

MURDER 1897 SILVERSTREAM

Ernest Alfred HAWTHORNE disappeared around 07 September 1897. His work mate Frank PHILPOTT gave various explanations for the disappearance of Ernest. As time moved on the local people and the authorities began to enquire deeper into Ernest's disappearance. Frank PHILPOTT was later found guilty of

VICTIM

Ernest Alfred Hawthorne murdered 07 September 1897

- 0- Alfred Francis HAWTHORNE born 25 September 1851 Kent England died 15 June 1912 Whakatane New Zealand 1st married 1876 Elizabeth Ann CLEMENT born 11 May 1853 Somerset England died 09 June 1887 Akaroa Canterbury New Zealand (5 Issue) 2nd married 1889 New Zealand Louisa Lucy HAWES born about 1872 died 1950 New Zealand (15 Issue)
#Alfred Francis HAWTHORNE married 1876 New Zealand Elizabeth Ann CLEMENT reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1876 folio 1576 website 1876/1628
#Alfred Francis HAWTHORNE saddler Fowlers residential reference Ancestry website 1896 Rangitikei Electoral roll Manawatu-Wanganui
#Eliza Ann [sic] HAWTHORNE died 1887 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1887 folio website 1887/2663 age 34 born about 1853
#Alfred Francis HAWTHORNE married 1889 New Zealand Louisa Lucy HAWES reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1889/3228
#Alfred Francis HAWTHORNE age 60 years died 15 June 1912 Whakatane New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1912 folio 943 website 1912/
#Alfred Francis HAWTHORNE age 60 years died 15 June 1912 New Zealand buried Domain Road cemetery Whakatane (no headstone)
#Louisa Lucy HAWTHORNE died 1950 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1950 folio website 1950/26339 age 78 born about 1872
- 0-1- Julia Elizabeth HAWTHORNE (aka CLEMENT) married BELCHER
#Julia Elizabeth HAWTHORNE born 1876 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1867 folio website 1876/1901 parents Elizabeth Ann and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
- 0-2- Ernest Alfred HAWTHORNE** born 21 February 1878 Akaroa Canterbury New Zealand died 07 September 1897 Silverstream New Zealand (never married)
- #Ernest Alfred HAWTHORNE born 21 February 1878 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1878 folio website 1878/2401 parents Elizabeth Ann and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
#Ernest Alfred HAWTHORNE died 1897 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1897 folio website 1897/2298 age 25 born about 1872
#Ernest Alfred HAWTHORNE was buried at Wallaceville cemetery Whitemans Valley.
- 0-3- William Henry HAWTHORNE born 1880 New Zealand
#William Henry HAWTHORNE born 1880 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1880 folio website 1880/6767 parents Elizabeth Ann and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
- 0-4- Alfred Francis Edwin HAWTHORNE born 1883 New Zealand
#Alfred Francis Edwin HAWTHORN [sic] born 1883 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1883 folio website 1883/8322 parents Elizabeth Ann and Alfred Francis Hawthorn
- 0-5- Robert Arnold Leonard HAWTHORNE born 1885 New Zealand
#Robert Arnold HAWTHORNE born 1885 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1885 folio website 1885/19684 parents Elizabeth Ann and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
- 0-6- Muriel Evelyn HAWTHORNE born 1887 New Zealand

- #Muriel Evelyn HAWTHORNE born 1887 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1887 folio website 1887/7313 parents Elizabeth Ann and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
- 0-7- Winifred Louisa HAWTHORNE born 1889 New Zealand
#Winifred Louisa HAWTHORNE born 1889 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1889 folio website 1889/14137 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-8- Mabel Lydia HAWTHORNE born 1891 New Zealand
#Mabel Lydia HAWTHORNE born 1891 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1891 folio website 18915993 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-9- Flora Bernice HAWTHORNE born 1892 New Zealand
#Flora Bernice HAWTHORNE born 1892 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1892 folio website 1892/3950 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-10- Frederick Charles HAWTHORNE born 1893 New Zealand
#Frederick Charles HAWTHORNE born 1893 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1893 folio website 1893/11966 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-11- Marguerite Lucy HAWTHORNE married MADSEN
#Marguerite Lucy HAWTHORNE born 1895 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1895 folio website 1895/15504 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-12- Oswald Thomas HAWTHORNE born 1897 New Zealand
#Oswald Thomas HAWTHORNE born 1897 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1897 folio website 1897/5377 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-13- Ethel Alice Mary HAWTHORNE born 1900 New Zealand
#Ethel Alice Mary HAWTHORNE born 1900 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1900 folio website 1900/137 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-14- Lori Francis George HAWTHORNE born 1901 New Zealand
#Lori Francis George HAWTHORNE born 1901 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1901 folio website 1901/639 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis
- 0-15- Edwin Bernard HAWTHORNE born 1904 New Zealand
#Edwin Bernard HAWTHORNE born 1904 New Zealand reference 1904 folio website 1904/7394 parents Louisa Lucy Hawthorne
- 0-16- Phyllis Bertha HAWTHORNE born 1905 New Zealand
#Phyllis Bertha HAWTHORNE born 1905 New Zealand reference 1905 folio website 1905/19534 parents Louisa Lucy Hawthorne
- 0-17- Ivor James HAWTHORNE born 1907 New Zealand
#Ivor James HAWTHORNE born 1907 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1907 folio website 1907/16281 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
- 0-18- Walter Vivian HAWTHORNE born 1909 New Zealand
#Walter Vivian HAWTHORNE born 1909 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1909 folio website 1909/24098 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis Hawthorne
- 0-19- Cyril Quinton HAWTHORNE born 1911 New Zealand
#Cyril Quinton HAWTHORNE born 1911 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1911 folio website 1911/1745 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Frances
- 0-20- Mervyn Harold HAWTHORNE born 1912 New Zealand
#Mervyn Harold HAWTHORNE born 1912 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1912 folio website 1912/28006 parents Louisa Lucy and Alfred Francis Hawthorne

PRISONER

Frank Philpott

Aliases William Henry Smith - Halcyon Maida Stanhope - Albert Wells – Albert Woods - H Woods

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- 0- Frank PHILPOTT** born about 1869-1871 Portsmouth England (not Taranaki New Zealand) died 23 March 1898 Terrace Gaol Wellington New Zealand [as Halcyon Maida Stanhope] married 26 October 1897 Wellington New Zealand **Sirch/Sarah Maud BAKER** born about 1867 Horsham Sussex England died

#Frank Philpott died 1898 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1898 June quarter folio 916 Wellington district New Zealand

#Frank PHILPOT age 27 years died buried 23 March 1898 Karori cemetery public section 731 plot 50820 record number Wellington reference Wellington City Council website cemetery database

#Intention to Marry application Wellington district 26 October 1897 Halcyon Maida Stanhope bachelor bushman age 27 residence Silverstream 7 weeks and Sarah/Siriah Maud BAKER spinster age 30 resident Silverstream 6 months intend to marry at Salvation Army Barracks Wellington by Major Joseph Birkenshaw reference Archives NZ Wellington ADAO 8937 BDM 20/ 45 Intention to marry application page 683 line 396

#Joseph Birkenshaw an Officer with Salvation Army stated that he married the prisoner and a lady on 25th October reference Archives NZ Wellington J1 591 x 1898/263 Mr Justice Edward Wellington 11 March 1898 reporting conviction of F Philpott for murder year 1898

#Halcyon Maida STANHOPE married 1897 New Zealand Sirch/Sarah Maud BAKER reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1897 folio 3980 website 1897/2642

#Marriage – Stanhope – Baker – On 26th October at Wellington Halcyon Maida Stanhope of Portsmouth England to Sirch Maude Baker of Horsham Sussex England reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 02 November 1897

#Sirch Maud STANHOPE Silverstream housekeeper residential 1900 Otaki Electoral Roll

#Sarah Maud BAKER married 1901 New Zealand Robey CROUCHER reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1901 folio 2295 website 1901/1970

#Sirch Maud CROUCHER domestic Bell Street 1905-1906 Wanganui Electoral Roll Manawatu-Wanganui

Or did FRANK PHILPOTT marry before under a different name

#Frank PHILPOTT married 1888 New Zealand Anna Eliza MARTIN reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1888 folio 173 website 1888/370

#Anna Eliza PHILPOTT married 1903 New Zealand Ole Elias OLSEN reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1903 folio 4960 website 1903/5088

#Anna Eliza MARTIN born 1871 New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1871 folio website 1871/15516 parents Eliza and James Martin

#Annie Eliza OLSEN died 30 May 1938 New Zealand reference RGONZ death registration 1938 folio website 1938/16355 age 66 born about 1872

#Annie Eliza OLSEN died 30 May 1938 age 66 born NZ buried Hillsborough cemetery Auckland H2 125 headstone "In loving memory of our darling wife and mother Anna E OLSEN died 30 May 1938 age 66 (verse) (Anderson) Hillsborough cemetery Auckland

NOTE - The 1887 New Zealand Police Gazette recorded James Philpott deserts wife and children pages 205 & 213 arrested page 250. Perhaps James Philpott (born 1861) may be related to Frank Philpott (born 1871)

Page 205 = James Philpot is charged on warrant issued by the Dunedin Bench with deserting his wife and four children at Dunedin since the 14th August 1886. Descriptions A native of Belfast Ireland a groom and coachman twenty nine years of age, about 5 feet 6 inches, medium build, dark hair and whiskers, moustache of rather a lighter colour, generally employed at livery stables. He is said to be now employed at Clifton Hill Stables Collingwood near Melbourne.

Page 213 – James Philpot charged on warrant with deserting his wife and four children at Dunedin is said to be living in Little Lonsdale Street near Little Bourke Street Melbourne.

Page 250 – James Philpot charged on warrant with deserting his wife and children at Dunedin has been arrested by the Melbourne Police remanded to Dunedin and committed for trial.

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1887)

Taranaki Herald newspaper 04 January 1887

Police Court This Day Tuesday 04 January (1887) Before C E Rawson Esquire, RM Larceny – Frank Philpott aged 16 appeared under arrest on the charge that he did on the 29th December at Inglewood feloniously steal one purse of the value of one shilling and sixpence together with thirteen shillings and two pence the property of John Bolat. Defendant was bush felling for Bolat

and was lodging in his house and while there stole the purse. Hui worship sentenced him to one months imprisonment with hard labour – The Court rose

(Reference papers past website Taranaki Herald newspaper 04 January 1887)

Police Gazette 1887 – Wellington Wednesday 16 February 1887

Return of prisoners reported as discharged

Gaol	New Plymouth
Name	Frank Philpott
Where tried	New Plymouth
When	04 January 1887
Offence	larceny
Sentence	1 month's labour
Born	England
Trade	Bootmaker
Born	1871
Height	5 feet 3½ inches
Complexion	fair
Hair	brown
Eyes	grey
Nose	medium
Mouth	medium
Chin	medium
Remarks and previous conviction	Scar on back of left hand and on left leg

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1887 page 37)

Police Gazette 1890 – Wellington Wednesday 07 May 1890

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged

Gaol	New Plymouth
Name	William Henry Smith alias Frederick Philpott alias Frank Philpott
Where tried	New Plymouth
When	17 April 1890
Offence	larceny
Sentence	acquitted at Supreme Court
Native of	England
Trade	bootmaker
Born	1867
Height	5feet 4½ inches
Complexion	flair
Hair	brown
Éyes	hazel
Nose	medium
Mouth	medium
Chin	medium
Remarks previous convictions	= Several previous convictions. Anchor tattooed on left arm, two dots on right arm, and fish on left thigh

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1890 page 93)

Police Gazette 1890 – Wellington Wednesday 16 July 1890

Return of Prisoners tried at the different Supreme and District Courts 1890

Name	William Henry Smith alias Frank Philpot
Offence	Stealing from a person
Where and when tried	Supreme Court New Plymouth 21 April
Sentence	Acquitted
By whom arrested	Sergeant John Duffin

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1890 page 135)

Police Gazette 1890 – Wellington Wednesday 27 August 1890

On the 28th or 29th ultimo the whare of Matina te Kawa Nukumaru Taranaki was broken into and the following stolen – A new white single blanket with reddish stripes at ends value 12a, a nearly new grey single blanket value 10s, a large dark Kaiapoi woollen rug nearly new value £2 2s a large piece of greenstone like a water bottle in shape with a hole on top value £3, and nine brass tea-spoons value 5s. Identifiable except the spoons. Suspicion attached to William Henry Smith Alias Frederick Philpott. He was near the place on the evening of the 28th untimo and then had no swag, and early on the following morning he was seen going away from the locality and then had a swag. (For his description description, &c see Police Gazette 1890 page 93) He is supposed to have gone to Murwmutu.

