

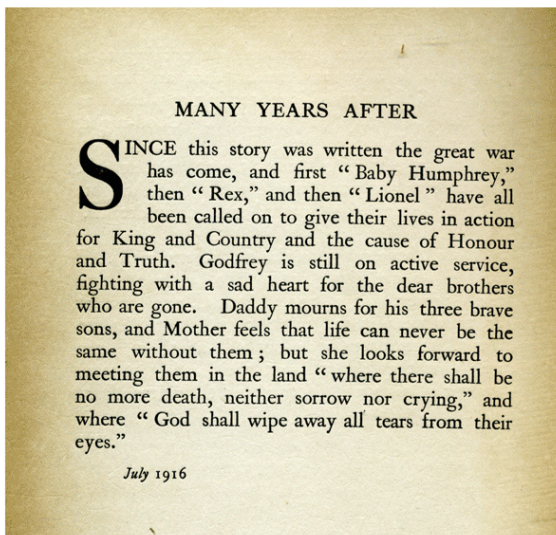
Four Little Brothers by Ellinor F. Barrington-Kennett.
Wells Gardner, Darton & Co Ltd, London.

The mother of the four boys, Ellinor Frances Barrington-Kennett was a children's author and in 1916 she wrote a small book called 'Four Little Brothers' about the exploits of Rex, Godfrey, Lionel and Humphrey. It is clear from the individual tales that the book is based on the adventures of her own children.

One tale tells of the day when the ice froze on the lake and everyone went skating but unfortunately the ice broke and Lionel fell into the water; a few days later he developed pneumonia and was confined to bed. The lake sounds very much like the one in Petworth Park which was popular with skaters at that time. Another describes an accident in which Godfrey lost two fingers and we know that Godwin had just such an accident.



The last page of Ellinor's book is deeply poignant and gives us a glimpse into the grief of two parents who have lost three of their four children in war.



MANY YEARS AFTER

SINCE this story was written the great war has come, and first "Baby Humphrey," then "Rex," and then "Lionel" have all been called on to give their lives in action for King and Country and the cause of Honour and Truth. Godfrey is still on active service, fighting with a sad heart for the dear brothers who are gone. Daddy mourns for his three brave sons, and Mother feels that life can never be the same without them; but she looks forward to meeting them in the land "where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying," and where "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

July 1916