

PRIVATE DANIEL MORGAN

35438, 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment

Died aged 24 on 25 September 1917

Remembered with honour at *Tyne Cot Memorial, Ypres*; Panel 75 to 77

Commemorated in Tewkesbury in the Methodist Church only



Tyne Cot Memorial, Ypres



*Daniel Morgan in 1904 at
Tewkesbury Grammar School*



Worcestershire Regiment

DANIEL MORGAN was born in Bristol in 1893, the son of Isaac Morgan, a Tailor, and Catherine Jane (formerly Bryant). Both hailed from the South West and were married in 1885 in Bristol. Daniel had three older brothers. In 1901 and 1911 the family lived in the St. James area. However, the photograph of Daniel reveals that in 1904 he was attending Tewkesbury Grammar School. In the 1911 Census his occupation was recorded as 'Hairdresser' in Bristol. In September 1913 Daniel married Grace Charlotte Stephens in Bristol and in March 1914 they had a son, Daniel L. G. Morgan.

Daniel Morgan enlisted in Bristol and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, the Worcestershire Regiment. This was a regular pre-war battalion and, at the beginning of August 1914, was stationed in Aldershot as part of the 5th Infantry Brigade in the 2nd Division. This division was part of the original British Expeditionary Force (BEF) sent to France on 14 August 1914.

The date of Daniel's attestation is unknown but his service number suggests that he joined up sometime after the famous action by the 2nd Worcesters during the *First Battle of Ypres*. On 31 October 1914 the BEF was outnumbered, outgunned and under severe pressure. Their counter-attack had thrown back the enemy at a moment which the Commander-in-Chief of the BEF afterwards called '*the worst half-hour of my life*'.

Private Daniel Morgan was killed during the *Third Battle of Ypres*, sometimes known as *Passchendaele*. Following the success of the *Battle of Menin Road Ridge*, preparations were made for the next assault to keep the momentum going and to take advantage of the fine, dry weather; the next phase came to be known as the *Battle of Polygon Wood*. However, the Germans launched a pre-emptive strike. Although the attack was eventually beaten off with heavy loss, it coincided with the relief of the defenders by units, including the 2nd Worcesters, who took over the front line northwards from the Menin Road to the edge of Polygon Wood.

The battalion was in the line from 24 to 27 September and participated in the initial stages of the battle which was another successful phase of the overall *Third Battle of Ypres*. The battalion suffered casualties of 9 Officers and 208 Other Ranks, killed or wounded.

Private Daniel Morgan died on 25 September 1917 during the German attempt to disrupt the forthcoming attack. His body was not recovered or identified after the war and he is commemorated on the Memorial to the Missing at *Tyne Cot Cemetery*, in Belgium. Daniel's brother, Isaac Morgan, served in the Army Service Corps but survived the war.

In the year after her husband's death, Grace Morgan remarried to George T. Milton, again in Bristol.