

Telegram to Inspector Macdonell, Greymouth.

5th March, 1902.

*Re* alleged threats by Constable Durbridge: You do not say if you have taken any steps to ascertain from Sergeant Mackay particulars of what has occurred; you should have done so, and taken prompt action yourself. I have wired the sergeant telling him I hold him responsible for the men under him, and directed him to report to you particulars of anything of the nature indicated that may have occurred. Please submit to me forthwith Constable Williams's report and the information you have that Sergeant Mackay has tried to intimidate the constables.

J. B. TUNBRIDGE, Commissioner.

Urgent telegram to Commissioner of Police, Wellington.

5th March, 1902.

CONSTABLE WILLIAMS reports that Constable Durbridge challenged him out to fight on suspicion of having given me information *re* taking girl to station at night, and threatened him that if he opened his mouth at any inquiry he would severely assault him, &c. I fear a disturbance will take place, as the charges made would reach Nelson to-day. I think Durbridge should be suspended in the meantime. I believe the sergeant is also trying to intimidate Constables Williams and Bird. Constable McGrath is afraid to say anything.

E. MACDONELL, Inspector.

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