in
bye-gone days.

I believe with the Apostle
we can say of your dear one
"To be with Christ which is
far better".

Believe me this place
is real disgrace to the Nation
& (D.V.) I hope to be moving
away to another station
soon. - Charles is better off, at
Home with the Lord

Unfortunately, I cannot give you any first hand information of the fatality as I was not present at the time, but I expect by now you will have heard from the other sources.

I realise what a tremendous blow the News will be so I will not enlarge upon it further.

My kinsmen join me with their deepest sympathies at this time of your bereavement.

Yours very sincerely

Ernest Gardner

P.S. If I can be of any assistance with further information I shall be only too pleased to help.

On Active Service

RECEIVED FROM
H.M. SHIPS

Mrs & Mrs M Lane
42 Carnichael Court
Grove Rd.

England.

Barnes

SH. 13.

