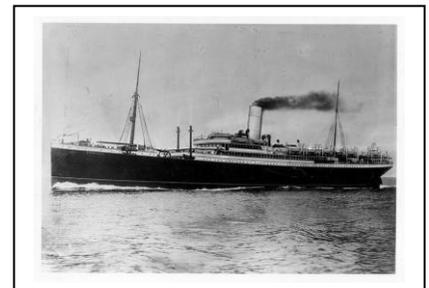


Private Alphonus Fitzpatrick (Regimental Number 1904) is buried in Ayr Cemetery, Ayrshire – Grave reference G.2.1.

His occupation prior to military service recorded as that of a fisherman, Alphonus Fitzpatrick was a recruit of the Sixth Draft. He presented himself for medical examination at the Church Lads Brigade Armoury in St. John’s, enlisted – engaged at the daily private soldier’s rate of \$1.10 – and also attested, all on the same day, October 13 of 1915.

Private Fitzpatrick and the other military personnel of ‘G’ Company – apparently in the company of several naval reservists and also some German prisoners (these latter presumably to remain in Canada) - left St. John’s by train on October 27, to cross the island to Port aux Basques. The contingent then traversed the Gulf of St. Lawrence by ferry, and proceeded by train from North Sydney to Quebec City.



(continued)

At Québec the Newfoundlanders boarded His Majesty's Transport *Corsican* (preceding page) for the trans-Atlantic passage to the English south-coast naval establishment of Devonport where they arrived on November 9.

By the morning of the 10th the new arrivals had travelled by train and had gone north to Scotland. There they had been billeted in huts in a military camp at Gales, not far removed from the new Regimental Depot where accommodation for the contingent was as yet not available.

That new Regimental Depot had been established during the summer of 1915 in the Royal Borough of Ayr on the west coast of Scotland, there to serve as a base for the 2nd (Reserve) Battalion. It was from there – as of November of 1915 and up until January of 1918 – that the new-comers arriving from home were sent in drafts, at first to Gallipoli and then subsequently to the Western Front, to bolster the four fighting companies of 1st Battalion.



(Right above: an aerial view of Ayr – probably from the period between the Wars: Newton-on Ayr is to the left of the River Ayr and the Royal Borough is to the right. – courtesy of the Carnegie Library at Ayr)

Private Fitzpatrick was admitted into the Croftshead Hospital, Ayr, on January 29 of 1916 where he was diagnosed as suffering with pneumonia, asthenia and measles.

The son of Mary Fitzpatrick (deceased by the time of her son's enlistment), he was also nephew to James Fitzpatrick, grandson of Bridget Fitzpatrick (named as next of kin, deceased July, 1917), and cousin of Miss Nellie Fitzpatrick - to whom he had bequeathed the accrual of fifty cents per diem from his pay - of Conche on the *French Shore*.



He died in hospital in Ayr on January 29, 1916. At home it was the Reverend G.A. Thibault who was requested to bear the news to his family.

An auction of his few effects realized the sum of 14/9 (fourteen shillings and nine-pence).

Alphonsus Fitzpatrick had enlisted at eighteen years and three months of age.

(Right above: the Newfoundland Plot in Ayr Cemetery – photograph from 2011)

Private Alphonsus Fitzpatrick was eligible for the British War Medal for his overseas service.

