

7.1 Closing Years

By 1900 John had turned 77 and was well into retirement. He had established a number of investments to support his lifestyle which was likely to be very frugal.

As could be expected there were very few newspaper references to John in the later years of his life. Those that appeared related to several acknowledgements of subscriptions to various causes. For example, the Patriotic Fund 1900, to the sufferers at Brunnerton on the West Coast, The Victoria Operating Theatre fund, and Hospital Fund contributions. His donations were usually one Guinea.

There were also two newspaper reports which we cannot tell were related to John or someone else with the same name. They were in 1906 for a conviction for allowing a horse to wander in the city. The penalty was ten shillings and 7 shillings costs. In 1907 there was also a report of the theft of a horse, dray and harness from John Hamilton. In these cases we think at the age of 83 it would be unlikely that John would have a horse