



A COMPANION TO FOND P206, THE ROBERT ATKINSON  
COLLECTION: RESEARCH OF A PHOTO ALBUM COMPILED BY ONE  
CHARLES SAMUEL WATSON (1894-1965) WITH MILITARY PHOTOS  
FROM 1915-17 Research by John Burger



ROBERT S. ATKINSON COLLECTION  
FOND P206  
PHOTO ALBUM 2:  
A RESEARCH COMPANION  
INTRODUCTION AND CLARIFICATIONS

The most important clarification to be made is that the only photos in this album that can conclusively be said to be from Northern Ontario are the ones that refer to the Kapuskasing Internment Camp. There is no evidence that any of the non military photos are from the Clay Belt or anywhere else in Northern Ontario.

The album pages were not apparently bound when they came into the possession of Mr. Atkinson so the order of presentation is somewhat random. The labelling of the individual photos with letters of the alphabet (A- PP) was done by Mr. Atkinson, not the original photographer.

There has been an error in the archival numbering of the pages in that there is no PAGE 32 in the online presentation. It does not mean that a page of the album was omitted however. The particular way that the photos have been labelled by Mr. Atkinson shows that there was no omission. That is, in the online presentation, page 31's photos are EE. Page 33's are FF. The mislabelling just needs to be noted by anyone researching to avoid confusion.

Without captions on most of the photos one can only guess at most of the non military locations but some general info can be gleaned. The owner of the album obviously survived the war. He was well travelled as there are photos of the mountains and other western scenes including one photo that includes a vehicle with a 1923 Alberta license plate (N5-Pg. 14).

As well, there are photos that can be presumed to be from the east coast with photos of the legendary Bluenose sailing schooner seen on the Canadian dime (L1&3-Pg.12, T3-Pg.20). None of the non military photos in the album have any labels or other identifying notes. We can only make an assumption that the photos are of the album compiler's childhood, his family and friends from both before and after the war.

There is nothing in the album that specifically identifies the man who would have taken the photos and compiled the album. I was intrigued to find out if he could somehow be identified. It was clear that whoever took the photos was a close friend of **Harold Robert Whale, Regimental #317015** who is featured in many of the photos both at Kapuskasing and in England. I explored various options without success until it was suggested I look at regimental #'s next to Harold's. The solution came then. One man, his regimental # being sequential to Harold's at **#317014**, was **Charles Samuel Watson**. He is the only person that could be the owner of the album and his story is in the document **Watson and Whale** herein. They both served at Kapuskasing at the same time (On their attestation documents their time in Kap is documented), enlisted to the CEF together, on the same day at the same place to the same regiment. Other photos and captions correspond to the military file entries of Charles' movements while in the army. On pg. 27 of the album Photo AA3 he is captioned "C.S. Watson" standing beside Harold. On page 36, photo III1 you see it is the same man, captioned "CSW", who is in so many of the photos from both Kapuskasing and Bramshott. As noted, his story is fleshed out in the document "Watson and Whale".

An attempt was made to identify as many of the men identified in the album as possible. It was not always an easy task as Charles had misspelled some of the men's names. It was a process to ferret out much of the information by reviewing hundreds of military records, cross referencing info to succeed in linking the men to Charles, the Kapuskasing Camp and/or to Bramshott within a specific period of time. Included in this fond is a one page document that lists every name mentioned in the album and the specific photo information (ie: Page # and photo id). For those men positively identified by military records, their regimental #'s are included. 8 of the men never returned home as they were killed in action. 4 of the men identified were wounded in action.

Each of the men who were identified as serving in the CEF are discussed in other documents in this fond.

It was confirmed that the photos at Kapuskasing would have been taken between August and December of 1915. The photos at Bramshott would all be from April to July of 1916. There are further photos that include Charles up until 1917 at various locations which correspond to his military file.

This companion fond that follows includes one page that lists each person captioned in the album, the specific photos in which they appear and, if their identity and military record are known, their regimental numbers are noted as well as whether they may have been killed or wounded. 22 of those named in the album have been positively identified.

A detailed document titled **Watson and Whale 1915-1916** follows the above mentioned list.

Following this is a document titled **Men Of The 74th Battalion Machine Gun Section: Bramshott England Summer 1916** that describes how a group of men from different battalions came together for a short time in the summer of 1916.

We then have a document that lists all of the 22 men who have been positively identified followed by their individual stories as told in their military records freely accessed through Library and Archives Canada as well as a few newspaper sites accessed through the local library. I also derived info from some forums related to the CEF and sites that honour men from WW1.

Lastly, a document is included following the intriguing story of one Sam Miteff, formerly of Bulgaria who some how was hired as a guard at the Kapuskasing Internment Camp.

I welcome any critiques of the research and any additional information anyone might be able to provide. My research was done with freely available material online. Others with access to info behind pay walls may be able to add significant details. Newspapers.com comes to mind.

John Burger Nov. 2022

Men identified by Watson in album – ALPHABETICAL  
**Name, Regimental # if confirmed, Album Pg. # and Photo #**  
**KIA** =Killed in action **WIA**= wounded in action

<p>Big Ash (36 II2)</p> <p><b>Boshier</b>, Arthur William (Art) #<b>1081440</b> (25 Y1), (31 EE5)</p> <p>Bridgeman, [actually <b>Bridgman</b>, Fred Willard] #<b>540361 KIA</b> (26 Z1) (28 BB4) (30 DD2)</p> <p><b>Brown</b>, Hick [actually <b>Brown</b>, Fred Russell] #<b>135989 KIA</b> (26 Z1) (28 BB4) (30 DD2) (37 JJ1)</p> <p><b>Butt</b>, Herbert Richard #<b>135991 KIA</b> (26 Z1) (28 BB4) (30 DD2)</p> <p><b>Butterworth</b>, Charles Cleveland #<b>778570</b> (38 KK3)</p> <p><b>Clarke</b>, Frederick Fieldhouse, Lieut. Colonel (25 Y4) (40 MM4)</p> <p><b>Clegg</b>, Robert #<b>778388</b> (40 MM2)</p> <p><b>Clendenning</b>, Chancellor Eanas #<b>540232</b> (26 Z1) (28BB4) (30 DD2)</p> <p><b>Croney</b>, Joseph (43 PP1)</p> <p><b>Demill</b>, Frank #<b>540352 KIA</b> (26 Z1) (28 BB4) (30 DD2)</p> <p><b>Dillon</b>, David John #<b>778391 KIA</b> (38 KK2)</p> <p><b>Frazer</b> (26 Z5)</p> <p><b>Gilson</b> (44 QQ1)</p> <p><b>Gordon</b>, John Henry (Jack) #<b>316903</b> (23 W4) (25 Y1) (27 AA3) (31 EE4) (36 II1)</p> <p><b>Harper</b>, Donald Stiver #<b>778571</b> (40 MM2)</p> <p><b>Jervis</b>, David #<b>778437</b> (38 KK2)</p>	<p>Kaufman [actually <b>Kaufmann</b>, Edwin John, Lieutenant <b>WIA</b> (30 DD4)</p> <p><b>Keslick</b>, Harry Bertram #<b>1260540 MM</b> (44 QQ1)</p> <p><b>Mac</b> (26 Z5) (36 II1)</p> <p><b>Mackintosh</b>, Dan (25 Y1)</p> <p>McKillveny [actually <b>McKillvenny</b>, Charles Henry] #<b>136092</b> (26 Z3)</p> <p><b>McKendrick</b>, Andrew Robert (Andy) #<b>778569</b> (25 Y1) (36 II3)</p> <p>Metiff [actually <b>Miteff</b> ,Sam #<b>1054341</b> (31 EE3)</p> <p>Old Top (36 II2)</p> <p>Nurse Peggy (16 P1)</p> <p>Porter, Deac [actually <b>Porter</b>, Hugh Edward Dick] #<b>135209 KIA</b> (37 JJ1)</p> <p><b>Riddell</b>, William Andrew (Bill) #<b>316968 WIA</b> (23W5) (25 Y1) (27 AA3)</p> <p><b>Roger</b>, Frank Arthur #<b>135835 KIA</b> (26 Z1) (28 BB4) (30 DD2)</p> <p><b>Smith</b>, D.W. (27 AA3)</p> <p>Sonoski [actually <b>Sosnoski</b>, Frank Francis] #<b>126137 KIA</b> (26 Z3) (35 HH1)</p> <p>Sergeant <b>Stone</b> (44 QQ4)</p> <p><b>Train</b>, George Morley # <b>540252 WIA x 2</b></p> <p>Capt. R. <b>Walker</b> (25 Y4)</p> <p>Gnr. <b>Williams</b> (44 QQ1)</p>
<p><b>Watson</b> Charles Samuel #<b>317014</b> (8 H8) (10J2) (26 Z4) (27 AA2 and AA3) (28 BB2) (33 FF2) (36 II1 and II2) (37 JJ2) (41 NN3) (42 OO2)</p>	
<p><b>Whale</b> Harold Robert #<b>317015 WIA</b> (24 X4) (25Y1 and Y2) (26 Z2 and Z3) (27 AA4) (28 BB5) (33 FF1) (36 II3) (38 KK3) (41 NN1 and NN2) (40 MM2)</p>	
<p><b>Charles and Harold together in same photo:</b> (17 Q5) (23 W1) (24 X1) (25 Y4) (27 AA3) (28 BB3) (29 CC1 and CC2) (30 DD3 and DD5) (37 JJ2) (39 LL1)</p>	

**THE FOLLOWING PAGES HAVE THE STORIES OF THE POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED SOLDIERS**  
**John Burger Nov. 2022**



# WATSON AND WHALE

## 1915-1916



KAPUSKASING 1915 29 CC2



BRAMSHOTT ENGLAND 1916 28 BB3

The photos are labelled with Album page # and Photo code. e.g.: 29 CC2 indicates Page 29 in album and individual photo CC2

P206- Robert S. (Bob) Atkinson Collection Photo Album #2  
<http://www.uhearst.ca/archives/index.php/collection-robert-s-bob-atkinson/>

## WATSON AND WHALE

In December of 1914, a contingent of soldiers and officers of the York Rangers Militia of Toronto, accompanied a group of mainly Ukrainian internees to a lonely railway siding in Northern Ontario soon to be named Kapuskasing. The goal was to establish a camp, clear land out of the thick bush and lay the groundwork for a future agricultural experimental station. The commanding officer of the unit was Lieutenant Colonel **Frederick Fieldhouse Clarke**. He remained at the camp, overseeing the operations until November of 1915. At that time he was asked to return to Toronto to head up the formation of a new Canadian Expeditionary Force(CEF) battalion, the 127<sup>th</sup>. The battalion began recruiting in January of 1916. A large number of members of his York Rangers militiamen, including several of those who had served under him at Kapuskasing, heeded the call and attested to the 127<sup>th</sup>. Clarke is identified in photo Y4, Pg. 25 of the album. The album owner dates the photo as being taken November 1, 1915. This group photo was probably taken just before he returned to Toronto.



25 Y4

Whale

Clarke

Watson

The following paragraphs will provide some detail on the lives of two young men who are also included in that group photograph. They are seated in the same row as Clarke. **Harold Robert Whale (Regimental #317015)**, seated second from the the left and his good friend **Charles Samuel Watson (Regimental #317014)**, seated 3<sup>rd</sup> from the right. Details gleaned from the photographs in the album and captions as well as from the military files of Watson and Whale, plus a few other sources definitively reveal that the unidentified owner of this photo album is actually Charles. Following is a glimpse into the lives of the friendship of two young men over a period of a year, 1915-16. For Watson, we get a glimpse, in his photos, of his military life up until 1918. It appears that Watson and Whale served at the Kapuskasing camp from roughly August to December of 1915.

More than 100 years ago, on January 17, 1916, two young men, **Harold Robert Whale (Regimental #317015, DOB: 14-Apr.-1895)** and **Charles Samuel Watson (Regimental #317014, DOB: 2-May-1894)** arrived at a recruiting centre in Toronto to enlist in the new CEF battalion headed by their previous commander at the Kapuskasing Internment Camp, Lieutenant Colonel **Frederick Fieldhouse Clarke**.



Harold was 20 years old, 5'8" with fair hair and blue eyes. He had been working as a lithographer prior to joining the militia. Charles, a dry goods store clerk, was 21, 5'10" with dark hair and brown eyes. They both resided in Toronto.

Also with Watson and Whale on that day was Harold's younger brother **Thomas Lloyd Whale (Regimental #778385)**, age 18. Thomas stayed with the 127<sup>th</sup>. He had also served in Kapuskasing but is not identified in any of the Camp photos. More on him later.

It is documented on Watson and Whale's attestation papers that they had served at Kapuskasing for 5 months. Charles took many photos there of his fellow militiamen, the surroundings, the internees and their activities as seen in this album. It's not known if Watson and Whale knew each other before their time in the militia but they were clearly good friends while serving at the Camp. Whale is identifiable in many, many of the photos from Kapuskasing.

Although Watson and Whale's attestation papers were signed off by a Major of the 127<sup>th</sup> battalion, either by choice or by direction and on that day or soon after, they were both assigned to the 74<sup>th</sup> battalion as seen stamped on their attestation papers. Note that their regimental numbers are consecutive establishing that they were together at enlistment.

Watson and Whale went through basic training with the 74<sup>th</sup> battalion. The unit left Toronto by train to Halifax late in March of 1916. Watson has photos of the train trip in the album (pages 28, 42).



28 BB5 Whale



Whale 41 NN1

On March 29<sup>th</sup>, the 74<sup>th</sup> boarded the SS Empress of Britain and sailed for England.

They arrived in Liverpool on April 9, 1916 and made their way to Bramshott Military Camp in Hampshire. It is here that Watson took a series of photographs of new and old friends sharing a good natured and probably nervous camaraderie as they trained for the trenches. The photos would have been taken between April and early August of 1916.

In the photos the men are happy and goofing for the camera. It is sobering to see the captions that Charles added to the album at a later date. The names of several smiling men and the KIA after their name meaning that they were "killed in action." (pages 28, 35, 37)

Watson, Whale and other men featured in the Bramshott photos all attended a Lewis Machine Gun course either at Bramshott or in a trip to the Aldershott camp in April, 1916. The Lewis was a light machine gun extensively used in WW1.

As the summer progressed there were many changes as the 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion began to be broken up in order to reinforce other battalions at the front. In July, the pair were transferred to the 102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.

Harold Whale proceeded to the trenches in France with the 102<sup>nd</sup> on August 11, 1916. Charles however, was held back and transferred to a Field Artillery Battalion.


A couple of months later, Harold received a gunshot wound to his back. He was evacuated to England where he had surgery to remove the bullet and was also treated for shell shock. The wound permanently limited the use of one arm so he could not return to the front. He was able to remain in England however, carrying out various functions at supply depots etc. He returned to Canada in May of 1919 and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant. I was unable to discover anything of his life after the war.

And what of Harold's younger brother Thomas who had also been at Kapuskasing? Thomas served with the 127<sup>th</sup>, re-designated as the 2nd Battalion Canadian Railway Troops by the time they reached France. Right up until the night of November 4<sup>th</sup> 1918. It was on that day, just one week before the armistice to end the war was signed, that Thomas was killed at Busigny France by artillery shell shrapnel. He is buried at the nearby Premont British Cemetery (Plot 2 Row E Grave 16).

**SAPPER T. L. WHALE KILLED**

Enlisted Two Years Ago and Met Death Only Week Before the Armistice.

Sapper T. Lloyd Whale, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Whale, 335 Brock Avenue, was killed in action on Nov. 4, just one week before the signing of the armistice. Sapper Whale enlisted over two years ago with the 127th Battalion and at the time of his death was attached to headquarters as a despatch rider. He was 23 years of age and attended the Collego Street Methodist Church. Sapper Whale received his education at Brock Avenue School.



Toronto Star - Nov. 27, 1918



Charles remained in England after transfer to the field artillery. There are many notations on his file but there is much use of abbreviations that are not clear to this writer as to what he was involved in. In Charles' album he has a photo (38 FF2) of himself with some other men holding various tools of the trade for artillery men. The caption he wrote is "Catterick, Yorkshire, 1917". There is one clear notation on his military file that as of Mar. 16, 1917 Charles was indeed at "Siege Depot Catterick, for courses of instruction." Charles is on the far left in the photo.



38 FF2                      Watson              Catterick              March 1917

Charles embarked for the front in France on Mar. 18, 1917. During his time in France he appears to have been attached to an artillery unit, but then also later in 1917 he was with a Canadian Corps of Signals Unit and had terms of being a Sergeant..

In June of 1917, Charles spent a couple of weeks in hospital in France after falling into a trench, aggravating a previous (pre war) injury of his left knee. He recovered and returned to his Unit.



Gnr. WILLIAMS;  
L-Cpl GILSON, Cpl. KESLICK. M.M.

