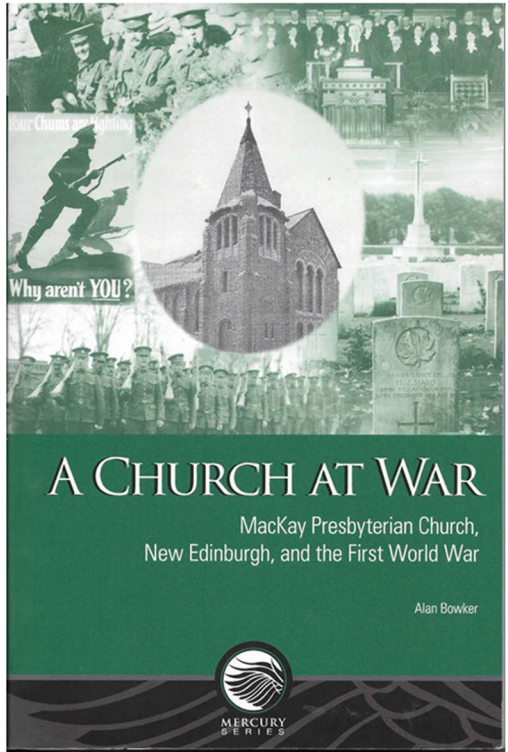


Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - “A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal”

	<p>Introduction and acknowledgements</p> <p>This chapter is an excerpt from the book entitled “A Church at War: MacKay Presbyterian Church, New Edinburgh, and the First World War”, by Alan Bowker, copublished in 2024 by the University of Ottawa Press and the Canadian Museum of History. It is copyrighted material reproduced in English and French with permission for the History pages of the Royal Canadian Hussars Association’s website and is not to be further copied for sale or distribution.</p> <p>That book outlines the experiences of various parishioners of the MacKay Presbyterian Church of New Edinburgh (now Ottawa) during the First World War. It is of special interest to the association because Homère Joliat was killed in action while he was serving overseas with the 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade, a unit that is now perpetuated by The Royal Canadian Hussars (Montreal).</p> <p>We thank publishers, the author, and any volunteers who contributed to the book for their generosity allowing this tribute to one of our fallen comrades.</p>
<p>The book can be purchased on line in PDF or paperback version on the University of Ottawa Press web site. Here is a link to that site: https://press.uottawa.ca/en/9780776642154/a-church-at-war/</p>	

HOMÈRE JOLIAT - “A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal”

The Joliats were a well-established New Edinburgh family which was held in high regard in the community. Émile Joliat, a policeman noted for his great physical strength, empathy, and intelligence, would rise to be Police Chief of the City of Ottawa. His wife, Azilda, was widely known for her charity and leadership. Their sons were great athletes: Homère (1894) was described as “one of the finest football players in the city”;¹ René (1899) was a football player, a paddler, one of the city’s best wrestlers, and a star hockey centre; Aurèle² (1902), also a star at rowing, played football for the Ottawa Rough Riders, and went on to excel in the National Hockey League. Their daughters Alice (1898) and Jeanne (1910) were artistic and musical. The Joliats were staunch members of MacKay Presbyterian Church. The children attended Sunday School and joined the church. Alice sang for many years in the choir and Jeanne would be married at MacKay United Church.³ All these things made the Joliats typical of many MacKay families, but in one important respect they were unique. Émile, a Swiss Protestant, and Azilda, a French-Canadian Catholic who had converted to Presbyterianism, were francophones in an anglophone community, and the family was proud of its heritage.

Émile Joliat was born in 1868 in Reconvilier, Bern canton, Switzerland, and grew up speaking French and German. Apprenticed as a butcher’s boy, he left home at 17 to come to Buckingham, Quebec, to join his cousin Félix Cornu (1866–1934), a medical doctor who had come to Canada at a young

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - "A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal"

age, had studied at McGill and Toronto and then in Paris under Pasteur, and had also developed an active interest in the mining industry.⁴ Quickly learning English, Émile found work in the MacLaren Buckingham phosphate mines, which at the time were some of the richest deposits in Canada. In 1888 he left for the United States to work on a dairy farm in Illinois and at a department store in Nebraska, but he returned to Canada in 1890 to work in the mine and then on a farm.⁵ His older brother and his nephew Henri were also working in the mines.⁶ Henri went on to study theology in Montreal and would become minister of the Presbyterian Église St. Jean in Montreal (after Church Union in 1925 it became the Église Unie St. Jean), the largest French speaking Protestant church in North America.⁷

