

Edward Charles MEREDITH

Wanganui Herald 28 Sep 1872 Marriage

On the 26th Sept., at Carlyle, by Rev E. B. Nevill, Edward Charles Meredith to Clara Elizabeth, fifth daughter of the late Wm. Jenkins, Esq. Both of Patea. Nelson paper please copy.

Wanganui Herald 21 Feb 1873 Advertisement

Patea Races 1873. The above races will be held at Carlyle, on March 17th (St Patrick's Day), 1873. E. C. Meredith, Secretary and Treasurer. Jan 25, 1873.

Evening Post 27 Jun 1873

Mr G.W. Pauling has been appointed clerk in the Land Transfer and Deed Registry Office, Wellington; and Mr E. C. Meredith, clerk of the Resident Magistrate's Court, at Upper Wanganui.

Wanganui Herald 30 Jun 1873

Edward Charles Meredith has been gazetted Clerk of the Resident Magistrate's Court at Wanganui.

Wanganui Chronicle 03 Mar 1874 Local and General News – Rifle Association

A special meeting of the above Association was held at the Masonic Hall last evening for the purpose of presenting the prizes that were won at the recent competition, by the members of the Association. The President took the Chair, supported on the right by Mrs Edwards, who kindly consented and ably presented the prizes to the respective winners. On the platform were the Vice-president, the hon. Secretary, the Treasurer, Major Edwards, and a few others. The President opened the proceedings by a few appropriate words and then introduced Mrs Edwards, who at once entered upon her duties. The first called upon to receive a prize was Mr James Purnell, who, not being present, was represented by Mr J. G. Woon, who allowed the Rifle Association medal to be pinned upon his breast instead of Mr Purnell, the winner. Mr Walter Armstrong, the lucky winner of the handsome Silver Cup, as highest aggregate scorer, and some money prizes, was greatly cheered upon the receipt of his winnings. Mr Hugh Ross, the second highest aggregate scorer, and winner of the Vice-President's gold medal, and some other prizes, was next on the list. The next, Mr Geo. Blake of Patea, appeared by deputy, and received the highest amount of money prizes won at the meeting. The following were also money prize takers – Messrs Geo. Campbell, Geo. Walker, Thos. Mahoney, Walter H. Churton, Thos. D. Cummins, E. C. Meredith A.C., Alfred Reid, C. M. Gray, Geo. Slight, Jos. R. Sommerville. Mr T. Lloyd was the receiver of a gold and silver medal and money prizes. Mr S. H. Drew carried away the President's silver medal, while the President, Mr W. F. Russell, received the Militia officers medal. Considerable amusement was created upon Mr Joseph Chadwick returning from the platform with a full grown goose under his arm. The total amount of prizes presented was £98 4s. A vote of thanks to Mrs Edwards, gracefully acknowledged by Major Edwards, terminated the proceedings.

Wanganui Chronicle 28 Mar 1874 Licensing Act, 1873

In compliance with the 20th clause of the above Act, I hereby give notice that the Annual Licensing Court for the District of Patea will be holden at the Court House, Carlyle, at 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday, the 21st day of April, 1874, to take into consideration the undermentioned applicants: Publicans' Licenses: Robert Daniel, Albion Hotel, Carlyle; William Odgers, Australasian Hotel, Carlyle; H. J. Black, Masonic Hotel, Carlyle; Henry Usher, Carlyle Hotel, Carlyle; John Gibson, Kakaramea Hotel, Kakaramea; Peter Campbell, Manutahi Hotel, Manutahi; Thomas Quinlivan, Egmont Hotel, Hawera; Theodore Espagne, Hawera Hotel, Hawera. Bottle Licenses: Taplin and Muir, Patea; Taplin and Muir, Hawera; Felix McGuire, Patea; Felix McGuire, Ketemarae; C. E. Gibson, Ketemarae; James Southby, Ketemarae; John Gibson, Patea. Wholesale Licenses: William Furlong, Patea. E. C. Meredith, Clerk of Court, Carlyle. March 21.

Wanganui Chronicle 28 Mar 1874 Licensing Act, 1873

In compliance with the 20th clause of the above Act, I hereby give notice that the Annual Licensing Court for the District of Waitotara will be holden at the Court House, Carlyle, at 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday, the 21st day of April, 1874, to take into consideration the undermentioned applicants: Publicans' Licenses: E. J. Baynton, Whenuakura Hotel, Whenuakura; Christopher & Edwards, Wairoa Hotel, Wairoa; George Roberts, Settlers' Arms Hotel, Wairoa; J. Rapley, Waitotara Hotel, Waitotara. Wholesale Licenses: A. C. Fookes, Wairoa. E. C. Meredith, Clerk of Court, Carlyle. March 21.

Taranaki Herald 02 May 1874 The Late Fire at Patea (from our correspondent)

An inquest was held on Monday last, before Major Turner, Coroner, at the Court-house, Carlyle, to enquire into the cause of the fire at the Carlyle Hotel, on the previous Saturday morning. The following jury were then sworn:- W. Williams (foreman), W. Williams, E. D. Smith, J. Rhodes, J. Pakenham, F. J. Smith, R. Daniel, D. Hurley, W. Box, F. McCarthy, W. Odgers, P. Quinn.

The jury having viewed the site of the fire, E. C. Meredith, Sergeant Armed Constabulary, was duly sworn. On the morning of the 25th April, my wife woke me and told me McGuire's house was on fire. I got up and saw flames coming out at the south-east end – also the roof. I partly dressed, and then ran out and gave the alarm. The house was all in a blaze but one room – the one on the north-west side. Cross-examined by the jury: The fire occurred at about two a.m. I am not aware who was in charge of the house at that time. I believe no one was sleeping or living in the house. There was a very slight breeze. The fire was on the lee side of the house. Cross-examined by Mr McGuire: I made all enquiries. Cross-examined by the foreman: The next morning I was told by Mr S. Taplin that Mr McGuire was seen riding down from the country into Carlyle in the middle of the night, and that he was very likely hiding in his store. I also received information that between eleven and twelve that night that D. Sullivan got a cat. This Sullivan himself told me. He said he took the cat from Connelly's. I have also heard that a light was seen in the house at about nine or ten p.m. on the evening of the 24th. I enquired where Mr McGuire was, and his man told me he was at Hawera.

L. Bagot, Armed Constabulary, deposed: Soon after 2 a.m. on Saturday last, I was awake by the barking of a dog. I looked out of the window, and saw the glare of a fire. I called out, and said Dr Walker's house was on fire. I afterwards found it was the Carlyle Hotel. I ran out to the fire. There was no one there. In about a minute Mr Lett came up. He burst in one of the doors, and then asked if any one was inside. He went inside and passed out some furniture. The window opened at once when I pushed it, so it could not have been fastened.

James Lett, deposed: Between 2 and 3 a.m. on Saturday last, I was alarmed by a cry of "fire." I dressed and ran to the place, and, on getting there, I noticed that the fire had originated in the centre room, on the south end. I helped to get out the furniture. Cross-examined by the foreman: I was in charge of the house and furniture. I had the keys of the house. A person might get in without the key. I have seen Mr McGuire open the window. He could have gone through the window if he liked. I consider it quite possible for any one to get into the house, or that part where the fire originated. Mr McGuire was in an evening or two before the fire. About 8 or 8.30 p.m. he got the keys, matches, and candle. Some one was with him, but I do not know who. I have had great experience at fires. I do not know how the place took fire. In the room where I suppose the fire broke out there was a mattress made of New Zealand flax. It was cut down the centre. It was about two feet long. Mr McGuire was the last person I know of as being in the house. The furniture belonged to Mr Ussher, the former tenant.

E. Buckley, Armed Constabulary, deposed: I was aroused by the alarm of fire on the morning of the 25th April. I spread the alarm. I afterwards assisted in removing the furniture. I have since made enquiries of different people, so as to get any information I could respecting the origin of the fire, and from time to time report it to the Sergeant of Police. I, also with Sergeant Meredith, met Mr Taplin in Taranaki Road. He remarked that Mr McGuire was away, but that he (Mr Taplin) had heard that Mr McGuire was seen either going from or coming to town in the middle of the night of the fire. I remarked that Mr McGuire had not shown up. Mr Taplin answered that he might be in hiding. I do not know when Mr McGuire came back. I did not see him till Sunday morning. I consider Mr Taplin's remarks were quite as a matter of conversation. I went to bed at between 12 and half-past. I live very near to the house that was burnt. I have not seen any person prowling about there. I do not know whether the house was insured. I asked Mr McGuire, and he said he could not tell me.

Felix McGuire deposed: I am the owner of the house burnt; but have mortgaged it to a Building Society. When last in the house, I saw nothing particularly combustible. Mr H. Black was with me at the time. This was on Wednesday previous to the fire. The outside door at the back was not locked; any one could get in at that door. I am almost certain that the building is insured, but do not know. I believe it is insured for £300 – I do not know in what office. I do not know who valued the building. I do not know who set fire to the place. I am agent for a Building Society. I am also agent for the South British Insurance Company. I do not know whether it is insured in that office. I consider the building to be worth more than £300. I never offered the house to Dr Walker for £250.

Dennis Sullivan, deposed: I passed the Carlyle Hotel at between 11 and 12 o'clock on the 24th April. I was quite close to the house. I did not see any light. I examined the house and premises very closely. I did not see any one about, or anything to attract my attention.

H. J. Black deposed: I was in the Carlyle Hotel on the Wednesday evening previous to the fire. Mr McGuire was with me; it was about 7.30 p.m. In the rooms on the south side, there was nothing particularly noticeable, as combustible. We locked the doors generally. I do not know whether the back door was locked. Quin and Parker told me, on last Sunday, that they saw a light at the house about 10 p.m. on the 24th. By a juror: Mr McGuire was in every room in the house on the Wednesday, as well as me.

James Parker deposed: About 10.15 p.m., Quin and myself took a walk up Taranaki Road. We remarked at the time that there was a light in the Carlyle Hotel. This was on the evening of the 24th April. We did not take particular notice of it, as it was no business of ours; and we thought very little about it then, but after the fire we thought of it.

Samuel Taplin deposed: I know nothing about the fire. I heard at the Albion Hotel that Mr McGuire was back again; that he had come home in the night. I did not know anything about the matter. I told Meredith that I had heard so; also, that I had heard that Mr McGuire was possibly in his store. Mr Meredith said there was no doubt the place had been set on fire. He remarked that Mr McGuire was away. I then said that I had heard he was back. I did not say that Mr McGuire was in his store – I only said I had heard so. Cross-examined by Mr Meredith: I used the word “heard,” not “told.”

The jury then retired, and after an absence of about ten minutes returned with a verdict to the effect that the house was “wilfully set fire to by some person or persons unknown.”

Wanganui Chronicle 12 Apr 1875 Resident Magistrate's Court

Saturday, April 10, 1875 (before Major Edwards, R.M.) Civil: A. Beauchamp v. E. C. Meredith – Claim £49 3s 9d, dishonored acceptance. Judgment for plaintiff for the amount claimed.

