This is A Few Forgotten Women Story



This is one of a series of stories about those who served with the Voluntary Aid Detachment.

Mabel Paget-Tomlinson (also known as Alice Mabel Paget-Tomlinson) VAD Westmorland 10

The Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) records indicates that Mabel Paget-Tomlinson worked for VAD Westmorland 10 and her address was The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale, Westmorland.ⁱ A search of the 1911 census sourced a Alice Mable Paget-Tomlinson living at The Biggins with her father, William Smith Paget-Tomlinson and two siblings, Thomas Rothwell Paget-Tomlinson and Edward Edmondson Paget-Tomlinson.ⁱⁱ

Alice was born in Great Crosby, Lancashire on the 24th June 1879.^{iii iv} Her birth was registered as Alice Mabel Paget and her mother's birth name was Price.^v In the 1881 census, Alice along with her parents (Willam and Margaret) and two brothers lived at Torton Lodge, Great Crosby, West Derby. Alice Mabel's father was a medical doctor.^{vi}

In the 1891 census, the family had moved to The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale.vii Alice's father was a retired physician. The entry on the form has the surname for the family as P.Tomlinson. Also present with the family was a governess, a nurse and two other servants. Information from the Royal College of Physicians website indicates that William Smith Paget changed his name in 1899 to William Smith Paget-

Tomlinson following the death of a relation, Miss Elizabeth Tomlinson. A biography for William Smith Paget-Tomlinson is available via the Royal College of Physicians website.

Alice was age 11 in 1891. Her younger brother Edward was 8 years of age. Alice's two older brothers (William and Thomas) boarded at Aldenham Grammar School in Aldenham, Hertfordshire at the time of the 1891 census.^{ix}

No record can be sourced for Alice being noted in the UK 1901 census returns. Her parents, William and Margaret resided at 68 Regency Square, Brighton, Sussex. William aged 52 was a retired doctor. Alice's brothers were recorded as follows in the 1901 census returns:

- Thomas Rothwell Paget-Tomlinson (age 25); Captain in the West of Scotland
 Artillery. Based at Leith.xi
- Willian Paget-Tomlinson (age 23); Seventh Hussars Queens Own, at Aldershot.xii
- Edward Edmondson Paget-Tomlinson (age 18); Pupil at Aldenham Grammer School).xiii

By the time of the 1911 census, Alice was a resident at The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale and is single. Also present was her father, William, a retired physician who was married. However, Margaret his wife was not on the 1911 census at The Biggins. Alice's two siblings, Thomas and Edward also resided at The Biggins. Thomas and Edward remained single, and Edward worked as a physician surgeon. Several staff supported the family: one housekeeper and eleven servants.xiv Alice's brother, William had remained in the Seventh Hussars Queens Own and in 1911 was noted to be a Captain living at Hounslow.xv

During World War One, The VAD records recorded Alice as Mabel Paget-Tomlinson. The records confirmed that Mabel resided at The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale, Westmorland and undertook general duties between 12th March 1915 - 25th October 1915. At the Lowfields Hospital and Underley Hospital, Mabel worked over one thousand hours (part time) as part of the VAD Westmorland 10.

Both these hospitals were situated in Kirby Lonsdale.*vi

In the 1921 census, Alice continued to be known as Mabel and was a visitor at Hampstead House, Bosham, Sussex.xvii

Alice's parents both died in the 1930s. Her mother, Margaret Elizabeth died on the 22nd January 1933 in Edinburgh.xviii</sup> Margaret's address was The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale whilst her father, William Smith Paget-Tomlinson, died on the 8th February 1937 at The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale.xix Alice's elder brother, Thomas Rothwell Paget-Tomlinson had never married and died the month prior to his father on the 16th January 1937, and had resided at The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale.xx The two remaining brothers married and had family. The elder brother William Paget-Tomlison of Biggins House, Kirby Lonsdale died in 1962.xxi He had remained in the military rising to the rank of Colonel.xxii His younger brother, Edward died in 1953 in Ulverston, Lancashire.xxiii In the 1939 Register, Edward was a retired doctor.xxiiv

Alice Mabel Paget-Tomlinson never married. In 1938, it is noted on the passenger list that she was single. She had arrived at Southampton port on the 25th April 1938 having left Buenos Aries on the Ship Asturias stopping at the ports of Montevideo, Rio De Janeiro, Madeira and Lisbon.** In the 1939 England and Wales Register, Alice Mabel is at the Graythwaite Manor Hotel, Grange, Lancashire living from private means.**

By the time of her death on the 21st October 1953, Alice Mabel Paget-Tomlinson was residing in Cheshire.^{xxvii} She died age 74 years of age.

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