



Young Citizen Old Soldier . From Boyhood in Antrim to Hell on the Somme: The Journal of Rifleman James McRoberts, 14th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, January 1915-April 1917

By -

Helion Company, United Kingdom, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 156 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. For almost 43 years three school notebooks lay in obscurity in the County Armagh home of sixty two-year old James McRoberts. The closely-filled pages recorded just over two years in his life in uniform as he played his part in what was then known as the Great War. During the Home Rule crisis of 1914, one of several in Ireland s history, James McRoberts, like many other men, joined the Young Citizen Volunteers, an organisation that eventually became the 14th Royal Irish Rifles, a battalion of the 36th (Ulster) Division. These notebooks, written at the time and with footnotes added some forty years later, record his Army service between 8 January 1915 and 3 April 1917. They tell, with remarkable immediacy, of his time at Randalstown, County Antrim and the move to Seaford in East Sussex. From here, after further training, James moved with his Battalion to the trenches of the Western Front. Written with a degree of humour and some detail his story covers the mundane routine of camp life, recreation behind the lines, the horrors of enemy shelling, the...



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