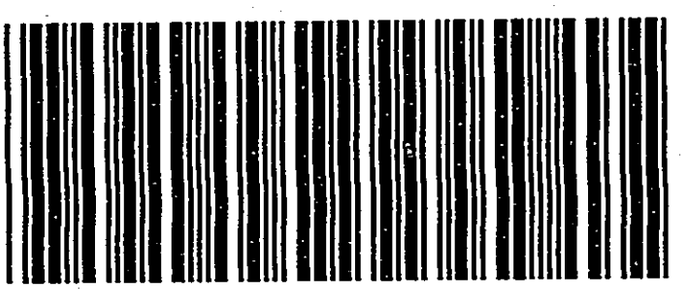
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

3273 Private Albert Henry Leonard Tatterson

2nd Pioneer Battalion



2690810Q

2nd Pioneer Bn.
A.I.F.

TATTERSON
A. 3273

Killed11.10.17 Det. D/B.

At Ypres between there and lower end of Polygon Wood on the Corduroy Road. Seven of 13th Pln. men including Tatterson went up together and five were killed by the same shell (the first and last escaping - both new men, one a Sgt.) The party went out that night and the next day to certify. Four of them, I understd, were buried but I cannot say where - I think Tatterson was one of the four.

Informant:- Zantuck, W. 2231
2nd Pioneer, D.Co. XIII.
17 Hut, Westham.
3.12.17

W.A.Rand.

London.
24.1.18

M

2 Aus. Pioneers

Tatterson, A. 3273

Foley, R. 1930

K Oct. II/17. Det. D/B.

I buried both of these and we put up a cross -a nice cross- but I believe it is missing now. 9 were patrolling on a road (?the Jabber Track), off the Menin Road, that went round the Chateau Wood. A shell burst and Foley, Tatterson, J R Botton and Waller were killed outright. I was on another patrol that was sent out to bury them; we drew these four aside and buried them in one grave; the spot is marked in the reference map. F Ornsby died of wounds just after; the Cpl. and Serg. got in all right; and two privates, Mortlock and Seabrook, were severely wounded and had just been taken away when we got there; the lads have had letters from these two (in Blighty)

The bodies were badly smashed up.
I had known Foley since Jan '17

Inf:- Clements, 3056.
A T 'V de Liege'
Calais. 9 I 18.

CR

Mortlock's letter returned marked "Undelivered"

Written Pte. Mortlock + Seabrook s- 2.18.

2nd Battn Pioneers.
A.I.F.

TATTERSON
A. 2975
7

Killed 11.10.17 D/B.

I knew him personally - Was in D.Coy. 16th Platoon, he was killed by shell. It happened opposite Zillebeke Lake. He was on road patrol at the time - he was doing a 2 hours shift with a party of 9 - one sergt. and 8 men - A shell landed among them killing 5 and wounding 2. I did not see it happen, but I was on the fatigue party sent to bury them. We buried them near where hit There were no crosses put up at the time, but would be put up later. Sergt. A.V.Thomas, D.Coy. 2nd Pioneers, France was in charge and can give any further details required.

Witness:- Beverstock, A. 3465
2nd Pioneer.
Note:- Written Thomas 14.1.18

W.O.J.

London.
16.1.18

M.

Letter from Sgt Thomas

2nd Pioneers.
A.I.F.

Tatterson.
A. 3273

Waller.
T.R. 3966

"Killed in Action 11.10.17"

Re Ptes.Waller T.R. 3966 and Tatterson A. 3273. Both men belonged to D.Coy. Pioneer Battn. and were killed by the same shell on the 11.10.17. They were buried near by where they were killed and a cross was erected over them a couple of days afterwards .The place was and still is under very heavy artillery fire, so that the present condition of the grave is doubtful.
3273 Pte.Tatterson was of medium height, weight about 11 stone, fair hair, blue eyes, and fresh complexion. I know of no distinctive marks. 3966 Pte.Waller was about 5'7" in height, weight about 10 stone, hair light brown, and fresh complexion. No distinctive marks. There can be no doubt as to these two men being killed and buried. I was with them when they were killed and in charge of the party who buried them.

Letter from:- A.V.Thomas.Sgt.
D.Coy.
2nd Pion. Battn. 18.1.18.

London. 2.2.18.

M.

AUST.PIONEERS. 2. TATTERSON, A. 3273.

K. Oct 11th 1917. Dets.

I know for a fact that Sgt Thomas, 2.D.XVI, was out with his section when Tatterson was hit by a shell and killed. I know that Sgt Thomas could give details of burial.

Inf: Pte W.H.Bradley. 3028. D.XV.
No. 13 Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 4.2.18.

ARD

Wife Enclosed

Report by Sgt Thomas

M

2nd Pioneers.
A.I.F.