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1890 page 160)

Police Gazette 1891 – Wellington Wednesday 21 October 1891

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged from Gaol during the fortnight ending 10th October 1891

Gaol	Wanganui
Name	Frank Philpott
Where tried	Foxton
When	30 June 1891
Offence	larceny
Sentence	3 months labour
Native of	England
Trade	shoemaker
Born	1870
Height	5feet 4½ inches
Complexion	pale
Hair	dark brown
Eyes	hazel
Nose	medium
Mouth	medium

Where photographed and date = Wanganui 04/07/1891

Remarks and Previous convictions = 6 p.c. (see Police Gazette 1890 page 93)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1891 page 184)

Manawatu Heralds newspaper 17 November 1891

Justice Court Monday 16 November (1891) before J Russell and E S Thynne J's .P. Criminal – The evidence showed that a man named Frank Philpott had resided in the house for the past three weeks doing nothing and against whom frequent convictions had been recorded. The accused was sentenced to seven days imprisonment with hard labour in Wanganui gaol to run concurrently with the previous sentence. Frank Philpott alias Smith was charged with being an idle and disorderly person having no visible lawful means of support. The prisoner attempted some explanation as to how he had been employed since being released from gaol at the end of September but being unsatisfactory he was sentenced to seven days imprisonment with hard labour in Wanganui Gaol

(Reference Papers past website Manawatu Heralds newspaper 17 November 1891 page 2)

Police Gazette 1891 – Wellington Wednesday 02 December 1891

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged from Gaols during the fortnight ending 21 November 1891

Gaol	Wanganui
Name	Frank Philpott alias William Henry Smith
Where tried	Foxton
When	16 November 1891
Offence	vagrancy
Sentence	7 days labour
Native of	England
Trade	shoemaker
Born	1870

Height	5 feet 4½ inches
Complexion	pale
Hair	dark brown
Eyes	hazel
Nose	medium
Mouth	medium
Where photographed and date = Wanganui 04/07/1891	
Remarks and Previous convictions = 7 p.c. (See Police gazette 1891 page 184)	

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1891 page 207)

Police Gazette 1892 – Wellington Wednesday 14 December 1892

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged	
Gaol	Wellington
Name	William Henry Smith alias Frederick alias Frank Philpott
Where tried	Wellington
When	28 November 1892
Offence	breaking and entering arson
Sentence	acquitted at S.C. bill ignored
Native of	England
Trade	bootmaker
Born	1869
Height	5feet 4½ inches
Complexion	sallow
Hair	brown
Eyes	hazel
Nose	medium
Where photographed and date = Wanganui 04/07/1891	
Remarks and Previous convictions = two dots on right arm, anchor on left arm (See Police gazette 1891 page 207)	

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1892 page 206)

Police Gazette 1892 – Wellington Wednesday 29 December 1892

Return of Prisoners tried at the Supreme and District Courts 1892	
Name	William Henry Smith alias Frederick alias Frank Philpott
Offence	Larceny and arson
Where and when tried	Supreme Court Wellington 28 November
Sentence	Bills ignored

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1892 page 214)

Police Gazette 1893 – Wellington Wednesday 31 May 1893

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged from Gaols during the fortnight ending 20 May 1893	
Gaol	Wellington
Name	William Henry Smith alias Frank Pjilpott
Where tried	Otaki
When	06 December 1892
Offence	larceny
Sentence	6 months
Native of	England
Trade	bootmaker
Born	1869
Height	5 feet 4½ inches
Complexion	sallow
Hair	dark
Eyes	brown
Nose	medium
Where photographed and date = Wanganui 04/07/1891	

Remarks and Previous convictions = 7 p.c. (See Police gazette 1891 page 207)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1893 page 90)

New Zealand Times newspaper 09 September 1893

Frank Philpott, alias William Henry Smith was charged with the larceny of a watch and other articles from Mrs Duff and also with obtaining money on two occasions from Rose Grangaux under false pretences. On the two charges of obtaining money under false pretence he was committed for trial at the next criminal sessions of the Supreme Court. On the charge of larceny he was convicted and sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labour.

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 09 September 1893)

Evening Post newspaper 21 November 1893

The quarterly criminal session of the Supreme Court will be held next Monday by the Chief Justice. The following is the present state of the calendar – (various names) Frank Philpott alias J H Smith false pretences

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 21 November 1893 page 2)

New Zealand Times newspaper 05 December 1893

Found Guilty of Fraud – Obtaining Money Under Promise to Marry - At the Supreme Court yesterday morning before the Chief Justice Frank Philpot alias John Henry Smith was arraigned upon an indictment charging him with having on the 08th August falsely pretended to be willing to marry Rose Grangaux from England that Mr J W Poynton (solicitor) had been instructed to receive these moneys and that by those means he fraudulently obtained £10 from Rose Grangaux. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. Rose Grandaux stated that she was domestic servant at Mrs Duff's boarding house in August last Prisoner whom she had known for four months previously and with whom she had been keeping company went to live at Mrs Duff's at the same time. They had previously lived at Mrs Dempsey's boarding house witness as servant and prisoner as boarder telling witness that he had £175 coming to him from London and that Mr J W Poynton solicitor was to receive it for him. It was arranged that the marriage should take place from Mrs Duff's about a fortnight after going there. Prisoner obtained from witness loans of money amounting in all to £10 and he promised to repay her as soon as his own money came to hand. The money had not been repaid. Witness hearing that prisoner had been in gaol before taxed him with this and he then left the boarding house. She did not see him until he was in the custody of the police. In answer to prisoner the witness said another lady turned her against the prisoner. She was willing to trust him to return the money. She did not say she did not mind about the return of the £10. The lending of the money had nothing whatever to do with promise of marriage it was lent upon prisoner's representation that he would be able to repay it out of his expected £175 from Home. Mrs Duff stated that prisoner had presented that his father who he said was a retired admiral living near Brighton England had left him and that a first remittance of had just arrived for him. She noticed that the girl was going about crying and asked the prisoner his intentions. He said the marriage was going to take place the same week but he left that week and witness did not see him again until he was arrested. While staying at her place he asked witness to get wedding dress for him. She went to do so but prisoner had not the money to pay it. J W Poynton barrister and solicitor stated that prisoner had never been a client of his and that he had never received any money for him from a retired admiral or anyone else. Upon being challenged for his defence the prisoner produced a newspaper advertisement signed "Frank Philpott" and offering reward of the recovery of a purse containing money diamond rings and other jewellery. He said the loss of his purse was the reason why he sought and obtained the loan for money from Miss Grangaux. His honour said the reason for obtaining the loan was immaterial. The means by which it was obtained was the real point before the Court. Prisoner then addressed the jury. He said he had not turned against the young lady in spite of the degrading position in which he had been placed. But she was turned against him by a third person. Had it not been for losing his purse he would never have asked for the loan of the money. He did intend and still intended to repay it. The girl was willing to trust him. It was true that he expected to receive between £2000 and £3000 on the death of a relative but he would sooner die than disclose to his people his whereabouts and present position. His honour directed the jury to disregard the alleged pretence of promise to marry. The jury after

a brief absence from Court found the prisoner guilty. His Honour said it was a melancholy case. The Prisoner was only 24 was a bootmaker by trade and was possessed of great natural ability. He had spoken to the jury as well as a candidate for the House of Representatives and better probably than most of them. Yet he must attempt to get a living by defrauding a poor simple creature like the first witness. There was a long list of previous convictions against the prisoner showing that he had commenced a criminal career at the age of 17. In 1887 he received a month at New Plymouth for larceny. In 1888 three months at Waitara for larceny, and in 1889 one month at New Plymouth, and three months at Cambridge for larceny. In 1890 he was tried at New Plymouth on a charge of larceny and acquitted. In June 1891 he got three months at Foxton for larceny and in November following at the same place seven days for vagrancy. In November 1892 he was tried at Wellington for breaking and entering and arson and acquitted but in the following month he got six months at Otaki for Larceny. Finally in September last he got three months at Wellington for larceny. His Honour then sentenced the prisoner to two years imprisonment with hard labour. The sentence was received with a smile

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 05 December 1893 page 2)

Police Gazette 1893 – Wellington Wednesday 28 December 1893

Return of Prisoners tried at the Supreme and District Courts 1893	
Name	Frank Philpot alias John Henry Smith
Offence	false pretences
Where and when tried	Supreme Court Wellington 04 December 1893
Sentence	2 years labourer

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 2 New Zealand Police Gazette 1893 page 205)

Police Gazette 1895 – Wellington Wednesday 10 July 1895

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged from Gaols during the fortnight ending 29 th June 1895	
Place	New Plymouth
Name	Frank Philpott alias William H Smith
Where tried	Wellington
When	08 September 1893 & 27 November 1893
Offence	larceny & false pretences
Sentence	3 months & 2 years
Native of	England
Trade	Bookmaker
Born	1869
Height	5feet 4 inches
Complexion	sallow
Hair	dark
Eyes	brown
Nose	medium
Where photographed and date	Wanganui 04/07/1891
Remarks and Previous Convictions	11p.c. Anchor on left arm; fish on thigh. Gone to Wellington

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1895 page 109)

Police Gazette 1895 – Wellington Wednesday 1895

Wellington – Henry Woods (probably a fictitious name) is charged on warrant with having on the 15 th instant forged and uttered to Louis William Ludwig, jeweller Lambton Quay a cheque for £9 12s drawn on the Bank of New South Wales Wellington and purporting to be signed by A E Wilkins but which had been declared a forgery. Offender is supposed English, twenty six year of age, 5 feet 6 inches, stout build, dark hair and complexion, clean shaven except moustache, dressed in a dark sac suit and hard black felt hat. He gave complainant the cheque in payment for a silver lever Rotherham hunting watch No 134738 Ludwig and Son on dial with silver curb chain and greenstone pendant attached

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1895 page 113)

Evening Post newspaper 29 July 1895

TRANSCRIBE

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 29 July 1895)

Police Gazette 1895 – Wellington Wednesday 07 August 1895

(See Police Gazette 1895 page 113)

Wellington – Henry Woods charged with forging and uttering a cheque to Louis William Ludwig has been arrested by Detectives Campbell and Neill, Wellington police and committed for trial. Offender is identical with Frank Philpott alias Smith (see Police Gazette 1895 page 109)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1895 page 121)

Police Gazette 1895 – Wellington Wednesday 16 October 1895

Return of prisoners tried at the Supreme and District Courts 1895

Name	Frank Philpott alias John H Smith alias Henry Woods
Offence	Forgery (3 charges)
Where and when tried	Supreme Court Wellington 05 August
Sentence	2 years on each charge (concurrent)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1895 page 164)

Police Gazettes 1897 – Wellington Wednesday 17 March 1897

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged

Gaol	Nelson
Name	Frank Philpot alias Smith alias Woods
Where tried	Wellington
When	05 August 1895
Offence	forgery
Sentence	2 years
Native of	England
Trade	bootmaker
Born	1869
Height	4 feet 5½ inches [sic]
Complexion	pale
Hair	dark brown turning grey
Eyes	brown
Nose	medium
Where photographed and date	Wanganui 04.07.1891
Remarks and Previous Convictions	Stout build; bar of music, &c, on right arm; anchor on left arm. Gone to Wellington. (see Police Gazette 1895 page 109)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1897 page 57)

Police Gazettes 1897 – Wellington Wednesday 07 July 1897

Wellington – Albert Wells alias Frank Philpott alias Smith alias Woods is charged on warrant with having, on the 21st ultimo, forged and attended to Hallenstein Bros., New Zealand Clothing Factory, a cheque for £10 12s. Description; English a bootmaker by trade, 5 feet 4½ inches high, stout build, dark complexion, dark moustache only, dark brown hair, brown eyes, medium nose, wore a dark suit, and soft felt clerical hat. Photographed at Wanganui, 04th July 1891 (See Prisoners discharged from Wellington Gaol in this Gazette). The cheque is drawn on the National Bank of New Zealand and purports to be signed by Robert Ransfield, but has been declared a forgery. Offender spoke of going to Melbourne. His friends reside at Inglewood Taranaki

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1897 page 121)

Police Gazettes 1897 – Wellington Wednesday 07 July 1897

Return of Prisoners reported as discharged

Gaol	Wellington
Name	Frank Philpott alias Smith alias Woods

Where tried	Wellington
When	13 May 1897
Offence	False pretences & False pretences
Sentence	7 days & 1 month
Native of	England
Trade	bootmaker
Born	1869
Height	5 feet 4½ inches
Complexion	pale
Hair	dark brown turning grey
Eyes	brown
Nose	medium
Where photographed and date	Wanganui 04.07.1891
Remarks and Previous Convictions	13 p.c. (for marks see Police Gazette 1897 page 57)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1897 page 129)

Police Gazettes 1897 – Wellington Wednesday 21 July 1897

Wellington – Albert Wells alias Frank Philpott alias Smith alias Woods is charged on warrant with having, on the 21st ultimo, forged and uttered to Hallenstein Bros., New Zealand Clothing Factory, a cheque for £10 12s. Description; English a bootmaker by trade, 5 feet 4½ inches high, stout build, dark complexion, dark moustache only, dark brown hair, brown eyes, medium nose, wore a dark suit, and soft felt clerical hat. Photographed at Wanganui, 04th July 1891 (See Prisoners discharged from Wellington Gaol in this Gazette). The cheque is drawn on the National Bank of New Zealand and purports to be signed by Robert Ransfield, but has been declared a forgery. Offender spoke of going to Melbourne. His friends reside at Inglewood Taranaki (2-121)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1897 page 132)

Police Gazettes 1897 – Wellington Wednesday 10 November 1897

(See Police Gazette 1897 pages 121 and 132)

Wellington – Albert Wells alias Frank Philpott alias Smith alias Woods, charged with having forged and uttered a cheque to Hallensteins Brothers has been arrested by Detective R Neill.

