

## **Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte & World War One: Those who survived but whose deaths were related to their service**

This month marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of World War One (WW1). This also marks the beginning of what will be four years of commemoration. Last year, in November, we dedicated an article to "The Fallen", those who volunteered to serve and did not return home. This article is dedicated to those who volunteered, survived their military service, but who had a service related death.

**BARDY, JAMES**                      Regiment #739285

James Bardy was the son of Peter & Margaret (Maracle) Bardy

Born: 12<sup>th</sup> August 1895

Signed up: 13<sup>th</sup> March 1916, Ohsweken, Ontario, at the age of 20.

Service: Initially served in the 114<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battalion. Transferred to 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion; then to 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Rank: Private

His WW1 personnel file tells us the following:

James was hospitalized in January 1917 with an infection first thought to be mumps but later shown to be infection post extraction of some teeth.

He was reported as wounded on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 1917 from a "through and through" gunshot wound to left forearm at Bullecourt (near Arras) in France. He was hospitalized in No. 7 General Hospital, St. Omer, France, then hospitalized in St. Denis, France where it was found the ulna was fractured severely. The arm took some time to heal but his recovery was reported as complete. There was no permanent disability reported. He was discharged from the military on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1919.

*[Source: LAC RG150 1992-93/166, Box 427 - 23]*

Following the war, James married Lucretia Ann Brant on the 24<sup>th</sup> December 1919.

James & Lucretia (Brant) Bardy had several children:

Everton Edward      born 1922 died 1923

Manson                      born 1925

Marian Beatrice      born 1926

Alfred Edward      born 1929 died 1929

Betty Sharon              born 1930

Margaret Ann              born 1933

James died on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 1937. The death registration stated that the causes of death were: acute nephritis (kidney inflammation); malarial treatments and general "paresis" or paralysis. *[Source: AO MS 935 Reel #587]*

According to the military record, his death was due to his military service.  
[Source: LAC Veterans' Death Cards: First World War RG150 Accession 1992-93/ 166 GAD Mikan No.46114]

James was buried the 28<sup>th</sup> July 1937. His headstone can be found at Christ Church Cemetery.

### **CLAUSE, AMBROSE**

Regiment #636999

Ambrose Clause was the son of Wellington & Sarah (Maracle) Claus.

Born: the 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> November 1889

Signed up: 4<sup>th</sup> April 1916, Belleville, Ontario, at the age of 26.

Service: Enlisted in the 155<sup>th</sup> Battalion [LAC RG10 Vol. 3182 File 452, 124-6]

Rank: Private

His WW1 personnel file tells us the following:

Ambrose was admitted to the Kingston General Hospital in August 1916 after a severe haemorrhage of the lungs (which took place on a training march). Tests revealed tuberculosis with 100 % disability and a recommendation for treatment in a sanatorium. Medical reports stated that the tuberculosis developed after his enlistment – as an infection following measles and pneumonia. The condition was aggravated “100%” by his military service. Ambrose was discharged as medically unfit on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1916. He refused sanatorium treatment. After the discharge he worked as a railway section man for the CNR. In October 1918 and again in January 1919 he had bouts of influenza. He began to lose weight and experienced more pain.  
[Source: LAC RG150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 1775 – 24]

Ambrose Clause married Mary Magdalen Brant on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1910. They had three children:

Winnifred Viola	born 1913 who married Gordon Maracle
Ada Alfine	born 1915 who married Francis Brant
Ambrose Burnett	born 1917 and died in 1921

Ambrose died in Kingston on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 1920. The death record states the cause as pulmonary tuberculosis. [Source: AO MS 935 Reel #265]

According to the military his death was “related to service”. [Source: LAC Veterans' Death Cards: First World War RG150 Accession 1992-93/ 166 GAD Mikan No.46114]

He was buried the 15<sup>th</sup> July 1920. There is a headstone in Christ Church Cemetery.

### **HILL, THOMAS**

Regiment #454078

Thomas Hill was the son of Henry & Mary (Loft) Hill

Born: the 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> January 1876

Signed up: 26<sup>th</sup> February 1915, Belleville, Ontario, at the age of 39.

