

James Dixon JENKINS (1844-1895)

School List of Nelson College 1856-1956 4th Edition (1956)

1857-1858 James Jenkins. Did missionary work among the Maoris, took a party of Maories to England and was presented to Queen Victoria. Died at Wellington, 1887.

Grey River Argus 24 Jun 1871

A young man, named Jas. Jenkins, formerly at Crogan's stables, Greymouth, and recently with Mr A. Lardi, Totara Flat, had his leg fractured by a log falling on it at Redman's Creek, Lower Inangahua, on the 20th inst. The sufferer was conveyed to the landing, and thence forwarded by boat to Westport on Thursday.

Nelson Evening Mail 29 Jun 1871

A patient was received into the Westport Hospital on Saturday, having been accidentally injured at the Inangahua. The man is named James Jenkins, and is a native of Nelson. While wrestling on Sunday week last at Redmond's Creek, he fell and broke his leg.

Nelson Examiner and New Zealand Chronicle 1 Jul 1871

James Jenkins, of Nelson, whilst wrestling on Sunday, the 18th ultimo, at the Inangahua, fell and broke his leg.

Greymouth Civil Record Book - Archives NZ Christchurch Reference CAIF Accession 860 Item 283

Plaint No. 209 dated 20 May 1879, Plaintiff: Frederick Reyling, Defendant: James Jenkins, Amount of Claim: £2 15s, Summons issued 5 Jun 1879
Decision: Judgment ... defendant? £2 15s & costs 5s

Greymouth Civil Record Book - Archives NZ Christchurch Reference CAIF Accession 860 Item 283

Plaint No. 242 dated 17 Jun 1879, Plaintiff: Frederick Reyling, Defendant: James Jenkins, Greymouth, Amount of Claim: £3, Judgment summons
Plaint 209 dated 20 May 1879, Decision: Withdrawn

Grey River Argus 22 Oct 1879 Breaches of Borough Bye Laws

Samuel Ainsworth and James Jenkins were charged with driving 32 head of cattle through the streets, the same being a contravention of the Borough Bye Laws. – Jenkins pleaded guilty. – Mr Girdwood stated that he employed both defendants, and that he had obtained permission from Inspector Hickson to drive the cattle on the west side of Boundary street to the stockyards. As soon as the cattle were landed they paid wharfage dues, and as soon as that was done the cattle came under the cognizance of the police, as it was impossible to land cattle in Greymouth without infringing the Borough Bye-Laws. – Inspector Feast said he had nothing to do with any permission granted by Inspector Hickson; all the police had to do was to carry out the law as they found it. – Mr Girdwood said no notice would have been taken of the matter but for the officiousness of a certain individual. – His Worship admitted it was a hard case, and suggested that the Bye-Laws should be altered. No doubt they were framed wisely for the protection of life, as cattle were often very wild. The police were bound to carry out the Bye-Laws, or else they would subject themselves to complaint. He would fine the defendants 1s per head and costs. – H. Russell, for driving 13 head of cattle through the streets was fined 13s and costs.

1881 Grey Valley Supplementary Electoral Roll

James Jenkins, residential, Greymouth, waggoner

1881 Greymouth Electoral Roll

James Jenkins, Waggoner, Greymouth

1885-1886 Greymouth Electoral Roll

James Jenkins, Waggoner, Greymouth

1890 Greymouth Electoral Roll

James Jenkins, Waggoner, Greymouth

Inangahua Times 09 May 1892 Local and General

The mail coach, on its up journey came by a serious accident in attempting to cross the Landing Creek, near Messrs Bryan Bros sawmill, on Saturday. The stream was in a flooded state, but the driver, Mr Jones, did not consider it too high to prevent him from crossing. When in about mid-stream the current carried the coach away until it was caught in a barbed wire fence which is suspended from bank to bank. The horses, however, plunged violently, and this, combined with the force of the water, proved too much for the wires which soon snapped. The horses then managed to break the harness and scramble to the bank. The driver stuck to his place all the time, and there was imminent danger of his drowning, but when the horses broke away from the coach, a rope was thrown to him, and he was thus got ashore. There were eight passengers including a lady, in the coach besides the driver, but these all got out before the coach entered the stream, and crossed by the footbridge. Fears were entertained at the time that the mails were irrecoverably lost, but Mr Jones at once dispatched a man to the Landing, and the bags, with the exception of that from the Inangahua Junction, were picked up. **Mr James Jenkins** went to the Landing and conveyed them to Reefton yesterday. The under-carriage and wheels of the coach were also found, but the remainder is lost. Had all the passengers been in the coach the accident would probably have been attended with fatal results. It is bad enough, however, to show the need for a bridge across the stream in question. This is only one of several unbridged streams on the Westport road, and that such is the case is nothing short of disgraceful.

1892-1893 Wises Post Office Directory

John Mitchell, Royal mail line coaches between Greymouth & Reefton

1893 Inangahua Electoral Roll

James Jenkins, carrier, Reefton

West Coast Times 01 May 1893

We (Inangahua Times) are sorry to hear that Mr Jenkins, the popular driver of Mitchell's coach on the Westport road, met with a severe accident yesterday at the Junction. He was looking after some luggage when something started the horses in his coach, and as he rushed to regain his seat he was thrown under the vehicle, and the wheels went over him. Mr Dickson, who brought the coach into town, says that the wheels went over both legs and up the thigh and that it is a wonder he was not killed instantly. As soon as news of the accident was known in town a conveyance was dispatched to the Junction to bring the injured man in to the Hospital, and had not returned at an early hour this morning, owing probably to the slow progress it would have to make.

