

holders to hear whatever evidence the directors had to offer in reply to Mr. O'Connor's statement and charges, and to submit the facts so ascertained in a report to the shareholders.

The committee then returned to the company's office, when a discussion took place respecting the future course to be adopted.

*Resolved*, "That, as no reply has been received to the telegram sent to Mr. Greenland this morning, and in view of the evident loss entailed upon the company through operations being at a standstill pending the result of this inquiry, the committee will meet at 10 a.m. to-morrow, 25th instant, and will sit daily at that hour until the inquiry is concluded." *Resolved*, "That a telegram be sent to Mr. Greenland apprising him of this resolution." *Resolved*, "That Mr. O'Connor and the directors be advised of this resolution."

The committee then adjourned until 9.45 a.m. next day.

*Eighth Day, Friday, 25th November, 1892.*

The committee met at 10 a.m. *Present*: Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Miles. The minutes of the previous meetings were read and confirmed.

The secretary reported that he had written to Mr. Eugene O'Connor and to the chairman of directors of the Mokihinui Coal Company, advising that the inquiry would be resumed at 10 a.m. on Friday, 25th November.

The secretary of the Mokihinui Coal Company waited on the committee to advise them of the receipt of a telegram from Mr. Greenland, of Westport.

During the day a telegram addressed to Messrs. Macdonald and Miles was received from Mr. Greenland.

Mr. Macarthy (chairman of directors), Mr. Deacon (secretary), and Mr. Straw (mine-manager of the company) gave evidence respecting the affairs of the company, which was taken down by the shorthand-writer.

The inquiry lasted from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., from 3 to 5 p.m., and from 7.30 to 10 p.m., when it was adjourned to the following day at 10 a.m.

*Ninth Day, Saturday, 26th November, 1892.*

The committee met at 10 a.m. *Present*: Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Miles. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Macarthy continued his statement, and called Mr. Straw, mine-manager.

The proceedings were interrupted by Mr. O'Connor, who demanded that certain letters should be returned to him, and that he should be supplied with a report of the proceedings from day to day, according to agreement.

The chairman's efforts to restore order proving fruitless, resolved, "That, owing to Mr. O'Connor's disorderly conduct, the committee do now adjourn."

The committee adjourned at 11 a.m. The committee resumed at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. Macarthy continued and concluded his case.

The Chairman announced that the committee would examine the statements made, and compare them with the books and papers of the company, and report at as early a date as possible.

The committee then adjourned.

*Tenth Day, Wednesday, 30th November, 1892.*

The committee met at 10.30 a.m. *Present*: Messrs. Macdonald and Miles.

The committee proceeded to examine the books and accounts in the company's office, and after a lengthy investigation,

The committee adjourned till 10.30 a.m. on Thursday.

*Eleventh Day, Thursday, 1st December, 1892.*

The committee met at 10.30 a.m. *Present*: Messrs. Macdonald and Miles. Examination into the books and accounts in the company's office was continued.

Mr. O'Connor called, and requested that some letters handed in by him at previous sittings should be returned to him. Mr. Macdonald informed him that they were in the possession of the committee, and on completion of their report would be returned to him in due course. Mr. O'Connor then retired.

The committee adjourned till 10.30 a.m. on Friday.

*Twelfth Day, Friday, 2nd December, 1892.*

The committee met at 10.30 a.m. *Present*: Messrs. Macdonald and Miles. Examination of the company's books and accounts was further proceeded with.

The directors having informed the committee of their desire to have a full report of the proceedings printed for the information of shareholders, the committee acceded to the request, and furnished the necessary information for the purpose.

The committee adjourned till 10.30 a.m. next day.

*Thirteenth Day, Saturday, 3rd December, 1892.*

The committee met at 10.30 a.m. *Present*: Messrs. Macdonald and Miles. The minutes of previous meetings were read and confirmed. Certain proofs of the proceedings were handed in from the printer, and were examined and passed.