

In replying the date of this letter should be quoted

S/B.



June 5, 1922.

Sir:

I have the honour to forward you herewith original Letters of Administration to the estate of 2/Lt. Gerald W. Ayre. Kindly have same forwarded to the Administrator together with a cheque for the amount due.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Deputy Minister of Justice.

Major J. M. Howley, M.B.E.,
Pay & Record Office.

Grace knows that you are too busy
to write letters but much appreciate
the papers and songs you send
her. To-day is the nicest day
we have had since I have been
at Cape so I must go out and
make the most of it. Hoping
I am not giving you any extra
trouble, I am,

Yours sincerely,
Gerald W. Ayr.



25 Wellington Square

NEWCASTLE,
NEWTON-ON-AYR,
SCOTLAND.

Dear Captain Linnell,

Many thanks for
your letter of 18th inst. I am
enclosing the advances I had
whilst at home. I left
Liverpool on August 6th 1915
and reached home August 20th 1915.
I understood that Officers sent
home on duty were given
a special allowance for board
and if others drew I think I
might also do it. I was home
altogether 216 days that is from
August 20th 1915 to March 23rd 1916.
Deputy-Paymaster Howley told me
to put in for the time I was
acting adjutant as he said
I was entitled to an extra fifty
cents a day. I was acting adjutant
from about October 28th 1915 to about
February 28th 1916 when Captain
Moor-Johnson returned to duty.
I do hope you can follow the above
I may not have put it very clearly
Mr. Howley told me he was sending
you my account at the time I
left but perhaps he was too busy
to do so.

18, February, 6.

542/19.

2/Lieut. G. W. Ayre,
Acting Adjutant,
1st. Newfoundland Regiment,
Headquarters,
St. John's, Newfoundland.

Sir,-

Your letter of 29/11/15 delivered yesterday,
see envelope enclosed.

Through some at present inexplicable cause
this is a constantly recurring process, which has
obtained for some time. By the same mail a number of
letters similarly diverted reached me.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Capt.

Paymaster & O.i/c Records.

H.T./M.M.

The Paymaster & Officer i/c Records,
Newfoundland Contingent,
59, Victoria Street,
London, S.W.

In consideration of your allowing me to take
possession of the following named Articles said to be

the Property of the late Lieut G. H. Ayre

1 Haversack 1 Camp Equipment

I, my Heirs and Assigns, hereby hold you harmless and agree
to indemnify You, or Your Successors, and/or the
Newfoundland Government against all Claims whatsoever may
arise in direct or indirect consequence of the aforesaid
action.

J. H. Ross

Relationship or Authority Ayre & Sons Ltd

Dated at London
Aug 25th 1916.

Witness



1ST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

P. O. BOX No. 1242
TELEPHONE No. 361

HEADQUARTERS

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.

November 29, 1915

Captain H.A. Timewell,
Mfld. Pay & Record Office,
55 Victoria St.,
London, England.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing under cover list of N.C.O's and men of G. Company. All these men have been paid in full with the exception of #1618, M. Allan, to whom was due \$44.80. This amount is to be paid to his parents by his consent.

I duly received your cable concerning Oke, and have forwarded same to Deputy Paymaster.

I am attached to Headquarters temporarily, and to act as Adjutant during the absence of Captain A. Montgomerie on Transport duty.

Yours truly,

Gerald W. O'Connell

2nd. Lieut. & Actg. Adjutant.

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FEB 18 1916

FEB 18 1916

CORRESPONDENCE RE EFFECTS: LATE 2/LT. G.W. AYRE, 1st Nfld Regt.

1. Letter 5458/2, 6/6/17 from Pmr. & O. 1/c RAs, Nfld Contingent to Messrs. Cox's Shipping Agency, E.W.I.

Your advice and assistance would be much appreciated by those concerned with regard to the following cases: the Officer named was killed on 1/7/16: the annexed document from O.C., No. 29 Casualty Clearing Station to Messrs. Cox & Co., London, has been received at this office accompanying a letter from the father of the deceased Officer.