Otago Witness 11 May 1893 Our West Coast Letter – and Otago Daily Times 13 May 1893 Our West Coast Letter

Mr Jenkins, coach driver on the Westport road, was severely injured last Thursday by the coach wheels passing over both legs, and the wonder is that he was not killed. He is now being treated at the Greymouth Hospital.

Grey River Argus 29 Dec 1893

Mr Jenkins, the well-known coach driver, was seized with a paralytic stroke at Belgrove the other day, and was taken to the Nelson Hospital.

Inangahua Times 13 Mar 1894 Local and General

Mr Jenkins, mail coach driver is now ill in the Westland Hospital.

Inangahua Times 20 Mar 1894 Local and General

The Westport News states that Mr Jenkins, driver of Mitchell's coach, has so far recovered that he has left the Hospital.

Inangahua Times 07 Apr 1894 Reefton Hospital

Subscriptions and donations received during the Quarter ending March 31st 1894... J. Jenkins £1.

Coroner's Inquest 1st August 1895 – Archives NZ Wellington Reference J46: COR 1895/576

Colony of New Zealand to Wit: Informations of Witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, touching the death of James Jenkins at Mount View Asylum in the Provincial District of Wellington in the colony above mentioned on Thursday, the first day of April, one thousand eight hundred and ninety five before James Ashcroft one of the Coroners for the said colony, on an Inquisition then and there taken on view of the body of James Jenkins then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit:-

Ernest Edward Fooks being sworn that "*I am Medical Superintendent of Mount View Asylum. The deceased James Jenkins was admitted to the Asylum on 10 May 1895 from Eltham on the warrant of S. H. James & Hugh J. C. Coutts JPs at Stratford on the Certificate of Dr Harrisons & Paget. He was in rather weak physical condition when received with symptoms of degeneration of the brain & mentally he was demented, for the fact for days he took his first ... & was able to get about but about the end of May he had a series of Convulsions after which he was very weak and suffered from paralysis of the bladder which required frequent medical attention. He improved so far as to be able to get up for an hour or two each day when the weather was good. He kept in much the same condition until about three weeks ago when he had another attack of convulsions. I thought he was dying and telegraphed to his brother at Eltham but got no answer. He then got a little better but for the last fortnight he has been confined to bed partly on account of his weakness & partly because of the coldness of the weather. He took his ... & had special diet ... the last two days when he had some difficulty in swallowing but took a fair quantity of milk & some whisky. I last saw him at midnight last night. His death at 9.30 this morning was immediately reported to me. The cause of death was suffering of the brain due to degeneration of the arteries. He had been a Coach driver. His age was 52 & he was not married. He was on the West Coast line S. Island.*"

Robert August Heise being sworn saith "*I am day attendant at Mount View Asylum. I knew the deceased some years ago when he was Coach driving on West Coast he was not very temperate. I have been in attendance on him since he came to the Asylum his mind was quite gone & he appeared to have no memory. He was at times ... but not violent. He took his food well except when he had two fits of Convulsions. He ... enough food to sustain life & got extra diet. He died in my presence at 9.30 this morning quietly. He had had two or three spoonfuls of milk & egg, 1¾ ... but had great difficulty in swallowing. Dr Fooks attended to him constantly & the relief of the bladder was attended to when required.*"

In pursuance of a warrant under the hand and seal of James Ashcroft Esq., Coroner I have duly summoned and named the following good and lawful men to serve upon the said inquest – Lawrence Carroll, Constable.

Louis Morris, Jeremiah Nash, John Mildenhall, William Davis, William Miles, William Jounnax

Conclusion: James Jenkins came to his death – *“that he being a Lunatic patient at Mount View Asylum did there die on the first day of August [1895] from suffering of the brain the result of degeneration of the arteries.*

Evening Post 2 Aug 1895

The Coroner held an inquest yesterday afternoon on the body of James Jenkins, formerly a coach-driver on the West Coast of the South Island, who died in Mount View Asylum yesterday morning. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, viz., that death resulted from degeneration of the arteries of the brain. Mr J. Nash was the foreman.

Inangahua Times 7 Aug 1895 Local and General

James Jenkins, a coach driver, died in the Mount View Lunatic Asylum, Wellington, last week, from degeneration of the arteries of the brain. Deceased was a single man, was admitted to the Asylum from Eltham in May last. He was formerly driving on the Westport Reefton road and was also driving a wagon on the Greymouth road for many years. Jimmy was a quiet inoffensive man, and his death will be regretted by many.

Grey River Argus 8 Aug 1895

James Jenkins, a coach driver, died in the Mount View Lunatic Asylum, Wellington last week from degeneration of the arteries of the brain. Deceased, who was a single man, was admitted to the asylum from Eltham in May last. He was formerly driving on the Westport-Reefton road.