



## Leonard I'ANSON VII [1809-1875] & Maria PLESTED [1815-1907]

Married on 14 September 1837  
in St Luke's Church, London

Departed on 30 January 1839 from London  
Arrived on 6 July 1839 on the

## City of Adelaide

### Children of Leonard & Maria:

Leonard VIII (1838-1923) m Emma NOURSE

Eliza (1840-1926) m Henry PARKEN

George (1842-1913) m Martha KINSEY

Matilda (1844-1934)

Edwin (1846-1925) m [1] Elizabeth WEBB  
[2] Annie FOUNTAIN

William (1848-1912) m Louisa ROWLANDS

Henry (1850-1862)

Frederick (1852-1898) m Jessie COWLEY

Thomas (1855-1947) m Jessie RESEIGH

Emily (1857-1919)

## *A Grand Home with a View*

The I'Anson's were an old Yorkshire family, with many successive generations naming the first son Leonard. Leonard I'Anson VI moved to London as a young man and his son Leonard VII served three years on whaling vessels before his marriage to Maria Plested in 1837. Their first son, Leonard VIII, was born in London in 1838 as he was their only child born in England, Maria always called him "My London Boy".

The I'Anson's reasons for migrating are unknown, but perhaps Leonard's whaling experiences influenced his decision. They paid for their own passage, and sailed from London aboard the City Of Adelaide on 30 January 1839. The Captain made Leonard a constable in charge of the seventy-five immigrants aboard.

The family initially lived in Pirie Street where Leonard worked as a boot maker. In 1842 they moved to Dry Creek where Leonard took up farming, and in 1843 he was recorded as having three acres of wheat, one acre of barley, one-quarter acre garden, four pigs and a goat.

By May 1850 Leonard and Maria had moved again to One Tree Hill, and then in 1859 to Steelton, near Waterloo. Each time they moved, they increased the size of their holdings and Leonard named his new property 'Prospect Hill Farm'. The family of twelve lived in a two-roomed hut, which was built by Leonard and his sons soon after their arrival.

Leonard prospered as a farmer, and in 1869 he drew up plans for a grand, new home. Most settlers built near a water source, but Leonard chose a location with a view across the Light Valley, which meant water had to be carted a long distance in dry periods.

Leonard I'Anson VII only lived in his new home for a few short years and passed away there in 1875 and was buried at the Pancharpoo Cemetery. Leonard had suffered periods of illness for many years, and when he was unable to work, he indulged in his hobby of carving. His pieces were displayed in glass cases in the home, and following Maria's death they were shared among the family.

Maria was a practised midwife and proudly boasted "she never lost a mother or a baby." She died at her home in 1907 and was also buried at Pancharpoo. Their descendants still farm the property today.

From information provided by Stephen Batten  
Leonard & Maria's great great great grandson  
February 2015