Wanganui Chronicle 29 Apr 1875 Local and General News

Significant. The *denouement* of the case with which Major Edwards and the Clerk of the Court at Carlyle, Mr E. C. Meredith, were in some unprecedented form connected, is briefly told in the telegram published concerning it. The *rule nisi* previously obtained against Mr Meredith has been discharged by Judge Gillies with costs. His Honor having reflected rather severely upon the “muddled state” in which he found the affidavits, and the singular nature of the evidence which was adduced. Although Mr Meredith is the victor as regards the appeal, nevertheless the course which circumstances rendered it compulsory he should adopt, has entailed heavy expense upon him. But to defend his own position, and prove his status, this line of defence, at all risks, was absolutely necessary. The whole matter arose out of the loose bungling, and wholly unmethodical system adopted by the official, acting upon whose instructions, the Clerk of the Patea Court finds himself in this unenviable predicament, and this through no fault of his own. The suit has been most expensive and complicated throughout to all parties concerned, and the issue has been consistent with the anticipated results, as judged from a knowledge of the surrounding and actual circumstances. Now arises the question, what is the next course to be pursued by the original plaintiff, who still finds himself *minus* the amount to which he was legally entitled in the first instance, and also of the costs of the process which he instituted with a view to recover? We presume he will not let the matter rest, but will inaugurate fresh proceedings.

Patea Mail 14 Jul 1875 Public Notice

Persons interested in the Game of Football are requested to attend a meeting to be held at Odger's Hotel on Saturday evening next at 8pm. E. C. Meredith.

Patea Mail 21 Jul 1875

A committee of four were appointed consisting of Messrs Walker, Meredith, Tennent and Baggott, to ask those gentlemen interested in the game (of football) to meet on the ground for practice on Saturday afternoon next and there select the team to contest with the Wanganui Players.

Patea Mail 28 Jul 1875

The first football match of the season was held on Saturday afternoon last on the ground adjoining Major Turner's residence. Sides were chosen under the respective captaincy of Messrs Baggott and Meredith, the latter carrying off three goals out of four. The play was conducted in a satisfactory manner throughout.

Patea Mail 7 Aug 1875 Subscription List

In aid of the building of a Roman Catholic Church and Priest's residence in the township of Hawera. Captain Gundry £1 1s, Mr Meredith 10s, Dr Walker 10s, Mr Meredith 5s.

Patea Mail 18 Sep 1875

The following are the names of the players selected to play in the cricket match on Saturday next, at Carlyle, between the heavy and light weights of the club. Heavy weights: McKay (Capt)... Jenkins, Walker; Light weights: Frazer (Capt)... Meredith

Wanganui Chronicle 20 Jul 1876 Local and General News

Gazette Notices:- ... An intimation also appears as issuing from the Customs Department, announcing that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Edward Charles Meredith, Esq., Clerk in the Resident Magistrate's Court at Carlyle, to be a Licensing Officer under "The Arms Act, 1860."

Wanganui Chronicle 27 Jan 1877

Gazette appointments: His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Frederick Herman Clinton Stuart Baddeley to be Clerk at Carlyle of the District Court of Taranaki, Clerk of the Resident Magistrate's Court for the district of Upper Wanganui, and Clerk of the Licensing Courts for the districts of Waitotara and Patea, *vice* E. C. Meredith.

Wanganui Herald 12 Mar 1877

At the Patea Resident Magistrate's Court on Thursday last, E. C. Meredith surrendered to his bail, and appeared to answer three separate indictments charging him with the embezzlement of certain sums of money received by him as clerk to the Patea Resident Magistrate's Court, and which sums had not been handed over to the Public Trust Fund. Mr Fitzherbert appeared for the prosecution under instructions from the Attorney-General, and at the conclusion of the examination of several witnesses asked for a remand till Tuesday to enable him to obtain certain documents from Wellington. The remand was granted. Prisoner was allowed out on fresh bail, which was obtained.

Wanganui Herald 13 Mar 1877 Colonial Telegrams

(From our correspondent) Patea, March 13. E. C. Meredith was committed for trial at the next sittings of the Supreme Court at Taranaki. Bail was allowed in two sureties of £200 each.

Wanganui Chronicle 09 May 1877 Local and General

Sentenced – The jury have found E. C. Meredith, late of Patea, guilty of embezzlement. He has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment. The prisoner till now occupied a responsible position of trust at Patea, where he had family connections. The story of the case which has now thus sadly culminated has many painful aspects.

Taranaki Herald 25 Aug 1879 In Bankruptcy

In the District Court of Taranaki holden at Carlyle. In the matter of "The Debtors' and Creditors' Act, 1876" and of the Bankruptcy of Edward Charles Meredith, a Debtor. This is to notify that Edward Charles Meredith, of Waverley, Clerk, &c., has this day filed a statement that he is unable to meet his engagements with his Creditors. The First Meeting of Creditors will be held at the Court-house, Carlyle, on Monday, the 1st day of September, 1879, at 2 p.m. Dated this 18th day of August, 1879. F. C. Baddeley, Clerk District Court.

Wanganui Herald 09 Jan 1882 Hawera Rifle Volunteers

Tenders for the supply of about Eighty Uniforms for the above Corps will be received by Captain Bayly until 3 p.m. on the 18th January, 1882. Specifications can be seen at the Militia Office, Wanganui. E. C. Meredith, Secretary, H. R. V.

Hawera and Normanby Star 20 Feb 1882 I.O.O.F., M.U. – Loyal Union Lodge – Amalgamated Societies' Picnic

The Committee of the above Lodge are requested to attend at the Wesleyan Church, at 7.30 p.m. Tomorrow evening, to consider arrangements necessary to be made. Any one wishing to take part in the above are requested to attend. E. C. Meredith, Secretary.