Service: Initially with the 59<sup>th</sup> Battalion, transferred to 39<sup>th</sup> Battalion then 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion

Rank: Private

His WW1 personnel file tells us the following:

At the time of his attestation, he had already served for 16 years in the 49<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Canada with the rank of Sergeant Major. In WW1, he served overseas in France. His medical report stated he served 7 months in France and that the original disease was vascular disease of the heart. It also stated that for 8 years prior there had been some shortness of breath but little distress. After a bout of the measles in January 1916 the shortness of breath became very marked and distress quite apparent. "While there is no definite medical history of condition preceding enlistment it would appear as if measles determined onset of decomposition." He was sent to hospital in May 1917 - he had a series of hospitalizations until 1918. In England he was diagnosed with "Dilation of Heart".

He was discharged as medically unfit May 31<sup>st</sup> 1918.

*[Source: LAC 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 4360-54]*

Thomas died the 6<sup>th</sup> July 1949. The military record stated cause of death was "chronic myocarditis" and that his death was related to his military service.

*[Source: LAC Veterans' Death Cards: First World War RG150 Accession 1992-93/ 166 GAD Mikan No.46114]*

He was buried the 8<sup>th</sup> July 1949. There is a headstone for Thomas at All Saints Cemetery.

After his death in 1949, his widow received a letter from the Director of War Service Records stating that Thomas' death was related to his service and that she would be receiving a Silver Memorial Cross "given by the Canadian Government as a slight token of appreciation of the sacrifice you have made".

*[Source: LAC 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 4360-54]*

Thomas Hill married Sarah Elizabeth Brant on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 1902. Thomas & Sarah Elizabeth (Brant) Hill had several children:

Henry Leonard	born 1903 who married Dorothy May Maracle
Thomas John	born 1905
Abraham William	born 1906
Colin or Coleman Campbell	born 1908 died 1937
Mary Elizabeth	born 1911 died 1912
Russel Vincent	born 1913
Muriel Evelyn	born 1921 died 1921

**MARACLE, CLARENCE** REG #412270

Clarence Maracle was the son of Seth & Catherine Jane (Leween) Maracle

Born: the 30<sup>th</sup> January 1897

Signed up: 25<sup>th</sup> February 1915, Belleville, Ontario, at the age of 18.

Service: Listed in 155<sup>th</sup> Battalion. *[LAC RG10 Vol. 3182 File 452, 124-6]* He was also in the 39<sup>th</sup> Battalion and transferred to 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Rank: Private



Clarence Maracle as a young Private.

His WW1 personnel file tells us the following:

Clarence went to France in November 1915. He served in the trenches at Voormezele – a village near Ypres, Belgium in 1916. He suffered pharyngitis in June 1916. He contracted German Measles while hospitalized in France at that time. Then he suffered from bronchitis. He was accidentally injured in 1918. He suffered Influenza, pneumonia & emphysema in November of the same year requiring surgery (rib resection & drainage tube). He suffered from bronchopneumonia, emphysema and fibrosis of lungs in March 1919.

He was sent home to Canada May 1919. He suffered pneumonia in July 1919. A military Medical officer thought he would improve “at outdoor life at his country home”.

Clarence had not suffered any serious illness prior to enlistment. He was assessed with a permanent slight disability due to service. The medical officer reported he would return to former occupation with some limitations (“not as strong as at enlistment”).

*[Source: LAC 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 5910-3]*

Clarence Maracle married Nellie Leween on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1920. They had three children:

Douglas R.	born 1921 who married Mabel Edith Buchinger
Thelma Audrey	born 1928 who married Lloyd Scero
Ronald	born 1931 who married Marie Dezenzo



Clarence Maracle as an older man after the war.

Clarence died on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1942. The military record states death was caused by "chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, etc" and that death was due to his military service. [Source: LAC Veterans' Death Cards: First World War RG150 Accession 1992-93/ 166 GAD Mikan No.46114]

He was buried the 25<sup>th</sup> December 1942. There is a headstone at Christ Church Cemetery.