The Revolver passed through this office but not the disc, which was not delivered.

On the document is a pencil note "no disc". It is not known by whom this was made.

Extracts from the letter are quoted:

P.O. Box 835,
St. John's, Nfld.
April 28th, 1917.

To Major Timewell,
Nfld Pay & Record Office,
58, Victoria St.,
London, England.

. . . Last week I received a revolver belonging to Gerald, which had been forwarded to me, with the enclosed paper, which was in same parcel. You will notice the identity disc was not received.

Yesterday morning, when interviewing one of our boys, who has just returned, having lost his left arm, he told me that when his stretcher was brought to the train for Boulogne, a stretcher near him contained another Nfld soldier. Having heard someone state this, he tried to see the man's face, but could not do so. Immediately afterwards, the Orderly came along and he heard him tell another man that he had taken Captain Ayre's revolver from under this man's pillow. I have been wondering if there were any possibility of tracing the identity disc. It seems quite evident to me that this man removed the case of the revolver from Gerald's body, no doubt having picked up the revolver near him, and also removed the identity disc from his wrist, as I have no positive information of Gerald's body having been recovered. Of course you will understand that the removal of the disc prevented any possibility of recognition. I hate to put you to any trouble, but would like to see if any trace of the volunteer who brought it in can be obtained. . . . "

I do not assume that you will be in possession of particulars to form a reply, but perhaps you may be good enough to transmit the case through appropriate channels.

2. Annexure with above. Minute from O.C. No. 29, Casualty Clearing Sta to Messrs. Cox & Co., London, 4/7/16, No. C.82.

Herewith the undermentioned articles the property of T.G.W. Ayre, 1/N.F.L.D. Regt. which were brought into this hospital by a Private (patient).

1 Revolver, in case.

1 Bracelet Identity Disc.

Please acknowledge receipt.

(No disc).

(Sd) George Strathy, Capt. C.A.M.C.

- 3 Reply to ~~xxxx~~ No. 5458/2, 6/6/17; 7/6/17, (2945).

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 5458/2 of the 6th instant, with reference to the effects of the late 2nd Lieut. G.W. Ayre, 1st Newfoundland Regiment, and in reply to inform you that we received on the 20th July 1916 three packages in this Officer's name, by rail through the Assistant

3. Military Forwarding Officer, Boulogne, under our Reference Nos. New 25, 27, and 29. These packages were delivered to you without having been opened, as it is only packages received by Registered Post which are opened and contents checked by us previous to disposal.

It appears, however, not to be generally known in France that the larger packages, coming by rail and addressed to us, are not opened, as we have frequently been informed that the Inventories enclosed in these packages are addressed to us.

We trust this information may be of some assistance to you, but should you wish to communicate with the A.M.F.O., Overseas Base, Boulogne s/M, we would respectfully refer you to his Reference Nos. D.3695, D.3696, and D.3669, giving him the date of arrival in London as the 20th July 1916.

4. Memo 5625/1, 11/6/17 from P & R.O. to A.M.F.O. Overseas Base Boulogne

With reference to the enclosed copies of correspondence exchanged with Messrs. Cox's Shipping Agency, Ltd., and Inventory No. 29 C.C.S., No. C.82, 4/7/16: kindly advise whether there is any possibility of tracing the missing Identity disc, or identifying the Soldier who removed the revolver and disc from the deceased Officer's body, please.

5. Minute K1/7638, 16/6/17 from M.F.O., Boulogne to P & R.O. recd. 19/6/17

I have passed the papers which accompanied your letter No. 5625/1 of the 11th inst. to the O.C., 29 C.C.S. with a request to return to you direct together with his remarks.

