

MILITARY SERVICE

# First Newfoundland Regiment

## ATTESTATION PAPER

Regimental No. 344

Name in full Roque John Callahan Age 24

Address 90 Littlewood Rd.

Married Single Height 5' 6" Weight 135

Color White Hair Light Eyes Blue

Other distinguishing marks None

Nearest relative Father - Roque

Address Home in above

Dependents

Occupation Accountant Present Wage \$12.50 per week.

Previous service

Decorations

General Remarks

Date of Enlistment

*Witness*  
*13-1915*  
*Alder shot.*

I, Roque John Callahan, do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty and that I will faithfully serve His Majesty in any place where I may be needed (or in the Colony of Newfoundland as the case may be) against all his enemies and opposers whatsoever according to the conditions of my service.

*Re-engaged for service*  
*was*  
Rodger John Callahan

Declared before me this 24th day of October 1914

*Sept. 8th*

Robert H. Tait

**DESCRIPTIVE REPORT ON ENLISTMENT.**

Applicable to all ranks. To correspond with entries on the Medical History Sheet.

**Reg. No. 544**

Name Rodger John Callahan

Apparent age 24 years \_\_\_\_\_ months. Height 5 feet 6 inches.

Chest measurement { Girth when fully expanded \_\_\_\_\_ inches.  
 { Range of expansion \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

Distinctive marks Hair: Light, Eyes: Blue

**INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT.**

Name and Address of next of kin Rodger Callahan, 90 LeMarchant Rd., St. John's.

| Relationship Father.

**Particulars as to Marriage.**

(a) Christian and Surname of Woman to whom married, and whether spinster or widow. (b) Place and date of marriage.  
 (c) Present address. (d) Signature of Officer verifying entry from certificate.

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d)                        |
|-----|-----|-----|----------------------------|
|     |     |     | Verified from certificate. |

**Particulars as to Children.**

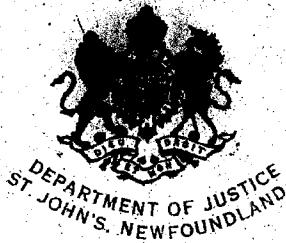
| Christian Names | Date and Place of Birth | (d)                       |
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|                 |                         | Verified from certificate |

**STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES.**

| Corps in which served   | Regt. or Depot | Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c. | Army Rank | Dates  | Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of pension |      | Service in Reserve not allowed to reckon towards G. C. Pay |      | Signature of Officers certifying correctness of entries |
|---|----------------|---|-----------|--|--|------|--|------|---|
|   |                |   |           |  | years  | days | years  | days |   |
| Service towards limited engagement reckons from <u>8/9/14</u> |                |   |           |  |  |      |  |      |   |
| Joined at <u>St. John's</u> on <u>8th Sept. '14.</u>          |                |   |           |  |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Missing 1 1/2</u>   |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Embarked S.S. Torget for U.K. 3 10/14</u>                       |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Disembarked West and embarked for leave 31 2/14</u>             |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Landed Selva Bay night of 19.20 1/15. Admitted 24 C.C.S.</u>    |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Invalued to England for 15 1/15. Admitted Wandsworth 3 7/15</u> |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Depart 3 7/15. Embarked South Hampton 28 3/15</u>               |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Joined Battalion 15 7/15</u>                                    |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Embarked 20 7/15</u>  |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Embarked for Gallipoli 13 9/15</u>                              |  |      |  |      |   |
|   |                |   |           | <u>Disembarked 5 12/15</u>   |  |      |  |      |   |
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In replying the date of this  
letter should be quoted.



L.B.

February 18, 1918.

Sir:

On June 11th, 1917, a recommendation was made to Dr. McGrath, Chairman Pensions & Disabilities Board, to pay to Parker & Monroe the sum of \$14.10 due to them by #344 Private R. Callahan. This amount having been paid by your department, I presume you have the voucher for same. I shall be glad if you will let me have it at your earliest convenience.

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

*W. S. Wood*

Minister of Justice.

Capt. J. M. Howley,

Paymaster,

Dept. of Militia.

In replying the date of this  
letter should be quoted.

  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

L-B.

February 27, 1918.

Sir:

Re Estate of #344 Pte. R. Callahan

There is an amount of \$14.10 against this estate which was paid by direction of the then Minister of Justice, Mr. R. A. Squires. The administrator, Mr. R. Callahan insists on receiving the estate in full. We have no legal right to withhold the full amount, and I would advise that the full amount of the estate be paid to the Administrator, and the payment of \$14.10 be debited to "Suspense Profit & Loss Account" for the present.

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

*W. S. Lloyd*

Minister of Justice.

J. R. Bennett, Esq.,  
Minister of Militia.

March, 1st, 18.

R. Callahan, Esq.,  
City.

Sir,-

Acting on the authority of the Minister of Justice, I have the honour to enclose cheques for \$145.86, being the total balance due the estate of your late son Pte. Roger Callahan, of the 1st. Hfld. Regiment, computed to the end of the month in which, for official purposes, he is presumed to have died.

I also enclose Letters of Administration.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

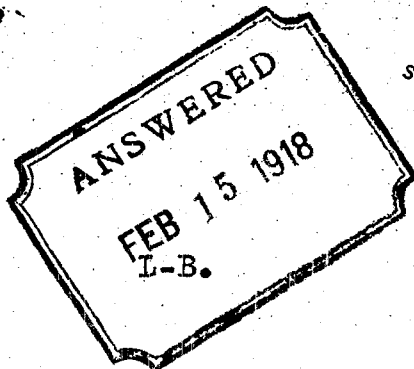
Minister of Militia.

C.R. 344

In replying the date of this letter should be quoted.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND



February 8, 1918.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 7th, re the estate of #344 Pte. R. Callahan, and the attached copies of letters in reference to this case.

I would like to draw your attention to the statement made by Mr. R. Callahan in his letter dated February 5, 1918, which reads as follows:

"I am informed that Parker and Monroe denies any knowledge of the transaction. I did not get it direct from them, as I would not approach them, and I would not accept the money back from them if it was offered. It must come from the right quarters."

I shall be glad if you will obtain the voucher in connection with this payment, and have same forwarded to me.

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

Minister of Justice.

J.R. Bennett, Esq.,

Min. of Militia.

February 5th, 1918.

Dear Sir:-

I received your favour of the 2nd. I also acknowledge the previous ones and note all you say, but I recognise no authority in connection with my poor boy, who sacrificed his noble and young life on the bloody field of battle.

I was appointed executor by the Court of his affairs. Then the late Minister of Justice had no authority from me to pay any demands that might be made against him by mean contemptible landsharks. I can only accept the cheque for the full amount due him, that is \$145.86. I doubt very much if he owed the amount Parker & Monroe put in the claim for, and if he do owe it I will use my own best judgement when and how to pay them, but I will not allow this mean and contemptible way to extract money without my authority. Is this the British fair-play and justice that the best blood of the country have sacrificed their precious lives for? It is not for the sake of the amount. I never received one dollar from any of my boys, but the mean and contemptible way it was extracted should not be tolerated, and the return of the same should be demanded by those in authority, not altogether in my case but in every other case if like proceedings was taken, perhaps some of them noble boys of poor widows. Such contemptible creatures should be exposed through the public press, and if I am not paid this amount in full I will expose the whole transaction through the public press and show to the country how those who sent their boys to fight for King and Country, right and freedom are treated at home by landsharks and bloodsuckers. If such is tolerated it is a blot on British law, liberty and fair-play.

Yours truly,

*R. Callahan*

J.R. Bennett, Esq.,

P.S.

I am informed that Parker & Monroe denies any knowledge of the transaction. I didnot get it direct from them, as I would not approach them, and I would not accept the money back from them if it was offered. It must come from the right quarters.

*RB*

January 4th, 1918.

Sir,

Referring to the attached letter from Hon. John R. Bennett Minister of Militia, #344 re estate Pte. Callahan I have the honour to report as follows:

When Hon. R.A. Squires first took over the legal work in connection with the distribution of Soldier's Estates, there being no local act to legalize "Soldiers Wills" etc., he decided after much correspondence with Hon. DR. McGrath, Chairman of the Pensions and Disabilities Board, that balances to the credit of deceased soldiers, would be paid out to the joint order of the next of kin and allottee, when the next of kin and allottee were persons who could legally claim such estate. Accordingly on May 28th, 1917, a list of seventy eight selected cases were recommended for payment. On June 2nd 1917 a further list of 86 selected cases were reported on. As far as I am aware no trouble in connection with any of these recommendations has arisen; but of course, before Payment was made by the Pay office, the recommendations were passed by the pensions committee.