Hawera and Normanby Star 13 Mar 1882

Mr E. C. Meredith has been appointed creditors' trustee in the estate of Smith Bros., bakers, of Normanby, and gives notice that all accounts due must be paid at once.

Hawera and Normanby Star 13 Mar 1882 Notice

In the matter of the Debtors and Creditors Act, 1876, and the amendments of the same, and in the matter of the Estate of Smith Brothers, of Normanby, Bakers. Take notice, that at a meeting of the creditors of the above-named debtors, held at Normanby on Saturday, the eleventh day of March, 1882, Mr A. J. Whittaker in the chair, it was decided to wind up the estate, and that I, Edward Charles Meredith, was duly appointed Creditors' Trustee (which office I have accepted). I further give notice that all accounts due to the said Estate must be paid to me forthwith. Dated this 13th day of March, 1882. E. C. Meredith, Trustee.

Hawera and Normanby Star 25 Mar 1882 Arrangements for First Elections, &c., Town District of Normanby, County of Hawera

Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington March 9, 1882. His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Edward Charles Meredith, Esq., to be the Returning Officer to conduct the first election of five Commissioners for the Town District of Normanby, as constituted under "The Town Districts Act, 1881;" also to appoint Wednesday, the 12th April 1882 as the time, and the Town Hall, Normanby, as the place, at which such first

elections shall be held; also to appoint Saturday, the 15th April, 1882, at noon, at the said Town Hall, Normanby, to be the time and place for the first meeting of the Commissioners. Thomas Dick.

Hawera and Normanby Star 10 Apr 1882 Normanby Town District

I, Edward Charles Meredith, hereby declare that Charles Henry Beresford, William Lilly England, Charles Edmond Gibson, William Large Gibson, John Miller, Charles Quin, William Rowe, John Treweek the younger, Joseph Wilson have been duly nominated for the office of Commissioner for the Normanby Town District, and that owing to the nominations being more than the number required, a Poll will be taken at the Town Hall, Normanby, on the twelfth day of April 1882 in accordance with the Act. E. C. Meredith, Returning Officer.

Hawera and Normanby Star 12 Apr 1882 News and Notes

The Normanby Town Board election is proceeding to-day at the Town Hall, Mr E. C. Meredith acting as returning officer. The poll opened at 9 a.m. and will close at 6 p.m. The first meeting of the newly elected Commissioners will be held on Saturday next.

Hawera and Normanby Star 07 Jun 1882 News and Notes

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Loyal Union Lodge, M.U., I.O.O.F., took place on Monday evening. N. G. Bro. M. D. King presided. Correspondence was read from the Provincial Corresponding Secretary of the New Plymouth District, Bro. Bellringer, also a copy of the minutes, report and balance-sheet of the last quarterly meeting, which was received and adopted. Bro. E. C. Meredith having resigned his position of secretary to the lodge, V. G. Bro. Broadribb kindly consented to act in that capacity until a secretary was elected...

Hawera and Normanby Star 11 Jun 1884 News and Notes

A sitting of the Police Court was held at the Courthouse this morning, before Messrs Bate, Livingstone, and Finlayson, JPs. For neglecting to pay the registration fee for his dog, Armand Delamalle was fined 1s, with costs 7s, and to pay the registration fee. In the following cases, for a similar offence, a fine of 1s with costs was imposed, the defendant to pay the registration fee: Eugene Keppel, one dog; Whaipaua, three dogs; and Edward C. Meredith, one dog.

Hawera and Normanby Star 18 Aug 1882 In the District Court of Taranaki, holden at Hawera – In Bankruptcy

In the matter of the Estate of Messrs Smith Brothers, late of Normanby, bakers. I, the undersigned, Trustee in the above Estate, hereby appoint Mr Samuel Gray, of Normanby, my agent, and all accounts must be paid to him, when his receipt will be a sufficient discharge. E. C. Meredith, Trustee.

Hawera and Normanby Star 04 Jan 1883 Hawera Rifle Volunteers

A General meeting of the above Corps will be held in the Drill-hall, on Friday evening, the 5th January, 1883 at eight o'clock. Business – To consider new Volunteer Regulations. E.C. Meredith, Sec. H.R.V.

Hawera and Normanby Star 20 Jan 1883 Hawera Rifle Volunteers

Notice is hereby given that all Arms and Accoutrements on issue to the members of the above Corps must be returned on or before the 27th January 1883. All arms, &c., not returned by that date will be sued for without further notice. A member of the Committee will attend at the Drill-hall from 7 to 8 p.m. during the whole of next week to receive arms and accoutrements. By order. E. C. Meredith, Secretary and Color-Sergeant. January 20, 1883.

Hawera and Normanby Star 16 May 1883 Hawera Rifles

Members of the above Corps are requested to meet in Borough Council Chambers on Saturday, at 7.30 p.m. Business: To receive statement of accounts. E. Kempthorne, W. A. Parkinson, E. C. Meredith, Members of Committee.

Taranaki Herald 21 Jan 1885 This Day

Wednesday, January 21 – Before His Honor Mr District Judge Rawson. ... E. C. Meredith deposed: I was at Hellier's on the 16th October, and picked up the Hawera Star with the advertisement about the lost money. I asked Hellier if he really thought Wallis had lost the money, and he said "No, Mrs Wallis must have taken it when she took the jewellery." In further conversation he said Mrs Wallis went back to the room after throwing the jewellery on the table and came back with Wallis' coat on her arm...

