RATHFARNHAM

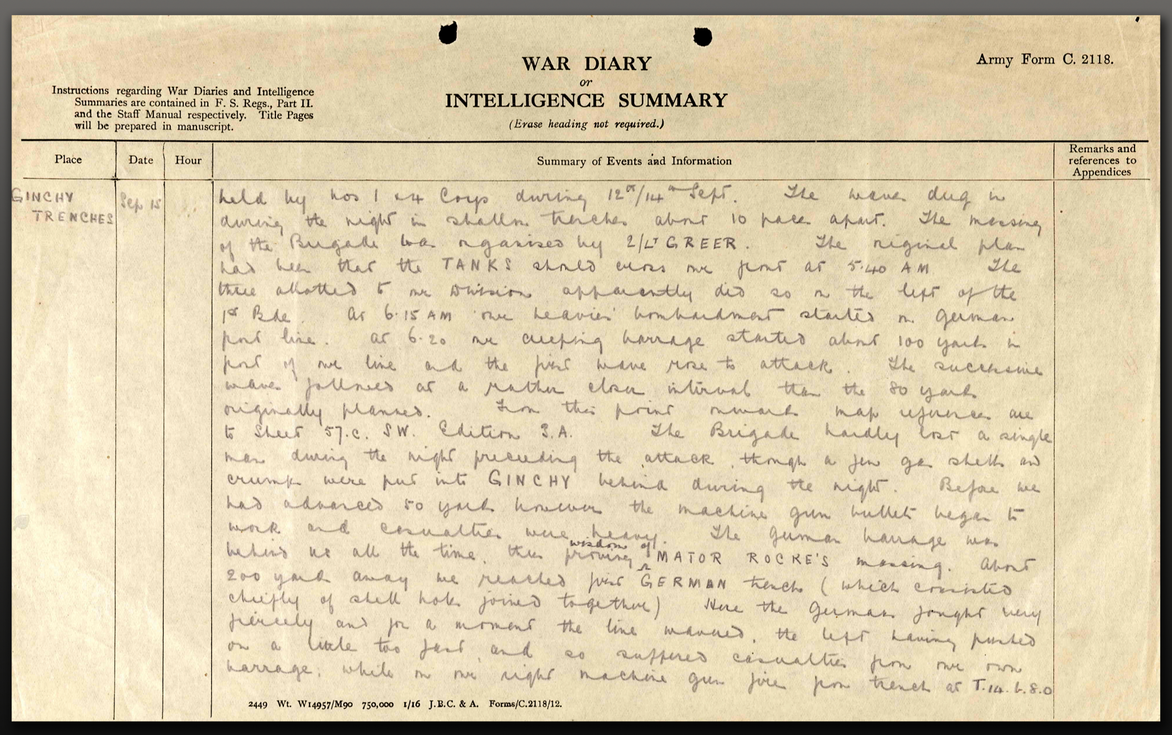
8868 Pte. Patrick Murray

2nd Battalion, Irish Guards

Killed in Action 16th September 1916 age 35

Attack on Ginchy

1



WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY (Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GINCHY TRENCHES	Sep 15		held by Nos 1 & 4 Coys during 12th/14th Sept. The wire dug in during the night in shallow trenches about 10 paces apart. The marking of the Brigade was organised by 2/Lt G. GREER. The original plan had been that the TANKS should cross our front at 5.40 AM. The three allotted to our Division apparently did so on the left of the 1st Bde. At 6.15 AM our heavier bombardment started on German front line. At 6.20 our creeping barrage started about 100 yards in front of our line and the first wave rose to attack. The succeeding waves followed at a rather closer interval than the 50 yards originally planned. From this point onwards map reference are to Sheet 57.c. SW. Edition 3.A. The Brigade hardly lost a single man during the night preceding the attack, though a few gas shells and crumps were put into GINCHY behind during the night. Before we had advanced 50 yards however the machine gun bullets began to work and casualties were heavy. The German barrage was behind us all the time, the first wave passing wisdom of MAJOR ROCKE'S massing. About 200 yards away we reached first GERMAN trench (which consisted chiefly of shell holes joined together). Here the Germans fought very fiercely and for a moment the line wavered, the left having pushed on a little too fast, and so suffered casualties from our own barrage; while on our right machine gun fire from trench at T.14.b.8.0	

