

- 1869, -

after a very severe days travelling through swamps and plains over hills and mountains there being very few houses on the road for me to ask for any thing to eat I therefore reach Timarou at 1/2 past 4 o'clock having come a distance of 28 miles from the river without any thing to eat all day long. I went down to the surf Company's shed and a young man spoke to me and asked me where I had come from and I told him Dunedin he said I had had quite a walk of it. I told him ^{him} yes that I had it was a distance of 130 miles. He asked me if I was looking for work and I told him that I was looking for anything that I could get to do anywhere. He also asked me if I had eat any thing and I told him not since morning. He gave me a shilling and told me to go and get some supper and then come back and see him again so after supper I went back to him and stopped in his house all night he said I was welcome there as long as I liked to stay. Stopped with him till Saturday Jan. 9th 1869. He told me I had better see Mr. Young and see if he would not give me any work to do so I see Mr. Young and he asked me if I was a machinist and I told him yes that I was and he said that he wanted a man to run the engine and work

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on a lathe also. I told him that I had ran an engine before. He said that I could come to work on Monday morning. I went to Simpson's Boarding house to board which was the best house to board at in the town paying 30 Shilling a week for board which is \$7.50 a week. Monday, January 11th 1869. went to work at young's foundry and machine shop. work lasting only for a short time I was working night and day for very near a week having but very little rest during the night only from 4 till 7 o'clock in the morning. Saturday noon January 16th discharged all hands as there being no more work to do for any one. Stopping at Simpson's over Sunday till Monday January 18th 1869. Leaving Timarou for Littleton traveled as far as Timuka distance 14 miles stopping over night. Tuesday Jan. 19. left Timuka for the Ashburton river distance 26 miles not deeming it prudent to attempt to cross the river I stopped on the right side over night it being pretty dark when I got there Wednesday Jan. 20. Heavy rain up country making the river a great deal larger than it would have been had there been no rain but I thought it was an impossibility to attempt to cross it so I started back for the Waimati Hotel a distance from the Ashburton 68 miles passing through Timuka Timarou and arriving at the Waimati Hotel on Saturday Jan. 23.