

# Gordon Charles FARNHAM

19/08/2015

**Gordon Charles FARNHAM – DCM, MM**

**New South Wales Police Force**

**Regd. # ?**

**Rank: Constable**

**Stations: Broken Hill, Wagga Wagga,**

**Service 1: From ? ? ? to ? ? **pre 1914**  
– Broken Hill**

**Service 2: From 15 April 1919 to 10  
March 1920 – Wagga Wagga – Resigned**

**[blockquote]**

**Australian Imperial Force**

**Regiment 1: 3rd Field Ambulance, B  
Squadron**

**Regiment 2: 3rd Light Trench Mortar  
Battery**

**Enlisted: 24 August 1914, Morphetville,**

**South Australia**

**Service # 151 & 176**

**Rank 1: Corporal # 151**

**Rank 2: Lance Corporal # 176**

**Embarkation 1: 3rd Field Ambulance, B Squadron – Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board Transport A12 " Saldanah " on 21 October 1914**

**Embarkation 2: 3rd Light Trench Motar Battery – Unit embarked from**

**Age: 26**

**Next of kin: Father: Thomas Farnham, Cessnock, NSW**

**Religion: C of E**

**Single / Married: Single**

**War Service: Egypt, Gallipoli, Western Front**

**21 October 1914: Lance Corporal, 3rd Field Ambulance**

**21 October 1914: Embarked HMAT Saldanha,  
Adelaide**

**1 March 1917: Corporal, 3rd Light  
Trench Mortar Battery**

**Returned to Australia: 4 December 1918**

**[/blockquote]**

**Awards: Distinguished Conduct Medal –  
granted 6 September 1915 – ‘For great  
gallantry on the 25th April, 1915, and  
throughout the landing operations near  
Gaba Tepe (Dardanelles). In attending to  
the wounded under a heavy fire, he showed  
the greatest zeal and disregard of  
danger, and at all times gave a fine  
exhibition of coolness and devotion to  
duty.’**

**Source: ‘London Gazette’ No. 8844**

**Date: 6 September 1915**

**Military Medal – granted on 7 October  
1918 – ‘In the operations against the  
enemy positions at MONT DE MERRIS near  
STRAZEELE on night 2nd/3rd June, 1918  
Corporal FARNHAM displayed great**

**gallantry and initiative. When a gun close by which was firing on a very strong enemy machine gun position on the flank was put out of action, Corporal FARNHAM, regardless of his personal safety, carried the ammunition through the enemy's barrage to his own gun position and expended both his own and the disabled gun crews' quota. By great skill he was able to fire alternate shots at his own and the disabled gun crews' targets, thereby saving casualties from flanking machine gun fire. He set a splendid example of gallantry and initiative.'**

**Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No.**

**1914 – 15 Star, British War Medal,  
Victory Medal**

**Born: 18 June 1888 at Cessnock, NSW**

**Died on: Friday 28 January 1921**

**Place of death: Wagga Wagga, NSW**

**Cause: Food poisoning**

Age: 32

Funeral date: Friday 28 January 1921

Funeral location: Wagga Wagga

Buried at: Methodist portion of the  
Cessnock cemetery

Memorial at: ?



Gordon Charles  
FARNHAM

**GORDON** is NOT mentioned on the Police  
Wall of Remembrance \* NOT JOB RELATED

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**DEATH OF MR. GORDON FARNHAM A CESSNOCK DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER.**

The relatives of Mr. **Gordon Farnham D.C.M., M.M.** were shocked to receive word this morning of his death at Wagga Wagga. The sad information came as a great shock as it was not even known by his relatives that he was ill. The deceased was a native of Cessnock, being born in the premises now occupied by Mr. Dennis Kenny, in Main Street. The deceased was 30 years of age and was an **Anzac**, being **one of the first Australians** to enlist. He enlisted from **Broken Hill**, where he was a member of the **police force**.

The late Mr Farnham secured the **Distinguished Conduct medal** at **Gallipoli** and the **Military medal** in **France**.

He returned on furlough in the early part of 1919 and during his stay at his home town the Armistice was signed.

His remains will be brought to Cessnock and will be interred in the Church of England cemetery on Sunday afternoon.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/99448638>

**OBITUARY.**

**MR. GORDON C. FARNHAM.**

The death of Mr. **Gordon C. Farnham**, licensee of the **Club House Hotel**, Wagga, caused great regret, as the deceased was well-known throughout the district. Mr. Farnham was present at the boxing contests in the Riverina Hall on Wednesday night, and after returning to his hotel ate a supper which included cucumber, and had an iced drink. Later not feeling too well he had a glass of brandy, but during the night he suffered considerably from internal pains. In the morning his condition was such that Dr. Martin was called in, and he diagnosed the case as one of gastritis and enteritis. The sufferer was removed to a private hospital, but although everything possible was done for him he passed away about 3 o'clock on Friday morning. Dr. Martin certified that death was due to food poisoning, and this was endorsed by the deputy coroner after a formal inquiry.

The deceased, who was an **'Anzac,'** rose to the rank of **sergeant-major** in the **1st Divisional Engineers**, and earned the coveted awards of the **D.C.M.** and the **M.M.** At the time of his death he was on the committee of the Returned Soldiers' League.

**Prior to enlisting** he was a member of the **police force**, attached to the Wagga station, and he **rejoined** the force on **April 15, 1919**, on his return from the front, and **resigned** on March 10, 1920, to take over the **Club House Hotel**.

He leaves a wife, five brothers, and two sisters.

The funeral left Traill-street for the Wagga railway station at 4.30pm on Friday, from where the remains were conveyed by rail to **Cessnock** for interment in the Methodist portion of the Cessnock cemetery. The chief mourners were the wife of the deceased, Mrs. W. Ball, and Messrs. D. Harris and N. J. Richards. A large number of members of the Returned Soldiers' League marched behind the hearse, including the president, Ald. Gissing, the pall bearers being Messrs. V. Charker, T. A. Plummer, J. S. Wild, L. H. Shaw, T. A. Smith, and A.

Stephenson. Sister Proctor, and members of the Red Cross League were also present, while **Senior-sergeant Gallaher, Sergeant O'Brien, Senior-constable Cooper, Constables Brownlee and Waugh,** and **Tracker McLean** represented the **Wagga police**. There were many beautiful floral tributes.

The funeral arrangements were entrusted to Messrs. McIntosh Bros.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/142355550>

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Service Number listed as 176 and 151

***"AN ADELAIDE D.C.M.***

*Lance-Corporal Farnham, who came to Adelaide from Broken Hill to enlist, has won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for "showing the greatest zeal and disregard for danger during the landing at Gabi Tepe." Lance-Corporal Farnham is a native of Cessnock (N.S.W.), and is 27 years of age. Like all the country recruits from the Cessnock district, he had a varied experience in rural pursuits in his native State, and was also for a time in New Zealand, and for 18 months prior to enlisting had been in the New South Wales police force, being stationed at Broken Hill. At the historic landing on April 25 he was for 10 hours under fire, "during which time," says the official report, "he attended the wounded continuously, and made a fine exhibition of coolness and devotion to duty." Lance-Corporal Farnham was in the trenches from April to the end of August, and is now on police patrol duty guarding prisoners. His parents are very old residents of Cessnock." – from the Adelaide Advertiser 06 Oct 1915 (trove.nla.gov.au)*

### **"D.C.M. FOR CESSNOCK.**

The distinguished conduct medal has been won by Lance-corporal Gordon Farnham, a former resident of Cessnock, for "showing the greatest zeal and disregard for danger during the landing at Gaba Tepe." The D.C.M. hero, who is a native of Cessnock, is 27 years of age, and previously was employed at the Aberdare Colliery and blacksmith. He is a fine example of Australian manhood, and has many friends in Cessnock who are naturally proud of him. His parents also live in Cessnock. After leaving his native town, Farnham journeyed to New Zealand, from whence he went to Broken Hill, where for eighteen months previous to his enlistment he was a member of the police force. The call of war was too strong, however, and he enlisted in Adelaide with the Third Field Ambulance Corps. He subsequently took part in the famous landing of the 25th April, and was for ten hours under fire, "during which time," says the official report, "he attended the wounded continuously, and made a fine exhibition of coolness and devotion to duty." – from the Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate 08 Oct 1915 (nla.gov.au)

### **"OBITUARY. MR. GORDON C. FARNHAM.**

The death of Mr. Gordon C. Farnham, licensee of the Club House Hotel, Wagga, caused great regret, as the deceased was well-known through out the district. Mr. Farnham was present at the boxing contests in the Riverina Hall on Wednesday night, and after returning to his hotel ate a supper which included cucumber, and had an iced drink. Later not feeling too well he had a glass of brandy, but during the night he suffered considerably from intenal pains. In the morning his condition was such that Dr. Martin was called in, and he diagnosed the case as one of gastritis and enteritis. The sufferer was removed to a private hospital, but although everything possible was done for him he passed away about 3 o'clock on

Friday morning. Dr. Martin certified that death was due to food poisoning, and this was endorsed by the deputy coroner after a formal inquiry.

The deceased, who was an 'Anzac,' rose to the rank of sergeant-major in the 1st Divisional Engineers, and earned the coveted awards of the D.C.M. and the M.M. At the time of his death he was on the committee of the Returned Soldiers' League. Prior to enlisting he was a member of the police force, attached to the Wagga station, and he rejoined the force on April 15, 1919, on his return from the front, and resigned on March 10, 1920, to take over the Club House Hotel. He leaves a wife, five brothers, and two sisters. The funeral left Traill-street for the Wagga railway station at 4.30 p.m. on Friday, from where the remains were conveyed by rail to Cessnock for interment in the Methodist portion of the Cessnock cemetery. The chief mourners were the wife of the deceased, Mrs. W. Ball, and Messrs. D. Harris and N. J. Richards. A large number of members of the Returned Soldiers' League marched behind the hearse, including the president, Ald. Gissing, the pall bearers being Messrs. V. Charker, T. A. Plummer, J. S. Wild, L. H. Shaw, T. A. Smith, and A. Stephenson. Sister Proctor, and members of the Red Cross League were also present, while Senior-sergeant Gallaher, Sergeant O'Brien, Senior-constable Cooper, Constables Brownlee and Waugh, and Tracker McLean represented the Wagga police. There were many beautiful floral tributes. The funeral arrangements were entrusted to Messrs. McIntosh Bros." – from the Wagga Daily Advertiser 29 Jan 1921 (nla.gov.au)

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/137462>

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## NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages

Death: 4551/1921 Father: Thomas Mother: Susan Wagga  
Wagga District

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# John NORTON

19/08/2015

**John NORTON**

**New South Wales Police Force**

**Regd. # ?**

**Rank: Constable**

**Stations: Lock Up Keeper, Hay, NSW**

**Service: From ? to 5 December 1860**

**Awards: ?**

**Born: ? 1825**

**Died on: 5 December 1860**

**Cause: Drowned**

**Age: 35**

**Funeral date: ?**

**Funeral location: ?**

**Buried at: Hay**

**JOHN is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance \***  
**NOT JOB RELATED**

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The Lockup-keeper at **Lang's Crossing-Place**, Norton, about ten days ago whilst not in very sober state, left his quarters at night with a candle in his hand and has not been heard of since. It is imagined he may have walked into the Murrumbidgee. (Sydney Morning Herald, 25 December 1860)

The body of Police Constable Norton was found in the river after the Albury had passed up, the disturbance caused by the paddlewheels probably caused the body to be freed from

submerged snags. (SMH, 8 January 1861)

<http://users.tpg.com.au/hayhist/deaths.html>

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The Argus ( Melbourne )  
December 1860

Wednesday 26

page 7 of 8

**SUICIDE AT HAY.** – On Wednesday, the 12th inst., the body of **John Norton** was found floating on the Murrumbidgee, opposite the **crossing yards** at Hay. It was very much decomposed, so much so as almost to preclude identification, yet many swore to it as his body. A watch and ring were discovered on the person, and recognised as Norton's.

A magisterial inquiry was held by the police magistrate, when the facts detailed in my communication of the **11th inst.** were elicited. The conclusion arrived at was, " that the deceased, while in a state of **temporary insanity**, produced by **excessive indulgence in ardent spirits**, committed suicide by drowning himself."

Norton was of a very respectable family in Ireland, and had not been in the colony more than three years. – Southern Courier, Dec. 21.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/5696062?searchTerm=constable%20john%20norton&searchLimits=l-decade=186#pstart202734>

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# Alexander McGEE

19/08/2015

## Alexander McGEE

### New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # ?

Rank: Inspector

Stations: B District – Sydney

Service: From ??? to 22 May 1860 = about 20? years  
Service

Awards: ?

Born: ???

Event location: Castlereagh Street near Liverpool St, Sydney,  
NSW

Event date: 26 March 1860

Died on: Tuesday 22 May 1860

Place of death: ?

Cause: Shot – murdered

Age: 46

Funeral date: Thursday 24 May 1860 @ 3.15pm

Funeral location: ?

Buried at: Devonshire St Cemetery

Upon the closing of Devonshire St Cemetery, McGee's body was  
exhumed and relocated to

Rookwood Cemetery, Presbyterian Section, 5C, Plot 4554

Memorial at:









**Alison Carter**, who is not associated with NSW Police, but went out of her way and took the time to locate & take photos of the grave of our fallen brother – Alexander McGee on 6 November 2016. *Thank you Alison.*

**ALEXANDER is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance**

**\* But should be**

**Between 11pm and 12 midnight on 26 March, 1860 Constable**

**Connaughty** was on duty in **Goulburn Street, Sydney** when he saw **two soldiers** ( **William Pike** and **Patrick Hughes** ) carrying rifles. Believing them to be **deserters** he followed them along **Sussex Street**, across the Haymarket and along **Pitt Street** until he spotted **Inspector McGee, Sergeant James Rush** and **Sergeant Francis Rooney**, who were out looking for **soldiers** who had **deserted** from the **12<sup>th</sup> Regiment**.

The **four police officers** then followed the **soldiers** until, when near **Liverpool Street**, they began to run. **Rush** and **Rooney** quickly caught up with **Hughes** while **McGee** and **Connaughty** chased **Pike** into **Castlereagh Street** where he suddenly stopped and **pointed his rifle** at the **inspector**.

**Pike** then said, " If you attempt to take me I will shoot you. "  
" **McGee** replied, " Do not fire, coward. "  
" **Pike** then ran a few steps, chased by **McGee**, before turning around and firing at the **inspector** from **point blank** range. The **bullet struck the inspector** in the **right groin area**, exiting from his **lower back**. He **died** from the effects of the wound **four weeks later**.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of **Tuesday 12 June, 1860** reported that " *The Central Criminal Court is sitting. The two soldiers, **Pike** and **Hughes**, have been tried for **shooting Inspector McGee. Hughes** was **acquitted**, but **Pike** convicted of **manslaughter**, and sentenced to **three years** hard labour in **gaol. Hughes** was in custody when the shot was fired, and as to **Pike**, as he was only carrying firearms, which at present is no offence against the law, the arrest of him was not justified as an act of police duty...*"

At the time of his death the inspector was aged **46** years and had been a police officer for **about 20** years. At the time of his death he was stationed in **B Division, Sydney**.

Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal ( NSW )

**Saturday 31 March 1860** p 3

**OUTRAGE.**

Two soldiers belonging to the **12th regiment** were brought before the Court in their **regimental dress** by **constable Connaughty**, charged, the first with **feloniously, shooting, intending to murder Inspector Alexander McGee**, and the second with **aiding and abetting** in the same. Their names are **William Pike** and **Patrick Hughes**.

**Witness** stated, that between 11 and 12 o'clock **last night** I saw the prisoners in Goulburn-street with firearms in their possession (**two Enfield rifles**.) Believing they were about to desert, I followed them along Sussex-street down to the Haymarket and from thence into Pitt-street. I there met **Inspector McGee, Sergeant Rooney, and Sergeant Rush**. We then followed the prisoners into **Liverpool-street**, where they began to run. **Hughes** was pursued by **Sergeants Rush and Rooney**, who succeeded in apprehending him.

The other prisoner continued running and was pursued by **Inspector McGee** and **myself**. As he turned the corner of **Castlereagh-street**, prisoner (**Pike**) said '*If you attempt to follow me I'll shoot.*' Finding that we were still pursuing him, he presented his rifle. **McGee**, who was close beside at the

time said " *don't fire you coward,*" and prisoner immediately run on for about **10 or 15 yards**, and when we got within about a length of his rifle, he turned round, and without saying anything, **shot McGee** through the thigh. So soon as the prisoner fired **McGee** said ' *I am shot.*' I asked him where ? he replied through the thigh. In the mean time I secured the prisoner, who the moment he fired, said, ' *Oh, you have pulled the trigger.* "

**Sergeant Rush** deposed as follows : About twenty minutes past 11 o'clock last evening, I was at **Cowell's public house** at the corner of **Goulburn street**, in plain clothes. **Pike** came in with a rifle, the barrel of which was partly covered by the skirt of a woman's dress. I noticed **blood on his hands**. Immediately after entering, he called **Hughes** in, who was standing at the door, but the latter replied, " *No ; don't you see, you b--y fool?*" **Hughes** then put his piece, which was clipped, to the charge. They both then went away, and I fancied that, although in plain clothes, **Hughes** knew me. I then followed them into Sussex-street where, whilst turning round they saw me, and brought their pieces to the charge. **Hughes** at length said to me, " *Can you tell me where the old Australian Inn is ?*" their pieces being still charged towards me. I told them, yes, and that I would go and show them if they chose.

They then brought their pieces to the trail, and I proceeded in company with them. I said, *you seem to have just come off a long journey, having your firearms with you.* They said they had just come from Melbourne, and were going to a place near **Dixon's mill**.

After we had got near the spot indicated, **Hughes** said, ' *You had better not come any further.*' but I persisted in following them to the Hay Market, where they had some conversation. They then presented their arms at me and I went away and put on my **uniform coat**. Immediately after I came up with them again in **Pitt-street**, where I also saw **Inspector McGee** and told him what had occurred.

Prisoners next went into **Liverpool street** and instantly began to run. **Sergeant Rooney** was at this time close behind, and whilst **McGee** pursued, **Pike** stopped **Hughes**, who thereupon brought his piece to bear. I knocked it aside twice with one hand and struck him in the head with my fist, which caused him to stagger. I took advantage of the opportunity and clasped him round the waist with my two arms, including in the fold the rifle also.

In the mean time **Rooney** came up and wrenched the rifle from his grasp. Whilst in the act of apprehending him, I heard some one 'say, " *If you come any further I'll shoot you,* " and soon after I heard the report of a gun.

I produce the rifle which we took from **Hughes**. It is loaded and capped. On searching him at the station house, I found in his possession 19 rounds of ball cartridge and 25 percussion caps which I also produce. ( Several rounds of ball cartridges, together with some percussion caps, were also found on the other prisoner. )

**Sergeant Rooney** gave evidence much to the same effect as that of the previous witnesses.

**John Marshland**, a **sergeant** belonging to the **12th Regiment**, recognised the two prisoners, who he said had no authority to be out last night. He believed that they effected their escape by climbing the walls. Soldiers were never allowed to carry firearms through the streets except when on duty.

As **Inspector McGee** is at present **dangerously ill** in the **Infirmary** the Bench remanded the case until **this day week**. – Empire of Wednesday.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/rendition/nla.news-article63597117.txt>

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The Sydney Morning Herald

Wednesday 23 May 1860 p 1

**Died** on the **22nd instant**, Mr. **Alexander McGee**, aged 46 years, late Inspector of police, after a **lingering illness** from the effects of a **gunshot wound** on the **26th March**, leaving a wife and large family and a numerous circle of friends to mourn his loss.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/13040895>

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The Sydney Morning Herald

Wednesday 23 May 1860 p 8

**FUNERAL.**— The Friends of the late Mr. **ALEXANDER McGEE**, late Inspector of police, are respectfully requested to attend his Funeral. The procession to move from his **late residence, Police Station, George-street South**, on **THURSDAY AFTERNOON**, at a quarter-past 3 o'clock.

REUBEN THOMAS, undertaker,  
141, York-street, late of 54, King-street.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/13040887>

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Empire ( Sydney )

Thursday 24 May 1860 p 8

**MASONIC.**

THE Officers and Members of Lodges No. **260**, 206, and 207, are respectfully requested to attend the **FUNERAL** of **Brother ALEXANDER McGEE**, late of **260** ; to move from **his late residence, Police Station, George-street South**, **THIS DAY**, 24th instant, at 3 o'clock p.m.