Two or three months before any payments were recommended Advertisements appeared in the public press, asking persons in possession of wills of deceased soldiers, and creditors to communicate with the Minister of Justice. In response to this advertisement some fifteen or sixteen claims were filed at this office.

On the 11th day of June five of the claims having in the meantime been attested, the Minister recommended that they be paid. Among these claims was one of Parker and Monroe against Pte. R. Callahan for  $\frac{1}{4}$  \$14.10.

2.

The recommendation was in time passed by the Pensions Committee, and paid.

All these recommendations were made prior to the Act passed in August 1917, and under which on October 5th, Mr. R. Callahan was appointed administrator of his son's estate.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sgd. Leslie R. Curtis.

Hon. W. F. Lloyd K.C.,  
Minister of Justice.

October 19th, 1917.

Dear Mr. Bennett,

You will accept my best thanks for the kindness you have shown me this evening and the information you have given me concerning my dear boy who is a prisoner of war in Germany. It is a great consolation to receive such courtesy as I did from you to-day; likewise from His Excellency the Governor when I called on him last week, and I will just be guided by your instructions.

Concerning the enclosed cheque and document, I would like to get full particulars how the amount is made up, what time it began and what time it ceased. I only want to be treated as others are in the same position as I am. My poor boy fought and bled for King and Country. Is there any man in this country guilty to even attempt to attach one dollar of what he has bled for? Any man who would do so is below the contempt of every true patriot. He is a landshark of the deepest dye to take such a course for the mighty dollar. Is it possible we have such blood-thirsty landsharks in our country.

I think I am speaking your mind and the mind of every man with a spark of British blood in his veins. You can scarcely get words strong enough to denounce such a contemptible creature,

The cheque can only be accepted by me for the full amount due me as administrator. If my poor boy owes a dollar to anyone I will use my best judgement how to pay them, but I will not allow any contemptible creature to be paid by such a course.

Again thanking you for your kindness,

Sincerely yours,

Sgd. R. Callahan.

Hon. J.R. Bennett,

Minister of Militia

P.S.

In my humble opinion the payment should have gone on until the day that he was reported killed. I want nothing only what is due him, and I expect to get British fair-play and I feel quite satisfied that I will get it at your hands.

November 23rd, 1916.

Dear Sir,

For some time past the Imperial Government have been making enquiries in relation to those men of the First Newfoundland Regiment who have been reported missing since the action of the 1st July. I very much regret to state, however, that from the correspondence which has taken place, a copy of which I enclose, it is evident that none of them are Prisoners of War in Germany, and the authorities are, therefore, reluctantly forced to the conclusion that all these gallant men, whose names are given in the enclosed list, and one of whom was very dear to you, were killed in that fateful action on the 1st of July.

I desire to express to you on behalf of the Government, as well as for myself, the sincerest sympathy in this time of sorrow. We feel the loss of our loved ones, but it will, no doubt, be some consolation to you to think that he, for whom you now mourn, willingly answered the call of King and Country, did his part nobly, and fell, facing the foe, in defence of the principles of Righteousness, Truth and Liberty. Though he has laid down the earthly weapons of warfare, he now wears the Soldier's Crown of Victory, and his name will be inscribed upon the Glorious Roll of Honor, and be held in fragrant memory by all his fellow-countrymen. When the victory is won, and Peace again reigns upon the earth, it will be a comforting thought to you that in this glorious achievement he bore no small part.

I trust that you may have the Grace and consolation of the Great Father of us all at this time.

With sincere sympathy,

Believe me to be,

Your obedient servant,

Mr. Roger Callahan,  
90 LeMarchant Road.

Colonial Secretary.

# 344 GALLAHAN R. ✓

C.R. 344

EXTRACT OF CASUALTY LIST RECEIVED FROM THE PAY & RECORD  
OFFICE LONDON DATED NOVEMBER 7, 1916.

"REPORTED MISSING JULY 1st 1916."

15th August, 1916.

Dear Mr. Callahan,

I duly received your letter of the 7th instant, and sympathise with you in the uncertainty that prevails in relation to your boy. I can quite understand your feelings in connection with the reports which you may have heard, but, as I indicated in my letter to the Press, no credence, whatever, should be placed in any report, save the official report issued by this office. I regret that I have no further details with respect to your son, but I shall send them forward to you immediately upon receipt of same. Any authentic news comes through this office, but the many reports that are spread through this town by people are in almost every case without any foundation whatever, and it is simply cruel to cause so much suffering and anxiety to those fathers and mothers who have boys at the Front. I trust that we may soon have official news regarding your boy, and I hope it will be good news.