In 1892 Émile married Azilda Lavictoire (1873–1924) of Hull. A special dispensation was required for this marriage in the Église Notre Dame de Grace between a Catholic and a Protestant (described in the church records as a Presbyterian).⁸ After a short period in the meat business, Joliat was accepted in 1895 into the Ottawa Police as a beat cop in the ByWard Market area. A great athlete who excelled at bicycle racing, sprinting, and hammer and caber throwing, he needed all his strength and courage to face down a mob of 500 shantymen out for a night on the town, or, in middle age, to chase a much larger fugitive from downtown to Sandy Hill and subdue him with his fists. But he was also a kindly, intelligent man with great leadership and interpersonal skills who quickly rose to sergeant and then to detective with a salary of a little over \$1,000 a year in 1910. "Considered one of the finest members of the force," a newspaper noted at the time, "he is of exceptionally fine physique and thoroughly reliable."⁹

About 1902 the family moved from Lower Town to a house Émile had purchased at 101 Stanley Avenue in New Edinburgh. The children quickly integrated into the New Edinburgh community. The oldest boy, Homère, went to Creighton Street Public School, and then to a francophone academy in Pointe aux Trembles, Montreal. After courses at the Gowling Business College in Ottawa, he took a position as a clerk in the municipal waterworks department. A newspaper obituary described him as "a fine, well set up youth of just over 20 years, when he left Canada for the front. He was popular with all who knew him and he was held in high esteem by those under whose authority he worked and was schooled."¹⁰ His younger brother René, after attending Creighton Street Public School, joined the Royal Canadian Mint as a craftsman. Aurèle and Alice were in Creighton Street Public School when the war broke out, and Jeanne was just starting school. Alice was already becoming a gifted singer.

Homère Joliat (Homer on his attestation papers) enlisted on January 14, 1915, in the 8th Canadian Mounted Rifles. When 8 CMR was broken up in England in October, most of its men were dispersed among other regiments in the Canadian Corps. But Joliat wanted something more adventurous than just being a foot soldier, and while awaiting re assignment he took extra training to join the Canadian Machine Gun Corps. Then in February 1916 came an even better opportunity: along with two other MacKay men in 8 CMR—Sidney Mansell and Albert Kendall—Joliat was transferred to the Borden Motor Machine Gun Battery and the following month he was sent to the front.

Motor machine gun batteries were the brainchild of Brigadier Raymond Brutinel, a wealthy expatriate French officer who believed that a mobile force able to provide concentrated firepower at any point on the front would be the key to modern warfare. When the war broke out, he offered to raise two batteries, which became the 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade (1CMMGB). These

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - “A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal”

improvised mobile gun platforms consisted of Colt machine guns mounted on truck chassis with armour plates, supported by the trucks and men needed to transport supplies and ammunition and assist the gunners. But the British were skeptical of the whole idea, in part because mobile batteries would have limited usefulness in the static conditions of trench warfare. The 1CMMGB was accordingly left out of the First Contingent and it did not get to France until September 1915.

In the early days of the war, 1CMMGB was deployed to reinforce regular stationary machine gun units when they needed extra firepower. But it still kept its vehicles and its mandate as a mobile force, and in 1915 three new motor machine gun batteries were formed as a result of private initiatives. The Eaton Battery was funded by the department store family; the Yukon Battery was paid for by Klondike gold magnate Joe Boyle; and the Borden Battery, named after the prime minister, drew from mining towns in the Porcupine district of northern Ontario. Unlike the two Brutinel batteries in 1CMMGB, these three new batteries did not have their guns mounted on armoured vehicles; the men and their guns were carried in trucks and dismounted for action. The 1CMMGB and the three new Batteries were each assigned to one of the four Canadian Divisions in the Ypres Salient.¹¹ The Borden Battery was attached to the Second Division.



Figure 20.2. Original Brutinel armoured machine gun batteries, which became Batteries A and B of 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade in 1916.

Source: Canadian War Museum, Canadian Official War Photograph O.2595.

