

The Hornsby Family from England to South Australia 1837



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In 1834, the British Government passed an Act allowing the establishment of a colony in South Australia. The colony was to be based on the ideas of Edward Gibbon Wakefield. He proposed that the land in South Australia should be properly surveyed and sold at a "sufficient price" so that the money gained could be used to bring out the poor and unemployed labourers from England to work the land. There would be no convicts!

Joseph Henry Hornsby was born in 1817 in Surrey, England, the second of nine children to Joseph and Elizabeth (nee Green) Hornsby. He married a **Miriam Goldney**, daughter of William and Maria (nee Harrow) Goldney, on 28 March 1837 and that same year, as young newlyweds, they sailed away from Gravesend, England, on board the "Navarino" a 3-mast barque, arriving in Holdfast Bay on 6 December 1837. He was a tailor and she a seamstress.



(Above – Joseph Henry & Miriam Hornsby
Right – Miriam (nee Goldney) Hornsby)



It is said that Miriam had a lucky escape from disaster on the voyage over. She had taken her sewing outside and sat on a sail that was lying on deck. After a time, there was a sudden gust of wind which took the sail, and Miriam, over the edge. There was nothing she could do. Fortunately the wind blew the sail back and she quickly got off. She said that no one knew that she was there and her fate would never have been known had she fallen into the sea.

The village of Marion on the Sturt was named by Lieutenant Henry Nixon who had also arrived on the same ship as Joseph and Miriam having been appointed as an assistant in the survey team of the Surveyor General, Colonel William Light. Slow surveying was affecting land sales and Nixon resigned his position to go into partnership with a William O'Halloran as a land agent.

Joseph and Miriam purchased land at Section 110 Marion Road, Marion, where they farmed wheat and barley. They raised seven surviving children - Joseph, Emily, Maria, Henry, Charles, Frederick and Samuel.

Joseph Henry's parents Joseph and Elizabeth also migrated to Australia aboard the "Diadem" arriving on 16 November 1840 accompanied by his five daughters. Tragically Elizabeth died on the voyage over.



(Photo left is thought to be the original Marion Road homestead and right is of the original Hornsby family homestead on Hindmarsh Island as it stands in more recent times.)

(Two of Joseph and Miriam's children left, Henry and right, Maria)

It has been documented that Miriam always maintained that the tree which became known as the "Proclamation Tree" was not the genuine one. Their description was of a "large upstanding tree with spreading limbs". It is said that in the December of 1837 of their arrival in South Australia, they ate Christmas dinner under its shade.

Joseph Henry died on 22 February 1885 and Miriam on 31 March 1894.
They are both buried at the Hindmarsh Island Cemetery.

Text and photos provided by Vicki Rule and Jeannine Nolan, great great granddaughters of Joseph Henry and Miriam Hornsby.
We also acknowledge the accumulated input over the years of many of the descendants of both the Hornsby and Goldney families.





Quaker Meeting House - Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide

Daniel KEKWICK [1788-1866]

Married Mary Ann DARTON

on 10 January 1815

at Devonshire House, Bishopsgate Street, London

Departed 29 November 1839 from Plymouth

Arrived 17 April 1840 at Holdfast Bay on the

Warrior

Children of Daniel & Mary Ann:

Henry (1815-1815)

Lucy (1816-1908) m Alfred CAPPER

Daniel (1818-1895) m Caroline JACKSON

Caroline (1820-1911) m Frederick HODDING

William (1822-1872) m Marion OWEN

James (1825-1894) m Adelaide OWEN

Mary Ann (Polly) (1826-1897) m Samuel BEDDOME

Elizabeth (1830-1916) m Jonathan SANDERS

Emily (1835-1876) m William RHODES

Quaker Seeks Religious Freedom for his Family

Daniel Kekwick was the eldest son of an entrepreneurial farmer who leased 99 acres of the Manor Farm at East Ham, Essex. He attended a Quaker Boarding School in West Riding, Yorkshire, which was also attended by Samuel Darton, his future brother-in-law who was instrumental in organising the transportation and erection of the Quaker Meeting House on Pennington Terrace in 1839.

Persecution witness records show that the Kekwicks were devout Quakers from Warrington, Lancashire dating back to 1684. Daniel himself was jailed for refusing to join the militia during the Napoleonic War. After release, he married Mary Ann Darton and the couple had eight children before Mary Ann died in 1836. Daniel then decided to join the many other Quaker colonists in South Australia. Describing his occupation as yeoman, he leased 160 acres of land in South Australia.

Travelling with his children, Daniel found the voyage exhausting and cramped. At Cape Town, he purchased a pot plant of Yellow Oxalis (Sour Sobs) to cheer up his daughters. It survived the trip.

Daniel's lease was at Yankalilla and too remote to travel to, so he lived and worked with three of his daughters on a farm at Echunga that belonged to his son-in-law Frederick Hodding. Depression in 1843 meant the farm was taken over by Quaker financier, Jacob Hagen. In time Daniel was able to move his family to Carrington Street in the city where Daniel jun. was working for Hagen.

Most of the children married outside the Society of Friends which in those times meant disownment. Polly received such a rebuking letter from the Friends that she felt forced to resign. Daniel jun. was a member of the Methodist New Connexion Church of SA and helped found the North Adelaide Congregational Church in 1859.

Daniel purchased two acres of land south of the city in 1846 where he established one of the first market gardens servicing Adelaide. He eventually built a house there that became 14 Arthur Street, Unley. By the time of Daniel's death in 1866, the property contained a large orchard. He was buried in a non-Quaker section of West Terrace Cemetery.

From information provided by Simon Gore
Daniel's great great great grandson
February 2015



A Pioneering Architect

Henry Colls Richardson arrived in Adelaide as a three year old. Following his schooling, he tried his luck on various Australian goldfields, before using the skills learnt from his father to become a builder and contractor. After his marriage to Jane Reynolds, they lived in Sturt Street, Adelaide and when Henry began practising as an architect during the 1870's, he set up his office at the same address. He worked as a sole practitioner for his entire career.

In 1878, Henry was elected as a member of the Adelaide City Council, serving the Grey Ward for four years and nine months, with three years as alderman. This position saw him chairing every permanent committee and he was involved in the inauguration of the sewerage system, the construction of the Torrens Weir and the Morphett Street Overway Bridge.

One of Henry's early architectural works was additions designed for the Ferguson residence in Wakefield Street. Following its completion, the 'South Australian Register' reported "*He has put up what is rather a novelty in the way of verandahs. It consists of cast-iron ornamented frieze work with brackets.*" This was one of the earlier uses of cast iron which became very popular in Adelaide hotels and residences in the 1880's and 1890's.

The late 1870-80's saw Henry's business increase and commissions included alterations and additions to shops, businesses and residences. In addition he was in the vanguard of designing the new return verandah "gentlemans villa" including the Delano House at Queen Street, Norwood. His architecture was mainly domestic or smaller scale commercial or community buildings. The latter included the Blackwood Hotel and extensions to the East End Market. A notable exception was the industrial complex at Burfords Soap and Candle Works on Sturt Street, Adelaide which was one of his larger commissions. Henry's sister Mary had married Adelaide soap-making industrialist William Burford.

Henry Richardson was one of the first members of the South Australian Institute of Architects formed in 1886. Possibly his most significant contribution to South Australian architecture was his early use of decorative cast iron in residential work which contributed to a particular South Australian style so recognisable and valued on our villas today.

From information provided by Susan Benham Page,
Henry's great, great niece
February 2015



Delano House, Norwood

Henry Colls RICHARDSON [1837-1910]

Married Jane REYNOLDS on 24 April 1866 at
Sturt Street, Adelaide

Departed 29 May 1840 from Plymouth

Arrived 6 September 1840 at Port Adelaide on
the

Lysander

Children of Henry & Jane:

Adopted

Reine M TUCKER m H F BATCHELOR
(birth-death dates unknown)





Thomas

MATTHEWS [c1810-1867]

&

Harriet HURD [1812-1865]

Married on 19 April 1831
at Pitney Church of England

Thomas departed on 12 August 1839 and
arrived 10 December 1839 at Holdfast Bay
on the

Robert Moffatt

Harriet and their children arrived later on the

Siam

Children of Thomas & Harriet:

Joan (1832-1909) m E M KERNOT

Harriet (1833-1907) m Sir William MORGAN

Elizabeth (Bessie) (1834-1864) m James COSSINS

Thomas Hurd (1835-?) m Harriet WHITEHORN

Arthur (1837-?) m Caroline TUCKER

Rhoda (1843-1853)

Mary (1844-?) m William DUNN

John Hurd (1847-1849)

Julia (1849-?) m Thomas WICKSTEED

John Hurd (1851-1853)

James John Hurd (1853-1940) m Janet McGREGOR

A Founding Father of Coromandel Valley

Thomas arrived alone in South Australia and lived for a short time in Adelaide. When he discovered that living there would not make him a prosperous man, he decided to move elsewhere and rented land at the head of Brownhill Creek where he milked cows and carried butter to town in a basket strapped over his shoulder. As his herd increased Thomas needed to find larger pastures, so he walked over the hills to Coromandel Valley where he later purchased an 80 acre Section.

The Matthews' first house at Coromandel Valley was 'Hurd's Hill', a four roomed broad paling dwelling with a dairy at the back. Thomas had been in South Australia for almost a year and the house was not yet complete when to his surprise, he received a letter from Harriet telling of her and the children's arrival in Holdfast Bay. Thomas and a friend went to meet his family's ship and his daughter Joan saw them coming - she knew it was her father because of his laugh.

Even in their new house the family was not safe or familiar with the dangers of the Australian bush - they frequently saw snakes! Their first years brought some disappointments but, by the summer of 1844, their herd had increased so much that they took a section of land near Angaston from Mr George Fife Angus.

Around 1846 the family went back to Coromandel Valley. The old house by the creek was improved and a room or



two added. Early in 1849, Thomas, with the assistance of John Weymouth began building a large two story house on

Hurd's Hill. This house was constructed by quarrying stone from the property and burning lime. All the sand and water had to be carted to the building sites by bullock teams.

Thomas was lonely and unhappy after Harriet's death and was suffering poor health. After his death, he was buried in a family crypt that would have originally been part of his cow's grazing land at Coromandel Valley.

**From information provided by Tanya Lehmann,
Thomas' great great great granddaughter
February 2015**





The (current) Wheatsheaf Hotel, Thebarton

Thomas Finch OTTAWAY [1817-1867]

Married

[1] Harriet HYDE on 29 April 1838
at St Nicholas Church, Brighton, Sussex
&

[2] Hannah (Anna) SMITH, on 6 April 1853
at Christ Church, North Adelaide

Departed 11 December 1838 from Portsmouth
Arrived 21 March 1839 at Port Adelaide on the

Buckinghamshire

Children of Thomas & Harriet:

George (1840-1896) m Jane MANN
Jane Emily (1842-1921) m Frederick THOMAS
Elizabeth Ann (1844-1899) m George William KENT
Thomas Finch (1846-1892) m Mary Jane WOOD
Mary Ann (1848-1919) m John Rhoades SAMUEL
Caroline (1851-1852)

Children of Thomas & Hannah:

Charles Albert (1854-1860)
Walter (1856-1856)
Walter (c1859-1904) m Florence WEIR
Charles Albert Finch (1861-1937) m Ada WEIR

A Baker Turned Hotelier

The decision of newly married Thomas Finch Ottaway to come to South Australia may have been influenced by his older half-brother George, who had migrated in 1838. Both were bakers, but as they couldn't get work, they took to building rammed earth (pisé) houses, completing about 100 in all.

In 1846 Thomas became the licensee of the Wheatsheaf Inn at Thebarton which had opened in 1844 immediately east of the current Wheatsheaf Hotel. In 1848 he moved to the Victoria Hotel in Hindley Street and became a keen racehorse owner, with races for various courses organised from this hotel.

When his wife Harriet died in 1852, Thomas married Hannah Smith just over a year later and built the Seaside and Family Hotel at Brighton, which opened for business in September 1860. By this time he was a councillor on the Brighton Council and a member of the Licensed Victuallers Society. He was also Treasurer of the Brighton Cottages Horticultural and Floricultural Society, a member of the congregation of St Jude's Church, Brighton and of the Loyal Brighton IOOF Lodge.

His second wife passed away at the Seaside Hotel in June 1865 and Thomas himself died in July 1867. The licence of the Seaside Hotel was then transferred to one of his older sons, Thomas Finch Ottaway.

At the time of his death, Thomas owned a variety of properties including the Wheatsheaf Hotel, two nearby tenanted cottages and allotments in Thebarton,



Twickenham, Brighton, West Mitcham and Finsbury Park plus two houses in Knightsbridge. Thirteen acres of his land near Port Adelaide were developed into a suburb of 97 allotments, but a mistake was made at registration and the suburb was mis-spelt Ottoway.

From information provided by Libby Ottaway,
Thomas's great great granddaughter-in-law
February 2015





Richard MILLS [1829-1902] (the Younger)

Married

[1] Anne Margret HENRY [1819-1885] on
26 October 1852 at St Andrews Scotch Church,
Inverbrackie

[2] Anne MOLLERUS (née NORRIS) in 1889
at Mount Barker

Departed with his parents on 7 August 1839
Arrived 13 December 1840 on the

Royal Admiral

Children of Richard & Anne Margret:

John (1857-1859)

Margret (1857-1885) m John MILNE

William (1859-1933) m Lizzie CHAMPION

Richard (1861-?)

Nancy (1862-1898) m Walter HARRISON

Elizabeth (1864-?) m Walter HARRISON

One Lucky Day....

Shortly after arrival and following advice from the South Australian Company, the Mills family moved to Brownhill Creek where Richard (the Elder), an experienced Kentish farmer and gardener, built a home out of stones from the hill-side and grew plants, shrubs and vegetables for the rapidly developing Adelaide.

On one lucky day in 1841, the South Australian Company suggested to his eleven year old son Richard that he might help one of their employees, Samuel Day, unload sheep that had been brought by sea from NSW for Mr Matthew Smillie, who wanted them driven eastward over the range to his Special Survey just east of Mount Barker. Little did he realise that this venture would lay the foundation for his future livelihood, as well as that of many future generations of his family.

Shepherding in the hills east of Mount Barker embodied in Richard a love of the land and gave him opportunity to explore some of the best farming and grazing land in the district. In about 1843 he brought his family to the area and built a red gum slab cottage and began life as a squatter in Black Hill Valley near Nairne.

The boom of the Burra copper discovery in 1845 was irresistible to Richard. He took a wagon and team of bullocks to get a share of the very lucrative task of carting ore. By the end of his first week he had earned the stupendous sum of £300 for taking one load the ninety miles from Burra to Port Adelaide.

1850-51 saw Richard in the Victorian goldfields, but by 1852 he'd had enough of mining and returned home with a grand sum of £900 to his credit. It was at this time that he married Anne Margret Henry.

We can only imagine young Richard's satisfaction when he paid cash for two original sections at Black Hill Valley at the price of £100 and £207 respectively. Here he established a farm and built up a flock of merino sheep. One section is the present site of Millbrae homestead, where his son William gained an Australia-wide reputation as a stud merino breeder, and is still occupied by the Mills family today. William also bred merinos at



Richard, Anne Margret and daughter Margret
at their Mt Barker Cottage

his farm called Sturtbrae, which still stands adjacent to Flinders University.

From information provided by Sally Tonkin
Richard's great great granddaughter
February 2015





Pioneers of 1836
W L Beare, J Chittleborough, H W Morris

James CHITTLEBOROUGH [1778-1853] & Maria CHITTLEBOROUGH (née COATS)

Departed on 27 July 1836 from Portsmouth
Arrived on 28 December 1836 at Glenelg on the

Buffalo

Children of James and Maria:

- Maria Hutson (1822-1853) m Robert WINTER
- Elizabeth Loney (1824-1912) m John Carvock BOLD
- William James (1826-1911) m Ellen THOMPSON
- Sarah Ann (1830-?) m John BROWN
- James (1832-1918) m Priscilla KEVERN

He came on the HMS Buffalo

James' father served at the Battle of Trafalgar in Lord Nelson's fleet whilst in the Royal Navy and later under Lieutenant John Hindmarsh, which may explain James' passage to SA aboard HMS Buffalo together with Hindmarsh. On being discharged from the Navy in 1830, in which he served for 22 years, James was granted an annual pension of £30 and 8 shillings.

Not long after arrival in South Australia, his wife Maria opened the first store in Adelaide among the reed huts of 'Buffalo Row' from which she sold 'drapery and other goods' that were brought out by John Barton Hack from Tasmania or NSW. Sir Hurtle Fisher and Colonel Light were neighbours in nearby 'Coromandel Row' (wooden houses shipped out aboard the Coromandel). When 'Buffalo Row' was burnt out, the Chittleborough's had nothing, but were well treated by their neighbours, and Hack told Maria 'Never mind, old dame, I will give you more goods to start again' - he was as good as his word.

James was publican of one of the original Adelaide hotels, the Buffalo's Head, first licensed on 25 September 1837. He started trading from a tent near the site of Old Adelaide Gaol then moved to Hindley St in 1838.

