

SWAN, JAMES BLAIR, Pioneer, No. 1975, 1/9th Battn. Royal Scots (Highlanders), yst. s. of David Swan, of 21, Sloan Street, Leith, by his wife, Helen, dau. of Robert Fairweather; *b.* Ballark House, Nairn, 19 Aug. 1893; educ. Leith; was a Joiner with Drysdale & Son, Leith; joined the Royal Scots on the outbreak of war, 11 Aug. 1914; trained at Edinburgh; went to France, 23 Feb. 1915, and was killed in action at Chapelle d'Armentières, 15 July, 1915; *umm.* 2nd Lieut. H. M. Wardrop wrote: "He was killed up here in the trenches while putting up barbed wire in front of the reserve trench. He was in the act of driving in a post when a stray bullet grazed his rifle and entered into his back, passing right through him. He suffered no pain, as he never regained consciousness and passed away just as we got him into the dressing station. We laid him to rest at 9.15 p.m. the next night and his body was carried to the little cemetery (at Chapelle d'Armentières) about three-quarters of a mile behind the trenches by four of his old comrades in the same section and platoon as he was before he went to the Brigade Pioneers; his body being covered with the Union Jack.... As his platoon officer I had a very high opinion of him, for he was a most useful man all-round. It was because of this that he was transferred to the Brigade Pioneers, where he continued to do excellent work." His brother, Private George Swan, was killed in action at the same place, 18 Oct. 1914 (see previous notice).



James Blair Swan.

SWAN, GEORGE, Private, No 15479, 1st Battn. Royal Fusiliers, s. of David Swan, of 21, Sloan Street, Leith, by his wife, Helen, dau. of Robert Fairweather; *b.* Bathgate, co. Linlithgow, 25 Aug. 1878; educ. Bathgate Academy; enlisted in the 2nd Battn. Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, 5 Nov. 1899; served in the South African War, 1899-1902, with the 1st Battn. (Queen's medal with five clasps); transferred to the 1st Battn. Royal Fusiliers in 1913; went to France, 9 Sept. 1914, and was killed in action at Chapelle d'Armentières, 18 Oct. 1914; *umm.* Buried there. His brother, Pioneer James Blair Swan, was killed in action at the same place (see following notice).



George Swan.

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