Within days of his arrival at the front, Joliat was engaged in serious action. On April 6, 1916, the Germans directed heavy artillery fire on a section of the Canadian trenches in the Ypres Salient to cover an attempt to occupy several shell craters. The Borden Battery set up a machine gun to direct fire on the advancing Germans, but this was put out of action for a time by a concerted artillery barrage. A second machine gun was then rushed into position and the two guns directed heavy fire at the enemy, which allowed the Canadian 29th Battalion to retreat from its exposed position without serious loss. The war diary of the Borden Battery recorded the thanks of the officer commanding the 29th Battalion and noted that several members of the battery, including Joliat, "came in for very favourable comment."¹²

In a letter to his father after this battle, Joliat gave an upbeat description of this battle and the heavy bombardment they had endured, the fact that three men had been wounded, and that for 24 hours they had had no sleep and nothing to eat but a little rum. He was modest in describing the praise they had received: "Our section made a very good name for itself, and it is talked about all over." And he expressed a feeling widespread among young soldiers writing home: "I wish I could describe the sights that were to be seen in the trenches, but it is impossible. You people cannot imagine what it is like." Joliat said that the beautiful weather helped their spirits and that he was all right

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - "A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal"

except for a headache, which he attributed in part to wearing a steel helmet which had saved his life once or twice. "These helmets are pretty heavy and between that and the bursting of shells, which is deafening. I am not surprised at having a headache. However, I guess it will pass off."¹³ He had probably suffered a concussion.

Throughout the following summer, including the battles of St. Eloi and Mount Sorrel, the Borden Battery was in the thick of the action, inflicting heavy damage but also becoming prime targets for enemy counter fire. From June 16 to July 1, Joliat was treated in a field hospital for a contusion of the hip—whether this was a battle wound or an injury is not clear. A week later he was sent for a week to a machine gun school at Camiers to learn how to use the new Vickers machine guns which were replacing the unreliable Colts.

During these battles the value of the machine gun was increasingly recognized, not only for close support to infantry but as an adjunct to artillery, firing thousands of rounds into enemy positions, breaking up attacks and harassing supply and communications.¹⁴ The extra value of mobile batteries was also becoming apparent and in July 1916 the existing batteries were grouped into a new 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade. The two original Brutinel batteries became Batteries A and B, Borden became Battery C, and Eaton and Yukon became Batteries D and E respectively. The newly created 1CMMGB was not attached to any of the four Canadian Divisions but was now a separate unit serving the Canadian Corps as a whole. It brought together all the array of motor vehicles, motorcyclists, specialized services, and supply chains needed to support and transport the five mobile machine gun batteries.

The Borden Battery, now part of 1CMMGB, moved to the Somme in September 1916 to support the Canadian assault on Courcellette. On September 26, its devastating fire annihilated a German counterattack on a Canadian battalion. The battery's war diary recorded that the Germans retaliated with an artillery barrage "all afternoon and during the night. Some [German] Batteries made [the Borden Battery] their target and searched the areas which we occupied." In all the battery suffered 23 casualties, including Joliat, who suffered a serious wound to his right arm.¹⁵ After passing through a chain of field and base hospitals in France and England, Joliat spent four months at Epsom in treatment and convalescence. He then spent a further four months in a reserve pool in France.

It was not until April 22, 1917, that he rejoined the Borden Motor Machine Gun Battery, which had suffered losses at Vimy Ridge. From June 17 to July 29, he was attached to Second Division HQ, perhaps in preparation for Hill 70, where, from mid July to early August, moving up and down the First and Second Divisions' rear areas, the mobile machine guns fired an astonishing 2,694,700 rounds.¹⁶ The "well set up" 22 year old who had left Canada in 1915 had experienced things that no one of his background could possibly have been prepared for, and the stress was beginning to tell. In September, Joliat forfeited three days' pay for being absent from his billet after curfew, and that same month he was sent to the First Army Rest Camp, a haven of peace behind the lines where soldiers could recover from battle exhaustion. There he was court martialled for being found drunk and was sentenced to 14 days of Field Punishment (FP) Number 1.