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1897 page 198)

#The certificate of the execution of Frank Philpott appears in this week's Gazette reference Papers past website Evening Post 25 March 1898 page 5
Justice 1887 larceny New Plymouth, at Waitara 1888 larceny, 1889 twice larceny Cambridge, New Plymouth 1891 Larceny & vagrancy Foxton 1892 Otaki, wellington for remainder convictions 1893 2 year imprison false pretence forgery 1895 3 years 1897 forgery 3 years then murder life total 13 convictions

Star newspaper 23 March 1898

The Confession - Philpott's confession is as follows: - "On the afternoon of 07 September 1897, I Frank Philpott shed the blood of Alexander Hawthorne during a quarrel. It is my earnest desire that this my confession should be published. Wednesday 23 March 1898. One of the reasons why I make this confession is because I could not go out of this world leaving as my defence implied a stain upon the character of Mr Frederick Charles Sowerby – Frank Philpott. 23 March 1898." In explanation of the allusion to Sowerby it may be mentioned that during the defence it was suggested that Sowerby had caused a quarrel against Hawthorne and might have been guilty. Philpott before his arrest had tried to excite Sowerby to jealousy against Hawthorne.

(Reference Papers past website Star newspaper 23 March 1898 page 3)

New Zealand Times newspaper Thursday 24 March 1898

TO BE TRANSCRIBED

He was buried Public section of Karori cemetery

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 24 March 1898)

Police Gazettes 1898 – Wellington Wednesday 13 April 1898

<p>Extracts from New Zealand Gazette (From Gazette 1898 pages 508, 533 and 534) Certificate and Declaration of Execution of Criminal Department of Justice Wellington 23rd March 1898</p> <p>The following certificate and declaration are published in conformity with the provisions of "The Criminals Executions Act 1883". T THOMPSON</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In The Supreme Court of New Zealand Wellington district</p> <p>In the matter of "The Criminals Executions Act 1883", and in the matter of the execution of Frank Philpott.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Certificate</p> <p>I JOHN TEARE the Medical Officer in attendance at the execution of Frank Philpott, at the prison known as Terrace Gaol, Wellington, do hereby certify and declare that I have witnessed the execution of the said Frank Philpott at the said prison; and I do further certify and declare that the said Frank Philpott was, in pursuance of the sentence of the Supreme Court, hanged by the neck until his body was dead.</p> <p>Given under my hand, this twenty-third day of March in the year, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, at the prison known as the Terrace Gaol, Wellington. JOHN TEARE M.B. Ch.B.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In the Supreme Court of New Zealand Wellington District</p> <p>In the matter of "The Criminals Executions Act 1883", and in the matter of the execution of Frank Philpott.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Declaration</p> <p>We do hereby certify and declare that we have this day been present when the extreme penalty of the law was carried into execution on the body of Frank Philpott, convicted at the Criminal Session of the Supreme Court held at Wellington on the 7th of February last and sentenced to death; and that the said Frank Philpott was in pursuance of the said sentence hanged by the neck until his body was dead.</p> <p>Dated this twenty-third day of March in the year, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, at the prison known as the Terrace Gaol, Wellington.</p> <p>D.G.A. COOPER – Sheriff S G MILLINGTON – Warden Charles E W WILLESTON - Visiting Justice</p> <p style="text-align: right;">P S GARVEY - Gaoler Edmond T SAYERS - Press Reporter T E RICHARDSON</p>	
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(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1898 page 64)

Police Gazettes 1898 – Wellington Wednesday 13 April 1898

<p>Return of Prisoners tried at the Supreme and District Courts 1898</p>	
Name	Frank Philpott alias Stanhope alias Woods
Offence	Murder
Where and when tried	Supreme Court Wellington 24 February
Sentence	Death

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette page 66)

Evening Post newspaper 09 November 1897

Mysterious Disappearance at the Hutt - Foul Play Suspected

The disappearance from the Hutt district of a young man named Ernest Alfred Hawthorne has in it elements which go to make up yet another sensational police enquiry. The police have been, and still are, very reticent in the matter, because it may yet be found that a satisfactory explanation will result from their enquiries, and it has only been after much consultation of the "heads" that the press has been taken into their confidence. It having become a general feeling in the district that the nine weeks' unexplained absence of Hawthorne lifts his case out of the ordinary class of disappearances, the police were called in, the local representative, Constable Cruickshank, making preliminary enquiries, and later Inspector Pender and a posse from town going into active investigation. It is feared now that Hawthorne has met with foul play, and a thorough search of the Silverstream bush is being made. The description of Hawthorne furnished says that he was a sawmill hand, 21 years of

age, 5ft 6in high, with a freckled face. He was last seen in the vicinity of Silverstream (nine miles from the Lower Hutt) about nine weeks ago.

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 09 November 1897)

New Zealand Times newspaper 10 November 1897

Local and General - The bush in the vicinity of Silverstream was yesterday searched by a posse of police under Inspector Pender for the body of Ernest Hawthorne, whose disappearance was recorded in the last issue of The Times. As has been already stated, the authorities have strong grounds for believing that Hawthorne has been the victim of foul play, but nothing was discovered yesterday that would tend to incriminate anyone. The bush is very dense, and the country thereabouts steep and rocky. If murder has been committed it would be very difficult to find the body. The evidence in that direction is very strong, and the police are prosecuting enquiries relative to the last movements of the missing man and his mate.

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 10 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 11 November 1897

The telegraphic enquiries as to the missing man Hawthorne have not stopped the search in the Silverstream bush. Nothing fresh has come to light in city or bush and the authorities are now considering the advisability of offering a reward for information.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 11 November 1897)

New Zealand Times newspaper 12 November 1897

The Silverstream Mystery - The strange disappearance of the young man Ernest Hawthorne from Silverstream is still causing considerable excitement in the Hutt district, and the police are actively engaged in pursuing their investigations. The latest developments still further strengthen the suspicion that Hawthorne was the victim of foul play, a very strong case having been made out in this direction. The evidence already collected is of such a nature, in fact, as to leave little doubt in the minds of a great many people that the missing man never left the district in which he was for a considerable time located. Some of the evidence is necessarily of a purely circumstantial character, but the connecting links are strong, and gives the case a very black aspect. Of course nothing could be done in the direction of preferring a charge of murder against the person suspected until the body of Hawthorne has been discovered. The man may be in another part of the colony, but now that prominence had been given to the matter through the medium of the press it is thought that were he alive he would at once communicate with the police, unless he is living in some out of the way place and does not see the papers.

So far as can be ascertained it is about 10 weeks since he was last seen alive at Silverstream or at the Hutt. He had been engaged getting out sleepers from the bush ever since June last, and if he went away no outsiders who were acquainted with him seem to be aware of the fact. The disappearance is common talk at the Hutt, and if Hawthorn confided in anyone as to his future movements it would be bound to have become public property ere this. Another search of the bush at Silverstream was made yesterday by Detective Neill and Constables Cruickshank and Patten, but their quest proved fruitless. To-day another attempt will be made to find traces of the body, and on Sunday it is expected that a large number of people, probably 100, will give the police a hand and scour the locality in all directions. If the man is dead he would in all probability be buried, and the nature of the ground is such that, seeing that 10 weeks have elapsed, the place where it was disturbed would possibly have resumed its normal condition, rendering detection extremely difficult. It is to be hoped that the efforts of the police to set at rest all doubts as to whether or not murder has been committed will have successful issue.

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 12 November 1897 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 12 November 1897

The Hutt Valley mystery - Hawthorne's body found
Buried within 100 yards of his camp - He has evidently been murdered
Another case like those of Butler

The search for the body of Ernest Alfred Hawthorne, the young man who mysteriously disappeared some weeks ago at Silverstream, has been successful. The body has been found buried in the earth within 100 yards of the sawmill camp to which the deceased had belonged. Inspector Pender has gone out to the spot. No further particulars of the discovery are to hand, but that Hawthorne has been murdered is beyond a doubt. The deceased, who was only 21 years of age, was 5 feet 8 inches high, and was employed at bush work in the Silverstream district for some months. He was last seen alive at Silverstream about nine weeks ago, and until today no trace of him could be found. For some time past the police have been much exercised as to his whereabouts, and for several days there has been every reason to believe that he had met with foul play. Constable Cruickshank and a number of settlers have been engaged for about a week in searching the district for the missing man, and succeeded this afternoon in finding the body. It is understood that Hawthorne had no relatives in the colony. The camp is situated in the bush about two miles and a half from the Silverstream railway station. The spot is described as a desolate one. Dr Cahill is accompanying Inspector Pender for the purpose of examining the body. The police believe that a man who is awaiting trial on a charge of felony is able to explain the circumstances of the disappearance.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 12 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 13 November 1897

Some quick work was done yesterday afternoon in connection with the Silverstream tragedy. At 2 o'clock Inspector Pender received a telegram from the Hutt announcing the discovery of the body. At 3.30 a party was on the way to Silverstream, the party including a doctor with his "bag of mysteries", Commissioner Tunbridge, Inspector Pender, District Clerk Wright and three press representatives – and in the van was a coffin.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 13 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 13 November 1897

The Silverstream Sensation - A Murder in the bush - Exhumation of Hawthorne's Body
Proof that he was shot in the head - Mysterious Lights in the Bush

The Hutt Valley has yielded up another secret of cruel murder, the work of a criminal who has evidently been a careful student of the deeds of the notorious New South Wales murderer Butler. The crime also resembles in many points that of the murderer Boshier - above all, in the high character and integrity of the victim. That a young, conscientious, hardy, energetic, clean-living bushman should be done away with in so dastardly a manner within half-a-mile of the Silverstream Railway Station, and on the borders of a comparatively closely-settled stretch of country, may well cause a shock to the nervous but the public must have a feeling of satisfaction that with the discovery of the body the first step has been taken in the meting out of justice to the murderer. The police, though at first apparently diffident about taking up the case, when once their suspicions were aroused set to work in energetic and thorough fashion to search for the body, and though it was actually discovered by a settler, the finder was all along working in co-operation with the constables.

On the way to the Grave

On receipt of the news of the finding of the body of Ernest Alfred Hawthorne, the young man whose mysterious disappearance from Silverstream had aroused the ugliest suspicions, two representatives of the Evening Post took the first train to the Silverstream. The little party which set out for the scene was composed of Police Commissioner Tunbridge, Inspector Pender, District Clerk Wright, Dr Cahill, and the newspaper representatives. This was Mr Tunbridge's first practical experience of crime in Maori-land and his ready perception of the points of the case proved that he is more than a mere official figure-head. It was evident that his detective experience stood him good stead. The luggage of the party included one gruesome object a coffin, in charge of an undertaker, for the conveyance to Wellington of the body of the unfortunate young fellow. On arrival at the prettily-situated Silverstream railway station, the train was met by Constable Cruickshank, who informed his superior officers that pending the arrival of a medical man the body had not been exhumed. The police then set off to the spot where the murdered man lay buried.

The Grave

The way led across a partially-drained swamp which lay on the south side of the railway line. A spur ran up from this to the bush-covered hills behind, and the sleigh track to the hut wound up the spur. Close at hand several recently-cleared paddocks mutely spoke of the industry of young Hawthorne. A short distance up the hill a group of men were seen standing, and here the murderer one dark night (as collateral evidence seems to prove) had dug the grave for his victim.

A beautiful burial place

A spot with a more charming outlook could not have been chosen. It lay on the edge of the spur, and overlooked the whole of the wooded upper valley of the Hutt. The pretty Silverstream farm nestled in the foreground, and in the distance the Upper Hutt town-ship crouched seemingly close under the distant hills. Behind the grave swept the black range of the bush-clad hills. The spot was on open, partially felled land, where gaunt, black tree stumps stood erect above a mile of rolling logs, fern, and scrub. The grave had been skilfully concealed by logs and fern, but it was the presence of a quantity of dried fern which prompted closer scrutiny and disclosed the crime. The grave was within ten yards of the track, which at this point turned off the edge of the spur, and ran along it into the hill.

The Whare

Following the track further up, the visitor came suddenly upon the lonely hut, that had been inhabited by the deceased and his mate. At present the whare was uninhabitable, but it must have been a comfortable, and even cosy home. Perched in a beautiful gully, which sloped steeply down to a fern-hidden creek, and surrounded on almost every side by the overhanging bush, the spot was ideally situated. There was no outlook, however, and the thought instantly flashed into the mind, how lonesome was the place. If the man was murdered at his hut, no eye save that of the murderer's saw young Hawthorne die. The foundations and ridge-poles of the whare were still standing. The floor was of boards, and in one corner was a wooden bed, whose only mattress was a covering of dried fern. The canvas roof which had once enclosed the hut had disappeared. Nailed to the ridge-pole were a couple of pairs of boots. Inspector Tunbridge ordered these to be taken charge of, adding "One of them is a woman's pair."

Searching for a clue

A glance into the depths of the gully through which the creek runs instantly starts the thought that here the victim had been buried; and this place was the first that was thoroughly explored by the police. Close below the whare evidences of blood were thought to have been discovered, but analysis proved that the suspicious matter was nothing but the discoloration of a root. Then the searchers turned to a swamp on the level, which, though lying at a distance from the camp, seemed the most likely place in which a murderer would hide an inconvenient body but before this was thoroughly searched, a clue was obtained nearer at hand, and the discovery made.

The Two Mates

Young Hawthorne was born in Akaroa, and some years ago came to Wellington, staying at a boarding house in the city, which he made his temporary home on his other visits to Wellington. From this city he went to Silverstream. It had for some two and a half years been Hawthorne's habit to work on his own account, accepting small contracts, working for some settler by the day or week, doing odd jobs felling, stumping, clearing, splitting rails, and making sleepers. At last, in that solitude, the loneliness seemed to be too much for him, and he mentioned to several friends that he felt the need of mate-ship. Shortly after he expressed himself thus an opportunity came. A stranger who gave, the name of Stanhope made enquiries of one of the settlers concerning a contract for some fencing, and as the settler was away from home at the time, his son took the stranger round a portion of the land included in the contract. It is during this walk that Hawthorne and Stanhope are said to have met. However, the stranger did not take up or apply further for the contract, and was not seen for several days. It was thought that he had returned to Wellington, whence he said he had come. A week after the fencing contract incident Hawthorne told his friends that he had taken a mate in to work with him in a Government contract for sleepers. That was sometime early in July last. Hawthorne's disappearance according to all the statements made, by different parties, Hawthorne was last seen by his friends as far back as 10, 11 and 12 weeks ago, though at least one friend says he spoke to him on the 3rd September. However, it is

definitely known that he was in Wellington on the 4th September sitting on a jury at the last criminal sittings. The hand of fate has seemingly taken hold of threads of mystery attached to the disappearance just at a time when friends had ceased to wonder and were beginning to tell their fears under the thought "Oh I suppose he's all right".

The Mate Again

Here is where the mate comes in again. He it was who reported that they were breaking up camp, and spread the report that Hawthorne was going South. Later again Stanhope said Hawthorne had given him £27 to bank, for which Stanhope had given a receipt, and a while afterwards, within the disappearance period, Stanhope, it is stated, told Hawthorne's friends that Hawthorne had asked me for the money, cleared out, and taken with him my receipt and all." The matter was a nine days' wonder, and then seemed to fall into line with the many undiscovered crimes.

The Hand of Fate

Here comes in the hand of fate, but as a man's liberty is at present involved we cannot deal as openly as we might with the circumstances surrounding the proceedings which led to the finding of the body. Suffice it to say that it was whilst the police were making enquiries in the Hutt district regarding a different crime that the Hawthorne case was revived in a most sensational manner. The arrest of a man in Wellington revealed some suspicious circumstances and then it was that Hawthorne's friends put this and that together found reasons for several doubts, no longer wondered over certain whys and wherefores, but immediately urged the police to search, and joined in the search themselves. As detail after detail came in from the neighbours and Hawthorne's friends though, indeed, all seemed to have a kindly feeling for the reserved young bushman the police energetically took up the matter, and soon a force of officers was prosecuting the search.

Murder will out

Constable Cruickshank, of Lower Hutt, was sent up at once, and with him were associated Constable Patton (Upper Hutt) and a number of willing settlers, who were convinced that Hawthorne had been killed. Chief among the neighbours in the search were Mr Stuart Menzies, and Messrs Alfred and George Perry, and Alex McCulloch. The first, who is storekeeper and postmaster at Silverstream, had been particularly friendly with the young fellow. When convinced that a tragedy had taken place, Menzies had assiduously joined in the search. A spot only a few yards off the grave had been dug up by the police a few days ago, but the character of the ground is such that, considering the length of time the body must have been under earth, the unveiling of the, exact grave might well have been regarded as a hopeless contingency.

The revolver cartridge clue

The first clue consisted of the discovery a few days ago of an empty revolver cartridge on the track near to the grave, and at once a close search was made of the immediate locality. Yesterday morning Mr Menzies discovered a place covered with a quantity of dried fern, the earth beneath which looked as if it had been disturbed, and he hastened to inform Constable Cruickshank of his discovery. A few spits were dug with a spade, when a bit of cloth was turned up. A few more strokes and a hand was disclosed. Murder would out. Constable Cruickshank very wisely decided not to disturb the body further till the arrival of his superior officers, and leaving, a man to guard the grave, he telephoned at once for Inspector Pender. A word of praise must be given for the discretion which Constables Cruickshank and Patton displayed in all the details of the discovery of the crime.

The Exhumation

As soon as the party from town arrived at the grave Detective Neill, who had preceded the others to the spot, set to work with a spade to uncover the buried body. A trench had been dug from the grave in order to carry off the water, and the work proceeded apace. Soon a portion of the body was disclosed, and shortly afterwards the whole form was exposed. The job was not a pleasant one, and the little group of spectators, which now numbered 16, including Mr Wilford, who had come out from town by the later train took care to keep the windward side of the grave, while an occasional passage of a whisky bottle might have been pardoned by a prohibitionist under such gruesome circumstances.

Jammed into a hole

The poor fellow lay on his left side, his body doubled up, the upper part of the trunk lying almost at right angles to his legs. It seemed from the posture that Hawthorne had been flung into a grave too small for his finely developed figure, and forced into the cramped position in which he was found. His arms were crossed in front of his breast. The doctor looked at the face, but remarked that the features were unrecognisable. On top of the body lay a hat. "Yes, that's his hat," remarked a settler. Then it was noticed that the coat was missing on him, he's robbed him of his coat exclaimed the same spectator. Deceased was dressed in a vest, singlet, and striped shirt, the sleeves of which were rolled up, a pair of dark blue striped trousers, and a pair of socks, but was without his boots.

Efforts at Identification

The question of identification was at once raised, and as Menzies knew the deceased best he was the first called upon. However, he seemed quite overcome with the sight of the body, and after several efforts had been made to bring him to the hole, he went off into a rambling statement, asseverating again and again that he would not say anything. "I'll say nothing, because you will only take down what I say I won't say anything" he said, being evidently in a state of high nervous tension. As soon as the body was completely exposed it was lifted out, and Dr Cahill set to work, armed with indian rubber gloves and a plentiful supply of disinfectants, to reveal the features of the man. The face was very much decomposed and swollen out of shape, yet it showed the semblance of a young man with black moustache and dark hair. All took a look at the face, but none could positive swear that it was Hawthorne. Suddenly someone vaguely remembered that Hawthorne had a mark on one of his shins. The doctor slit up the trousers, and disclosed a slight mark on the peeled and discoloured right limb. There are no marks on the legs worth two pence, said Dr Cahill. Meantime the face had been more exposed, and McCulloch remarked that Hawthorne had a prominent bridge to his nose. He closely scrutinised the face, and there, plainly enough, was the feature spoken of.

Contents of the pockets

A search was next made through the clothes. One pocket was turned inside out, as if the murderer had made a hasty search for money after committing the deed. From the waistcoat pocket a folded, wet, and stained sheet of paper was taken. It was carefully opened, and proved to be an account headed, E A Hawthorne, debtor to S Menzies. Below followed a list of items bought by Hawthorne from the store of Mr Menzies, the bill totalling £2 5s Bd. The most extraordinary thing about the account was that it was in Hawthorne's writing. A new light was let in upon the careful character of the dead man, who had, while running up an account at the local store, even gone so far as to make out a bill against himself, in which he had put down every article he had purchased. Yes, that's about what he owes me, remarked Menzies, I knew he wasn't the sort of man to clear out without paying me, though it was a small account. He puts down what he owes me. He's an honest man.

The patched shirt

The identification was now about complete, but further proof was forthcoming. Mrs Hodges told me, said one of the settlers, that she did Hawthorne's washing, and on one occasion when his shirt was drying before the fire it fell down and got burnt. So she sewed a red strip into one corner in the place of the part that was burnt. If he's got that shirt on now, the patch will be there. Without a word Dr Cahill cut away the vest, and there was the patch exactly as it had been described.

The end of the Exhumation

The sickening job was now nearly over. The undertaker had the coffin ready, and the body was placed within it. The grave was measured, and found to be 4ft 4in long by 2ft wide, and slightly more than 2ft deep. The body was exactly lift from the surface of the ground. The coffin was then placed on a sledge, which had been brought up and the little funeral procession wound down the spur on the track so often used by the dead man and his mate. The body was subsequently brought to Wellington and deposited in the Morgue.

Theories

Of course there has been much theorising over Hawthorne's disappearance, and there is but one motive admitted behind all that is, robbery. The deceased was known to be frugal; and saving in habit, and his own banker. It is assumed that the crime was committed in the deceased's hut. There exists an easy track from the hut to the grave, and on one of the logs

across the route which must have been taken by the burdened murderer are clayey marks, evidently made by his boots.

Flitting Lights in the bush

Mr Alex McCulloch, a friend of the deceased, recalls that he saw a light flitting about the bush one night about the time of the disappearance, and thought it strange and unusual. He saw the light first about half-past 7, then just after 8, and again at 11 o'clock. But McCulloch cannot recall the exact night. As the hut was quite hidden from the view of anyone in the Hutt Valley, and only something extraordinary could bring a person at night on the bleak edge of the spur, what McCulloch saw must have been the murderer at his gruesome task of interring the body of his victim.

Hawthorne's Character

Everyone whom our representatives spoke to upon the subject of Hawthorne's character and habits gave him the very best of names. He was a Presbyterian by faith, and was a regular attendant at the services at Lower Hutt. He was also an active and earnest Christian Endeavourer. Mr Kemp, engine driver, had not seen Hawthorne at church for some 10 or 11 Sundays, and this was an occasion for enquiry among the Endeavourers of the district. Enquiries made along the line also prove that Hawthorne bore a character for steadiness and regularity, and was a real nice fellow generally. He was known to be of a saving disposition mean in some things he never wasted a sixpence, as one friend put it, but would pay his last shilling rather than owe any man money. He neither smoked nor drank, and as another friend put it, would never enter an hotel - no, not even at election time. That the settlers and workers of the district who had come closest in contact with the deceased thought well of him was evidenced by the muttered curses and even tears dropped during the unearthing of ceremony on the ridge yesterday.