Hawera and Normanby Star 29 Jun 1885 Normanby Town District

Notice is hereby given that it is proposed to levy a rate of ½d in the pound (payable at the office of the Board on the 14th day of August, 1885) on all rateable property situate in the Normanby Town District, for the year 1885-86, and that a Special Meeting of the Board will be held at the Board's Office, at Normanby, at 7.30 p.m. on the 14th day of July, 1885, for the purpose of confirming the said rate; and that the rate-book can be inspected at the store of Mr W. L. England at Normanby. Dated this 27th day of June, 1885. E. C. Meredith, Town Clerk.

Hawera and Normanby Star 31 Jul 1885 Notice

This is to give notice that the partnership hitherto subsisting between John Treweek, jun., and Edward Stuart, of Normanby, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. Dated at Normanby, this 31st day of July, 1885. Witness: E. C. Meredith.

Hawera and Normanby Star 14 Aug 1885 Normanby Town Board – Fencing

Tenders will be received by the Normanby Town Board up to 7 p.m. on the 15th August, for the erection of 20 chains (more or less) of fencing round Waihi Cemetery. Specifications can be seen at Mr England's store, Normanby, and at Mr Gibson's store, Hawera. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. E. C. Meredith, Town Clerk.

Hawera and Normanby Star 17 Aug 1885 Normanby Town Board

Notice is hereby given that Sub-section No.6 of Section No.45, Patea District, having been acquired by the Normanby Town Board for the purposes of a Cemetery, the said Board hereby declare the same to be dedicated and open as a Cemetery, in accordance with the Cemetery Act, 1882. Dated at Normanby, this 14th day of August, 1885. (Signed) James Morrison, Chairman Normanby Town Board, E. C. Meredith, Town Clerk.

Hawera and Normanby Star 21 Jan 1886 Normanby Town District

The Dog Tax for the year 1886 will be seven shillings and sixpence per dog. E. C. Meredith, Town Clerk.

Hawera and Normanby Star 18 Feb 1886 Hawera Resident Magistrate's Court

(Before C. A. Wray, Esq., R.M.) Wednesday, February 17, 1885. Impounding dispute. Edwin Charles Meredith was charged, on the information of Francis Job Gane, with having on Sunday morning last driven off from a certain section at Normanby, occupied by plaintiff, two head of cattle also his property. Mr Gane conducted his own case; Mr Barton appeared for Mr Meredith. The case for the plaintiff was to the effect that on Sunday, having heard that defendant was about the township impounding horses and cattle, determined if possible to see if he would act honestly, and drove a number of cattle (5) from his house to the paddock. On the road he went on to three sections occupied by him, and took two of the cattle with him. The other three he put on to the adjoining section. Then hid himself, and waited for defendant to come. After a time, defendant in company with a man named Wales rode up, and though he could not see the three cows, he believed they were driven by Meredith past the end of the section he was on. Defendant then went on to the section he was on, and drove the two cows there. Witness then came out and asked him what he was doing. He said he was driving cattle by order of Mr R. S. Thompson, who paid the rates on the section. Witness denied this, and stated that he had occupied the section. Defendant, however, refused to give up the cattle, and proceeded to drive them to the pound. To make sure, witness offered him the charges on them, but Meredith would not take them, and drove the cattle on. At the gate of his paddock a scuffle ensued, but the cattle were all driven into the paddock, where Meredith followed and drove them about, but could not get them out. Was entitled to have three head of cattle on the township, and had given the brands of his cattle to Meredith; but had not described any particular cattle. Meredith and Wales were under the influence of liquor. Corroborative evidence was given by two sons and a daughter of Mr Gane, and his wife. In cross-examination, Mrs Gane stated that she could see the whole of the road and clear land down to the section on which Mr Gane was hid. The sections between his and where she was standing did not belong to her husband. She saw no cattle on the road when Meredith took them, but they came off the open land.

The case for the defendant was to the effect that the sections on which the cattle were taken from were the property of Mr G. Hutchison, who had permitted Mr R. S. Thompson to occupy the sections. The latter had authorised defendant as ranger to impound any cattle on these sections. The cattle were taken on these sections, and were not on the road. The evidence of Mr Morrison, Chairman of the Normanby Town Board, was given to the effect that a resolution had been passed appointing defendant as ranger, with discretionary power to impound any cattle on the street. The former resolution, enabling ratepayers to run three head of cattle on the streets, was rescinded. William Wales deposed that two of the cattle were taken from Mr Thompson's section, and three they found on the road. The offer of plaintiff to pay the charges on the cattle was after the attempt to rescue them. They did not drive the cattle off the sections before they were impounded. Had had the sections pointed out to him by Thompson.

E. C. Meredith, Ranger to the Normanby Town Board, gave evidence corroborative of that of Wales, as to the three head of cattle being on the road and two on the sections occupied by Thompson. When he took them and was about to drive them away, plaintiff offered to pay the driving fees, which he refused. Then proceeded to drive on the cattle, and Gane rode up and offered witness the fees again, which he refused. When they came up to the gate of plaintiff's paddock, after some trouble, plaintiff and his boy succeeded in putting in the cattle, and they were kept in. Was certain of the sections he had impounded the cattle from, as he had paced the distance three times. Produced a letter from Mr Hutchison authorising Mr R. S. Thompson to occupy the sections. Had a verbal authority from Mr Thompson to impound the cattle.

His Worship decided, before giving judgment, to hear a cross action which had been brought. Francis J. Gane was then charged, on the information of E. C. Meredith, with unlawfully rescuing certain cattle, which had been seized for the purpose of being impounded. The defendant pleaded not guilty. Mr Barton said the information was laid on two separate issues – of attempting to rescue before the tender of driving fees was made; and also of attempting to rescue after the tender was made. The evidence in the former case was admitted. The statement of plaintiff, which was contradicted by defendant, was to the effect that when defendant first offered to pay him the driving fees, he tendered no money. He had then only two cattle. Wales had the three that were taken off the road in front. Later on, when he tendered him money in payment, the cattle were all in a mob, and he refused it. Believed that he was not authorised to accept driving fees for cattle impounded on the road, according to section 8 of the Act. He had been advised to that effect. Robert Brown have evidence to the effect that he saw defendant drive the cattle into the paddock.

In giving judgment, his Worship said as to the first information he considered that it had not been proved, that the cattle were not taken from the sections belonging to Gane, but rather from the sections belonging to Mr Hutchison. He should therefore dismiss that information. With regard to the other information, there was no doubt that the cattle were rescued, and the only question was as to the circumstances under which the rescue was made, and the mitigating circumstances. He thought that when the offer was made by Gane to pay for the two cows taken off the private land, the ranger should have met him in some way instead of refusing to take the money point blank. However, he did not think that justified the defendant in taking the law into his own hands, as it might have occasioned a serious breach of the peace. The rescue was attempted on a public road, and as such was an offence against the peace. Taking the circumstances into consideration, he would only impose a small fine, though the full penalty was £50, as Mr Gane might have thought he was justified in doing what he did. A fine of 10s and costs would be imposed.

Hawera and Normanby Star 24 Mar 1886 Hawera Resident Magistrate's Court

(Before C. A. Wray, Esq., R.M.) Wednesday, March 24, 1886. Absent from Parades. E. C. Meredith was charged on the information of A. Trimble with being absent from three consecutive parades of the Hawera Rifle Volunteer Company, without permission from his commanding officer. A. Trimble, Captain of the Hawera Rifle Volunteers, gave evidence to the effect that the parades for which defendant was alleged to have been absent were advertised on the 27th and 28th Nov., and notice was posted outside the Hawera post-office. It was also notified at the previous company parade. Cross-examination – Did not think he had given defendant permission to absent himself from company parades. Defendant pleaded guilty to being absent from parades but stated that he had permission to absent himself from company parades by the captain. His Worship said that as the matter had been fully advertised the defendant should have attended parades. He imposed a fine of £1. A second charge against the defendant was withdrawn.

Hawera and Normanby Star 08 Apr 1886 Hawera Resident Magistrate's Court

An Old Grievance. Mrs Gane was then charged on the information of E. C. Meredith, with allowing cattle to graze on the public streets of Normanby, contrary to the Normanby bye-laws. Mr Gane appeared for his wife, and pleaded not guilty. The evidence of the informant and a witness named Wales was given to show that on the day in question they saw defendant's cattle, in charge of his son, straying on Moorhouse and Bass streets, and all over the township. They were continually straying about, and the defendant's sons were supposed to be in charge of them, but really they were grazing on the streets. Evidence was given by defendant and his son to the effect that the cattle were on sections on which he

had the right to graze, and defendant had given instructions that they were not to be taken off these sections. The Bench decided that they would take no further evidence, and they dismissed the information, on the ground that it was not sufficiently proved that the cattle were on the streets.

Hawera and Normanby Star 22 Apr 1886 Hawera Resident Magistrate's Court

Wednesday, April 21, 1886 (Before C. A. Wray, Esq., R.M., and W. E. Drive, Esq., JP). Allowing cattle to herd on streets. E. C. Meredith, Town Clerk of Normanby, proceeded against F. J. Gane for having herded cattle on a certain street in Normanby. Mr Matthews for complainant; Mr Caplen for defendant. The case occupied some hours, and was then dismissed.

Hawera and Normanby Star 12 Nov 1886

Normanby, 1st October, 1886. To Mr Francis J. Gane, Normanby. We, the undersigned Ratepayers and Residents of the Township of Normanby respectfully request that you will resign your office as Commissioner on the Normanby Town Board – Thomas Robson, ratepayer; Alex G. Brett, ratepayer; James Hayward, resident; John Treweek, jun., ratepayer; George Bissett, ratepayer; William Water, ratepayer; E. C. Meredith, ratepayer; F. Sisley, ratepayer; William Mantle, ratepayer; F. H. Brett, ratepayer; P. Dolan, ratepayer; C. R. Bayley, resident; P. F. Bayley, resident; D. McGregor, ratepayer; G. Gibbons; W. Rowe, ratepayer; W. Hunter; Edward Docherty, resident; Patrick Hickey; Martin Cammenish; John Christoffel; Anton Hurlimann; Joseph Wilson; C. F. Litchwark; Horace A. Baker; August Bublitz; Carl Gungall; William Kilvington.

Hawera and Normanby Star 03 Apr 1888 Notice of Dissolution of Partnership

Notice is hereby given that the Partnership, as Butchers, hitherto subsisting between James Bailey and Harvey Thomson, of Normanby, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent; and that all claims against the said partnership will be settled by the said James Bailey, to whom all claims due to the said firm must be paid. Dated at Normanby this 31st day of March, 1888. Witness – E. C. Meredith, Commission Agent, Normanby. All debts due to the above firm must be settled by the 30th April.

