

Delegates from local Police Force:—The following witnesses attended, and, each being sworn, gave evidence, which was taken down by the reporter: Constable John James Cassells; Thomas Bourke, Sergeant; Alfred Stanton, constable and district clerk; and Charles Henry Pratt, constable.

At 4.15 p.m. the Commission adjourned until to-morrow at 10 a.m.

FRIDAY, 29TH APRIL, 1898.

The Commission sat at 10 a.m.

*Present*: Messrs. Wardell, Poynton, and Colonel Pitt.

The minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

Colonel Hume, Mr. Tunbridge, and Mr. T. E. Taylor, M.H.R., were in attendance.

Charge of Mr. T. E. Taylor, *re* Constable McGill:—The following witnesses attended, and, each being sworn, gave evidence, which was taken down by the reporter: John Tucker Ford, auctioneer, Addington; Frederick Trent, merchant, Christchurch; John Cox Sopp, J.P., chemist, Addington; George Bissett, journalist, Christchurch; Ashton Wachsmann, auctioneer, Addington; Frederick Henry Pyne, auctioneer, Christchurch; William Henderson, chairman of directors of saleyards, Addington; John Wilson Storey, retired farmer, Christchurch; Montague Lewin, gentleman, Addington; Samuel Flewellen, constable, Bingsland; Edward Thomas Bosworth, constable, Sydenham; James Gantley, constable, Christchurch; George Lambie, manager Union Steamship Company, residing at Addington; Margaret Beveridge, matron Samaritan Home, Christchurch; Robert Parker, private detective, Christchurch; Richard William Shepherd, constable, Christchurch; John Bridgman, valuator, Christchurch; Edwin Cicero Berry, butcher, Christchurch; Daniel Falvey, commission agent, Christchurch; Richard Robert Bell, formerly in charge of Samaritan Home, Christchurch; Louis Edmund Crosby, J.P., Addington; George Thompson, tram-driver, Addington; John Hoare, tram-driver, Christchurch; George Collier, formerly licensee of the A 1 Hotel, Christchurch; Patrick McGill, police-constable, Addington; Annie Watters, wife of Thomas John Watters (recalled); Izaiah David Davis, furniture dealer, Christchurch.

General efficiency of the Force and conduct of the police:—The following witnesses attended, and, each being sworn, gave evidence, which was taken down by the reporter: John Cox Sopp, J.P., chemist, Addington; Frederick Trent, merchant, Christchurch; Jane Elizabeth Patrick, widow, Christchurch.

General conduct of the police:—The following witnesses, called by Mr. Kippenberger, solicitor, attended, and, each being sworn, gave evidence, which was taken down by the reporter, viz: John Martin Thompson, J.P., formerly professional musician; Henry Bylove Sorenson, auctioneer, Christchurch; Edward Smith, J.P., boot and shoe dealer and superintendent Christchurch Fire Brigade, and Edward Walker Turton, employé Ballantyne and Co, ex-superintendent Fire Brigade, Christchurch; Thomas McClatchie, J.P., settler, Christchurch.

General efficiency of the Force and conduct of the police:—The following witnesses attended, and, each being sworn, gave evidence, which was taken down by the reporter: Thomas Broham, Inspector of Police; James McDonald, constable, Christchurch; John James Cassells, constable, Christchurch; Edmond Michael Joyce, constable, Christchurch; Edward Mackay, sergeant of police, Christchurch; John James Cassells, constable, Christchurch (recalled); Christina Thompson, wife of William Thompson, Cambridge Terrace; Samuel Saunders, journalist and editor of the *Lyttelton Times*; and James Walker, tobacconist, Christchurch.

At 5 o'clock p.m. the Commission adjourned until 10 a.m. to-morrow.

SATURDAY, 30TH APRIL, 1898.

The Commission sat at 10 o'clock.

*Present*: Messrs. Wardell, Poynton, and Colonel Pitt.

The minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

Colonel Hume and Mr. Tunbridge were in attendance.

Mr. Tunbridge intimated that search had been made for any papers in connection with the complaint made by Mrs. Thompson against a policeman, for accosting her in the street; that no papers could be found at the Christchurch Police-office, and, that as Sergeant Mason was the officer in charge at the time the occurrence happened, he could be examined at Wellington later on.

There being no further evidence forthcoming, the Commission closed its sittings at Christchurch, and adjourned until Wednesday next, at Hokitika, at 2 p.m.

HOKITIKA.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH MAY, 1898.

At 12 o'clock noon the Commissioners visited the police-station. The men were drawn up on parade and addressed by the Chairman. The quarters were then visited, and the official books at the station were examined.

The Commission opened its proceedings for public business at the Courthouse, Hokitika, on Wednesday, 4th May, 1898, at 2 o'clock p.m.