In the photograph (44 QQ) above from the album we see “CPL. KESLICK, MM”. He is **Cpl. Harry Bertram Keslick, Reg. #1260540**. The MM denotes that he had been awarded a Military Medal. The medal was awarded to Warrant Officers, Non commissioned Officers and non commissioned members for individual or associated acts of bravery.

How might this photo connect to Watson? If you note the medal card below you will see that under the heading “Authority”, it reads “R.O. [Reporting Officer] - **Watson**” It would appear that it was Charles who had recommended the medal for Keslick.. As noted, Charles was a Sgt. with the Signal Corps at the time and would have been Keslick's direct superior NCO. Charles was in theatre during the dates mentioned in November of 1917. The actions that led to the medal are detailed below.

Medal card found on website **RCSigs.ca** a site “dedicated to capturing, preserving and sharing the rich history of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and its antecedents”

[http://www.rcsigs.ca/index.php/File:Keslick,\\_Harry\\_Bertram\\_medal\\_card\\_MM.jpg](http://www.rcsigs.ca/index.php/File:Keslick,_Harry_Bertram_medal_card_MM.jpg)

Name		Rank	Number	Unit	Honour or Award.
KESLICK. H.B.		A/ 2nd Cpl.	1260540	Canadian Signals. C.E. Attd. 2nd H.A.	MILITARY MEDAL
Authority.	Date.	RECEIPT 5517		Details.	
R.O. 1614 Watson.	4-1-18	TO BE CONTINUED ON BACK OF CARD IF NECESSARY.			
L.G. 30573.	13-3-18	MILITARY MEDAL.			
Other Awards.		This N.C.O. was detailed to assist in the work of keeping up communication with the O.P. in PASSCHENDABLE during the operations in Nov: 1917. Throughout the period from Nov: 7th to Nov: 29th, this N.C.O. laid and patrolled numerous lines in his endeavour to keep communication with the O.P. The area in which he worked was under constant and heavy shell fire and he showed great coolness and initiative and took innumerable risks to assist his senior N.C.O. His example was a great help to the parties detailed to work under him. ( A.P.W. 15-11-17)			
Nature	Authority	Date.			

In December of 1918, Charles sustained another injury in a fall, this time affecting both knees. The situation did not improve after 6 weeks in hospital in France. He was then sent to hospital back in England. Charles was unable to return to France. He was diagnosed with chronic bursitis of both knees after time in several hospitals in 1918. In the photo album, on page 44 there is a blank space where a photo (QQ3) had once been. Below it there is the caption “*Moore Bcks Hosp. Feb. 1918.*” Moore Barracks was a Canadian military hospital at Shorncliffe England. From Charles' military file we see that he was admitted to that hospital in February 1918. On another page, there is a photo (45 X) that shows Charles with several other men. Charles is sporting crutches. In the photo Charles and a couple of other men are wearing what were called “hospital blues”. This was the uniform worn by convalescing men at Canadian military hospitals. The colour photo shows the uniform. The men would wear their normal caps and badges.

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Army Form L 1237

### MEDICAL CASE SHEET.

No. in Admission and Discharge Book 1543 Year 1918	Regimental No.	Rank.	Surname.	Christian Name.
	3170 102	Sgt	Watson	Charles.
	Unit.	Age.	Service.	
	Can. Engineers	23	2 1/2	



Page X (45)

Watson

This photo is probably the one belonging to the caption for Moore Barracks but could also be at one of the other hospitals that he was in in that year. Charles' knees never recovered to the point that he could return to the front. He remained in hospitals up until the beginning of November 1918, at which time he was "Invalided" back to Canada. After another short stay in a Burlington military hospital to process his medical condition he was medically discharged from the army on Dec. 14, 1918.

One keepsake from all the time in hospital was a photograph of a Canadian nurse he got to know at some point, named Peggy. She gave him a photo (16 P1) of herself and signed it, "Yours sincerely, Peggy, 1918" See next page.





16 P1

As was probably already made clear, the lack of captions on any of the many non military photos in the album make it impossible to fully flesh out Charles' life story. But we can assume that the photos depict himself, events, people and places in his life both as a child as well as after the war. There are only 2 photos that show Charles as an adult civilian (8 H8 and 10 J2). The only photos that can be linked to the clay belt are the internment camp photos. In the album there are a few photos of sailing vessels, including the famous schooner, **Bluenose**, launched at Halifax in 1921. In the 1921 census, Charles is recorded as residing in Halifax so probably was the one who took those photos.



10 J2

Charles Samuel Watson – Post War.

Charles was back in Toronto, working as an advertising manager when he married Nelly Chamberlain in September of 1924. There is no record to be found that reports that they had any children.

Instructions to Person Submitting Marriage: FORM 3  
 AFFIDAVIT required by provision of The Marriage Act before Licenses is granted by Issuer of Marriage Licenses.

I certify that I solemnized the marriage of—  
 between Charles S. Watson of York in the Province of Ontario  
 and Nelly Chamberlain in the Province of Ontario  
 on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 1924 at Howard Park Bk. Toronto  
 officiated by Samuel Watson  
 in the presence of Jessie Nimmo  
Amy Grigg  
Margaret Vidarsson

THAT, I believe there is no affinity, consanguinity, prior marriage or other lawful cause of legal impediment to her or hinder solemnization of the marriage, and  
 THAT the contents set forth herein are to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, true in every particular.

BETROTHEN		BRYING
NAME	<u>Charles Samuel Watson</u>	<u>Nelly Chamberlain</u>
OCCUPATION	<u>Advertising Manager</u>	<u>none</u>
CONDITION IN LIFE	<u>Bachelor</u>	<u>Spinster</u>
AGE	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
RELIGIOUS PERSUASION	<u>Presbyterian</u>	<u>Methodist</u>
RESIDENCY ADDRESS	<u>220 Clendenen St.</u>	<u>173 Pearson St.</u>

Charles passed away in 1965. He is buried at Park Lawn Cemetery in Toronto in the same plot as Nelly, as well as two of his older siblings, Jessie, sister and Clark, brother, who are listed on the same headstone..

Attempts to find any surviving descendants of the Watson's in order to share the research have so far been unsuccessful. Only one brother, Frank Garfield Watson is recorded to have had children, both now deceased.



It is hoped that anyone viewing the album will appreciate having this narrative to provide some history and information to their viewing experience of the album. There are other stories to draw from the album, such as that of Sam Miteff and other's in the photo's that will also be made available. I welcome any feedback, corrections and questions. I would appreciate that if any of this research is used, persons would be kind enough to acknowledge the source.

John Burger Nov. 2022  
 2536 Field St.  
 Sudbury Ont.

**MEN OF THE 74TH BATTALION MACHINE GUN SECTION**  
**BRAMSHOTT ENGLAND SUMMER 1916**



Charles Watson and the 74<sup>th</sup> had been training at Bramshott Canadian Military Camp since April of 1916, during which time he had taken many photos of his comrades in arms. As summer came in June there was beginning to be a lot of movement of men in and out of the battalion. This section describes the circumstances around two particular group photos in the album compiled by Charles. Photos ZZ1 on page 26 and BB4 on page 28 are identical but are significant for the two separate captions that Charles added to them. 10 men pose for a group photo. Above ZZ1 Charles writes “MG SEC. THE DIRTY DOZEN”. Under BB4 is a partial list of the men in the photo and his note on some of their fates. Of the 4 men standing Charles notes that the 3 he could remember names for, *DEMILL*, *CLENDENNING* and *BRIDGEMAN*, were all later K IN A (Killed In Action) in France. There are 6 men sitting and Charles names 3 as being killed in action, *BUTT*, *BROWN* and *ROGER* and one other, *TRAIN (W2)* which may mean wounded twice. We will see. Photo DD2 on Page 30 shows a dozen men posing in a row and seems to include all the men from the aforementioned group, so is the full complement of the *Dirty Dozen*.

Is it possible to know more about the 7 named men in the photo above? After reviewing several hundred military files, cross referencing details in files and other photos in the album with details in Watson and Whale's files the writer has been able to confirm each man's identity to a very high degree of certainty as well as to confirm or deny the accuracy of both Charles' description of their status and also his spelling of their names. Detailed information on each man can be found in another section of the research that follows. But here are the names and Regimental numbers.

**DeMill** : Frank DeMill #540352 Killed in action 9-Apr-1917 as noted in album

**Clendenning**: Chancellor Eanas Clendenning #540232 Charles was incorrect in saying KIA. He survived the war without being wounded.

