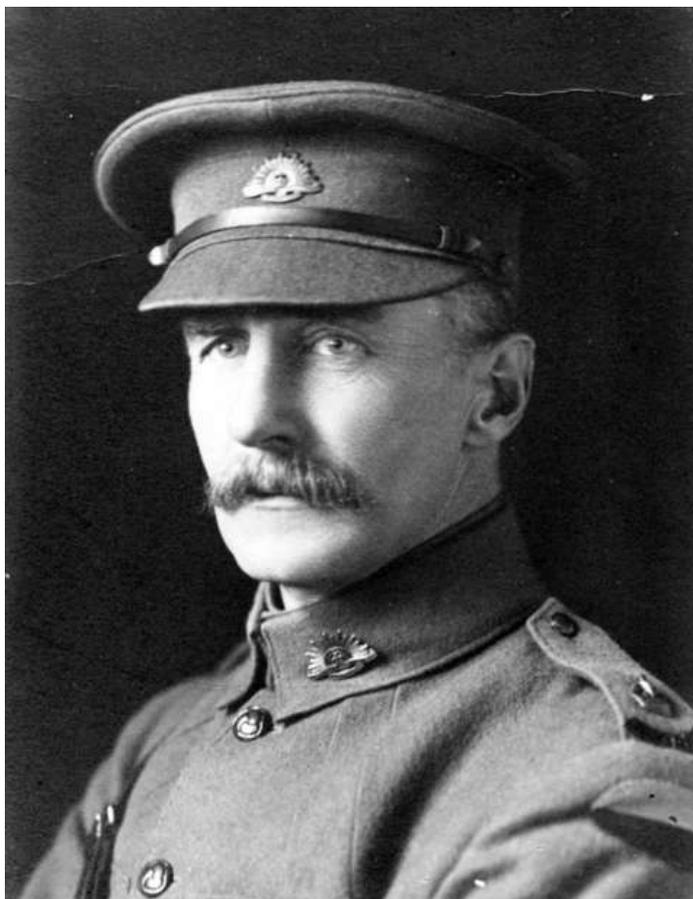


Geoffry HURRY



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H19196

Born in 1868 at Kyneton, the son of a solicitor, Geoffry Hurry attended Melbourne University and was admitted to practice in 1892. He worked in the family firm at Kyneton.

He had served in the militia forces before the War and he enlisted in early 1916 with the rank of major. He joined the 38th Battalion, which was formed in Bendigo, in March 1916. He left Australia in June 1916 and arrived in England in August 1916.

After further training in Britain, the 38th Battalion crossed to France in late November 1916 and moved into the trenches of the Western Front for the first time on 1 December 1916. The first major battle for the 38th Battalion was at the battle at Messines in Belgium in June 1917 and later engagements included Broodseinde and Passchendaele in October 1917. Hurry was awarded a Distinguished Service Order for *“devotion to duty when in command of his battalion ... He showed a fine example to all ranks, and fought his battalion with great skill, contributing largely towards the success of the operations”*. In 1918, he was mentioned in

despatches. He was made a lieutenant colonel in May 1918 and, as one of the commanding officers of the 38th Battalion, Lt Col Hurry was in command of a number of the other men to be found on the memorial board.

Lt Col Hurry did not return to Australia until November 1919. He completed an English legal procedure course in London between July and October 1919.

Hurry returned to Kyneton and the family law practice, which continues today. Between 1922 and 1929, he was a Nationalist member of the House of Representatives as the member for Bendigo, a seat vacated by Billy Hughes. Hurry had previously been active in municipal politics.

Geoffry Hurry died in 1951 at Frankston at the age of 83; he does not appear to have married. His brother, Lieutenant George Hurry, died in November 1917 in France.