



# First Newfoundland Regiment

## ATTESTATION PAPER

Regimental No. 1378

Name in full James John O'Brien, Age 18  
 Address Torquay  
~~Married~~  
 Single  
 Height 5ft 8 1/2 Weight 142  
 Color Dun Hair Dark Eyes Blue  
 Other distinguishing marks None  
 Nearest relative John O'Brien  
 Address Torquay  
 Dependents None  
 Occupation Farmer Present Wage 4/6 per week  
 Previous service  
 Decorations  
 General Remarks  
 Date of Enlistment April 7th 1915

I, James John O'Brien, 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 condition of my service.

James John O'Brien

Declared before me this 7th day  
 of April, 1915  
J. H. ...  
lieut.

**DESCRIPTIVE REPORT ON ENLISTMENT.**

Applicable to all ranks. To correspond with entries on the Medical History Form No. 1070

Name **James John O'Brien**

Apparent age **18** years \_\_\_\_\_ months. Height **5** feet **0 1/2** inches.

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

Distinctive marks **Color: Dark complexion, Hair: Dark Brown, Eyes: Brown.**  
**Other distinguishing marks: Scar near right eye.**

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT.

Name and Address of next of kin **Mary O'Brien, Topsail, Nfld.**

Relationship **Mother.**

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)

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 <b>Ap. 7/15</b>									
Joined at <b>St. John's</b> on <b>Ap. 7/15</b>									
<i>Embarked St. John's N.S. 20/15</i> <i>Embarked N.S. 13/16</i> <i>Wounded 7-12-16</i> <i>Submitted to 5374 30-1-17</i>									
<i>Submitted to 5374 30-1-17</i> <i>Missing 14-4-17</i>									
Total Service forfeited as above									
Total Service towards Engagement to <b>14-4-17</b> (date of discharge) <b>2</b> years <b>9</b> days									
" " " Pension " " " " " " " "									

C.R. 1378

**James J. O'Brien**

was attested for General service

with the NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT on .....  
April 7th 1915.

Regimental No 1378 was allotted to Pte. **James J. O'Brien.**

AUTHORITY:

Record Ledger,

Dept. of Militia,

March 25th, 1919.

C.R. 1378

Extract from Nominal Roll Embarked St. John's for Overseas per  
S.S. "Calgarian" June, 19. 1915.

1378 Pte. O'Brien Jas. J.

To be used only for Special Reserve Recruits, and for Special Reservists enlisting into Regular Army.

# MEDICAL HISTORY

Surname O'Brien OF Christian Name James John

Table 1.—GENERAL TABLE.

Birthplace:—Parish Jopsoil County \_\_\_\_\_

	SPECIAL RESERVE.		REGULAR ARMY.	
	on	at	on	at
Examined	6 day of April	1915	day of	191
Declared Age	19 years	days	years	days
Trade or Occupation	miner			
Height	5 feet	8 1/2 inches	feet	inches
Weight		142 lbs.		lbs.
Chest Measurement	Girth when fully expanded	38 33 inches		inches
	Range of expansion	8 38 inches		inches
Physical Development				
Vaccination Marks	Right	Left	Right	Left
	Arm			
When Vaccinated	Never			
Vision	R.E.—V=	6/6	R.E.—V=	
	L.E.—V=	6/6	L.E.—V=	
(a) Marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease	(a)		(a)	
(b) Slight defects but not sufficient to cause Rejection	(b)		(b)	
Approved by (Signature)	<u>Fred W. Burden</u>			
(Rank)	Lieut.			
	Medical Officer.		Medical Officer.	
Enlisted	at	st John	at	
	on	7 day of April	on	day of
		1915		191
Joined on Enlistment	Corps.	Regtl. No.	Corps.	Regtl. No.
		newest Regt. 1378		
Transferred to				
Became non-effective by				
	on	day of	on	day of
		191		191
(Signature)				
(Rank)				

Table III.—Boards: Courts of Inquiry, Vaccination, Inoculations, &c.: Examinations for Field or Foreign Service, Extension, Re-engagement, or Prolongation of Service; Issue of Surgical Appliances; Particulars of Dental Treatment, &c.

Date	Brief Details, and Signature
<p>May 17<sup>th</sup> 1915                      June 22<sup>nd</sup>                      " 25<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Inoculation 500 Millions                      2<sup>nd</sup> " 1000 "                      Vaccinated at sea <i>JL</i></p>

TABLE IV.—SERVICE TABLE.

Station or Troopship	Date of Arrival or Embarkation	Date of Departure or Disembarkation.	Station or Troopship	Date of Arrival or Embarkation	Date of Departure or Disembarkation
<p><i>St John's 7</i></p>					



Regimental Number 1378 Company \_\_\_\_\_

THE  
1ST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT.

---

I hereby enlist for service at home or abroad in the King's Forces under the following conditions:

For the duration of the present war, or until my discharge.

