

years of age, about 5 ft. 6 in. high, fair hair and complexion, no hair on face, blue eyes. Last seen on the 27th ultimo near Woodville, riding the stolen horse, and dressed in a black slouched hat, dark navy-blue coat, grey trousers, and new tan shoes; carried a swag rolled up in a sack on front of saddle. Supposed to have gone to Napier, and will probably sell the horse on the way and endeavour to leave the colony for Sydney. His parents reside at or near Dunedin.

CAMBRIDGE.—James McLiesh, saddler, Tirau, reports stolen from a paddock at Cambridge, on the 18th or 19th ultimo, a light-bay gelding, aged, about 15 hands high, one hind hoof white, branded like P on near shoulder, patchy white spots under saddle, used to saddle and harness; value, £10.

HUNTLY.—James Gerrard, storekeeper, Rangiriri, reports stolen, between the 18th September and 16th November last, five head of mixed cattle, two years old, branded G on right shoulder, ear-mark, slit on top of left ear; value, £10.

KARANGAHAKE.—Thomas Cummings, settler, Owharoa, reports stolen from a paddock, on the 28th or 29th October last, a dark-bay gelding, back bred, stiff nuggetty build, branded like F on near shoulder, good in harness, shod all round; value, £10.

(See *Police Gazette*, 1897, page 62; and 1898, page 39.)

WANGANUI.—William (or James) Shears, charged with the theft of Alexander Chase's horse (recovered), has been arrested by Detective F. Bishop, Wanganui police, on information supplied by Detective G. Fitzgerald, of Timaru, and remanded.

FEILDING.—Hans Mortensen, farmer, Makino, reports stolen from a paddock, on the 27th ultimo, a light-bay mare, back bred, nine years old, sixteen hands high, small star on forehead, shod all round, brand two R's (conjoined) on near shoulder; value, £18.

Missing Friends.

THOMAS MURPHY is inquired for by the Winton police. Description: A native of New Zealand, a labourer and rabbit-biter, twenty-three years of age, 5 ft. 11½ in. high, stout and well built, dark-brown hair, small fair moustache only, full face, single, usually wears a dark-serge suit. Said to have been seen at the Bluff on the 6th ultimo. Inquiry is for the purpose of having him bound over to appear at the Supreme Court, Invercargill, on the 6th February next, as a witness for the defence in the case against Henderson and Gerrard for maliciously shooting and killing a horse.

(See *Police Gazette*, 1899, page 221.)

JOHN DUNCAN has been found at Greenfield Station.

(See *Police Gazette*, 1899, page 210.)

LEONARD WOLFE, also known as Woberton, is in the employ of Mr. J. J. Webb, of Manaroa, near Picton.

(See *Police Gazette*, 1899, page 251.)

WILLIAM MELODY'S body has been found on the Wangaeu Beach, and at an inquest held on the 22nd ultimo an open verdict was returned.

Miscellaneous Information.

Appointment as Constable.

WILCOCKS, JAMES SELLERS, No. 936, 2nd instant.

Resignation.

CONSTABLE LOMAX, HENRY PERRY, No. 877, 30th ultimo.

Rewards.

CONSTABLE H. W. WILLIAMS, No. 909, has been awarded £6 for services in obtaining convictions for sly-grog selling at Otorohanga and Te Kuiti. (99/2004.)

NATIVE CONSTABLE J. BEAZLEY, Rawene, has been awarded £3 for obtaining a conviction against Waata Taiawhio for sly-grog selling at Rakauwahi. (99/2026.)

CONSTABLE P. J. DUNN, No. 127, Mangonui police, has been awarded £3 for obtaining the conviction of J. Kralavich for sly-grog selling. (99/2029.)

Fire-brigades.

(Circular No. 36/99.)

INSPECTORS in charge of districts are requested to furnish the following information for the Registrar-General:—

1. Place where brigade is situated.
2. Number of officers, as on 31st December, 1899.
3. Number of men.

J. B. TUNBRIDGE,

Commissioner of Police.

Wellington, 4th December, 1899.