This punishment is difficult to understand or justify today. It involved being lashed to a fixed object such as a wagon wheel for two hours a day, three days out of four, with food limited to bully beef, biscuits, and unsweetened tea. FP No. 1 was banned in Canada and would be abolished in the

British Army in 1923, but Imperial officers at the front considered it essential to maintaining discipline.¹⁷ To apply it in this case seems excessive to say the least. Perhaps being drunk was a more serious offense at a rest camp where men needed peace, quiet, and order in their lives. Perhaps British officers resented the free wheeling Canadian motor machine gunners who saw themselves, in the words of historian Alex Lynch, as “an élite force in an élite army,” and were by late 1917 being commanded by officers risen from the ranks who were more tolerant of lax discipline off the battlefield.¹⁸ In fact, it does not appear that Joliat served all his punishment, for he was soon back at the front at Passchendaele, where he would win the Military Medal.

Mobility was out of the question in the churned-up mud of Passchendaele; the men carried machine guns, equipment, and supplies into battle by hand. During weeks of intense struggle, 1CMMGB was constantly engaged, moving forward with advancing troops and facing hostile fire. A surviving member of the Borden Battery recalled it as “the worst and most horrible experience imaginable. ... When you consider the liquid mud and water-filled shell holes which we had to go round or through with our heavy equipment; and sometimes 100 pounds of ammunition on our backs, it is almost indescribable for if one fell down or got mired to the waist it was impossible to get up without help.”¹⁹ Thirteen men in 1CMMGB were awarded the Military Medal, six got the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and six officers received the Military Cross—all this in a brigade of fewer than 300 men. Joliat was one of four men in the Borden Battery who got the MM.²⁰ But the cost was horrendous. Ninety-five men were killed or wounded. “By the time the five batteries were withdrawn into reserve on 18 November,” says historian Michael Holden, “they had been reduced to the fighting equivalent of three.”²¹ A newspaper account reported that “in one engagement in which [Joliat] distinguished himself, he was the only member of a gun crew who came through the engagement alive.”²² In December he was promoted to lance corporal.

No one could question the bravery and skill of the men in the mobile machine gun brigade. But as Joliat’s experience showed, their disrespect for traditional military discipline was a matter of concern, not only for British officers but for the Canadian commander, General Currie, who inspected 1CMMGB at Vimy on March 11, 1918. The men were in a testy mood after a cold, wet February and one sergeant had clearly been drinking. As fate would have it, this was the very soldier Currie decided to question. “Sergeant, what do your men do?” he asked. The sergeant kept quiet, trying to hide his condition. Currie repeated the question. “They do what I bloody well tell them to do!” was the slurred reply.²³ Currie appointed Major “Tiny” Walker, a disciplinarian, to whip the brigade into shape. Joliat likely missed this inspection, because after being given two weeks’ leave in Paris in January—and telling his brother in a letter that in spite of the horrors of recent months he was in excellent health—he reported on January 29 to a field ambulance unit for treatment of gonorrhoea. In February and March, he reported to two other field ambulances for further treatment, the last requiring a week in hospital. He returned to duty on March 23 and was promoted to acting corporal. Walker would have no chance to impose discipline on the brigade, for once again, they would be called upon to display their courage, and this time it would cost Joliat his life.

On March 21, 1918, the Germans launched “Operation Michael” against the British Fifth Army in a last, desperate attempt to win victory on the Western Front. After a hurricane bombardment of 3.2 million shells, elite German troops punched through the British lines, took thousands of prisoners, and sliced whole divisions into pockets of men fighting for their lives. By the third day, the Germans had driven the British 20 kilometres behind the Somme. The front was collapsing and if it broke

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - “A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal”

nothing stood between the Germans and Paris. “There was panic in the British High Command,” says Tim Cook: “the Germans had scored an impressive victory.”²⁴

General Gough of the British Fifth Army made an urgent request to the Canadian Corps. He had heard of the Canadian mobile machine gun batteries, and he hoped that their mobility and firepower could help slow the German advance, stabilize the situation, and buy the time needed to regroup. On a few hours’ notice, 1CMMGB left Vimy in the early morning of March 23. The armoured trucks of A and B Batteries, trucks carrying the guns of the other three batteries, trucks with supplies and ammunition, trucks with men swaying and rocking as they sat upright on benches, cars carrying the officers, and 65 motorcyclists who were scouts and messengers—in all about 330 officers and men—took 9 hours to cover the 70 miles to Amiens, on roads choked with traffic. General Currie sent them the kind of message that in war is an encoded death sentence: “The Corps Commander wishes you the best of luck and has every confidence that you will do more than well.”²⁵