Yours faithfully,

Colonial Secretary.

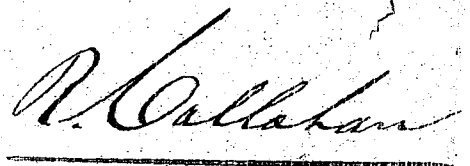
R. Callahan, Esq.,  
City.

August 7th, 1916.

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I received your notice of 31st, July informing me that my boy was among the missing. I have heard nothing from you since. There is common talk around town that people had letters from their boys reporting that my boy was among the killed. One coldblooded man connected closely with the Government informed me on the street that my boy was dead. I did not thank him for the information, as my blood ran cold. The next day I saw the Archbishop. He told me that he heard nothing, and before such a report would get out he would expect to be acquainted, and assured me if anything was brought to his notice he would inform me. Is it possible that such news would be current around the city without your knowledge. I am not anxious to hear sad news, but if the worst is to come it must be the Will of God and we must bear our burden with patience, but until such time I will hear official news I will not give him up, only pray for the best.

Yours truly,



---

Hon. J.R. Bennett,  
Colonial Secretary.

36  
MAR 28 1916

Dear Sir,

*I beg to inform you that additional information has to-day been received from the Record Office of the First Newfoundland Regiment, London, to the effect that*

No. 344, Private R. J. Callahan, who was previously reported at Wandsworth, January 5th, suffering from frostbite, is now fit for duty and was granted furlough to Feb. 24.

This information has been received by mail.

*Yours faithfully,*

Mr. R. Callahan,  
90 LeMarchant Rd.

*Colonial Secretary.*

Extract of Casualty List received from P&R? London dated Janu. 30th. 1915

344 Pte. P.J. Callahan

1st. Nfld. Regt. Frostbite.. Trans. to Base per H.S. Aquitania ex 16 S.H.  
Mudros 26th. Dec. 1915.

C.R. 344

Extract from Nominal Roll of No. 1st Bn. W.I.R. Regt.  
Embarked at Devenport for Active Service 20-8-15.

344 Pts. R. Callahan.

Disembarked Alexandria, 31-8-15. Proceeded to Abbassia,  
Cairo, same date. Embarked Alexandria for Gallipoli  
13-9-15.

C 344

Extract from Nominal Roll Embarked St. John's per S.S.

"Florisel" Oct. 4, 1914.

344 Callahan Rodger J.

Casualty Form-Active Service.

Regiment or Corps Newfoundland  
Regimental No. C.R. 344 Rank Pte. Name Callahan, Roger

Enlisted (a) 1/10/14 Terms of Service (a) one year Service reckons from (a) enlistment

Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to present rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended \_\_\_\_\_ Re-engaged Aug 13/15 Qualification (b) \_\_\_\_\_

| Report |                    | Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case. | Place | Date | Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents. |
|--------|--------------------|--|-------|------|--|
| Date   | From whom received |  |       |      |  |

|            |                             |                     |                            |                |              |
|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
|            |                             |                     |                            | 3/10/14.       |              |
|            |                             |                     |                            | 1/9/15.        |              |
|            |                             |                     |                            | 13/9/15.       |              |
| 189/12/15. | 24 C.C.S.                   | Admitted, Frostbite | 24th. C.C.S.M.             | 5/12/15.       | C 5124.      |
| 2/1/16.    | 16th. Stat. Mudros.         | do                  | 16th. Stat. Hosp., Mudros. | 22/12/15.      | E 5230.      |
| 27/1/16    | <i>Appointed to England</i> |                     | <i>Appointed</i>           | <i>27/1/15</i> | <i>B 384</i> |

COPY SENT TO  
C.O. H.Q.  
ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D.  
379 NO. 654/73  
DATED 2 JUL 1917

*[Signature]*  
Captain  
for Major,  
Officer i/o Records 11 & 12 Station  
Trd. Kabelem, S.H.Q., N.F.L.D.

(c) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
(d) e.g., Signaller, Shoing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties. [P.T.O.]

**Casualty Form—Active Service.**

164  
J

Regiment or Corps 1st Newfoundland

Regimental No. 344 Rank Pte Name R. Callahan

Enlisted (a) 2-10-14 Terms of Service (a) duration Service reckons from (a) 2-10-14

Date of promotion } Date of appointment } Numerical position on {  
to present rank } to lance rank } roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended \_\_\_\_\_ Re-engaged \_\_\_\_\_ Qualification (b) \_\_\_\_\_

| Report  |                    | Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case. | Place                      | Date       | Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents. |
|---------|--------------------|--|----------------------------|------------|--|
| Date    | From whom received |  |                            |            |  |
|         |                    | Emck'd Southampton   |                            | 28.3.16    |  |
|         |                    | Disembk'd ROUEN  |                            | 30.3.16    |  |
|         |                    | Missing  | Joined Battalion<br>France | 15.4.16    | B 213.   |
| 11.7.16 | Unit               |  |                            | 1 JUL 1916 | B 213.   |

*[Handwritten signature]*

COMMUNICATED TO  
C.O. H.Q.  
ST. JOHNS, N.F.L.D.  
279  
6/2/16

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Lieut.  
MAJOR FOR

O. i/c No. 1 Reg. Infantry Section  
G. H. Q., 3rd Echelon

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
(b) e.g., Signaller, Shoemaking Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

# Squadron, Troop, Battery and Company Conduct Sheet.

Army Form B. 121.

Regiment of Newfoundland

Number of Sheet /

Signature of O. C. Company James Alexander Esq.

Printed and Sold by Gale & Polden, Ltd., Wellington Works, Aldershot. 2/6 per 100.20,712-s.

|                            |                    |   |                                  |             |   |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Regimental Number and Name |                    | Enlistment                              |                                  | Trade       | Good Conduct Badges, Service Pay or Proficiency Pay |
| No.                        | <u>Ballahan P.</u> | Age on <u>23</u> years <u>00</u> months |                                  |             |   |
| Joined                     | Date               | Date of Enlistment                      | <u>11/10/14</u>                  | Religion    |   |
| Joined                     | Date               | Period of                               | <u>with Colours / 297</u> years. |             |   |
| Joined                     | Date               |   | <u>with Reserve 366</u> years.   |             |   |
| Joined                     | Date               |   |                                  | <u>R.C.</u> |   |

| Place              | Date of Offence | Rank       | Cases or Offences | OFFENCE  | Names of Witnesses   | Punishment awarded | Date of award or of order dispensing with trial | By whom awarded        | REMARKS                                  |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| <u>Fort George</u> | <u>19.12.14</u> | <u>plc</u> |                   | <u>absent from tattoo until 8 p.m. 26<sup>th</sup> Dec</u> | <u>Cot. Sheppard</u> | <u>4 days C.B.</u> | <u>28.12.14</u>                                 | <u>Lt Col. Burton</u>  | <u>forfeit 4 days pay R.C.</u>           |
| <u>Fort George</u> | <u>2.1.15</u>   | <u>"</u>   |                   | <u>Absent from tattoo 15 12<sup>th</sup> 27.7.15</u>       | <u>Sgt Kenshaw</u>   | <u>7 days C.B.</u> | <u>8.1.15</u>                                   | <u>Lt Col. Burton</u>  | <u>forfeit 6 days pay R.C.</u>           |
| <u>Fort George</u> | <u>6.2.15</u>   | <u>"</u>   |                   | <u>absent from tattoo until 8 p.m. 10.2.15</u>             | <u>Sgt Sheppard</u>  | <u>7 days C.B.</u> | <u>11.2.15</u>                                  | <u>Lt Col. Burton</u>  | <u>forfeit 5 days pay<br/>under R.C.</u> |
| <u>St. John's</u>  | <u>26.6.15</u>  | <u>"</u>   |                   | <u>Absent from Tattoo until 27.6.15</u>                    | <u>Cpl. Munton</u>   | <u>2 days C.C.</u> | <u>28.6.15</u>                                  | <u>Capt. Alexander</u> | <u>forfeit 2 days Pay R.C.</u>           |
|                    |                 |            |                   | <u>Killed in action 1/7/16.</u>                            |                      |                    |   |                        |  |
|                    |                 |            |                   | <u>To be carried over</u>                                  |                      |                    |   |                        |  |

Army Form B. 121.