Tatterson.
A. 3273

Waller
T.R. 3966

"Killed 11.10.17"

They were on patrol work up on Westhoek Ridge when a shell burst killing 5 including Tatterson and Waller. They were buried about 15-20 yards away from where they were killed and abig cross made by the Coy. sent up and erected. I did not see casualty but have seen their grave.

Informant:- Sgt.J.Pender 3231
2nd Pioneers
Hut 10 Westham.

W.A.Rand

London.
4.3.16.

M.

2nd Pioneer Battn.
A.I.F.

TATTERSON
A. 3273

"Killed in Action 11-10-17"

Re 3273 Pte.A.Tatterson, 2nd Pioneers. He was killed on the Bellevarde Circuit Road, directly in front of the Bellevarde Lake, and was buried in a soldiers grave on the field there. He was of fair complexion, fair hair, and well built, age between 20 and 24. Followed same trade as his Father, butcher, of Warragul, Victoria. He was buried with 3 more of his Coy., and a Cross bearing their names was put up. The 3 others were, Ptes. Botten, Foley, and Waller. 2nd Pioneer Battn.

Letter from:- Seabrook Pte.J. 3705
2nd Pioneer Battn.
c/o C.S.M. Bowden,
No.6 Camp,
Pioneer Training Battn.
Sutton Veny
8-4-18

London
10-4-18

M.

late
23rd Btn.

TATTERSON, A.
Pte. 3273

Killed in action 11/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 7 ins. medium build, fair complexion, about 21 years of age, comes from Warragul. Casualty was patrolling the road keeping it in order. I was in the same party at Westhoek Ridge, Ypres. A shell exploded in the centre of the road killing Casualty instantly and Pte. Bottom, Pte. Hornsby and Pte. B. Paley. I was 10 yds. from Casualty at the time of his death and was wounded by the same shell. I was removed soon after and I found out that they were buried all together just near where they fell. A cross was erected with their names and numbers on it. I was an eye-witness."

Private address:- Dunluce, via Dunnolly.

Informant:- G. R. Mortlock, No. 2776.

T.C.F.
12/4/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

late
23rd Btn.

TATTERSON, A.
Pte. 3273.

Killed in action 11/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 8 ins. well built, fair complexion, about 22 years of age, known as "Chum". Casualty was on patrol duty beyond Ypres. I did not see Casualty killed but I saw his body the following day which was brought to Bellvaud Ridge. He was buried at Bellvaud Ridge and I helped to bury him. A cross was placed over his grave with his name and number on it."

Informant:- Pte. J. Whitmore, No. 2468, 23rd Btn.

Private address:-
25 Council Street,
Clifton Hill.

T.C.F.
4/10/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE

23rd Btn.

TATTERSON, A.
Pte. No. 3273

Kld. in act. 11.10.17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5' 8", well built, fair complexion about 23 years of age. Casualty was going along a road at Westhope Ridge. I was in the same party. An H.E. shell exploded in the centre of the party killing Casualty instantly, and four other men. He was most severely wounded all over, and he was buried just where he fell."

Informant:- F.W. Wosley
No. 3663

Private address
3 Charles Street,
Ascot Vale.

T.C.F.
23.5.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

2nd Pioneers.

TATTERSON,
A. 3273

K.11/10/17.

I knew casualty, he was a well built man, 5'8" in height, fair complexion, 28 years of age. Casualty was just off the Menin Road, Ypres, he was on road patrol on the Corduroy Track and was killed by a shell fire instantaneously. I did not see him killed but helped to bury him near where he fell and I made a cross over his grave, with hisxname, number and unit on it.

TREMBATH,
3657, R.T., Sgt.

Private Address:-
112 Commonwealth Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

N.A.T.,
4/7/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

2nd Pnrs.
late 23rd Btn.

TATTERSON, A.
Pte. No. 3273

Kld. in act. 11.10.17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5' 7", well built, fair complexion about 24 years of age. Casualty was on patrol duty at Cauderoy Road, Passchendaele. He was going home when an H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly and Private Bolton and five other men. I was going along the road and was about 300 yards away from him at the time, and I saw his body laying just near where he fell. He was buried on the side of the road at Death Valley."

Informant:- G. Clarke
No. 3482.

Private address
Jamesville,
~~Glenlyon~~ Glenlyon Road,
Brunswick.

T.C.F.
27. 6.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

23rd Btn.

TATTERSON, A.
Pte. 3273.

K. in act. 11/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was about 5 ft. 6 ins. well built, 25 years of age, known as "Tat". He was a 7th Rfcts. to the 23rd Btn. Casualty was patrolling on Corduroy Track, Ypres, when a shell landed killing Casualty and several others. I was just in front of him at the time, and I helped to bury him with Ptes. Clark & Botten in front of Chateau Wood, Ypres. There was a cross erected with his name, number and unit on it."

