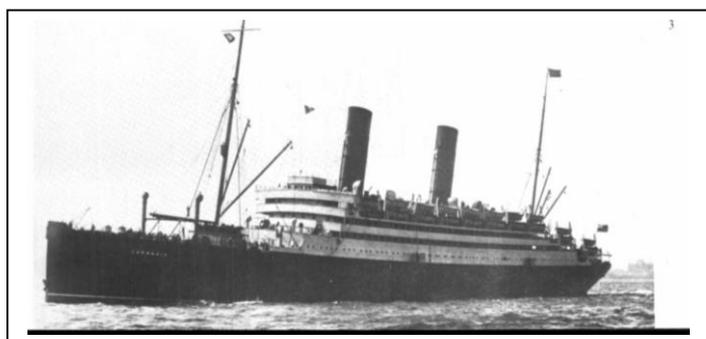


Sidney Harry Rapson



Sidney Harry was the son of William Rapson, a Wesleyan minister (1847-1927) from Cornwall who married Elizabeth Laura Marsh (1850-1930) from Clerkenwell, London, in 1878 in Milton in Kent. Sidney was born in Uxbridge on June 18th 1891, when his parents were living at The Greenway, Hillingdon. From there, the census records show they were in Lydd in Kent in 1901 and Deal in Kent in 1911. His parents had 5 children, four of whom were living in 1911: William Marsh (1852-1940), a Wesleyan minister who was the preacher at All Saints Mission Church, South Street, Isleworth in the years just before and after WW1; Henrietta Jessie born in 1884 and Margaret Elsie born in 1890.

Sidney Harry made more than one sea crossing to North America from Liverpool, arriving in Canada in 1911 and 1913, travelling on the final journey on the Carmania (pictured below). On his immigration papers he gave details of a friend, the Reverend S Wesley Dean, from a Mission Church in Toronto. Sidney worked as a bank clerk in Toronto and enlisted on November 10th 1914 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force when he was 24. The Middlesex Chronicle on 3rd



October 1914 had already reported that Sidney Henry was one of the 'Isleworth Men on Service' with the Canadian force.

Sidney served with the 19th Battalion (service number 55274). The battalion had originally been raised at Exhibition Park in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on 6th November. Sidney would have sailed to West Sandling Camp in Shorncliffe in

England and then moved to France on 14th September 1915. Sidney died of wounds on 8th May 1917, in France. The Canadian Circumstances of Death includes this report: *"When his Battalion were forming up for a counter attack on the enemy in a sunken road just in rear of the front line trenches at about 11 on 8th May 1917 he was severely wounded in the abdomen by shrapnel from an enemy shell. He was immediately removed to the Regimental Aid Post and later to No.6 Casualty Clearing Station where he died shortly after admittance."*

He was buried in the Barlin Communal Cemetery, about 21/4 miles SW from Nouex-les-Mines in France. The Middlesex Chronicle on 9th June 1917 reported his death and offered condolences to his brother, William Marsh Rapson, the Minister at the Mission Church in Isleworth. Sidney was also remembered in the Memorial Chapel at All Saints Church in Isleworth.



Photo placed on 'Find a Grave Memorial' number: 56514551

S. H. RAPSON
Private Died of wounds
8th May, 1917.