**Bridgeman**: Fred Willard Bridgman #540361 Killed in action 22-Oct-1916. Note correct spelling of his name



**Butt:** Herbert Richard Butt #135991 Killed in Action 9-Apr-1917

**Brown:** Fred Russell Brown #135989 Killed in action 9-Apr-1917

**Train:** George Morley Train #540252 Was indeed W2, wounded significantly on 2 separate occasions but survived.

**Roger:** Frank Arthur Roger #135835 Killed in action 9-Apr-1917

These particular men were only together at Bramshott for a short time between 9-Jun-1916 and 17-July-1916. While Butt, Brown and Roger were original members of the 74<sup>th</sup>, Clendenning, Train, Bridgman and DeMill were only transferred into the 74<sup>th</sup> in June from the 4<sup>th</sup> Cyclist Division. It appears that they all trained on the Lewis machine gun at the same time to be part of the 74th's Machine Gun Section.

All of the named men were then transferred again on 17-Jul-1916, this time to the 102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. The 102<sup>nd</sup> was also known as the BC Battalion as the recruitment had been mainly out of Northern British Columbia. As noted previously, refer to the men's individual military bios for specifics on each. You can see that 4 of the men all died on the same day at the battle for Vimy Ridge. The 102<sup>nd</sup> suffered heavily on that day, 9-Apr-1917. They lost almost every officer on that one day and more than 300 other ranks died. It was one of the heaviest loss of Canadian men on a single day in the war. In total, almost 3600 Canadian men died.

The photo below shows the entire complement of the *Dirty Dozen*. It includes those in the above photo plus 2 others unidentified.



**Pg. 30 DD2**

The document following this one provides more detailed descriptions of these individual men as well as the other men positively identified.

**John Burger Nov. 2022**

## Sam Miteff

(On naturalization paperwork the first name is Samco)

Sam is in 1 photograph on page 31. He is standing in front of a guard hut, in uniform. Caption reads "Sam Metiff [the photographer had misspelled the name] Late of Bulgaria"



This photo is rather intriguing. Canada was at war with the Austro-Hungarian Empire of which Bulgaria was a member. So the fact that Sam was a guard at Kapuskasing raises many questions. Was he specifically recruited to perhaps also serve as a translator? There would have been some Bulgarians interned at the camp. How was he able to convince his employers that he would be above suspicion?

The information below is taken from documents in Sam's military record. You can view his complete military file at this link It includes a copy of his Naturalization document as well:  
<https://cgwp.uvic.ca/detail.php?pid=1009131#researchInformationAnchor>

Regimental #1054341

DOB: 2-Oct-1885 (Age 30 while in Kap)

Hometown: Hearst (Born in Alch Bulgaria No such town can be found at this time)

Occupation: Labourer

Details: 5' 2" 140 lbs. Hazel eyes, dark hair

Time spent in Kap: Exact duration not given on attestation, only that he did serve. Would have to have been sometime between June 1915 when he got his naturalization papers and August 1916 when he enlisted for the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force (CEF). The photo at camp would have to have been taken sometime between June and December of 1915.

Militia Unit: Unknown

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 11-Sep-1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: 244<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battalion. He enlisted in Montreal but still gave his permanent address as Hearst. Sam went AWOL while still in training on 3-Jan-1916. He was declared a deserter when not back by 24-Jan-1916. The paperwork around the desertion include an inventory of his army issued equipment that he left with. The value was \$30.33 and included his clothing, badges, shaving kit etc.

Additional info: Sam reported having a wife, Ralla and son, Peter, aged 7 back in Bulgaria. Sam was granted his Naturalization certificate in Sault Ste. Marie on May 25, 1915. The document states he had been in Canada

for 6 years. There is not a lot of extra information on Sam before or after 1915-1916.

Sam probably found his way to Northern Ontario and Hearst as a labourer on the Transcontinental Railroad (TCR) that was being constructed through the North. We can't be sure that he was living in Hearst prior to going to the camp but the fact that he gave Hearst as his residence when he enlisted and not Kapuskasing, it is a good bet that he was a Hearst resident. One might say that he was a Sault Ste. Marie resident since that was where he got his naturalization document. But there would not have been the appropriate government office to obtain such papers of naturalization in the Hearst settlement so he most likely travelled there from Hearst. It may have been a condition to gain employment at the camp. The 1911 Census listed workers on the TCR also known as the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. On page 20 of the list for District 55 Algoma West Sub District 70 Grand Trunk Railway there is one Bulgarian that could be Sam however the birth date is different. Info was often miswritten and spelled wrongly in census records especially with "foreigners". No other entries in the 1911 Census come as close as this in this researcher's efforts. Remember that he uses the name Samco on his Naturalization record.



Miteff	Bulgian	1882	1915
Miteff	Bulgian	1882	1915
Miteff	Bulgian	1882	1915

Sam does not state in his attestation how long he remained employed at the Kapuskasing camp.

The commander of the camp when Miteff began there was Lt. Col. F.F. Clarke who is pictured on Page 25. Clarke was an engineer who a few years earlier had been in the area of Kapuskasing and Hearst overseeing the construction of the Trans Canada Railway, including 1911 when Sam is listed in the census as an employee. Clarke may have been familiar with Miteff from that time and could vouch for him when he applied or was recruited for the camp.

Why would Sam go AWOL and desert? The history shows how foreign workers, and especially those from countries that were part of the Austro Hungarian Empire like Bulgaria - faced resentment, suspicion, and outright hostility. Many were interned throughout the country. While in training, he may have become subject to the racist attitudes and figured it might be best to leave while he could and slip over the U.S. Border as soon as possible because he was now subject to arrest not only for being an alien but also due to the charge of desertion. The U.S. was not yet involved in the war in 1916. He may also have heard of incidents like the situation of a fellow Bulgarian named Daniel Joroff. Daniel enlisted in the CEF in September of 1914. He served overseas and in France until November of 1915. Despite serving honourably he was told that his services were no longer required and he was sent back to Canada and discharged, the reason being that he was an "alien." He was at some point arrested and sent to Kapuskasing Internment Camp. He remained in custody there until 1920. He was not allowed to stay in the country he fought for. He was sent back to Bulgaria.

The name Sam Miteff does not appear in available public documents again until 1940 in the U.S. census. This Sam Miteff is living in Lewiston Montana. He gives a birth date of 1882 and is 58 years old.

The most recent reference to Sam is a retirement notice on page 31 in the May 1955 issue of the Milwaukee Road Magazine, an employee publication of the the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company. The item announces his retirement from his position as section foreman at the Lewiston Montana yard. He was employed by the company for 38 years. That would mean that he started with railroad in 1917 about a year after deserting. There is a photograph of Sam. Below is the link to the publication.

<https://milwaukeeroadarchives.com/MilwaukeeRoadMagazine/1955May.pdf>



Pat Yates, Correspondent  
Car Foreman, Lewistown

Sam **Miteff**, section foreman at the Lewistown yard, and Bob Ray, section foreman at Choteau, retired in April, both after 38 years of faithful service. Mr. Miteff will continue to make his home in Lewistown. Mr. Ray is going to make his home in Great Falls.



Sam Miteff



It is felt that there is a very good chance that this is the same Sam Miteff that served at Kapuskasing. Further research could confirm.

JB/16/09/2021

## SOLDIERS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED IN ALBUM 2 OF THE ATKINSON COLLECTION

Entries include identifying information and available details

Page 2	Charles Samuel Watson
3	Harold Robert Whale
4	Thomas Lloyd Whale
5	Charles Cleveland Butterworth
6	David Jervis
6	David John Dillon
7	Sam Miteff (misspelled as Metiff in album)
8	Arthur (Art) William Boshier
9	William Andrew Riddell
10	Andrew Robert McKendrick
11	John Henry Gordon
12	Robert Clegg
12	Donald Stiver Harper
13	Lieutenant Edwin John Kaufmann (misspelled as Kaufman in album)
14	Sgt. Frank Francis Sosnoski (misspelled as Sonoski in album)
15	Frank Arthur Roger
16	Hugh Edward Dick Porter (in album is "Deac Porter")
17	Fred Russell Brown
18	Charles Henry McIlvenny (In album is misspelled McIlveny)
19	Herbert Richard Butt
20	Frank DeMill (In album is Demill)
21	Fred Willard Bridgman (misspelled as Bridgeman in album)
22	George Morley Train
22	Chancellor Eanas Clendenning

## Charles Samuel Watson

**Is the man who compiled this album and is in many of the photographs including (8 H8) (10J2) (26 Z4) (27 AA2 and AA3) (28 BB2) (33 FF2) (36 II1 and II2) (37 JJ2) (41 NN3) (42 OO2) In the following he is photographed with his friend, Harold Whale (17 Q5) (23 W1) (24 X1) (25 Y4) (27 AA3) (28 BB3) (29 CC1 and CC2) (30 DD3 and DD5) (37 JJ2) (39 LL1)**

Reg. #317014  
DOB: 2-May-1894 (20 yrs old when in Kap)  
Hometown: Toronto  
Occupation: Clerk

Time spent in Kap: 5 months  
Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers E Company  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: January 17, 1916  
Battalion to which he enlisted: Charles has 2 different attestation papers in his military file, one for the 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers but also to the actual unit he signed up to, the 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion as did his friend Harold Robert Whale.

