

State of Kansas
County of Douglas

In Matter of Pension Claim
of Alfred, W. Benson, late Sergt of Co. H, and Capt
of Co. D, 154th Regt. of N. Y. Vols last Personally
appeared before me Clerk of the District Court
John. F. Wellman well known to me as a
reputable Citizen of Lawrence, who being
duly sworn says that he has known said
Alfred, W. Benson for more than 30 years, that he
was a school mate with him at Chamberlin
Institute, Randolph N. Y. previous to the war,
that in 1862 Claimant enlisted in Co. H of the 154th
Regt. N. Y. Vols, and that Affiant was Sergt of Co. C,
and later 1st Lieut of B. of said Regiment, and that
Claimant and Affiant served in said Regt till the
close of the war (June, 1865) that said 154th Regiment
was in the 2nd Brig^{ad} 2nd Div^{ision}, 11th Army Corps; and that
on the 2nd day of May 1868 said Regiment was in
line of Battle at Dardles Tavern v. a. ^{11th A. S.} Gen. Howards Hdq^{rs}
just south of the plank road, that about 8 P. M. of that
day the 1st and 3rd Divisions (Gen. Devons, 3rd Shurtz.)
were attacked by Jacksons Rebel Corps, and completely
routed; as soon as the routed troops had passed
to the rear, our Regiment opened fire on the Rebel
line of Battle, (and as the records show held them
in check for 1/2 hour, or more;) that just before the
firing began, this Affiant saw the Claimant

with His Company in the line of Battle, and that
after Our Command was flanked, and forced to retreat
or be Captured, This Affiant started to follow the
Regimental Colors to the rear, and as He did so He
came upon Claimant, and saw that He was severely
wounded and unable to rise, a ~~mini~~ Bull having
struck Claimant in left breast and passed through
His body, and out just under the shoulder blade,
the blood was flowing freely from His wound,
and said Claimant appeared so weak from the
shock, and loss of blood, that He could not be moved
without a stretcher, and help, and this Affiant was
obliged to leave Him, and bade Him good bye
fully believing that He was mortally wounded,
two weeks there after, or May 14, the badly wounded
who were left on the field of Chancellorsville v.c. were
brought in to our lines, under a flag of truce, and
when the Ambulances containing the wounded
arrived at the Corps' Hospital (near Brooks Station)
This Affiant was happily surprised to find the
Claimant among the living; and He saw the
Surgeon (Dr. VanCurnam) dressing Claimant's
wound; When the Army moved on the Gettysburg
campaign, Claimant was sent to General Hospital,
Affiant not saw Claimant, when He rejoined the
Regiment at Bridgeport, Va. October 1863 and
was mustered as 2^d Lieut, and this Affiant knows
that Claimant served continuously at the front
with Regiment, with merited distinction to the close
of the war in 1865; and this Affiant believes that
the exposure and suffering incident to the
service in which Claimant participated, toge-
-ther with the effect of His wound, very materially affected

the constitution of said Claimant, and that when he was discharged from the service in 1865 His physical powers were greatly impaired by reason of said service, and this Affiant says that he only met the Claimant a few times after the close of the war in June 1865, said Claimant having left Chautaugua County, N.Y., and settled at Ottawa Kansas, That in 1864, this Affiant settled at Lawrence Kansas, where he has since resided, that very soon after coming to Lawrence, he met his old comrade (Capt. G. W. Benson) and the old friendship was renewed, (and the battles of the 15th Regt. fought over again) That in Nov^r 1864 said Claimant was elected District Judge of this judicial district which office he still holds, and as a result, Affiant has had ample opportunities during each session of Court to observe and know the condition of Judge Benson's health, and physical condition, and also by the intimate relations of the two families, the Affiant has had opportunity to know as well as any friend can know, with regard to the health and physical abilities of the Claimant, The matter having been frequently referred to between Claimant and Affiant, also his wound and its effects upon him since the war, and this Affiant knows that his health has been a matter of serious concern to Claimant's family, and intimate friends, lest the duties of his office as Judge, would prove greater than he could endure. And the Affiant says that to the best of his knowledge Claimant's habits have always been strictly moral, and temperate, and that the

Said Alfred M. Benson is well known in this Judicial District, and at home, as a Christian Gentleman, and an example of a pure and upright character in all his relations in life, and this Affiant further says that from the foregoing intimate acquaintance with said Claimant, he fully believes him to be totally disabled for the performance of manual labor.

And Affiant says that he is not a relative and is not concerned in the prosecution of this claim, and that his Post Office address is Lawrence Kans.
John L. Wellman
Late 1st Lieut. 154th Regt. N.Y. Vol.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
Jan^y 16th day of January A.D. 1891
Ella Barleaus
Deputy Clerk Dist. Court.

Claim of
Alfred M. Benson
Late 1st Sergt. Co. H. 94th Capt. Co. D.
of the 154th Regt. N.Y. Vol.
for Original Pension

Affiant of
John L. Wellman
of Lawrence Kansas