

Lt Cyrus Radcliffe Eller – 1891 – 1917
8th Bn., Manchester Regiment who died on 30 May 1917 Age 25

Background

In 1851 Cyrus's ancestor were brothers William and Nathan Eller a pair of Hatters both living on Wharf Street in Dukinfield. At that time, Nathan's youngest child was another Cyrus aged 6 and grandfather to our Cyrus.

By 1861 Cyrus was still at home aged 16 and working as a Cotton Weaver and the family had moved to Old Road in Dukinfield.

By 1871 young Cyrus had married Hannah Hadfield and was living at Alma cottage on Lodge Lane with their first born John Henry aged two and was now a cotton fly maker. He married Hannah at Hyde St Georges Church in 1866 CE28/2/291. John Henry was Cyrus Junior's father.

In 1881 Cyrus and Hannah were living at 42 St Mark's Street with two children John Henry aged 12 and Esther aged 7 he now states his occupation as a Cotton Spindle Maker.

In 1891 the family are now living at 202 Astley Street, John and Esther are still at home, but by 1901 Cyrus and Hannah are still at the same address, but their children have left home.

By 1911 they are living on Chapel Street and Cyrus has retired, he was now 66 and had been married for 44 years. The additional information shows that they had had a total of 8 children, but only two had survived.

Their son John Henry married Harriet Elizabeth Radcliffe in 1891 an Ashton Civil Marriage RM/73/46. They went on to have three children:

Cyrus Radcliffe Eller in 1891 DUK/119/93

Lilian Eller in 1894 DUK/125/50

John Shirley Eller in 1896 DUK/130/22

In 1901 John and Harriett are living at 18 Old Road, Dukinfield, John is a mule spindle maker and Harriett is a Schoolmistress from Bristol.

In 1911 they have moved to 58 Old Road, John Henry is now an Assurance Agent, Harriett is still a Schoolmistress, Cyrus Radcliffe Eller (19) is a Science Student at Manchester University, Lilian (16) is a student at Secondary School and John Shirley (15) is a Draughtsman Pupil at an engineering firm.

Lt Cyrus Radcliffe Eller 8th Manchesters

Died of wounds received at Havrincourt on 30th May 1917. He went out on a night patrol with a bombing party and got ambushed by a German patrol, he told his men to scatter independently while he drew fire. He was found badly wounded and died on his way to a German hospital

Attended the Moravian School, Dukinfield, also Ashton Secondary School and then went to Manchester University gaining a Bsc in Science. At University he was an officer in the training



Lt Cyrus Eller, co-founder of Dukinfield Volunteer Corps, went on to serve with distinction in Gallipoli, Egypt and France. He died of wounds in May 1917.

corps and co-founder of the Dukinfield Volunteer Corps

He served at Egypt Gallipoli, where he won commendations from the Brigadier and the Colonel for picking up live grenades that had fallen from the catapult.

