

52: William Taylor Johnson

Basic Information [as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC]

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: William Johnson
Rank: Private
Battalion / Regiment: 7th Bn. South Lancashire Regiment
Service Number: 18023 Date of Death: 28 March 1918 Age at Death: ?
Buried / Commemorated at: Vignacourt British Cemetery, Vignacourt, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France
Additional information given by CWGC: None

William Taylor Johnson was the first child of collier (later labourer) Thomas & Eliza Johnson and he was born at Neston in early 1894, around six months after the marriage of his parents. William's younger brother, John Edward Johnson, was killed in WW1 in April 1917 and he is detailed previously in this account [50: (John) Edward Johnson] where there are additional details of the family.

Thomas Johnson, a son of Thomas snr and Sarah Johnson (in the 1871 census Thomas was 11 months and his father was recorded as the publican of The Royal Oak in Little Neston) married Eliza Taylor Garnham in West Derby, Liverpool, in the third quarter of 1893. Thomas died in 1898 and was buried in Neston on 14 June aged 28. In the 1901 census the family was living on Chester Road, Neston:

Eliza T. Johnson	Widow	28	Dressmaker	Own acct	do	do
Hannah	Daughter	5	—	—	do	do
John E.	Son	4	—	—	do	do
Mary Mellor	Cousin	28	Dressmaker's asst	Worker	do	do

1901 – Chester Road, Neston

Eliza T. Johnson	28	widow, dressmaker, own account	born Neston
Hannah	5		born Neston
John E.	4		born Neston
Mary Mellor	28	cousin, dressmaker's assistant	born Neston

When Eliza and Thomas married in 1893, Eliza was already expecting their first child as William Taylor Johnson was baptised at Neston 11 March 1894. Thomas was then recorded as a collier as he had been, aged 20, in the 1891 census when still living with his parents Thomas [now a general labourer] and Sarah. Hannah Johnson was baptised at Neston on 11 August 1895 - Thomas was a collier - and John Edward was baptised on 8 November 1896 when Thomas was a labourer, presumably at the colliery.

William Taylor Johnson was not recorded in the household at the time of the 1901 census but is recorded, aged 7, as living with his grandparents William (a grocer) and Hannah Garnham on Bridge Street, Neston:

36	Kidg St	1	Via County	Don S	14	—	—	do	do
			William Garnham	Head	46	grocer shopkeeper	own account	Ashbocking	Suffolk
			Hannah	do	Wife	46	—	—	Neston
			Florence	do	Daughter	11	—	—	Neston
			William T Johnson	Grandson	7	at school	—	—	Neston

1901 census (extract) – Bridge Street, Neston

William Garnham	56	grocer, shopkeeper, own account	born Ashbocking, Suffolk
Hannah	53		born Neston
Florence	11		born Neston
William T. Johnson	7	grandson	born Neston

Neston Parish Registers record that another child, Margaret Thomasine Johnson, was baptised 1 July 1898 (when Thomas was recorded as a collier, although he had died around 3 weeks earlier) but this girl died, aged 1 year 10 months, and was buried 17 April 1900.

It is probable that, following the death of her husband, Eliza was unable to cope with raising three young children particularly as Margaret had died recently, and so William Taylor was being raised by his grandparents. Certainly, at the time of the 1911 census William was again recorded as being at his grandfather's home on Bridge Street:

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last birthday) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards	BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
William Taylor Garnham	Head	66	Widower	Coal Dealer	598	own chart at home	at home
Florence Garnham	daughter	21	single	at home	270	Sidley Trade	Widow
William Taylor Johnson	grandson	17	single	bricksetter			

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

I certify that —
 (1) All the persons on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex columns.
 (2) I have counted the males and females in Columns 2 and 4 separately, and have compared their sum with the total number of persons.
 (3) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.

Initials of Enumerator — *WJ*

Total:
 Males: 2, Females: 1, Persons: 3

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchens, Tenants, or Apartments). Count the Kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *William Taylor Garnham*
 Postal Address: *Bridge Street Neston Cheshire*

1911 census (condensed) – Bridge Street, Neston

William Taylor Garnham	66	widower, coal dealer, own account	born ?, Suffolk
Florence Garnham	21	at home	born Neston
William Taylor Johnson	17	bricksetter, building trade	born Neston

Hannah Garnham, William's grandmother, was buried at Neston on 28 December 1906 aged 60.

