Liverpool Mercury, Sept 1st, 1881

Appointment of Head Constable of Liverpool

The Liverpool Watch Committee on Tuesday afternoon proceeded to the election of a head constable in the room of Major GREIG, C.B, who has resigned. Out of 74 applications for the vacancy, 5 candidates were selected at the last meeting for the further consideration of the committee. The following were the five selected candidates :-

Captain J. W. N. BOWER, aged 33, chief constable of Leeds, formerly in the 8th Regiment, and the late Sub-inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. COPE, aged 42, deputy chief constable of Cheshire.

Commander Wallace M'HARDY, R.N, aged 37, chief constable of Lanarkshire, formerly deputy chief constable of Essex.

Captain ORR, aged 44, chief constable of Greenock, formerly adjutant of the Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers.

Chief superintendent SIBBALD, aged 56, senior chief-superintendent of the Liverpool Police Force.

The candidates were all called before the committee, who took a considerable time making their selection. The closest division was seven to five between Captain BOWER and Captain ORR. Finally the voting was unanimous in favour of Captain BOWER, who was therefore appointed. The appointment does not need the confirmation of the council, to which, however, a report will have to be made. The salary attached to the office is £750 per annum. Captain J. W. Nott BOWER is the son of the late Mr J. BOWER, D.C.L, barrister-at-law, at York and grandson of the late General Sir W. NOTT, G.C.B. He was educated at Cheltenham College, and at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, where he took the third place on the list, and obtained a commission without purchase in the army. He served in the 8th King's Liverpool Regiment, and was also in the 5th West York Militia. In 1873 he obtained an appointment as sub-inspector [chief constable] in the Royal Irish Constabulary, in which he served for more than five years, receiving a thorough police training. He was in command of large parties at the Limerick election, at Tipperary, when MITCHELL contested the county, and at Newry and Lisburn in times of disturbance from party processions. Mr BOWER has been for more than three years chief-constable of Leeds.