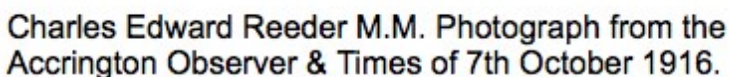


One Halfpenny



Accrington Observer & Times, July 1917

Oswaldtwistle Medallist Killed: An Officer's Tribute

Much sympathy will be extended to the parents and wife of **Corporal C E. Reeder, MM**, who according to letters received has been killed by an enemy shell in France.

Corporal Reeder in September last was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. The tidings were then received with pleasure by his wife who resides at 23 Barnes Street, Church and by his parents who live at 44 Roe Greave Road, Oswaldtwistle. On Thursday, the bereaved wife received three letters, two from comrades and one from the officer of the deceased soldier's battery, conveying the sad news of his death.

According thereto, Corporal Reeder was killed by a shell which also killed another of his comrades and wounded others. The letter from the officer bore testimony to the high esteem in which Corporal Reeder was held and was as follows:



"It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the death of your husband Corporal C. E. Reeder who died very shortly after a very severe shell wound. I think I can assure you that he suffered practically no pain, and was not even aware he was wounded. His death is a great loss to the battery. The men loved him as a friend and he was immensely popular.

I had only known him a few days as I have recently joined the battery, but on behalf of Major Smithson, who is unfortunately away ill, and of all the officers and men of the battery, I want to assure you of our deepest sympathy in your great sorrow.

Your husband had a very responsible position as corporal in charge of signallers and he filled it most capably, putting into his work all the cheerfulness and diligence which made him such a valuable non-commissioned officer.

He had, as you know already, won the Military Medal, a distinction not easily gained out here, but fully earned by his bravery and devotion to duty. Let me repeat how sorry I am to give you this sad news and to assure you again of our most sincere sympathy."

Corporal Reeder was a very smart and able young man. He was 31 years of age and before the war was a cotton spinner. When the Accrington and Burnley Howitzer Brigade was formed he enlisted along with a brother.

He was awarded the Military Medal for undertaking a hazardous and important task in company with Lieut. Harwood, a nephew of Capt. Harwood of Accrington who, for his part received the Military Cross. Bomb. Reeder's special branch was that of signaller.

In Memory of
Corporal
C E Reeder

M M

L/163, "C" Bty. 64th Bde., Royal Field Artillery who died on 18 July 1917

Remembered with Honour
Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm)



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission