

Timaru Herald. 17 March 1919 (Papers Past) [18/09/2021]

RETURNED SOLDIERS

SOUTHBURN.

On Friday evening, the Southburn residents met to extend a hearty welcome home to Trooper J. Mahoney of the 8th Reinforcements, Rifleman A. H. McMillan and Private H. Tait, all of whom had been on active service on the western front. In presenting each with a gold medal, Mr Ward, chairman of the local Patriotic Society, expressed the pleasure of all to see them safely back. appreciation of their services to the Empire, and the hope that Private Tait, who had been severely wounded, and Rifleman McMillan, would soon quite recover their former health, and that all three would have a long and happy life.

Mrs Purves, the president of the Patriotic Sewing Guild, endorsed the chairman's remarks, after which the returned men were heartily cheered.

The rest of the evening was spent in a social manner in dancing and music, the refreshments being provided as usual by the ladies.

Temuka Leader. 17 January 1920 (Papers Past) [18/09/2021]

SERIOUS MOTOR CAR ACCIDENT.

NEAR AROWHENUA.

A rather serious motor car accident happened about three o'clock yesterday afternoon on the Main North Road, a mile to the south of the Arowhenua Hotel. Three young men—returned soldiers—named Ross, Mahoney, and Johnson, were driving from Timaru in a five-seated Buick motor car, and had reached a point about a mile to the south of the Opihi Bridge, when something went wrong with the off front wheel, and the car began to angle across the road, finally turning over two or three times, and ultimately coming to a stop on its wheels. The men were of course thrown on to the road. Mahoney and Ross escaped with some bruises, abrasions, and a severe shaking. Johnson, who was driving, was not so fortunate. He got a nasty cut on the forehead, and was rendered unconscious. Help was soon at hand. Medical aid was sent for from Temuka, as was also the Ambulance from Timaru, and both were soon on the scene. Dr. Curtis found the man's injuries to be as described, and after they had received the aid that was necessary, they were taken in the Ambulance to the Timaru Hospital. Mr Johnson is suffering from concussion. (On enquiring at the hospital last evening we were informed that Johnson was semi-conscious, but was doing as well as expected.) The car is a nearly new Buick, and the property of Mr D/ Rodgers. It was rather badly smashed, the two off wheels, steering wheel, the wind screen being

smashed, the mudguards bent, and other damage done. It was expected, however, that with a pair of new wheels the car could be taken to Timaru last night.

Timaru Herald. 17 January 1920 (Papers Past) [18/09/2021]

CAR UPSET

**THREE MEN INJURED.
ONE SERIOUSLY HURT.**

At about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, on the Main South Road, about a mile from the Timaru side of the Opihi Bridge, a serious motor accident occurred. Three young men, M. Johnson, J. Mahoney, and J. Ross, were driving to Temuka from Timaru, when, probably through a tyre coming off, the car ran across the road and turned a couple of somersaults.

Johnson, who was driving, suffered most severely, and at a late hour last night was still unconscious, suffering from concussion. He is an orderly at the Orthopaedic Hospital, and was on leave when the accident occurred.

Mahoney, who is a son of Mr J. Mahoney, Watlington, had his legs badly bruised; and Ross is suffering from slight concussion. All three are returned soldiers, and the last named is from Fairlie.

Help was soon available after the accident occurred, and a doctor was in attendance. The St. John Ambulance went out from Timaru and brought the injured men in to the Timaru Hospital. With the exception of Johnson, whose condition is serious, they were, when inquiry was made last night, doing as well as could be expected. The car was very badly smashed.

Timaru Herald. 19 January 1920 (PP) [27/07/2018]

In the report of the motor accident at Arowhenua which appeared in Saturday's "Herald," it was stated that J. Mahoney was the son of Mr. J. Mahoney, Watlington; this should have read, Mr. H. Mahoney, Washdyke.

SERIOUS ASSAULT.

ACCUSED COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

At this Police Court yesterday, before Mr E. D. Mosley, S.M., William J. Wills, labourer, Washdyke, was charged with assaulting Joseph Mahoney, his employer's son, on May 31st, so as to cause him grievous bodily harm.

Senior-Sergeant Fahey opened the case and called evidence.

Joseph Mahoney, labourer, living with his parents at Washdyke, stated that accused was employed by his (witness's) father. On the evening of 31st May he was at home. A man named Jackson was there. Accused came into the yard on horseback. He began knocking the horse about with a whip, and witness took the whip from him. Accused dismounted, let the horse go, and seized witness by the neck. Told him to let go; did not want to fight. Accused let go, but attempted to seize him again. Was walking away when accused picked up a rail and struck him on top of the head; and he went down and out. Did not see the rail, but knew that he struck him with some hard substance. Remembered Campbell carrying him into his bedroom. Blood was running down his face. The only thing he had done to accused was to take the whip from him. Was taken to the hospital the next afternoon.

Accused denied that he struck complainant with a stick.

Witness to accused: There was some drink about it. I had three drinks with you in town. Neither of them was drunk.

To the Bench: Took no drink out with them.

Dr Loughnan, who was called to Washdyke on 31st May to see complainant, stated that he found him in bed, with a wound over his left temple; blood was running down his face; there was a considerable amount of gravel rash on his left cheek and forehead; he was in a stupid, dazed condition. The wound appeared to have been caused by some blunt instrument. A blow from the stick produced would have caused such a wound. Saw him next day. He was suffering from headache, and still seemed dazed, and witness ordered him to go to the hospital, in case of unfavourable developments. The wound could not have been caused by a blow from a man's fist. The gravel rash was a result of a fall.