By the time of the 1911 census Eliza Johnson, William's mother, had remarried and was living with her husband Richard Naylor on Bridge Street - this house was next door to where her father and William Taylor Johnson were living:

Number of Schedules 73
(To be filled up by the Enumerator
after collection.)

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME		RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.	PARTICULARS AS TO MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.		BIRTHPLACE of every person.		NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.		
of every Family, Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who		State whether "Head," "Son," "Daughter," or other Relative, "Boarder," or "Servant."	For Infants under one year state the age "under one month," "one month," etc.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," opposite the name of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	Completed years dis- posed Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "under one."			Children born alive write "None" in Column 7.	Children still living. Write Dead.	Personal Occupation. The reply should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c. If engaged in any Trade or Manufacture, the particular kind of work done, and the Article made or Material worked or dealt in should be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 8 and Examples on back of Schedule.)	Industry or Service with which worker is connected. This question should generally be answered by stating the business carried on by the employer. If this is clearly shown in Col. 10 the question need not be answered here. No entry needed for Domestic servants in private employment. If employed by a public body (Government, Municipal, &c.) (See Instruction 9 and Examples on back of Schedule.)	Whether Employer, Worker, or Writing on Own Account.	Whether Working at Home.	(1) If born in the United King- dom, write the name of the County, and Town or Parish. (2) If born in any other part of the British Empire, write the name of the Dependency, Colony, etc., and of the Province or State. (3) If born in a Foreign Country, write the name of the Country. (4) If born at sea, write "At Sea." NOTE.—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "Russian" or "Visitor" in this Country.	State whether— (1) "British subject by parent." (2) "Naturalised British sub- ject," giving year of natu- ralisation. (3) "Alien." (4) "Foreign nationality," state whether— "French," "German," "Russian," etc.	If any person included in this Schedule is— (1) "Totally Deaf," or "Deaf and Dumb," (2) "Totally Blind," (3) "Lunatic," (4) "Insane," or "Feeble- minded," state the deficiency opposite this per- son's name, and the age at which he or she became afflicted.
					1	2	3									
1	Richard Taylor	Head	33	Married	4	4	4	4	4	John Taylor Batey	G. C. Batey	Worcester	English	—		
2	Edwina Taylor	Wife	38	Married	4	4	4	4	4	John Taylor Batey	G. C. Batey	Worcester	English	—		
3	Harriet Thomson	Step Daughter	15	Single	—	—	—	—	—	School 390	—	Worcester	English	—		
4	J. Edward Thomson	Step Son	14	Single	—	—	—	—	—	School 390	—	Worcester	English	—		
5	Joseph David Taylor	Daughter	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Worcester	English	—		
6	Thomas Taylor	Son	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Worcester	English	—		
7	Florence Taylor	Daughter	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Worcester	English	—		
8	Richard Taylor	Son	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Worcester	English	—		
9	Richard Taylor	Brother	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	Book Maker 300	Worcester	Worcester	English	—		
10																
15																

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

I certify that—
(1) All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex column.
(2) I have passed the names and females in Column 3 and 4 respectively, and have compared their sum with the total number of persons.
(3) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and the statements such as appeared to be erroneous.

Initials of Enumerator: *W. W.*

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Houses, Tenements, or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Richard Taylor*

Postal Address: *Worcester*

Richard Naylor	33	platelayer, G.C. Railway	born Burwardsley, Cheshire
Eliza Naylor	38	no occupation recorded	born Neston
Hannah Johnson	15	stepdaughter	born Neston
J. Edward Johnson	14	stepson	born Neston
Sarah Doris Naylor	5		born Neston
Thomas Naylor	4		born Neston
Florence Naylor	3		born Neston
Richard Naylor	1		born Neston
Herbert Macardle	38	boarder, boat builder	born Neston

No record of the marriage of Richard Naylor and Eliza has been found. Two further children were later recorded, Kate Naylor (aged 9 in April 1920) and Eliza Naylor (aged 6 in April 1920). Also in 1920 Hannah Johnson was recorded as Hannah Jones of 24 Bridge Street, Neston.