The 74<sup>th</sup> completed its basic training in Toronto at the Exhibition Grounds Camp and at Camp Niagara then sailed from Halifax on the SS Empress of Britain 29-Mar-1916, arriving in England on 9-Apr-1916. They proceeded to Bramshott Camp. It is here that Watson took a series of photographs of new and old friends sharing a good natured and probably nervous camaraderie as they trained for the trenches. The photos would have been taken between April and early August of 1916.



**Kapuskasing 1915 Pg. 29 CC2**

In July of 1916, Charles and many other members of the 74<sup>th</sup> were transferred to the 102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion which had recruited in British Columbia originally. The 102<sup>nd</sup> proceeded to France on August 11 but Charles was held back and the next week was transferred to an artillery battalion (The record uses many abbreviations and jargon unfamiliar to this writer) and over the next 6 mos. he was involved in various training and movement between bases. He went to France 28-Mar-1917 with a Heavy artillery unit and later also served in a Signals Unit. He also served as a Sergeant at times.

In June of 1917, Charles spent a couple of weeks in hospital in France after falling into a trench, aggravating a previous (pre war) injury of his left knee. He recovered and returned to his Unit. In December of 1918, Charles sustained another injury in a fall, this time affecting both knees. The situation did not improve after 6 weeks in hospital in France. He was then sent to hospital back in England. Charles was unable to return to France. He was diagnosed with chronic bursitis of both knees after time in several hospitals in 1918. He remained in hospitals up until the beginning of November 1918, at which time he was "Invalided" back to Canada. After another short stay in a Burlington military hospital to process his medical condition he was medically discharged from the army on Dec. 14, 1918. For a more complete story of Charles, see the document "Watson and Whale." in this collection.



Harold Robert Whale (Wounded in Action)

Appears in many photos from time in Kap as well as at Bramshott as signed up with 74<sup>th</sup> as did the owner of the album and photographer, Charles Samuel Watson  
(24 X4) (25Y1 and Y2) (26 Z2 and Z3) (27 AA4) (28 BB5) (33 FF1) (36 II3) (38 KK3) (41 NN1 and NN2) (40 MM2) Photos with Watson: (17 Q5) (23 W1) (24 X1) (25 Y4) (27 AA3) (28 BB3) (29 CC1 and CC2) (30 DD3 and DD5) (37 JJ2) (39 LL1)



Harold at Bramshott 1916 **33 FF1**



Harold with Charles Watson Kapuskasing 1915 **29 CC1**

Reg. #317015

DOB: 14-April-1895 (20 yrs old when in Kap)

Hometown: Toronto

Occupation: Lithographer

Time spent in Kap: 5 months

Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers E Company

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: January 17, 1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: has 2 different attestation papers, one for the 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers but also to the actual unit he signed up to, the 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion as did his friend Charles Samuel Watson.

The 74<sup>th</sup> completed its basic training and sailed from Halifax on the SS Empress of Britain 29-Mar-1916, arriving in England on **9-Apr-1916**. They proceeded to Bramshott Camp. On **17-Jul-1916**, Harold and a group of other men from the 74<sup>th</sup> were transferred to the 102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. They proceeded to France on **August 11, 1916**

Harold sustained a gunshot wound to the back on October 21, 1916 at Somme. He was admitted to Boulogne Hospital the next day then transferred back to Britain to Bethnal Green Mil. Hospital for further surgery to remove bullet and for treatment of shell shock. Then to Canadian Convalescent Hospital in Bromley until discharge from hospital on January 22, 1917. Due to his injury that affected the use of one arm, he did not return to the front. He was not evacuated to Canada. He was able enough to remain in Britain assigned to appropriate duties at various Depots. He returned to Canada on HMT Regina on May 29<sup>th</sup> 1919. He was discharged from the army May 31, 1919 with the rank of Sergeant

Details: 5'8" tall fair haired, blue eyes.

### **Thomas Lloyd Whale (Killed in Action)**

**(Brother to Harold Robert. Is not identified in any of the photos but also served in Kapuskasing, probably at the same time as Harold)**

Reg. #778385

DOB: 17-May-1897 ( 18 yrs old when in Kap)

Hometown: Toronto

Occupation: Bookkeeper

Time spent in Kap: 4 months

Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers E Company

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: January 17, 1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers Overseas Battalion. Thomas signed up on the same day as his brother did to their former Commanding Officer's battalion. He did not go to England until after his brother. Thomas arrived in England a few months later, 30-Aug-1916 aboard the SS Olympic. He arrived in France to join the 127<sup>th</sup>, now renamed 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Canadian Railway Troops(CRT). In October of 1917 he had to go back to England due to appendectomy and spent time convalescing before returning to France early in 1918. On 4-Nov-1918 the entry in the battalion's war diary notes that at 0300 hrs, B Company's camp near Busigny was heavily shelled. Several men were wounded. Thomas was killed. He was 22 years old. He was a despatch rider and held the rank of sapper. The Toronto Star ran a photograph and article noting Thomas' death on 27-Nov-1918. He died one week before the armistice was signed.


He is buried at Premont British Cemetery in France. Only 6 Canadians are buried there.

Details: 5' 9" Grey eyes, dark hair.

**SAPPER T. L. WHALE KILLED**

**Enlisted Two Years Ago and Met  
Death Only Week Before the  
Armistice.**

Sapper T. Lloyd Whale, son of Mr.  
and Mrs. T. Whale, 335 Brock Avenue,  
was killed in ac-  
tion on Nov. 4,  
just one week be-  
fore the signing  
of the armistice.  
Sapper Whale en-  
listed over two  
years ago with  
the 127th Battalion  
and at the time of  
his death was at-  
tached to head-  
quarters as a des-  
patch rider. He  
was 22 years of age and attended the  
Collego Street Methodist Church.  
Sapper Whale received his education  
at Brock Avenue School.



Toronto Star - Nov. 27, 1918

Charles Cleveland Butterworth

Pg. 38 KK3



KAP 1915

Reg. #778570

DOB: 23-Oct-1894 (21 while in Kap)

Hometown: Depot Harbour near Parry Sound. Had Toronto address upon CEF enlistment.

Occupation: Bookkeeper

Birthplace: St. Albans, New York, U.S.A.

Time spent in Kap: Not specified, just notes that he served there on attestation papers.

Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 17-Jan.-1916 (For some reason the 17<sup>th</sup> was stroked out and changed to the 18<sup>th</sup>).

Battalion to which he enlisted: 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers Overseas Battalion.

Signed up on the same day as Harold and Thomas Whale (details above) did to their former Kap Commanding Officer's battalion. He did not go to England until August of 1916 along with Thomas Whale aboard the SS Olympic. So he would have not been in any of the England photos in album. Returned to Canada and was discharged with rank of sergeant in March of 1919. His military file does not indicate that he suffered any significant injuries during his time in the war.

Was married to Marie Cecilia Haas in Toronto on Sep. 28 1931.

Discharged from army 22-Mar.-1919.

Details: 5' 10 1/2", Brown hair and eyes



**David Jervis**  
**Page 38 KK2**

Reg. #778437  
DOB:21-Feb-1889  
Occupation: Stenographer  
Married: Edith

Time spent at Kap: 3 1/2 months  
Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment York Rangers  
Date of CEF enlistment and Battalion: 19-Jan-1916  
127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers

David did not remain with the battalion. Notes in his state simply the he was “Struck off strength”, discharged if you will on 25-Jun-1916 as he had been “illegally absent”. He was not deemed a deserter. No other details were provided.