Subject to the Army Act, the King's Regulations, and to such ordinances as may apply or may be made to apply to the British Regular Army.

Subject to the Newfoundland Volunteer Act, 5 George V., Chapter IV.

Signed *J. J. J. J.*

Witness *Robertson*

Dated at



191\_\_\_\_\_

C.R. 1378

Extract of Casualty List received from P. & R. O.  
December 28th. 1915.

#1378 Pte J. O'Brien. ✓

Wounded in Action O.C. Unit 7/12/16

# NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL TELEGRAPHS.

## Cable Connection with all the World

### All Messages Sent are Subject to the Following Conditions:

The Management may decline to forward the Message, though it has been received for transmission ; but in case of so doing shall refund to the Sender the amount paid for its transmission.

In case the Message shall never reach its destination by reason of any neglect or default of the N. P. T. or its Servants whilst the Message remains under the control of the N. P. T., they will refund the amount paid by the Sender for such Message.

The N. P. T. shall not be liable to make compensation beyond the amount refunded as above for any loss, injury, or damage arising or resulting from the non-transmission or non-delivery of the Message, or delay or error in the transmission or delivery thereof, howsoever such transmission, non-delivery, delay, or error shall have occurred.

The control of the N. P. T. over the Message shall be deemed to have entirely ceased for the purposes of these Conditions at any point where, in the course of the transit of the Message to its destination, it may be entrusted by the N. P. T. (and the N. P. T. shall have full power so to entrust the Message) for further transmission by or through any system, service, or line of Telegraph belonging to or worked by any administration or authority not controlled by the N. P. T. exclusively, although worked as part of or in connection with the Telegraphic system or service of the N. P. T.

I request that the following Telegram may be forwarded according to the foregoing Conditions, by which I agree to abide.

(NOT TRANSMITTED)

Signature of Sender \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Line Number	Rcd	By	Sent	by	Check

Dated December 29, 1916.

To Mrs. Mary O'Brien,

Topsail.

Regret to inform you that Record Office,

London, officially reports No. 1378, Private James J. O'Brien, was wounded on December seventh.

Upon receipt of further information I shall immediately wire you and trust that next report will be of his convalescence.

J. R. BENNETT,

Colonial Secretary.

**FOR TYPEWRITER**

COPY OF TELEGRAM.

Dated

May 13, 1917.

To

Mrs. Mary O'Brien,

Topsail<sup>2</sup>

Regret to inform you that the Record Office,

London, officially reports ~~No. 1378, Private~~

~~James J. O'Brien, missing April fourteenth.~~

Upon receipt of further information I shall immediately wire you.

J. R. BENNETT,

Colonial Secretary.

C.R. 1328

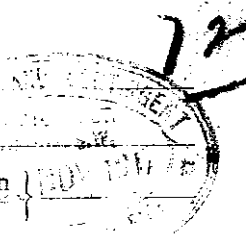
Extract of Communication received from Pay ~~87~~ Record  
office, London, dated October 15, 1917.

#1378 Pte. J.J. O'Brien.

Posted as "Missing" 14/4/17, and presumed Dead for  
official purposes 17/11/17.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps Newfoundland  
 CR. 1378 Rank Pte Name J J O'Brien  
 Enlisted (a) 9/4/15 Terms of Service (a) War Service reckons from (a) \_\_\_\_\_  
 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. 35, 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. 35, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				

	<u>James P. ...</u>	<u>9516 B213</u>			
	<u>Unit Wounded in Action</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>7/2/16</u>	<u>B213</u>	
	<u>53 FA. Admitted - Scabies</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>30/1/17</u>	<u>EB 175</u>	
<u>15 APR 1917</u>	<u>OC, L.D.</u>	<u>MIPSING</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>14 APR 1917</u>	<u>B.C.</u>

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

(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, Shewing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

ORIGINAL.

Army Form O. 1625.

PAY LIST.

to

191 Voucher No.

NON-EFFECTIVE ACCOUNT.

Regiment or corps

No. 1378

Rank Private

Name J. J. O'Brien

Died (or) Intestate at France

on the 14 of April 1917.

Deserted at MISSING 14/4-17.

on the of 191.

PRESUMED DEAD 17-11-17

I Certify to the correctness of above in every particular.

Commanding Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

Form 1.

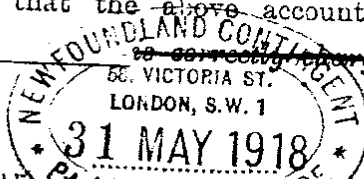
Date	Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
	Balance Dr. last month .....				Balance Cr. last month ..14/4/17.....	22	2	7
	Cash issues (Date of each issue to be stated)				Pay days at from to			
	£ s. d.				Proficiency, Service or good conduct pay days at from to			
	101				Messing allowance days at from to			
	"				Kit allowance .....			
	"				Amount produced by the sale of Effects from Form 2 .....			
	"				f Savings Bank balance, including rest (if no balance, to be so stated)			
	Consolidated stop				Pay or Gratuity .....			
	Balance due by the Paymaster	22	2	7	Balance due to the Paymaster .....			
		£ 22	2	7		£ 22	2	7

I hereby Certify that the above account is correct in every particular, and that the debtor balance of £ 22 2 7 is correctly chargeable against the Public Account.

