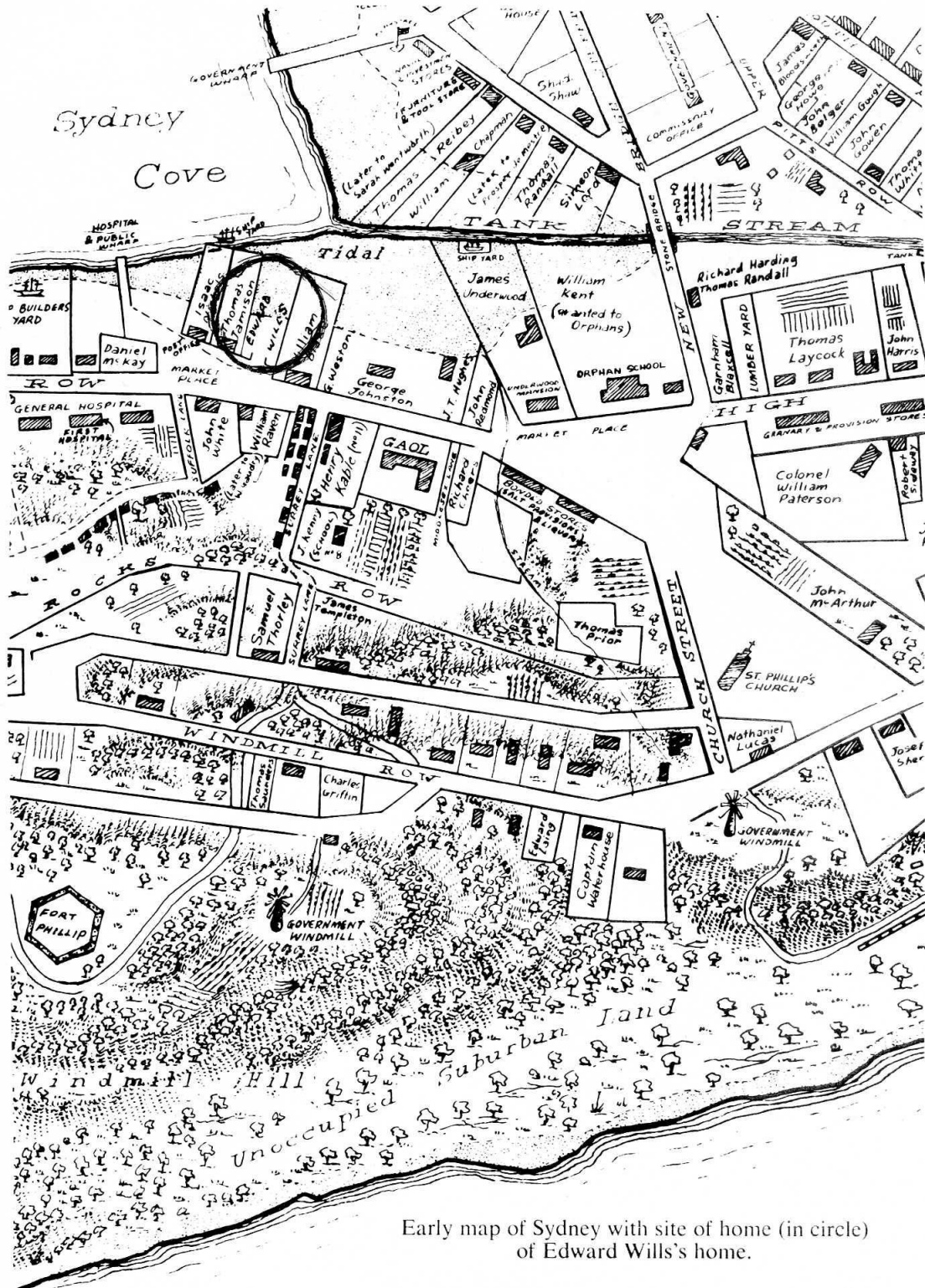


Ancestor Treasure Hunt

The Edward Wills Family
And Descendants in Australia
1797 – 1976



R.V. Pockley



Early map of Sydney with site of home (in circle) of Edward Wills's home.

FOREWORD

When I retired some years ago, I decided to do a bit of research into my forebears. I knew some of them were reasonably well known, but there was a lot I did not know.

A couple of years before, the A.B.C. had run a very good serial, largely about Redfern. This showed that he had married a daughter of Edward Wills, a convict, and that his friend Major Henry Colden Antill, the A.D.C. to Governor Macquarie, had married his wife's sister. It thus said that my great-grandmother was a convict's daughter. This caused quite a flutter in the dovecote, and a cousin of my father's, Mr. Loftus Antill, in high indignation, set out to disprove the fact. Of course, all he did was prove it.

I didn't know where to start on my research, but my brother mentioned my intention to an authoress patient of his, then in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. "Tell him to come and see me," she said. "I'll put him on the right track". I accordingly went out to the hospital to see her. She advised me for a start to get hold of a copy of Frank Clune's book, "Bound for Botany Bay", and then to get a Reader's ticket and start work at the Mitchell Library.

Full of enthusiasm, I set out around the second-hand book shops of Sydney, but was quite unable to find the book I was after. When I got home that evening, I told my wife of my abortive efforts. With a smile, she went to our book-shelves, picked out a volume, opened it at the flyleaf, and brought it over. "Is this what you're looking for?" she said. Sure enough, it was a copy of "Bound for Botany Bay" and on the flyleaf was written, "To my friends, Dick and Lesley Pockley, with the Author's compliments, Frank Clune, Christmas, 1964". "Where did this come from?" I said. "I'm not very surprised you don't remember it, because it was at a particularly good party that you met him, and he gave it to you".

The book was an invaluable start. The opening sentence reads: "It was a sad, sad day in March, 1797, when young Edward Spencer Wills went skylarking with two pals on the King's Highway near London in search of easy money". The final paragraph of the book reads: "So ends my story of the family founded by Edward Spencer Wills, a highwayman from Kingston-on-Thames, who sired a family at Sydney Cove. Their names - and the names of their offspring - will live forever in the scroll of fame in the land of Australia".

I have been criticised for failing to annotate these records by quoting my source of information for everything I have said. I did this deliberately, as my own tiny mind is distracted by minute numbers, sprinkled like pepper throughout the text, referring the reader to footnotes at the bottom of the page, or worse still, to some sort of glossary at the back of the book. However, I make an attempt to authenticate facts, by setting out many of the authorities to which I have referred. I am indebted to my friend and brother officer, Mr. Gordon Richardson, then the Librarian at the Public Library. He very kindly cut through the red tape and granted me a Reader's ticket there. I am most grateful to all the girls at the Mitchell Library, for their help and kindness to one who was an obvious beginner who should have had a large "L" on his chest and back; they helped me to find so much that is there for the finding. The files of the old Sydney Gazette yielded a great deal of interesting information, as did those of the Sydney Morning Herald, the Australian, the Mail, the Bulletin, Smith's Weekly, etc.

For the rest I have relied on my own knowledge and memory, and on countless discussions with, and letters from, a host of relatives and friends all over the world. Mr. Loftus Antill's daughter Margaret most kindly made available to me many of his notes, and as time went on, I got

in touch with more and more Wills descendants from all over Australia, especially Queensland. Particularly I must mention all the helpful letters and photographs I have had from Brian Wills, still occupying part of the original property of Cullin-la-ringo; from Mrs. Rene Wills-Cooke in Victoria; from Mr. Max Shaw, Mrs. Conran, Mrs. Shailer, Mrs. Geddes, Mrs. Blomfield-Brown, and Mrs. Vanderbyl in South Africa.

Mention of Mrs. Conran reminds me of one of the more amusing incidents. When I first came across the name, I thought it possible that descendants of the original Conran might still be living in Victoria. A friend was about to visit Melbourne, so I asked him to look up a phone book for me. He did, and found one Conran. He ripped out the page of the book and gave it to me in triumph. I wrote the lady, asked if by chance she was descended from "my" man, and got a prompt affirmative reply. I answered immediately, giving further details, and mentioned the word "convict". For a very long time I received no reply, and thought "That's the last I'll hear from her". I was wrong. In due course I received a lengthy reply, with apologies for the delay; she gave me much interesting information about the Conrans, including stories about Lieut. Gen. Conran, Groom of the Bedchamber to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father.

I should like to thank all those mentioned above, and others not mentioned, for their help and information, and in many cases for their kind invitations to visit them if I ever find myself in their neck of the woods.

In particular I want to thank my friends Jamie and Laurie McFadden. I was desperately trying to think of a way to produce, in book form, all the family trees which I had spent so very many hours in compiling. The longest - the Antills - stretched 26 feet across our living room floor. Suddenly I thought of thoroughbred horse pedigrees. Jamie had devised a system of condensing the Australian thoroughbred families, and I asked him if I might pick his brains and adapt his method to my trees. He was most helpful, and the trees in this book are a direct result. Even then I was not sure I had it quite right in every case, and Laurie very kindly came to my home and went through them with me. They are quite tricky to compile but, I believe, easy to follow.

Hard upon the heels of this little book I hope to bring out a similar one dealing with the Pockleys, to be followed by a longer one on the Antills and finally one on the Waddys.

Sydney, April, 1976.

My great-great-great grandfather, Edward Wills, Gentleman, lived at Broadcourt, Long Acre, in the County of Middlesex, not far from London Town. With him lived his wife Elizabeth, and their little daughter Anne. Elizabeth was heavy with child. The year was 1777; George III was on the throne of England; the 7 years' War was over, and the American War of Independence was in its second year; Captain Cook had charted the east coast of Australia 7 years earlier; Napoleon was a boy of 8.

Elizabeth gave birth to a son and heir, whom Edward named Edward. Nothing is known of the lad's childhood, but we do know that at the age of 17, in 1795, he married Sarah Harding, and that on 23 April 1796, their daughter Sarah was born. We also know that he had worked for 8 months as a letter-press printer for one Millar Ritchie, of Mill Street, Cloth Fair.

The turning point in Wills's life came in January, 1797 when, with James Dashper and William Woodham, he was arrested for highway robbery. The trial took place at Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, on 20 March, 1797, before Mr. Justice Heath and a jury of 12. The charge read: "Edward Willis, late of the parish of St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey, labourer, and James Dashper, late of the same, labourer, on 13 January, in the 37th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, King of Great Britain etc, with force and arms at the parish aforesaid, in the King's Highway, therein and upon John Martin in the peace of God and our said Lord the King then and there being feloniously did make an assault upon the said John Martin in corporal fear and danger of his life and did put upon him for his watch and one piece of this Realm called a half-guinea, one piece of silver coin called a sixpence, and 18 pieces of copper coin called half-pence". The two men were similarly charged in respect of Sarah Cordingly, widow. The jury found them guilty, and they were sentenced "to be hanged by the neck until dead".

They had the right of appeal, and Wills at any rate set about doing so. An undated document in the Public Record Office, London, addressed to His Grace the Duke of Portland and signed by Edward Wills, states that he is now sensible of his "crime of assaulting John Martin on the Highway, that he was in bad company, that it was his first offence, and humbly implores Your Grace to extend that mercy so strongly recommended by the jury, by permitting him to enter into His Majesty's Navy and humbly prays that Your Grace will be pleased to interfere with His Majesty in your Petitioner's behalf who will in duty bound ever pray".

This petition was supported by several references, the first signed by the Curate and Church Wardens of St. Luke's, Old Street Church, Middlesex. Wills also got a reference from his old employer, Millar Ritchie: "The unfortunate petitioner worked for me in the line of his profession for 8 months as a letter-press printer and was entrusted with property to some hundreds of pounds, a great amount as I never had the least suspicion of his integrity ... If Wills should be discharged from the situation he is now in, I will employ him again in my service".

Next came a recommendation addressed to Lord Hawkesbury and signed by John Martin, the victim of the assault, who said: "Wills was an unfortunate youth but 19 years of age with a wife and infant child. It was his first offence, his character had never been impeached, his parents were honest and industrious and have ever endeavoured to instill those principles in his youthful mind which would make him an ornament to Society. Alas! with grief they now behold the only prop of their declining years lost, they fear, forever".

Then Thomas Lock stated that he had "called with the Memorial by Lord Liverpool's direction and to express His Lordship's wish that you use your influence with His Grace the Duke of Portland in favour of the unfortunate youth. He is the nephew of the person who nursed Lord Hawkesbury, who will feel obliged to you for any service you may be able to render the person in question".

The Judge, mentioning that the money (£2.19.4) was found at Willis's lodgings, said that though the prisoners bore arms, they did not use them and recommended that they be transported. The petitions duly bore fruit, for at Whitehall, on 29 March, 1797, "Edward Willis and James

Dasher, having been convicted of Highway Robbery, and having been humbly recommended as fit objects of the Royal Mercy His Majesty has now been graciously pleased to extend his Royal Mercy on condition of their being transported for the term of their natural lives to the Eastern Coast of New South Wales, etc, etc". It will have been noticed that Wills had been charged, tried, convicted and reprieved in the name of Willis.

Transportation had replaced the death penalty in 1597, and was introduced to supply cheap labour to the plantations in the West Indies and Virginia. About the time Edward Wills was born, England transported and sold to colonists in the South, about 1,000 convicts a year. In 1723, the so-called Waltham Black Act became law in England. It was enacted to meet temporary conditions recently created, but it remained in force until 1823. That Act created over 350 new capital offences. Any offence from poaching to stealing from the value of 1/- upwards was punishable by death. In 1801 a boy of 13 was publicly hanged at Lynn for breaking into a house and stealing a spoon; in 1810 the Judge refused to commute the death sentence passed on a boy of 10; in 1831 a boy of 9 was hanged for having set fire to a house. As late as 1830, a Bill was introduced for the abolition of the death penalty for shop-lifting to the value of 5/-, but was withdrawn because of declared opposition to it in the House of Lords. In 1781, when Britain had lost the American War of Independence, and America was no longer available as a place to which to send her convicts, New South Wales was considered as a substitute. The First Fleet of 11 ships arrived here at Botany Bay a few days before it anchored in Port Jackson in 1788.

Wills would have spent the nineteen months between his sentence and the date of his transportation in the inhuman savagery of the hulks, anchored in the Thames, so that convicts aboard them would be near their work, building docks and workshops for the King's Navy at Woolwich, whilst awaiting transportation. To prevent escape, convicts were chained together by the leg, making it both painful and difficult for them to clamber on to the narrow planks which formed their beds at night. Food, clothing and conditions generally were dreadful, and life, with gaol fever and other sicknesses rampant, was sheer Hell. One wonders whether, when the day for shipment finally came, the wretched convicts boarded the ships with any relief, as transportation to the dreaded Botany Bay was considered worse than death, owing to the horrifying stories reaching England of starvation, lack of clothing, and the risk of murder by the blacks.

Fate decreed that, when his time came, Wills was to be sent out on the Hillsborough. The utterly dreadful voyage lasted 218 days, during which time 100 men died. She was named "The Death Ship". A diary of the terrible voyage was kept by a convict named William Noah and is preserved in the Mitchell Library. Dasher and Woodham were also on board, but the former died on the way out. There were also six women on board, one of whom was Sarah Wills, who had with her, their two-year old daughter Sarah. Noah's diary consisted of 87 pages; I will quote only extracts, to show man's inhumanity to man in those days.

The Hillsborough arrived on 8 October, 1798. "We were ironed two together," wrote Noah, "We arrived alongside, and were ordered below to the Orlop deck, the lowest deck where conditions were grim, because there were no port-holes to allow light and fresh air". Each man was served with a wooden plank two feet wide, a blanket, a pillow and a biscuit. "The deck was dark and I passed the most disagreeable night I had ever spent. On our deck were 226 convicts. Next day we were ironed together with double irons of the weight of 11 lbs." Wills joined the ship on Saturday, 18 October, 1798; he was amongst a party of 56 convicts from the hulk Stanisklaus, who were described by Noah as "deplorable and ragged, and I hardly knew them for vermin". Five days later Noah wrote: "I was with the rest allowed on deck for the first time from my loathsome confinement. I wished for Death sooner than the present miserable state I now found myself involved in". They were each served with 2 blue jackets, 1 pair of trousers, 2 pairs of stockings, 2 shirts, a pair of shoes and a cap for the voyage. They were also allowed 2 gallons of wine each for the trip.

By 4 November the Hillsborough and other ships had gathered together for the voyage, but

they were storm-bound in the Downs for four days. The deaths started with that of a child on 12 November, and this was followed 3 days later by the death of a convict from gaol fever, a dreaded disease later diagnosed as a louse-borne typhus fever, which began with a sudden attack of headache, chills and pains, and usually ended with death within 3 weeks. The crowded cells of Newgate and the hulks on the Thames were ideal places for lice to flourish; once lice got in, it was almost impossible to destroy them, except by fire. On 24th, 90 more convicts arrived, and on 10 December one Patrick Maguire came on board; he had received 1,000 lashes for mutiny in the Army. On 22nd, the convicts were given 13 pints of water to last them a week. This was to be their ration, despite salt provisions and equatorial heat, when they were deep below decks, without portholes or fresh air. On 23 December they got under way, with convicts at the capstan, for which work they received a glass of rum.

Christmas Day was an unhappy one, with strong gales and universal sea sickness. "Ship's company and convicts at the pumps finding 6 ft. of water in the hold. Upper work wanting caulking, with tremendous seas breaking over us, then making its way through hawser-holes and running down the hatchway. Tons of water keeping the ship's company at the pumps day and night. It was thought prudent to acquaint the Captain for the safety of the ship to put her before the wind and hoist signals of distress. The pumps were kept going. Gradually the gale subsided and the water emptied from the hold. The gale got up fresh force next day and the next, everyone thinking that every moment the ship would be swallowed by the foaming ocean, which poured down the hatchways. The convicts being chained two and two, the deck half full of water, their bed and all afloat in the hold, they were in a sad, helpless condition. We broke our jibboom and the Commodore carried away his mainyard and the fleet separated, every one making the best shift. At noon the Quarter Galley being broke in by the waves and the sea pouring among the women, their cries were shocking to us that could not help one another."

Next day: "Gale more moderate. Under sail. Served the convicts with half a pint of port wine. Got beds and blankets up to dry. We had a lad on board whose name was Wiltshire but was called Muckholt. This lad was an informer who became a tool of the sailors and told them everything the convicts were doing and saying, and this was reported to Captain Kingston. This coming to the convicts' ears they punished him by giving two dozen stripes on his bare backside. When he confessed they were so enraged that they put a handkerchief in his mouth and increased his 2 dozen to 12 dozen. This severe treatment liked to have cost him his life, but they were not contented. They forced two needles through his tongue which hindered him from putting it in and some would almost have gone so far as to have pulled his tongue out. Others were for cutting the penis off but this was over-ruled by them who had some feeling for the sufferings he had already received".

"Sat, 29th. Muckholt means to acquaint the Captain of his usage and reported that the convicts were all without irons, and meant to brew their hands in the Captain's blood and take the ship. The convicts finding it so disagreeable in the gale, and many very bad with the flux, had cut the round link in two and by that means single-ironed themselves. They were ordered on deck two and two, which was first refused, but on being told that if they persisted the consequences would be fatal, they complied. When they were examined, a number had cut their irons and were flogged. The Captain punished them, some 2 dozen lashes, some 5 dozen. There was one Johnson, a seaman who had assisted the convicts with a chisel. He was left to the mercy of his shipmates, when every seaman but one gave him a lash apiece. Muckholt went to the hospital very bad. Those convicts found with their irons cut were shackled and handcuffed and some had an iron collar placed around their necks." Some rebellious spirits intended to bore a hole in the hull and sink her.

"1 January, 1799. Remainder of convicts ordered on deck, their irons examined, and if cut, some were punished with 1 dozen stripes, some 6 dozen. We were now suffering closely from want of provisions and indeed Death would have been a welcome friend.

"2 Jan. Tranquility was now restored, but the Captain had got to such a pitch that I thought

he would have hanged some of them. As the Commodore came alongside we were issued with food. We are now in the same latitude as Gibraltar.”

Then the deaths started. On 15 January, the Missionary on board wrote: “We were subjected to the painful and dangerous employment of visiting the hospital, and attending the dying beds of those who were now sorely afflicted with a putrid and pestilential fever, a misery which hardly any convict ship escapes; the dreary darkness of the places in which they are confined, the closeness, the heat and putrid effluvia are inconceivable to those who have not visited these abodes of wretchedness, and with the clank of the chains, affords the strongest idea of Hell and of the damned which can be conceived.”

By the end of the month, the heat was such that the convicts were lying round naked and clustered near the hatchways gasping for breath. Water fetched 2/- a pint. Men were dying daily; “the want of air and nourishment threw them into fevers which soon took them off. Some raving mad”. They crossed the Equator, and on 8th Feb. petitioned the Captain “for something in lieu of our beef, being so salty that water would not quench the thirst it occasioned... Then we had a grand day. Rice boiled in water for breakfast, and pork for dinner. Could I describe the miserable situation of upwards of 200 of my fellow passengers. Many were persons brought up well, who for trifling offences had been banished from their families and now sold into a state of slavery, not knowing one moment but what we might be plunged into the arms of Death. The poorness of living, short of water in a hot country with no nourishment, makes our situation truly deplorable. One would think it would soften the heart of the most inhuman being to see us ironed, handcuffed and shackled in a nasty dismal deck without the least wholesome air. But this did not penetrate into the heart of our inhuman Captain, and I can assure you that the doctor was kept at such a distance, and he had to wait an opportunity to steal a little water to quench the thirst of those that whined.” It was now 51 days since the ship had sailed from Portsmouth, and the death toll was 33.

“12 Feb. Convicts on deck for 1½ hours. At this time we had not the liberty of walking about, but as we came on deck our iron was run on a chain at each end of the deck. For the whole time it was a misery as we only could stand or sit down.

“18 Feb. I was this day removed to the hospital and had my irons taken off, being in a low state of health. The next day served with half a pint of wine per man. Wine allowed the sick. Ship’s company served with coffee made with burnt pease, sweetened with treacle.

“10 March. This day had no water.” Then the weather grew steadily colder, and the seamen began wearing jackets. Alas the poor convicts had none, having bartered them at Cape Verde for food.

“21 March. Captain took a neck-yoke off one of the convicts that was in the riot.” The unfortunate man had been confined for 88 days within an iron collar about 6 inches long attached by chains to irons round his legs. By 26 March there were upwards of 100 with different disorders on the sick list. On 31st they “brought up in Table Bay”. On 6 April, while they waited for a fair wind, a man swam out and begged “for God’s sake to be taken aboard saying if he went back he would be hanged. This request was not granted”. Next day they got under way; the wind was “foul all night”. No water was served that day. On 9th, another death occurred; “committed his body naked to the deep. This was a very awful sight to see one’s fellow sufferers dragged away in the wretched condition, and sorry I was to see he was not so much thought of as a dog”. By 13 April, 44 had died.

“20 April. Doctor ashore burying the dead, for which they charge 3/- per man, with strict orders to dig the graves 6 ft. deep from the wolves that ravaged the graves”. Muckholt died 5 days later.

“30 April. At midnight a sudden gust struck the ship, not being righted by the vast quantity of coals being out. Buried us all in the top, which caught the wind and laid her gunwale under

water. This sudden affair frightened the Captain and seamen, so that they all prepared to save themselves by taking to the boats or swimming. But what must be our feeling, in the unhappy situation of being locked and barred in, and not the least prospect but to go down altogether.

“6 May. Ordered 146 convicts ashore. On deck were served with a glass of rum. I was among the number. On shore a party of soldiers conducted us to the hospital, which was the most deplorable place I ever saw; had been a stable for soldiers’ horses and was now in ruins. It was paved with stones, the same as our stables in England, without a fireplace or windows. Here we poor unhappy souls was sent to get well. There was some heath strewed to lay on, and a sail for a blanket. Blew cold and rain on me, and I experienced a very severe night. On my viewing the place in the morning, found one man lay dead and stiff. A young man that was with me in Newgate, of gentle parents and transported for 7 years, lay gasping for life, and about 11 he expired. Several more very bad. This was a shocking sight to see so many bright youths in such a situation. Nothing to eat, but a little wine and water.

“7 May. Doctor came with an order for 55 of the healthiest to go on board and we was soon bustled back, and happy was I, for though our ship was bad, I thought the shore worse.

“11 May. All hands and convicts on deck. Served with a coarse wheaten loaf instead of our biscuit, it running short by the length of the voyage, and getting damaged by rats and bandicoots, of which the ship is sadly infested”. By 20 May the death toll had risen to 70 - and the worst part of the journey lay ahead. “So fast did our poor miserable convicts die that the people was afraid of them being buried in the Churchyard so that they appointed a convict to take the bodies to a distant ground and throw them in a hole. Anyway, before their going the next day, the bodies had been devoured by wolves.

“28 May. Employed double-ironing the convicts that had been un-ironed to work two together. This was the method our Humane Commander took to pay them for all their labour. I must here acquaint you that we was now getting a different sort of treatment. There was liberty to go up on deck and boil our tea. Sick to air themselves when they please. Broth and tea made to nourish them which made it very happy and was the saving of many poor souls. Water we had as much as we wanted. Alas, the good deeds came too late. By now 63 dolorous citizens of the Orlop deck had died of the original 300.”

By late June, storms and squalls struck the vessel, with consequent misery to the convicts below, as waves flooded the decks and the shuffling wretches in their clanking chains, mostly without clothing, gradually died of disease and malnutrition.

“26 June. Rain. At 4 began to blow very hard, with hail, thunder and lightning, when fell a ball of fire which collected from the lightning and lodged in the fore-top-mast, where it was seen by our Captain. Then followed a heavy clap of thunder and lightning, which caused it to fall and burnt on the main deck. The electricity of the bursting of this ball of fire had such a power as to shake several off their legs, not only on the main deck. The fire hung much around the blacksmith’s forge being iron, but had the same effect on the gun and Orlop decks, on several of the convicts. Heavy seas floated over the deck and we was in a sad condition, but by pressing the Captain to relieve us of our miserable situation, he ordered the battens to be nailed down with tarpaulins.

“27 June. Shipping heavy seas. Pumps going hard and could hardly keep her under. All night the hurricane was the terriblest I ever saw, the sea bursting in swept one of the convict’s wives that was ill out of her bed.

“4 July. Blew hard gale. Took in and reefed the main topsail. Altered course.” (They were off Van Diemen’s Land.) “At 2 in the afternoon shipped an unfortunate sea, it running so high it broke over the rudder, and came with such force as to throw the four men from the helm by which accident one of the steersmen, in not leaving his hold, one of the spokes of the wheel catching him on his backbone forced it through his chest and caused instant death. One of the others had his arm

broken and the other two much hurt.

“12 July. Convicts on deck. At 2 a very dangerous circumstance happened, by the carelessness of the Captain’s steward playing with some rum. He and the convict steward were drawing off. The rum caught fire and communicated itself to the cask, but by the activity of the seamen and convicts it was extinguished.

“15 July. Convicts on deck. Double sentinels was placed on the main deck and poop. As we came up from below two and two, our irons were reeved on another iron so that you must either stand or lay down on the deck. You could not walk about at all. For the first time our Captain and mate paid a visit to the hospital.

“25 July. A gale blew with heavy thunder and lightning. Tore the spanker to pieces. The dismal element foaming around was shocking to see, with a cormorant hanging at the main topmast head. The seamen were shocked when a flash of lightning burnt the cormorant and struck two of the seaman for several hours stone blind and several much hurt in their eyes.”

At 4 a.m. on 26 July they hove to off Sydney Heads till daylight. “At 7 made sail and turned up the river which is 7 miles from the town. The appearance is wild and uncultivated, but it made our hearts glad to think that we should now be released from our miserable situation. In every countenance it was easy to see the happiness it created. This voyage was one continual run of hurricanes, wind that is seldom met with in any part of the globe, being here the depth of winter. This day we tacked all the way up and had the pleasure of seeing the natives come off in their canoes entirely naked. At 4 the boatswain blew his long whistle, calling all hands to bring ship to anchor, and every seaman took to his station as Britons always do, and brought her up in 6 fathoms of water and moored ship. There were 5 ships laying in the harbour, and a Spanish prize taken off Peru and so 11 here, cargo and all. We were now visited by the gentlemen of the town, our prison door set open and our irons knocked off. Next day visited by the camp convicts and free people, who gave us a hearty welcome to this long-wished for country, and many gave us invitations to their habitations when we should come ashore.

“29 July. Bum boats off with fish and bread, and at 10 the Company came on board and mustered us; 81 were drafted and sent in 2 sailing boats to Rose Hill and Parramatta. The remainder with the sick went on shore, where we was mustered again and those that had friends took them home. The others went to Government Huts till getting late. Being wet and miserable many stayed and laid in the Church till next day. We had now got to the end of a wet and painful tedious voyage where every distress was to be met with; heat, cold, hunger, thirst, want of raiment, air etc, which created in us poor convicts filth, vermin and all kinds of disease, which caused a hundred poor souls to be buried in the Bowels of the Deep”. The next day they were “mustered and sent to our different overseers to go to employment in 6 days. Next some slops, a jacket, a stocking and worsted cap given us. Nothing else in store”.

The Governor, Hunter, wrote to the Duke of Portland in London, on 27 July:

“My Lord Duke,

The Hillsborough transport arrived yesterday, in which embarked 300 convicts, but I am sorry to say that such had been the mortality on board that only 205 were landed here, and of that number 6 are since dead, and most of them must for a time be placed in the hospitals. These people were put on board with a miserable mattress and one blanket, and the clothes only in which they were embarked. Not a supply of any kind to land in, and those worn on board are unfit to be taken on shore; yet ragged as they are, I cannot suffer even these things which are liable to carry infection to be destroyed, because I have nothing to supply in lieu, the whole Colony being naked. I will direct every means to be used for preventing gaol fever which is the principal malady being introduced into our hospitals”. In another letter, to King, Hunter described the Hillsborough inmates as “a cargo of the most miserable and wretched convicts I ever beheld”.

An Inquiry in London revealed that, whereas formerly the Government paid about £23 a

head for every convict transported to Botany Bay, dead or alive, the arrangement with James Duncan for the Hillsborough - 764 tons - was that he was to receive £18 per convict, and £4.10.6 extra for every man landed here.

A graphic account of the terrible conditions on the Hillsborough appeared in a long article in the Daily Mirror, Sydney of 5 June, 1972. In fact, the Hillsborough's was the last of the really bad voyages; all subsequent trips were a considerable improvement. Edward Wills had been on the Hillsborough for over 9 months. A continuation of Noah's diary gives some idea of the conditions prevailing when he landed here: "The extent of this country is laid down by several geographers where they make it certain of being an island of the length of 4000 miles, but it is not the opinion of the common people, and so obstinate are they of its joining India that several have been lost in trying to find it out. The town of Sydney is situated 7 miles from the sea, and ships may come up close to the town and lay in a cove. A great part of the town is situated on a large rock commanding a delightful prospect of the river, and at the top there is a level. In the town the Governor makes his residence where he has built a neat brick house on a level near the head of the cove, with a large garden and thicket all enclosed with palisades. He has a country house at Rose Hill. The whole town comprises about 1000 to 1400 houses. The hours of the inhabitants being out is till 9, after which you must not pass without the pass-word or you are liable to be put in prison. If you do not attend Divine Service, they warn the Constable, who visits every house, allowing only one to be at home to take care of it and cook. If found idle they send you to prison and you are likely to get 50 lashes"

Three months after Wills arrived, the church was burnt down, but the Governor ordered constables to patrol the homes of the convicts every Sunday, looking for defaulters from Church; penalty, 50 lashes. "If found in liquor, 50 lashes. This you may receive publicly, women as well as men. And if any complaint is made of your being infamous, they shave the women's head and send them up the country. Here is no Counsel or lawyers to rob you. As for debts, you may arrest or summon, according to the sum. If an arrest, lay in gaol till you pay it... There is a house done up very neat this year and a billiard room for the gentlemen. I have known liquor to be bought at 2/- a gallon and in 2 days fetch 10/- a bottle. By this way the money people get so amazingly rich... Norfolk Island is about 700 miles from this place. The convicts work from 5 a.m. till 3 for the small allowance of 2 lbs 10 ozs of pork and 15 lbs. of wheat. Our allowance is not enough to serve 3 days. After toiling 8 to 10 years you are the same as when you began. As for shoes, I have seen none since my arrival but what cost a guinea a pair".

Nothing is known of the Wills family immediately after their arrival. Sarah had, of course, "arrived free", and it is possible that Edward was, as other convicts were, assigned or apprenticed to his wife. The name Wills was not uncommon, and there was in fact even another Edward Wills, born in 1820. The Sydney Gazette reports that on 2 October, 1803, Edward Wills, "for having incautiously purchased 7 ozs of silver from a person who later confessed the same to be stolen, was fined £5, to be paid to the Orphans' Fund." By 1804 Edward was in business, since on 7 October James Brown and F. Morey were sentenced to 100 lashes and hard labour for 3 years for the robbery of copper coin and merchandise from the shop of E. Wills. He obviously owned land near the Brickfields: "Strayed, about a fortnight hence from a run near the Brickfields, 2 goats and 4 kids, the property of Edward Wills"; a 10/- reward was offered. Then on 20 January 1805: "Yesterday a woman was committed to gaol on suspicion of stealing from the house of E. Wills sundry merchandise. To enhance the malignity of the offence, the culprit was a servant in the house when the theft was committed". In April he was advertising in the Gazette: "On sale at the house of Edward Wills near the Hospital Wharf, Goods of Excellent Quality at Moderate Prices." Listed were sugars, teas, soaps, linen, muslin, shoes, dungarees, ribbons, etc.

Wills's house "near the Hospital Wharf" was in George Street, facing "Hangman's Hill", later Essex St, about 200 yards from to-day's Circular Quay. The hospital fronted Sydney Cove, in what was then called Sergeant Major's Row, re-named George Street in 1810.

Wills now went into the seal-skin business; the Gazette of 15 September 1805 mentioned that “among the persons engaged in the oil and fur trade with Messrs. Raby and Wills...” By 24 November he was advertising for a “careful stockman, to whom liberal wages and encouragement will be given”.

Wills's shipping interests had increased; the Gazette reported on 16 February 1806 that “The hull of the vessel building by Messrs. Raby and Wills is nearly finished. Her model is declared by the most informed to class with the best of our marine achievements. In point of size utility has chiefly been consulted; her keel measures 40 feet; her beam 16 ft, and her burthen nearly 60 tons”. By 3 August they were wanting “3 shipwrights to complete the building of a vessel now standing in the yard of Thomas Reibie; to whom or to Edward Wills application is to be made”. This was the 66-ton “Mary and Sally”, called after Mary, Reiby's wife, and Sally (Sarah), Wills's daughter. A week later the sloop Raven was listed as belonging to the partners - “General employment, skinning”.

During this time, Edward and Sarah had been having a family. Daughter Sarah was 3 on her arrival here. Their first son Thomas Spencer born on 5 August, 1800; on 10 September, 1802 Eliza was born; then came Edward Spencer, born on 16 February, 1805, and Elizabeth Selina on 30 November, 1807. Their sixth and last child, Horatio Spencer Howe, was born on 5 October, 1811. By June, 1808, Wills was well enough off to be able to donate £30 towards the cost of sending John MacArthur to London to give evidence on behalf of Major Johnston. In September Wills offered for sale “the sloop Eliza, Carvel built, 22½ tons, well sheathed, sails and rigging in good order, 2 anchors and a cable. May be sent to sea immediately. Six months credit will be given on approved security”. In April 1809, goods worth £100 were stolen from Wills's shop, by entry down the chimney. “At daybreak a man was seen crossing the rocks to Cockle Bay with 2 bundles. Natives were engaged to make a search and in less than an hour they returned with most of the stolen property which had been hidden in the rocks”.

Six weeks after the arrival of Governor Macquarie Wills, mentioning that “Petitioner unhappily fell under the sentence of the law 13 years ago, and in consideration of his good conduct was conditionally pardoned by the late Governor King on 4 June, 1803”, begged the newly-arrived Governor to grant him a full pardon. This bore fruit; on 4 September, 1810, “Edward Willis, convicted at Surrey, sentenced to Life on 20 March, 1797, came by Hillsborough 1799”, was granted a free pardon. As he had been transported as Willis he was of course pardoned in that name.

Frank Clune, in beginning and ending his book, refers to Edward Spencer Wills, and makes quite a thing about the possibility of Edward Wills being an illegitimate son of George Spencer, 4th Duke of Marlborough. I can find no justification whatever for this fancy, or for any possible connection with the Churchill family. In fact his name was plain Edward Wills; the Spencer did not come in until he included it as the second name of each of his 3 sons. The changing of his name from Wills to Willis, at his trial and on the journey out here, was a fairly common device among convicts to disguise their identity.

It would not be surprising if the rigours of his life in prison, in the hulks and on the Hillsborough, began to take their toll, for on 24 May, 1810, he made his will, extracts from which are as follows:... “Being desirous of settling my worldly affairs, not knowing when it may please the Almighty God to call me into His presence, ... I do therefore nominate, constitute and appoint my loving wife Sarah Wills, now also of the town of Sydney aforesaid, to be my only Executrix and Administratrix, and I do give and bequeathe unto the said wife Sarah Wills all and singular my Estate and Effects real and personal of whatever kind and quality the same may be ... in consideration of her constant kindness and affection towards me as the entire confidence I feel myself thoroughly satisfied in placing in her maternal love towards my children all of whom are the children of my much-loved wife... to whose parental care and regard next to Almighty God I commit the future protection and provision of and for my dear children Sarah, Thomas Spencer, Eliza, Edward

Spencer and Elizabeth Selina Wills and it is here my particular request that should my daughter Sarah marry contrary to the wish and consent of her Mother Sarah Wills, that the Mother shall cease to give her any further assistance whatever. And I lastly commend my body to the Earth from which it sprang, my spirit to the gracious and most merciful God who gave it hope to die in charity with all men!”

Two days later Wills advertised that he had “Confided to Mr. George Howe the charge of receiving all my debts, some of which have been owing for many years”. In the same issue, Howe announced that unless persons paid debts owing to Mr. Wills, “there was no alternative but that of applying for legal Process”.

Wills had another burglary on 13 October, when “some person entered the unfinished premises of Edward Wills, George Street, and cut away the Duck covering of a new sofa”. A 10 guinea reward was offered.

Australia’s first official race meeting was held in Hyde Park in that year, on 15, 17 and 19 October. The Monday was fine and clear. The gentry in their fine dog-carts and others in bullock-carts, young bloods on their mettlesome steeds, workmen, servants - all the world gathered for the grand occasion. The “stand” and the straight were in the Park near the present junction of Market and Elizabeth streets. They were days of hard riding and hard drinking. Mrs. Macquarie presented the trophies. Despite a threat to shoot all stray dogs, on the last day Mr. D’Arcy Wentworth’s grey gelding “Gig” was brought down by a dog running across the course. The Subscribers’ Ball and a big social gathering at Wills’s tavern were enthusiastically attended.

So by now not only did Wills have a spirit licence, but his George Street tavern had become a fashionable resort. The Gazette of 20 October described “the Dinners at Mr. Wills’, George Street, attended by subscribers and their friends, when many loyal toasts were drunk with mirth and good humour floating around the board. Afterwards Mr. Williams, one of the stewards, sang the following song written specially for the occasion:

“Oft the bards of old times and the minstrel’s gay strains,
Have the sports of the chase, all transcendent reveal’d;
Sung of Nimrod’s exploits on the wide spreading plains,
And from Diana’s bright charms trac’d the charms of the field,
While the turf’s native green ever hallow’d has been,
And a contest more glorious enliven’d the scene.”

The following month, Edward Wills thanked the public for their long patronage of his old store, and welcomed patrons to his new warehouse in George Street where a full range of “Sugar, spices and saltpetre, petticoats and coloured stuff, including bed-ticking and palempores”. What on earth is a palempore?

His wife’s mother, Elizabeth Harding, had arrived by the following month, for a notice appeared in the paper saying there was a letter for her awaiting collection. A week later, on 5 January, 1811, Wills offered for sale his excellent farm of 140 acres at Prospect, with a shingled weatherboard house.

The Gazette advertised, on 16 February, that Miss Sarah Wills was about to leave the Colony, in the ship Indian. Evidently her grandmother was taking Sarah “home” to complete her education. However, the Indian sailed without her. Something strange must have happened, for on 4 March 1811 at St. Phillip’s Church of England, Sarah Wills, Spinster, was married by the Rev. William Cowper, in the presence of Edward Wills and Henry Colden Antill, to “William Redfern, Gentleman of this Parish, Bachelor”. It was the 200th wedding at the Church.

A few weeks after the wedding, the Gazette recorded Wills’s death “at his house in George Street, on 14 May, 1811 after a painful illness of three months, in his 33rd year. The generosity of his disposition was evinced in all his actions, his integrity was undoubted, and he lived universally

respected. His death must be regretted by his most distant acquaintance; while his amiable family and those who were happy in his friendship will be devoted by the melancholy event to a length of inconsolable affliction". Wills's assets were valued at £15,000 and upwards".

Wills's main partner in his shipping ventures, Thomas Reibey, had died about six weeks earlier, so the two widows were left to carry on the shipping and warehouse businesses, as well as rearing young families.

Less than 5 months after her husband's death, on 5 October, 1811, Sarah Wills gave birth to a son, christened Horatio Spencer Howe Wills. Sarah carried on their store till 10 October, 1812, when the Gazette carried an item of news: "Married. On Monday last by Special License at the Church of St. Phillips by Rev. Mr. Cowper, George Howe, Printer of this Parish, to Mrs. Sarah Wills, of George Street." The actual date of the wedding was 5 October, exactly one year after the birth of the infant, Horatio.

One week before the wedding, a Deed of Trust between Sarah Wills, Rev. William Cowper, David Bevan and George Howe was signed by all four parties. This was to protect her possessions from her intended husband, and invest them for herself and her children in her Trustees, Rev. Cowper and Mr. Bevan. It was an impressive list:

A household house, warehouse and premises situate in George St. No. 96;	
A farm at Kissing Point, 25 Acres;	
A farm near Sydney, 30 acres;	
A farm at Lane Cove, 30 acres;	£
Household furniture, estimated	200
The brig Mary and Sally:	
The cargo of elephant oil, after deducting costs and charges and expenses;	
Stock in trade, part paid, part unpaid, estimated	2,500 clear
Amount of debts due on notes of hand	2,060
Amount of debts due on assignment	1,472
Amount of book debts	787
Actions at law depending	<u>490</u>
	<u>7,509</u>

Two mares, three fillies, three cows and calves.

Witnesses were Michael Massey Robinson, sometimes called "Macquarie's Poet Laureate", formerly a blackmailer, and Isaac Nicholls, an ex-convict and Sydney's first Postmaster, who had a business a few doors from Mrs. Wills's shop.

In 1814 the news reached Sarah that her late husband's father, Edward Wills Senior, had died and been buried in St. Paul's, Covent Garden, on 9 January; his widow died 8 years later, aged 84.

Sarah Howe petitioned Governor Macquarie in April 1815, saying that the premises at 96 George St, originally bought for £953 sterling, and on which she had already spent a sum "considerably exceeding £4,000, while the design scale of improvements progressively continues and must in due course occupy a yet considerable sum", constituted an essential portion of the property "upon which the future support of her family depends". She asked "that he would extend to herself and family the indulgence of a Grant that would render permanent so great and valuable a Property". Macquarie wrote on it: "Mrs. Howe's request will be complied with. Sydney, 3 April 1814. N.B. Mrs. Howe wishes for a small addition in rear of her present Wall next to the harbour for a small jetty. L.M." It seems hard to realise that my great-great grandmother owned a water-front house and jetty on Circular Quay, near what is now the Overseas Terminal! The following year she got a grant of 200 acres; a notation read: "Industrious, with a large family".

Let us look briefly at George Howe, who became Sarah's second husband. He was the son of Thomas Howe, the Government Printer at Basseterre, on the island of St. Christopher, in the West Indies. In 1790 he went to London, and worked on the staff of several newspapers, including the Times. He married a Miss McLeay there, and a son Robert was born in 1795. In April 1799, under the name of George Happy, alias Happy George, he was sentenced to death for robbing a mercer's shop. His sentence was reduced to transportation, and he came out in the Rear Admiral, arriving on 20 November 1800. His wife and young son set out with him, but she died on the voyage.

There was no newspaper in Australia when Happy George arrived here, but his former occupation did not escape the notice of Governor King, who appointed him as "Printer to His Majesty's Government"; the Sydney Gazette commenced printing on 5 March 1803. The price was 6d. per copy, and he was forever in trouble because of lack of paper, very primitive equipment, a tiny population - just over 7,000 in 1803 - and bad debts. Howe issued the first book printed in Australia, and in 1813 the first Natural History and Art Book printed in the Colony. To help him out of his constant financial difficulties, he opened a stationery shop, and became a private tutor. In 1811 Macquarie helped him along by giving him a salary of £60 year; He had received a full pardon in 1806.

Not long after his arrival here, George Howe co-habited with a woman named Elizabeth Hastings, or Hasten, or Easton, who was convicted in 1798, sentenced to 7 years, and arrived here in 1800. She bore Howe 5 children, between 1803 and September 1810.

Not only did Howe's financial circumstances improve when he married Edward Wills's rich widow; he now had a step-daughter married to a close friend of Governor Macquarie. On their marriage, George Howe moved in to Sarah's house in George Street, a few doors from where the Gazette was printed. Living with them were Sarah's children, Thomas, 12; Eliza, 10; Edward, 7; and the infant Horatio; the other daughter, Elizabeth Selina, had died in 1811. Also living with them were Robert Howe, aged 16, and Howe's 4 illegitimate children. George Howe and Sarah had one child, Jane, born on 9 November, 1816.

Soon after their marriage, Sarah had discharged promissory notes to the value of £500, previously given by George Howe, and it was she who paid for the substantial enlargements, under the supervision of Francis Greenway, of 96 George St. It was with considerable disquiet that she learned that when Macquarie acceded to her request for the grant of No.96, it had been made to her husband. In her presence Howe made a will, in March, 1821, leaving everything to her. However, two months later, just a week before he died, Howe secretly revoked this will and left his son Robert the printing property, materials and business. He left 96 George St. in trust for his 4 natural children and Horatio Wills and Jane Howe; he made no provision for his wife. Litigation followed over a period of 10 years. Sarah testified that "shortly before his death, Howe was subject to violent fits and became mentally deranged, but had lucid intervals". Proceedings were stayed by Sarah's death in 1823. The Court's final verdict was that the property should pass to her Trustees for her children - her son Tom and her son-in-law, Major H. C. Antill.

Sarah's will, made on 19 September, 1821, left all her property to her children Tom, Edward, Horatio and Jane; her daughters Sarah and Eliza were to receive the cost of mourning rings only, as she had provided for both on their marriages. A codicil mentioned two brothers and a sister. Sarah Wills, nee Harding, died on 8 July, 1823. I did my best detective work in piecing together the Harding family, from odd snippets scattered in numerous places. There was a letter from her to her mother in 1808; a shipping notice in the Gazette in 1824; a marriage notice in the Australian in 1836; a letter from Sarah Alexander to Tom Wills in 1837; a letter from Henry Colden Antill Harrison in 1836; a death notice in 1863, and so on.

Sarah's youngest sister Mary married, about 1809, John F. Willey; it was their two girls who accompanied the Redferns out here in 1824. They spent a lot of their time at Jarvisfield, the home of their cousin Eliza Antill, and it was from there that Selina Willey married David Johnston.

Incidentally, the brief notice of their wedding is typical of some of the difficulties of this type of research, in that it contains no less than 3 mistakes: “Marriage by Special Licence on 10 February, 1836, at St. Lukes, Liverpool, David Johnston, Esquire, of Georges Hall, Banks Town, to Miss Selina Willey, niece of Major Antill of Jarvisfield. The bridal party set off for Horsely, the seat of Edward Weston, Esq.”. Selina's name was, of course, Willey; Antill's wife was her first cousin, not her aunt, and the Weston's property was spelt Horsley. I know; I broke my leg there, by falling off a pony!

Colonel Johnston had held meetings of a Hunt Club on his Annandale farm in 1826 and 1827. Edward Weston imported a pack of foxhounds, and in 1838 the Cumberland Hunt Club was formed. Weston also had a number of racehorses, famous amongst which was Protector. Now, since a cousin of my great grandmother married a Johnston, I will digress briefly about that family. George Johnston was born on 19 March, 1764, saw Army service in North America, was wounded in the East Indies, and arrived here in the First Fleet, in January, 1788; he was, in fact, supposed to have been the first man to land, having been carried ashore by a sailor. In 1800, as Captain Johnston, he had been arrested and sent to England for trial for having given a sergeant part of his pay in spirits at an exorbitant price. He was sent back to Sydney for trial, but the case was abandoned. In 1808, then Major Johnston, he deposed Bligh. He was promoted to Lieut. Col. in London in 1808, but in 1811 he was court-martialled over the Bligh Rebellion, and cashiered. He returned to Sydney in 1813, and died at Annandale in 1823.

On the same ship in the First Fleet there was a beautiful convict girl, Esther Abrahams, or Julian. Johnston and she lived together for many years, and she presented him with 3 sons and 4 daughters. Johnston regularised the union by marrying her 8 years after the birth of their last child. Their eldest son became a Commander in the Navy; Robert, the fourth child, became a Captain, R.N.; the fifth was David, who married Selina Willey, and the youngest, Blanche, married Lieut. George Edward Nicholas Weston.

Selina Willey-Johnston died at Georges Hall on 5 December, 1863. The Antills' eldest son, John Macquarie, called his daughter, born just before she died, Selina Johnston.

George Howe died on 11 May, 1821, in the act of signing a petition to Governor Macquarie to pardon his assigned servant, William Harding, believed to be a relative of Sarah's. His son Robert took over the running of the Gazette. A fulsome obituary notice, black-bordered in the manner used when a death occurred in the Royal Family, described George Howe as the “Primary Editor of Australia”, and the “Progenitor for Printing”. A “Monumental Tomb”, designed by Francis Greenway, was erected in the Devonshire cemetery. His estate was valued at £8000.

His son Robert, aged 13, was at the printing office, then attached to Government House, on the night of 26 January, 1808, when troops of the New South Wales Corps marched to Government House to arrest Governor Bligh. The Gazette said, “We were forced to admit Lieut. Laycock, who searched the loft above the printing office and discovered that no Governor was there. Shortly after, his unfortunate Excellency was found beneath a bed upstairs”. Robert was a profligate youth, and later sired an illegitimate son when he was 24. He became an ardent Wesleyan in later life, and was stabbed with a rusty bayonet on his way home after a session at the Mission House, near the Rocks area, in 1822; his attacker, William Davidson, was hanged. Robert Howe was the subject of a number of libel actions, and in 1827 he was horse-whipped by Dr. Redfern. In 1821 he married Ann Bird, who bore him 4 children. He was drowned on 29 January, 1829, while fishing off Pinchgut with his young son, Alfred Australia, and the servant, William Harding.

Robert's widow Ann, entrusted the running of the Gazette to a Scotsman named William Angus Watt, who had been sent out here in 1829 for embezzlement. Watt lived with a woman named Jemima, also known as “Carrotty-Headed Mary”; she bore him a child named June Chapman, born on 17 April, 1834. Ann Howe married Watt after Governor Bourke “granted permission to consummate the felicity of Mr. William Watt and Mrs. Ann Howe”. Ann's son, Alfred

Australia, who narrowly escaped death when his father was drowned, was only 12 when he was savaged by a shark and died. Three days later the sad mother became again a sad widow when Watt was drowned.

George Howe's eldest illegitimate son, Thomas Terry, was drowned at Launceston. His second illegitimate son, George Terry, published the first newspaper in Launceston.

That concludes the story of Edward and Sarah Wills. Now for the children:

SARAH was born on 23 April, 1696. She was too young to remember any of the horrors of the Hillsborough trip. She was 14, and "very tall for her age", when she married Dr. Redfern. A quite engaging little 3-act play, written much later by Major General John Macquarie Antill, C.B., C.M.G. and his adopted daughter, purported to tell the story of how Sarah and Redfern first met, and how it was that Redfern was sent to Norfolk Island:

Redfern in convict garb, is amongst a chain gang of felons outside the military barracks, when the sound of a galloping horse, and a woman's scream, is heard off stage. Sarah Wills is carried in by an officer and laid on the ground. Redfern steps forward and offers his assistance, and skillfully bandages the broken collar-bone. Governor King and Col. Foveaux, the Lieut.-Governor of Norfolk Island, enter; Foveaux is pleading for assistance in his desperate shortage of medical staff on the Island. Both men are startled that the convict who had so dexterously handled the patient was a doctor - the same Redfern was known to both - and Governor King decides on the spot to solve Foveaux's problem by sending Redfern to Norfolk Island.

Redfern came to be in convict garb because, in May, 1797, as a newly fledged surgeon, he was one of the crew of H.M.S. Standard, which had played a prominent part in the famous Mutiny of the Nore. The ringleader, Richard Parker, was hanged from the yard-arm on 30 June; 29 of his comrades were also executed. Redfern was tried with 5 others, the charge against him being that he had encouraged the sailors to resist their officers. The trial began on 17 August, 1797, and lasted 5 days. On 25th the Court gave its verdict: Redfern, charge fully proved, but recommended to His Majesty's clemency on account of his professional situation leading him more among the mutineers than the other officers; his sentence was commuted to transportation for life. Two of the others charged were sentenced to 300 and 250 lashes respectively.

After 4 years in the hulks, Redfern was shipped out in the Minorca, which left England on 21 June, 1801, and arrived here on 14 December. He was sent here at his own request to Sir Jeremiah Fitzpatrick. During the voyage he helped the surgeon on board. He was very quickly sent to Norfolk Island, arriving there in January, 1802. He served as Assistant Surgeon to D'Arcy Wentworth until 19 June, when he was appointed Surgeon. In September, 1804, Foveaux wrote: "...William Redfern acted as Surgeon until 12 May, 1804, in the duties of which he conducted himself with such diligence and attention as to merit my perfect approbation..." He was granted a free pardon in 1803, in recognition of his work there. He remained on the Island till June, 1808, when he returned to Sydney on the Estramina, with a "wife" and a servant. The presumably de-facto wife was not heard of again. He had owned 48 acres of land, 2 shingled houses, a barn and salting house, 62 hogs and 4,730 lbs. of maize.

Redfern's appointment as Assistant Surgeon in Sydney was recommended by Foveaux, submitted by Macquarie, - who said, "his skill and ability are unquestionable and his conduct deserves approbation" - sanctioned by the Prince Regent, and finally gazetted on 1 February, 1812. He is credited with having introduced vaccination to Norfolk Island in 1805. On 6 September, 1810, Dr. Thomas Jamison, Principal Surgeon, and John Harris, Surgeon and William Behan, Assistant Surgeon to the New South Wales Corps, signed a "Certificate of Examination" which read: "We have examined Mr. William Redfern touching his skill in Medicine and Surgery and other branches of medical literature and we find him qualified to exercise the profession of a Surgeon, etc. And

consequently to fill the situation of an Assistant Surgeon in any Department of His Majesty's Service". He was the first person awarded the Australian Diploma of Medicine.

Referring to his attitude towards emancipists, Macquarie wrote to Castlereagh on 30 April, 1810, saying: "The number of persons of this description that I have admitted to my table consists of four only, namely Dr. D'Arcy Wentworth, Principal Surgeon; Mr. William Redfern, Assistant Surgeon; Mr. Andrew Thompson, an opulent farmer, and Mr. Simeon Lord, an opulent merchant". Macquarie's emancipist policy - that of pardoning and encouraging men of enterprise and ability - was, he believed, in the genuine interests of the community, but the majority of the free settlers were most loath to meet former convicts on terms of social equality. However in the case of Redfern, a man of good birth, in an honourable profession, and of proven character and ability, the objection was plainly ridiculous. Redfern, when the 73rd, Regiment left, and was succeeded by the 48th, was invited to the Mess by Lieut. Col. Erskine, its C.O. but the subalterns were unhappy about it. One evening when Redfern was in the Mess as the guest of the C.O. they insulted both men by rising in a body and leaving the room. Macquarie was furious, and a breach was caused which later widened seriously.

The first Sydney Hospital was only 200 yards from where Edward Wills had his shop at 96 George Street. When Redfern was appointed there, he became the Wills's family doctor.

William and Sarah Redfern had two children; William Lachlan Macquarie, born on 27 July, 1819 and Joseph Foveaux, born on 7 February, 1823, who lived only 7 years.

While John Macarthur was visiting England in 1810, he was filled with gloom when his wife Elizabeth wrote from Sydney that their daughter, the apple of his eye, was ill and might never recover the use of her limbs. Macarthur wrote from England on 3 May, saying "the day after I received your letters, Mr. Redfern's nephew came over from Trowbridge with a letter from Dr. Redfern to me, in which your account of the dear girl's progressive recovery is more fully confirmed. I need not tell you that if I had as much power as I had inclination, Mr. Redfern's reward for his service to Elizabeth should be as great as the skill he has manifested in discovering an efficacious remedy to her extraordinary disease. I hope he will be informed that no pains were spared on my part to ascertain how far it might be practicable to obtain a confirmation of his appointment." The appointment referred to was Redern's position as Acting Assistant Surgeon, which was later confirmed.

When the new Sydney Hospital was completed in 1816, Dr. Wentworth was Principal Surgeon; Redfern was his assistant, later assisted by Dr. R. W. Owens. Redfern was paid £136.17.6 a year, with quarters in the Southern Wing, and fuel, and the right to private practice. Governor Macquarie's son Lachlan, born on 26 March, 1814, was brought into the world by Redfern. The grateful Governor in October allotted Redfern two Government men, victualled and clothed by the Crown.

Redfern's fees for midwifery ranged from 5 to 20 guineas, and his charge for house visits was 5/-, with pills or potions thrown in. Medicine for his private patients was supplied from the hospital. This information Commissioner Bigge discovered and included in his report as an example of Redfern's medical skulduggery. However, other surgeons at the hospital had followed the same precedent. He was offered an appointment in Tasmania in 1816, but declined it.

In 1818, Dr Wentworth announced his intention to retire. Naturally, Dr Redfern expected to succeed him as Principal Surgeon, when Macquarie wrote to the Secretary of State in London commending him to the vacancy. However, probably because he was an ex-convict, he did not receive the appointment. He tendered his resignation, and wrote to Earl Bathurst on 24 February, 1820, referring to the "most perfect satisfaction" he had given during his "nearly 18 years in the Medical Department"; to the "promise of Your Lordship to the Right Honourable Viscount Castlereagh, and from His Lordship to Memorialist's Brothers"; to "his disappointment,

mortification and degradation”; and asking that he “recommend him to such half-pay or pension to which your Lordship may think ...”

Redfern’s resignation was reluctantly accepted by Macquarie, and he retired on 24 October, intending to live on his farm at Campbell Fields, Minto, which he had visited with Macquarie 9 years previously. On 30th, Macquarie appointed him a Justice of the Peace and Magistrate, “in pursuance of the promise I had made”. Commissioner Bigge opposed the appointment and a battle raged over a long period. On 10 July, 1820, Earl Bathurst wrote: “It is impossible for His Majesty to sanction Mr Redfern’s nomination”, and he “feels himself compelled to signify His Pleasure that Mr Redfern’s name should not appear in the New Commission for the Peace”. Macquarie replied on 20 March, 1821, that “the King’s commands have been carried into effect in respect of the removal of that Gentleman from the office of Magistrate”.

On that same day the Governor also acknowledged a letter from Lord Bathurst which informed Macquarie that the King “has been graciously pleased to accept your resignation” as Governor-in-Chief of this Colony. It was Macquarie’s third request to resign. He sailed on the Surrey on 22 March, 1822, after a tremendous demonstration of loyalty and affection by the populace. He died on 1 July, 1824, in penury in London.

Redfern was thinking also of a trip to England; he advertised in the Gazette on 3 February, 1821:

“WANTED, to accompany a Family to England, a steady, middle-aged Woman, whose time will be devoted to the care of an infant. She must be of good character, the strictest references to which will be required. Application to be made to Mrs. Redfern at the Town Establishment of Major Antill in Castlereagh Street”.

However, he did not go, but accompanied Macquarie on yet another of his tours, this time to Van Diemen’s Land. On 19 May, 1821, the Governor and some friends set out on horseback from Hobart for Launceston. The party became lost during heavy rain, gale force winds, vivid flashes of lightning, and other uncomfortable conditions. Macquarie recorded that they “wandered about in various directions for about an hour and at length by great good fortune Dr Redfern’s mare found the road by his throwing the bridle on her neck and allowing her to go her own way”.

Redfern eventually sailed for London by the Duchess of York, on 25 October, 1821. He was taking a huge petition to Earl Bathurst, over a ruling by the Judge Advocate, Judge Wylde, in connection with the question of emancipists being able to sue in the courts. On the voyage, the ship called at Tahiti, where King Pomare was ill. On 7 December the King had fainted, and Redfern was rushed to the Royal residence. Despite anything he could do, the King died of drunkenness; a huge bottle of Benedictine is portrayed over his tomb.

After presenting the petition, - which was successful - Redfern visited the Island of Madeira. Sarah wrote from London to Earl Bathurst on her husband’s behalf, saying that her husband was in Madeira and was about to return to Australia. She said that he had 1,400 head of cattle, 4,000 sheep and “several” horses, “but has not enough land (the greater part obtained by purchase) to subsist his herds and flocks”. She went on to say that Redfern had gone to great expense in purchasing merino sheep, “which he is about to convey to New South Wales for the purpose of improving and increasing the fine wool in that Colony”; and that he had engaged vine-dressers, and procured vines, at Madeira, and was bringing them out also. She concluded by saying that it was now impossible to procure land by purchase, and asking that his Lordship direct that a grant of land be made to him.

Far from being badly off for land, Redfern had obtained the following grants from Macquarie:

1813	600 acres at Airds,
1816	670 “ “
1817	350 “ “

1818	1,300	“	“
1821	<u>1,000</u>	“	“
	<u>3,920</u>		acres

On June 20, 1817, there was a further grant of 100 acres on the Sandhills 4 miles from Sydney, known as the “Surrey Hills Farm”. Here Redfern built his home, later called “Redfern”. As early as 1811, “General” Holt, an Irish friend of his, sold him his sheep for 600 guineas. The 1828 Census showed that at that time Redfern and his elder son were absent overseas, but that Sarah and little Joseph were living at Campbell Fields. Redfern was the owner of 10,500 acres of land of which 1,240 acres were cleared and 400 cultivated. On these acres were 9,400 sheep, 2,450 cattle and 60 horses. The Gazette recorded on 14 May, 1827, that the sheep and cattle of Mr Redfern were sold for £25,000.

William and Sarah Redfern and their two sons arrived back in Sydney in July, 1824, on the Alfred; Sarah acted as chaperon to her young cousins Emily and Selina Willey. Another passenger on board was W. C. Wentworth. Redfern brought with him 9 rams and 5 ewes, as well as various kinds of grapes and fruit trees from Madeira. He had been abroad for 3 years.

On his return he carried on the dual job of farmer and doctor; he was active in the foundation of the Benevolent Society and the Sydney Dispensary, and wrote a treatise on the medical consequence of the transportation of convicts. In July 1825 he was off to London again, in the Phoenix; he returned in June, 1825. For a short time he lived in Pitt Street, but then, in September, he moved to Campbell Fields, where, as the Gazette remarked, “he has been so long accustomed to the rural life that he finds it difficult to renew the busy cares of a doctor. We are sorry for this resolution of the doctor’s, inasmuch as the Metropolis have already been assisted by his attention. Of Dr Redfern’s skill there can be but one opinion. His methods or his manner may not be as winning as might be wished, but his experience and his practice in our judgement make ample amends for the absence of overflowing politeness”. In the following year he chartered a ship to import sugar from Mauritius.

The far-seeing Governor Macquarie had seen the need for a solid banking house to handle all the normal functions of a bank, and to issue backed bank notes to replace the Spanish silver dollars and half dollars, and even rum. At a meeting held on 5 December, 1816, the Bank of New South Wales was formed, and shares of £50 each were issued, inter alia, to:

J.T.Campbell, the Governor’s Secretary,	4 shares.
Dr. Redfern,	2 “
Capt. H.C.Antill, A.D.C. to the Governor,	2 “
George Howe, the Government printer,	5 “
Thomas Wills, son of Edward Wills,	2 shares

Dr Redfern was one of the seven men who constituted the first Board of the Bank.

Robert Howe wrote an editorial in the Sydney Gazette on 7 November, 1827, which said: “Dr Redfern, one of the Directors for the Bank of New South Wales, has been actively employed during the last 5 days to oust the cashier, Mr. MacKenzie, and to introduce his brother-in-law, Mr. Thomas Wills, into that gentleman’s post”. The article went on to urge Redfern to leave Mackenzie alone.

Redfern’s temper had not improved with the years, and his anger against Robert Howe mounted as the latter’s sneers continued. By 23 November, Redfern was out for blood. In his gig he saw Robert Howe in front of him in George St, and followed him to Charlotte Place, where Howe hurriedly dismounted, having gathered that “Redfern was not amicable”. After some heated words, Redfern took the horsewhip to Howe, who was armed with the sword-stick he habitually carried for self defence. This broke in the scuffle. The printing staff were busy in the building, and nobody heard Howe’s cries. He retreated to the kitchen, with Redfern in hot pursuit, still wielding his horsewhip. In a court case, *Howe v. Redfern*, in January, 1828, Howe said that “20 stripes were

inflicted upon me by the defendant". He denied hurling an iron pot at his attacker, but said, "My wife, on hearing the disturbance, came to my assistance. She bore a broomstick with her, and struck a blow at Redfern. I swear there were not 20 cracks. I saw his head covered with blood but this was from a fall he had against a brick wall. "He told W.C.Wentworth, for Dr Redfern, that the affair did not last more than 2 minutes; "I do not recollect laying on Redfern's belly; I never put my feet on his back to keep him down while my wife hit him with the broomstick". He admitted that a servant had held Redfern's arms while Mrs. Howe belaboured him.

An interested participant in the brawl was young Horatio Wills, who jumped in to defend his brother-in-law, Dr Redfern, and broke the servant's hands away. He thus sided with his sister's husband against the son of his step-father.

Wentworth made an eloquent address to the jury, pointing out that week after week there was matter offensive to his client in the prosecutor's newspaper. The jury, after a retirement of 20 minutes, returned a verdict of Guilty, but "Recommended the case to the favourable consideration of the Bench". The Chairman fined Dr Redfern 30/-, which Redfern settled by cheque on the spot.

Redfern died at Edinburgh on 17 July, 1833. Sarah, who had left Sydney on 10 March, by the Norfolk, to join him, did not reach London till 2 days after the funeral. He had been in Europe for quite a long time, supervising the education at Edinburgh of his only surviving son. An article in the Australian, on 27 December, 1833, said: "As a medical man the abilities of Dr Redfern were highly respected, as a private individual those who were connected with him by ties of blood deeply lament a firm, liberal and affectionate friend".

The Australian, on 7 March, 1834, carried an advertisement: "To Gentlemen, Market Gardeners, Nurserymen and Fruiterers", informing them that Dr Redfern's grant of 100 acres, "then remote from Sydney", had been subdivided into sundry allotments ranging from 2 to 5 acres, "which will be let upon lease to the highest bidders, for 7 years". The first 10 blocks commenced at Elizabeth Street South, "behind Cleaveland House and Gardens". Elizabeth Street it was said, was to be extended to the road linking the city to Botany Bay. Cleaveland House was on the corner of Bedford and Buckingham Streets, facing Alfred Park. A later advertisement announced the sale by public auction on 23 February, of "the Estate of the late Dr Redfern". An impressive list contained:

1. 100 acres at the back of Cleveland House.
2. Campbell Fields Estate of 6,000 acres.
3. Cabramatta, 270 acres.
4. Emu Plains, Nepean River, 57 acres.
5. Town of Liverpool, 3 acres.
6. North Geelong, 2 half-acres.
7. Cox's River, 4,700 acres.
8. River Lachlan and Wangoola Creek, near Cowra, 11,362 acres.
9. Sheep, 8,000, including a number of pure merinos.
10. 3 imported Hereford Bulls - milch cows.
11. A herd of cattle, stock horses and working bullocks.

The greater part of the purchase money was to be allowed to remain secured on the property for 5 to 20 years.

The "30 acre farm near Sydney", listed among Sarah Wills's assets just prior to her marriage to George Howe, was given by her to Sarah Redfern, and adjoined the 100 acres in item 1 above, which was bounded by Cleveland and Elizabeth Streets, Botany Rd and Raglan St.

The sale took place on 12 September, 1842, of a subdivision of this 100 acres, and realised £4,592.14.0; Sir Thomas Mitchell paid £210 for lots 36 and 37. It is fascinating to contemplate what Dr. Redfern's acres would be worth to-day.

H. C. Antill and Thomas Wills, Redfern's executors, announced that Messrs. Gilchrist and

Alexander, Merchants, of George St, Sydney, were Agents for Dr Redfern's Estate in N.S.W. The original firm had been Redfern and Alexander, and was founded in 1838; it then became, in 1852, Gilchrist Watt & Co, and later Gilchrist, Watt and Sanderson. After Redfern's death, it was announced that a marriage was agreed upon, "and was then intended to be shortly solemnised, between Sarah Redfern and James Alexander", a Scotsman then living in Sydney. Sarah married James Alexander, tertius, at Glasgow on 24 June, 1834; on 9 February, 1835, a daughter Sara was born to them.

This Sara Alexander married Philip John Vanderbyl on 18 August, 1853. As this is the man after whom I was given my second name, I hope I may be pardoned for a brief digression about him.

He was the fourth son of the late Honourable P.V.Vanderbyl, of the Cape of Good Hope, and was born on 28 April, 1827. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh, where he obtained the Gold Medal on graduating M.D. He was a Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London, but he retired from medical practice when aged 31, became a banker and merchant, and a Director of the E.S. & A. Chartered Bank and the N.Z.L. & M.A. Coy. He was elected to the House of Commons as Member for Bridgewater in 1866, being its first Colonial-born Member. He died on 14 May, 1892, at his Town residence, 51 Porchester Terrace, Northwood, aged 65.

Philip and Sara Vanderbyl had several children, including a daughter named Mary, born in 1861; on 9 February, 1888, she married Montrose Cloete. She was a very beautiful girl, and in 1892 her portrait painted by the famous Winterhalter, was hung in the Royal Academy. The Cloetes lived at 52 Berkeley Square, which has been described as "the loveliest, oldest house in the Square," where all the Royalties since Queen Victoria had dropped in for tea and dinner. The Prince of Wales - the future King Edward VII - would drop in for lunch with his friends. Often 60 guests would arrive.

Sarah Wills-Redfern-Alexander died at Roke Manor, Hants, on 10 January, 1875.

THOMAS SPENCER Edward and Sarah Wills's first son and second child was born on 5 August, 1800, just over a year after the Hillsborough had arrived in Sydney. He had saved up enough money by the time he was 16 to be able to afford £100 for 2 Bank of New South Wales shares; in fact, he worked there for some time, and was its Accountant in 1819. He was a farmer when, on 18 June, 1822, he married Celia Reibey, the daughter of his father's friend and business partner. A little story about the Reibeys would not be amiss.

Thomas Reibey arrived here as an officer on the Brittania, on 16 October, 1791. The Royal Admiral, after a journey of over 19 weeks, arrived here on 7 October, 1792, bringing 301 male and 47 female prisoners. Among the latter was a comely 15 year old girl, named Mary Haydock, alias Haddock, born on 12 May, 1777. One day when she was 13, and dressed in boy's clothes, she borrowed a neighbour's horse and went for a ride. When arrested, she gave the police the name of James Burrow. Under this name, and described as a labourer, she was found guilty at the Stafford Assizes on 13 August, 1791, "of feloniously stealing one bay mare, value £10", and sentenced to be hanged. Later her sex was discovered and her sentence was commuted to transportation for 7 years.

Thomas Reibey, then a farmer on the Hawkesbury, married Mary Haydock on 1 September, 1794, in the Colony's only church, made of wattle and mud which stood on the corner of Castlereagh and Hunter Streets. Mary joined her husband on the farm; between 1796 and 1810, they had 6 children, Celia being the fourth, born in 1802. Reibey began his Shipping business in 1800, trading to the Hawkesbury in the 14 ton sloop Raven. By February, 1804, he had added another 14 ton sloop, the James, but she was wrecked 2 months later. In 1806, the Raven was listed as belonging to Reibey and Wills - "General employment, skinning". Reibey now had a farm of 160 acres, and a convict servant.

By 1808 he was Master of the schooner Mercury, and was on his way from the Bay of

Islands, New Zealand, to Otaheite via Ulitea. At the latter place, according to the local chief, Mahee, he was moored at the very tree to which Capt. Cook had made fast the Resolution on his last voyage. Mahee showed Reibey a medallion which Capt. Cook had given his father; Reibey eventually secured the medallion. The Mercury continued towards Otaheite, but at Manjeea they met with a very different reception, which began with a flotilla of about 60 canoes, each one occupied by only one man armed with a long spear and several short ones, putting out to meet her. The natives, "of ferocious manner and forbidding appearance", began to climb aboard. When one of them plunged his spear into a seaman named Clarke, Reibey took firm action.

"Self defence now became a duty, and two musketoons were discharged among the foremost and the contents of one were lodged in the body of Clarke's assailant. Their consternation at the noise may easily be conjectured; they stayed not to examine the cause of the explosion but, taking to their canoes, soon paddled ashore, where an immense number were assembled, and the Mercury took leave of this inhospitable island". Reibey brought a young woman named Foofoo back from Otaheite, as a servant.

In 1809 Foveaux appointed Reibey as a harbour pilot, but later that year he sailed in the Lady Barlow. At Whampoa, in China, he disposed of his cargo of sandalwood, and went on to Bengal, where he joined the Mary and Sally, in which he arrived back at the end of October, 1810, with a cargo of fine teas, sugar and chinaware, the joint property of himself and Edward Wills. Reibey died at his house in Macquarie Place, "Entally", on 6 April, 1811, aged 42, "after a severe illness of several months, the origin of which he attributed to a coup-de-soleil when in India."

Mary Reibey carried on business as a merchant at a new warehouse at 99 George Street. In November, 1813, she advertised that Foofoo had disappeared, and offered a reward of £5 for information about her. The following year Mary Reibey moved from "Entally" to her warehouse, and let "Entally" to a Mr. Jenkins. Built in 1808, the building was leased in 1817 to the Bank of New South Wales, and was its first premises. That year Mary bought the "fine wooden vessel, Governor Macquarie," for £750 sterling; the 36-ton John Palmer, with her son Tom as Master, arrived from Port Dalrymple. He had just turned 21, and on 28 May he married Richarda Allen. After a 3-week honeymoon, they sailed for Port Dalrymple in the Governor Macquarie. In 1818 he got a grant of 300 acres; he already owned a wharf and store-house. He and Richarda settled on a very lovely property, also named "Entally", of 4,000 acres just out of Launceston. It is now beautifully preserved by the National Parks and Wildlife Trust.

Meanwhile, Mary Reibey took her 3 daughters to England for a visit; at that time her income was £1,200 a year. After her return, the Gazette wrote: "Mrs. Reibey, with a perseverance that truly astonishes us, after having erected many elegant and substantial buildings in Macquarie Place and George St, has now turned her attention towards the improvement of Castlereagh St, where a noble pile of buildings, will soon ornament that hitherto neglected part of the Capital". Mary Reibey died on 30 May, 1855, aged 78.

Tom and Richarda had a son, also called Thomas. Born in 1821, he was educated at Trinity College, Oxford, studied for the Church and was ordained in 1843. He later became Archdeacon of Launceston, but about 1870, after a disagreement with Bishop Bromby, he retired from the Church, and in 1874 became a Member of the Legislative Assembly for Westbury, which he represented for 29 years. In 1876 he became Premier of Tasmania. He retired in 1903, and died on 10 February, 1912, aged 90. His father died at "Entally" in 1842, aged 46. His brother, George Haydock Reibey, who had been given a grant of land at Patterson's Plains, and who owned a store at Hobart, fell from a tree and died, aged 22.



Mary Cloete née Vanderbyle

Mary Reibey's eldest daughter, Jane Penelope, married a merchant called John Atkinson, in 1824. Her younger sister, Elizabeth Ann, married Captain Long Innes, Adjutant of the 39th Dorsetshire Foot Regiment. Joseph and Elizabeth Long Innes had a son, also named Joseph, who was educated at The Kings School, started as a surveyor, became a Clerk of Petty Sessions, and Associate to Chief Justice Alfred Stephen. He was admitted to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, London, but returned to Sydney, practised as a barrister, and later became a Judge in Queensland. He resigned from the Bench to enter politics in N.S.W., was knighted, and in 1881 made a Judge of the Supreme Court of N.S.W.

Back to Thomas Spencer Wills. Eleven months after their marriage, Tom and Celia Wills had a daughter named Alice, born on 6 May, 1823. Celia never recovered from her confinement, and died in October. The Gazette recorded: "This amiable young lady was united to Mr Thomas Wills, to whom she has bequeathed a pledge of her tenderest affection, a sweet little girl. Prior to her confinement, Mrs. Wills caught a violent cold, which fastened on the lungs and originated rapid consumption. To delineate the grief of the astonished widower and young father is a task to which our pen is incompetent".

About 1826 Tom Wills was on his way to England, when his ship was wrecked near Mauritius. The survivors were hospitably housed by the people of Port Louis, and Tom Wills, then a handsome young widower, was received into the home of Dr Richard Barry, Professor of the Colonial College, whose sister was living with him. Tom set himself up as a trader in Mauritius, and declared in a Deed that his first wife, Celia Reibey, bore him no children. He fell in love with Marie Ann, the Professor's elegant sister, and married her at Port Louis on 19 February, 1827. Tom's nephew described her as "a true Grande Dame, and a splendid hostess". They left Mauritius on the Orpheus on 11 March, and arrived back here in May.

Tom and Marie went on the land at Lower Minto, where he became a tenant farmer at Varro Ville. In 1828 the Census showed that he owned 920 acres (it was actually 1,000), 3 horses, 300 horned cattle and 1,150 sheep. They had one child, William Henry, born on 1 December, 1827. A daughter, Catherine Spencer, was born on 24 November, 1831. In 1833 Tom became the first Australian-born J.P.

Varro Ville has an interesting history. The house was built in 1809; the original grant was made by Macquarie to Dr Townson on the day of Macquarie's proclamation on his arrival here - 1 January, 1810. When the Governor and his suite visited the district, in November of that year, he wrote: "We rode through the best and finest country I have yet seen in the Colony". Dr Townson died there in 1827, and Thomas Wills became the second owner of Varro Ville. In 1835 the N.S.W. Calender described the road from Sydney to Campbelltown:

"28½ miles. Gate leading to the residence of the late Dr Townson, now the property of Thomas Wills, Esq, J.P.

"30¼ miles. A large tract of cleared land distinguishes the residence of the late Dr Redfern, the original owner of 'Campbell Fields'."

After his exploration of the Darling, Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, Charles Sturt bought Varro Ville in 1834 from Tom Wills for £2,500; in 1839 it was bought by James Raymond. Varro Ville, Denham Court and Leppington were the three main venues for social functions in the district, and were colloquially known as "The Social Triangle". The property changed hands many times, and on 5 November 1960 a memorial tablet to some of the owners of the place since Dr Townson, was affixed to the wall and unveiled by Lady Woodward, wife of the Governor of N.S.W. It was then owned - and still is - by the Morris Jackamans, who bought it in 1950.

Tom Wills's health was indifferent. Marie and little Catherine, their surviving child, were in London in 1837, but planned to return at the end of the year. Tom, now well enough off to be able to lend money to his younger brother studying law in London, and to his nephews at school in Germany, had decided to move to Port Phillip, when Major Mitchell, after an absence of 7 months,

returned to Sydney with great news. He was full of praise for the land south of the Murray River, saying: "I returned over the flowing plains and green hills, fanned by the breezes of early Spring. I named this region 'Australia Felix', the better to distinguish it from the parched deserts of the interior, where we had wandered so unprofitably and so long". He prophesied a vast future for stock in the new district, and a steady market in the huge fertile area.

At the first sale of Port Phillip land, held in Sydney in 1838, Tom Wills bought lot 8, of 970 acres, on the Plenty River. This property, "Lucerne" was only 14 miles from Melbourne. He over-landed in 1839, and in 1840 purchased 176 Acres at Darebin Creek and the Yarra for £2/10/0 an acre, a price considered ridiculous at the time. Yet it was only 20 miles from Melbourne.

A letter from a neighbour said: "Our nearest neighbour was Thomas Wills, one of the most intelligent gentlemen of this Colony, a Magistrate of Middle District, Sydney, what we must call an Anglo-Australian. His estate is a valuable one. His house, with a pillared and balconied front, is of graceful architecture, delightfully situated on knolls and slopes."

Tom Wills bought a great deal of land in Melbourne and in other parts of Victoria at the early sales. Included in his purchases was a half-acre block, extending from Bourke St to Little Collins St, Melbourne at the back of the Town Hall. He gave £150 for it, and let it for £150 a year, on a 21-year lease. At the time of "the diggings", the lessee was making £7,000 a year out of it, by re-letting the various primitive buildings. After Wills' death, in 1872, the property was sold for £37,000.

His nephew, "Colie" Harrison, says that he stayed with his uncle at the "Settlement", (Melbourne). "He lived in Collins Street, and then in the Heidelberg district; his home there, on the Darebin, with a frontage on the Yarra, is a large, two-storied house in white stucco which may be seen from the Willsmere Rd, on the opposite side of the Yarra at Kew".

On 14 January, 1840, the Bachelors of the Settlement gave a Ball, and dancing continued till late; supper was served at 1.30, champagne corks popped, and all was gaiety. When the band left, the ladies played encores till dawn. After the Ball, a "distressing accident" occurred, which was described in the next day's paper: "A party consisting of Mrs. Wills ... were returning from the Ball in a carriage belonging to Thomas Wills, Esq., J.P., when in the act of turning a corner of Bourke St, into Swanston St, the wheels sunk into a rut so suddenly that the coachman was thrown out and the horses, startled by shock, set off at a full gallop in the direction of Mr. Wills' stables, close to which they came in contact with a tree, with such violence that the carriage was smashed to atoms, and the inmates thrown out and very seriously injured".

Wills became a Trustee of the Savings Bank and President of the Shire. By November, 1843, he had become a Director of the Union Bank; in 1847 he acquired a half-interest in Maindample Station.

I am informed by Brian Wills, of "Minerva", Springsure, Queensland part of the original Cullin-la-ringo - that Tom Wills sired an illegitimate family in England by a Mary Ann Mellard; there were 4 children - Arthur, Harry, Frederick and Charles, born between 1857 and 1861. Tom Wills died on 29 July, 1872.

Little Alice, born to his first wife Celia, died aged 11 months. Tom and Marie had a son, William Henry, born in 1827, but he also lived only 11 months; a daughter, Catherine Spencer, was born on 24 November, 1831. This "Beautiful and charming Kate" married Capt. Lewis Charles Conran, of the 11th Regiment of Foot, who was then in command of the forces in Victoria. He subsequently became A.D.C. to Governor La Trobe, and Sergeant-at-Arms to the first Legislative Council.

Conran came of a military family. He was a son of Capt. James Samuel Conran, and a grandson of Major Henry, who had one other son, Lieut. Gen. Henry Lewis Conran. The latter was a very colourful character, and a short digression about him may be warranted. He rose from the

rank of Ensign in the 49th Regiment in 1780 to that of Lieut. Gen. in the Royals in 1825. He was Groom of the Bed Chamber to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father. He was a huge man, well over 6 feet in height, and broad in proportion. At one time he decided to take up boxing, and having found a noted prize fighter to teach him, took him into his quarters and urged him to try and hit him. The professional pug was a wary man, and hesitated but Conran kept on taunting him, and at last, unable to bear it any longer, he let him have it straight from the shoulder and knocked the General down. The General at once lost his temper, took the prize fighter and threw him out of the window and broke his leg. Apart from having enormous strength and a violent temper, however, he had a warm heart; he sent his victim wine and special foods as long as he was laid up, and paid his doctor's bills.

Another story is told of him when he was Governor of Jamaica. At one time there was an epidemic of suicide among the black troops, and the General was determined to put an end to it. He paraded all the men and addressed them as follows: "It has been brought to my attention lately that a good many of the troops have committed suicide by blowing their brains out, and I intend to put a stop to it, so the next man that blows his brains out, I will blow my own out and go to Hell and drill you to Eternity".

When the Duke of Kent died, the Duchess gave Conran the Duke's sword, in gratitude for an incident in Gibraltar, when he was of service to the Duke in quelling a mutiny. The General was also reported to have brought back an Indian shawl and given it to Queen Victoria, when she was a little girl. He also brought her a magnificent collection of shells from the West Indies and the family relate that the Queen, when a little girl, often used to sit on the old General's knee and listen to him telling stories of his campaigns in India.

The General earned the nickname in the service of "Tiger" Conran, from an incident when he and some brother officers were camped in a jungle in India. There were fires lit all round the camp, to keep off the tigers, but suddenly a tiger rushed into the camp, seized one of the officers and carried him off. The General at once pursued the tiger, fired a pistol which made it drop the officer, whom he carried back into camp.

Kate Conran died on 27 August, 1884, and in 1888 Col. Conran remarried.

ELIZA My great grandmother was born on 10 September, 1802. As she, or at least her husband, Major Henry Colden Antill, whom she married on 9 October, 1818, is dealt with fully in the story of the Antills, I will say very little about her now.

One little story I found amusing was a letter from her to her "dear brother" Horatio: "I wrote you a short time ago to say Selina (her daughter) was going to be married to Captain Pockley and hoped you would not blame me for allowing her to engage herself to one so little known to us. I have written to Thomas to ask him to give me £20 to pay part of the wedding expenses and I hope my dear brother you will assist me with that sum also..." This was written just 3 months before the wedding. I cannot imagine how it was that she was so badly off that she had to beg a few pounds to get her daughter married; her husband provided liberally for her in his will.

EDWARD SPENCER was born on 16 February, 1805. In 1825, with his brother Tom, he petitioned Governor Macquarie, saying that, "being possessed of considerable property, and desirous of becoming farmers", and soliciting "such Grants of Land and other Indulgences as Your Excellency in your wisdom from their property and good conduct deem fit". Macquarie wrote across the bottom of their petition: "5 September, 1821. Messrs. Thomas and Edward Wills will be permitted to become Settlers and as such each of them will receive a grant of Five hundred acres of land and Himself and Three Government men on the Store for 6 months from the date of their taking possession of their land respectively. L.M." Beside this is the pencil note, "Messrs. Wills reside at No. 96 George St."

Although their “Good conduct” was mentioned in their petition, 6 months later Edward Spencer Wills was fined £5 for assaulting Joseph Underwood, his step-father’s Executor. Edward went to England to study law, and in 1828 Dr Redfern made him a co-trustee to a codicil in his will, with W.C.Wentworth, H.C.Antill, Tom Wills and Sarah Redfern. That same year Edward Wills committed suicide; he was only 23. A newspaper report of the inquest described him as a “law student and a young gentleman of large property, who destroyed himself in a very determined manner...” The doctor gave evidence that he often warned Wills, who “studied excessively”, to relax. He found him lying on his bed, with his throat cut, and a “desperate gash on each wrist, as though he had at first tried to effect self-destruction by dividing the arteries”. A pencil note beside the body said: “Though guilty in some respects, yet if all were known, I should not be severely condemned. Look at what I have suffered - Hampstead, Cambridge and London to wit”. The article finished: “He was a young man of honour and truth, and possessed good property.”

ELIZABETH SELINA was born on 30 November, 1807, but died on 18 January, 1811.

HORATIO SPENCER HOWE was born on 5 October, 1811, and it will be remembered that it was exactly a year to the day after his birth that his mother remarried George Howe, the Government Printer. His childhood was spent at 96 George St, with his brothers and sisters, George Howe’s eldest son Robert, 16 years Horatio’s senior, and the 4 younger illegitimate Howe children. His step-father died when Horatio was 10, and his mother died 2 years later. He was apprenticed to Robert Howe in the printing trade, which was how he came to be at the Gazette office when the latter was horse-whipped by Redfern.

The waters of Sydney Cove were literally at his back door. Practically every issue of the paper he helped to print carried exciting stories of sailors escaping from cannibals on romantic South Sea islands; of the almost daily arrival of ships from the Feejees, the Friendly Isles, New Zealand, the Marquesas and Society Islands and Norfolk Island, with cargoes of seal and sperm oil, kauri gum and cedar, flax and sandal-wood, spices, cocoa-nut oil, arrowroot and other exotic products. These and other smells assailed his nostrils, and the creaking of rigging, the squawking of the gulls and shouts of the sailors sounded in his ears as he sat at his desk. It was small wonder that the 15-year old lad found himself irresistibly drawn to all this nautical excitement.

Frank Clune says what started him on writing his Bound for Botany Bay was an article in the Gazette of 29 November, 1826 inserted by the Editor, Robert Howe, to say that his apprentice, Horatio Spencer Howe Wills, was missing: “Anyone giving information that will lead to his recovery will be adequately rewarded, as it is feared some accident has befallen him; but should anyone encourage him or secrete him... they will be rigidly prosecuted”. Just one year later, and a week after Horatio had jumped in to help his brother-in-law, Dr Redfern, against his employer, Robert Howe, in the horse-whipping brawl, Howe put another notice in the Gazette: “Whereas H.S.Wills, an Apprentice in my Employ, is continually neglecting his Work and otherwise conducting himself in an unbecoming and disrespectful Manner: This is to Caution all Persons, at their Peril, from harbouring, encouraging, employing or secreting the said, or any other of my Apprentices, on Pain of rigid Prosecution”. It is a fair bet that when Horatio ran away, he sought sanctuary either with his sister, Sarah Redfern at Minto, or with his brother-in-law, H.C. Antill at Picton. Years later Antill’s daughter, Alice Moggridge, included in her memoirs a long article. This purports to show that Horatio, when a lad of 13, - he was 15 when Howe advertised him as missing - evinced such strong desire for a sea-faring life that, despite his mother’s strong opposition, the “affectionate, generous boy” succumbed to his craving for adventure, “cast all discretion to the wind, and ran away to sea.”

The story was that “the infatuated lad” had signed on as a cabin boy on a small craft trading with China. After some weeks, news arrived that the ship had been wrecked with the loss of all hands. “Great was the horror which this sad intelligence called forth, and very deeply was young

Wills mourned by his sorrowing family and friends, for the handsome and high-spirited young fellow had been a general favourite". Two years went by, until one bright morning "Horace himself - or his ghost, as some thought - was seen striding calmly up the street in Sydney, and very amusing it was to see the sudden start and wide-eyed amazement with which everyone turned to gaze curiously at the tall, strapping youth in rough sailor's garb, wild-eyed, with dark flowing locks, his skin tanned to copper colour, and carrying in his hand a native spear. Children drew fearfully back with scared looks, to hide behind each other as the apparition approached. His mirthful spirit takes in the situation, and he secretly enjoys the commotions his presence has evoked. He glares fiercely and shakes his spear at them, scattering the small fry in all directions - slowly he is recognised by his friends, as he walks coolly into the open door of his mother's house. Within is a clamour of loving voices and sobs of joy as they listen and gaze, still half incredulous, to the voice and features of one "who was dead and is alive again". Friends come streaming in and listen wonderingly, as he paces up and down the room recounting his experiences with sparkling eyes and barbaric gestures".

Horace Wills later wrote his own version of his adventure in The Country Lad. The ship, on which he ran away, the Sarcy-Gel (Saucy Girl), had a villainous captain, half English, half Portuguese. "If his commands were not promptly obeyed, a brutal kick or a blow on the head with a belaying pin followed hard upon me. I soon found that my duties as a cabin boy comprised many other menial offices". After a few weeks, he said, the "rotten old tub" was driven in a violent storm on to the coral reef of a rocky island unknown to the captain. Mountainous seas were rapidly breaking up the ship; the long-boat was manned but was quickly swamped and lost with all hands. He and two ship-mates, clinging to the rigging, were washed overboard and "cast bruised and half-drowned on the rocky beach". His two mates were immediately killed by the "ferocious savages" and he thought his last moment had come, when "his eyes rested on the form of a gigantic savage standing apart, resting on his spear and looking indifferently at the barbaric scene before him. By his side stood a little girl, her hair decked out with brilliant feathers, her little body swathed in strings of shells". He dashed towards them, flung himself on his knees with his arms around the child, "looking into her face and uttering words of entreaty. She stared at me with starting eyes for a moment, but with childish instinct quickly read my meaning. She looked up at her father, uttering a few rapid words. Meanwhile the fierce throng had surrounded me, as with wild whoops they tried to tear me from the child. I could feel their flexible, sinuous hands about my throat as I pressed close to the child. One huge monster with glaring eye-balls and savage grin raised his tom-a-hawk to dash out my brains, when the weapon was whirled from his hands by a touch of the Chief's spear, who at the same time uttered a loud word of command, upon which the excited crowd instantly fell back and began to disperse".

Horace Wills went on to describe his life amongst the savages on the island of Uga Tangi. He rapidly learned their language, and the Chief, Mattai, before long told him that he proposed to adopt him, make him a great Chief, and marry him to the little girl who had saved him - Talinga - as soon as she was marriageable. After two years on the island, a vessel suddenly appeared at sea one morning, standing in for the island. Horace recognised his only chance of escape, and when the ship's boat was nearing the island he scribbled on the fly-leaf of a book he had managed to save: "For God's sake, do not land. You will be murdered. I am a white man detained in captivity. Send me a note by the bearer in this book, explaining whether you wish to trade with the natives and I will do my best to help you. Give the bearer some little present as an earnest of good faith". His book was returned to him with the message; "We are bound for Sydney and have run short of water, reduced to almost the last drop. We shall die unless we get a supply at once. Direct the natives to bring one or two large canoes to be laden with empty beakers. If they are filled and brought back to us we will give large presents ... We are anxious to rescue you. Can you propose any plan and we will do all we can to help you escape".

Two canoes were sent out to the ship, and returned laden with empty water barrels, the crew being proudly arrayed in strings of beads, brightly coloured cottons, etc. The barrels were filled

from a stream, and when they returned to the ship, Horace's book went with them, this time bearing the following message: "At midnight have a boat lying in deep silence off the Western shore, at the point of a long reef which you see running into the sea. I will be waiting at this point. It will be quite dark, but I will imitate the cry of a seagull, and on hearing the signal flash a light and approach silently, swiftly. I will be ready." Let Horace tell the story of his escape himself.

"That night I did not dare to sleep, I dressed myself in the serge suit, which I had always kept by me in hopeful view of this occasion. My wigwam was open to the heavens, and I could tell the time accurately by the position of the stars. The time dragged heavily as I lay watching the silent stars as they moved in their solemn course. At length my reckoning told me that the time of midnight had arrived - the time which counted as life or death for me. Scarcely daring to breathe, I crept to the opening and drew myself silently through, pausing to listen; I could hear heavy breathing of the savages lying about. Not a sign of movement disturbed the sleepers. My heart thumped heavily against my side with the deep suspense of the moment. Softly I glided through the sandy grass till I reached the beach. Then swift as the wind I sped with my bare feet along the sand, till I got among the rocks. Steering then became a little difficult, the darkness being intense. Still I made good progress, feeling my way over the slippery boulders, and splashing into the slimy pools and spongy seaweed. Once I nearly came to grief by treading on the back of one of the enormous tortoises which abound in the island. He scrambled away with a great clatter, which terrified me. I paused to listen intently but could hear no noise but the soft swish of the incoming tide. Gaining at length the extreme point I gave the signal - the cry of the seagull. Instantly a light flashed for a second, only a few hundred yards off shore and Oh! joyful sound - the cautious sweep of the oars as the boat crept closer to the point where I stood. At the moment a wild yell broke over the night. My flight had been discovered. Footsteps and voices were swiftly approaching, despite the darkness. I stood a moment incapable. A terrible fear came over my mind. If the boat touched the shore my would-be rescuers would be instantly seized and murdered before my eyes and I powerless to save them. I could hear the rush of feet and the panting breath of the pursuers close behind, as I slid silently into the dark water and struck out with all my strength. Again the cry of the seagull and again the quick flash of a light not a hundred yards before me. Desperately I clove the waves with my strong arms. Practised swimmers were behind and gaining on me. A phosphorescent gleam indicated the position of the approaching boat. Another vigorous stoke or two for dear life. "Lend a hand", I gasped frantically; "Aye, Aye", came from deep throats. Strong arms clutched me and hauled me, panting, over the side. "Give way." I shouted hysterically, flinging my exhausted body down like a log at the bottom of the boat. Promptly the men bent to their oars. The boat leaped and bounded over the waves. Not a word was uttered. The sounds behind us dropped away. The swimmers had given up the chase. But suddenly a fierce yell burst from the rocks. The phosphorescent stream in our wake had disclosed the position of the flying boat. A rush of spears whizzed overhead and dropped with a sharp swish into the water around us. One only struck the stern of the boat with a dull thud and strange to say, this parting trophy was found the next morning - the sharp green flint-point still sticking in the wood, and on the spear-head I read the meaning of those barbaric characters burnt into the wood with a sharp red-hot flint "Mattai - Chief - Benini Tribe - Uga Tangi".

He could hear Talinga's "musical voice calling him back, floating over the silent water". The May Queen set sail for Sydney the following morning. "The lifting mists disclosed the faint outline of my prison island, lying low in the water. Silently I stand and gaze, with something in my throat like a sob of joy, at the palm-crowned hills from whose summit I had so softly bent my yearning eyes across the tumbling ocean which separated me from all I held dear on earth. Farewell, Talinga, my little champion and playmate. Forgive and forget your recreant lover, and bury your sorrows... Slowly the scene is swallowed in distance. It fades and dies, as with a half sigh I take a last long look at the coral fringed shores of Uga Tangi".

The whole of this recital was pure imagination. There was no island called Uga Tangi; there

was no vessel called the Saucy Girl, nor even one named the May Queen. The two notices inserted in the Gazette by Robert Howe to say his young apprentice was missing were too close together for Horace to have been “two years among savages”.

Where young Horace went, and when, remains a mystery, but the Currency Lad of 16 February, 1833, carried the story of six sailors aboard the Eliza Frances, Capt. Lawson, being charged with conspiring to revolt on the high seas. Capt. Lawson said they complained of not having enough meat to eat, and refused to work until they got more. They were whaling at the time, and getting a pound of meat a day, but claimed that their ration was a pound and a quarter. Horatio Wills pleaded for leniency for the men who, if found guilty, would be hanged. He said, “As we” (meaning himself) “have performed a tribulation on board a South Seas whaler, we are better capable of giving an opinion on the subject than those of our readers who have never enjoyed that enviable distinction. Although 1 lb. of meat is the general allowance on board merchantmen, it is far too little for South Seamen, constantly exposed in a tropical climate.” Wills advised our hardy “spouters” never to ship on board a whaler unless “a pound and a half of meat is expressly provided in the articles”. He begged for mercy, and said, “In our next issue we will give an article on the subject, written by ourselves shortly after our arrival from a South Sea voyage”.