Informant:- Sgt. C. E. Smith,
No. 3643, 23rd Btn.

Private address:-
Dublin Road,
Ringwood.

S.V.P.
5/9/19.

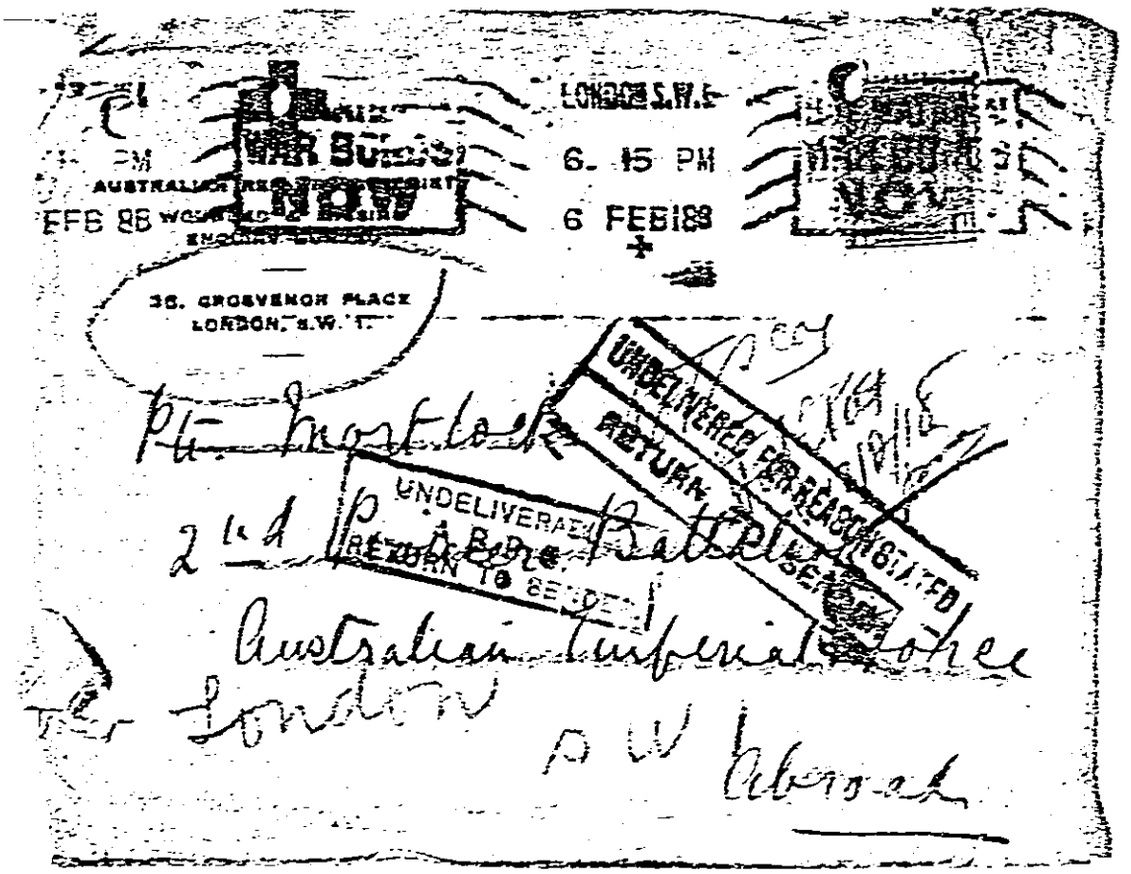
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

