

1887.
—
VICTORIA.

P O L I C E F O R C E .

RETURN to an Order of the House,
Dated 26th October, 1887, for—

A COPY of the Petition recently addressed to the Honorable the Chief Secretary, by an officer of Police on Ballarat, asking for a Board of Inquiry, and of the papers and records attached thereto.

(*Mr. Jones.*)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed 16th November, 1887.

Central District, Ballarat City Police Station, 20th August, 1887.

To the Honorable Alfred Deakin, Chief Secretary of Victoria.

The Humble Petition of Edward Hall, Sergeant of Police, stationed at Ballarat, humbly sheweth:

1. Your petitioner has served over twenty-nine years in the police force, nineteen of which he has been a sub-officer, stationed nearly in every part of the colony.

2. Your petitioner now, with regret, feels called upon in justice to himself, to bring under your notice what he deems to be a grave injustice inflicted by a regulation purporting to be made under the Police Regulation Statute of 1872, and which regulation was in force before the present Chief Commissioner came into office; the regulation alluded to, your petitioner understands, is that no matter how long a member of the force may be in the service, and it so happens another member through any means gets promoted over him, he shall for ever after be considered his senior, although in time the former may come up to the same rank he is not to rank senior to him, yet though years his senior in length of service, which your petitioner submits was a rule brought into force without being framed by or with the consent of the Governor in Council, under the authority of the 16th section of the Police Regulation Statute of 1872, consequently a regulation contrary to law, and therefore illegal, as well as calculated to inflict a grave injustice upon your petitioner.

3. When your petitioner joined the service in 1858 he was distinctly given to understand that by complying with the conditions set forth at the 13th page of the old regulations, and in paragraph 265 of the new, he would be entitled to that promotion he perceives is given to junior members of the service. How far your petitioner has complied with these regulations he will refer presently to facts for to show.

4. While the regulations are so framed as they are, your petitioner is aware different constructions can be placed upon them, yet he feels confident that the justice and equity of his claims will not be ignored, through taking advantage of a strained or unfair interpretation of the regulations in question by the Government, or in consequence of a regulation which your petitioner submits was and is, *ultra vires*.

5. Your petitioner would respectfully beg to draw your attention to the fact that there are only six, including your petitioner, first-class sergeants (whose names are entered in the margin) qualified to fill the position of officers in the service at present on the list, and that your petitioner is senior in length of service to all of them.

Sergeant Hamilton, 1961
do. Irwin, 1202
do. Kennedy, 1936
do. Gray, 1857
do. Larkin, 7926

6. Therefore, your petitioner humbly and respectfully prayeth that you may be pleased to place him at the head of the aforesaid list, which would entitle him to the first vacancy for a sub-inspectorship that may occur, on the ground that he is senior in length of service to all others on the list, and is of the same rank, and also for the following reasons, that is to say:—

7. Your petitioner, on the 13th November, 1877, in a report to the then Chief Commissioner, respectfully protested against the injustice of the promotion of the members of the force (named in the margin) over your petitioner, but got no satisfaction, and the injustice remained yet, still more, as according to the rule alluded to, your petitioner has reason to believe that these men will be again promoted over him, although he is now in the same rank, and years senior to them in the service.

Thomas Kennedy, 1936
Richard Hamilton, 1961

[Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, Nil; Printing (760 copies), £6 7s. 0d.]

7 Documents attached.

8. And your petitioner might add, as for Sergeant Gray, 1857, and Larkin, 1792, who are also on the qualified list, your petitioner, years before they were senior constables, was in the service, and considered an efficient sub-officer, the only other sergeant on the list being Sergeant Irwin, 1602, and your petitioner has never heard of any particular duty any of these sergeants have performed to entitle them to be placed now before your petitioner for further promotion.