Hawera and Normanby Star 03 Oct 1891 Normanby Boxing Day Sports

(From our correspondent) A public meeting was held last evening in the Reading Room to elect committee for the purpose of carrying out the sports to be held at Normanby on Boxing Day next, the 26th December, 1891. There were nearly twenty persons present. Mr Meredith was voted to the chair. After reading the advertisement convening the meeting, the chairman asked Mr Wilson, the secretary *pro tem* to read the last years balance-sheet, which was done, and it showed a credit balance of £8 6s 10d. The following were the officers elected for the ensuing year:- President, J. S. Caverhill, Esq.; vice-President, J. Heslop, Esq.; judge, J. T. Quinn; secretary, Mr E. C. Meredith; treasurer, Mr L. M. Taunton; handicapper, Mr J. Adamson; starter, Mr L. M. Taunton; clerk of the course, Mr C. Stewart; stewards, Messrs J. Wilson, W. Williamson, J. H. Hayward, P. Innes, J. T. Quinn, J. Forbes, G. Sowerby, S. Dale, and J. Grant. The chairman stated that the sum of one guinea had been voted to Mr J. Adamson last year as a small recognition of his services as handicapper, which sum Mr Adamson had declined to receive, stating that a small present rather than money would be more acceptable to him, and it was resolved, That a present be made to Mr Adamson as a recognition of his services as handicapper, and that Messrs J. Wilson, L. M. Taunton and E. C. Meredith be appointed to select the present to be made to Mr Adamson as a mark of appreciation of his services as handicapper. Proposed by Mr Williamson, seconded by Mr Sowerby, That Mr Wilson be authorised to hand over any money now in hand to Mr Taunton, the treasurer. Carried. Resolved That the committee meet at Mr Wilson's at 8 p.m. on Saturday, the 10th, to arrange programme, etc. The meeting then adjourned.

Hawera and Normanby Star 26 Nov 1891 Ordinary Meeting of Council - Tenders

The following tenders were dealt with:

127. One mile stumping, &c., Fraser road – M. Olson, 5s (accepted); Briscoe, 7s; R. Palmer, 7s 10d; E. C. Meredith, 9s.

128. 38 chains formation, Rotokare road – E. C. Meredith, £40 (accepted); Hayward, £60; Meredith and Howe, £50; O. Robinson, £62 5s; Christoffel and Jenkins, £62.

Hawera and Normanby Star 05 Sep 1892 Normanby School Ball

(From our correspondent) The third annual school ball at Normanby on the evening of Friday last was another, and, if possible, a greater success than the one last year. Forty-six couples were dancing at one time, and there were others seated round the room. The weather was not at all favourable as a nasty rain from the south-east was falling more or less all day, and this prevented a great number from attending who would have been there had the night been fine. There were visitors from all parts of the district between Otakeho and Patea, which goes to prove that the success of last year had not been forgotten. The hall was nicely decorated with ferns and flags, and an extra number of lamps were provided to make a better light. The music was furnished by Messrs Hamerton and Atchison, of Patea, and was greatly appreciated, although the piano is not one of the best. The programme was carried out in entirety and everyone appeared to fully enjoy themselves. The supper, which arranged and provided by the ladies' committee, was one of the best that has been given for some time. Many of the dresses were much admired, and dancing was kept up with spirit till 3.30 a.m., everyone going away fully satisfied that the ball had been the success of the season. The ladies' committee, which consisted of Mesdames Meredith, P. T. Bayley, Eagles, and Miss Gwynne, are to be congratulated for the manner in which the supper arrangements were carried out, notwithstanding the number of dancers. The whole of those on the stage were supplied with refreshments during the evening, and yet there was more than enough. The gentlemen of the committee, Messrs E. C. Meredith, Gwynne, and C. Paine are also entitled to the thanks of the public for the manner in which the arrangements were carried out, as there was not a single hitch during the whole evening. Who was the belle of the ball? Now for it, I have got a little hair left yet and I still want to keep my thatch on as long as possible, and as I happen to have a better half, so I should say this question verges on the town rights. Yet for the cause of youth and beauty I will risk the last hair no matter how *pain*-ful the operation may be and record my verdict in favour of Miss Gwynne as belle of those ladies in evening dresses, and Miss Roberts (Red Cross Ambulance Nurse) of those in fancy dress...

Taranaki Herald 08 Oct 1892 Supreme Court – Criminal

Friday, October 7 – Before His Honor Justice E. T. Conolly. Alleged Arson. Thomas Henry Blackwood, pleaded not guilty, to a charge of burning down a dwelling house, at Normanby, the property of Felix Hunger, on November 10. Prisoner, who was not represented by counsel, pleaded not guilty. The following jury was empannelled:- H. Allenby, W. P. Bishop, W. Laurence, A. Tatton, W. Elder, J. Attrill, W. F. Brooking, P. Eva, W. Old jun., C. Cooper, T. Urry, W. Jenkins. Mr Brooking was chosen as foreman. Mr Kerr called Felix Hunger, who stated that he owned the property, which the accused was charged with burning down. Witness valued the house at £60, and it was insured for £25. Constable Quinn gave evidence as to the arrest of accused, who stated that he had put the fire out once, but it broke out again. Albert George Marsh, who lived next to the house, gave evidence as to the appearance, etc., of accused when he was awakened. Eliza Wales also gave evidence as to the position of affairs on the morning when the building was on fire. William Wales gave similar evidence. Edward Charles Meredith, the Normanby correspondent of the Hawera Star, stated that he asked accused how the fire occurred, and accused replied he did not know, and that he had lost all except what they

