

160. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I did not hear the doctor say that the statements made by Impey were fictitious, and concocted to disparage certain individuals.

LIONEL FRYE, sworn, examined.

161. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I am an attendant. I came last April. Then the food was abundant and all right. After a time the attendants complained to Mr. Stewart about the bread not being properly baked; but it was looked into and remedied as soon as possible. After that the meat was not properly cooked, except when the cook was relieved. The meat was greatly underdone at times. The fish was always good and well cooked. I am fond of fish and always took some. I never saw fish on the table that was not fit for any one to eat, no matter who they were. I was present when the doctor was called on by Arundel to complain of the food. He said he would see into the matter. The doctor was not the least angry then. Since then the cooking could not be complained of by any one. I did not hear any of the offensive statements attributed to the doctor. I and the others signed the paper simply to show we were unanimous in making the complaints about the food. I never heard anything said that required an apology. It was only indirectly I heard of an apology being wanted. The only thing approaching offensiveness which I heard the doctor say was in speaking to Arundel, who spoke in such a way that I would have spoken sharply myself in the doctor's place.

DUNEDIN, MONDAY, 2ND JANUARY, 1893.

EDWIN TATTERSALL, sworn and examined.

162. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I was attendant at Seacliff. I complain that because I refused to play in the band when off duty Mr. Stewart tyrannized over me and made me uncomfortable ever after: and then I made up my mind to leave. The meat was usually so underdone as not to be eatable, to my taste. The joints were of inferior quality. Day after day we got the shoulder and the neck. We did not get the joints in fair rotation. This was reported to the Doctor and Mr. Stewart on several occasions. I did not report it myself. I could not swear who did so. I was not present when Dr. King was called in to see the meat. I attended the second meeting one evening. There had been another earlier that day. Impey came forward, when Arundel left the meeting, to represent the rest. He went to the doctor, who disputed our statements, and said we were "liars," and that the discontent emanated from a few, which was not true. The doctor said to Impey, "You are the only one who speaks." Impey said he acted for the rest. I got up and indorsed all Impey said. The cook was called in and admitted irregularities in distributing the meat. I signed the petition. I am aware that the doctor said it would be seen to for the future; and it was all right after. The idea of the petition was to show that we were unanimous. I believe the demand for an apology from the doctor for things he had said about the attendants was part of the petition.

DUNEDIN, TUESDAY, 3RD JANUARY, 1893.

ANNIE MULQUIN, sworn, examined.

163. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I am cook. I never heard a complaint, nor saw a joint returned but one, and that was taken in mistake, having been laid aside half-cooked. It was taken out of the oven because Mrs. Beswick did not need it that day.

WILLIAM NELSON KERR, sworn, examined.

164. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I am an attendant. I never saw meat so much underdone as not to be eatable, except on one occasion. I returned it to the kitchen. It was not half-cooked. I called Mr. Stewart's attention to it. It was a leg of mutton.

THOMAS SNEESTON, sworn, examined.

165. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] Sometimes in the morning the salt beef at breakfast was underdone. I could always eat it. I never complained, and I never grumbled about it. I heard others doing so. Some of them could not eat it unless it was very well done. In signing the paper I meant to complain of the food. I signed because the others did, and I did not like to stand out. I have never seen Dr. King harsh or tyrannical to anyone.

JOHN ADAM, sworn, examined.

166. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I am an assistant clerk. At our table we get the same meat, cooked in the same way, as the attendants. I have never got undercooked meat since I came to the Asylum, two years and a-half ago. At our table our only extras are milk puddings at dinner, and bacon and egg in the morning. Linton gets the same. We do not get custards. I never heard of this agitation till afterwards. I never knew of any discontent with the food. The vegetables were always well cooked. I never take porridge. Bread was always well baked. At one time a complaint was made about the flour. It was not bad.

HUBERT DENOON LINTON, sworn, examined.

167. *By Dr. MacGregor.*] I am a clerk. Once for about a week the bread was complained of. The flour was not first-class, but the bread was perfectly wholesome. The flour was sent back and better put in its place after about a week's use. The joints were not properly divided, because the butcher did not carry out my orders. I never heard a word about it before the meeting. The meat was not as a rule underdone. I thought it overdone.