Details: 5' 9” Gray eyes. Dark hair.



file

**Pg. 38 KK2          Dillon          KAP 1915          Jervis**

**David John Dillon (Killed in Action)**  
**Page 38 KK2**

Reg. #778391  
DOB: 4-Feb.-1889 ( 26 while in Kap)  
Hometown: Toronto (Born in Toronto Ont.)  
Occupation: Leather worker

Time spent in Kap: 6 1/2 months  
Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 17-January-1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers Overseas Battalion. The battalion sailed to England aboard the S.S. Olympic arriving there 30-Aug.-1916. Unit went France on 13-Jan.-1917. The battalion was renamed as Battalion C.R.T. Pt.II D.O. 14. Wounded near Coxyde Belgium where he was admitted to #91 Field Ambulance Died of wounds that day, 3-Jul-1917. Rank at death was Sapper.

Details: 5” 2" 140 lbs. Hazel eyes, dark hair

**Source of Inset to right: Canadian virtual war memorial. www.veterans.gc.ca**



to  
2nd  
Unit.

Newspaper clipping – From the Toronto Telegram July 1917.  
Submitted for the project Operation Picture Me

**Sam Miteff**  
**Page 31 EE3**

(On naturalization paperwork the name is Samco)

Sam is in 1 photograph on page 31. He is standing in front of a guard hut, in uniform. Caption reads "Sam Metiff Late of Bulgaria"

This photo is rather intriguing. Canada was at war with the Austro-Hungarian Empire of which Bulgaria was a member. So the fact that Sam was a guard at Kapuskasing raises many questions. Was he specifically recruited to perhaps also serve as a translator? There would have been some Bulgarians interned at the camp. How was he able to convince his employers that he would be above suspicion? *An in depth research article on Sam is filed separately in this fond*

Regimental #1054341

DOB: 2-Oct-1885 (Age 30 while in Kap)

Hometown: Hearst (Born in Alch Bulgaria No such town can be found at this time)

Occupation: Labourer

Details: 5' 2" 140 lbs. Hazel eyes, dark hair

Time spent in Kap: Exact time not given on attestation, only that he did serve. Would have to have been sometime between June 1915 when he got his naturalization papers and August 1916 when he enlisted for the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force (CEF).



**Page 31 EE3**

Militia Unit: Unknown

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 11-Sep-1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: 244<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battalion. He enlisted in Montreal but still gave his permanent address as Hearst. A look at adjacent regimental numbers to Sam's show that there were several other members who had served at the Kap camp who joined him in Montreal to sign up. At least two of them deserted along with Sam. Sam went AWOL while still in training on 3-Jan-1916. He was declared a deserter when not back by 24-Jan-1916. The paperwork around the desertion include an inventory of his army issued equipment that he left with. The value was \$30.33 and included his clothing, badges, shaving kit etc.

**Arthur William Boshier**  
**Page 25 Y1, Pg.31 EE5**

Reg. #1081440  
DOB: 13-Sep-1891 (23 while in Kap)  
Hometown: Toronto  
Occupation: Shoemaker

Time spent in Kap: 10 months reportedly with rank of Sergeant  
Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 3-July-1916  
Battalion to which he enlisted: 1<sup>st</sup> Construction Battalion.  
Served as private through the war returning to Canada in February of 1919 on the ship Baltic.  
Discharged from army 28-Feb.-1919.

Details: 5' 7 1/2", Brown hair and eyes



**31 EE5 KAP 1915**



**25 Y1 KAP 1915**



**William Andrew Riddell (Wounded in Action)**

**23 W5, 25 Y1, 27 AA3**

Reg. #316968

DOB:26-Jan.-1889 (26 while in Kap)

Hometown: Toronto

Occupation: Clerk

Time spent in Kap: 5 months reportedly with rank Actt. Paymaster Sergeant

Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 28-January-1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: 48<sup>th</sup> Bty.

Did serve in France. Arrived Liverpool 22-Sep.-1916 on S.S. Cameronia

Had ranks of Gunner and Bombardier which I believe is Corporal

Wounded GSW to Left Buttock and head on or about 29-Sep.-1918. To Dannes Camiers Hospital on 30-Sep.

1918 then back to England to Fort Pitt Hospital in Chatham for treatment 6-Oct.-1918 then to Canadian

General Hospital in Shornecliffe on 12-Dec.-1918 until 21-Dec.-1918

Returned to Canada on the Princess Juliana to Halifax on 17-Feb. 1919

Officially demobilized and discharged on 10-Mar.-1919

Details:6' 1 1/2 in. Brown hair, blue eyes 184 lbs



**25 Y1 KAP 1915**



**23 W5 KAP 1915**

**Andrew Robert McKendrick**  
**25 Y1, 36 II3**

Reg. #778569

DOB:25-Feb.-1893 (22 while in Kap)

Hometown: Toronto

Occupation: Clerk

Time spent in Kap: 5 months E Company York Rangers

Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 18-January-1916

Battalion to which he enlisted: 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers Overseas Battalion It would appear that he did not go overseas with the 127<sup>th</sup> but rather served in Canada apparently with 1<sup>st</sup> Depot Battalion 1<sup>st</sup> Central Ontario Regiment (C.O.R.) Attained rank of Sergeant

Discharged on 6-Dec.-1918 as part of demobilization

Was single when enlisted but married (Mildred Brines) on 3-Aug-1917 during his stint

Details: 5' 7" Grey eyes and dark hair.

KAP 1915



**25 Y1**

KAP 1915



**36 II3 McKENDRICK H. WHALE**

**John Henry Gordon**  
**23 W4, 25 Y1, 27 AA3, 31EE4, 36 III**

Reg. #316903  
DOB: 18-Apr.-1893 (22 while in Kap)  
Hometown: Toronto (Born in London Ont.)  
Occupation: Clerk

Time spent in Kap: 5 months specifically August 1915 to January 1916  
Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 31-January-1916  
Battalion to which he enlisted: 48<sup>th</sup> Battery  
Arrived in Britain on Empress of Britain on 29-May-1916. Not very clear of when he went to France or how long served there. Records indicate a few discipline issue such as awols and drunkenness. Had stays in hospital for VD and then for influenza in 1918. Did spend an undetermined amount of time in Bramshott hospital possibly July-Sept. 1918? Achieved rank of gunner. Returned to Canada Halifax aboard the Carmania 30-Dec.-1918. Demobilized(discharged) 30-Jan.-1919

Details: 5' 6 1/2" Brown eyes and hair



**25 Y1    KAP 1915**



**23 W4    KAP 1915**



**Robert Clegg**  
**Pg. 40 MM2**  
**In album is captioned E. Clegg**

Reg. #778388  
DOB: 21-Apr-1896  
Hometown: Toronto  
Occupation: Electrician

Time spent in Kap: 5 months  
Militia Unit: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: **17-Jan-1916**  
(For some reason the 17<sup>th</sup> was stroked out and changed to the 18<sup>th</sup>).  
Battalion to which he enlisted: **127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers Overseas Battalion.**

Robert signed up on the same day as Harold and Thomas Whale (details above) to their former Kap Commanding Officer's battalion, the **127<sup>th</sup>**. He did not go to England until August of 1916 along with Thomas Whale aboard the SS Olympic. He served in France from 13-Jan-1917 with the 127<sup>th</sup> which was re designated as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Canadian Railway Troops(CRT) once in France. He remained with them until discharged in July of 1919.

Details: 5' 4 1/2", Grey eyes, Fair Hair.

**Donald Stiver Harper**  
**Pg.40 MM2**

Reg. #778571  
DOB: 10-Apr-1896  
Hometown: Toronto  
Occupation: Clerk

Time spent in Kap: Yes, but length not specified  
Militia Unit prior to enlistment: 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: **17-Jan.-1916** (For some reason the 17<sup>th</sup> was stroked out and changed to the 18<sup>th</sup>).  
Battalion to which he enlisted: **127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers Overseas Battalion.**

Like several of his comrades from Kap, Donald signed up on the same day in January 1916. He did not go to England until August of 1916 along with 127<sup>th</sup> aboard the SS Olympic. He served in France from 13-Jan-1917 with the 127<sup>th</sup> which was re designated as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Canadian Railway Troops(CRT) once in France. He remained with them until discharged on 29-Mar-1919. He appears to have not suffered recorded injuries during his stint.

Details: 5' 10" Fair complexion, Blue eyes, Fair hair.



**40 MM5** Clegg at Top  
Harper below  
Kap 1915

**Lieutenant Edwin John Kaufmann (Wounded in Action)**

**Page 30 DD4**

(He is mis-identified in records often, with just one “n” at the end of his name)

No Regimental # Taken on as Lieutenant, a rank he held in the militia. Officers did not get regimental numbers.