had in the bundles. Witness got up subscription list for accused, and handed over £2 5s to him. The accused cross-examined at some length, after which the Court adjourned till 7 o'clock. On resuming Constable Patterson and a witness named Wilson were called, and after him Elizabeth Burns, the principal witness in the case, was called. This witness stated that she lived with accused on November 10. Accused brought in a lot of firewood that night. He went to bed, and she went some time afterwards. She got up at 1 o'clock, but things were all right then. About 2 o'clock accused woke her, and said that the place was on fire, but told her to be calm. Accused was fully dressed when he woke her. She stated that accused would not let her go into the kitchen where the fire was, and she and accused then packed up some things in bundles, and afterwards she woke up Mr Marsh, a next door neighbour. Accused had only £3 worth of property at the time of the fire, and about 1s 6d in money. They had not lived together since the fire. She missed some bottles of oil when she was packing up a few things to take out of the house. They were bottles of salad oil and carbolic oil.... By His Honor: She believed she said in the lower Court that all was right when she got up at 1 o'clock. She had all that was saved except a couple of blankets. She had none of the subscription. She told Meredith that the fire was caused by a faulty chimney because accused told her to say so. The reason she believed that accused burnt down the place was because Mr Hunger had kept some wages due to accused for back rent. Accused said he would teach Hunger not to keep wages for back rent again. The first time she mentioned this motive was before the Grand Jury....

Hawera and Normanby Star 31 Oct 1892 News and Notes

Mr E. C. Meredith has offered, in connection with the Normanby Show, special prizes for the best maps, the conditions being that the maps are to be drawn in school, and to be certified to by the head master, Mr Harre, as having been drawn, not traced; competitors to be under 14 years of age and on the books of Normanby School. First prize, 7s; second, 3s 6d.

Hawera and Normanby Star 22 Nov 1892 Town Board

The ordinary meeting of the Town Board was held on Monday. Present – Messrs J. Wilson (chair), W. Rowe, and F. Sisley. Correspondence inward was - ... From Mr E. C. Meredith, desiring leave of absence from this meeting. Resolved, That the gentleman's absence being quite unavoidable, his request be acceded to.

Hawera and Normanby Star 14 Dec 1892 Normanby

(from our correspondent) A special meeting of the School Committee was held at the school on Monday last. Present – Messrs Gwynne, Boddie, J. Bates, W. Williamson, C. Paine and E. C. Meredith (chairman). The chairman read the inspector's report, and letter from the secretary of the board relative thereto. [At this stage, Mr Meredith requested to be allowed to vacate the chair, when Mr Boddie was elected to act as chairman, Mr Meredith taking his seat as an ordinary member.] After the report had been discussed, the following was proposed by Mr C. Paine, seconded by Mr W. Gwynne: "That this committee, after carefully going through the report, fails to see any reason why Mrs Meredith should be asked to resign; and, further, that this committee would not recommend any change. The committee would also point out to the board that this school has suffered as much as or more than any other school in the district through sickness, and this alone would account in a great measure for the bad nature of the report." For: Messrs Bates, Gwynne, Boddie, Williamson, and Paine; against, nil, Mr Meredith not voting either way. [This question having been dealt with, Mr Meredith resumed his seat as chairman.]...

Hawera and Normanby Star 29 Mar 1893 Correspondence – Honor to Whom Honor is Due

To the Editor of the Star. Sir, I notice in your paper of the 22nd instant that someone has contradicted the statement in the Star (copied from the Napier Telegraph) on the 20th instant relative to the fight at Otauto, and both are wrong. There were two fights at Otauto – one by the Imperial Forces in 1865 and another by the colonial forces in, I think, 1868. With reference to the fight in 1865, the only colonial forces there were about 50 men under Von Tempsky, and neither Coffey nor Hughes were there; they may have been present in '68. My reason for saying they were not there in '65 is because the Taranaki military settlers were at Pipiriki till September of that year, and when they left Pipiriki they went to Opotiki, and did not return to this district till June, '66. Otauto and "Gentle Annie" were fought before General Chute went through to New Plymouth, and that campaign started from Waitotara, on the 30th December, '65, and got back to Wanganui, 14th February, '66. Colonel (now General) Whitmore did not have a command in this district till after the fight at Te Ngutu-o-te-Manu, which took place after July, '68. When at Opotiki in '65 any engagement when reported was generally headed, "Major McDonnell was first in the pa; the next was Ensign Gudgeon." – I am, &c., E. C. Meredith, late of native contingent. Normanby, 27th March.

Hawera and Normanby Star 13 Apr 1893 Resident Magistrate's Court

Wednesday, April, 12th (Before Major Tuke, R.M.)... R. G. Marsh v. E. C. Meredith – Claim £24 3s 5d. The evidence in this case was lengthy and contradictory, and judgment was reserved.

Hawera and Normanby Star 30 Aug 1893 News and Notes

In a communication to Mr E. C. Meredith, Mr G. Hutchison, MHR, says:- "In answer to a question put by me in the House to-day, on the subject of your letter of the 15th inst., the Minister of Agriculture stated that the Government did not see their way to place a sum on the estimates to assist Horticultural Societies throughout the colony in planting suitable trees on Arbor Day. The object of your society is so good that it may be hoped that at some future date a more satisfactory answer may be obtained."

Hawera and Normanby Star 14 Aug 1896 Marriage

On August 13th, at the residence of the bride's parents, by the Rev. C. H. Laws, Frederick, eldest son of Edward Charles Meredith, to Jane, second daughter of Thomas Lloyd, both of Normanby.

Taranaki Herald 12 Oct 1900

On Thursday the Registrar of the Supreme Court granted to Mr Edward Charles Meredith, the father of the estate of the late Valentine Meredith, who died in August last at Ladysmith. The deceased had volunteered for active service in South Africa, and not being accepted he went there on his own account, and while waiting for military employment he took a billet in the Natal Railway Service in which he was engaged at his death. Mr Hughes appeared for the applicant.