H. WILSON, Secretary pro tem.

\* \* \*

FUNERAL.-The Friends of the late Mr ALEXANDER McGEE, late Inspector of Police, are respectfully requested to attend his Funeral. The procession to move from his late residence, Police Station, George street South, THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON, at a 4 o'clock.

REUBEN THOMAS, Undertaker, 141, York-street,  
late of 64, King.street.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/60410681>

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The Sydney Morning Herald  
**Thursday 24 May 1860** p 3  
**THE LATE INSPECTOR McGEE.**

IN our obituary of yesterday we had to record the death of **Inspector Alexander McGee**, of the police force, of Sydney. " We have long been expecting to make this announcement, for it was on the 26th of March last that McGee, in the **firm and intrepid performance of his duties**, received the gunshot wound from which, to use the more than ordinary picturesque language of the bar, he, up to the 22nd May " did live and languish, and languishing " did die.

The particulars of the occurrence which caused this lamentable event have been recorded in our columns, and are reproduced in the appended, report of the inquest which took place yesterday. The funeral will take place at three o'clock to-day ; and, when it is over, we shall have to add some particulars of Mr. McGee's career in the police force, all of which we may say are highly creditable to him as a public officer in whatever grade or rank he moved. We are happy to say that we have been informed by the superintendent of Police that a pension to the widow of £50 can be afforded out of the Police Fund.

It is a somewhat singular coincidence that this will be the **second instance** of relief from the **Police Fund** which has **Mrs.**

**McGee** will receive. She was **formerly married** to a man of the name of **Watson**, in the police force, who, while **conveying a prisoner to the watchhouse**, was so **seriously kicked in the back** that **consumption was induced**, and he **speedily died**. On that occasion the donation of £100 was paid to the widow out of the Police Fund. Still we think that some testimonial from the citizens in token of their approval of the gallant conduct of McGee is eminently due.

### **THE INQUEST.**

**Mr. J. S. Parker, the city coroner**, having, assembled a jury, and viewed the body, commenced the inquest in his office at ten o'clock yesterday morning. The names of the gentlemen who composed the jury are as follows : James Carroll, foreman ; Morris Castle, Edward Sadlier, J. J.E. Lisak, Frederick M. Moore, William Hankin, Thomas S. Pope, R. C. Hordern, John Balantine, Patrick Fox, Timothy Lane, Charles Frazer, and David Baxter.

**William Pike**, the soldier charged with firing the shot at the deceased ; and Patrick Hughes, charged. with being an accessory thereto, on remand from the Police Court, were brought before the Court by **Inspector Foran**. The first named prisoner is a young man of about eighteen years of age ; and the other is ' something above twenty. The former held down his head, and throughout the inquiry appeared to feel the awful nature of the situation in which his misconduct had placed him ; but the latter appeared intelligent, and asked a number of questions from several of the witnesses.

**James Rush**, sergeant of police in the **B. Division**, on being called, deposed as follows : At about half past eleven o'clock on the night of the 26th March last, I went into the Sportsman Inn, at the corner of Pitt and Goulburn streets ; was in plain clothes at the time ; while in the act of drinking a glass of ale a soldier, whom I believe to be the prisoner Pike, came in with a rifle in his hand ; I observed blood on the back of his

left hand, and on the rifle something like part of a woman's dress ; I thought there was something wrong in the soldier having a rifle with him ; I gave Mr. Cowell, the publican, a wink, and turned round for the purpose of closing the door, when I observed another soldier outside with his rifle at the charge pointed towards the house ; the soldier inside said, " come in and have a drink," to which the soldier outside replied " come out of that you b--y fool, don't you see ? " I did not think it safe to interfere ; the soldier in the house, after drinking a glass of ale, went out ; I remarked to Cowell "there is something wrong; I will follow them ; " I did follow them ; they went down Goulburn-street, and passed constable Potter ; when I came up to constable Potter I told him to follow them at some distance ; when they reached Sussex-street they turned to the left, and went down Sussex-street South ; I saw a Policeman standing at the corner of Sussex and Goulburn streets, and he was joined by constable Potter immediately afterwards ; as I followed after the soldiers I heard one of them remark, " I tell you it is not ;" I saw that the rifles were capped ; I came up by the men, and Hughes said to me, " where is the Old Australian Inn? " I replied " I do not know ; I know Stewart's Australian Inn, and I will show it you." I further remarked " I suppose you are strangers in Sydney, having your rifles, and come off a long journey;" Hughes replied " we have just come up from Melbourne by the steamer," which I knew to be false. When the prisoners got near Mr. Cooper's wine stores, Sussex-street South, they turned to the right. I said " you had better not go that way or you will get bogged, it takes you into the harbour." Hughes said "you had better come no further." I said " I will ; I live that way, and am going home; I will show to you the house you asked for," I saw two policemen coming down Sussex street towards us. The soldiers proceeded into George-street, and passed over to the Haymarket, talking to each other, but I did not hear what they said ; while passing over the Haymarket they turned round and presented their rifles at me ; I thought it best to retreat, which I did very slowly ; as soon as I got out of the

soldiers' sight I ran in to Goulburn street, and asked Mr. Quigley, a publican, to lend me a black coat, which he did ; I went up Goulburn street and met inspector McGee coming out of Durand's-alley with a female prisoner and several constables ; I said to inspector McGee "there are two soldiers out with rifles, and I think they mean mischief :" he asked " Where are they? " and at the same time the soldiers passed up Pitt-street. McGee said " Come on, let us take them " I laid hold of the inspector and said " You had better not go, they will shoot you ; I have changed my clothes since the soldiers last saw me, they will not know me; I will get them into a public-house, and while there you can come up with some other men and secure them;" he replied "that will be the best way ; I followed the soldiers up Pitt-street ; they turned into Liverpool-street, and as soon as they turned the corner I heard some person running ; the soldiers turned round and commenced running also ; I was on the prisoners' right at the time, and I stepped over and faced Hughes; he presented his rifle at me ; I hit the rifle aside, and struck at the man, but the blow did not take effect ; the soldier stepped back and placed his rifle on my chest ; I knocked the rifle aside again and struck the man on the forehead, which cut his forehead and staggered him ; I flung my arms around him and the rifle and held him tight ; at that moment I saw sergeant Rooney passing, and I called out to him to come and take the rifle ; he came and wrenched the rifle from the prisoner Hughes' hands ; I then let the man go and knocked him down, and while he was down I, with the assistance of sergeant Rooney, secured him ; I then said to sergeant Rooney, "go and see where the inspector is," and at the same moment I heard the words " stop or I will shoot you " ; in reply, I heard the deceased say, " Don t fire, you coward ;" immediately afterward I heard the report of a gun ; about half a minute after that sergeant Rooney and constable Connaughty came round with the prisoner Pike ; I took the rifle and found by the smell of gunpowder, as also by its feeling warm, that it had been recently used ; I then picked up the rifle lying on the

ground, and found it was loaded and half cocked; with the assistance of the other two officers I took the two prisoners to the B station-house ; I searched Hughes and found on him nineteen rounds of ball cartridge, between twenty and thirty percussion caps, and a stopper to fit in the rifles; I also saw nineteen rounds found on the prisoner Pike; each prisoner had a package broken, as though a charge had been taken out of them ; the next morning the prisoners were brought before the Police Court : on that day (27th March), I went to the Victoria Barracks, and in my presence the charge now produced was drawn from the rifle taken from Hughes ; in the afternoon, as the prisoners were being brought out of the Central Police Court, the prisoner Pike said, "How is the man that was shot? I replied "He is very bad ; you had better not say anything to me about this charge, or I shall give it in evidence against you ; " he then said, I did not intend to shoot him ; " I said. " you did very wrong in bringing your rifles out at all " ; he answered, " we wanted something before we left Sydney, as we intended to have taken the bush if you had not come across us."

**By a juryman** : I do not know whether the prisoners knew me when they first saw me at the public-house ; they had ample opportunity to shoot me while I was following them ; had I not gone away when they told me, at the Haymarket, I should have been in danger of my life.

**By the Coroner** : I produce a piece of lead given me by Mr. Dixon, who said he found it in his house ; he lives in Castlereagh. Street, near where the deceased was shot ; the prisoners appeared to know what they were doing, but they were excited ; I saw Mr. McGee at the Dungate Inn the same night, and asked him if he was much hurt ; he replied, " hurt, yes. ' The prisoners declined to ask this witness any questions.

**Francis Rooney**, sergeant of police in the **B division**, deposed : On the night of the 26th March last was on duty in company with the deceased, inspector McGee, in Goulburn-street ;

sergeant Rush came and reported to us that two soldiers, having guns in their possession, were in Pitt-street, and that one of them had his hands smeared with blood ; all three of us proceeded into Pitt-street at once, and we observed the soldiers going along the middle of the street towards Liverpool -street ; each of the soldiers had a gun ; they turned up from Pitt to Liverpool street, and were walking quickly ; we followed them ; we were dressed in police uniform, and the soldiers were dressed in their military uniform ; we ran after the soldiers, and they, apparently seeing us, ran up toward Castlereagh-street ; sergeant Rush was in advance of me and the deceased ; I saw sergeant Rush lay hold of the prisoner Hughes by the neck and put his arms round his (Hughes') arms ; the prisoner still held the gun under his arm, and sergeant Rush tried to shift it ; I and the deceased came up, when the prisoner pointed the gun at me ; I caught hold of the gun, pushed it aside, and wrenched it out of his hands ; sergeant Rush then knocked the prisoner down and secured him ; the deceased started off after the other prisoner (Pike), who turned round into Castlereagh-street; a few seconds afterwards, I heard a report of a gun in the direction in which the prisoner had ran ; I left the prisoner Hughes in charge of sergeant Rush, and followed after the deceased, and when I turned the corner I saw the deceased being carried by two men into the Dungate Inn ; I followed after the prisoner Pike, and when I came up to him he was in the custody of constable Connaughty ; I assisted to secure the prisoner, and we proceeded with him to where I had left sergeant Rush with the prisoner Hughes, and we then took both prisoners to the B division watch house ; both prisoners appeared sober, cool, and fluent ; The same night a report was received from the military barracks that Patrick Hughes and William Pike were absent from the barracks with firearms and ammunition ; I am not positive whether the prisoners wore belts when apprehended ; they had no side firearms ; the gun taken from Hughes was loaded. The prisoners declined to ask this witness any questions.

**Timothy A. Cowell** said ; I keep the inn known by the sign of the Sportsman, at the corner of Pitt and Goulburn streets ; at about five minutes after eleven o'clock on the night of the 26th March last, the prisoner Hughes and a civilian came into my bar ; the civilian called for a pint of ale, which he paid for, and which was drunk between them ; Hughes drank part of his and went outside, and during his absence sergeant Rush came in in plain clothes ; both prisoners came immediately afterwards, each having a rifle in his hand ; Mr. Rush looked at the men with suspicion, and appeared as though he was going to close the doors on them ; one of the rifles had part of a woman's skirt on it, much smeared with blood I said to Mr. Hush " there is something wrong them" he replied, " I will follow them and see what they are up to;" the soldiers then went away, and Mr. Rush followed them; half an hour afterwards I saw the two soldiers come up Pitt-street, and Mr. Rush came up Goulburn-street ; Mr. Rush had changed his coat ; he was followed by inspector McGee and three or four constables, and they all followed the soldiers up Pitt-street ; I closed my door and followed after the police ; just after turning the corner of Liverpool-street, the soldiers commenced running, and the police after them ; I saw Mr. Rush seize hold of Hughes, and I went to assist him I saw Hughes twice place his rifle against Mr. Rush's breast, as if he wanted to let the rifle off ; before I could render any assistance, sergeants Rush and Rooney had Hughes on the ground and secured ; I then went into Castlereagh -street and saw the barrel of a rifle projecting from a butcher's shop, and I saw Mr. McGee and two other police officers in front of the rifle ; the rifle was let off, and Mr. McGee said "I am shot;" I took hold of him and assisted him to sit down, and also assisted to put the handcuffs on Pike ; I then assisted to carry Mr. McGee into the Dungate Inn ; I went to the Police Station with the police, and saw a quantity of ammunition taken from both prisoners ; I heard Pike, when he was on his way to the station house, say he was sorry what he had done; when I saw the rifle projecting from the butcher's shop I heard someone

say " I will fire," when Mr. McGee said, " don't fire you coward;" I think the distance Between Mr. McGee and the rifle, when it went off, was about ten yards ; the rents in the clothes now produced corresponded with those caused by the gunshot wounds, the rifle, when it went off, was pointed in the direction of Mr. Dixon's house ; Pike was very much excited when apprehended.

**By the prisoner Hughes :** Sergeant Rush was in front of you when you had your rifle against him ; there was part of a skirt of a dress on your rifle ; I cannot say whether there was any blood on the rifle.

**Sergeant John Marsland,** of the 12th Regiment, deposed : I know the prisoners before the court ; Hughes belongs to my company, and has been in the regiment since he was a boy ; Pike landed here on the 9th July last and they are both in the habit of drinking, and they have been punished for it ; on the 26th March last Hughes' was confined in barracks, and was reported absent at about half-past eight o'clock p.m. ; 1 hour later Pike was reported missing ; their rifles were also found to be missing ; it is contrary to the regulations to take arms out of the barracks without orders ; the men are served with twenty rounds ammunition each for their Enfield rifles ; after the prisoners were reported missing I got a picket, by order of the commanding officer, and went down to the town to look for the missing men. ; I reported the absence of the men at the different police stations ; I left the picket at the Detective Police Office, and went with inspector Hogg in search of the prisoners ; we were informed by a constable of the shooting of inspector McGee by one of the prisoners ; I believe Pike was apprehended once before for being a deserter but he had not his rifle with him then ; the men have to be in barracks by eight o'clock in the winter, and at nine o'clock in the summer.

