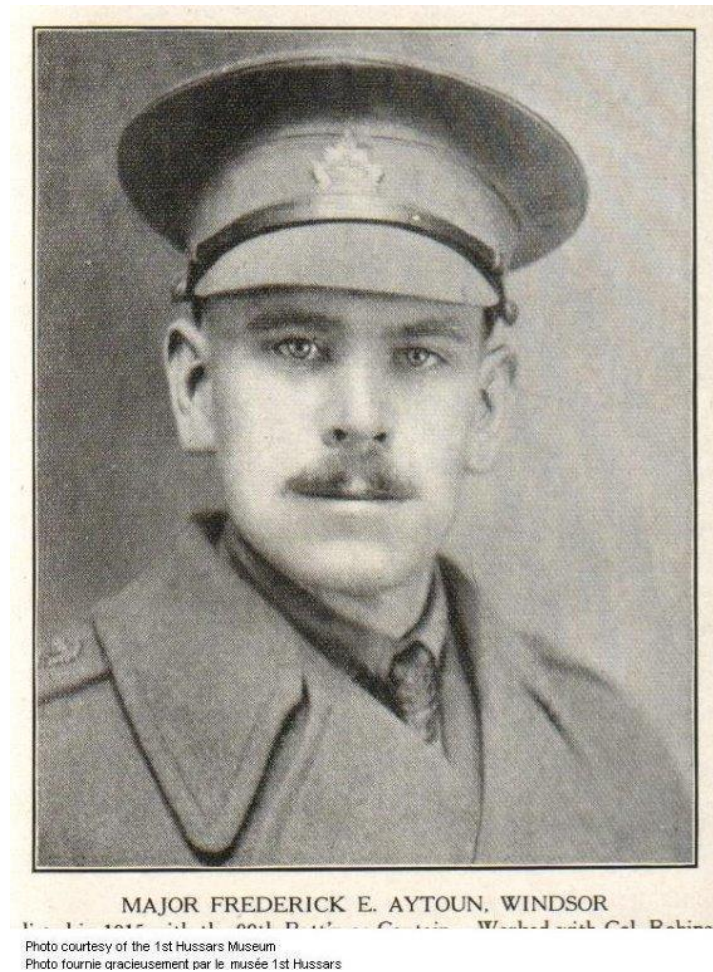


Major Frederick Ernest Aytoun
1st Battalion, Canadian Infantry
21/01/1886 to 22/09/1916

Major Frederick Ernest Aytoun 1st Battalion, Canadian Infantry



Frederick Ernest Aytoun was born in London on 21st January 1886.

His Father Robert Aytoun, an engineer, got a job working in Stockton and his family moved here.

Ernest was a Constructional Engineer and he moved to Canada in 1910

He had previously served as a Captain in the 21st Essex Fusiliers Regiment

At the time of joining the 1st Battalion, Canadian Infantry on March 24 1916 as a Major, he was living in Windsor, Ontario with his wife Miriam, who was originally from Stockton.

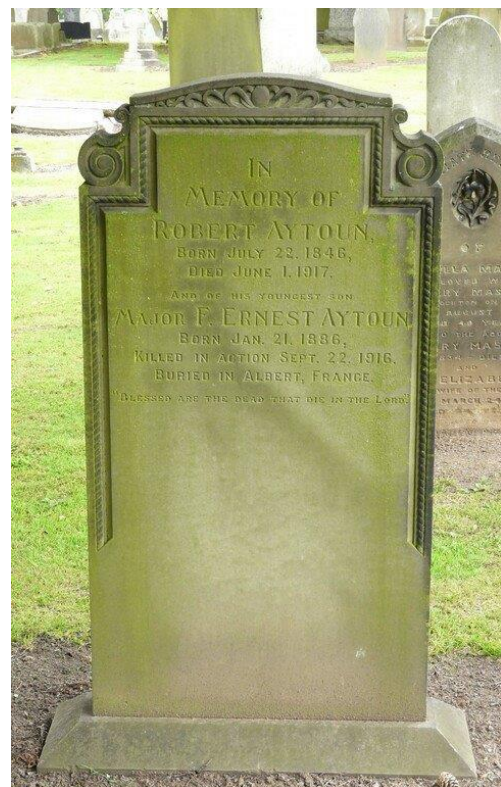
He saw Service in France and was killed in action on 22nd September 1916 aged 30.

Although it has been difficult to find Ernest's service record there an account of his final battle in a book entitled "Canada in war-paint" by Capt. Ralph W. Bell, where the following extract comes from:

'On the left flank " A " Coy. met with stubborn opposition. Four machine-guns opened on their first wave, cutting it to pieces, as it was enfiladed from the flanks. The Company reformed at once, and charged again. This time they were met by a heavy counter-attack in force. In the cold words of official phraseology, " This opposition was overcome."

It was here that two very gallant officers were lost — Lieut. B. T. Nevitt and Major F. E. Aytoun — while leading their men. The last seen of Lieut. Nevitt, he was lying half in and half out of a shell-hole, firing his revolver at the enemy who were almost on top of him, and calling to his men to come on.

Major Aytoun's last words were, "Carry on, men!" '



Ernest lies in the Albert Communal Cemetery Extension in France although there is an inscription on his father Robert's grave in Oxbridge Cemetery.

In Memory of
Major
F E Aytoun

1st Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 22 September 1916

Remembered with Honour
Albert Communal Cemetery Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission