

Snippets taken from transcribed Newspapers

Fire at Ormondville The Ormondville Hotel was burnt down this morning at about 5.20 am. Charles LEACH, the licensee was awakened by the crying and struggling of his infant child that occupied the same bed. On awakening he found the bedroom filled with smoke. He threw his wife and infant through the window and then went upstairs and burst open the doors of the sleeping apartments and alarmed the inmates. He then found the fire was running up the outside of the house, by the bar parlour. A bucket brigade was organised to keep the fire from spreading to Mr WESTLAKE's and Mr GROOM's stores. Messrs COHEN, Ben.B. JOHNSON, FORDHAM, ASHLEY and several others worked with a will. Fortunately it was dead calm and there was a good supply of water or the whole block from the railway crossing to Castles Street would have gone. Other helpers were Mr BARNES and his sons, G.A. GRANT & D. GRANT, HOWES, BOVAIRD & CONNELLY

Mr J. ROULSTON has arrived in Ormondville to take charge of the Ormondville Hotel. Of course the fire this morning may alter matters.

Inquest into the Late Fire At Ormondville Hotel. Was held at the Ormondville Courthouse on Wed before Mr JOHNSON, Coroner and the following jury;
G. GRANT, G. HENSON, J.S. ANDREWS, F.W. REDWARD, F.C. SHUGAR & J. BOVAIRD
Evidence by:
Charles LEACH - late licensee of the Ormondville Hotel
Pauline LEACH - wife of above
Joseph ROULSTON - present licensee of the Ormondville Hotel

Joseph CHICKEN - sub agent for Imperial Fire Insurance Co.
William TOWNLEY - Bricklayer
Verdict : The jury find that there is no evidence to show how the fire originated and they are of the opinion that there was no contributory negligence

Ormondville Licensing
Transfers granted
Makotuku - D. WOODS to J.C. DAVIS
Beaconsfield - R. ESSEX to James SHANNAHAN
Ormondville Hotel - C. LEACH to J. ROULSTON- application was made to transfer of this license to

the Settlers Arms Hotel. A license had been refused to this house sometime previously. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that a permanent transfer of the license be granted for the Settlers Arms, conditionally with alterations being carried out.

Bush Advocate 10, 12 & 14 Dec 1889

Thursday 22 May

Charles LEACH - Store keeper - Te Aute 1879

Wed 16 July 1879

Birth LEACH : At Te Aute, on Friday July 11, wife C. LEACH, of a daughter

LEACH : At Te Aute, on June 2, wife of C. LEACH of a son. HBH 5/6/1877

Ormondville Licensing Bench
Ormondville Hotel - C. LEACH – granted 9/6/1888

The next hotel to open was the Ormondville Hotel. The proprietor is Mr LEACH. The hotel has 4 sitting rooms 16'x16', dining room 40'x20', 9 bedrooms 14'x10'. a bar 20'x16 and a kitchen fitted with patent Leamington Range. The furniture is all new and manufactured to order by Mr SEBLY, Waipawa. New carpeting & oilcloth are also laid down. A magnificent piano by Collard & Collard. A large concreted cellar is under the hotel for storing liquor. 6/11/1888

Mr LEACH, licensee of the Settlers Arms, was the prime mover in the formation of the Ormondville Racing Club. Due to the lack of suitable flat cleared land in or near Ormondville, meetings were held in a natural clearing at Te Whiti near Norsewood.

Mr LEACH owned a fine roan named "Tommy Dodd" and (from 101 yrs Ormondville)

Charles LEACH, Ormondville, charged for selling liquor without a license on a Sunday. 16/12/1886

Charles Leach - (March 1884 – at least Nov. 1888) Hotel unlicensed between June 1884 and June 1887, due to local anti-temperance sentiments that raged following the Edwards murders. Leach built/rebuilt the Settlers Arms as a much larger hotel in late 1887 immediately following the relicensing. After giving up the hotel, Leach settled at Ormondville. He died on 17 July 1911 and is buried at Ormondville Cemetery