**By the prisoner Hughes :** The cause of your misfortunes in the regiment is drink.

**By the Coroner :** I believe that Hughes struck a non commissioned officer once. By the prisoner Hughes : You are a pretty good soldier when sober.

**Constable James Potter** said : The clothes produced are those worn by Inspector McGee on the night of the 26th March inst. I helped to strip him and to convey him to the infirmary : I was present when he was shot ; and I heard the prisoner Pike say " stand back or I'll shot you ; " and I heard Mr McGee say, " don't fire, you coward ;" I saw the rifle go off, and heard Mr. McGee say " I am shot," you pulled the trigger yourself ; " There was no person near enough to Pike when he fired the rifle to pull the trigger but himself.

**By the prisoner Hughes :** The night was too dark to see the trigger or Pike's rifle.

**Constable Patrick Connaughty**, who was also present at the affray, corroborated the testimony of the other witnesses.

**Richard Dixon**, a tailor residing at **366, Castlereagh-street**, deposed : On the night of the 26th March last, I heard the report of a gun ; I got out of bed, procured a light, and found at the foot of my bed the piece of lead now produced ; it appears that one of the posts of my bed had been struck by the bullet : I found the upper square of glass in my window shattered.

**John Cecil Read**, **inspector** of the **B division**, said, the deceased inspector McGee was an inspector under me in the division ; he was shot on the night of the 26th March last, and I had him conveyed to the Infirmary ; I understand he has been twenty years in the police service ; I have known him for five years ; he was generally liked both by the police and the public ; he was a very active police officer ; he leaves a wife and five children not well provided for.

**James Robertson, M.D.**, surgeon to the Sydney Infirmary deposed : Alexander McGee was admitted as an in-patient into the

Sydney Infirmary on the 27th March, and died on the 22nd May. He had received a wound on the right groin, immediately to the outside of the artery in that part. There was also a wound in the buttock of the same side. These wounds were no doubt caused by a bullet, the first mentioned being the point of entrance, the latter the place of exit. He died from the effects of this wound. The bullet passed between the points mentioned through the arch of the thigh bone. The wound was almost certain to prove fatal from the first. After death I made an internal examination of the wounded parts. I did not find any foreign body therein ; the deceased told me he had been shot by a soldier ; such a wound might have been caused by such a bullet as that now shown me.

**The Coroner** then summed up, and the jury, after five minutes' consideration, agreed to the following verdict :- " We find that the deceased. **Alexander McGee, died from the effects of a gun shot wound**, fired by William Pike at inspector McGee, and we pronounce him guilty of **wilful murder** ; and we find **Patrick Hughes** guilty of being an **accessory before the act**, and pronounce him guilty of wilful murder."

**The jury** appended the following rider to their verdict:-" We (the jury) unanimously beg, in the strongest possible manner, to recommend the unfortunate widow and five children of the late inspector McGee to the kind consideration of the Government, and more especially after the many years that the late Mr. McGee has discharged his duties with so much, credit to himself, and with such utility to the public. And we also consider it our duty to record, on our behalf as well as on the part of the public generally, our high approval of the conduct of sergeant Rush, who was not on duty on the night in question, and of the conduct of sergeant Rooney and constables Potter and Connaughty."

The prisoners Pike and Hughes were then removed in custody to the gaol, at **Darlinghurst**, to await their trial at the next sitting of the **Central Criminal Court**.

Empire ( Sydney )  
**Saturday 26 May 1860** p 4  
**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

**FRIDAY, 25th MAY.**

The **SPEAKER** took the chair at half-past three o'clock.

**THE LATE INSPECTOR MCGEE.**

Mr. **ROBERTSON** in reply to a question from Mr. Hoskins, said that the widow of Alexander McGee, late Inspector of Police, recently deceased, who died from the effects of a **wound received in the execution of his duty**, would receive an allowance, which would be provided from the Police Superannuation Fund, under the recommendation of the Board who managed it.

Empire ( Sydney )  
**Wednesday 6 June 1860** p 3  
**CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.-Tuesday.**

**BEFORE Mr. Justice Wise.**

**MURDER.**

**William Pike** and **Patrick Hughes**, private soldiers of the **12th Regiment**, were indicted for having at Sydney, on the 26th March, 1860, feloniously, wilfully, and of their malice aforethought, killed one Alexander McGee.

The **Attorney-General** conducted the prosecution. The prisoners were defended by **Mr. Isaacs**.

The first witness called was **constable Connaughty**, of the **Sydney police**. He deposed that on the day named in the indictment, Monday, 30th March, he saw the prisoners going along Goulburn-street, with fire-arms in their possession. Followed them into Pitt-street, where witness was joined by inspector McGee, and two other police officers. The prisoner Hughes was arrested by sergeants Rush and Rooney. Witness and deceased pursued Pike into Castlereagh-street. When they passed Liverpool-street, Pike turned round and said, that if they attempted " to come near him," or " apprehend him" he would shoot them, McGee said, " don't fire, you coward," he afterwards ran up Castlereagh-street, followed by witness and deceased, When they were within three or four yards of the prisoner he turned round and fired, and deceased called out " I am shot." The prisoner said " you pulled the trigger yourself." Deceased was not near enough to touch the rifle. About half-a-minute elapsed between the time when the prisoner said he would fire and the time when deceased was shot. Prisoner had run about twelve yards. Pike was subsequently taken by witness and some other constables. On his person were found nineteen rounds of ball cartridge and some percussion caps.

**Cross-examined by Mr. Isaacs** : Witness and deceased were equally close to the prisoner when he fired. Believed that constable Potter was close behind. As the prisoner went along, he had his piece at the trail.

**By the Attorney-General**: Did lose sight of Pike between his leaving the Haymarket and firing his piece, but did not lose sight of him after he threatened to shoot until he fired.

**By his Honor** : Before the shot was fired McGee said nothing to the prisoner except what had already been told. After the shot was fired, he said "secure that scoundrel."