Miscellaneous Facts

An incident in regard to Hawthorne's age is a memory of election time. Tis said that his name was put upon the roll, and he voted at the last general election, although he was not of age. His appearance being dark and hairy, was that of a man of 27 rather than 20. He is said to have had bright eyes of a noticeable blue colour. Hawthorne's parents are living as small settlers at Fowler's (familiarily known as Birmingham), where he also has a brother farming. A sister is said to be living in Woodville. Stanhope, Hawthorne's mate, seems to have kept pretty much to himself during his stay in Silverstream. He is well known to the police, and is said to have a record, which it would be unfair at present to further allude to.

The post mortem examination

The deceased shot in the head - The bullet found in the brain.

This morning the post mortem examination of the body was made at the Morgue, by Drs Cahill and Tripe, and the result placed beyond doubt the manner in which the awful deed was committed. The doctors found that poor Hawthorne had been shot in the back of the head, and the fatal bullet was discovered, embedded in his brain.

Opening of the inquest

An inquest was opened at the Morgue at 2.30 pm to-day, by Mr Ashcroft, District Coroner. Inspector Pender represented the police, and Drs Cahill and Tripe were present. In opening the enquiry, the Coroner said that the young man had evidently been shot, and a person was now charged with the crime of murdering him. The jury was not, however, trying the innocence or guilt of the accused. Dr Cahill deposed to the exhumation of the body and the performance of the post-mortem examination in conjunction with Dr Tripe. They found a small wound on the back of the left side of the head, about two inches behind the ear, which penetrated the skull. They opened the skull and found the brain in an advanced stage of decomposition. From a mass of brain matter he extracted the pieces of lead and bone produced. The lead (a small fragment about half an inch long) was evidently the remains of a bullet broken into small pieces. There was no wound of exit. There was a small hole like a bullet-hole on the left side of the back of, the hat, corresponding to the position of the wound in the skull. If the hat had been worn on the back of the head the bullet would have entered at that place. The missile was quite sufficient to cause death. The wound was a bullet wound. He could not suggest any other probable cause of death. The man must have been dead some months. The character of the soil would have retarded putrefaction to a large extent. To the Foreman (Mr P G Ritchie) - Could not say whether the murderer stood above his victim

or not. The brain was a mere puddle of decomposed matter and he could not trace the course of the bullet through the brain.

To Inspector Pender - There was nothing about the case to suggest suicide. It was most improbable that deceased would have shot himself there. A man committing suicide did not usually bury himself. He considered that the man was wearing his hat on the back of his head when shot.

Dr Tripe agreed altogether with Dr Cahill's evidence. The wound in the head, though it was almost impossible that it was self-inflicted, could only have been done by a left-handed man. It was just possible that a left-handed man could have made the wound upon himself, but that was "very doubtful. The wound appeared to have been inflicted horizontal. There was no mark of burning about the hat, nor were there any marks of powder on the hat. The shot could not have been fired at very close quarters. He had no doubt about the cause of death. From such a wound death must have been instantaneous.

Inspector Pender said that as neither the accused, Philpott, nor his solicitor were present, he thought it only fair that an opportunity should be given for their representation. It was therefore agreed to adjourn the inquest till 2 o'clock to-morrow (Sunday), at the Magistrate's Court.

The suspected person - Philpott (Stanhope) charged with the crime

Frank Philpott, alias Smith, alias Woods, alias Albert Wells, alias H M Stanhope, was formally charged at the Terrace Gaol this morning by Detective Neill, District Clerk Wright, and Mounted Constable Cruickshank with the murder of Ernest Alfred Hawthorne, at Silverstream. Accused made no reply. It is understood that Mr E G Jellicoe has been retained to defend him. The accused man is at present awaiting his trial at the Supreme Court sittings (which open on Monday) on a charge of having forged the name of Robert Ranfield of the Otaki district to a cheque. Philpott is a native of Taranaki, is of medium build, and about 30 years of age.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 13 November 1897 page 5)

Ernest Alfred Hawthorne Coroner's Inquest Wellington

TO BE TRANSCRIBED

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington ACGS 16231 J46 1897/804 year 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 15 November 1897

The Silverstream Sensation - Verdict of wilful murder - The bible and the revolver

Some curious correspondence - Statements by the accused

The inquest upon the body of Ernest Albert Hawthorne, which was found buried on the hillside at Silverstream, was resumed before the Coroner, Mr James Ashcroft, at the Magistrate's Court yesterday (Sunday) afternoon. Inspector Pender appeared on behalf of the police. Commissioner Tunbridge was also present, and during the course of the enquiry frequently conferred with Inspector Pender. The public crowded the Court.

The Accused's appearance

The accused Philpott, or Stanhope, was present in custody. He is a man of short stature, about 30 years of age, with a face of an ordinary cast. His dark hair, which is streaked with grey, is brushed back from an intelligent-looking forehead. At present he has a small moustache and a beard of a week's growth. He seemed perfectly self-possessed, and watched the proceedings with an alert but unconcerned air, occasionally taking notes of the answers of the witnesses.

Deceased and his Mate

The first witness called was an old man named George Snow, a wood-chopper, living at Silverstream. He deposed to having known the deceased and the prisoner Stanhope well. They had been living together six or seven weeks, in a tent at Silverstream, and were working on a contract for cutting sleepers. Each always seemed friendly towards the other. Witness last saw Hawthorne alive nine or ten weeks ago last Friday. On that day Hawthorne paid witness £2, and he noticed that the deceased had some notes in his hand after the payment. Witness saw Stanhope the following Sunday. Accused came up to witness's house for dinner, and witness asked him why Hawthorne had not come up with him. Stanhope said that

his mate had cleared out. A few days later (about 7th September) Stanhope, according to arrangement with witness, shifted his camp across to witness's place, where he boarded while cutting firewood for witness. He told witness that he had bought Hawthorne out. He brought in a cart a number of tools (produced) which witness recognised as having belonged to Hawthorne. Witness also recognised two watches and a clock (produced) as the property of deceased. Stanhope said that he had bought these from Hawthorne. Some time afterwards witness was shown a receipt (produced), dated 12th September, by Mrs. Stanhope.

The Revolver

On the Saturday previous to accused coming to live with witness he gave a revolver to witness, which he asked witness to take charge of. It was about 8 pm on the 4th September. Stanhope said that it was loaded in all chambers. Witness asked him what he carried a revolver for, and Stanhope said that Mr Sowerby had given it to him to take charge of for fear that Sowerby should shoot Hawthorne that night. Witness accordingly put it up on the shelf. Stanhope said that there was some jealousy existing between Sowerby and Hawthorne. Witness kept the revolver for two hours. Then Stanhope called in at witness's house and took it away with him. Stanhope got married eight or nine days afterwards. Stanhope lived with witness about eight weeks altogether. Witness never saw Hawthorne after Stanhope took the revolver away.

The Bible

He recognised a Bible (produced) as similar to one belonging to Hawthorne. Hawthorne's name was in the Bible when witness saw it in the camp, but there was a leaf removed from the Bible produced. The Bible now had not Hawthorne's name in it. Knew the handwritings of Hawthorne and Stanhope.

An Alleged dictated Letter

A letter was put in at this stage. The envelope was addressed to Miss J E Clement, Woodville, and the post-mark was 14th September. It read as follows:

Lower Hutt, 13th September, 1897

My dear Sister,

It is with pleasure that I answer your kind and welcome letter, which I received last Wednesday, but I am very sorry to say I have poisoned my right hand, and have not been able to work for three weeks, but it is very much better now, thank God. I am so sorry that it happened just now, as I cannot get the rest of my sleepers out of the bush and get them passed, and as I am very short of money at present it is a bad job for me. The gentleman who is writing this for me is so kind, he is a true Christian, and has not asked me for any money since I have been here. I have been living with them nearly three weeks, and he has paid £1 twice for the doctor. I shall be so glad when I am all right, and get some money to pay him. I hope that you are well and happy. As Mr. Stanhope is going into town, I cannot say any more at present, as I wish him to post this. So good-bye for the present, dear sister, and may God ever bless, keep, guard, and protect you is the prayer of your ever true brother, E. A. Hawthorne.

Address - Post Office, Lower Hutt, Wellington

Dear Miss Clement

Your Brother has requested me to pen this epistle to you, as his hand, is bad, and, as I am in a hurry, kindly pardon the way it is worded and written. May the Dear Lord ever Guide You is the heartfelt prayer of yours most faithfully, Halcyon Maida Stanhope.

P.S. — Do not take any notice of what Ernest has dictated for me to write concerning my actions. May God forbid that I should ever refuse to help any on this earth, and when he offers to pay me he will find that nothing will make me accept it.

Yours, &c, H.M.S.

[The Miss Clement mentioned is Hawthorne's sister, the woman having changed her name.]

Stanhope writes to Hawthorne

Another letter was put in, the envelope being addressed to Mr E A Hawthorne, Silverstream Wellington N.B. - Important. It was postmarked 10th September, and stamped " Unclaimed."

The letter was as follows:

"Silverstream, 10th September 1897 - E A Hawthorne

Dear Ernest - If you have time to-day, please come up and see me. I do not think that you acted exactly right by going to my box and taking away the money you asked me to mind. When you gave me that £27 I gave you a receipt, and then you go and take it away without saying a word about it, taking advantage of knowing where I kept my keys. I do not for a moment think that you will call upon me to pay it a second time, but business is business, and if you cannot come up will you kindly leave a receipt with Mr Menzies. Sincerely trusting you have fully recovered

I am, &c. - H M Stanhope

P.S. - You told me that you had settled all your accounts, but I find out that you have not, and until you do I shall not hand over the receipt left in my possession.

Yours, &c - H.M.S.

Hawthorne had disappeared some time before the date of this letter perhaps a week or two. A gun produced was Hawthorne's gun.

Other Evidence

Constable Cruickshank, stationed at Lower Hutt, gave evidence as to the finding of the body already detailed by our special reporters. On the track near the grave he found an empty revolver cartridge (produced), which fitted the revolver produced.

Mrs. Jane Hodges gave evidence of her identification of the body.

Sowehby has no quarrel with Hawthorne

Frederick Chas Sowerby, farmer, said that Hawthorne used to come often to his house. He had never told Stanhope that he had any quarrel with Hawthorne, or any grounds for quarrel. He had never seen the revolver produced, or given any revolver to Stanhope. He was always on the best of terms with deceased, and Hawthorne used to attend Sunday-school with witness. The Bible produced was Hawthorne's, but it looked as if a leaf on which deceased's name had been had been removed. What was now written on one of the leaves was not there when it was in Hawthorne's possession.

Philpott makes a Statement

Detective Neill deposed that on the 2nd instant he arrested the accused on another charge. He found the revolver (produced) loaded in all chambers upon him. He also had in his possession two watches and a sovereign case (produced). When Hawthorne's disappearance was reported to the police (on the 6th inst.) witness went to the Terrace Gaol and saw Philpott. He told accused that his mate was reported missing, and asked him if he could give any information about his disappearance. Philpott said that Hawthorne had gone to Dunedin about two months ago, and that he had purchased Hawthorne's camp and tools, and got a receipt, which was in a book at Philpott's house at Silverstream. He had parted with Hawthorne about 10 or 12 chains from the Silverstream Railway station. Hawthorne had wished Frank Phillips, who worked for Mr Seager, good-bye, and told him in Philpott's presence that he was going to Dunedin. Witness had not yet been able to communicate with Phillips, as the latter had gone away. The tools (produced) were found at accused's house at Silverstream. When the body was found witness went to the Terrace Gaol and informed Philpott of the fact. Then he charged accused with murder. Philpott said nothing. Witness had Hawthorne's hat with him, and pointed out the hole in it, and described the appearance of the body. Philpott made no reply of any kind.

