

# FIRST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

## ATTESTATION OF

No. 5357 Name J. Wilson Benson Corps MTK

### Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. What is your name? .....  | 1. <u>J. Wilson Benson</u>                           |
| 2. What is your full Address? .....  | 2. <u>41 Convent Road</u><br><u>St. John's West.</u> |
| 3. Are you a British Subject? .....  | 3. <u>Yes</u>  |
| 4. What is your age? .....   | 4. <u>18</u> Years <u>3</u> Months                   |
| 5. What is your Trade or Calling? .....  | 5. <u>Longshoreman</u>                               |
| 6. Are you Married? .....  | 6. <u>No</u>   |
| 7. Have you ever served in any Branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so,* which? .....                             | 7. <u>No</u>   |
| 8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? .....  | 8. <u>Yes</u>  |
| 9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? .....   | 9. <u>Yes</u>  |
| 10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? .....                                     | 10. { Name .....                                     |
|  | { Corps .....  |
| 11. Are you willing to serve upon the conditions as embodied in the roll of service to be signed by you if you are accepted? ..... | 11. <u>Yes</u>                                       |

I, J. Wilson Benson do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Dec 27/16 .....

SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

Signature of Witness.

### OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, J. Wilson Benson do make oath, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity against all enemies, according to the conditions of my service.

### CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me on this 27 day of December 1916

Signature of Attesting Officer

### †CERTIFICATE OF APPROVING OFFICER.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the: .....

If enlisted by special authority, such will be attached to the original attestation.

Date ..... 191

Place .....

Approving Officer.

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.  
‡ Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

\* If so, Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz:—(Name) ..... re-enlisted in the (Regiment) ..... on the (Date) .....

Name J. Wilson Benson  
 Apparent age 18 years 3 months. Height 5 feet 6 1/2 inches  
 Chest Measurement { Girth when fully expanded 38 inches  
 Range of expansion 6 inches  
 Distinctive marks \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT

Name and Address of next of kin Newman Benson  
41 S. 1st St. St. Louis, Mo. | Relationship Son

Particulars as to Marriage

(a) Christian and Surname of Woman to whom married, and whether spinster or widow. (b) Place and date of marriage.  
 (c) Present address. (d) Initials of Officer verifying entry.

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     |     |

Particulars as to Children

| Christian Names | Date and Place of Birth |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
|                 |                         |

STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES

| Corps in which served  | Rgt. or Depot | Promotion, Reductions, Casualties, &c. | Army Rank | Dates | Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of pension |      | Service in Reserve not allowed to reckon towards G. C. Pay |      | Signature of Officers certifying correctness of entries        |
|--|---------------|--|-----------|-------|--|------|--|------|--|
|  |               |  |           |       | Years  | Days | Years  | Days |  |
| Service towards limited engagement reckons from <u>22-12-16</u>          |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      |  |
| Joined at <u>St. Louis</u> on <u>December 22<sup>nd</sup> 16</u>         |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      |  |
| <u>Embarked at St. Louis St. Regis to Winsor U.S. 31<sup>st</sup> 17</u> |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      | <u>Embarked for</u>  |
| <u>St. Louis 11-6-17</u>   |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      | <u>St. Louis 2-7-1917</u>                                      |
| <u>Wounded 10-7-17</u>   |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      | <u>Admitted 88<sup>th</sup> ILL S.W. Force 10-7-17</u>         |
| <u>with unit 31-7-17</u>   |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      | <u>Admitted 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1917 &amp; Johnson 7-10-17</u> |
| <u>Joined Base Depart 16-10-17</u>                                       |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      | <u>Dep &amp; details 14-10-17</u>                              |
| <u>Regiment sent on the field 16-10-17</u>                               |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      | <u>Therapy 3-12-17</u>   |
| <u>Killed in Action or died of Wounds 3<sup>rd</sup> 17</u>              |               |  |           |       |  |      |  |      |  |

Total Service forfeited as above.....  
 Total Service towards Engagement to 3-12-17 (date of discharge) 347 years

C.R. 3357

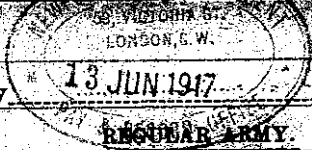
Extract of Nominal Roll of Officers and men embarked St. John's  
31-7-17 Sailed Halifax S.S. AUSONIA 16-4-17.