**Sergeant Rush**, of the Sydney police, deposed that, on the night of the day named in the indictment, he saw the prisoner

Hughes drinking ale in Cowell's public house at the Haymarket. He observed that he had his rifle. Witness was not on duty, and was not in uniform. He observed that Hughes had the skirt of a woman's gown on his rifle, and that there was blood on the back of his hand. Witness saw Pike outside with his rifle at the charge, pointing into the public-house. Hughes called to him to come in and have a drink, when Pike said " come out of that you b--y fool, don't you see ?" Hughes came out, and both went away, followed by witness. The prisoners asked witness where was the Old Australian Inn, and witness said he knew where Stewart's Australian Inn was, and he would show it to them. Witness said " you must be strangers in Sydney, as you have your rifles, and don't know your way." Hughes said,"yes, we have just arrived from Melbourne." After proceeding some distance, one of the prisoners said that he had better not follow them any farther, and witness said he was going home, and would show them the house they asked for. Having gone a little farther, the prisoners turned round and presented their pieces, telling the witness to go away. Believing himself to be in danger, he walked away slowly, until he met inspector McGee, and some other policemen. Witness subsequently apprehended Hughes. Before he was taken he twice placed the rifle at the breast of witness, and kept rambling in his pocket for a cap. While he was securing Hughes, he heard someone call out " Don't come any nearer or I will fire," and heard McGee voice calling out " Don't fire, you coward." Witness subsequently took both the prisoners to the watch-house assisted by other officers. Saw the charge produced drawn out of Hughes' rifle at the watch-house. On Tuesday, after the prisoners were remanded. Pike asked witness " How is the man who was shot. ' On witness making some reply, he said " I did not intend to shoot him." Witness said " You did wrong in coming out of the barracks with your rifles at all." Pike said " We wanted something before we left Sydney, as we intended to take the bush for it,"

**Cross-examined:** It was between eleven and twelve at night when

witness saw the prisoners at the public house. Was standing in front of the bar when Hughes came in. Believed it was Hughes that came in and drank at the bar. Believed that he said it was Hughes that came in and Pike that stood outside when he gave his evidence on former occasions. (The witness' deposition were here placed in his hands.) Believed still that it was Pike who stood outside. He had his piece at the charge, but not presented. When the conversation took place about the Old Australian Inn, the prisoner had their pieces at the trail. Believed he had never said that they had their arms at the charge at this time. [The depositions were handed to the witness.] When witness was apprehending Hughes the prisoner twice brought the piece to the present. The first was not a good present; the second was. At the second time, witness threw his arms round the prisoner, and called to sergeant Rooney, who took the rifle away.

**By the Attorney-General:** From the time when Hughes first presented his piece till he was arrested, a very short period elapsed.

**By Mr. Isaacs :** Could have heard the words, " Don't come any further," or " Don't follow me," distinctly, but was otherwise engaged, and did not recollect the exact words.

**Sergeant Rooney,** of the Sydney police, corroborated the evidence of the preceding witnesses. He accompanied inspector McGee in pursuit of the prisoners. Followed them at a distance of about twenty yards. When they turned round the corner, at the Sugar Works, witness and McGee ran. When they came into Liverpool-street, saw Rush and Hughes scuffling, and took the rifle away. Rush knocked Hughes down and witness handcuffed him. On the way to the station Pike said that if he shot the man he would suffer for it. The prisoners appeared to be sober.

**Cross-examined :** Witness took the rifle from the prisoner. Never said that it was Rush who took away the rifle.

**By his Honor** : While witness and McGee were together, neither spoke to the prisoners.

**Dr. Robertson**, surgeon to the Sydney Infirmary, de-posed to McGee having been received into that institution. He was suffering from a gun-shot wound in the groin. The wound was the cause of death. The ball had gone through the neck of the thigh-bone.

**By Mr. Isaacs** : Such a wound would almost necessarily be fatal from the first. Never knew a case of recovery wherein the thigh-bone was shattered. The ball had gone right through the neck of the thigh-bone at a place where the bone is thick. Examined the body after death, and observed a variety of symptoms, the natural result of the wound. The external orifice of the wound had at one time completely healed ; that was proper treatment, inasmuch aa the matter passed out at another opening below.

**By his Honor** : The ball entered in front. If the par-ties were close, the weapon must have been pointed downwards. Deceased appeared to be rather a tall man.

By Mr. Isaacs: McGee died on the 22nd May, and witness first saw him on the 27th March. Did not say that the wound was necessarily fatal from the first, but that it was almost so. That was not a long period for a man to survive after receiving a fatal wound.

**Alfred Cowell**, a publican, living at the corner of Pitt and Goulburn streets, corroborated the evidence of the preceding witnesses, as to what occurred at his house. Hughes was in company with a civilian when he first came to the house. The witness was also present when McGee was shot, and he accompanied the prisoners to the watch-house. Heard Pike say that he was sorry of what he had done.

**By Mr. Isaacs** : Could not say how near the rifle was to McGee when it was first presented. When it was fired McGee was about

twelve feet away, the rifle projecting from the side of a wooden house, close to which the prisoner stood.

**By his Honor:** Was distant about ten or twelve yards from McGee and the soldier when the shot was fired. When Hughes first came into the public-house, he had not the rifle with him. He wanted to take out some drink ; and witness not allowing him to do so, he went out, and came back in company with the other soldier, Hughes this time carrying his rifle. It was between his coming in and going out that Rush came in. Pike only took one step inside the door. He did not come up to the bar.

**Constable Potter,** of the Sydney police, corroborated the proceeding evidence, as to what took place at the time when McGee was shot.

**By Mr. Isaacs :** Saw the prisoners go along Goulburn street in the course of the night. Noticed nothing particular about them, except that they had fire-arms, and that the barrels of the rifles were covered up. Witness was behind McGee when the shot was fired. Was not in a line with the deceased, but was a little towards one side. Deceased was at the curb, prisoner was in a gateway. Heard the words used by Pike-" Stand back, or I'll shoot you," or some words to that effect. The caution was spoken twice. After it was spoken the second time deceased did not advance. To the best of his belief, McGee was about two yards from Pike when the shot was fired. The prisoner was in a gateway, but was not out of sight or behind a corner.

**By his Honor :** There were marks of fire both on the coat and trousers of deceased.

**Richard Dickson,** residing in Castlereagh-street, deposed that on the day following the occurrence, a bullet was found in his house, which was opposite the place where the shot was fired. The bullet had struck the wall about sixteen feet from the ground.

**Sergeant Marsden,** of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment, proved that one of

the two rifles produced belonged to Hughes ; who the other belonged to, he could not say. Saw the prisoners on the evening of the 27th. Did not see them again till he saw them in the Court.

**Mr. Isaacs** submitted that there was no case to go to the jury, in regard to either of the prisoners.

**His Honor** said he could not understand why the case should be shut out from the jury ; but he would like to hear what evidence there was that the police were in the execution of their duty in arresting the men.

**The Attorney-General** said there was no immediate evidence to that effect; but it was quite clear that a man had lost his life by the acts of the accused.

Mr. Isaacs still adhered to his opinion. He submitted that in regard to Hughes there was no case whatever. It was not shown there was any previous compact, and therefore. Hughes could not be an accessory before the fact.

**The Attorney-General** submitted that it was clear from the evidence that there was a " joint object on the part of the prisoners, from beginning to end, namely, to shoot whomsoever interfered with them, in the proceeding which they had adopted, of going about the city at a late hour at night with loaded firearms in their hands.

**His Honor** thought there was no evidence to show a joint intention to kill anyone, and that, therefore, there was no evidence to criminate Hughes. The only offence of which the prisoners were shown to have been guilty, in the first instance, was carrying loaded fire-arms through the streets, and that was no offence at the present time, although it was an offence three months ago. He should direct the jury to return a verdict of not guilty in the case of Hughes. ' '

**Mr. Isaacs** then proceeded to argue that there was no case

against the prisoner. There was nothing to justify the police in interfering with the men. No felony had been committed ; there was no reason to suppose that a felony had been committed. The Arms Act, be believed, was not in existence since November last ; but at all events, it was sufficient for his purpose that the Act was not now in force; and if it were, the military were exempt from its operation. There was not word addressed to the men from beginning to end by any policeman in uniform, except the words used by deceased, " don't shoot, you coward ;" and there was no reason to believe that the accused were not themselves looking for deserters, and therefore having the best cause to keep themselves aloof from other persons. The learned counsel cited two cases in support of his argument ; but eventually admitted that the several cases went rather to show that the circumstances on which he laid stress, simply went to reduce the crime for murder to a lesser offence.

**The Attorney-General** contended that the charge of murder was sustainable, inasmuch as the aggression came from the prisoner Pike. That he was the aggressor was shown by the fact that he had, before receiving any provocation from the deceased, either by word or act, held out a threat, saying, " If you follow me, I will shoot you."

**Mr. Isaacs** addressed the jury, for the defence." He commenced by urging upon them to disabuse their minds of any impression which they might have received from the extensive discussion which the case had received in the public prints and otherwise. He submitted that if they arrived at the conclusion that the prisoner believed the police were about to arrest him, then the crime was reduced from murder to manslaughter, for the deceased had no more right in law to arrest the prisoners than to arrest him, while he was addressing the jury. He contended, however, that there was good reason to believe that the rifle went off accidentally, looking at the fact that the prisoner previously had ample occasion to fire

after the commencement of the pursuit, and had, half a-minute before, presented the weapon without firing.

**The Attorney-General** declined to reply.

**His Honor** summed up.

**The jury**, after a consultation of twenty minutes, returned a verdict of not guilty in the case of Hughes, finding Pike guilty of manslaughter.

**His Honor** sentenced **Pike** to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the **gaol** at **Darlinghurst**, for a period of **three years**. **Hughes** was remanded to the **custody of the military authorities**.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/rendition/nla.news-article60411298.txt>

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## John SMITH

19/08/2015

### John SMITH

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # ?

Rank: Trooper

Stations: ? , Araluen

Service: From ? to 10 February 1860

**Awards: ?**

**Born: ? ? ?**

**Died on: 10 February 1860**

**Cause: Drowned**

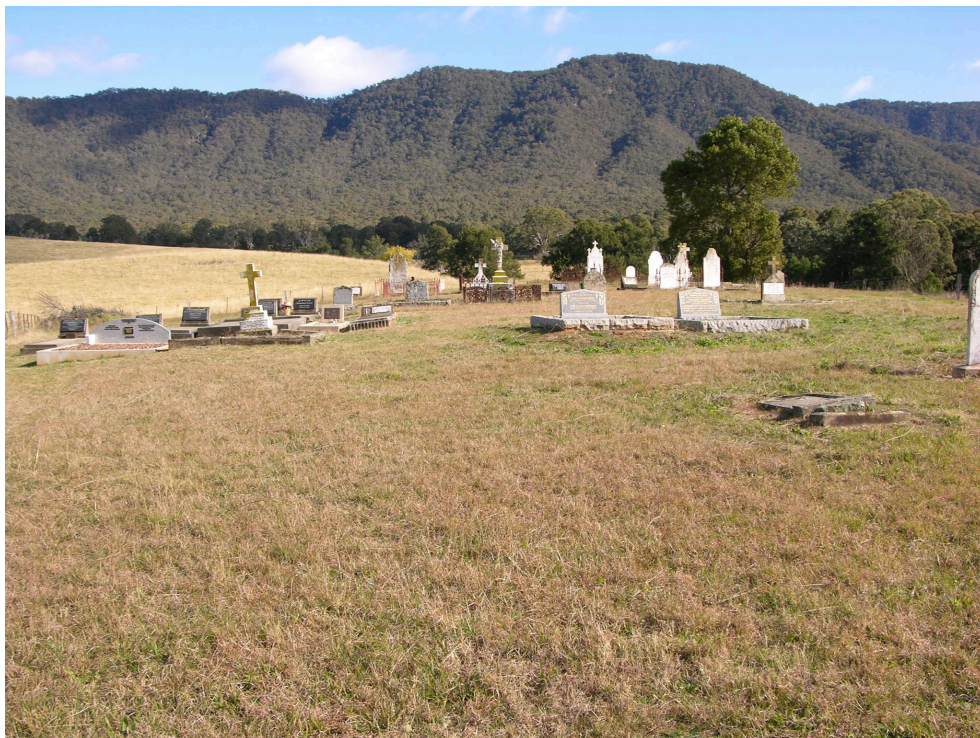
**Event location: Crown Flat, Araluen**

**Age: ?**

**Funeral date: ?**

**Funeral location: ?**

**Buried at: Unmarked grave at Araluen Catholic Cemetery**



Trooper SMITH lies in an unmarked grave at Araluen Catholic Cemetery.

**[alert\_yellow]JOHN is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance[/alert\_yellow]**

The trooper was drowned in severe floods at Araluen in February, 1860. **The Sydney Morning Herald of Monday 20 February, 1860** graphically reported the floods, advising of "Losses to life and property, the extent of which are yet not known, from a subject of a dark page in the annals of Braidwood and surrounding districts." It went on to describe the sad death of Trooper Smith.

*...The next calamity to human life occurred at the police camp. Trooper Smith, who had lately joined the force, was endeavouring to escape to Mr. Sweeney's house, when the current carried him off, and his corpse was discovered when the water subsided; it was entirely buried in the sand, part of the arm projecting. Several bodies not known have been recovered, and it is anticipated that at least seventeen human beings have lost their lives in the Araluen flood. ....*

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/13036792?searchTerm=trooper%20john%20smith&searchLimits=l-decade=186|||l-year=1860>

At the time of his death the trooper was stationed at Araluen. No further details are known as yet.

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The Goulburn Herald ( NSW ) **Saturday 18 February 1860** p 2  
of 4

.....

One of the Troopers of the Southern Patrol, a fine young man named John Smith, was drowned while endeavouring to cross from the police camp to the Cornstalk Inn. In fact the destruction

is general and conceivably great. ....

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/103400139?searchTerm=trooper%20john%20smith&searchLimits=l-decade=186|||l-year=1860|||l-month=2#reloadOnBack>

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The Empire ( Sydney ) **Monday 20 February 1860** p 3 of 8

..... At the Police Camp the water rushed in, and one of the troopers named Smith, whilst making his way from there to Sweeney's public house, was carried away by the rushing torrent and met with a watery grave : his body, together with the bodies of two Chinamen, have been recovered. ....

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/64097583?searchTerm=trooper%20john%20smith&searchLimits=l-decade=186|||l-year=1860|||l-month=2>

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