"Arms Act, 1880."—Expiration of Dealers' Licenses.

LICENSING OFFICERS are reminded that dealers' licenses are in force for only one year from the date specified on each license, and if the persons to whom they were issued continue to deal in arms, gunpowder, &c., after the expiration of that period they must obtain new licenses.

General attention is also directed to the Order in Council and instructions, *vide Police Gazette*, 1898, pages 164 and 172.

Summary Jurisdiction in Indictable Offences.—Regina v. Anderson.

THE following decision of His Honour Mr. Justice Edwards, taken from the *Wellington Evening Post* of 1st June, 1899, is published for general information:—

The question for determination, His Honour said, was whether the jurisdiction of the superior Courts over certain indictable offences mentioned in "The Indictable Offences Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1894," was taken away by that Act, which gave a summary jurisdiction over such offences to two Justices or a Magistrate. There could be no doubt that the general rule, as laid down by Tindall, C.J., was that "the jurisdiction of the superior Courts was not taken away except by express words or necessary implication." Lord Campbell had laid down a similar rule. It was true, however, that jurisdiction might be taken away by implication as well as by express words, but the intention must in that case be necessarily implied. Applying the general rules laid down to the question now under consideration, there was, in his Honour's opinion, no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that the jurisdiction of the superior Courts was not, by "The Indictable Offences Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1894," taken away with respect to the offences therein mentioned. Prior to this enactment the Justices had, under sections 176–194 of "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1882," power to deal summarily with certain indictable offences. This power was in all cases to be exercised at their discretion, and in most cases only with the consent of the person charged. Those provisions were repealed by the Act of 1894. To support the contention of the prisoner's counsel it would be necessary to read section 4 of the Act as though it ran: "The offences mentioned in this Act which were heretofore indictable shall cease to be indictable, and any two or more Justices and a Magistrate shall have summary jurisdiction and authority in respect of such offences." No change in the language less violent would support the contention advanced, and his Honour thought that it was plain that such a change could not upon any principle be made. There was nothing in the Act which, in his opinion, led to the inference that this was the intention of the Legislature. On the contrary, some of the offences mentioned in the Act were of so shocking a character that it was impossible to suppose that it was intended that they should in all cases be dealt with summarily, or that if the offenders could escape prosecution for six months they should evade all punishment for their crimes. The result, in his Honour's opinion, was that an offender who may under the Act be dealt with summarily by Justices may yet at their discretion be committed by them for trial by a superior Court, and that such an offender who has evaded prosecution for six months must be so committed for trial. It was contended by counsel for the prisoner that if the jurisdiction of the superior Courts was not taken away, the limitation of time within which prosecutions under the Act of 1894 must be begun applied to prosecutions under the provisions of the Criminal Code Act for the same offences, and that consequently offenders who may be summarily dealt with under the Act of 1894 cannot after the expiration of six months from the date of their offences be prosecuted under the Criminal Code Act. No authority was cited in support of that contention, and it was sufficient to say that it appeared to be quite untenable. No costs were allowed.

Extract from New South Wales Police Gazette.

(From *Gazette*, 1899, page 418.)

SYDNEY.—Escaped, about 2.30 p.m. on the 16th instant, from the Central Police Station, **Charles Creagh**, who is under committal for trial at the Central Criminal Court, on a charge of manslaughter, and **George Solomon**, who is charged with breaking and entering. Creagh is thirty years of age, 5 ft. 6½ in. high, medium build, brown hair, fair moustache, scar in centre of forehead; dressed in blue serge sac-suit, and black hard hat. Identical with discharged prisoner of same name, *vide Police Gazette*, 1898, page 103. Solomon is twenty-three years of age, 5 ft. 4½ in. high, medium build, sallow complexion, brown hair, dark moustache only, Jewish appearance, scar on left temple, two moles on left cheek; dressed in a blue serge sac-suit and brown soft-felt hat, with band around it. Identical with discharged prisoner George D. Solomon, *vide Police Gazette*, 1899, page 226. [For photographs see New South Wales Police Gazette, page as above quoted.]