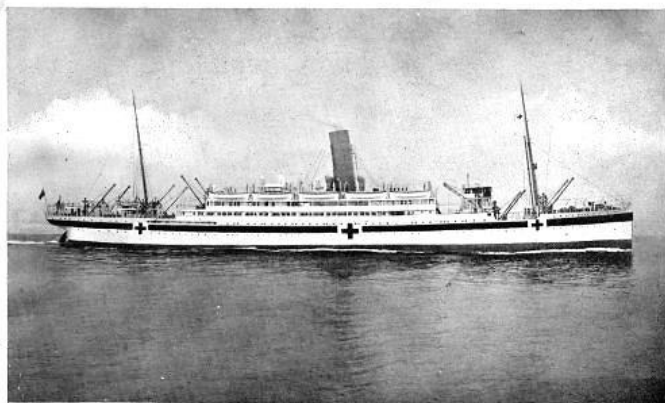
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August 1914. As a depot/training unit, it remained in the UK throughout the war supplying personnel to other battalions.

On 23 April 1915 William was appointed as a paid Lance Corporal and on 21 July was further elevated as acting (paid) Corporal. However, this appointment was reduced back to Lance Corporal on 4 October 1915 and, on 18 October, he was even deprived of this stripe for shaking a junior NCO.

On 4 November 1915 William was posted, as a Private, to the British Expeditionary Force, Mediterranean, as a member of the 6th Battalion South Lancashire Regiment. The 6th (Service) Battalion had been formed in Warrington in August 1914 as part of Kitchener's First New Army and had moved to Tidworth, a garrison town in south-east Wiltshire. Here they were under the command of the 38th Brigade in the 13th (Western) Division. Having spent 307 days of the war in the UK William now found himself in Gallipoli (the troops disembarked on 24 November 1915) but, by 9 December, he was in hospital suffering from oedema of the legs - swelling as a result of the accumulation of excess fluid under the skin (a condition also known as 'dropsy').

On 20 December 1915 the 13th (Western) Division, which included William's 6th (Service) Battalion, was evacuated from Gallipoli and moved to Mudros, a small Greek



H.M. HOSPITAL SHIP "ESSEQUIBO" (Publication Officially sanctioned by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty)

British-controlled port on the Mediterranean island of Lemnos, and then to Egypt. William's condition must now have been considered serious as William was invalided back to the UK, by way of Alexandria, on *HM Hospital Ship Essequibo*. William was back in the UK by 27 January 1916 having spent some 84 days overseas but it is unclear what happened to him until he was posted to France on 7 April 1917. We know that William embarked at Folkestone on 8 April 1917 and disembarked at Boulogne

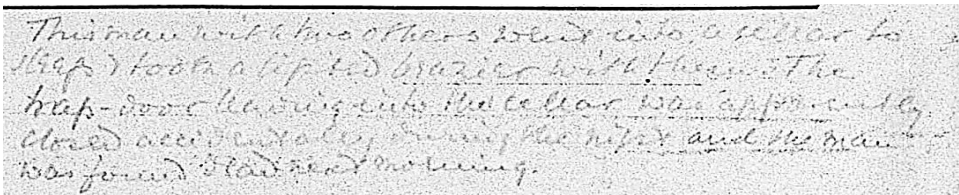
the same day but his Service Records make no mention of the 1 year 70 days between his invalided return to the UK and his sailing to France.

In France, William was first posted to the 2nd Battalion South Lancashire Regiment (11 April 1917) but was transferred to the 7th South Lancashire Regiment on 28 April. Of his military activities over the following 11 months we have no record although the 7th (Service) Battalion saw action at The Battle of Messines (7–14 June 1917); The Battle of the Menin Road Ridge, the third British general attack during The Third Battle of Ypres (20–25 September 1917); The Battle of Polygon Wood (during the second phase of The Third Battle of Ypres, 26 September - 3 October 1917); The Battle of Broodseinde (4 October 1917 near Ypres - the most successful Allied attack of the Battle of Passchendaele); The Battle of Poelcapelle (9 October 1917 - this marked the end of the string of highly successful British attacks during The Third Battle of Ypres);

and The First and Second Battles of Passchendaele (12 October 1917 and 26 October - 10 November 1917), the culminating attacks during The Third Battle of Ypres. Whilst William would not have been involved in all these battles, some of the fiercest and costly conflicts of the war, he appears to have escaped unscathed, perhaps aided by the fact that he was recorded as being 'a first class shot'.