DOB: 21-Apr-1886 (aged 29 at enlistment)

Hometown: Tavistock (Born in Cassel Ont.)

Occupation: Farmer

Time spent in Kap: None

Militia Unit prior to enlistment: 22<sup>nd</sup> O.R

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: Either June or November of 1915. (Both dates are mentioned in various documents.

Edwin joined up with the **71<sup>st</sup> Battalion** in Woodstock. The battalion sailed from Halifax on **11-Apr-1916** on the SS Olympic. Once in England, Edwin was transferred in **June** to the **74<sup>th</sup> Battalion** at Bramshott where he would have met and been photographed by Charles Samuel Watson. It appears Edwin joined the members of the “dirty dozen” on a Lewis machine gun training course. A month later in July he was transferred to the **44<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion**. It was with the 44<sup>th</sup> that he went to France on **11-Aug-1916**. During a raid at Vimy on **3-Feb-1917** he suffered multiple shrapnel wounds to his face and body as well as a bayonet wound to the knee. The shrapnel wounds all healed well but some surgery was required to repair the damage to his knee. He spent some time convalescing in Officers Hospital back in England and then returned to the front. He became Captain of the **Canadian Bisley Team** during WW 1. Edwin married Helen S. Isobel Moor in England in 1918. Helen passed away in Canada in childbirth in 1919. He does not seem to have remarried. When he came home from the War there was a parade in his honour in Cassel. He returned to Canada on the HMT Canada disembarking in Quebec City 13-Sep-1919. At discharge his rank was now Captain.

Details: 6' Blue eyes.

This image of Edwin has been shared with the **Tavistock Historical Society** who have endeavoured to record and honour all veterans from that community on their website . You can visit Edwin's page on that website for more information about him.

<https://www.tavistockhistory.ca/node/43>

**Pg. 30 DD4**



**Sergeant Frank Francis Sosnoski (Killed in Action)**

In album is misidentified as “Frank Sonoski”

Was unable to find Sonoski in any searches using every known similar sounding name without any luck until stumbling onto this gentleman for whom details line up as being at Bramshott at the same time as the others who probably all participated in the Machine Gunners course and several were also Sergeants or acting Sergeants.

**Pg. 35 HH1**

Reg. #126137

DOB: 27-Feb-1893 (Was 23 when killed)

Hometown: Guelph Ont. where born

Occupation: Brakeman

Time spent in Kap: None

Militia Unit: None

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 4-Sep.-1915

Battalion to which he enlisted: 71<sup>st</sup> Battalion, as did Lieutenant Kaufmann whose details are above.

Frank enlisted in Stratford. His parents lived in Berlin On. Frank sailed out of Halifax for Europe with the 71<sup>st</sup> on 2-Apr.-1916. During June, July, and until 11-Aug.-1916, Frank was at Bramshott Camp. He was transferred to the **74<sup>th</sup> Battalion on 8-Jun.-1916**. He was then transferred to the newly formed **11th Brigade Machine Gun(BMG) Company 22-Jul.-1916** with whom he embarked for the front in France on **11-Aug.-1916**. They were

then redubbed as **11th Canadian Machine Gun Company**. Landing in Le Havre, the Brigade made their way to the Ypres salient, St. Eloi sector. Frank did not make it there. He was the first casualty of the Unit, suffering a gunshot wound to the chest on 19-Aug.-1916, on the way to St. Eloi.



19/8/16 → According to the 18<sup>th</sup> /16, half the company went into the trenches with instructions, with the 5<sup>th</sup> C.M.G.C. for 2 days and nights, to be followed by the remainder of the company who were taken out on Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> 11/18  
22/8/16 → During this trip one of the Sergeants was killed - struck with a rifle bullet. There was only 1 casualty, though we were shelled daily. 11/18  
1110 W. Wainwright 12600 1110 J.C.R.A. Toronto

He was evacuated to Casualty Clearing Station No. 17 which was at Remy Siding where he died. He was 23. He is buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery in Belgium.

Details: 5' 10<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", fair complexion, brown eyes and hair.

**Frank Arthur Roger (Killed in Action)**

**Page 28 BB4**

Reg. #135835  
DOB: 15-Feb-1884  
Hometown: Toronto  
Occupation: Stock keeper

Time spent in Kap: None  
Militia Unit prior to enlistment: None  
Date of CEF enlistment: 23-Jul-1915 at Toronto  
Battalion enlisted to: 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Was married to Florence Edith Roger at time of enlistment.

Frank arrived in England with the 74<sup>th</sup> on the Empress of Britain on **9-Apr-1916**. He was transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion** on **17-Jul-1916** with whom he went to France **11-Aug-1916**.

It was on **9-Apr-1917** that Frank and his comrades of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, took part in the storied battle of Vimy Ridge. At approximately 0630 hrs, Frank was firing his Lewis machine gun from a shell hole 100 yards from the enemy front line when he was severely wounded in the abdomen and back by shrapnel from an enemy shell. His comrades rendered first aid and he was taken to a dressing station. Later that day he was evacuated to No. 6 Casualty Clearing Station where he died the next day, **10-Apr-1917**. (These details come from his "Circumstance of Death" card in the Circumstances of Death Registers housed at Library and Archives of Canada. Mikan Record 46246 <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/circumstances-death-registers/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=86959> Page 33.

Frank was buried at Barlin Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Details: 5' 6 1/4", 120 lbs, Gray eyes, light brown hair.





**Hugh Edward Dick Porter (Killed in Action)**

**Page 37 JJ1, 24 X1**

**In album he is captioned "Deac" Porter**

Reg. #135209  
DOB: 15-Feb-1884  
Residence: Kincardine On.  
Occupation: Steel worker at the Hunter Bridge and Boiler Co.

Time spent in Kap: None  
Militia Unit prior to enlistment: None  
Date of CEF enlistment: 21-Jul-1915 at Toronto  
Battalion enlisted to: 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion

After basic training, Hugh arrived in England with the 74<sup>th</sup> on the Empress of Britain on **9-Apr-1916**. He was transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion** on **17-Jul-1916** with whom he went to France **11-Aug-1916**.

Hugh was a member of the machine gun section. He was in the trenches at Vimy Ridge on 16-Apr-1917 when he was wounded in the forearm and chest by shrapnel from an enemy shell. His wounds were dressed and he was taken to the Regimental Aid Post. He was evacuated to No. 6 Casualty Clearing Station where he passed away. (These details come from his "Circumstance of Death" card in the Circumstances of Death Registers housed at Library and Archives of Canada. Mikan Record 46246 Vol. 31829 B016769 "Pollard To Quirk" Pg. 281)

**<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/circumstances-death-registers/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=79967>**



1916 37 JJ1 Porter At Bramshott

Hugh was buried at Barlin Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

Details: 5' 9 3/4", "Fresh" complexion, blue eyes, light hair.



24 X1 1916 BRAMSHOTT CAMP

**Fred Russell Brown (Killed in Action)**

**Pg. 28 BB4, pg. 30 DD2 pg. 37 JJ1**

28 BB4 1916 BRAMSHOTT



Reg. #135989  
DOB: 15-Jun-1890  
Hometown: Locust Hill, Ont.  
Occupation: Railway Fireman

Time in Kap: None  
Pre-war Militia Unit: None  
Date of Enlistment: 27-Jul-1915 at Toronto  
Battalion enlisted to: 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Fred arrived in England with the 74<sup>th</sup> on the Empress of Britain on 9-Apr-1916. Along with some of his friends, he was transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion** on **17-Jul-1916**. They proceeded to France on **11-Aug-1916**.

Fred was a capable soldier, being made a Sergeant in November of 1916. He was at Vimy Ridge about one year later with the 102<sup>nd</sup>. It was Easter Monday, **9-Apr-1917** when the 102<sup>nd</sup> participated in the battle to take the ridge. According to the Circumstances of Death Record, Fred was shot in the head by a sniper at 1000 hours while trying to reach a wounded comrade in a nearby shell hole. He was buried at Bois-Carre British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France, aged 26..