A written statement by Philpott

District Clerk Wright produced a statement made on the 8th instant by the accused to him after accused had been arrested for forgery, in answer to enquiries as to the whereabouts of Hawthorne. In this statement Philpott says:

I worked with Hawthorne until about the first week in September. We had then about half finished the contract. Hawthorne had been talking for some time about going to Dunedin, and in the beginning of September he told me he was going, and sold me his camp - I gave him £3 15s cash, and he gave me the receipt produced. Hawthorne left on the 7th September. I know this by the entry in the book of the date I went to Snow's to board, it was on a Tuesday. I purchased the camp some days before this, on the 1st or 2nd of September. After I had bought the camp Hawthorne and I waited there some days. He told me that he was waiting for a letter. He left the camp about 5 o'clock to catch the 6.5 train to town on the 7th of September. At 5 o'clock, just as we were sledging the last lot of the camp down to Snow's, Frank Phillips, who was employed by Seagar, came past, and Hawthorne told him to look out

when he got round the bend, as he was going to discharge his gun. The gun was loaded in both barrels, and he did discharge it. Phillips was in the camp that morning, and Hawthorne told him that he had sold the camp to me, and was going away. The gun was among the articles sold to me, and I sold it in town. The revolver was also among the articles, and he bought it from Menzies for me. During the ten weeks we worked together we earned £25 10s. My share was half. Hawthorne had 27 sovereigns soon after I went there - He took his clothing away when I bought the camp, and he then asked me to take care of the 27 sovereigns for him in my box, and I did so, and gave him a receipt for them. When he left he took the sovereigns out of my box early in the morning while I was down the stream for the horse and sledge. The box was in the tent and Hawthorne knew where the key was. He told me when he came back that he had got the money, and I asked him for the receipt I had given him. He said he would leave the receipt at Mr. Menzies's. I called at Mr Menzies's day after day, and got no receipt. He said the receipt was with his private clothes he took to town. He told me before leaving he had squared all his accounts, but I found afterwards he owes money to (names mentioned). I lost the receipt Hawthorne gave me, and I wrote the receipt in the book produced afterwards. It is in my handwriting, including the signature.

Hawthorne's illness

Hawthorne often complained of being ill, and told me the doctors had told him he had got heart disease, but from the phlegm he used to throw up and the way he spat blood I thought he had lung disease. He was ill shortly before he left he was vomiting and throwing up phlegm stained with blood. I never saw him throwing up blood itself - The reason he (Hawthorne) gave for leaving was that he said he was not making enough money at the contract. We had knocked off working about three weeks previous to his going away. He would not work, and I wasn't going to work by myself. Hawthorne took with him some books, mostly religious works, a new suit, black hard felt hat, white shirt, and stand-up collar,

Letters

A few days after he left I wrote a letter to him addressed Silverstream, asking him why he had not sent the receipt for the 27 sovereigns. I addressed this to Silverstream so that if he came he would get it, as I knew he was very friendly with Menzies, the postmaster. Hawthorne seemed very anxious to get the letter he was waiting for. He went to the Post Office several times. The last letter I got at the Post Office for him I think would be on the Saturday before he left, but it was not the one he was waiting for - Mrs Sowerby may know where he is.

FRANK PHILPOTT

Philpott, when shown that the receipt in the book was dated 12th September, acknowledged that he had signed it himself. Hawthorne, he said, had given him a receipt, but accused had lost it, and so had written the second one in the book. No trace of the money was found in the old camp or in accused's house.

An Incident

George H Hodges, bushman, said that he visited the tent on the 5th and saw the mates there. Addressing Hawthorne, Stanhope said, in an angry tone, "If you move your foot again I'll smash it or you." They did not seem to be on friendly terms. Hawthorne, who was reading his Bible, made no reply. Afterwards Stanhope, referring to deceased, said, His nibs is going away tomorrow. I bought his things. That was the last witness saw of Hawthorne. Some days afterwards Stanhope told witness that he had a letter from Hawthorne, who was in Dunedin, and was now a married man. At 5 pm an hour's adjournment was taken, to enable the jury to get some refreshment.

The mysterious light

On resuming, G Hodges, recalled, said that on the evening of the day on which he visited the camp (the 5th September), between 7 and 7.30 p.m., he saw from his house a light up the track, just about the spot where the body was found. It appeared to be a lantern, and was moving about. He saw it again between 8 and 9 at about the same place. Then it disappeared, and he saw it again at 11 p.m. exactly at the same spot. He remarked on the presence of the light the first time to his mother, and she saw it too. A razor and strap (produced) witness bought from the prisoner's wife. Mrs Sowerby, a very young looking wife, who smiled at the Coroner's question whether she was the daughter or wife of the previous witness, Frederick C Sowerby, said that the Bible (produced) was Hawthorne's, but the latter's

name was on a leaf which had apparently been torn from the book. Stanhope's name, which was on the outside leaf, was not there when it was in Hawthorne's possession.

The evidence of the Postmistress

Ada Menzies, wife of Stuart Menzies, said that she last saw Hawthorne alive at 10 am on 4th September. At 6 am on the morning of the 6th instant. Stanhope asked witness for letters for himself and Hawthorne. She asked how the deceased was, and accused said that he was vomiting blood. She got a letter for Hawthorne on Tuesday, the 7th. On that day he came again for letters, and said that his mate was slightly better. He said nothing to her about Hawthorne leaving. He said the letter was just what Hawthorne was expecting, as it was from his sister. Her husband sold the revolver to Hawthorne.

Conclusion of the Inquest.

Patrick Broderick, Government railway employee, deposed that Stanhope had told him that Hawthorne had gone to Dunedin. Stanhope added that his mate had taken some things that belonged to accused, and that he had written to Dunedin and put somebody on to Hawthorne's track. Stanhope continued that he had got satisfaction and let the matter drop. John Adair, second hand dealer, deposed to having bought the gun (produced) from Stanhope on the 23rd October. He gave him 5s for it. This concluded the evidence.

Inspector Pender said that he had just received a telegram stating that the man Phillips, whose name had been mentioned, had just been found. He was right back in the King Country, hence the delay in procuring this witness. The accused, asked by the Coroner whether he wished to ask any questions of any of the witnesses, said, Not in the absence of my solicitor.

The Summing Up

The Coroner, summing up the evidence, said that there could be no reasonable doubt but that the man was murdered. He called attention to the evidence, which he characterised as damaging, pointing out that the only proof put forward by the accused to the possession of deceased's property was a receipt for a very small amount, which receipt accused acknowledged had been written and signed by himself. It was clear that for some reason or other the accused had told contradictory stories as to the whereabouts of Hawthorne. The jury was not trying the case, which was purely one of circumstantial evidence. If, however, the evidence pointed to the accused as a murderer, the jury should bring in a verdict to that effect, but if the jury considered the evidence as not complete an open verdict should be given.

The Verdict

At 7.5 pm the jury retired to consider its verdict. It returned in ten minutes, when the Foreman said - The jury are unanimously of opinion that the prisoner has been guilty of the Wilful Murder of Hawthorne by shooting. The accused, who had braced himself for the verdict, received it without a tremor

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 15 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 15 November 1897

Though it seemed to be the impression of some of the residents of Silverstream that the police had at first been diffident in taking up the murder case now so prominently before the public, it appears that immediately on receipt of the news of Hawthorne disappearance Detective Neill interviewed Philpott at the Terrace Gaol as to the whereabouts of his mate and two hours after the police had learned that suspicions had been aroused Inspector Pender and some of his officers were on their way to the spot. As the trains did not suit – so eager were the police to investigate the mystery – a trap was procured at Lower Hutt and the party drove to Silverstream. The whole case was worked up, the body found, and a man charged with the crime, in a little over one week. The ubiquitous photographer and the casual cyclist did not omit yesterday to visit the scene of the murder, and the lonely grave and the still lonelier hut hidden in the gully were inspected and photographed again and again.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 15 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 15 November 1897

The body of the murdered man Ernest Hawthorne was removed from the Morgue this morning and taken to Silverstream. The deceased was held in such estimation by the residents of that district that they clubbed together and have subscribed the amount necessary to pay the

expenses of interment. The funeral is taking place this afternoon at Silverstream. The deceased's father arrived in Wellington by today's midday Manawatu train, too late to get to Silverstream in time to take part in the burial of his murdered son.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 15 November 1897 page 6)

Evening Post newspaper 16 November 1897

The Silverstream Murder.

Some excellent photographs of the spot at Silverstream in which the murdered man Hawthorne was buried, the whare in which he and Stanhope were living, and the place, where the cartridge was found are exhibited in the window of our publishing office, and are attracting much attention. They were taken by Mr Roach, a local amateur, and do him great credit. The funeral of the murdered man, Ernest Albert Hawthorne, took place at Silverstream yesterday afternoon. There was a very large attendance of settlers and friends of the deceased, and many wreaths betokened the high respect in which the unfortunate young man had been held. The body was buried in the new Presbyterian cemetery at Mungaroa. A number of Christian Endeavourers were present, and sang a hymn at the grave-side. From the publicity which has been given to a portrait of Philpott (the man accused of the murder) in Salvationist uniform with a cornet in his hand, it has been assumed that the prisoner was a member of the Army, and of its band. Captain Toomer, the head of the local contingent, however, asks us to state that such was not the case. Philpott went to the Army's penitentiary a few months ago, and was taken under the wing of the Army for a time, but was never accepted as a member - in fact, his conduct was such while he was living with one of the soldiers that he could not be enrolled. He was not a member of the Band, but being an expert cornetist, turned out with it on one occasion

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 16 November 1897)

New Zealand Times newspaper 16 November 1897

THE SILVERSTREAM TRAGEDY

[Image drawing of Frank Philpott]

Frank Philpott, alias William Henry Smith, alias Wells, alias H M Stanhope

THE LATEST DETAILS - It is stated that Frank Philpott, alias Stanhope, who is charged with having murdered his mate Hawthorne desired to have the case against him gone on with at once. He expressed this desire to the gaoler on Sunday afternoon, after he heard the facts detailed at the inquest.

An effort was made to have Philpott brought before the Supreme Court during the present session, but it was pointed out that it would be very inadvisable to proceed with the case, owing to Mr Gully, the Crown Prosecutor, not being fully prepared.

The police were quite ready, but the Crown Prosecutor, who was hampered with a number of cases, had not had time to prepare the case for a jury.

PHILPOTT SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS – There was complete silence at the Supreme Court yesterday morning when the Registrar cried, "Set Frank Philpott at the bar". It was evident from the strained attention that the crowd within the Court was eager to see what manner of man he was who was charged with the foul crime of murdering his mate. Philpott, alia Albert Wells (as his name appears on the charge-sheet), accompanied by two wardens, appeared and stood quietly at the bar. He was cool and appeared quite undaunted by the gaze of the crowd.

"Frank Philpott, alias Albert Wells" called the Registrar, "you are indicated that on the 21st of June 1897 at Wellington you did forge a cheque on the National Bank, Pay to Albert Wells or bearer the sum of £10 12s, signed Robert Ransfield and further that you did deal with it as if it were genuine and by false pretences you did obtain from Frederick Ingle money to the amount of £2 4s and clothing the property of Hallenstein Brothers.

When the question "How say you, guilty or not guilty?" was put the prisoner simply replied "Guilty."

Asked if he had anything to say he made no reply.

His honour before sentencing him referred to the long list of previous convictions against him remarking that the prisoner had received two years imprisonment for a similar offence and had since among other things received sentences of seven days and a month for larceny. His Honour continued what seems to be clear from your previous convictions is that you are not

disposed to avail yourself of the opportunity you have had of working homestly. It will be necessary to pass a long sentence. The sentence of the Court is that you be imprisoned on each of these charges for three years in the Terrace Goal with hard labour the sentence to be concurrent.

The prisoner exhibited no surprise and was quietly removed.

THE FUNERAL OF THE VICTIM – It was a sad faced gathering of country folk – and there were few dry eyes – when the remains of the late Ernest Hawthorne were consigned to rest in a hollowed tomb on a lonely mountain side overlooking the Mungaroa Valley yesterday afternoon. That the young man has been a favourite were evident from the fact that all the leading settlers from the district round about suspended operations on their holdings and came along either in vehicles on horseback or afoot to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory. The body had been taken on from Wellington by road in the morning by Mr Morris the undertaker and on its arrival at the junction of the Hutt and Mungaroa roads the large cortege which had been in waiting for some time formed a procession which as it wound its solemn way up along the flank of the mountain seen from the valley below presented a saddening spectacle. The remains were the first deposited in the new Presbyterian cemetery at Mungaroa about two miles from the Upper Hutt railway station as the crows flies and on the same range about six miles northward of the scene of the tragedy and the first burial.

Prominent amongst the mourners were the local members of the Upper Hutt Christian Endeavour Society four members of which Messrs F Wilkie, A Edwards, J Allen and Gardener acted as pallbearers and the Rev Andrew Gray Presbyterian minister in charge of the Hutt district read the burial service with deep impressiveness. The Endeavourers present sang an appropriate and touching hymn at the graveside. The coffin was strewn with a profusion of most beautiful wreaths of garden and wild flowers the handiwork of Miss Bengé, Miss Mabel Clements (cousin of the deceased) Mrs Greenwood, E Mabey, Master W Kemp, Mrs Bengé, Mrs F Mabey, A Mabey, Alice Young, Miss E Bengé, the Misses Allan, Nellie Keys, Mrs McCulloch and many others including a specially tasteful wreath from the Christian Endeavour Society.