It was not military action that led to William's death, by carbon monoxide asphyxiation, on 28 March 1918 but a combination of negligence and stupidity:

William was then attached to the 6th Entrenching Battalion which had been formed from the 11th Battalion Kings Own (Royal Lancaster) Regiment. Entrenching battalions were temporary units



This man with two others went into a cellar to keep [warm] & took a lighted brazier with them. The trap-door leading into the cellar was apparently closed accidentally during the night and the man was found dead next morning.

"This man with two others went into a cellar to keep [warm] & took a lighted brazier with them. The trap door leading into the cellar was apparently closed accidentally during the night and the man was found dead next morning"

formed in the British Army during WW1; allocated at Corps level, they were used as pools of men, from which drafts of replacements could be drawn by the conventional infantry battalions. Although the practice had largely ceased on the Western Front by autumn 1917, due to manpower shortages, there was a revival at the start of 1918. The reduction in the number of battalions in an infantry brigade (from four to three) in February 1918 resulted in many (under-manned) infantry battalions being disbanded and the pool of men was used to bring the remaining battalions up to strength and to allocate any remaining manpower to twenty five entrenching battalions. These battalions were put to use in improving the existing defences in anticipation of a German offensive, and could be used as a reserve force if needed.

Following William's death a field-based Court of Inquiry was convened on 29 March 1918 which heard six witness statements and accounts of William's character. The hand-written statements are much faded and difficult to reproduce but three of these have been transcribed, below:

1st Witness No. 13522 Sergt. Tillott, J. 6th Entrenching Battalion

On 27/3/18 I was Orderly Sergt. I went to the billet where Pte. JOHNSON 'A' Coy 6th Entrenching Battalion was at 9.0pm. He was lying in a cellar of the billet with Pte. FOXALL and Pte. HARRISON. They had a brazier burning. The cellar was about 10ft x 6ft, reached by about 8 steps. Besides the staircase, the cellar was ventilated by an opening about 1ft x 6ins close to the ceiling. This opening was not stopped up – it opened onto the road outside. I did not speak to JOHNSON or to the other two. They appeared to be asleep. The atmosphere seemed to me quite healthy.

Staircase had a trap door at the top & this was open & I left it open.

On 28/3/18 in consequence of a report made to me, I went to the cellar again and found the trap door closed. This was about 7.0am. I opened the trap door, went down to the cellar and

found all three occupants apparently in a sleepy condition. I tried to waken them but could not make them answer or stir themselves. I tried to waken Johnson first, then Harrison and then Foxall. I thought their condition was abnormal, so I called out for the Medical Corporal – Corporal Christopher – who was just upstairs. He came down and looked at the men & advised me to get them out as soon as possible. I then came out of the cellar and called three men from the deceased's Company, and removed Johnson, Harrison & Foxall into the room above. Corpl. Christopher undid their tunics and sent for the MO. When the MO arrived, I went away.

The room above the cellar was used as a storeroom for the Company. I am billeted in the next room. The trap door of the cellar is against the wall. It would be possible for anyone passing through the room to knock the trap door down and so close it.

When I went down in the morning to waken the men, the atmosphere in the cellar seemed hot and stuffy. I experienced no sensation of suffocation myself – I was down there about 5 minutes. The brazier was in the same place as it was when I left the night before. I did not examine it.

[Note: At this point the Court adjourned to view the cellar in question and found the witness's description accurate]

3rd Witness 1st Lieut. E.A. KNOWLES M.O.R.C. (USA)

I am the MO attached to the 6th Entrenching Battalion.

On 28/3/18 about 7.30am I was called to see some men in a billet close to 'A' Coys cooker. These men were lying on the floor above a cellar. The first man I examined was dead – Pte. JOHNSON, and appeared to have been dead for about two hours. I then examined Pte. FOXALL. He was comatose and I then examined HARRISON who was unconscious. I had the three men removed into the open air and applied treatment. I then examined the cellar in which it was reported they had been sleeping. I heard the 1st witness's description of this cellar which was correct. I went into the cellar and found there was a markedly irritating gas present, making it uncomfortable to stay there any length of time. I noticed a brazier in the cellar which was not alight but contained about ½ of what appeared to be coal ashes. I was only down in the cellar for about 3 minutes when I had to come up as the atmosphere was so uncomfortable.