*(We are grateful to Robert Maracle of Oregon, grandson of Clarence Maracle, for permission to use these photographs.)*

### **POWLESS, CHARLES DAVID** REG#219144

Charles David Powless was the son of David J. & Louisa (Maracle) Powless.

Born: the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1897

Signed up: 20<sup>th</sup> August 1915, Smiths Falls, Ontario at the age of 18.

Service: Initially with the 80<sup>th</sup> Battalion transferred to the 155<sup>th</sup> Battalion then to the 134<sup>th</sup> Battalion then to the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Rank: Corporal

His WW1 personnel file tells us the following:

Before signing up he was a piano maker. He did military training in Napanee in 1915 and took sick with pleurisy. During his service, in March 1916 he was reported as "Gassed". He suffered from pleurisy in September 1916. Then he suffered from bronchitis in December 1916 and January 1917. He had influenza in February 1917. In February 1918 he suffered from "Shell Gas Poisoning" in France. He had pleurisy and bronchitis in March and April 1918. Then he suffered from chronic bronchitis in November 1918. This condition was described as due to "General service conditions and Shell Gas Poisoning. (In France)"

He was discharged due to being medically unfit for service 27<sup>th</sup> February 1919. He could not return to his previous occupation because of his chest condition.  
[Source: LAC 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 7950-18]

Charles David Powless married Margaret Bruce on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 1915. They had two daughters whose names are unknown to us at this time.

He died on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 1929. The cause was an "Air embolism during operation" at Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal. The military record states death was due to his military service. [Source: LAC Veterans' Death Cards: First World War RG150 Accession 1992-93/ 166 GAD Mikan No.46114]

**POWLESS, DAVID J.** REG #799365

David J. Powless was the son of Jacob & Nancy (Zachariah) Powless  
Born: on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 1869 according to census records but born 5<sup>th</sup> January 1871 on his sign-up papers.

Signed up: 17<sup>th</sup> January 1916, Toronto, Ontario at the age of 47 or the age of 45.

Service: Initially with the 134<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battalion (Highlanders); transferred to 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Rank: Private

His WW1 personnel file tells us the following:

David's occupation before the war was wood worker. He was over-age when he enlisted but he was accepted. He served in England and France (October 1916). He suffered from myalgia and debility; back pain aggravated by weather; rheumatism originating April 1917 in France due to service and exposure.

He was discharged as medically unfit for service on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1918.  
[Source: LAC 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 7950-21]

David J. Powless was first married to Louisa Maracle on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1888. They had several children:

Louisa	born 1893 died 1909
Charles David	born 1897 married Margaret Bruce (Served in WW1)
Harold Dean	born 1899 married Florence May Mason in England in 1918 (Served in WW1)

Austie Melvin	born 1900 married Bertha Marie Gauvreau (Served in WW1 & WW2)
Daisy Consuela Douglas	born 1903 who married Mr. Haurm born 1904
Clelland Fraser	born 1906 died 1906
Florence L.	born 1908

After the death of Louisa, David J. Powless married Rose Hannah Hawkins on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 1910. They also had children:

Edwin	born 1911
Mayfred	born 1915
Alfred	born 1915
LaFrances	born 1916

David J. Powless died in Toronto on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 1918. The death record states the cause was "acute lobar pneumonia". *[Source: AO MS 935 Reel #240]*

The "Death Card" for David J. Powless does not say that his death was due to service however there are 2 newspaper articles which described what happened after his death. On the 7<sup>th</sup> February 1919, the Toronto Star reported that the widow of D. J. Powless was refused a pension by the Dominion Pension Board. But then there was reconsideration by the board.

David John Powless had died of pneumonia only weeks after his military discharge. The attending doctor informed the board that the 22 months he served in France had undermined his health so much that he was unable to survive his last illness.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> February 1919, the Toronto Star reported that the widow was to receive a full widow's pension from the Government. A full widow's pension amounted to \$936.00 per year.

**Lest We Forget**