He was made Secretary of the Licensed Victuallers' Association in 1836, a position his youngest son, James, was to subsequently hold for 27 years. Interestingly, James jr was heavily involved in the formation and administration of early cricket competitions in the colony and at one stage he played in a team against a visiting English XI.



After the death of Maria, James sold the hotel and took up farming in Hurtle Vale, east of McLaren Vale. He bought 80 acres and named it 'Reynella.' He was assigned a 'cattle brand' by the Cattle Registry Office on 27 January 1841 so that he could run cattle. His family farmed 'Reynella' and other adjoining farms for many years.

From information provided by Peter Whitfield Nelson
James' great great great grandson
February 2015





One of the Pioneer Families of Hahndorf

Friedrich NITSCHKE

[1802- 1880]

Married

[1] Maria Elisabeth SUESS [c1803-1839]
on 8 March 1827 at Kay, Brandenburg

&

[2] Johanne Christiane STAUDE [1809-1886]
on 14 July 1840 at Hahndorf

Departed on 12 August 1838 from Altona, Germany

Arrived 28 December 1838 at Holdfast Bay on the

Zebra

Children of Friedrich & Maria:

Johann Carl (1828-1893) m Anna Elisabeth SEIDEL

Johann Wilhelm (1830-1904) m Johanne ZIMMERMANN

Johanne Caroline (1832-1911) m [1] Ernst KRUGER

[2] Carl ARNOLD

Children of Friedrich & Johanne:

Johann August (1841-1923) m Johanne MATTSCHOSS

Johanna Louise (1844-1929) m Johann LINKE

Johann Gottlieb (1846-1912) m Johanna KROEKER

Johanne Dorothea (1849-1903) m John HUEBNER

Friedrich and his wife Maria, both aged 34, made the ultimate decision to emigrate to Australia as a result of religious persecution. After much difficulty, Pastor Kavel organised for his religious followers in Prussia, including the Nitschke family, to emigrate to the newly established British colony in South Australia.

When Friedrich and his family disembarked, they had to carry all of their possessions on foot over steep bush-covered terrain to their new home in Hahndorf. The *Zebra's* Captain Dirk Meinertz Hahn, after whom the new settlement was named, arranged with George Fife Angas for the new settlers to receive rent-free land for 12 months, free rations and seeds until the crops came, and free use of a dairy cow for each family.

Shortly after the Nitschke family settled in Hahndorf, tragedy struck with the death of Maria in 1839. In 1840 Friedrich married his second wife, Johanne Christiane.

In the mid 1850's a disagreement between two Lutheran pastors in Hahndorf led to a split in the congregation and ultimately resulted in the majority of Pastor Kavel's followers including Friedrich and his family moving to Nain, just west of Greenock. In 1853, Friedrich purchased his first farming property of 80 acres for £160 in the Bagot's Gap district between Greenock and Kapunda. In 1856, he purchased an additional 80 acres adjoining his original property for £120/10. It was at this homestead in Nain that he built a permanent stone residence for his family.

In 1856 Friedrich built the stone Lutheran Church in Nain, which still stands today. He died on 27 April 1880 at home at the age of 77 and was buried at the Lutheran Church cemetery at Nain. As a legacy, Friedrich left the family farm in Nain, and his children and grandchildren were amongst the pioneers who helped establish the settlements now known as Hahndorf, Greenock and Nain. Friedrich Nitschke and his family are considered to be one of the original 54 founding families that formed the first settlement at Hahndorf and his name is inscribed on the Memorial Gates of the Pioneer Gardens in the main street.

From information provided by Kym & Carla Lynch
Friedrich's great-great-great granddaughter
February 2015





Christian Friedrich SEIDEL [1798–1856]

Married

Anna Elisabeth SCHULZ [1797–1890]
Circa 1820 in Schweinitz, Prussia

Departed on 24 May 1844 from the Port of
Bremerhaven, Bremen, Germany

Arrived on 12 September 1844 at Port Adelaide
on the

George Washington

Children of Christian & Anna:

Maria Elisabeth (1822–1905) m Johann SICKERDICK

Johanne Rosina (1825–1893) m Johann KUCHEL

Johann Carl Heinrich (1827–1902) m Johanne KÖNIG

Johanne Eleonore (1830–1910) m Carl KUMNICK

Christian (1833-1914) m Johanne NEUMANN

Anna Elisabeth (1836–1908) m Johann NITSCHKE

Johanne Dorothea (1839–1915) m Johann DRÖGEMÜLLER

Johanne Auguste (1843–1914) m Carl VORWERK

Farmers Forging a New Life in Lobethal

In early 1839, Christian and Anna Seidel originally applied for passports for their family to emigrate from Silesia to South Australia, but due to the expected birth of their seventh child, they delayed the departure. In 1841 they were again invited to emigrate aboard the Skjold, but once again they delayed the departure due to expecting their last child. Their main reason for wanting to emigrate to South Australia was to escape religious persecution. It was 1844 before Christian, Anna and their eight children started their long voyage to Port Adelaide.

After arriving in South Australia, the Seidels moved to the newly established settlement of Hahndorf. They rented a house and garden and took over various strips of farmland behind the cottages in Hahndorf and began farming. Two of their daughters, Johanne Rosina Seidel and Anna Elisabeth, found husbands amongst the men of the original settlement in Hahndorf.

After a few years, Christian and his family moved to the Lobethal area and by 1848 he had an interest in 53.5 acres of land. On 7-8 December 1852 Christian was able to purchase his home block in Schönthal just east of Lobethal in two sales for a total of \$400-00. With this purchase he was able to construct a more substantial home that replaced the slab hut in which they had lived. By 1855 he was renting more land, which now totalled some 61 acres.

On 29 June 1856 Christian died at his Schönthal home, suffering from an ulcerated leg originating many years earlier from an injury incurred during the anti-Napoleonic

Prussian War of Liberation.

He was only 58 year old at the time of his death and was buried on 1 July 1856 at the “Zum Weinberge Christi” churchyard in Lobethal.



Anne Seidel died on 11 November 1890 at the age of 93. She was buried in the Freidesberg–Springton Lutheran Cemetery, Springton.

From information provided by Kym & Carla Lynch
Christian's great-great-great granddaughter
February 2015





Maria Fassnidge (née Goldney)

John FASSNIDGE [1813-1872] & Maria GOLDNEY [1813-1904]

Married on
22 September 1833 at Bishopsgate

Departed on 18 March 1839 from Liverpool
Arrived on 6 July 1839 on the

Lysander

Children of John & Maria:

Frederick Bowman [1836-1839]

John Osmond [1836-1879]

Anne Elizabeth Kingston [1838-1848]

Angelina [1841-1848]

Richard [1843-1848]

Hard Times for a Carpenter

John Fassnidge was born in February 1813 in Buckinghamshire, and like his forebears, was a carpenter. John married Maria Goldney at St Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate in London on 22 September 1833.

On 7 February 1836 twins Frederick Bowman and John Osmond were christened. Frederick died on 27th February 1839 and was buried at the Quaker Meeting House, Wandsworth close to where the family lived. A daughter Anne Elizabeth Kingston was born on 12 August 1838. Soon after Anne's birth, the family left Liverpool on an assisted passage on 18 March 1839 on the *Lysander* for South Australia and arrived on 6 July 1839.

The Fassnidge family lived at 31 Halifax Street Adelaide where two more children were added to the family, Angelina born 11 March 1841 and Richard in September 1843.

The year 1848 was a sad period for the Fassnidge family, as three children died within a few months. Angelina died from typhoid fever aged six, Anne of scarlet fever aged nine and Richard of scarlet fever aged four. Only son John Osmond survived. As husband John was working away from home at that time, it must have been a harrowing period for Maria.

With the refusal of the British Parliament to honour the debts of Governor Gawler, the colony of South Australia hit hard times and John found work difficult to find. As a result he left home but his actual movements are not known. Most likely he went initially to the Burra copper mines where a carpenter would have been most welcome.

Apparently John came home for a brief time and then left for California but only got as far as New Zealand. John apparently lived at Dunedin and in 1863 Maria moved there so as to be together again. Later John purchased land in Hokitika and moved there to take up farming, after spending his life as a carpenter. In one of these land agreements, John was joined by son John Osmond, and so the family came together again in New Zealand.

John Fassnidge died on 10 December 1872 at Hokitika, New Zealand, aged 59. Maria later moved to Takaka to live with her brother William. She died on 18 July 1904 aged 90 at the Nelson Old People's Home and is buried at the Wakapuaka Cemetery in Nelson.

From information provided by Don Goldney
John & Maria's great-great-nephew
March 2015

