

Scottish Highlands [Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Highlands]

John [c1888-?] & Margaret KELLOCK

Married in Scotland [details unknown]

Departed 12 October 1839 from London
Arrived 6 February 1840 on the

Java

Children of John & Margaret:

Ellen (Helen) (c1830–1902) m John COLMAN

Eliza (c1833–1880) m Horace TURNER

William (c1837–1893) m Mary Anne KEMBLE

John (c1841–1911) m Adeline SUGARS (née KIMBER)

George (c1846–1922) m Fanny MOTHERALL

Horror Trip from Scotland to a Very New Way of Life

John and Margaret Kellock and three children Helen (Ellen), William and Elizabeth (Eliza) migrated from Fifeshire Scotland via London and Plymouth in 1839 and arrived on the *Java* in South Australia on 6 February 1840. It was a horror trip and many people died of disease, malnutrition and starvation on the voyage.

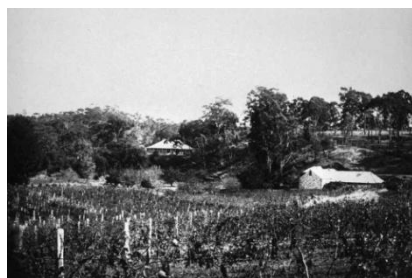
Stephen Barrett, in his book "Java – The Melancholy True Story of the East Indiaman JAVA", writes of the infamous voyage of this ship to Adelaide from London during which some 50 of the 500 passengers on board failed to complete the trip. These included cabin and intermediate passengers, as well as assisted emigrants. A Royal Commission into the affair was held, and her owners, Scott & Co. of London, were ordered not to be paid.

John, a farmer and grazier, and his family settled in and around Mount Barker for the first few years. Here Margaret had two more sons John (born c1841) and George (born c1846). The family then moved to a property called 'Wongalere' near Williamstown and eventually settled on a property called 'Holme Hill' near Black Springs, south of Burra.

Many years later 'Wongalere' was submerged under the waters of the South Para Reservoir. 'Holme Hill' has since been divided up and added to neighbouring properties until a few acres and the house remain, which belong to a family that owns many properties in the area.

It was a very difficult life for Margaret to live and raise a family in the isolated and primitive conditions for the first years. The clothing they brought from wintry Scotland was quite unsuitable for the hot Australian summer they experienced when they landed: long thick dresses with petticoats, thick stockings and boots, and very little light clothing at all. Housing was also very basic, with no electricity, running water or furniture to make life comfortable. Most of the time, a tent was used until people were settled.

Like many of her contemporaries, Margaret must have been a strong woman and a great mother and wife to leave all that she knew and loved in Scotland, to survive a horror boat trip to



Wongalere Station c1885 [State Library of South Australia B 61943]

Australia and then thrive in this harsh country. There is no doubt that she was a great matriarch for the Kellock family of the mid north of South Australia.

From information provided by Lyn Whimpress,
John & Margaret's great-great granddaughter
March 2014