#3357 PTE. J. W. BENSON.

**MEDICAL HISTORY**

Surname Benson or Christian Name William

Table I.—GENERAL TABLE.



Birthplace:—Parish \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

|                     | SPECIAL RESERVE.                            | REGULAR ARMY.                     |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Examined            | on <u>22</u> day of <u>Dec</u> 19 <u>16</u> | on _____ day of _____ 19 <u>1</u> |
|                     | at <u>St John's H.F.</u>                    | at _____                          |
| Declared Age        | <u>18</u> years <u>3</u> mos <u>3</u> days  | _____ years _____ days            |
| Trade or Occupation | <u>longshoreman</u>                         | _____                             |
| Height              | <u>5</u> feet <u>6 1/2</u> inches           | _____ feet _____ inches           |
| Weight              | <u>118</u> lbs.                             | _____ lbs.                        |
| Chest Measurement   | Grith when fully expanded <u>38</u> inches  | _____ inches                      |
|                     | Range of Expansion <u>6</u> inches          | _____ inches                      |

Physical Development

|                         | Right | Left | Right | Left |
|-------------------------|-------|------|-------|------|
| Vaccination Marks { Arm |       |      |       |      |
| { Number                |       |      |       |      |

When Vaccinated never

Vision R.E.—V= 6/6 L.E.—V= 6/6

(a) Marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Slight defects but not sufficient to cause rejection \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by (Signature) Samuel Paterson

(Rank) major Medical Officer.

Enlisted at St John's H.F. on 22 day of Dec 1916

Joined on Enlistment 1st Newfoundland Regiment Corps. Regtl. No. 357

Transferred to \_\_\_\_\_

Became non-effective by \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 191

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ (Rank) \_\_\_\_\_

| Date    | Disease Details, and Signature |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 8-1-17  | Vaccination <i>LD</i>          |
| 10-1-17 | } T.A.B. <i>LD</i>             |
| 17-1-17 |                                |
| 24-1-17 |                                |

TABLE IV.—SERVICE TABLE.

| Station or Troopship | Date of Arrival or Embarkation | Date of Departure or Disembarkation | Station or Troopship | Date of Arrival or Embarkation | Date of Departure or Disembarkation |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Hd Hoizel</i>     | <i>July 31</i>                 | <i>Feb 3/17</i>                     |                      |                                |                                     |
| <i>Windsor I.S.</i>  | <i>Feb 3/17</i>                | <i>16.4.17</i>                      |                      |                                |                                     |
| <i>P.P. Alsonia</i>  | <i>16.4.17</i>                 |                                     |                      |                                |                                     |



M

July 21, 1917.

Dear Sir,

I regret to have to inform you that a report has this day been received from the Record Office of the First Newfoundland Regiment, London, to the effect that

No. 3357, Private Wilson Benson, was wounded July 10th, no particulars have yet been received.

I trust that later reports will bring news of his convalescence.

Any further information received at this Office as to his condition will be at once notified to you.

Yours faithfully,

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Newman Benson,  
41 South Side Rd.

30th July, 1917.

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that additional information has to-day been received from the Record Office of the First Newfoundland Regiment, London, to the effect that it has been reported by the Officer Commanding the 88th Field Ambulance, on the 14th July, that No. 3357, Private Wilson Benson, who was previously reported wounded on July 10th, returned to duty the same day.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Newman Benson,  
41 South Side Road.

Colonial Secretary.

C.R.

3357

Jan. 21st, 1917

Dear Mr. Benson:-

I regret to inform you that a report has been received from the Record Office of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, London, to the effect that

No. 5357, Private Wilson Benson

has been posted as Missing Dec. 31st, 1917

Should any further information be received concerning him, the same will be at once communicated to you.

Yours faithfully,

Acting

Minister of Militia.

Mr. Benson Returns,

41 South Side St.

C.R. 3357

Extract from German Official List forwarded through Geneva  
Red Cross 14-3-18

Previously reported "Missing" now reported "Killed in  
Action" buried in the Cemetery of Seranvilles.

#3357 Pte.W.Benson.

