

*No Picture  
Available*



**Albert Parsons**

**Royal Newfoundland Regiment**

**Service No. 4426**

**World War I**

**Born:** 13 Jan 1900

**Died:**

**Place of Birth:** Coley's Point, Bay Roberts,  
Conception Bay, Newfoundland

**Parents:** Abraham and Mary Anne (nee Morgan)  
Parsons

Albert enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1918, at the CLB Armoury at St. John's. He has just turned 18, only four months earlier. It was near the end of the war. He is described in records as being 5'8" tall, weighing 133 lbs, of light complexion with brown hair and blue eyes and Methodist by faith.

His service record shows that he did not serve outside Newfoundland and reads as follows:

1. 18-Apr-1918: Enlisted
2. 01-May-1918: Reported for duty

3. 06-Aug-1918: Special duty, home defence Cape Race
4. 18-Oct-1918: Returned to HQ
5. 02-Jan-1919: Demobilized

Albert had served a total of 263 days in all.

The 1921 Newfoundland general census for the community of Coley's Point (Bay Roberts) lists Albert as 21 years old, single, and living at home with parents, Abraham, and Mary both 50 years old and grandmother, Rebecca Parsons who is 76 at the time. He is working as a wireless operator.

Albert, like many Newfoundlanders of the time, left Newfoundland, arriving in Boston, Massachusetts on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1922. He would spend the remainder of his life in the United States.

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, 1925, Albert married Gertrude Fanny Mercer in Wayne, Michigan. Gertrude was also a Newfoundlander and from the Bay Roberts area. They were married for fifty-eight (58) years, Gertrude passing away in May 1984 in Palm Beach, Florida.

US Federal census records for 1930, 1935 and 1940 show the Parsons living in Wayne, Michigan. Albert worked as a Switchboard operator and a maintenance supervisor with Bell telephone Company. The couple had a daughter, Ruth, born in 1927.

No record of death or burial place has been found to date, other than Gertrude's passing in 1984 in Florida. It is presumed that this is where the couple retired.

Below is a clipping from The St. John's Daily Star dated 16 April 1918 with a list of recent enlistments in The Royal Newfoundland Regiment that contains Albert's name:

**REMEMBER**  
**ST. GEORGE'S DAY, APRIL 23rd,**  
**IS OUTPORT FLAG DAY.**  
**ARE THEY GOING TO FLY A**  
**FLAG FOR YOU?**

Joseph Parsons, son of Edgar,  
Come By Chance Crossing.

James Lundrigan, Ed. Lundrigan,  
sons of the late Thomas, Peter's  
River, St. Mary's.

Frank Wells, son of Henry, Goose-  
berry Island, B. B.

Arthur Penney, son of Samuel,  
Bell Island.

George Webber, son of George;  
George Crocker, son of Samuel;  
Frank Ash, son of Thomas; E.  
Leary, son of Thomas, all of Harbor  
Grace.

M. Gosse, son of George, Span-  
iard's Bay.

C. Serrick, son of Alexander, Cu-  
pids.

J. Forcey, son of Thomas, Gambo.

P. Wells, son of John, Three Arms,  
N. D. B.

Albert Parsons, son of Abraham,  
Bay Roberts.

L. Harris, son of William, Mor-  
ton's Hr.)