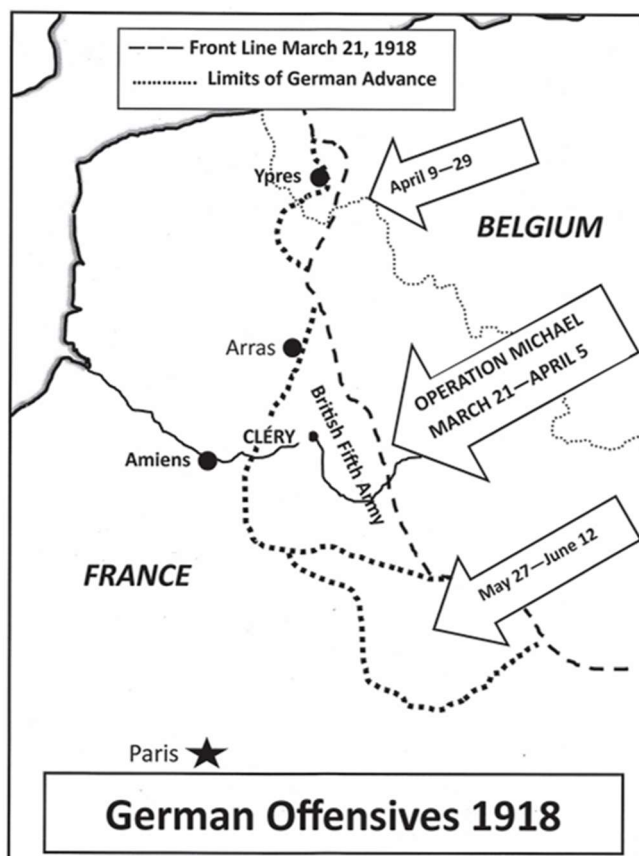


Figure 20.4. German offensives, 1918.

Source: Created by the author.

In the disarray of Gough’s headquarters, they got their battle orders: divide into groups, head for points of the front that were near collapse, try to slow down or stem the German tide.²⁶ For the next two weeks batteries of 1CMMGB, in the words of Tim Cook, “raced across the front, providing much

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - "A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal"

needed firepower and shoring up desperate situations. [They] covered British withdrawal and punished German units with raking fire." "Everywhere they went," wrote The Times, "they steadied the line."²⁷ But while machine gun crews could deploy tremendous firepower, in the open and without infantry cover they were sitting ducks for artillery and rifle counter fire.

The Borden Battery, together with "B" Battery, were sent to the village of Cléry on the Somme, where they were ordered to "hold at all costs." They drove all night to cover the 15 miles to the village—their second day with little or no sleep—and set up in the early morning of March 24, 1918. Time and again throughout the day and into the evening, the Borden Battery took up a position, rallied retreating British troops to establish a temporary defensive line, fired devastating volleys into the advancing Germans, suffered heavy losses in their turn, covered the British retreat, and retreated themselves just before the Germans reached their position. Much of the time their guns were not even taken off the trucks but fired into the enemy from this highly exposed position until the barrels literally melted down. At 2:00 p.m. the sole remaining officer sent a desperate message to HQ asking for reinforcements and supplies; the message was kicked from HQ to HQ until it was too late, but in fact there was no real help to give. "Too much cannot be said of the heroic stands made by the [Borden] battery," wrote an after-battle report. "They saved our exhausted infantry over and over again." They fought for a day and a night and "blocked the advance of a German division," until a tattered remnant retreated to Maricourt. Fifty-two of the battery's 56 men were dead or wounded.²⁸

Sidney Mansell, also from MacKay church, was one of the survivors (he would also win a Military Medal and would return to the front with a reorganized Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade for the Hundred Days). But Joliat was wounded in the "right chest" and evacuated to No. 42 Stationary Hospital at Amiens, where he died the same day.²⁹ He was 23—"a brave soldier," said the MacKay Register of Deaths, "having won the Military Medal." Furious when the British high command—largely to cover their own inadequate preparations for the German offensive—failed to recognize the heroic role the motor machine gun batteries had played, General Currie ensured that the men got the decorations they deserved. Joliat was posthumously awarded a bar (i.e., the equivalent of a second Military Medal).³⁰



Figure 20.5. Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade waiting alongside the Arras-Cambrai Road, August 1918; this picture shows the motor machine gun batteries which, like the Borden Battery, did not use armoured vehicles but carried men, guns, and supplies on trucks. The Borden Battery might have looked like this as it went into action in March 1918.
Source: Canadian War Museum CCO-CWM-FWWWP-168-EO-3363.