THE FATHER OF THE DECEASED – Mr Hawthorne the father of the victim arrived at Silverstream yesterday afternoon but too late to be present at his son's funeral. Amongst those present at the funeral yesterday was Miss Mabel Clements a cousin of the deceased who resides in Wellington and who took out a beautiful wreath to place on the grave.

FURTHER INQUIRIES – Constable Cruickshank was out at Silverstream making further enquiries into the recent tragedy yesterday and succeeded in procuring several articles which will assist the police in sheeting the crime home to its perpetrator. Amongst the articles recovered was a hurricane lantern with the assistance of which it is believed the murderer carried out the rough and ready interment.

TRIED TO INSURE HIS LIFE – The unfortunate man Hawthorne endeavoured to get his life insured some time ago but the doctor of the company which he approached refused to grant him a certificate on the ground that he suffered from heart disease.

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 16 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 17 November 1897

The Silverstream Murder

Many enquiries are being made as to when the accused Philpott is to appear before the Magistrate's Court, and whether his case will come up at the present session of the Supreme Court. As Philpott has received a sentence of three years for forgery, and is thus in safe keeping, the police feel there is now no need for hurry, and again, the Grand Jury having been discharged, it is now certain that no charge of murder will be preferred against Philpott during the present sessions. Nor is it likely that he will appear before the Magistrate's Court during this week.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 17 November 1897)

New Zealand Times newspaper 17 November 1897

Local and General - The photo-process blocks which are being prepared from pictures taken by Mr Tomlinson, photographer, for the New Zealand Mail, are really excellent examples of the art, and Messrs McKee and Co are to be congratulated on the result of a piece of work done in record time. These fine pictures of the whare of the man who was murdered at

Silverstream, together with a view of the country, the lonely track, the grave and an excellent portrait of Mr Menzies, who discovered the remains, will render this week's issue of the Mail most interesting and complete. Already large orders have been book and, to save disappointment, those requiring copies had better bespeak them at once.

(Reference Papers past website New Zealand Times newspaper 17 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 19 November 1897

The Silverstream Murder

Yesterday afternoon Detective Neill, District Clerk Wright, and Mr E C Farr, Surveyor in the Public Works Department, made an official survey of the locality in which the Hawthorne murder was committed, and Mr Farr is now preparing plans for the bearing of the case against Philpott at the Magistrate's Court. Mr Gully is to conduct the case for the Police in the lower Court, and he and Mr Jellicoe (council for Philpott) are to arrange for the date for the hearing. Counsel consulted on the matter this afternoon, and it is understood that they arranged that the case should begin on Monday next.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 19 November 1897)

25 November 1897

Surry Hills Sydney
25 November 1897

Superintendent of Police

Sir

I see in the papers an account of the murder of one Ernest Alfred Hawthorn as I have a nephew of that name I should like to know particulars as I am included to think it is him as name and age corresponds if it is the same he was born in Akaroa on the Peninsular in the South Island he has a sister names Julia if you would send me any news I would be very glad and thankful

I am yours faithfully

E A Clement

22 Cooper Street Surry Hills Sydney

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington ACIS 17627 P1 253/ 1897/1597 Mrs E A Clement Sydney Australia 03 December 1897 Inquiry as to identify of Ernest Alfred Hawthorne found murdered at Silverstream with her nephew)

Evening Post newspaper 29 November 1897

The Silverstream Murder

The hearing of the charge preferred against Frank Philpott for the murder of Ernest Hawthorne is to come before the Magistrate Court next Monday morning. There are some 37 witnesses in the case, the hearing of which will last several days. Mr Eyre Kenny will probably be back in time to preside at the hearing. The information today sworn before Mr Greenfield by Detective Robert Neill says that "Frank Philpott, alias Halcyon Maida Stanhope, of Wellington, on or about the 7th September, 1897, at Silverstream, did murder one Ernest Alfred Hawthorne". Mr Greenfield also this morning signed the formal warrant apprehending Philpott on the charge. The first named documents will probably be read to the accused in the Terrace Gaol this afternoon by Detective Neill.

(Reference papers past website Evening Post newspaper 29 November 1897)

Evening Post newspaper 30 November 1897

A portrait of the man Philpott, alias Stanhope, who is charged with the Silverstream murder, is now on view in the window of our publishing office. It was enlarged by Mr Christesen, of Willis-street, from a small photograph taken a short time ago.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 30 November 1897)

02 December 1897

Forwarded to the Commissioner

There can be no doubt that the Ernest Alfred Hawthorne found murdered at Silverstream is identical with the person enquired for.

He was born at Akaroa and has a sister named Julia who has taken the name of Clement.

The fathers address is Fowlers near Fielding and the sister's is c/- Mrs Nelson Woodville

Date stamp 02 December 1897
District Police Officer Wellington NZ [5909/97]

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington ACIS 17627 P1 253/ 1897/1597 Mrs E A Clement Sydney Australia 03 December 1897 Inquiry as to identify of Ernest Alfred Hawthorne found murdered at Silverstream with her nephew)

04 December 1897

04 December 1897

Madam

In reply to your letter of the 25 instant I have to inform you with regret that there can be little doubt that the Ernest Alfred Hawthorn who was found murdered at Silverstream near the city is identical with your nephew. He was born at Akaroa Canterbury and had a sister Julia who had taken the name of Clement. His father's address is Fowlers near Fielding and his sister's c/- Mrs Nelson Woodville

I have the honour to be Madam
Yours obedient servant
Commissioner of Police Signed [1897/1597]

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington ACIS 17627 P1 253/ 1897/1597 Mrs E A Clement Sydney Australia 03 December 1897 Inquiry as to identify of Ernest Alfred Hawthorne found murdered at Silverstream with her nephew)

Evening Post newspaper 06 December 1897

The Silverstream Murder - Philpott Before The Magistrate's Court.

Frank Philpott, alias Halcyon Maida Stanhope, was charged at the Magistrate's Court this morning before Mr W R Haselden, SM, with the murder of Ernest Hawthorne at Silverstream, on or about the 7th September.

When the case was called on the benches in Court were all filled and the spaces reserved for the public were packed. While the ordinary cases were being called on Detective Neill, Constable Cruickshank, and others were busy carrying into the room several loads of exhibits, in which a crosscut saw, a rope, several pairs of boots, and a bundle of clothing were conspicuous. Among the witnesses sat Mrs Philpott, to whom accused's eyes often turned during the hearing of the case, and when their eyes met a smile would flit across his face. The bearing of the accused upon being brought in was calm and collected, and he was sufficiently cool to steadily survey those within range of his vision. Since his last appearance in Court, when he was committed for trial on the charge of forgery, Philpott's hair has greyed noticeably. Mr H D Bell, with him Mr M Myers, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the police, Inspector Pender also being present. Mr Jellicoe, with him Mr Hindmarsh, represent the accused. Mr Jellicoe was absent during the morning. His Worship asked Mr Bell whether the case could be completed during this week, because after next Saturday he (Mr Haselden) would be absent for a week, and this would necessitate an adjournment, which he wished to avoid. There were civil sittings also to be provided for.

Mr Bell - I think three days will finish the case, your Worship, unless the defence takes up much time in cross-examination

Mr Hindmarsh - We do not intend going into lengthy examination

His Worship - We can sit on Wednesday and Friday, and I have no objection to sitting at night

Mr Bell - It is refreshing to hear a Magistrate say that, as it has hitherto been a tender suggestion to make.

His Worship - You see, I am not enervated with the work yet.

Mr Bell - We're all glad to see you here. The first witness called was E C Farr, draughtsman in the Public Works Department, who deposed to preparing plans of the locality of the murder. He received assistance from Frank Phillips as to the locality in the preparation of the plans.

Dr Cahill, in his evidence, went over the facts of the exhumation, the post-mortem examination, and the inquest, particulars of which have already been published at length in the Post. The Doctor could not remember distinctly whether he had tried on Hawthorne's head the hat found in the grave, to compare the hole in the hat with that in deceased's head. Asked as to whether he had examined the body, the witness said he had not, as he considered the bullet wound in the head was sufficient to cause death.

Cross-examined by Mr Hindmarsh -Was not absolutely certain that he had fitted the hat found in the grave on the head of the deceased. Did not take up any assumption, but did take all the surrounding circumstances into consideration.

Mr . Hindmarsh - What is your reason for thinking that the hole in the hat corresponded with the hole in the head

to be correctly transcribed

Witness — I assumed that if the hat was worn on the back of the head then each hole would correspond with the other. Dr Tripe gave corroborative evidence concerning the post-mortem examination, and said Dr Cahill tried the hat on the head of the deceased. To Mr Hindmarsh — When trying on the hat Dr Cahill remarked that the man was in the habit of wearing his hat on the back of his head. On the conclusion of the expert evidence all witnesses were ordered out of Court at the request of Mr. Hindmarsh. Julia Elizabeth Clement, sister of Ernest Hawthorne, in answer to a question as to her change of name, said that her father having married again she had taken her mother's maiden name. She was a general servant at Woodville. Saw her brother last in December, 1894, in Christchurch. She corresponded with him regularly. Received the last letter from him on the 28th August • this year. (Letter identified and handed in.) Answered it on 5th September. On the 13th she received from her brother a letter dictated by him to Stanhope. The following is the text of the letter : — Lower Hutt, 13th September, 1897. My dear sister— It is with pleasure that I answer your kind and welcome letter, which I received last Wednesday, but I am very sorry to say I have poisoned my hand, and have not been able to work for three weeks. But it is very much better now, thank God. I am so sorry that it happened just now, as I cannot get the rest of my sleepers out of the bush and let them pass, and as I am very short of money at present, it is a bad job for me. The gentleman who is writing this for me is so kind — he is a true Christian, and has not asked me for any money since I have been here. I have been living, with him nearly three weeks, and he has paid £1 twice for tile doctor. I shall be so glad when I am alright and get some money to pay him. I hope that you are well and happy. As Mr. Stanhope is going into town I cannot say any more at present, as I wish him to, post this, so good-bye for the present, dear sister, and may God bless, keep, guard, and protect you is the prayer of your ever true brother. (Signed) E. A. Hawthorne. Address Post Office, Lower Hutt, Wellington." To the above were attached the following addenda : " Dear Miss Clement Your brother has requested me to pen this epistle to you, as his hand is bad, and, as I am in a hurry, kindly pardon the way it is worded and written. May the dear Lord ever guide you is the heartfelt prayer of yours most faithfully. — (Signed) Halcyon Maida Stanhope." "P.S. — Do not take any notice of "what your brother has dictated for me to write concerning my actions. May God forbid that I should ever refuse to help any on this earth, and when he offers to pay me he will find that nothing will make me accept it. — Yours, &c, H.M.S." A. H. Wright, District Clerk of the Police Office for the Wellington District, was examined upon a statement which he had received in the Terrace Gaol from Philpott whilst the search for Hawthorne's body was going on. The main point of the examination bore upon a receipt for £3 15s which the accused said he had received from Hawthorne in exchange for the Tatter's camp. Witness told accused that the handwriting of the receipt was curiously similar to accused's own handwriting, and being pressed thereupon Philpott at last said — " I may as well tell the truth. I lost Hawthorne's receipt, and wrote this one and also the one in the receipt-book." Witness had found the book in Philpott's whare, when Mrs. Philpott was in charge and Philpott was in gaol. Mrs. Menzies, wife of the Postmaster at Silverstream, gave evidence as to the habits and character of the deceased, whom she saw last on 4th September. He usually wore his hat on the back of his head. Witness recounted various sayings and comings and goings of Philpott about that time. On the Tuesday following, Philpott said his mate was sick and took away a letter addressed to Hawthorne. Later in the Week the accused told witness that Hawthorne was better and had gone into town. On the Thursday Philpott came to the Post Office (kept by Mr. Menzies) and got a red stamp and put it on a letter which was

addressed to Hawthorne at Silverstream. Hawthorne did not turn up, and at the end of a fortnight Menzies himself, having heard that Hawthorne had gone to Dunedin (witness could not say from whom they had received this information) struck out the word " Silverstream " on the address, wrote " Dunedin " in its place, and sent the letter on. To Mr. Hindmarsh —