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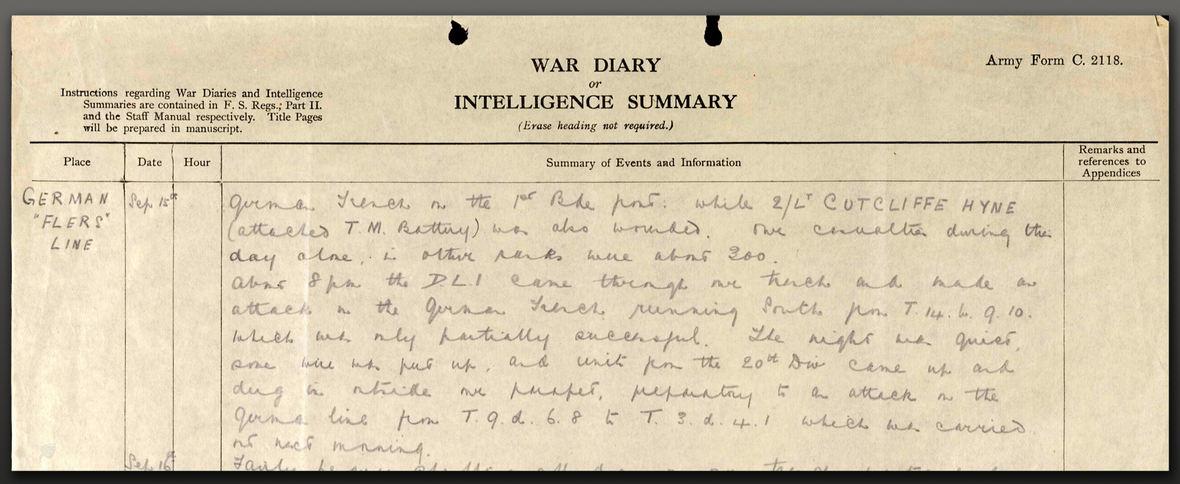

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GERMAN "FLERS" LINE	Sep 15th		German Trench on the 1st Bde front: while 2/Lt CUTCLIFFE HYNE (attached T.M. Battery) was also wounded. Our casualties during the day alone, in other ranks were about 200. About 8 pm the D.L.I came through our trench and made an attack on the German Trench running South from T.14.b.9.10. which was only partially successful. The night was quiet, one wire was put up, and units from the 20th Div came up and dug in outside our parapet, preparatory to an attack on the German line from T.9.d.6.8 to T.3.d.4.1 which was carried on next morning.	
	Sep 16th		Fairly heavy shelling all day [illegible]	

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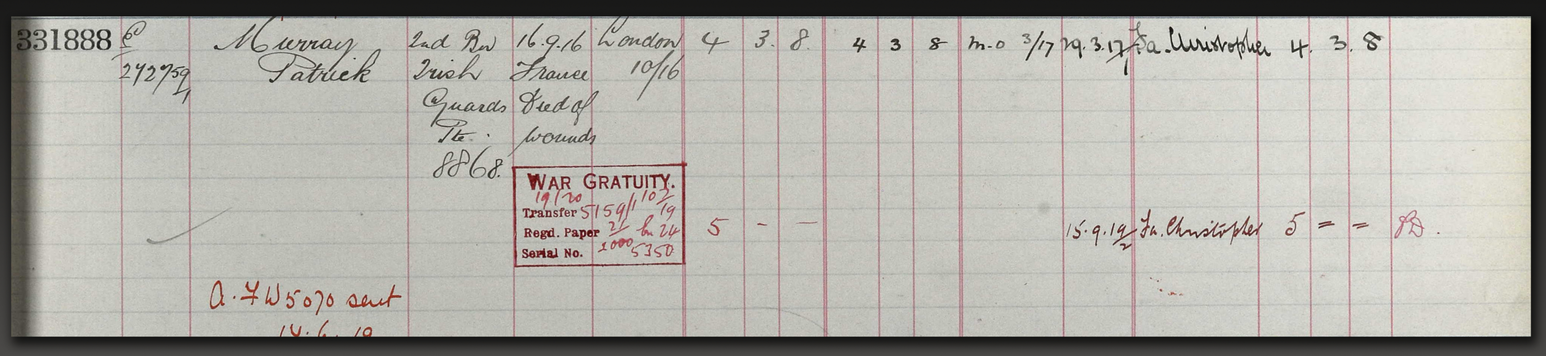

