

Frederick Adams

Fred Adams was born in 1878 in Wykeham, Scarborough, Yorkshire. His father and mother were Thomas and Elizabeth. Thomas was an agricultural labourer. By 1901 Fred was boarding in Leamington Spa and working as a groom.

The 1911 census shows him living in Moreton Paddox and married to Mabel Evelyn. The Census shows they have been married around a year. He is employed as a groom and working for Robert Emmet.

In Robert Emmet's personal memoirs for his family he refers to Fred as his "soldier groom" and in civilian life his "second horseman". Robert at this time between 1916 and 1919 was serving as a Major in the Royal Field Artillery on the Western Front.

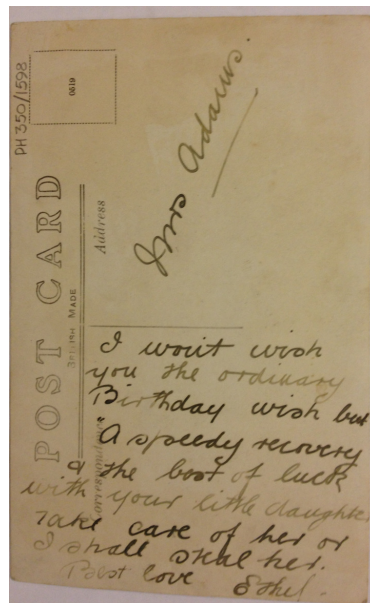
Apparently Fred was too short to join a normal army unit but so called bantam regiments had been formed to take advantage of the many fit but undersized men who wanted to volunteer. Robert Emmet had arranged for him to be transferred to the Royal Field Artillery and to join his command.

He writes in his memoirs that Fred was

"wounded by a large splinter which narrowly missed his head and tore away a great part of his deltoid muscle, on the top of his shoulder, necessitating his evacuation to "Blighty". It was a sad parting for this little man, not only for me but also for the whole battery as he was universally and most deservedly popular. He recovered however and lived until 1945".ⁱ

In 1915 Mabel had a daughter and in the Warwick Records Office there is a postcard picture of Moreton Paddox the home of the Emmets which they turned into a military hospital in 1914. The postcard was no doubt published for convalescing soldiers to send messages to their families. However on the back of this postcard is a message that possibly was written by someone to Mabel on her birthday. This must remain speculation however.

If anyone can throw any more light on this please let us know.



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ⁱ Information and extract is published with the kind permission of Mrs Rowena Phillips