9. Your petitioner, to show that he has been for years past selected for difficult and dangerous police duty, would respectfully draw attention to the following paragraphs, written by the late Chief Commissioner, in his memo. numbered in the margin, dated the 12th December, 1866. Amongst other remarks, he said—"I have no hesitation in saying that there is not a more conscientious, trustworthy, or zealous constable in the whole police force of Victoria, &c., &c." And again, in his memo., numbered in the margin, dated the 21st May, 1867, he writes—"Constable Hall is a very smart and efficient member of the force, and is thoroughly acquainted with police duty; he is a man of great energy, and well suited for the district to which he is to be sent (Beechworth). I consider it desirable to advance him in the service, and I shall not allow his transfer to a district where his merits will not properly become known to his officers for some time to militate against his claims for promotion." And again, in his memo. of the 16th May, 1870, numbered in the margin, he wrote—"I have specially selected Senior-constable Hall to the charge of the Greta station, as it is the centre of a hotbed of criminals, Pentridge men, and cattle stealers, and I have every confidence that the zeal and activity he has always displayed will be a considerable service to the department." In passing, your petitioner may add he went to Greta, and within twelve months broke up the greatest gang of cattle stealers, by the conviction of the offenders named in the margin, that ever combined together in this colony for the purpose of horse and cattle stealing.

10. Your petitioner, when leaving the Greta station, received the thanks of the inhabitants for bringing the offenders just named to justice, and a copy of a document presented to your petitioner, he would respectfully draw your attention to, appended herewith, marked A, dated 5th August, 1871.

11. When your petitioner was selected to take charge of the Snowy Creek station, in 1867, in accordance with the memo. of the Chief Commissioner, numbered M1665, of the 21st May, 1867, the district was so disturbed, that it was to replace a sub-officer, who had been stuck up in broad daylight, by Morgan, a bushranger, and to fill the vacancy your petitioner was transferred from the other end of the colony.

12. Again on 22nd April, 1870, your petitioner was transferred to take temporary charge of the Broadford station, and brought a long way from another district for the purpose, as he was informed by the Chief Commissioner, through the superintendent in charge of the district, that information had been received that Power, the bushranger intended to stick it up for horses and firearms, as he had a few days previously stuck up the sub-officer in charge, and was further informed that the reason your petitioner was brought such a long distance to fill the vacancy temporarily was because he was informed the Chief Commissioner considered him the fittest member of the force to be there in the event of such a contingency.

13. Your petitioner would wish to refer to one instance more in these long past years, to show how he stood with, or in the estimation of, the officers he served under at that period, 1866, by respectfully referring to the memo. of the superintendent in charge of the Kyneton district, dated 12th January, 1866, appended, marked B, which speaks fully for itself.

14. In 1872, the late Superintendent Bookey made a special application to the then Chief Commissioner to have your petitioner transferred from the Beechworth to the Geelong district, so as to put down cattle stealing at Colac. The result of which transfer, your petitioner will only add, resulted in the conviction of the offenders named in the margin, which put a stop to cattle stealing at Colac for years.

15. When your petitioner was on his way from the Beechworth to the Geelong district in 1872, the late Chief Commissioner requested then Superintendent Hare, now a police magistrate, to send your petitioner to his office, and there he thanked and congratulated your petitioner upon his success in putting a stop to the cattle stealing at Greta, and promised your petitioner the first vacancy for promotion to the rank of sergeant that would occur, instead of recommending him to the then Honorable Chief Secretary for a reward of £10, which your petitioner was recommended to be granted by the late Superintendent Barclay, then the officer in charge of the Beechworth district, as a reward for the duty your petitioner performed at Greta, at the same time granting your petitioner a reward of £5 from the Police Reward Fund. Several vacancies took place, but still the promise was not fulfilled; therefore, in 1876, or nearly four years afterwards, your petitioner took the opportunity to remind the Chief Commissioner of his promise, in reply to which he stated in his memo., numbered in the margin, dated 29th July, 1876, amongst other remarks, that he recollected stating he hoped to be able to advance your petitioner when an opportunity presented itself, but your petitioner may add, that with very few exceptions since, when vacancies occurred they were filled up with junior members of the force, and your petitioner had no redress. Your petitioner would also humbly invite your perusal of the attached letter marked C, signed by eighteen magistrates, dated 29th June, 1883, which was forwarded to your petitioner as a letter intended to be presented to the Honorable the Chief Secretary by the magistrates who signed it, but which was not done at the request of your petitioner.

