



Clement Senior 1898 - 1917

Clement was born in Earlsheaton on 2nd September 1898 and baptised in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 6th September 1899. His father was Herman Senior, born in Dewsbury in 1869 and died in 1911. His mother was Ada (nee Hemingway) born in Dewsbury in 1870 and died in 1900. They were married on 20th April 1889 at St. Peter's Church.

Their other children were; Harold, born in 1893 and was killed in action 19th July 1917 and Clifford, born in 1896 and died in 1900.

Following the death of his mother, Clement and his father went to live with his paternal grandmother Ellen Senior at Cross Street, Earlsheaton, his brother Harold lived with his maternal grandmother Ellen Hemingway at Commercial Street, Earlsheaton.

Herman was remarried in 1904 to Hannah Maud Lee (born in 1878 and died in 1968). They had three children; Ethel, born in 1905, Alice, born in 1906 and Leslie, born in 1907 and died in 1912. On the 1911 Census Herman had died and Hannah and the family were living at 11, Jack Lane, Commonside, Dewsbury. On the 1921 Census Hannah and her daughters were living at 7, Hirst Place, Purlwell, Batley. (She signed her name as *Maud Senior*). Hannah was remarried in 1927 to Thomas Hayes (born in 1869 and died in 1930). She remarried again in 1937 to William Norbury Popplewell (born in 1877 and died in 1940).

Clement was a single man who for a short time was employed by Mr. Charles Illingworth, Fellmonger, Sands Mill, Earlsheaton.

He attested in April 1915 when he was only 16 years old and after a few months' training he offered himself for active service but due to his age his request was declined. He later enlisted in the 6th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 35313. In January 1916 he was at Saltfleet, Lincolnshire on home service and the following September was sent to the Western Front; three months later he was in hospital with trench foot. He returned to the front at Christmas 1916 but in February 1917 he was sent back to England with another attack of trench foot, returning to the front once more in April. He died in the 17th Casualty Clearing Station at Lijssenthoek, Belgium on 25th August 1917 from shrapnel wounds to the neck, back and abdomen sustained during the Battle of Passchendaele and was buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Clement was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

During the First World War, the village of Lijssenthoek was situated on the main communication line between the Allied military bases in the rear and the Ypres battlefields. Close to the Front, but out of the extreme range of most German field artillery, it became a natural place to establish casualty clearing stations. The cemetery was first used by the French 15th Hopital D'Evacuation and in June 1915, it began to be used by casualty clearing stations of the Commonwealth forces. From April to August 1918, the casualty clearing stations fell back before the German advance and field ambulances (including a French ambulance) took their places. The cemetery contains 9,901 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 24 being unidentified.

Clement is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and on the Memorial Plaque from the now demolished Earlsheaton Highfield Congregational Church relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury and on the Batley War Memorial.

In Memory of
Private
Clement Senior

35313, 6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 25 August 1917 Age 19

Son of Herman and Ada Senior, of Earlsheaton, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour
Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph courtesy of Ms. Danielle Roubroeks, Antwerp, Belgium.