The next issue, of 28 February, 1833, had an article by Horatio, entitled “A Whaling Voyage”. The article is full of whaling terms, and well describes a whale chase; “When 2 or 3 vessels are in company, you will see 12 or 14 boats in the chase. Here it is that the Sydney boys show their superiority for, being looked down upon by English and Yankee, they delight in favouring them with the carving on their stern-posts. Even the Hobart Town Slashers must rest satisfied with secondary honours in this chase. When 14 boats are engaged in a large show of whales, the ocean seems alive. Whales spouting blood, throwing their flukes, breaching out of the water - boats flying in all directions, some capsized, others smashed; forming a grand and terrifying spectacle. There you see a boat attacked by a large whale with open jaws; and I have heard that 3 boats have thus been destroyed by one fish. One of our boys perished in this manner. And after all, if your owner be not blessed with a common share of humanity, you are favoured with a hard biscuit and a mouthful of cold water”. Maybe Horace went whaling during the missing year.

When Robert Howe was drowned, in January, 1829, Horace Wills took over the editing of the Gazette. Not content with this job, on 25 August 1832, he started what was, in effect, a rival newspaper, the Currency Lad, which however lasted only 9 months.

To resume the story of Horatio’s life; A few weeks after the horsewhipping brawl, the Gazette printed the report of a court action, Wills v. Howe. Horatio, then aged 16, claimed ill-treatment from his master, Robert Howe; William Charles Wentworth appeared for Horatio. He said that one day, “about 9 or 10 months ago, Robert Howe called him up to his office and then proceeded to flog him”. He said one of the printers held him while Howe flogged him severely and inflicted a wound over his eye. He said Howe came into the printing office, asked him how he dared interfere between him and Dr. Redfern, and struck him a violent blow on the face with his clenched fist. Horace threw a bottle at his employer, which missed. He then ran away and refused to return, and issued the summons for assault. Several of Howe’s employees gave evidence against Horatio that he used bad language; that he had run away in a boat a year ago; that he complained about the food, and that he had lost a manuscript. After hearing Mr. Wentworth, the Magistrate stated that Horatio had failed to prove his case. By the law, a master was entitled to inflict moderate punishment on his apprentice, and what Horatio had received the Bench considered to have been brought about by his own bad conduct. A warrant had already been issued against Horatio to return to service, and as he had failed to do so, he was sentenced to 28 days detention at the House of Correction. The warrant, however, would be allowed to remain in the office, provided Horatio would return to his master and behave as an apprentice ought to do.

In the 1828 Census, Horace was shown as lodging with Mrs. McLeod, of Princes Street. On 2 December, 1833, Horatio Wills, Bachelor aged 22, Settler at Lower Minto, married Elizabeth

McGuire, Spinster, of Parramatta. When their first-born, Thomas Wentworth, was baptised at St. Andrews, Sydney, on 11 January, 1837, the register showed the father as "Horatio Spencer Wills, of Sydney and Molonglo, Settler". He had taken up property at Molonglo in 1836.

When his elder brother, Tom, overlanded to Port Phillip, he doubtless sent back to Horatio glowing accounts of life and conditions there. Horatio decided to leave Molonglo and follow Tom to Victoria. Accordingly on 29 April, 1840, Wills and his family, with their servants and 5,000 sheep and 500 cattle set out on the trek. This included crossing the Murrumbidgee and the Murray, for which latter crossing he constructed a rough bridge for the loaded dray. From there he followed the tracks of Major Mitchell to the Grampians. He named the place where he arrived "Ararat". Asked why, he said "Because, like the Ark, I rested there." A year to the day after they set out, their first slab hut was built, finished and occupied by his men.

Governor Sir George Gipps wrote to Lord Stanley in May, 1842, saying that Mr. La Trobe had had a letter from Mr. Horatio Wills from Mt. William in March, complaining of the aggression of the blacks, and asking for increased protection. Wills's letter referred to the "present alarming state of the district from the intrusion of the Wild Tribes of the Aborigines... At a remote distance from the Magisterial authority, we are subject to loss of life and property... we submit in many instances to loss of property without repining, but when life is at stake... we shall be compelled in self defence to measures that may involve us in unpleasant circumstances... For the last 12 months our stations have been plundered, our stock driven off and our men attacked by them. In my own case I took no steps to prevent the loss of property, till from property, life was threatened, my shepherds rushed by natives, and threats of bloodshed held out to them. I then thought it high time to interfere. Strong parties from the distant Tribes are here, and the lives of my people have been openly threatened or attempted. Now I have frequently, at the hazard of my own life, used means to effect a good understanding with the natives in my immediate vicinity, I do not feel myself called upon to venture it again unless with arms in my hands, to restrain the lawless and sanguinary incursions of distant predatory Tribes... the cattle herd of my immediate neighbour from 1,200 head are now supposed not to exceed 600 on the run or its immediate vicinity... within the last 7 days he had his best horses killed in endeavouring to collect his cattle. This is too serious a loss to be submitted to with patience. The Blacks of my neighbourhood assure me that the "Wild Blacks" have destroyed a considerable number, and have frequently urged me to go out with them, to drive their enemies away from my neighbours' cattle. They attacked my shepherd, and threatened the lives of those at my head station. This was more than I could submit to. A few evenings ago, one of our 'lubras' having informed me that a certain Black had been at the camp the previous night, and had expressed a determination to take the life of one of my shepherds, I thought I would endeavour to take him into custody. In order to avoid bloodshed I took but one man with me and a native to pilot us. It was dark, about 9 o'clock, when I came up to the fire, and being on foot we approached the Camp without being perceived. A feeble light was emitted by the dying fires, and I could distinguish nothing but a mass of Blacks, with a great quantity of weapons around them. One glance at the numerous war-like implements convinced me that they were strangers.

"Without the slightest intention of hurting them, I stood on a log at about the distance of a yard from some of the sleepers and desired them in their own language to remain quiet. The man nearest sprang at me. I stepped back off the log and fell over a stump into a large hole. At this critical moment the Black stumbled also across the log on which I stood, but not having so heavy a fall as I had, was on his legs before me and was making a second charge when the man I had with me fired at and wounded him; not to hurt him much, however, I am happy to state, but sufficient to cause him to fall back on the main body. Hearing the rustle of spears but not wishing to injure the Natives, I fired over their heads and they retreated.



*Elizabeth Wills née McGuire wife of
Horatio Spencer Howe Wills.*



Horatio Spencer Howe Wills.



*“Lexington”, Ararat, Victoria, built by
Horatio Spencer Howe Wills in 1840.*

“Before I conclude this abrupt address, I ask leave to point out to Your Honour the injury inflicted upon the grazing interests of the Colony by the present method of granting Black reserves. The finest Stations are usually selected and it destroys the confidence of the sheep-farmers”. He went on that he heard that a new proposal “will render useless the runs of Kirk, Thompson, Bunbury and myself... this will be very detrimental to the best interests of the Colony. Let the Blacks have the country unmolested to range upon, but I trust that such a hurtful system of extensive reserves will not be persisted in.

“From a severe fall which I met with a few days ago, your Honour I hope will pardon the manner in which this letter is written...

I beg to subscribe myself,

Your Honour's Most Obedient Servant,
Horatio Wills.”

From Horatio’s diary, which he began at “Lexington Station”, Mount William, Victoria, in April, 1843, “on the table from town with its shining oilcloth, the chairs with damask coverings, and other comforts we had previously denied ourselves”, we get an insight into the man, and the conditions of the time. He hopes that his son Tom is spared, and “abjures him that the chief state of his mind should be the cultivation of the domestic affections”. He says that, in the 10 years since his marriage, on his station Burra Bra on the Murrumbidgee and at Ararat, “the privations have been greater than our children could suspect... In possession of 8,000 sheep, we look forward to ease and contentment, congratulating ourselves on the probability of providing a good education for our children, and leaving to them the fruits of our frugality and industry”. He went on, “My wife Elizabeth is the star of my destiny. From a wild youth, she had centred my affections on our domestic hearth and may they continue to blossom there”. He gives a brief description of other members of his family; Tom and his wife and little Kate at “Lucerne”; his half-sister, nee Jane Howe, living with her husband Captain Harrison 23 miles from Melbourne; “my eldest sister, Sarah Redfern Alexander, lately left Sydney with her husband James for Europe, where lives her son

William Redfern - by her first marriage - who was lately married to a Miss Walker, Glasgow. My sister Eliza Antill with her husband and family reside on their estate, Dawes Field, Cow Pastures, N.S.W.”

The diary goes on to talk of the varying prices for stock. “When I left the Murrumbidgee, my stock were advertised for sale in the Melbourne papers - £40 per pair of working bullocks, and 25/- for sheep. Soon afterwards I sold my cattle with the station, consisting of 311 head of Captain Bunbury, for 6 guineas per head!

“Thereafter cattle were down to £2 and sheep 10/-. A few days ago 2,000 sheep were disposed of by auction at 2/6 per head! Thank God for all His mercies. I see His hand in all things!” In November he was giving vent to the familiar moan of graziers about wool prices; “The wool clip of 1842 should have cleared the advance of 1/- per pound and would have cleared some small claims. To my surprise the Agents presented a claim for £250, and assured me there would be a further claim for £250, on account of overdrawn wool at France”. He was happy that the wheat was looking well, “and my trust is in God. Without Him a sparrow falls not to the ground. I am happy to say that my mind becomes hourly more familiarised with religious impressions, but still I cannot correct myself of the profane habit of vulgar swearing. But the pernicious habit of smoking I am rejoiced at so far overcome as not to require the use of tobacco but once in four and twenty hours, and that after tea. I now use meat once a day, and in small quantities. I am still compelled to the use of aperients”. He runs on for several pages about leading a better religious life, and says “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved”. But then he goes on; “I was under the necessity to inflict correction with a stick upon one of my shepherds, for determined perverseness. I also had some angry words with the shearers while washing sheep”. Then he laments; “Alas, poor Tall Boy, my noble dog, expired before my eyes. In 6 weeks I have lost my two black boys, ‘Devil’ and ‘Johnny’, my pet kangaroo, my old bullock ‘Traveller’, and my poor dog. What next?”

By November, 1846, his flock had grown to 20,400 sheep. An amusing entry in the diary says that when family measurements were taken, his own height was only 5ft. 7ins. It will be recalled, perhaps, that the fanciful “Two Years Among Savages” referred to himself as “the tall, strapping youth”.

In 1850 the new house was well under way. He wrote happily to his sister, Jane Harrison, at “Swanwater”; “We have had some peaches, plums, melons, etc... My new mansion is progressing and my mill is at work”. He drew a plan of the house, saying, “You will see it will be of fair proportions. The cellar is about 7’ deep, by 18’ by 10’. Light and air from 2 gratings on each side of the front door...”

The family, Horatio, his wife and 4 children - Tom had left for Rugby the year before - moved in to their “new mansion” on 21 August, 1851. Horatio’s delight in the new home is evident. He describes the position of the table before the front window, his books around him, his classical dictionary, his maps and mathematical instruments, the implements of native warfare on the mantelpiece, his pistol and other weapons nearby. His library was stocked with hundreds of books. Among a list of sundry goods consigned to him from London were: 3 barrels Roman Cement; 5 puncheons glass and earthenware; 4 quart decanters enclosed in above; 4 pint decanters; cottage pianoforte £42.18.0 ; case of plate, etc; 2 case of books; 1 case of globes; 1 case of floor-cloths; 1 case of rugs; 1 case of perfumery and 10 hogsheads, 2½ tons Taylor & Walker’s stout. Another consignment included 50 tons of rock salt, and iron and steel. Wills was the first man in the Colony to import strychnine for poisoning dingoes, and wire netting for keeping them off his runs. He imported merino sheep from Saxony and 50 miles of wire netting, at 2/6 per yard, from Austria. This works out at £11,000!

Again his religious convictions come up: “I consider that anyone who, after mature deliberation and a conscientious examination of the evidence of true Christianity, can place his hand on his heart and attest his full conviction of its truth, has more to be grateful for than he can ever

find words to express. The man who knows that his Redeemer liveth can submit to all the vexations of this world”.

Wills was President of the Agricultural Society, and was very pleased one year at winning the gold medal for the best wheat crop in the district. Visitors were frequent at the homestead; Bishop Perry visited “Lexington”, as did Dean Macartney, Capt. Fyans, Hall of Hall’s Gap, Allan of Allanvale, the Harrisons, Dr Power, the Tom Antills from the Bank and many others.

Gold was discovered in N.S.W. and Victoria in 1851 and in July of that year the pastoral district of Port Phillip cut itself adrift from N.S.W. and became a separate Colony named after England’s young Queen. The population was 77,000. Though there were at the time 6 million sheep in Victoria, a lot of meat was required to feed the hungry flood of immigrants which poured in, seeking fortunes on the goldfields. Wills’s “hands”, like so many others, melted away to the diggings, and for a time he tried employing Chinese shepherds, but this did not work out. One day, saying a new overseer had offended them, nine infuriated Chinese approached the house, shouting and gesticulating wildly, and armed with shear blades fixed to poles. The trouble was eventually smoothed over and bloodshed averted, and the men were sacked. Horatio recalled that when the old Chinese cook saw the others all going off he burst into tears and ran after them just as he was, leaving behind all his belongings.

Horatio decided to move to the city, where chances for education of his young family were so much better. In October he received an offer from a William Francis Splatt and his partner Charles Pitt Tynsent, of Melbourne, to purchase his properties, and accepted it. The contract showed that there were 28,000 or 29,000 sheep, “more or less”, at “Lexington”, and on “Mokepille”, 3,000 cattle “more or less”, 8 saddle horses, 2 draft horses, 2 bullock drays, 24 working bullocks, 2 carts, 1 mansion, etc, etc, 1 boiling place, 1 woolshed and adjuncts, and 30 tons of rock salt. The total price was £35,000, and included “the wool of the present clip now nearly completed”. The combined area of the two places was 120,000 acres. The Wills moved to Port Henry, near Geelong, where Horace built a large house which he named “Belle Vue”, on account of the view of Corio Bay, with the You Yangs in the background.

Correspondence from the firm of Redfern and Martin, in London, shows that at their request, Horace had bought gold to send them to sell, profits to be split. They urged him to “buy plenty of Port Phillip gold”, it being the richest gold in the world, and so much better than the Sydney gold. After paying all expenses, it netted £4/0/4 an ounce for the partners.

In 1853 Horace wrote a long letter to young Tom at Rugby; it showed that his son appeared more interested in games than his classes. “You continue to write with a scrawl that would make a writing master eat his nails”, he wrote, “You should, at 18, be able to write in English correctly and well, to write and talk French and have a pretty fair knowledge of Latin... You must shortly commence your studies for a profession - law is the most honourable, the merchant also has a fair time of it. If you have the brains, take the Law. Come out here 5 or 6 years hence a barrister. Remember that everything you do is for yourself, and if you do not succeed in life and obtain the reputation of a clever, gentlemanly fellow, no one will be to blame but yourself.” His family were then living in 4 tents, and had a large wooden kitchen covered with a tarpaulin. “It rains hard and we have very rough weather... Tenting is better than town life... Next Spring we shall have a boat and nets... One night last week two men below us shot 170 ducks in the Bay... We have 5 working bullocks, 4 cart and plough horses, 2 carriage and 1 saddle horse... £50 an acre has been offered for land beyond me. There will shortly be war between Austria and France I think”.

In 1854 Horatio Wills was a Member of the Legislative Council, and in 1856 he became a Member of the first Legislative Assembly in Victoria. By 1859 he was in London, and visited his sons Cedric, Horace and Egbert at their school at Bonn, in Germany. He went to Ireland - to Londonderry, Dublin and Killarney, and kissed the Blarney Stone. On his way back, he struck trouble. “Left Cork Harbour and got clear by 6 o’clock at night and then, my dear wife, had the

satisfaction of being in the Irish Channel in a paddle steamer during the whole of that dreadful night in which the Royal Charter and scores of other vessels were lost. It was indeed a frightful night. When the hurricane rose to the highest pitch of its fury - then, Bessie dear, comfort came to me because my Will was made - and I had provided for you thank God. However we reached the Haven of Milford by 11 next morning, only 3 hours after the usual time of arriving. I have never been seasick in any weather or sea for 25 years, but that night I roared to the roaring ocean on the lee quarter of the ship. But the worst of it was, running from shelter to the lee side to perform that most pleasing operation, the gale threw my cloak over my head, and kept it there till my very eyes nearly burst out of their sockets. Can you imagine my superhuman efforts to keep it in till I relieved myself of its folds. Then, amongst the most fearful howling of the storm, I was nearly half an hour in convulsions of laughter. Such ludicrous scenes do occur when people are in a funk - upon my word, my health suffered from that laughter. One sea struck our vessel under the counter and jumped the great glass globe from the swinging cabin lamp on the floor in pieces. Our binnacle lamp was extinguished. In fact, Bessie, it was a night to be remembered by all those who were in it and came out safely. But thankful my dear wife, for my escape, I wish you to request our clergyman to give thanks for escape from tempest in the Church on Sunday. In this fail not. I hope to leave by 5 December. God bless you”.