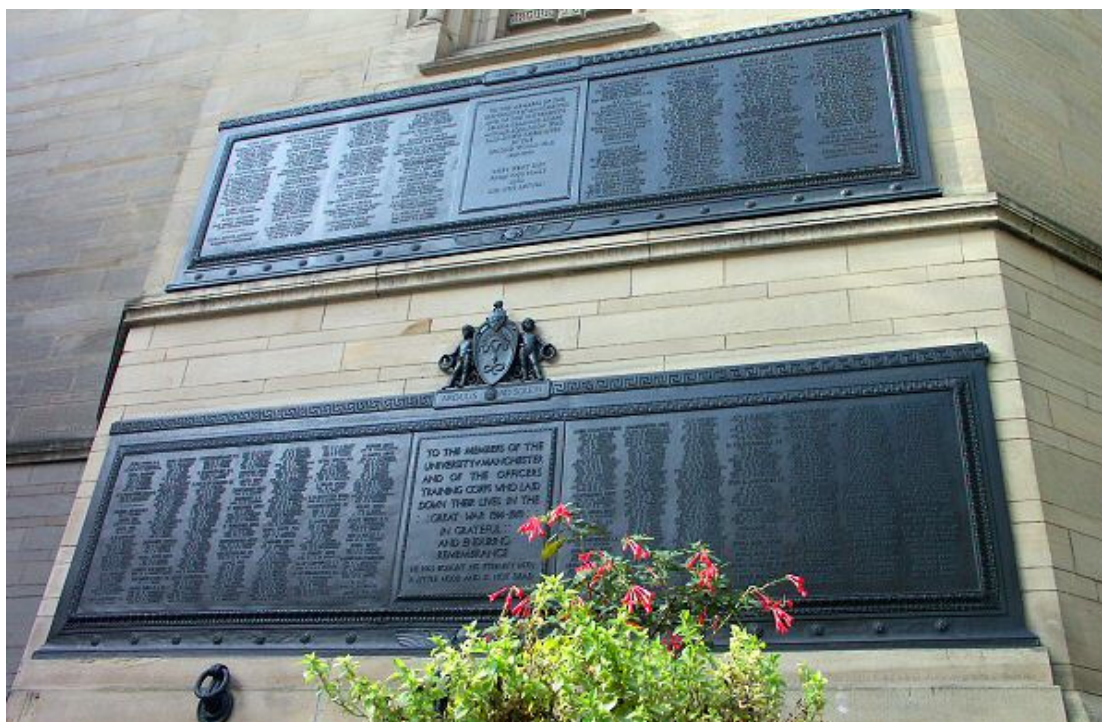
His parents lived in Hall Green and Cyrus had married only a few months before his death. His brother Shirley also served, and died of ill health on 2nd January 1919, he worked on the Government's Seaplane design unit at Cowes; he wasn't fit for front line service, having been turned down 14 times through bad eyesight

See Mike Pav's Book Men of Dukinfield

... Hall Green. married ...
of Shirley Eller. St Souplet British Cemetery, ...
e **ELLER, SHIRLEY:** Brother of Cyrus Eller. Worked in
3 drawing office at J Ruscoe, Hyde. He tried 14 times to join
the Army, but was turned down because of bad eyes.
Worked as aircraft designer at Farnborough until January
1917, and then moved to Cowes to work for Government on
seaplane design. Joined newly formed RAF. Died 2 January
1919, aged 22, after long illness. Buried in Dukinfield
Cemetery. ... Private 7235 D. Com...



Dukinfield Moravian Church Memorial



Manchester University Memorial in the quadrangle of John Owen's Building on Oxford Road

He is also listed on the Dukinfield War Memorial at Chapel Hill.

Cyrus had married Amy Gladys Wilson at Ashton Baptist Church on Welbeck Street in 1916 AP8/1/39

View his certificate from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission attached. He was commemorated at St Souplet Cemetery in northern France. St. Souplet village was eventually captured by the American 30th Division on the 10th October 1918.

His wife Amy Gladys Wilson was born at Northwich, Cheshire in 1892 and in 1911 was working as a confectionery clerk living with her mother and brother at 219 Portland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Cyrus left a Will which went through probate at London 18 June to James Edwin Eller engineer effects worth £169 8s 17d. I suspect that James Edwin was his great uncle.

Overview

This family was afflicted with a great deal of sadness. His grandfather Cyrus had had 8 children only two of which had survived, in 1917 he lost one grandson, his namesake in 1917, his wife Hannah died the same year and his second grandson John Shirley died in 1919, Old Cyrus himself died in 1920.

I wonder how Cyrus's parents felt at the marriage of their last surviving child, their daughter, Lilian Agnes to Rowland Ernest Augustus Fielding in 1919.

Sources:

www.cheshirebmd.org.uk for marriage details.

www.ancestry.co.uk for census, probate information and medal certificate.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission: www.cwgc.org.uk for individual and cemetery info.

Ashton Pals website: <http://ashtonpals.webs.com> dedicated to the Ashton Territorials.

The Long Long trail: <http://www.1914-1918.net/> for battalion info.

www.carlscam.com: for local War Memorial information and images.
Mike Pavasovic's book 'Men of Dukinfield' for photograph and information regarding Cyrus' brother Shirley Eller.

The birth and marriage references are taken from the cheshire bmd website and are the references needed in order to order copies of the original certificates.