I am of opinion that if the trap door were closed and a brazier burning coal or coke were kept alight in it, there would not be sufficient oxygen to sustain life, as the small ventilating hole would not be sufficient. The condition of men sleeping in such a place would be that of the three men whom I examined.

Eventually HARRISON & FOXALL recovered sufficiently to talk but they were unable to give intelligent replies to my questions. There was no trace of alcohol about the men. They were eventually admitted to hospital. I am of opinion that Pte. JOHNSON's death was due to asphyxiation caused by the existence of a lighted brazier in a poorly ventilated cellar.

Lieutenant Knowles, an American, was one of many non-Royal Army Medical Corps personnel attached to the British Medical Units. M.O.R.C.s were Medical Officers Reserve Corps.

5th Witness No. 32212 L/C Woodington, C. 6th Entrenchment Battalion

I am 'A' Coy. Clerk.

I have known Pte. JOHNSON since last April. He was always contented and happy. I saw him about 8pm on 27/3/18. He appeared quite happy and his usual self and in no way depressed.

Following the Court of Inquiry the president of the 3-man court, Major G. Hayward, reported (29 March 1918):

The court records the opinion that the death of Pte. JOHNSON, W.T. 6th

Entrenchment Battalion was due to asphyxiation caused by sleeping in a

cellar with a lighted brazier in it, such cellar being insufficiently ventilated owing to the trap door leading in to it having been closed after he had gone to bed, that there is no evidence to show by whom the trap door was closed, and that the cellar was a perfectly satisfactory billet provided the trap door was kept open.

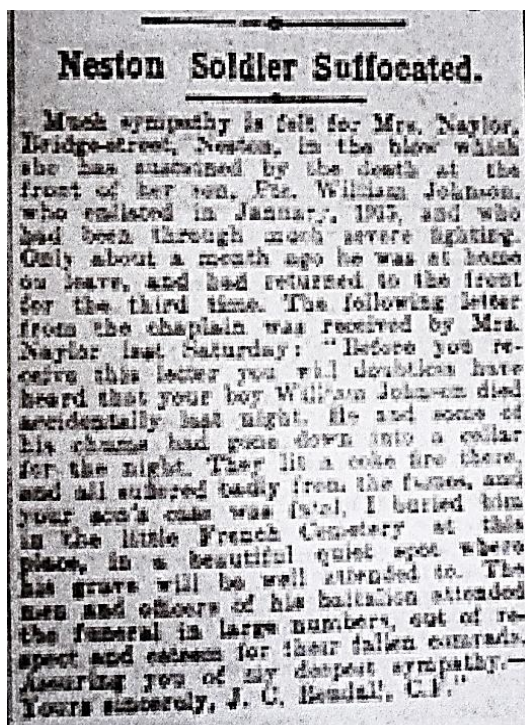
4. Commanding officer's opinion as to whether the man was :—		CASUALTIES.	
(a) In the performance of military duty.	NO		
(b) To blame.	NO		
(c) Whether any other person was to blame.	NO		
Date <u>1/4/18</u>		Commanding <u>Nº 6 Entrenching</u>	
5. (a) Opinion of G.O.C. Brigade.		<i>An accident - blame attached to no one</i>	
(b) Disciplinary action taken or proposed, whether against injured man or another.		<i>Wm. Muntz</i>	
Date <u>6/4/18</u>		Commanding <u>Brigade</u>	
[Continued Overleaf.]			

The attribution of no blame was not accepted by all as the Commandant of the V Corps Reinforcement Camp – the person who had convened the Court of Inquiry – wrote a note (intended recipient unknown) on 29 March:

It should be noted that the O/C No. 6 Entrenching Battalion is of opinion that no other person was to blame and that he does not propose to take any disciplinary actions.

In my opinion No. 13522 Sergt. TILLOTT, J., 6th Entrenching Battalion was greatly to blame in that he saw these men with a lighted brazier in the cellar and took no steps to have the brazier removed. I should be grateful of your instructions on this point, please.

Nevertheless, the decision that no other person could be blamed appears to have been officially accepted. The record shows that the two other men in the cellar with William Johnson were taken to hospital at Abbeville, around 40km north-west of Amiens, and it is presumed that they made a good recovery. William's body was buried in a local cemetery immediately following the Inquiry but it was later exhumed and re-buried at Vignacourt on 5 January 1921. He had served for a total of 3 years 87 days in the army.



