

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12th

(Before James Fulton, Esq., R.M.)

DRUNKENNESS.—Archibald Scott, Jas. Kirkpatrick, Ellen Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Hunter, and John Stevenson, were each fined 10s for drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

DRIVING WITHOUT REINS.—Matthew Long was summoned for this offence, but he was cautioned, and the case was dismissed.

CATTLE DEPASTURING.—Alexander Fraser, for allowing cows to depasture within the limits of the town, was fined 5s and costs.

A FOUL CHIMNEY.—Thomas Hancock was summoned for allowing a chimney to take fire through neglect. A penalty of 5s and costs was inflicted.

INFORMATIONS BY INSPECTOR NIMON.—Stuart Leckie and John M'Donald, for neglect while in charge of horses, were each fined 5s and costs. John M'Catie, for a similar offence, was fined 2s 6d and costs.

THE GOAT NUISANCE.—John Cadington and Alex. Grant were summoned for allowing goats to stray. They were let off with a caution. In the case of James Robinson, the wife of the defendant appeared in answer to the summons. The Inspector stated that he had received great abuse from her. The Magistrate inflicted a penalty of 20s and costs, stating that the Inspector had enough to put up with without receiving abuse.

NEGLECT OF PREMISES.—The following penalties were inflicted for this offence:—Adam Jackson, 20s; Charles Sykes, James Simpson, and John Briggs, 10s each, with costs.

UNLICENSED DRAY.—Peter Merland was charged with plying for hire with an unlicensed dray. The case was adjourned for a week, the license to be taken out in the meantime.

CATTLE TRESPASS.—John Hodge, for this offence, was fined 2s 6d and costs.

GARRETT, THE CONVICT

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT.

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Henry Garrett alias Rouse was brought up on remand charged with having feloniously entered the premises of Mr Allan, seedsman, Princes street, and stolen therefrom a brooch, a garden syringe, and other articles. He was also charged with having been in the unlawful possession of housebreaking implements. He was now further charged with having stolen a cloak, the property of A. Walker, draper, George street, and with having entered the shop of Mr Bagley, chemist, and stolen a quantity of drugs and other articles of the value of L6.

The Commissioner of Police said that the prisoner's lodgings had been searched, and a large number of articles found which had been stolen. He did not intend to complete the evidence upon the first two charges to-day, for if the prisoner was committed for trial, he could not be brought up upon the other charges without a Judge's order, and as the Judge was absent, difficulties would arise. It would, therefore, be more advisable to take all the charges together, and for that purpose he would give sufficient evidence upon the two new charges to justify a remand, and ask for a remand until Tuesday.

The following evidence was then given :—

Lavinia Walker : I am the wife of Albert Walker, draper, in George street. I identify the cloak produced, as being one taken from my shop on or about the 1st of July. I know it by the "hanger" which I sewed on, the original one having been torn off.

Detective Thomson : I, in company with Detective Farrell, made a search in the lodgings recently occupied by the prisoner. We removed a box pointed out to be his to the Office, and in that box the cloak identified by Mrs Walker was found.

B. Bagley : I am a chemist and druggist, carrying on business in George street. I identify the drugs and fancy articles as my property. Some of the chemicals, arsenic, strychnine, chloroform, &c., and some of the fancy articles, bear my private mark. These I positively swear to, and the rest of the goods I identify generally.

Detective Thomson : I produce a number of keys found on the prisoner when arrested. One of those keys fits Mr Bagley's front door, and the lock is turned by it with ease. The goods identified by Mr Bagley were found in the prisoner's box.

The prisoner was remanded until Tuesday next.

ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY

The Council of the Acclimatisation Society met yesterday afternoon, in the Athenæum Chambers. There were present—Mr W. D. Murison (who presided), Mr Carrick, Mr Eccles, Mr Turtton, and Mr Clifford, Manager.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Manager reported that the young trout were healthy, and were progressing rapidly. Three only had died during the week. He had forwarded quail to Port Molyneux, and had received a kangaroo from Captain Brown, of the Annie Brown. Mr F. D. Rich had sent down the old doe, to enable the escaped deer to be caught.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following letters:—

Waiwera Ponds, Kaihiku, Nov. 5th.

Sir—In reference to Mr Young's letter, dated 15th October, it appears that your letter to Mr Young, after my arrival in Otago, with regard to the missing moulds, must have been written under a misapprehension, as I could not have stated to you, during our short conversation on board the Celestial Queen, that no moulds were sent within the freezing machine.

