



New Life Founded with Help from the Hem of a Petticoat

Patrick
PURTLE [1818-1877]
&
Margaret
HERREEN [1820-1898]

Married c1839
at Dromcolloher, Limerick, IRELAND

Departed 2 June 1840 from Bristol
Arrived 1 October 1840 at Port Adelaide on the

Mary Dugdale

Children of Patrick & Margaret:

Mary (1840-?) m Patrick LEONARD

Ann (1842-?) m Michael SWEENEY

John (1844-?) m Margaret O'BRIEN

Michael (1846-?) m Ellen ELLIOTT

Margaret (1847-?) m Pohl OHLSTROM

Ellen (1849-?) m Tom LAWSON

Bridget (1851-?) m [1] John O'BRIEN

[2] Thomas ARTHUR

Catherine (1853-?) m Thomas LAWSON

Patrick (1854-?)

Daniel (1856-?) m Elizabeth MANNING

James (1857-?)

Eliza (1859-?) m George HAYWOOD

Patrick Purtle was born in the year 1818 in Dromcolliher, county Limerick; Margaret (née Herreen) was two years younger. He applied to emigrate to South Australia in 1840 and arrived in the *Mary Dugdale* in 1840. Mary, their first child was born on the ship on the journey over. Margaret had left home with 50 gold sovereigns stitched into the hem of her petticoat to help them get a start in their new life. They also bought two bags of turnips with them.

On his arrival Patrick bought land and farmed in the Prospect area. They had a dairy farm there and remained until 1846. During this time they had three more children.

Margaret and Patrick moved to Bull's Creek (now Bull Creek 8km south of Meadows) to section 1755, which was registered as a freehold property. The Herreen family went with them, along with other Irish families who settled in the district. The property was hilly and heavily timbered. The sale of the cleared timber would have helped them to finance the land for farming. They hauled logs by bullock to the coast, a distance of 25 miles, and took pigs to Port Adelaide to be sold, a trip that took a week's journey each way.

Between 1840 and 1859 Margaret gave birth to 15 children – three of which died in infancy. They continued to farm at Bull's Creek until 1872, when they travelled to Yorke Peninsula where the government had subdivided station property for farming. They settled near the township of Warooka. Their fifth child Margaret (who had married Pohl Ohlstrom around 1870) was the first of their children to come to Yorke Peninsula. She was a pioneer of the peninsula working as a midwife at Edithburgh until into her eighties. In the 1920's the ship *Clan Ranald* ran aground and Margaret and her friend Winifred Goldner prepared the bodies of the captain, his two officers and thirty of the crew members for burial.



Margaret and Pohl Ohlstrom had eleven children, ten girls and one boy. There are many Ohlstrom descendants on the peninsula, the Stanton family being the largest.

The descendants of Patrick and Margaret Purtle are now living in both islands of New Zealand and in every state of Australia.

From information provided by Glenda Cameron,
Patrick & Margaret's great-great-great granddaughter
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