The Joliat family was undoubtedly heartbroken at the tragic loss of their eldest son; however, heroic may have been his sacrifice. But life went on. At Christmas 1918, eight-year-old Jeanne Joliat wrote a letter to Santa Claus, which was printed in the *Ottawa Journal*, asking for “a toboggan, and a little watch, one box of chocolates, one picture book, a pair of skates. That will be all for this time.”³¹ Émile Joliat continued to rise steadily in the police service and his work in solving several major crimes was widely publicized. In 1931 he was appointed chief of police, a position he held with distinction until retiring in 1937. But in 1924, at age 51, Azilda Joliat suddenly died of an embolism after an operation for phlebitis. “[E]steemed as a loving mother and a staunch friend,” her funeral was attended by many prominent citizens of Ottawa. The service was conducted by Rev. Anderson of MacKay and by Rev. Henri Joliat of Montreal.³²

Alice Joliat joined the public service and continued for many years as an amateur singer and sang in the choir at MacKay.³³ In 1934 she married Jules Cornu (1901–1990) of Buckingham, Quebec, one of several children of her father’s cousin Dr. Félix Cornu. The couple lived in the big house in Buckingham once occupied by his father, and then had a house in Sandy Hill, where Émile also spent the last years before his death in 1953. In 1936 Jeanne married William Allan Ralph, an accountant.

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - “A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal”

René Robert (“Bobby”) Joliat had a tryout with the Montreal Canadiens and played one NHL game in 1924. He played senior hockey for the Royal Canadian Mint, and as late as 1931 he was playing for a senior team which competed for the Allen Cup. He continued to live in New Edinburgh with his wife and family and died in 1953.

Aurèle Joliat became the star athlete of the family. After playing hockey as a teenager, he went west to play until the owner of the Montreal Canadiens traded “Newsy” Lalonde, the star player of the day, to get him. Aurèle went on to star for 16 years as a speedy, versatile, smart two way forward for Montreal, centring a line with Howie Morenz and Billy Boucher (who had also grown up in New Edinburgh and played on local teams with his brothers and the Joliats). Called “The Little Giant”—he was five feet seven inches, and his playing weight was never over 135 pounds—he could nonetheless look after himself in the corners and in a fight. He scored 270 goals, won the Hart Trophy and three Stanley Cups, and in 1945 was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Homère Joliat is buried in St. Pierre Cemetery, Amiens. Situated on the northeastern outskirts of the city, on the northern side of the main road to Albert, it is an extension of the large Amiens Communal Cemetery. To reach it, you pass along a tree lined lane by the communal cemetery with its elaborate monuments dating back into the nineteenth century. At the end of the lane there is a French military cemetery on the right, and the Commonwealth cemetery on the left. Designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, the cemetery is bordered by large trees and there are plants and flowers along the rows of headstones. There are 676 burials from the First World War, of whom only 16 are Canadians. There are also 82 burials from the Second World War, including 12 Canadians, all pilots and air crew.

In 1928, Émile Joliat travelled to Europe to visit his Swiss birthplace and his extended family in France, but mostly to see the burial place of his son.³⁴ He is thus the only parent or spouse of any of the MacKay fallen that we know for certain visited their lost soldier’s grave in France or Belgium. The simple inscription placed on Homère’s stone, now only visible when the sand was brushed away from the bottom of the stone, well expresses his family’s heartbreak as well as their pride in his heroism: “Here reposes our beloved son, who gave his life for his country.”