331888 / 242759	Murray Patrick	2nd Bn Irish Guards Pte. 8868.	16.9.16 France Died of wounds	London 10/16	4	3	8	4	3	8	m.o 3/17	19.3.17	Fa. Christopher	4.	3.	8	
			WAR GRATUITY. 19/20 Transfer 515911 10/19 Regd. Paper 2/- 6m 24 Serial No. 1000 5350		5	-	—					15.9.19	Fa. Christopher	5	=	=	PD.

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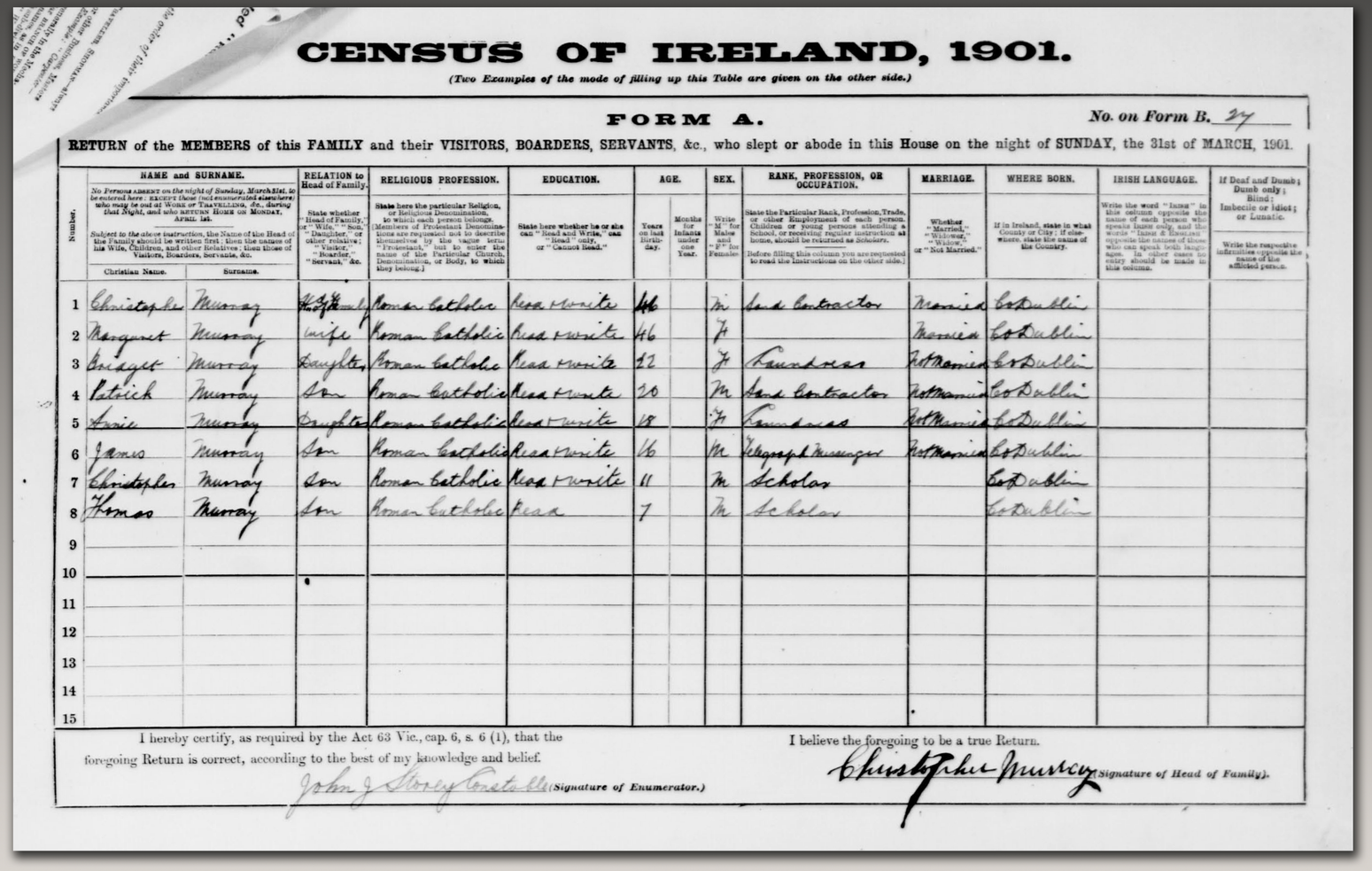

CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1901.

(Two Examples of the mode of filling up this Table are given on the other side.)

FORM A. No. on Form B. 27

RETURN of the MEMBERS of this FAMILY and their VISITORS, BOARDERS, SERVANTS, &c., who slept or abode in this House on the night of SUNDAY, the 31st of MARCH, 1901.

Number.	Christian Name.	Surname.	Relation to Head of Family.	Religious Profession.	Education.	Age.	Months for Infants under one Year.	Sex.	Rank, Profession, or Occupation.	Marriage.	Where Born.	Irish Language.	If Deaf and Dumb; Dumb only; Blind; Imbecile or Idiot; or Lunatic.
1	Christopher	Murray	Head of Family	Roman Catholic	Read & write	46		M	Sand Contractor	Married	Co Dublin		
2	Margaret	Murray	Wife	Roman Catholic	Read & write	46		F		Married	Co Dublin		
3	Bridget	Murray	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Read & write	22		F	Laundress	Not Married	Co Dublin		
4	Patrick	Murray	Son	Roman Catholic	Read & write	20		M	Sand Contractor	Not Married	Co Dublin		
5	Annie	Murray	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Read & write	18		F	Laundress	Not Married	Co Dublin		
6	James	Murray	Son	Roman Catholic	Read & write	16		M	Telegraph Messenger	Not Married	Co Dublin		
7	Christopher	Murray	Son	Roman Catholic	Read & write	11		M	Scholar		Co Dublin		
8	Thomas	Murray	Son	Roman Catholic	Read	7		M	Scholar		Co Dublin		
9													
10													
11													
12													
13													
14													
15													

I hereby certify, as required by the Act 63 Vic., cap. 6, s. 6 (1), that the foregoing Return is correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

John J Storey Constable (Signature of Enumerator.)

I believe the foregoing to be a true Return.

Christopher Murray (Signature of Head of Family).

1: War Diary of the Irish Guards with actions of the 15th of September 1916. The first tanks ever to be used in battle were put into service on this date, and this is mentioned on this page of the diary. There is also a description: "Before the men had advanced 50 yards, the machine gun bullets began to work and [Irish Guards] casualties were heavy..."

2: Continuation page of the War Diary showing the 16th of September to have been relatively quiet.

3: Entry from the Register of Soldiers' Effects. This shows Pte. Murray succumbed to wounds, likely suffered the day before his death. Pte Murray was survived by his father, Christopher, who inherited the £4 3s 5d his son left.

4: Photo dated 15th September 1916; soldiers resting in a shell hole near Ginchy. (Imperial War Museum collection IWM (Q 4260).

5: 1901 Census return showing Patrick Murray's family. They lived in Rathfarnham Village. Both his and his father's professions are listed as "Sand Contractor". This would suggest they worked in one of Rathfarnham's quarries.