What I said was that the black ice moulds that were intended for making a larger quantity of ice for the fish during the voyage, were not sent; and that Mr Young had better see Mr Ash, and bring them with him.

Mr Young has thought proper to state that the total failure of the experiment was due to my not understanding the simple act of ice-making. I think I am in a position to tell Mr Young that such unfounded remarks will not bear out that assertion.

It will be necessary for me to lay a few facts before your Council to rectify this matter.

Three different kinds of fish, your Council are aware, were shipped in the Celestial Queen under my charge; and to dispose of them separately, I will begin with the gudgeon.

The whole of these fish died within 16 days from leaving London Docks. What was the cause of this? Was it for the want of ice? I will give you an extract from a letter received from Mr Young, dated January, 1868, and received by me on board the Celestial Queen at Gravesend, which will, I think, throw some light on the subject. These are his words:—"Gudgeon in barrel. —Johnson ought not to have got a barrel so strongly impregnated with wine and spirits, which must kill the fish if put in as we found it."

The fish were kept in buckets from London Docks, till Johnson arrived from London the following day, with (as he said) instructions from Mr Young to put the fish in the barrel, which he (Johnson) did himself.

All the carp, No. 10, and 4 tench, died on the 2nd March, through excessive heat; for 20 days the thermometer registered 80deg to 95deg. Iced water twice and three times a day was applied in such quantities as gave some hope that they would survive; but the temperature could not be kept down day and night.

There cannot be two opinions as to the cause of the death of the first-mentioned fish; but to attribute the total failure of the experiment, as Mr Young has done, solely to my ignorance of the simple art of ice-making, is absurd, when two-thirds of the fish that were on board died before leaving the English Channel, through the carelessness in their being put in a barrel strongly impregnated with spirits; and six tench, unfortunately, were thrown overboard when within a few days' sail of Otago, by one of the sailors.—I am, &c.,

R. DAWBIN

To A. Carrick, Esq.,
Hon. Sec. Acclimatisation Society.

Oamaru, 4th November, 1868

Dear Sir—Absence from town has prevented my replying sooner to yours of 21st ult., by which I am glad to find the misapprehension as to my report of subscriptions raised in this district has been corrected in the paper.

With reference to localities in the neighbourhood of Oamaru suitable for turning out birds, I might mention Mr Filleul's, at Papatikaia, Mr M'Master's, and Mr Darist's, also Mr Hassell's place, at all of which there are trees and hedges. The first-named is peculiarly suitable, consisting of a thickly wooded gully, well sheltered, and away from the chance of being disturbed by human beings or dogs, &c.

With regard to suitable streams for trout, I might mention as one of the most suitable in the whole Province, the Kāuroo. Mr Teschmaker has requested me to submit to you an offer from him to take charge of any fish sent to a portion of the above river, which he knows or thinks to be quite suitable. He offers to give his personal supervision, and to strictly follow any instructions given. There are doubtless other suitable streams in the district, but none more suitable.

I should like to see the suggestion of sending your Manager up to inspect carried out.

With regard to localities in this district fit to turn out stock upon, I would require to know what kind of stock you contemplate sending before giving an opinion.

Several have been lately complaining of your Society turning rabbits loose in the country, and I have been requested by several influential men in the district to express their great regret at your having done so. They state it will be simply ruin to the runholders in whose district they may be turned out, and should the practice be continued your subscription list will, from what I hear, be very much lessened in amount.

There are instances known in Australia where runs have been completely destroyed by rabbits, and indeed their effect in this Province through these animals being turned loose by private parties has been disastrously felt. Farmers also would be great sufferers.—
I am, &c., WILLIAM BLACK, Hon. Sec.

Oamaru Branch Acclimatisation Society,
A Carrick, Esq., Secretary, Otago Acclimatisation Society, Dunedin,

In reference to the remarks in Mr Black's letter respecting the rabbits, each of the members present protested against such an unfounded charge being made against the Society. The Society had never turned out rabbits, and was being unjustly blamed. It was resolved to ask Mr Black to publish the denial of the truth of the statement in the local papers.

Letters and communications, through

members of the Council, from gentlemen willing to take charge of portions of the trout, were received. Mr Clifford was authorised to construct a pond for the fish.

The following list of subscriptions was handed in by Mr Sydney James:—Messrs Barron, Grant, and Co; Mr Peyman, W. Black, Jno. Scanlan, G. P. Farquhar, Jas. Mills, Geo. Cook, and F. Bagley, one guinea each.