Missing 3-12-17

kind as  
down

41 South Side  
St Johns  
Newfoundland  
March

20<sup>th</sup> 1918

Major Tunnewell

Dear Sir I am writing to ask  
you if you can give me any information  
concerning my son 3357. Percit  
Wilson Benson Belonging to the Royal  
Infantry Regiment I have received a message  
to the effect that he was posted as missing  
on Dec 3: 1917 and since that time I havent  
received any other information concerning  
his whereabouts I am his mother and am only  
waiting for some news concerning him  
will you please do your best to try and  
locate him for me Remaining  
mother only writing

Mrs Sarah Benson

7

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| NEWFOUNDLAND CONTINGENT |
| PAY & RECEIPT OFFICE    |
| F. Nos. 14 3472         |
| Rec'd 16 APR 1918       |
| ok'd                    |
| F. Nos. 001             |
| 6706/1                  |
| MAJOR                   |
| 1                       |
| MA                      |
| 1                       |
| C. & C. ✓               |
| C. & E.                 |
| F.S.                    |

3562/3/R & C.

Telephone No.—REGENT 6640

Enquiry Department for  
Wounded and Missing

18, CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, S.W. 1



7-3-18

Telegrams—"NATIONALLY CHARLES"

**BRITISH RED CROSS**

AND

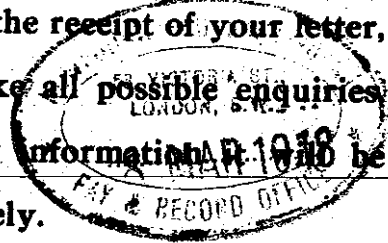
**ORDER OF ST. JOHN.**

3357, Ple J. W. Benson 1 R. Newfoundland

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter,  
and will do our best to make all possible enquiries.  
As soon as we receive any information it will be  
forwarded to you immediately.

7

noted J/18



LUCAN.

6706/1/R.&.C.

1st May,

8

Mrs. Sarah Benson,  
41, South Side,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.

Madam: 3357 Pte. W. Benson, Deceased.

With reference to your letter dated 20/3/18 (3472) on the subject of the late Pte. Wilson Benson: as telegraphed to the Hon. Minister of Militia on 4/4/18, an official list from the German authorities stated that your son, who was posted as missing on 3/12/17, was killed in action or died of wounds on or shortly after 3/12/17. He was buried, together with several other Newfoundlanders, in the Cemetery at Seranvilles (captured territory) France. Doubtless, the Hon. Minister of Militia conveyed the sad news to you.

I take this opportunity to offer you an expression of sympathy at the immeasurable loss you have sustained by the death of your gallant son.

I am, Madam,  
Your obedient Servant,

HA/JC

Major,  
Chief Paymaster & Officer i/c Records.



Sept. 6th, 1918

Mr. Newman Benson  
41 South Side

Dear Mr. Benson:-

I am writing to inform you that it is my regrettable duty to forward to you herewith one envelope containing identity disc, which belonged to your late son, No. 3357, Private J. Benson of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.

I am enclosing herewith receipt; will you kindly sign same and return at your earliest convenience.

Assuring you of my deepest sympathy in your bereavement, and in the added sorrow which the receipt of these effects must entail.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

  
Lieut.

Casualty Officer.

PERSONAL EFFECTS

C.R. 3357

RECEIVED FROM MILITIA DEPARTMENT

ONE ENVELOPE CONTAINING IDENTITY DISC OF THE LATE  
NO. 3357, PRIVATE J. BENSON OF THE ROYAL NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

SIGNED... *William Benson*

DATED... *Sep 10<sup>th</sup> 1918*.....

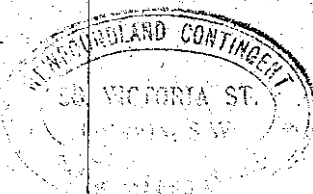
PERSONAL EFFECTS.

Name *Benson J.*

No. *3357*

Rank *Pte*

Regiment *R. Newfoundland*

| Article                                   | Where stored  | Notified by |
|---|---|-------------|
| <i>1 Envelope<br/>Containing<br/>Disc</i> |  |             |
|   | Final Disposal  |             |
|   |   |             |

Remarks:— *K. I. A.*

*Next of Kin:—  
Messrs Benson  
41 South Dock  
St. John's*

From:- V. O.  
To:- Captain Howley, O. I. C.  
Pay and Records.

Mrs Sarah Benson, 41 South Side, City, called on me on March 6th concerning her son Wilson Benson 3357 who was killed near Cambrai in December 1917. She claims that she is the next of kin and is entitled to her son's estate but to this date she has not received any information concerning the same. Presumably you will take this matter up with her.