Mikan Record 46246 Vol. 31829\_B016723 Page 555  
<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/circumstances-death-registers/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=35379>



37 JJ1

**Charles Henry McIlvenny**

(In photo album is spelled McIlvenny)

**Page 26 Z3**

Reg. #136092

DOB: 14-Jun-1886 (Age 29 at enlistment)

Hometown: Toronto

Occupation: Salesman

Time spent in Kap: None

Militia Unit prior to enlistment: None

Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 19-Jul-1915 to the 74<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battalion. Arrived in England 9-Apr-1916 on the Empress of Britain. From the records we know he was in Bramshott on 17 and 21 July for sure. He was a machine gunner. On 17-Jul-1916 he was transferred to the 102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. He went to France with them on 11-Aug-1916. In Nov. 1916 Charles was sent to hospital in England with a diagnosis of myalgia. He spent time in hospital then in various non combat positions until being sent back to Canada by August of 1917. He was finally discharged as medically unfit (Class III) on 30-Nov-1917. His rank was Private.

Details: 5'6", Blue eyes, Black hair.



26 Z3 McIlvenny standing Bramshott 1916



**Herbert Richard Butt (Killed in Action)**

**28 BB4**

Reg. #135991  
DOB: 17-Feb-1895  
Hometown: Toronto  
Occupation: Laborer

Time spent in Kap: None  
Militia Unit prior to enlistment: None  
Date of Canadian Expeditionary Forces(CEF) Enlistment: 24-Jul-1915  
Battalion enlisted to: 74<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Herbert arrived in England with the 74<sup>th</sup> on the Empress of Britain on 9-Apr-1916 and on to Bramshott Camp. Along with some of his friends, he was transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion** on **17-Jul-1916**. They proceeded to France on **11-Aug-1916**. The 102<sup>nd</sup> participated in the battle of Vimy Ridge on **9-Apr-1917**. It was on that day that he was killed in action. No other details are provided on his "Circumstances of death" card.

He was buried at Bois-Carre British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Details: 5' 7 1/2", fair complexion, grey eyes, brown hair.



Above: Photo of HERBERT RICHARD BUTT – Photo from the National Memorial Album of Canadian Heroes c.1919. Submitted for the project, Operation: Picture Me.

**28 BB4** Bramshott 1916



**Frank De Mill (Killed in Action)**

**Pg. 28 BB4**

Reg. # 540352  
DOB: 20-Oct-1895  
Hometown: Winnipeg  
Occupation: Clerk

Time spent in Kap: None  
Militia Unit: XVI Cavalry Field Ambulance Corps Winnipeg  
Date of CEF Enlistment: 31-Aug-1915 at Winnipeg Man.  
Battalion to which enlisted: 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Cycle Corps

Frank arrived in England 31-Jan-1916 with the 4<sup>th</sup> Divisional Cyclists. At **Bramshott** Military Camp he was transferred to the **74<sup>th</sup> Battalion** on **9-Jun-1916**. It was during the time he was with this battalion that he was part of the photos in the album.. On **17-Jul-1916** he was transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion** with whom he went to France **11-Aug-1916**. It was at Vimy Ridge, **9-Apr-1917** that Frank was killed in action. He was 21 years old. He was buried at Bois Carre Cemetery at Thélus, France.

Details: 5' 6 1/2", Brown hair and eyes, 132 lbs.



Canadian Virtual war Memorial Site

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/618095>

**Fred Willard Bridgman (Killed in Action)**

**Page 28 BB4**

**In album he is captioned "Bridgeman"**

Reg.#540361  
DOB: 7-Sep-1895  
Hometown: Winnipeg  
Occupation: Student

Time spent in Kap: None  
Militia Unit prior to enlistment: 99<sup>th</sup> Regiment (3 seasons camp)  
Date of CEF enlistment: 4-Sep-1915 at Winnipeg Man.  
Battalion enlisted to: #7 Platoon Division of Cyclists (3<sup>rd</sup> Division Cycle Corps)

Like Frank Demill, Fred arrived in England 31-Jan-1916 with the 4<sup>th</sup> Divisional Cyclists. At **Bramshott** Military Camp he was transferred to the **74<sup>th</sup> Battalion** on 9-Jun-1916. On **17-Jul-1916** he was transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion** with whom he went to France **11-Aug-1916**.

Fred was killed in action just two months later, **22-Oct-1916** during the 102nd's advance at Tara Hill near Albert France, part of the Somme offensive. This was a campaign over several months that resulted in more than 300,000 deaths of Allied and German soldiers. He is buried at the Vimy Memorial.



Details: 5' 6" 152 lbs. Dark complexion, blue eyes, black hair



The two photos above are found at website "The Canadian Virtual War Memorial" Note that the newspaper photo on the right spells his name incorrectly. The yearbook photo on the left has the correct spelling.  
<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/1565647>

**George Morley Train (Wounded in Action)**

**Pg. 28 BB4** (Unable to definitively determine which man he is in photo )

Reg. # 540252  
DOB: 25-Nov-1890  
Hometown: Kleinburg, Ont.  
Occupation: Salesman

Time spent in Kap: None  
Pre War Militia Unit: none  
Date of CEF Enlistment: 16-Aug-1915 at Toronto  
Battalion to which enlisted: 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Cycle Corps?

George arrived in England with the 4<sup>th</sup> Division Cyclist Corps 31-Jan-1916. It was **9-Jun-1916** that he was transferred to the **74<sup>th</sup> Battalion** at Bramshott Camp. He was subsequently transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 17-Jul-1916** with whom he proceeded to France **11-Aug-1916**. As noted in the photo album, George was indeed wounded twice thereafter. On **22-Oct-1916** during the 102nd's advance at Tara Hill near Albert France, part of the Somme offensive, he suffered a gunshot wound to the head. He spent weeks in hospital for treatment and convalescence then returned to duty. On **17-Nov-1917** near Passchendaele Belgium, the 102<sup>nd</sup> suffered heavy bombardment from the Germans. George received a shrapnel wound to his left arm which fractured his ulna. He again returned to duty in January of 1918.

Details: 5' 4" Fair hair, Blue eyes

**Chancellor Eanas Clendenning**

**Pg. 28 BB4**

Reg. # 540232  
DOB: 26-Jan-1890  
Hometown: Markham, Ont.  
Occupation: Salesman

Time spent in Kap: None  
Pre War Militia Unit: None  
Date of CEF Enlistment: 26-Aug-1915 at Toronto  
Battalion to which enlisted: 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Cycle Corps?

Like his compatriots, Train and Demill, Chancellor arrived in England with the 4<sup>th</sup> Division Cyclist Corps 31-Jan-1916. It was **9-Jun-1916** that he was transferred to the **74<sup>th</sup> Battalion** at Bramshott Camp. This is where he met Charles Watson the man who took his photo in the album. He was subsequently transferred to the **102<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 17-Jul-1916** with whom he proceeded to France **11-Aug-1916**. Charles was incorrect in captioning Chancellor as "KIA". He did survive the war. With the 102<sup>nd</sup> he rose to the rank of Corporal.

While in England, he married. Gertrude Frances Woodfield.

Details: 5' 9" Dark Complexion, Hazel eyes, Black hair

JB FINAL DEC. 2022



## Atkinson collection Album 2: Regarding Image Y4 on Page 25 of the album

On Dec. 16, 2022, a series of photos were posted to the Facebook group "**Canadian Military Photos Lost and Found Research Group**" by member **Jane Murphy Thomas**. The photos had belonged to her Great Uncle, **Alex Whitten** of Harriston On. who served with the the 153<sup>rd</sup> Battalion CEF(Canadian Expeditionary Force) in WW1. There were several photographs of groups of soldiers that had been saved and placed in an album by Alex's sister, **Tot Whitten Tate**. It had been assumed that all the photos related to the 153<sup>rd</sup>. One particular photograph was instantly recognized by this writer. It was the same photograph as on Page 25(Y4) in Album 2 of the Atkinson Collection, the group photo of the 12th York Rangers group at Kapuskasing Internment Camp. In the Atkinson album, the original postcard image had been replaced with a photocopy at some point by an owner previous to Mr. Atkinson's acquisition of it.

I contacted Jane and let her know about the image. Intrigued, she pried up a corner of the photo that was glued in her grandmother's photo album in order to see if anything was written on the back. There was, and she removed it from the album. The image was indeed a postcard that had been mailed to her great uncle on Dec. 7, 1915 from Kapuskasing. The sender had written "Kapuskasing Det. Camp, 12<sup>th</sup> York Rangers" on the reverse. Unfortunately, the sender's signature is illegible. The front and back of the card can be seen below.

Ms. Murphy Thomas has graciously given permission for the copies of these images to be added to the fond of companion information related to Album 2 of Fond P206, the Atkinson collection.



A larger version of the postcard image is on the next page.





Harold Whale

Lieut. Colonel  
Frederick Fieldhouse Clarke

Charles Samuel  
Watson

John Burger  
January 2023