

Brave Bexhill Sailor.

Distinguished Service Medal

Among the number of Naval heroes who were mentioned in the despatches sent to the Admiralty dealing with the battle of Heligoland on August 28th, in which the English gained a splendid victory, appears the name of Albert Edmund Sellens, whose father and mother were at one time well-known Bexhill people, Mr. Sellens carrying on the business of a carrier. This brave sailor joined the Navy about twelve years ago, and on the outbreak of the War was on board the destroyer "Laurel", which was one of the vessels which was in the thick of the fight. The despatch commending Sellens for his conduct and which was written by Commodore R. J. Tyrwhitt, states:-

"Albert Edmunds Sellens, Able Seaman (I.T.O.), O.N. 217245, who was stationed at the fore torpedo tubes; he remained at his post throughout the entire action, although wounded in the arm, and then rendered first aid in a very able manner before being attended to himself."

Sellens has been awarded the Distinguished Medal.

After the action, he went to his parents, who now reside in Lincolnshire, but only remained with them a few days, and then returned to his vessel. There are four other members of the same family – a sister, who resides in Bexhill, and three brothers, all of whom are serving the King. Their names are: Ernest Sellens, who has joined the R.A.M.C., and is now training at Aldershot; Sergeant-Major Percy Sellens, a member of the R.F.A.; and Leading-Signalman Frederick Sellens, on H.M.S. "Astrea", now serving in the vicinity of Togoland.