Previous to his disappearance witness had seen deceased every Sunday morning. ' Patrick Garvey, Governor of the Terrace Gaol, recognised an envelope bearing Dead Letter Office marks. The letter came to the gaol whilst Philpott was there, addressed to accused. Witness opened it, sent for accused, and told him of its contents. Philpott said he knew all about it. Witness recognised the letter produced. The letter, which is the one referred to in the evidence of Mrs. Menzies, and was returned unclaimed from Dunedin, ran as follows : — " Silverstream, 10th September, 1897. E. A. Hawthorne. Dear Ernest — If you have time to-day please come up and see me. I do not think that you acted exactly right by going away [and taking] the money you asked me to mind. When you gave me the £27 I gave you a receipt, and then you go and take it away without saying a word about it, taking advantage of knowing where I kept my keys. I do not for a moment think that you will call upon me to pay it a second time. But business is business, and if you cannot come up, will you kindly leave a receipt with Mr. Menzies. Sincerely trusting you have fully recovered. — I am, &c, yours truly (Signed) H. M. Stanhope. " P.S.— You told me that you had settled all your accounts, but I find out that you have not, and until you do I shall not hand over the receipt left in my possession. — Tours, &c, H.M.S." Miss Clement was here recalled and examined as to her last letter, written on the 10th September, and sent to her brother in a "small pale blue envelope." Mr. Hindmarsh took a list of the places where she had been at service during the past few years. George Snow, labourer, living at Silverstream, said he had known Hawthorne about two years and half. Hawthorne paid witness £2 odd on Friday, 3rd September. Witness then saw in his hand £4 in notes. He paid the debt in response to a note asking him for the same. Said it was possible he might leave the district. Witness never saw Hawthorne again alive. On Sunday, the 10th, saw Philpott at witness's whare. He said his mate had cleared out on Saturday night. Philpott came to work near witness's place on Tuesday evening, and next day started to pitch his tent there. Saw him on the road before sunrise Wednesday morning. The Court here adjourned for luncheon. On resuming, the examination of George Snow was continued. The witness said that arrangements had been made between himself and the accused that as soon as the latter and Hawthorne had severed their partnership, Stanhope would become witness's mate. On the 10th of August last the accused bought two lanterns, keeping one himself and making a present of the other to witness. Accused frequently used his lantern. Never saw Hawthorne carry a lantern. Accused paid witness's housekeeper 13s for a week's board on the 7th, and again on the 14th, and a week later again he said he could not pay, as he would have to get some money. Understood accused had money in the Post Office Savings Bank. Accused was seven or eight weeks in the camp close to witness's place, and continued to board at the house. Believed the revolver (produced) to be the same as he had seen in Stanhope's possession about the 3rd September. Accused said Sowerby gave it to him to keep lest he (Sowerby) should do Hawthorne mischief when he came up from town. It was loaded in every chamber Stanhope said Sowerby was jealous of Hawthorne. Stanhope asked witness to take care of the revolver for him, as he was going away for a little while. Late at night accused called for the weapon again. Received an anonymous letter about three weeks after Stanhope came to live with him. He read the letter and burned it. The letter warned witness to be careful of Stanhope, as he meant to do him an injury. Spoke to Stanhope about it, telling him and also Menzies that Hawthorne had written this letter. It was not signed, but the writing looked like Hawthorne's. Did not think now that he wrote the letter. To Mr. Hindmarsh — A week previous to the time of his disappearance Hawthorne's aide* was going to sell out his tools and camp to Stanhope and leave the district. Believed the anonymous letter to be a forgery now, because Hawthorne was dead. The letter was posted at Wellington. The Sowerbys and Menzies were Hawthorne's greatest friends. Never saw a revolver at Menzies'. Sowerby had never spoken of a revolver. It was a common thing in the district to carry lanterns. Never saw Stanhope with more than £1 at a time. Hawthorne owed witness money for some, six weeks. After giving the revolver back never saw it again. Understood from both that Hawthorne and Stanhope were partners. (Left sitting.)

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 06 December 1897)

13 December 1897

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✓

13 December 1897
To The Gaoler H M Prison

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✓

Terrace Wellington

Sir

As I am totally without means with which to secure the services of a solicitor to defence me on my trial, I desire to avail myself of the provision made by the Government which I understand to be is that they will furnish a certain sum to any placed as I am now.

I take the liberty to write this to you Sir as I am ignorant of the way to make the application to the Government and to ask if you would kindly apply for the assistance which I hereby solicit.

Sincerely trusting that my request will be granted

I beg to ascribe myself as your obedient prisoner

Frank Philpott

(Reference Archives New Zealand Wellington J1 586 197/1596 Gaoler Wellington 13 December 1897 application from Prisoner Frank Philpott awaiting trial for murder for assistance to procure Council for his defence years 1897-1898 total 4 documents on file only transcribed 2)

Police Gazettes 1897 – Wellington Wednesday 22 December 1897

Return of prisoners tried at the Supreme and District Courts 1897	
Name	Frank Philpott alias Albert Wells
Offence	Forgery
Where and when tried	Supreme Court Wellington 15 November
Sentence	3 years labour

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington AAAJ W4928 box 3 New Zealand Gazette 1897 page 225)

11 January 1898

11 January 1898

Regina v Philpott

Sir

I am instructed to defence this prisoner and as you are aware the man is altogether without means. I am informed that the Government have intimated their willingness to allow 10 guineas for his defence but in as much as the case is an exceedingly heavy and complicated one I am bound to point out that it will be quite impossible for the prisoner to obtain the services of any Counsel of standing for such a fee. The trial must last a week and if I am to conduct the defence I must seriously ask the Government to allow a reasonable fee. I am informed that in the Boshier case the allowance to Mr Wilford was considerably extended.

Will you kindly furnish me for the prisoner with a copy of the depositions taken by the Coroner

I have the honour to be Sir

Your obedient servant

I Y Jellicoe

The Hon T Thompson Minister of Justice

(Reference Archives New Zealand Wellington J1 586 197/1596 Gaoler Wellington 13 December 1897 application from Prisoner Frank Philpott awaiting trial for murder for assistance to procure Council for his defence years 1897-1898 total 4 documents on file only transcribed 2)

1897-1898 - Frank Philpott - Supreme Court records include numerous sets of documents but I have only listed some of the sets and the witnesses at the hearing and after.

- Terrace Goal Wellington 23 March 1898
- Coroners certificate Frank Philpott came to his death that he was on the twenty third day of March in the year aforesaid within the Terrace Gaol at Wellington is due cause of law hanged by the neck till he was dead in execution of the sentence of death passed upon him by Worley Bassett Edwards a Judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand at a Seating of the Criminal Court held at Wellington on the Twenty fifth day of February in the year aforesaid
Signed by Coroner, Foreman and jurors
- Inquest on execution of Frank PHILPOTT
- New Zealand Times Thursday 24 March 1898 various articles
- Department of Justice correspondence regarding the murder case
- Ministerial documents from member of the Cabinet
- Regina v Philpotts
- Judges Chambers Wellington documents on the case (pages 1 to 15)

- Queen v Philpott pages 1 to 54
- Witnesses reports pages 1A to 46A)
- Queen v Phillipott (pages 1 to 5)
- Typed published statement by Frank Philpott February 1898-1010 taken on 08 November 1897 [receipt in book dated 12/9/97- A.H.W.]
- Regina v Philpotts (4 pages)

List of names of people who gave evidence or who were mentioned in the various documents

1. Snow, Sowerby, Cotter, Hodgetts, John Hodgetts, Harding, Adair, Millington, Dalton, Mudgway, Miss Clements, Detective Neil, Wilkie (in Judges Chambers Wellington Documents)
2. Everard Cecil Farr draftsman for Public Works (burial location)
3. Thomas Cahill Medical practitioner in Wellington (travelled to Silverstream examine body)
4. William Borrowdale Tripe medical practitioner (examination of body)
5. Ada Menzies wife of Stewart Menzies live in Silverstream keep Post Office and little store
6. Mr Hawthorne had a sister who stayed with Ada Menzies for a short time after the death of her brother
7. Alexander McCulloch Farmer at Trentham near Silverstream (searched for Hawthorne with Alf Perry, George Berryman and Stewart Menzies)
8. George Snow at Silverstream has a whare
9. Frederick Charles Sowerby farm labourer at Silverstream married 18 October 1896 Florence May Bennett
10. Stewart Menzies postmaster at Silverstream and little store
11. Florence Mau Sowerby wife of Frederick Charles Sowerby
12. Charles Cotter farmer at Silverstream (knows and employs Sydney Herbert Marriott labourer fixing fence with Bert Wilkins)
13. George Henry Hodgetts bushman at Silverstream (gave evidence and was recalled later)
14. John Hodgetts labourer at Silverstream brother of George Henry Hodgetts
15. Joseph Hodgetts labourer at Silverstream
16. Jane Hodgetts wife of Joseph Hodgetts at Silverstream
17. Richard Brabazon Morris clerk Post Office Saving Bank Wellington (no bank account in name of Frank Philpott or Halcyon Maida Stanhope) (recalled no account in name of Sarah Maud Baker)

NOTE - Sarah Maud Baker married Frank Philpott under the alias Stanhope in 1897

18. Charles Harding bushman at Silverstream
19. John Adair second hand dealer Manners Street Wellington (purchased gun off prisoner)
20. William George Bassett private detective at Wellington
21. Patrick Broderick bridge-man in Government Railway department at present at Silverstream
22. Sydney George Millington Chief Warder at Terrace Gaol (stated lady came to visit prisoner said her name was Mrs Stanhope)
23. Joseph Birkenshaw officer with Salvation Army (married prisoner and lady on 25th October)

NOTE – Sarah Maud Baker married Frank Philpott under the alias Stanhope in 1897

24. John Benjamin Dalton bootmaker business at Upper Hutt (Mudgway a baker gave shoe to Dalton from Hawthorne) later recalled
25. Julia Elizabeth Clements (taken mother maiden name) domestic servant at Woodville in service of Mr W H Nelson her brother was Ernest Alfred Hawthorne their father remarried (brother and sister natives of Akaroa)
26. Frederick Grieves caretaker Nelson Freezing works Woodville (know Miss Clemments)
27. Francis Alfred Burdett Ingpen telegraphists at Woodville
28. George Henry Cates letter carrier at Lower Hutt Post Office
29. William John McIlvridge messenger at Lower Hutt Post Office
30. Isaac George Price postmaster at Lower Hutt
31. John Foster Police Cobstable stationed at Wellington
32. Alfred Wilkie grocer at the Upper Hutt
33. Herbert Charles Wilkins farm labourer at Silverstream (working for cotters at Silverstream mending fence on Whitemans Valley Road working with Marriott)

34. Joseph Albert Cleland keep father books father lives Tinakori Road father has place at Silverstream up Whitemans Vally Road)
35. Wilford Cleland look after fathers property at Silverstream
36. Patrick Samuel Garvey keeper of Terrace Gaol Wellington (letter came addressed to H M Stanhope)
37. Edward Plumer Mountford accountant Bank of New South Wales (examine handwriting)
38. Patrick Samuel Garvey (prisoner has been off and on in my custody since 1893 and been several times convicted between 1893 & 1898)
39. Edward Plumer Mountford (same handwriting)
40. Oswald Stephen Watkins assistant accountant Bank of New Zealand (writing of prisoner)
41. Charles Harding (went to Hawthorne camp with Hodgett)
42. Robert Neill detective officer stationed at Wellington
43. Emma Cotter wife of Thomas Cotter farmer at Silverstream (employed Hawthorne)
44. Arthur Hobbins Wright distant clerk in Police station Wellington (took prisoner statement with Constable Cruickshank)
45. George Snow (book for work done at Mrs Cotters)
46. Frank Phillips farm labourer last employed Mangahanone Inland Patea (prior to going to Mangahanone worked at Seagars at Silverstream left October after working there for 3 years 6 months)
47. Alexander Cruickshank Police Constable stationed at Lower Hutt
48. William Patrick Patton police constable stationed at Lower Hutt
49. Samuel Arnold Atkinson clerk office of the Crown Solicitor
50. William Henry Tisdall gunsmith carrying business in Wellington
51. Ada Menzies (pair of boots belong to Hawthorne)
52. Robert Neill (boots at Menzies in wash-house)

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington J1 591 x 1898/263 Mr Justice Edward Wellington 11 March 1898 reporting conviction of F Philpott for murder year 1898)