Vocational Officer.

*W. W. McCall.*

*No account yet Received from London*

*W. W. B. / M. E.*

March 19, 1919

Mrs. Sarah Benson,  
41, Southside,  
C I T Y.

Dear Madam:

With reference to your enquiry regarding the estate of your late son, I beg to inform you that his account has not yet been received from London, but just as soon as it is received and Letters of Administration taken out, payment will be made.

Yours truly,

Lient.  
For Paymaster

April 13, 1919

Mr. Newman Benson,

Dear Sir:

I enclose cheque for \$82.35, being balance  
of estate of late Pte. I.W. Benson, due you as Administrator.

I also enclose Letters of Administration

Yours truly,

A. C. R.

Capt.  
Paymaster.

3357



539472

To ensure that as far as may be possible none of the next of kin of those who have fallen in the War shall fail to receive the Memorial Plaque, it is requested that on receipt of the enclosed Plaque this card be signed at the bottom and posted. No stamp is required.

955  
E

Mrs Neuman Benson

Army Form B. 103.

Regimental Number **CR 3357**

**Casualty Form - Active Service**

Rank **Pte.** Surname **Beason** Christian Name **J. Wilson**  
 Religion **Methodist** Age on Enlistment **18** years **3** months  
 Enlisted (a) **22-12-16** Terms of Service (a) **Duration of War** Service reckons from (a) **22-12-16**  
 Date of promotion to present rank ..... Date of appointment to lance rank .....  
 Extended { ..... } Re-engaged { ..... } Qualification (b) .....  
 Occupation **Labourer** or Corps Trade and Rate .....  
 Signature of Officer **J. B. Sgt. Captain**

| Report          |                    | Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case. | Place of Casualty           | Date of Casualty   | Remarks<br>Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or other official documents |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Date            | From whom received |   |                             |                    |  |
|                 |                    |   | Embarked <b>Shampten</b>    | <b>11.6.17</b>     |  |
|                 |                    |   | Disembarked... <b>Rouen</b> | <b>12.6.17</b>     |  |
|                 |                    |   | Joined Battalion            | <b>2 JUL 1917</b>  | <b>B 213</b>   |
| <b>11.7.17</b>  | <b>OC Unit</b>     | <b>Wounded in Action</b>  | <b>In the field</b>         | <b>10 JUL 1917</b> | <b>B 213</b>   |
| <b>14.7.17</b>  | <b>88 FA</b>       | <b>Ad. sh. w. face &amp; ligaments to Unit</b>  |                             | <b>10.7.17</b>     | <b>C.D. 7592</b>   |
| <b>28.7.17</b>  | <b>OC Unit</b>     | <b>Discharged at Hospital</b>   | <b>Unit</b>                 | <b>26.7.17</b>     | <b>B 213</b>   |
| <b>15-10-17</b> | <b>-D-</b>         | <b>Wounded in Action</b>  |                             | <b>9 OCT 1917</b>  | <b>B 213</b>   |
| <b>22/10/17</b> | <b>4 CCL</b>       | <b>4 SW Eyebrows</b>  |                             | <b>9/10/17</b>     | <b>B.D. 1956</b>   |
|                 | <b>26 Gen Mh</b>   | <b>H -D-</b>  | <b>Stamps</b>               | <b>19/10/17</b>    | <b>H.A. 15064</b>  |
|                 | <b>6 base sep</b>  | <b>so -D-</b>   | <b>so</b>                   | <b>17/10/17</b>    | <b>H.A. 15136</b>  |
| <b>17/10/17</b> | <b>29 C.M.D.</b>   | <b>Joined Base Depot</b>  | <b>Rouen</b>                | <b>16/10/17</b>    | <b>see</b>   |
|                 |                    | <b>Joined Battalion</b>   |                             | <b>25 OCT 1917</b> |  |
| <b>21-1-18</b>  | <b>Yeller</b>      | <b>Missing</b>  | <b>France</b>               | <b>3-12-17</b>     | <b>B 213</b>   |

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
 (b) Signaller, Shoeing-Smith, &c.  
 (6228) W. 13863/M1477 2-400.000 1/17 McA & W Ltd Forms B.103/4 (E. 208) [P.T.O.]

