

Appendix 2

AN IRISH HERO!
**1 IRISHMAN DEFEATS
10 GERMANS.**






SERGEANT MICHAEL O'LEARY, V.C.
• IRISH GUARDS •
HAVE YOU NO WISH TO EMULATE THE SPLENDID
BRAVERY OF YOUR FELLOW COUNTRYMAN?

**JOIN AN IRISH
REGIMENT TO-DAY**

Gallantry Awards

Appendix 2 – Gallantry Awards

	<p>Victoria Cross</p> <p>The United Kingdom's highest award for gallantry in the face of the enemy. The cross is, traditionally, made from the bronze of Russian guns captured at Sebastopol during the Crimea War.</p> <p>The VC was awarded to Captain John Alexander Sinton (Indian Medical Service) on 21st January 1916 for "conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty" during fighting at Orah Ruins (Mesopotamia) – reported in the London Gazette 21st June 1916. Captain Sinton's VC is on display at the Army Medical Services Museum in Aldershot.</p>
	<p>Order of St. George (4th Class)</p> <p>This Imperial Russian Decoration was awarded to Captain John Alexander Sinton – reported in the London Gazette, 15th May 1917.</p> <p>Captain (later Brigadier) Sinton was a member of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation and was also "mentioned in despatches" on six occasions.</p>
	<p>Distinguished Service Order</p> <p>The Distinguished Service Order (DSO) was originally instituted to reward junior officers in the Army for distinguished service or acts of gallantry against the enemy – it can also be awarded for highly successful command and leadership during active operations.</p> <p>On 13th January 1944, the DSO was awarded to Major Ian Fraser OBE of the Royal Army Medical Corps in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Sicily. Major (later Brigadier) Fraser was a long-term member of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation.</p>
	<p>Distinguished Conduct Medal</p> <p>The DCM was awarded to NCOs and other ranks, for whom it is second only to the Victoria Cross, for "distinguished, gallant and good conduct".</p> <p>It was awarded to Company Sergeant Major John Joseph Mackey (Royal Irish Rifles), who was a member of the Crescent congregation.</p>

Appendix 2 – Gallantry Awards



Military Cross

The MC was instituted in December 1914 as a reward for gallantry by Commissioned Officers below the rank of Major and Warrant Officers.

Captain (later Major) Samuel Burnside Boyd Campbell (Royal Army Medical Corps) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation;

Captain William McMeekin Chesney (Royal Army Medical Corps) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation (also awarded a Bar to the MC);

Lieutenant James Sinclair Jackson (Royal Engineers) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation;

Lieutenant Culbertson Jackson (Royal Irish Rifles) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation;

Lieutenant Norman Todd Martin (Royal Field Artillery) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation;

Captain Arthur Norman McClinton (Royal Irish Rifles) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation;

Captain (later Major) John Henry Alexander Patton (Royal Irish Rifles) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation (also awarded a Bar to the MC); and

Lieutenant Martin Shaw (Royal Garrison Artillery) of the Donegall Pass congregation.



Meritorious Service Medal

This long-service award was instituted in 1845 and, in 1916, could be awarded to Warrant Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and Men for valuable service, gallantry and devotion to duty.

The Meritorious Service Medal list in Cyril Fall's book "The History of the 36th (Ulster) Division" includes Company Quarter Master **Sergeant R. D. Carmichael** of the Royal Irish Rifles. The PCI Roll of Honour list for the Crescent congregation includes Sergeant Robert D. Carmichael (Royal Irish Rifles).

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Military Medal

The Military Medal was established on 25th March 1916 and was awarded to NCOs and Other Ranks for bravery in battle on land. It was equivalent to the Military Cross.

Private John F McManus (Royal Irish Fusiliers) of the Crescent congregation;

Private Hugh Porter (Royal Army Medical Corps, attached to Tank Corps) of the Crescent congregation, for gallant conduct under heavy fire on 31st July 1917 during the 3rd Battle of Ypres;

Sergeant Robert Thompson (Royal Engineers) of the Crescent congregation; and

Sergeant Robert Wylie (Royal Irish Rifles) of the Crescent congregation.



Legion D'Honneur – Croix de Guerre

This French gallantry medal was awarded to **Sergeant Major Brice Miller Wightman** (Royal Army Medical Corp) of the Fitzroy Avenue congregation.

The award was reported in the *London Gazette* on 13th July 1917 and the August 1917 edition of the Central Presbyterian Association magazine.

Appendix 2 – Gallantry Awards

The PCI Roll of Honour list for the Crescent congregation records that **Sergeant Robert Wylie** had also received a “G.C.” which probably refers to Gallantry Certificates issued by Divisions to personnel nominated for Gallantry Awards but turned down by the central authority. Sergeant Wylie served in the 6th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles which was part of the 10th Irish Division.



Sergeant Major Brice Miller Wightman (Fitzroy Avenue) was awarded a special certificate for meritorious service in the Ulster Division, as reported in the June 1917 edition of the Central Presbyterian Association magazine. His brother, Herbert, was also awarded a Gallantry Certificate.