16. Your petitioner would respectfully draw attention also to the following paragraph in the memo. of the late Superintendent Furnell, of the 4th December, 1877, numbered in the margin, he wrote, "I cannot speak otherwise than favorably of Senior-Constable Hall, as a member of the police force, he is active, intelligent and efficient, is qualified and well-deserving of advancement in the service, &c." The Chief Commissioner, at the same time and in the same file in his memo., numbered in the margin, writes, "I admit all that Mr. Furnell has said, Senior-Constable Hall, I know is active, intelligent, efficient, and well-qualified for advancement, &c.," then your petitioner submits when this is the opinion of the then Chief Commissioner, and for the other reasons given in this petition, he feels aggrieved, humiliated, and degraded, at seeing the constables who are junior to your petitioner promoted over his head.

17. Your petitioner would also respectfully draw your attention to the attached letter from the Bench of Magistrates at Colac, to the present Chief Commissioner, dated the 17th of September, 1880, marked D, and also the memo. of that officer marked E, dated the 30th September, 1880. Mr. Chomley writes, "To the Acting Chief Commissioner, I consider Sergeant Hall to be a highly intelligent, and efficient sub-officer, and well-deserving of the promotion for which he has been recommended by the Colac Bench of

L2161

M1665

P716

Edward Kelly
Patrick Quinn
James Quinn
Isaiah Wright
Alexander Gunn
William Bennett
James Murdock

John Clark
James Clark
Foster Clark

L1522

W1261

W2355

Magistrates, &c." Such being the opinion of the present and past Chief Commissioners, your petitioner cannot understand the injustice done him by the promotion of junior members of the force over him.

18. Your petitioner in leaving the Colac station in 1875, was presented with a purse of £80, and again when leaving in 1884, with £100 by the inhabitants, as an acknowledgment as to the efficient way he performed his duty in their opinion. When leaving the borough of Queenscliff in 1880, the Mayor and Borough Council presented him with an address, expressing approval of how he performed his duties for the years he was stationed there; when leaving the Colac district the magistrates expressed their opinion of him as contained in the newspaper account appended from the *Colac Herald*, dated 23rd December, 1884, to which your petitioner would respectfully draw your attention, marked G.

Copy appended,
May, 1880, and
marked F.

19. Your petitioner has had already to endure the humiliation of seeing all these men whose names are entered in the margin, promoted to sub-inspectors who are junior to him as constables, as well as others, and with any or all of which his record for efficiency, and hard and difficult police duty, years before some of them joined the service, will favourably compare.

Sub-Inspector	Thomas
do.	Deacy
do.	Swale
do.	Brown
do.	McKay
do.	O'Calligan
do.	Walsh

20. Your petitioner humbly trusts it will be observed that it is through no fault he finds with the present Chief Commissioner, from whom he humbly acknowledges he has received much kindness and consideration in his official capacity, for which your petitioner would be ungrateful if he was unmindful of, that he appeals for relief in this matter, but simply because your petitioner considers all his prospects are at an end through such an unjust and iniquitous regulation, together with the inducements held out to him to join the service, as well as the promises of the late Chief Commissioner, been broken.

21. Your petitioner is aware that the vacancies in the higher ranks of the service are so few, that if this illegal rule your petitioner has referred to, is still to be continued, he shall never get any further promotion, for the simple reason, if these five sergeants who are on the list are promoted over him, in the natural course of events, there will not be so many vacancies for the next six years, by which time your petitioner will be fifty-five years of age, and then will be told he is too old for further advancement, to obviate such an injustice and to prevent your petitioner from being deprived of that position he has labored, he might say a lifetime to earn, is another cause why he appeals humbly and respectfully to you, for justice in the matter.

22. Your petitioner is aware that all the officers are appointed by the Governor in Council under the 4th section of Act 476, on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner, your petitioner, therefore, approaches you humbly and respectfully as Ministerial Head of the Police Department, as he differs with the greatest deference, from the view taken of the regulation in question by the present Chief Commissioner, as framed and brought into practice by one of his predecessors.

23. Your petitioner further humbly prays that the Chief Commissioner, who he begs, may be pleased to present this petition to you, will be kind enough to attach hereto a copy of the entries every officer your petitioner has served under, many of whom are now deceased, has made on your petitioner's record sheet for your information, and to which I would respectfully draw your attention.

