

From a St. Thomas Paper, 7 April 1905

Obituary of Sergeant George A. Barrett

A HERO OF SOUTH AFRICA

Sergt. George A. Barrett Died in Hospital Yesterday -
A Native of St. Thomas

Sergt. A. Barrett, one of the St. Thomas young men who fought for the British flag in South Africa during the Boer war, died at the Amasa Wood Hospital yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the result of complications following an operation for the removal of an abscess on the liver. He was 26 years of age, and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Barrett, Centre street, city. He is also survived by six brothers and two sisters, viz. William, John, Frank, Fred, Arthur, Mrs. Small and Miss Lottie, of the city, and Samuel of Simcoe.

The late Sergt. Barrett's first military experience was received in the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and when the second Canadian contingent to South Africa was being formed in the early part of 1900, he joined "B" Battery, as gunner. With this regiment he saw much active service against the Boers, but a few months afterwards, was invalided home to England suffering with rheumatic fever. Upon his recovery he returned to his home here, but when the Baden-Powell South African Constabulary was formed he again left for the Transvaal to join this force. He came home on furlough when the constabulary force was reduced, but after a short visit to his parents, he for the third time, went to South Africa to join the engineering staff of the city of Bloemfontein. Ten weeks ago he was taken ill and returned to his native city once more in the hope that the change would do him good. He grew gradually worse, however, and last Saturday he was taken to the hospital, where on Monday, he was operated upon. Everything possible was done to save his life, but without avail. The nurses in attendance upon him were his cousin, Miss Annie Barrett, of the Lady Aberdeen Victoria Society, Toronto, and Miss Elson, of the hospital staff, both of whom were indefatigable in their efforts to relieve his sufferings.

The deceased was very popular, and his death will be regretted by not only his friends, but by citizens generally. He was a member of the Lodge Truro, Sons of England. His funeral Sunday afternoon at 2:30 from his parents' residence, No. 172 Centre street, will be a military one under the auspices of his former comrades in the 25th Regiment.

Note:-

George A. Barrett died on April 6, 1905 at age 26. He was buried on April 9 in the West Avenue Cemetery in lot 94, section C.