

heard a sort of cross conversation between Sir James Crichton-Browne and Mr. Fardon, who was sitting on the opposite side, but he did not catch it all. He thought Sir James Crichton-Browne was acting according to his strict view of the matter.

Cross-examined by Mr. SCARLETT: He spoke to Sir James Crichton-Browne in the Prince of Wales' Room, before the General Meeting. He was there alone with him. He did not see Mr. Fardon there. Between 11 and 12 he was going round the hospital, so that he was away some considerable time; and he did not know with whom Sir James Crichton-Browne discussed the matter during his absence.

Miss GUISEPPi, sworn and examined by Mr. Muir Mackenzie, stated that she was acting Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association in July, because Miss Ravenhill, the secretary, was away ill. She received Miss Breay's letter and enclosure, and signed a receipt for it.

Mr. SCARLETT here called for the receipt, a copy of which he thought had been produced by the defendant's solicitors. Mr. Muir Mackenzie stated that this was erroneous, and added, "The Post Office say that they have not got the receipt at all."

Examination continued: As far as she recollected she signed a receipt for an express delivery letter. The letter she received "was not a registered letter"; and she submitted the matter to the Medical Honorary Secretary. He submitted it to the Executive Committee. She was present at St. Bartholomew's Hall on July 22nd. Before the Meeting, she told Sir James Crichton-Browne that the resolution had been received, but it was doubtful if it was in order or not, as it had not been received by a registered letter. She told Sir James Crichton-Browne that it had not been received by registered letter; and in doing so she was telling him what she believed to be the fact. She was present during the whole of the Meeting. She had heard the shorthand notes of what took place, and they represented her recollection of what took place.

Cross-examined by Mr. SCARLETT: She signed a receipt at the time the letter was delivered. She looked at the receipt. She did not sign documents without looking at them. She did not see that it was a receipt for a registered letter.

Mr. SCARLETT again asked for a copy of the receipt signed by the witness, and Mr. Muir Mackenzie repeated "the Post Office say that they have not got the document."

Mr. SCARLETT: I have here a letter from the Secretary of the General Post Office to Miss Breay which says: "In reply to your communication of the 11th and 22nd instants, I am directed to inform you that the letter, to which you refer, was duly delivered as a registered express letter, and its receipt was acknowledged by E. G. E. Guiseppi." (To witness): Is that you?

WITNESS: Yes.

Mr. SCARLETT (continuing): "At 2.50 p.m., June 30th, whose signature acknowledging the delivery is now in possession of the Department."

Cross-examination of Miss Guiseppi continued: She knew a receipt for a registered letter when she saw one. It never entered her mind that Miss Breay's letter was registered. She received a letter on June 27th from Miss Breay that was not registered. To that she replied that she was directed—it was Mr. Fardon who directed her—to inform Miss Breay that the full text of any resolution to be proposed at any

General Meeting must be sent by registered letter. The next day, she got the full text of Miss Breay's Resolution back in that envelope, and she had to sign a receipt for it. And she read the receipt she signed. She was accustomed to sign receipts for letters that were registered. But in the face of all this, she had a doubt that Miss Breay's letter came as a registered letter, because the letter came express. She did not remember the words on the receipt she signed; she did not read the receipt attentively. As far as she could recollect, there was nothing on the receipt to indicate that it was a registered letter. As far as she could recollect, she only signed a receipt for an express delivery letter. She had written the day before to Miss Breay telling Miss Breay that her resolution must come by registered letter, yet really she believed that Miss Breay's second letter had not been registered. But though she believed that, she did not write to Miss Breay to say that her second letter had not been registered. She merely wrote to Miss Breay that her letter had been safely received. She had a conversation with Sir James Crichton-Browne before he took the chair at the Annual Meeting. Mr. Fardon had not said anything to her about the matter beforehand. She was quite certain Mr. Fardon had not told her to see Sir James Crichton-Browne; but she went up and spoke to Sir James Crichton-Browne on the subject. She had never been asked by the Solicitor for the defendant to recall the conversation she had with the defendant. Mr. Fardon told her an action had been brought against Sir James Crichton-Browne. He came into the office and asked for copies of the correspondence that had passed. She told Sir James Crichton-Browne before the Meeting that there had been some discussion as to whether the resolution was in order or not, as it had not come by registered post. Sir James Crichton-Browne did not ask her whether she had signed a receipt, or anything else upon the matter.

Re-examined by Mr. MUIR MACKENZIE: She was acting Secretary at the time of the meeting, and had prepared the agenda paper. It was not unusual for the Secretary to hand the Chairman the agenda paper. She did nothing more than call Sir James Crichton-Browne's attention to the facts about this Resolution.

A dispute arose now between the learned Counsel as to the accuracy of the shorthand writer's notes produced by Mr. Muir Mackenzie, and Mr. GEORGE D'OYLY HUTCHINS was called and sworn, and asked to read the notes which he took at the meeting; these being compared with the transcript before Mr. Mackenzie.

Mr. SCARLETT pointed out that Mr. Muir Mackenzie's transcript was not in accordance with the shorthand notes, and the witness explained that part of it had been written out in the third person. Mr. Muir Mackenzie suggested that "it had been a little condensed." The witness finally stated that Mr. Muir Mackenzie's "notes were not a transcript."

In cross-examination, Mr. SCARLETT elicited that the transcript which had been used by Mr. Mackenzie differed from the notes taken at the meeting in many sentences and words.

Dr. BEZLY THORNE, sworn, and examined by Mr. Muir Mackenzie, stated that he was for some time Medical Honorary Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and that he was present at the Annual Meeting, on July 22. He retired from his office in 1895. He considered that Sir James C. Browne

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