24. Your petitioner, now having spent the best years of his life in the service, honestly, faithfully, and acknowledged by all efficiently performing the duties of his office, to the satisfaction of his superiors and the public, prayeth you may be pleased to observe that the promise made to him by the late Chief Commissioner in 1872, to give him the first vacancy that would occur for the rank of a Sergeant, instead of the reward of £10, your petitioner was recommended for by the late Superintendent Barclay (see Paragraph in this petition numbered 15), has been broken, and now in justice and equity your petitioner humbly begs you will be pleased to do him the justice to place him at the head of the list, which would give him the right to the first vacancy for a Sub-Inspectorship that may occur, which position he would have long since have occupied had the department kept faith with him, by keeping their promises made to him for the services he performed at Greta and elsewhere, together with the other reasons mentioned in this petition, and for which in duty bound your petitioner will for ever pray.

EDWARD HALL, 569, Sergeant of Police.

[A]

Senior-Constable Hall,

Greta, 5th August, 1871.

Understanding that you are to leave the district on to-morrow, we, the undersigned, have called this meeting on behalf of the residents of this locality, for the purpose of tendering you our earnest and sincere thanks for the services you have rendered to the district while stationed here in the detection and prosecution of horse and cattle stealing, and for the praiseworthy manner in which you have acted generally.

We also beg your acceptance of the attached purse of sovereigns as a mark of the esteem in which you are held by the residents of this locality.

You have also our best wishes for your future welfare, and we hope the present expression of feeling will be to you an inducement to continue in the fearless execution of your duty, as you have hitherto done.

The following are the signatures of the Committee,

ANDREW CLARKE,
JOHN BRYSON,
HENRY ARNIGE,
LAWRENCE O'BRIEN,
JOHN WOODS,
THOMAS SMITH,
ROWLAND HUGHES.

[B]

Police Department, Superintendent's Office,
Kyneton, 12th January, 1886.

Referring to the Redesdale assault cases, a correct report of which appears in the *Observer* and *Guardian* newspapers of the 9th and 10th instants, I beg to make the following remarks:—

“There cannot be the least doubt but that the brutal and cowardly attack upon Hall was premeditated, and that resulted from the fact of his having a relative of McCauliffe's (one of the defendants) fined £10 by the Malmsbury court a few days previously.” *Vide* following extract taken from a letter of T. D. S. Heron, Esq., P.M., to me:—“There can be no doubt but the attack upon Hall is entirely the result of him having prosecuted Michael Garvey at this court last Thursday, for an assault committed under similar circumstances.

That Hall, notwithstanding he was alone and surrounded by an infuriated mob, secured his prisoner without even having recourse to his baton, thereby showing a leniency to the disorderly persons there assembled, that they but ill deserved. That Hall brought his cases into court in a most able manner, and stood six hours of a most searching and perplexing examination in a way that does him no small credit, and which obtained most flattering remarks from disinterested persons present, that his physical courage so severely tried, his command of temper in refraining from violence even in self-defence when in imminent danger of his life, the unmistakable ill-treatment experienced in the performance of his duty, his indefatigable zeal in bringing the offenders to justice, and his moral courage in giving evidence with calmness and decision when subject to unnecessary and annoying insinuations, should not in my opinion be allowed to pass unrewarded, and I therefore feel much pleasure in recommending him for a reward of £5 from the Police Reward Fund.

(Signed) R. GREEN, Superintendent.

[C.]

Colac, June 29th, 1883.

The Honorable Graham Berry, M.P., Chief Secretary, Melbourne.

SIR,

We, the magistrates of the Colac district, desire to bring under your notice the following facts in reference to Second-class Sergeant Hall, who has been stationed in this locality for some years.

Being impressed with the injustice done Sergeant Hall by junior members of the force being continually promoted over him, we, in November last, forwarded to the Royal Commission on Police the attached letter, and, as it contains many of our reasons for recommending him for advancement, we beg that you will be good enough to peruse the same.

Since then we have also ascertained that Sergeant Hall appealed to the Royal Commission on Police to have his claim, to be placed senior to those who were junior to him, but promoted over him since 1872, when he was promised by the late Chief Commissioner the first vacancy that would occur in the force, for the services he, Sergeant Hall, performed in the Greta district (known as the Kelly country) in the detection of horse and cattle stealing.

We further desire your attention to the printed evidence taken by the Royal Commission on Police, page 54, questions 1539 to 1547, and the papers therein referred to.

In conclusion, we trust that you will have Sergeant Hall promoted to the rank of first-class sergeant, which position he would now occupy had the promise of the late Chief Commissioner, made in 1872, been kept.

We have the honor to be Sir,

Your obedient servants,

ALEX. DENNIS, J.P.,
JOHN HAIMES, J.P.
E. COOPER, J.P.,
J. V. BARTLETT, J.P.,
C. L. FORREST, J.P.,
WILLIAM EDMUNSON, J.P.,
J. H. PRIME, J.P.,
JAMES F. STRACHAN, J.P.,
P. H. T. FISHER, J.P.,
ROBERT CALVERT, J.P.,
CHARLES BEAL, J.P.,
ELIJAH COULSTON, J.P.,
W. READ, J.P.,
JOHN HOOD, J.P.,
CHARLES BUCHANNAN, J.P.,
J. H. CONNOR, J.P.,
A. HAMILTON, J.P.,
D. THOMAS, J.P.

(D)

Colac, 17th September, 1880.

To Superintendent Chomley, Geelong.

SIR,

We, the magistrates in Petty Sessions, assembled at Colac this day, wish to bring under your notice (with the view of submitting this letter, with any remarks you may think proper to make, together with those of the Chief Commissioner, to the Honorable the Chief Secretary), that some years ago horse and cattle stealing was prevalent in this district, and an application was then made to the late Superintendent Bookey requesting that an efficient member of the force should be selected and transferred to this district for the purpose of putting it down. Ultimately Senior-constable Hall was transferred from the Ovens here for the purpose indicated. Soon after his arrival here he broke up a gang of cattle-stealers, by the conviction of three of them (all residents of this neighbourhood). Since then horse and cattle stealing has been practically extinct. After being about four years here, and during which time giving us every satisfaction, he was, for reasons which we know not of, been transferred to Queenscliff.

Crimes and offences again became prevalent (at least for the last twelve months), when, about four months ago, you saw fit to replace Senior-constable Flahive by Senior-constable Hall, who was transferred here from Queenscliff. Since his arrival he has brought many cases before the Bench, and conducted them in such a way as to give us every satisfaction. We may add that for some time past robberies from stores, dwellings, offices, &c., have been most prevalent here; also several attempts were made, which fortunately were not successful.

It is with much pleasure we now have to state that, owing to the efficiency and energy displayed by the Senior-constable, this gang of burglars (nine in all) have been brought to justice. This result is not only highly satisfactory to us as the local magistrates, but it has also effected in the public mind the restoration of that confidence in the efficiency of the police force which, in our opinion, is most desirable should always exist.

Taking into consideration that Senior-constable Hall has been nearly twenty-three years in the police force, and further for the reasons stated in the foregoing, we beg to recommend that the Chief Secretary may be pleased to have him promoted to the rank of sergeant, second class.

We need hardly point out that not only for the reasons given we recommend his promotion, but we would respectfully urge that this is a most important district, and frequently the senior-constable has most onerous duties to perform at this court.

We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

CHARLES BEAL, J.P.,

ALEXANDER DENNIS, J.P.,

ADAM REED, J.P.,

EDMOND COOPER, J.P.,

We believe every word of the above statement would be borne out by the Stipendiary Magistrate, T. D. S. Heron, Esq., if referred to.

E. COOPER, J.P.,

On behalf and by consent of the above.

[E]

Police Department, Superintendent's Office,
Geelong, 20th September, 1880.

The accompanying letter is forwarded for the information and favorable consideration of the Acting-Chief Commissioner of Police.

I consider Senior-constable Hall to be a highly intelligent and efficient sub-officer, and well deserving of the promotion for which he is recommended by the Colac Bench of Magistrates.

(Signed) H. M. CHOMLEY, Superintendent.

The Acting-Chief Commissioner, Melbourne.

[F]

Town Hall, Borough of Queenscliff.

To Senior-constable Hall, Colac.

We, the Mayor and Councillors of the Borough of Queenscliff, take this mode of expressing our regret at your departure from amongst us, and, at the same time, of congratulating you on your promotion to the charge of such an important station as Colac.

We willingly testify to the ability and energy displayed by you on all occasions, as well as to the strict and impartial manner in which you discharged your duties during the time you were stationed here, and we wish you and Mrs. Hall every prosperity.

THOMAS STONEMAN, Mayor.
ROBERT GORDON, Town Clerk.

May, 1880.

[G]

PRESENTATION TO SERGEANT HALL.

[Extract from the "Colac Herald," 23rd December, 1884.]

Some two months ago, when Sergeant Hall, of Colac, was promoted to the charge of Ballarat East, a number of his friends and well-wishers decided to present him with a purse of sovereigns as a mark of their appreciation of the manner in which he fulfilled his duties during his long residence in the district. Directly a move was made in the matter, subscriptions poured in from all sides, and within a very short time a sum of over £100 was subscribed towards the testimonial, which it was decided should take the form

of a purse of sovereigns and an illuminated address. Friday last was the day fixed upon for the presentation, and immediately on the conclusion of the court business, no less than ten magistrates took their seat on the Bench, including Mr. Heron, P.M., Mr. W. Robertson, M.P., Captain Haines, Dr. Hood, Messrs. Beal, Buchannan, Dennis, Coulston, Hamilton, and Read. Mr. J. H. Connor, M.P. for Geelong, was unavoidably absent, and an apology for him was tendered by Mr. Heron, the chairman of the Bench. The gathering was a most representative one, and included the oldest magistrates and leading representative gentlemen in the district; Mr. Beal coming all the way from Lorne to be present on the occasion, and several other gentlemen also came long distances.

Mr. Heron, who was deputed to make the presentation on behalf of the subscribers, said he had been asked by his brother magistrates and other gentlemen to preside on that occasion, and he did so with much pleasure. He had known Sergeant Hall as a police officer for very many years, and whenever brought into contact with him in the discharge of their respective professional duties, he had always found him an active, intelligent, and zealous officer, always doing his duty in an honest, painstaking, and straightforward manner, sparing neither trouble, toil, nor time in the proper fulfilment of his work, and bringing cases perfectly prepared into court. In cases of extreme distress he has done his utmost—by affording personal relief to the sufferers, and in bringing their wants under the notice of the charitable. As there were a number of magistrates present, who had for many years past occupied seats upon the Bench, and who might like to say a few words upon that occasion, he would not further occupy their time, but would ask Mr. Lloyd to read the address.

The address was read as follows:—

“We, the magistrates and residents in the Colac district, in the colony of Victoria, desire to express herein our esteem and regard for you, also our thorough appreciation of your conduct, and the manner in which you performed your duties as a police officer during the years you were stationed in the said district. In presenting you with this tribute of respect with the accompanying *souvenir*, we would likewise congratulate you on your promotion to a more extended sphere of usefulness. Judging from the past, we have every confidence in anticipating for you a successful and prosperous career in the future.—With best wishes, we are, dear sir, &c.

The address, which was signed by the magistrates present, as well as by a number of leading gentlemen resident in the district, was then handed to Sergeant Hall, together with a purse containing 100 sovereigns, by Mr. Heron, who expressed a hope that health and happiness would attend him wherever he went.

Mr. Dennis said that he could thoroughly endorse every word Mr. Heron had said, and he congratulated Sergeant Hall upon his well-deserved promotion. During the twelve or thirteen years Sergeant Hall had been in charge of this district he carried out his duties in such an efficient manner as to merit the approbation of all classes of the community. He (the speaker) had been a magistrate for 39 years, and throughout that period many police officers who had been in charge of this district, but not one of them carried out his duties in the efficient manner as Sergeant Hall had done.

Mr. Chas. Beal also bore testimony to the zeal and ability displayed by Sergeant Hall at all times in the execution of his duty. Both Mr. Heron and Mr. Dennis had so fully alluded to the character of Sergeant Hall, that there was little for him to add. He had come from Lorne to be present at the court that day, and he could say that the district had lost the services of a valued officer in Sergeant Hall. His promotion was truly merited, and he hoped that ere long he would be raised to the rank of superintendent.

Mr. White, as a member of the legal profession, said that during the three or four years he had practised in that court, he could testify to the earnestness and ability which characterised Sergeant Hall in the discharge of his duty. There were few police officers he knew who could conduct common law cases in the same manner as the sergeant, and he was a most redoubtable antagonist.

City Police Station, Ballarat, 7th September, 1887.

The following are extracts from the record left by the different officers under whom Sergeant Hall has served for the last twenty-nine years and a half, as their opinion of him, as well as a record of rewards granted to him from the Police Reward Fund, for efficiency, zealousness and ability in detecting and prosecuting to conviction criminals, &c., &c.

An intelligent, active and zealous Constable. Transferred to Beechworth.
27/5/67. F. HARE, Superintendent.

Allowed by the Chief Commissioner to receive Ten pounds from H. N. Simson, Esq., in acknowledgment of his services in the arrest of Hoysted, charged with abduction.
Beechworth, 11/1/68. F. E. LANGLEY, Superintendent.

A smart, intelligent, non-commissioned officer.
Beechworth, 3/1/69. L. KABAT, Superintendent.

Senior-constable Hall is acting in an efficient manner. He is a most intelligent non-commissioned officer.
Beechworth, 15/5/69. B. T. WILSON, Superintendent.

Credit is due to Senior-constable Hall for obtaining and properly using information, whereby Matthew Barnett was convicted of cattle stealing at Beechworth Circuit Court, 25th April, 1871.
Beechworth, 23/5/71. HUGH ROSS BARCLAY, Superintendent.

Five pounds reward granted to Senior-constable Hall by the Chief Commissioner, for the arrest and conviction of a number of horse thieves at Greta, viz.—J. Wright, E. Kelly, and A. Gunn.
Beechworth, 11/8/71. HUGH ROSS BARCLAY, Superintendent.

The sum of Five pounds has been awarded to Constable Hall from the Police Reward Fund, in acknowledgment of his skill in discovering an illegal still at the Green Hills, and the arrest of David Matsin for having illicit spirits concealed on his premises.
Kyneton, 19/11/64. R. GREEN, Superintendent.

Very active and zealous in the detection and conviction of crime, requires ballast. Transferred to Geelong.
Beechworth, 9/3/72. HUGH ROSS BARCLAY, Superintendent.

An intelligent and active constable, well fitted for dangerous police duty, but in my opinion too confident in his own construction of the Victorian Statutes, which might lead to consequences otherwise unlikely to occur.
Beechworth, 10/3/70. T. B. WILSON, Superintendent.

The sum of Three pounds has been awarded to Constable Hall from the Police Reward Fund, in acknowledgment of his skill and attention shown in the prosecution of two persons for sly-grog selling.
Kyneton, 18/2/65. R. GREEN, Superintendent.

Three pounds has been awarded to Constable Hall from the Police Reward Fund in acknowledgement of his preserving pursuit of John Perron, recently sentenced to two years hard labour for horse stealing.
Kyneton, 9/9/65. R. GREEN, Superintendent.

I have had little further experience of Senior-constable Hall since my record dated 10th March, 1870. I still consider him very smart and intelligent.
Beechworth, 8th March. B. T. WILSON, Superintendent.

Two pounds gratuity awarded to Senior-constable Hall for arrest of Sullivan, Young, and Egan, for rioting and assaulting the police, 6th May, 1869.
Beechworth, 15/5/69. B. T. WILSON, Superintendent.

I consider Senior-constable Hall the most intelligent sub-officer in the service.
Geelong, 16/11/82. A. BEAVER, Inspector.

I have recommended Senior-constable Hall for promotion; I have known him for sixteen years; I consider him a highly intelligent, zealous, and active non-commissioned officer in every respect, worthy of a speedy advancement in the service.
Geelong, 8/1/83. L. KABAT, Superintendent.