Dated at

this

day of



191

CHIEF PAYMASTER & OFFICER IN CHARGE RECORDS

- (a) Here state whether the soldier died intestate, or whether he left a Will. In the latter case the Will should be annexed hereto, if not already sent to War Office.
- (b) Words in Italics to be struck out when there is no debtor balance.

Form H.

Any further letter on this subject should be addressed to—  
The Director of  
Graves Registration and Enquiries,  
War Office,  
Winchester House,  
St. James's Square,  
London, S.W.1,  
and the number below quoted.

WAR OFFICE,

C.C.M/57/29452.

The Officer in Charge,  
Newfoundland Record Office,  
58, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

GRAVES REGISTR...

1919

4954

I have received an enquiry for the location of the  
grave of 1378 Private J.J. O'Brien, of  
"C" Company,  
who is stated to have been killed 4.4.17.

The grave has not been registered in this office, and  
I shall be much obliged if you can give me any informa-  
tion (if possible, a map reference) which might assist in  
locating it, or failing this a map reference of the place  
where he was last seen, as I understand above  
Records are with you.

~~In the event of this Battalion not having buried him,  
it will assist if you can say by what Unit it was relieved,  
or by what Unit the burial may have been effected, and  
obtain from them any available information.~~

*Mrs. G. G. G. G.*  
Major,

for Major-General,

Director-General of Graves Registration and Enquiries.

(8 2 26) W8652—HP4910 5000 1/19 HWV(P43/3) H2917  
1880—RP4843 10,000 7/19

*1.10000*

LM-

April 30, 1920

From: Paymaster

To : Board of Pension Commissioners for Nfld.

Re #1378, J.J.O'Brien

The amount paid in continuance of the above man's  
allotment is \$576.00

Major  
Paymaster

Squadron, Troop, Battery and Company Conduct Sheet.

Army Form B. 121.

W. P. Gilbey & Sons Ltd., Printers, Old Bailey, E.C. 4.  
 (1931) W181161 4000 3198-1 53 56

Number of Sheet 1

Regiment of 1st New Foundland

Signature of O. C. Company J. S. Bernhardt

Good Conduct Badges, Service Pay or Proficiency Pay

2/12

No. <u>1978</u> Joined Date Date Date	Regimental Number and Name <u>Private James John</u>	Enlistment		Trade <u>Miner</u>	
		Age on <u>19</u> years	<u>4</u> months		Religion <u>Roman Catholic</u>
		Place and Date of Enlistment <u>St John's</u>	<u>7. 4. 18</u>		Place of Birth <u>Peppral 9. 7.</u>
		Period of { with Colours years. { with Reserve years.			

Place	Date of Offence	Rank	Cases of Default	OFFENCE	Names of Witnesses	Punishment awarded	Date of award of badge with rank	By whom awarded	REMARKS
<u>Newton</u>	<u>22/1/16</u>	<u>Private</u>		<u>absence from duty 11.15.18 Corp from 1904 c. 13</u>			<u>23/1/16</u>	<u>J. S. Bernhardt</u>	<u>1917</u>

To be carried over

Wm. Rendell.

Dept Militia  
St Johns.

Topsail  
Aug 15. 21

1378

Dear Sir

Yours of the - inst rec<sup>d</sup>  
and beg to acknowledge same  
I wish to state that I sent in  
the returns re the Grave-  
Registration some time ago  
stating at the same time  
as I do now that I had  
no wish to have any -  
personal inscription on  
the monument to the memory  
of my late son J. J. Brien  
my reason being simply.

I couldnt reconcile myself  
to the idea of having an  
Epitaph over an empty  
grave. when the Dear  
Bones were scattered some  
where in France. Apart  
from this if there is any  
assistance I can render  
I will be pleased to  
do so

Yours Sincerely

Mary O'Brien

1378

August 16th, 1921

Mrs. Mary O'Brien,  
Stamail.

Dear Madam:-

I beg to acknowledge yours of Aug. 18th in reply to my letter regarding the Final Verification of your late son, J.J. O'Brien.

It is noted that you duly completed the form which was sent you and return it; but I regret very much that this Department has not received it. It must, therefore, have been lost in the mail. I am enclosing herewith duplicate form, and if you will kindly fill it in similar to the original one, I shall be very grateful.

I might state that any expense in connection with inscriptions on headstones of deceased sailors and soldiers will be charge against Government funds

Yours faithfully,

Lieut.-Col.,

Chief Staff Officer