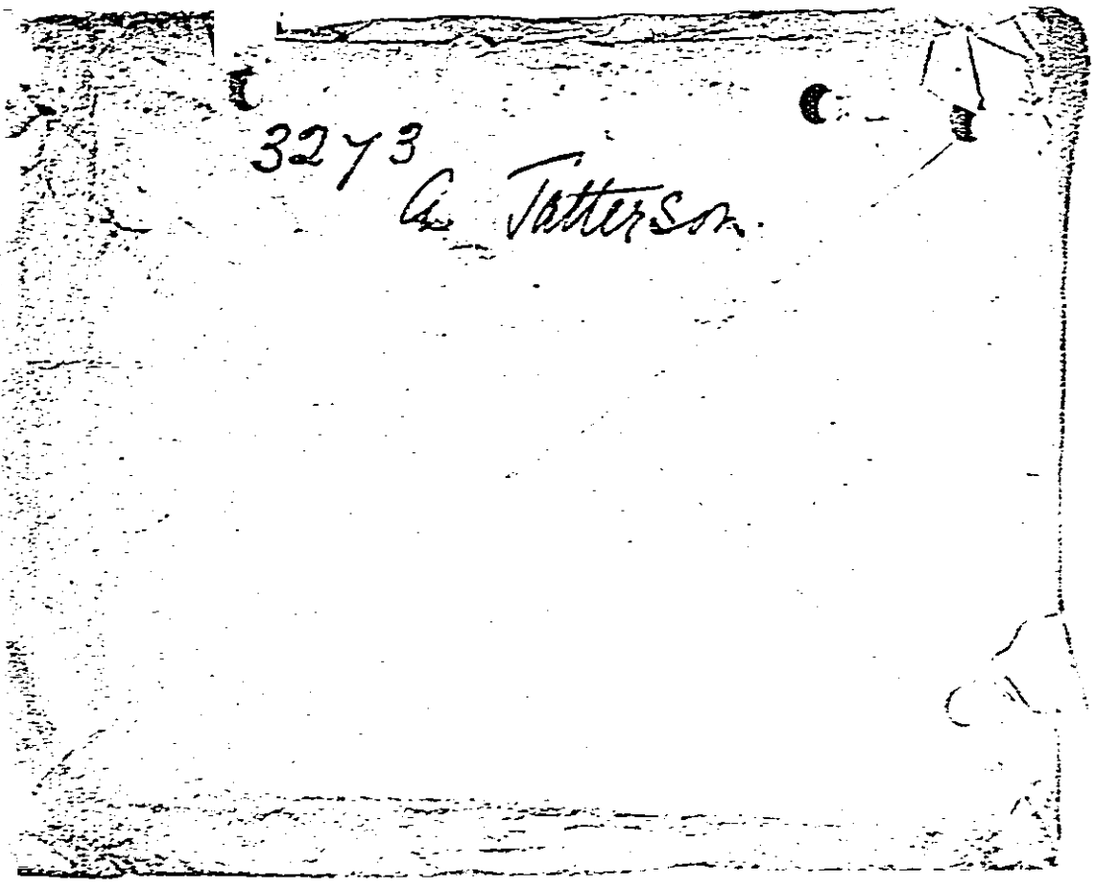
(5. 2. 18.

Pte. Seabrook.
2nd Queens. Pioneers
B.5.7 A.1.7.

AM.
3273 Pte. A. Tatterson
2nd Queens. Pioneers
A.1.7.
K. 11.10.17.

6.2.18.
A.2.B.


LONDON S.W.
6.15 PM
6 FEB 18
WAR BUREAU
NOV
FEB 88
AUSTRALIAN
35. GROSVENOR PLACE
LONDON, S.W.1.
UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED
RETURN TO SENDER
UNDELIVERED
RETURN TO SENDER
Pte Trostle
2nd Pioneer Battalion
Australian Imperial Force
London
A W Abroad


3273
Co Jefferson.

Pte A. Tatterson 3273

2 Pioneers

See under

Pte T. R. Walker 3966

2 Pioneers

5/2/18.

6.2.18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU)

~~54, VICTORIA STREET,~~

36, GROSVENOR PLACE, LONDON, S.W. 1.

Telephones:
VICTORIA { 8576 8577 8578

Telegraphic Address:
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."

Pte. Mortlock
2nd Pioneers C.F.F.
B.F.F.

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your unit

3273 Pte. A. Tatterson 2nd Pioneers C.F.F.
K. 11.10.17.

and have been told that you may be able to help us by supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can send us concerning but our enquirers wish especially to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the field or in a soldier's cemetery where the grave would be registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short description of his personal appearance or any points that might help to prove his identity.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin.

SECRETARY.

NOTE In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number of casualty enquired for, as without these particulars delay and confusion is caused in identificationof the soldier about whom you are writing.

Acted M. P.C. 10.4.18 D.J.

3273.
A. Jatterson
2nd Pioneer Battalion 8/4/18.
K in A. 11-10-17
6 p C.S.M. Bowden
M 3 No 6 Camp
(Cd) Pioneer Training Batt
Sutton Veny.

Dear Madam,

Re your inquiries concerning
No 3273 Pte A Jatterson 2nd Pioneer Batt. K 11-10-17.
He was killed on the Bellavarde Circuit Road directly in front of the Bellavarde Lake & was buried in a soldiers grave on the field there.
He was fair complexion with fair hair & well built. Age between 20 & 24. Followed same trade as his father Butcher of Warragul. Vic.
He was buried with three more of his company & a cross bearing their names was put up. The three others were

Pte Bolton
" Foley
" Waller
} 2nd Aust. Pioner. Batt.

Hoping this is the information you desire
I am
Yours faithfully
Pte J Seabrook. 3705.
2nd Pion. Bn.