Five pounds have been awarded Constable Hall from the Police Reward Fund in acknowledgment of his vigilance shown in the detection and conviction of John McCauliffe, George Sefton, and Patrick Conway, for illegally slaughtering.
Kyneton, 12/9/64. R. GREEN, Superintendent.

A good efficient Senior-constable, and most active in the performance of his duties.
Geelong, 9/3/72. P. LE P. BOOKEY, Superintendent.

Three pounds awarded Senior-Constable Hall in acknowledgment of his services in the arrest and prosecution of Martha Everett for stealing from a dwelling at Colac.
Geelong, 21/4/73. F. A. WINCH, Superintendent.

An exceedingly active, zealous, and intelligent non-commissioned officer.
Geelong, 27/8/73. F. A. WINCH, Superintendent.

Awarded £5 from the Police Reward Fund for his services in the prosecution of Foster Clark for cattle stealing.
Geelong, 31/10/73. S. T. FURNELL, Superintendent.

The sum of Five pounds has been awarded to Constable Hall from the Police Reward Fund for his courage and ability in arresting under circumstances of difficulty and danger, one McGrath, who with several others he prosecuted to conviction for assaulting him when in the performance of his duties.
20/6/66. R. GREEN, Superintendent.

Two pounds rewarded to Constable Hall from the Police Reward Fund in acknowledgment of his services in the arrest and prosecution of William Smith, alias Faricus, sentenced to ten years on several charges of indecent assault.

Beechworth, 22/6/67.

H. DOWNING, Sub-Inspector.

The sum of One pound ten shillings has been awarded to Senior-constable Hall, 569, in acknowledgment of his services in prosecuting A. D. Quadrid, for offences against Act No. 227.

Beechworth, 18/7/67.

H. DOWNING, Sub-Inspector.

I have a very high opinion of this man's activity and ability; transferred to Benalla.
Depôt, 18/5/70.

F. HARE, Superintendent.

I think Senior-constable Hall should have been promoted long since, and am also of opinion the Chief Commissioner would have promoted him had there been an opportunity of doing so. Senior-constable Hall is active, zealous, and efficient, with more than ordinary ability.

Geelong, 26/6/1876.

S. T. FURNELL, Superintendent.

The Colac Bench of Magistrates strongly recommended Senior-constable Hall for promotion on account of his length of service, general efficiency, and for the energy displayed by him in the arrest and conviction of a gang of thieves, nine in all. This entry is made by direction of the Chief Commissioner of Police, N. 9163.

28/9/80.

H. M. CHOMLEY, Superintendent.

Recommended for promotion to the rank of a second-class sergeant.
10/9/81.

E. B. RYALL, Inspector.

I repeat my above recommendation for promotion.
1/2/82.

E. B. RYALL, Inspector.

Commendation expressed by the Colac Bench of tact displayed by Senior-constable Hall in the arrest and prosecution of J. Thompson and J. Ryan, charged with stealing a watch from Mr. Wood of Ondit, and sentenced to twelve months hard labour.

24/2/82.

E. B. RYALL, Inspector, Geelong.

A most zealous, competent, and intelligent sub-officer.
11/3/82.

H. M. CHOMLEY, Chief Commissioner of Police, Late Superintendent.

I concur in the above entry. I have a very high opinion of this sub-officer.
Geelong, 20/4/82.

E. B. RYALL, Superintendent.

A very active, intelligent sub-officer, and should, in my opinion, be placed in charge of a more important police station than Colac, when a vacancy occurs in the district.

7/9/82.

W. R. NICHOLLS, Superintendent.

Commended for courage and zeal in the arrest of John Moreton, alias Fiery, sentenced to three years hard labour with twenty lashes, for assault and robbery.

13/3/85.

E. B. RYALL, Superintendent.

Recommended for promotion.
7/1/85.

E. B. RYALL, Superintendent.

Recommended for promotion.
11/7/85.

E. B. RYALL, Superintendent.

Passed examination for rank of officer.
Ballarat, 24/9/85.

HENRY S. PALMER, Superintendent.

Again recommended for promotion to first-class sergeant in half-yearly return.
15/1/86.

HENRY S. PALMER, Superintendent.