5 packages of kit labelled as under, were despatched to Messrs. Cox & Co., London, on July 19th :-

- My Identity No.
- D 3695 - Capt. E.S. Ayre)
- D 3696 - Lt. G.W. Ayre) 1st Newfoundland Regt.
- D 3669 - Lt. W.D. Ayre)

A sealed parcel (revolver) "Name unknown" addressed to Messrs. Cox & Co, London, was received here in the same truck as the above consignment, sender being shown as O.C. 29 C.C.S., and was despatched to Messrs. Cox & Co. under my Identity No. S 9790 on July 19th.

I regret I am unable to assist you further as all packages are received here sealed, the sealing being done by the sending Unit, and are forwarded to destination through Messrs. Cox & Co. London.

6. Minute K1/7638, 16/6/17 from A.M.F.O. to O.C., 29, C.C.S.

The attached correspondence is passed to you for reply direct. Can you furnish any information regarding the missing Identity Disc, or assist in identifying the Soldier who removed the revolver and disc from the deceased Officer's body, please?

7. Minute 21/6/17 from 2nd Can. C.C.S. to O.C. 29 C.C.S.

Reference to my letter of 4/7/16 copy of which is attached herewith, I am unable to add any further particulars. The information contained in my letter was supplied by the corporal who was attending to effects of deceased Officers. As I know of Lieut. Ayres I made enquiries at the time to see if there was anything further known but could not obtain any further information. I never saw Lieut. Ayres.

8. Reply to No. 5625/1, 11/6/17; 25/6/17 (3581).

I have made enquiries and have been informed that the revolver was found on the person of a soldier, who was being evacuated to the Base. As this was contrary to Regulations the

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revolver was removed and he was asked as to whom it belonged. He stated he took it off the body of Lieut. G.W. Ayre. The patient was then lifted into the train and the revolver and disc brought back to the camp. I have interviewed the Orderly who packed these articles and he is positive that a disc was packed with the revolver.

X | I am unable to give the name of the soldier from whom the revolver was taken as all my records have been sent to the D.A.G., 3rd Echelon.

I enclose a copy of Major Strathy's reply to my communication to him on receipt of your letter. (See previous Minute 7).

The Corporal who was attending to the effects of deceased Officers has left this Unit many months ago and his present whereabouts are unknown to me.

698

0-106

SEP 9 1921

The accompanying **Victory Medal** and/or **British War Medal**

is/are forwarded herewith to

Mr. Fred. W. Ayre (Father)

in respect of his service as No. _____ Rank S/Lieut.

Name Gerald W. Ayre ~~Decor. Nfld. Regt.~~
~~Nfld. Forestry Corps.~~

Receipt of the same should be acknowledged hereon.

Received Fred W. Ayre

Signature Fred W. Ayre

Date September 15th 1921

Address St Johns Newfoundland.

[P.T.O.]

Dept. of Militia,
St. John's.

0-106

Aug 22nd 1921

I beg to acknowledge receipt of
Memorial Plaque issued in respect of services of
the late No. _____ Rank _____
Name Herald M. Ayre
Royal Newfoundland Regt.

Fred W. Ayre (Sgd.)

Father Relationship.

Address St Johns Newfoundland

R
w/c

C.R. 0-106

"Northview",
Circular Road,
February 17, 1920.

Lieut. Col. Rendell,
Department of Militia.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge
receipt of message from His Majesty
the King, also Memorial Scroll.
I thank you for both.

Yours very truly,

Fred W. Payne

C.R.

July 6, 1916.

M

Dear Sir,

I regret to inform you that the
Record Office of the First Newfoundland Regiment,
London, to-day reports that your son, Second
Lieutenant Gerald W. Ayre, was killed in action
on July 1st.

Sympathetically yours,

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. F. W. Ayre,
Circular Rd.

C.R. 0-106

Extract from Nominal Roll Embarked St. John's for Overseas,
Mar. 23, 1916. "H".

S/Lt. G.W. Ayre.

C.R. ~~809~~

0-106

Extract from Officers H.C.Co. & Men enlisted for overseas
for S.S. "Stephens" March 20th, 1916.

#869 Corpl. G.W. Ayre.