Bernard Mahoney, an intelligent boy of eleven years, brother of complainant, stated that he was in the yard when accused was swearing and whipping one of the horses. His brother Joseph told him that if he did not stop swearing he would have to get off the place. His brother went towards accused to get the whip. Did not know whether he got the whip then. Accused came to Joe at Jackson's cart and tried to choke him but Joe pushed him away. Joe went away and accused followed him, caught him by the throat again and Mr Jackson separated them. Accused went towards the hut where he was sleeping, and picked up a rail, and swung round, on to Joe's head, and Joe fell on the ground on his face. Mr Jackson

pulled the rail out of accused's hands and threw him to the ground and held him there.

James S. Jackson, labourer, Washdyke, stated that he carted at Mahoney's place that evening. Accused was abusing a horse with a whip, and Joe got the whip from him. A few minutes later he and Joe were harnessing a horse, when accused came up and said "I'm not going to be bossed by a --- like you." Joe objected to accused swearing and accused caught him by the throat. Joe wriggled away and told him not to be silly; he did not want to fight. Accused followed Joe about the yard wanting to fight, and then he said he did not want to fight, as they were good friends. Then all at once he grabbed Joe by the throat again, and jammed him against the rail of the yard. Witness went to them, and said: "Let go you coward." He would not let go so witness pushed him off. Accused walked away towards the hut where he sleeps, and when about four yards from Joe he stooped down and picked up a piece of rail and whirled it round, hitting Joe on the head, and Joe fell on his face.

Witness flew at accused, took the rail from him, threw him down and held him down for some time. Someone came into the yard and he told him to send for the police. He kept the accused in charge until the police came. The rail produced was that used by accused.

Colin Campbell, labourer, Washdyke, called at Mahoney's and found Joseph lying face downwards in the yard, and two other men were scuffling close by. Mahoney was bleeding and seemed to be unconscious. Carried him into his room and put him on his bed.

Mary Mahoney, sister of complainant, said she was in the house and hearing noise went out, and saw accused pick up a rail. Mr Jackson called out "Look out," and accused hit her brother on the head with the rail.

Constable Palmer gave evidence of a call to Mr Mahoney's place. When he arrived there Wills was standing at the gate between two men. He found complainant in bed bleeding from a cut in the top of the head and in a very dazed condition. He arrested accused, who when charged with assault causing actual bodily harm by striking complainant with a rail said he did not hit him with a rail but with his fist. Accused was sober when arrested. The stick produced was handed him by Jackson.

This concluded the evidence.

Asked if he had anything to say in answer to the charge accused said: We had had a few drinks together. I can mind knocking him down with my fist, but not with a rail. I can plead guilty to what I know — hitting him with my fist, but I don't plead guilty to what I don't know about.

Accused was committed for trial at the next sitting of the Supreme Court at Timaru.

Bail was fixed at £100 and two sureties in £100 each or one in £200.

[The rail produced in Court is a sapling pole about 5ft long and 2½in in diameter.]

Timaru Herald. 27 July 1921 (Papers Past) [18/09/2021]

SUPREME COURT
ASSAULT AT WASHDYKE.

Wm. J. Wills, charged with assaulting Joseph Mahoney at Washdyke on May 31, pleaded not guilty.

The following were the common jury: - Messrs R. F. Provan (foreman), C. A. Baker, W. J. Pettigrew, R. A. Holdgate, C. Martin, W. Crawshaw, G. Honeyman, E. Fitzgerald, J. Copeland, J. Gliddon Junr, C. S. Beechey, J. R. Wright.

Mr White prosecuted for the Crown, and stated the case briefly. On the evening of May 31 last accused rode a horse into the yard of Mahoney's parents, and was beating the horse over the head with a whip handle. Mahoney asked him to give up the whip and not knock the horse about. He at first refused, but eventually did so. A few minutes later, when Mahoney and another man were harnessing another horse, accused went up to them and said to Mahoney he was not going to be bossed by a --- like him. Mahoney told him not to be swearing in the presence of his (Mahoney's) sisters. Accused then caught Mahoney by the throat twice, nearly choking him. A witness went to Mahoney's assistance, and pushed accused away. Accused walked away, and so did Mahoney with his back turned to accused. Accused, when a short distance off, picked up a rail and whirling it around brought it down on Mahoney's head, wounding him severely and rendering him unconscious. Mahoney was seen that evening and again next morning by Dr Loughman, who ordered him to the hospital, where he remained for a week.

Joseph Mahoney, junr., the person assaulted, gave evidence of having some words and a scuffle in the yard of his father's farm at Washdyke. After the scuffle he was walking away from accused, when he was struck and became unconscious.

Dr Loughnan described the wound on Mahoney's head, which kept him in hospital for a week. The wound could have been caused by a blow with the rail produced. The accused did not think the wound could have been caused by his falling against the box of the wheel of the cart. The gravel rash on his face indicated a fall on the ground.

P. Mahoney, a young brother, Mary Mahoney, a sister, and Mr P. Jackson, testified that they saw accused strike Joseph Mahoney with the rail, and Colin Campbell told of assisting Mahoney to bed.

Constable Palmer gave evidence of the arrest of accused.

Accused gave evidence under oath that he did not use the rail, but that in the scuffling, Mahoney fell and struck his head against the hub of a spring cart wheel.

His Worship pointed out to the jury the salient features of the evidence for the Crown, and of accused's answer.

The jury, after a short retirement, returned with a verdict of guilty.

His Honour said the police report and that of the Probation Officer were good, and he would not send the prisoner to gaol. He would be fined £15, to be paid within two months, and he placed him under probation for twelve months.