Birkenhead News – Saturday 13 April 1918

Transcription:

Neston Soldier Suffocated

Much sympathy is felt for Mrs Naylor, Bridge-street, Neston, in the blow which she has sustained by the death at the front of her son Pte. William Johnson, who enlisted in January 1915 and who had been through much severe fighting. Only about a month ago he was at home on leave, and had returned to the front for the third time. The following letter from the chaplain was received by Mrs Naylor last Saturday: "Before you receive this letter you will doubtless have heard that your boy William Johnson died accidentally last night. He and some of his chums had gone down into a cellar for the night. They lit a coke fire there, and all suffered badly from the fumes, and your son's case was fatal. I buried him in the little French Cemetery at this place, in a beautiful quiet spot where his grave will be well attended to. The men and officers of his battalion attended the funeral in large numbers, out of respect and esteem for their fallen comrade. Assuring you of my deepest sympathy. — Yours sincerely, J. C. Bendall. O.P."

MEMORIAL SERVICE.— A memorial service was held at the Neston Congregational Church on Sunday last for Pte. William Taylor Johnson, who recently fell in France. The Shepherds' Club, of whom deceased was a member, walked to the church with their crooks draped in black out of respect for their lost comrade.

Chester Chronicle - Saturday 11 May 1918

Chester Chronicle - Saturday 13 April 1918

HER SECOND BOY.—Mrs. Naylor, of Bridge-street, has been notified of the death of her son. The following is a letter received by the parents from the chaplain: "It is with deep regret I send you bad news of your son Private W. T. Johnson. He and some of his chums had gone down into the cellar for the night, and lit a coke fire, and all suffered badly from the fumes. Your son's case was fatal. I buried him in the little French cemetery, in a beautiful quiet spot, where his grave will be well attended. The men and officers of his battalion attended the funeral in large numbers out of respect and esteem for their fallen comrade. I can only assure you of my deepest sympathy in your bereavement. . . . May God sustain you in your dark hour."—Private Johnson, who was 24 years of age, joined the army on January 1st, 1915, and went to the Dardenelles in October, 1915. He was invalided home with fever in February, 1916, and was drafted to France in March, 1917. This is the second son that has fallen in this war. The deepest sympathy from a wide circle of friends will go to this patriotic family.

At the time of the 1939 Register (29

678370	2/5/1918	Johnson William Thomas Taylor	7th Bn Planes Pte 15023	18.3.18 France 4/18 Asphyxiated	✓15	1	10	15	1	10	3rd 6. 18	24.6.18/1	no. 4045 reg. Eliza Naylor	15	1	10
												27/1/19	2	14	10	-

Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

In Summer 1919 the army paid outstanding credits – mainly remaining wages – to soldiers or, in the case of those who had died, their family or nominated representatives. At the same time a War Gratuity was often paid.

William Taylor Johnson had accrued a credit of £15 1s 10d and this was received by his mother, Eliza Naylor, as sole legatee. Eliza received also the £14 10s War Gratuity.

The total payment, £29 11s 10d, is approximately equivalent to a *labour value* (ie wages) of about £4500 in 2016.

The War Gratuity was introduced in December 1918 as a payment to be made to those men who had served in WW1 for a period of 6 months or more home service or for any length of service if a man had served overseas. The rules governing the gratuity were implemented under Army Order 17 of 1919 but the amount paid was related to the length of war service.

At the time of the 1939 Register (29 September) Florence Naylor (born 11 March 1908, working in a hand laundry) and Richard Naylor (born 24 September 1909, kiln burner, brickworks), both unmarried, were living with married sister Sarah Doris Smith (born 25 April 1905) and Ernest Smith (born 17 May 1904, kiln brick setter) at 12 Talbot Gardens, Neston. Sarah had married Ernest at Neston Parish Church in mid-1935.

In 1939 Thomas Naylor (born 19 December 1906, permanent way platelayer), the older brother of Florence and Richard, was living on Cross Street, Neston, with his wife Christina (born 5 August 1909) and son Brian T Naylor (born 8 November 1931). No record of the marriage of Thomas and Christina, or of Brian's birth, has been found.

There appears to be no immediate family connection between brothers John Edward Johnson [see entry 50] and William Taylor Johnson and their family and Thomas Allen Johnson [see entry 51].