End notes

-
- ¹ Ottawa Journal, August 29, 1931, “New Police Chief Skilled Athlete in His Early Days.”
 - ² His name was spelled Aurel in the English language media.
 - ³ Homère joined by Profession of Faith in 1914; Alice in 1916; and Aurèle in 1918; Although Émile was a Presbyterian and had probably been attending MacKay for some time, he, Azilda and René Joliat did not formally join until March 23, 1917.
 - ⁴ “Felix Cornu”, Ottawa Citizen, February 6, 1934.
 - ⁵ Ottawa Journal, August 27, 1931, “New Police Chief Has Had Thrilling and Romantic Life.”
 - ⁶ See Ottawa Journal, March 24, 1952, “Retired Chief Émile Joliat Given Impressive Last Tributes”; Henri is described in some sources as his nephew, in others as a brother or half-brother. Émile and his brothers were not the only Joliats to emigrate to Canada. A distant cousin, also Émile Joliat, emigrated from Switzerland just before the war to farm in Manitoba. He enlisted in 1916, was wounded at Passchendaele, died of wounds in 1918, and is buried in Switzerland.
 - ⁷ “Death Notice,” Ottawa Journal, March 17, 1959.

Chapter 20 - HOMÈRE JOLIAT - "A Brave Soldier, Having Won the Military Medal"

- 8 Drouin Collection, Notre Dame de Grace Church Register, 1886-1900, 4 February 1892.
- 9 Ottawa Journal, March 17, 1910, "Police Reorganization has become a reality"; Ottawa Journal, August 27, 1931, "New Chief of Police Skilled Athlete in His Early Days" Ottawa Journal, August 27, 1931, "New Police Chief Had Had Thrilling and Romantic Life." See also Ottawa Journal, March 20, 1952, "Emile Joliat Former Police Chief Dies."
- 10 Ottawa Journal, April 5, 1918, "Wounds Are Fatal to L-Corp. Joliat."
- 11 Logan et al. 1919, 22-28.
- 12 LAC, war diary of the Borden Machine Gun Battery, 1914/12/10-1917/04/30, April 6, 1916.
- 13 Ottawa Citizen, May 4, 1916, "Machine Gun Men in the Thick of the Fight."
- 14 Logan et al. 1919, 148-184; Pulsifer 2001; Cook 2007, 88-89; Morton and Granatstein 1989, 277; Holden 2003, 35-47; Grafton 1938.
- 15 War diary, September 26, 1916.
- 16 Cook 2016, 112-114.
- 17 Morton 1993, 83-84. See also Campbell 2007, 307-316.
- 18 Lynch 2001, 6.
- 19 Reminiscences of Pte. Richard Wm. Mercer, 911016; provided to me by Dwight Mercer, 6/25/2018. Lynch 2001, 16-17; Logan et al. 1919, 185-232.
- 20 Canada, Military Honours and Awards Citation Cards, 1900-1960, Johnston, G.H. to Kelsey; H. G. London Gazette 3057, March 12, 1918. Neither the citation nor the December 13 war diary entry give any specific reason for this award. A newspaper article at the time says it was "for his splendid work with the battery, and for his devotion to duty in carrying of dispatches in and from the front" (Ottawa Journal January 16, 1918, "L.-Corp Joliat Decorated.")
- 21 Holden 2003, 48. Lynch 2001, 16-17; Logan et al. 1919, 185-232.
- 22 Ottawa Journal January 16, 1918, "L.-Corp Joliat Decorated."
- 23 Lynch 2001, 16, 19. Pulsifer 200. The inspection is not recorded in the Battery's war diary.
- 24 Cook 2008, 390.
- 25 Pulsifer 2002.
- 26 Logan et al. 1919; Grafton 1938, 123-138; Holden 2003.
- 27 Cook 2008, 392-393; Pulsifer 2002; *Narratives Covering Operations Of The 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade, The Canadian Independent Force, The Composite Brigade and Brutinel's Brigade During 1918*. Historical Section, General Staff. OTTAWA, Canada, September 1926, 10.
- 28 Holden 2003, 66. Logan et al. 1919, 243-245; Lynch 2001, 47-52; Holden 2003, 63-66; Lynch 1978. *Narratives Covering Operations of the 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade*, 30.
- 29 Circumstances of Death Registers, vol. 31829_B016692, pages 9-10, 113329 Homer (sic) Joliat.
- 30 Lynch 2001, 115-117.
- 31 December 23, page 13.
- 32 Ottawa Journal, October 29, 1924, "Mrs. Emile Joliat passes away here."
- 33 Census of Canada 1921, Ontario, District 125, Russell, Sub-district 37, Rideau Ward, page 1, lines 26-31.
- 34 Ottawa Journal August 27, 1931, "New Police Chief Has Had Thrilling and Romantic Life."