He bought a 25 horse-power engine, and said, “I think, my dear Bessie, I shall order a nice family vehicle called a Sociable, with money I shall save by going Clipper instead of going over-land. It will only make a difference of time of 2 or 3 weeks and I shall save some £90 at least - the Sociable will cost about £70”.

Horatio was hardly back in Victoria before his restless spirit carried him up to Queensland in search of fresh pastures. After “a somewhat agreeable passage of 9 days”, he set about looking for a sheep station. He found a property called “Cullin-la-ringo”, about 180 miles west of Rockhampton, on the Nogoia River. Peter Macdonald had taken it up in 1859, and Wills leased it from him. By November, 1860, he was back at “Belle Vue”. He wrote to a solicitor, expressing concern about his Will. He said: “When I was crossing the Channel from Cork to Milford Haven, when in great danger I was consoled by reflections, “Thank God I have left a Will”. His main concern was that, though he was baptised “Horatio Spencer Howe Wills”, variations in signature might render his Will invalid.

By February, 1861, after Tom had returned from Rugby, Horace embarked on his great trek to “Cullin-la-ringo”. He left Sydney with 10,000 sheep, and left Brisbane on 5 February 1861. He wrote 3 days after that, from Ipswich, describing conditions on the journey. “Teams, all well, passed through here this morning and will be at camp by 10 o’clock. There is no doing anything with bullocks after that hour. For my part I do not suffer now from the heat. I have worn the blue coat for the first time today. It is quite cool. Tom and I camp under tarpaulin tent, both ends open at night, with a small cow-dung fire to keep off the mosquitoes, which it does effectively. We have made stages from South Brisbane of 10½ and 6 miles - some bogging on the hills, which retarded us. But it is not my intention to go beyond 6 or 7 miles a day. The bullocks, strange to us and to each other, are improving. We have 32 bullocks and 3 horses, of which I use one for the cart. I intend to buy a cob for Baker or Tom. The road for some distance ahead is, I am informed, very bad. The rams are improving fast. Grass very good... I am anxious about the Station. Mr. Turner, Manager of the Union Bank, Brisbane, will do what is necessary in money matters”. (Author’s note: By a remarkable coincidence, this Mr. Turner was my wife’s great grandfather!) Macdonald must write to the Chief Commissioner here, transferring Cullin-la-ringo 4 blocks, Peringawa 1 block and Coorabella 1 block to me as early as possible in March or this month, and then Mr. Turner, if you inform him, will see after it. When you receive information to the Commissioner’s favourable report, you pay £1,000 to Macdonald at the rate of 6 blocks £166/15/- per block”.

He wrote again from Rosalie Plains on 28 February, “I have had some difficulties since leaving Brisbane, I assure you. From there to 30 miles back from this place, we were in low

country, and such roads are to be remembered during one's whole existence. The night we ascended the Great or Main Range, we did not arrive at our camp (at the township of Toowoomba) till 10 o'clock at night - we had great work in ascending the two miles of that range... On our way up one of our bloodhound pups died from distemper. Previously a ram died from the effects of the passage. Well, after the dog Ned Kenny lost a ram which, having fought a pitched battle with one of his brethren, got groggy and Mr. Ned lost the run of him. Then a bullock dropped dead in the team - from excessive heat, I suppose. Then worst of all, poor Henry Reid was drowned while bathing in Gatton Creek. I had to send witnesses back twice to the Coroner. Reid was the best man we had. His death gave me such concern... We lost the second of the bloodhound pups yesterday from distemper... Tom and I last Sunday penetrated a dense scrub and shot 2 good sized wallabies. Before reaching Rosalie we were (all hands), 3 days without meat. On the third day Tom and I rode considerably in advance of the teams with our guns. I was faint from starvation, - so was Tom - when up sprung a paddy melon - a very little kangaroo, not so large as a Kangaroo rat. I let fly and shot him dead. In 2 seconds, off went his jacket - up went a fire - and the poor little paddy melon, in less than 20 minutes was, without salt or bread, down the throats of the Capt'n and your humble servant! I have not felt "the thing" after so long an abstinence, till tonight... We shall in the first place go on to Dalby ... This Downs climate is as cool as a cucumber, though rather cold at night. The scrubs are full of wallaby, which is first rate for our dogs... Your old man, however, has felt the 3 days abstinence from meat. The old rascal must take better care of himself... I am always up at 4, and after the bullocks. We have never lost a bullock since we first obtained them - no hobbles - bells and early and late attendance". By April they were at Jimbour, where they had branded 4,000 sheep, having by now 10,250 in all. Mrs. Baker had had a daughter, and Horace had been midwife. He expected to reach Rockhampton in about 7 weeks, if the weather held. By July he was "25 miles from the Dawson, having passed safely through the 16-miles scrub. He had had a letter from his wife, one from Dr Vanderbyl, and one from "Mr. and Mrs. Alexander" - a rather formal way to refer to his sister. "We have had very hard work the last few days during our passage through the scrub. The day before yesterday Tom and I were up and breakfasted 2 hours before daylight. The bullocks were yarded the night before in a hastily built but substantial stockyard. Tom went off with 2 shepherds with the first flock - we have 3 - whilst I tailed the bullocks till 9 o'clock, and a pretty job I had. We with the teams started about 10, and we did not reach our camp till 10 at night, the moon favouring us, and then only completed our 4 miles! Locking wheels and 30 bullocks on in places. When within half a mile of where the sheep were, we were detained 2 hours in the extraction of the dray from a "fix", ascending a steep bank the second dray with 18 bullocks on and 3 drovers broke from her moorings, a chain snapping just at the summit, dragging the 4 after bullocks at a pretty good pace, as you may suppose, but were providentially saved by a tree, against which one of the uprights of the wool-press stuck firmly, (this was the first wool-press brought to Australia) and so saved the whole affair - otherwise over the bank would have gone dray-load, bullocks and all. Thank God we reached camp in safety, tired, weak and hungry." They travelled all the following night again until about half an hour before dawn. "I take care of your son, dear wife, for I am always up before day - make the fire - boil a pot of tea which we bolt between us - go after our horses - then the bullocks - after which we have breakfast and off!... Mrs. Mannion lambled whilst we were detained by rain for 3 days this side of Presto - a stout ewe lamb. We are putting our artillery in order today. I had to leave 4 tons of goods for carriers at Rockhampton, for I thought 2 tons enough for each of our drays. I just observed Tom showing Mrs. Baker how to point a revolver. We expect to reach the Dawson 4 days after this, then 18 miles to the Comet, 25 to Albinia Downs, where we shall lamb - and shear, if necessary. We commence lambing in September". He went on to say that after Cedric had been 12 months at his present school at Bonn, he should go to some "wool stapler's establishment in England, or Negritta lamb-breeding establishment in Germany for 12 months to acquire a knowledge of wool, its classification, etc, and then come out to help his brother with the Station". He refers to his wife's worry about money matters, and the possible necessity of selling some of the properties they owned, including 12 acres

at Footscray. He went on: "Never mind, my dear, once on our Station, all will be well. The Commissioner might have said - but he was afraid, I suppose, of causing envy - 'This is the best Station in the Colonies'. I go to prepare perhaps a place for you in your old age, where you will have your sons and their families about you in comfort". He exhorted her to write to the children at school in Germany, and to say to Egbert: "Eggy, you will study chemistry. You will be bye and bye, if you work hard, Egbert Spencer Wills, the great Australian wine manufacturer".

A Power of Attorney made by Wills in favour of his wife on 21 August, 1861, referred to the "12 acres of land, more or less, near to Footscray, Melbourne, purchased by me from Charles Lynott; the farm at Fisherman's Point... having a cottage thereon and kitchen... in all 145 acres, more or less; the farm of 112 acres and all my allotments of land on both sides of the Barwon River, being in the neighbourhood of the late establishment of Mr. Charles Dennyss, at the breakwater, Geelong".

Then came the big day, 6 October, 1861 - the day after his fiftieth birthday. "Cullin-la-ringo! My dear wife, Thank Heaven! Cullin-la-ringo at last!" He had arrived with his 4 teams and 7,600 sheep, having left 4 men with ewes and lambs some 40 miles back. Next day he planned to send Tom back to Albinia Downs with two drays to collect goods left there. They "allowed the sheep to barge about the place in one flock". "Next day I went exploring, and was rather surprised at the size of this magnificent Station. On one creek, I think called Spring Creek, about 25 to 30,000 sheep in fair seasons could be well kept. I have no doubt that by placing a hut on a stony rise about 2 miles from this, I could run about 6,000 sheep on beautiful open country most of the year, and so my arrangement is to shear here at the Swallow Nest Creek (Springs) and house all the people. Upon my word, the sun is hot! Would to goodness our yards were up - our shed - and Baker and Tom back again". He asked his wife to have her sister's husband, Mr. Roope, insert the following in the Geelong Advertiser: "A letter from Mr. H.S.Wills of Point Henry announces the safe arrival of his party and stock at Cullin-la-ringo on the Nogoia River about 200 miles west of Rockhampton, Queensland... The journey occupied exactly 8 months - but - notwithstanding rains, roads, rivers and scrubs, not one of the party suffered sickness". (How was this for Editor's license? Not one of the party suffered sickness, but one was drowned!) "Mr. Wills describes the country for a long distance round as open and magnificent, but labour scarce and at high rates. Shepherds 30/- a week, bullock drivers from 30/- to £2".

He started a garden, planting melons and pumpkins, and put up a hasty "shearing place and yards for the sheep". He said he would be forced to shear "in the grease as they should have been there 2 months earlier, and the sheep required the wool off as speedily as possible... Today Mr. Cave and 7 black troopers gave us a visit, bringing us some newspapers, in one of which, he told me, was announced the birth at Belle Vue of a little girl - all well - the Mother well". (This was his youngest child, Hortense Sarah Spencer, born on 16 August, 1861). "Oh, Bessie, Bessie, what a rogue you must be to keep me in the dark! For goodness sake, write me once a fortnight at least. Captain Pockley informs me that Emily has gone home. I have to write to Captain Pockley, so farewell my dear, dear wife. Kiss the baby and all the others for

Yours faithfully,
H.S.Wills."

Eleven days after they arrived at Cullin-la-ringo, on 17 October, 1861, there took place Australia's biggest-ever massacre of whites by blacks.

Wills's party of 25 had been on the road for 8 months. The expedition was the best equipped party ever to set out for that part of the country, and the blacks must have been most impressed by the numerous drays and wagons, their horses, cattle, bullocks and dogs, not to mention their 10,000 sheep. Though Horace Wills had had great experience of the blacks in Victoria, and was on very friendly terms with those round his property there, - he even spoke their language - he was nevertheless suspicious of new tribes, and his party was equipped with the most complete lot of

firearms ever taken out by any of the early squatters.

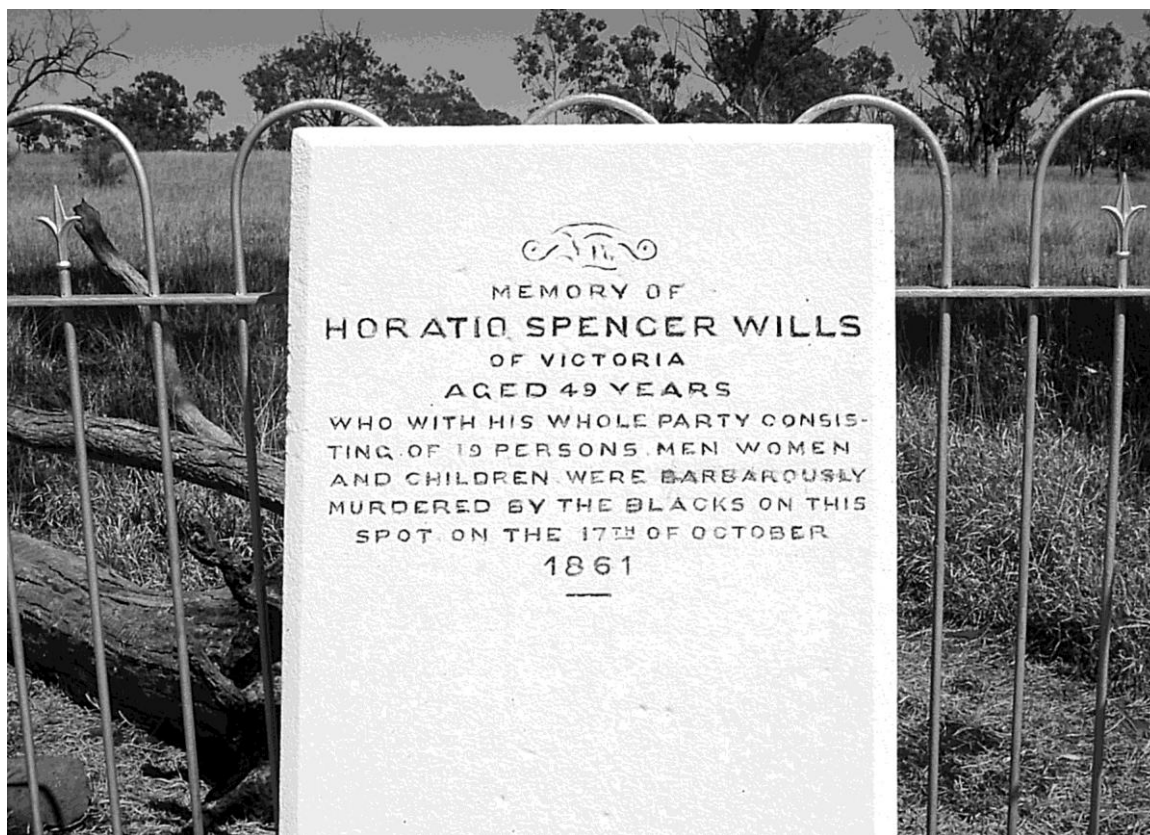
Small parties of blacks, all looking peaceful enough - and doubtless all looking exactly alike - kept coming and going round his camp. Wills had treated them well in the short time he had been there. On the day in question, little groups of athletic blacks gradually appeared, until they numbered about 50. They mingled with the whites, and all had their hands behind their backs, and were careful to face the party. Suddenly one old blade gave the cry of the black cockatoo - "Karr-nah-karr-nah" and in a flash each native's hand brought out the nullah it held, and Wills's people were struck down in one swift act.

Tom Wills and 4 others were fortunately absent at the time. The story reached civilisation through one man John Moore, who escaped. He had been lying down in a hut after lunch, but finding the heat very oppressive he went out and lay down a few yards away in a thicket in the shade. He dozed off, but was awakened by the shouting; he saw a native push someone, whom he took to be Mrs. Baker, to the ground. He heard a shrill cry of "Murder!", and the sound of heavy blows. Fortunately, a mob of unattended sheep came by, and by crawling on all fours in the centre of them, he was able to reach a creek bed unobserved. Wills's horse was nearby, tied to a tree, but he feared to make a rush for it in case he was seen and caught. He spent the night making his way to Rainworth Station, owned by a Mr. Gregson; he arrived about 7 o'clock in the morning and told his terrible story.

Mr. Gregson was shearing at the time, and promptly mustered a party and set out for Cullin-la-ringo, but they did not arrive till late that night. Nothing was done till morning, when a truly ghastly sight met their horrified gaze. Horatio's body was 2 or 3 yards in front of his tent, with a revolver near his right hand and a double-barreled gun near the left. One shot had been fired from the revolver. Some of the women still had sewing in their hands and the little children, with their skulls battered in, were lying near their dead mothers, to whom they had obviously run for protection. The cook, who occupied the hut which Moore had left, was lying dead near the fire. One of the bullock drivers, who had been drawing logs for the sheep yards the men were making, was found dead near his bullocks with his whip still in his hand. The bullocks were still yoked up, but three were strangled. A man who had been helping with the logs was also dead, and another man was found dead a mile and a half away, where they had been making a yard for ewes and lambs. They had fought hard for their lives with tent poles. Their bodies were terribly mutilated. In all they found 19 dead.

The first thing to do was to bury the bodies. The sheep were then collected, all but 300 being found. The camp was a complete wreck, and the only things left were tea and tobacco, flour, sugar, and some pieces of zinc and iron. Cases and boxes had been opened, and blankets, all kinds of clothing, axes, tools, knives, pistols, bullets and even books carried away. A canister of powder had been emptied close to a fire, but did not ignite. All the loaded firearms had been placed on the fire.

The next thing to do was to find the black murderers. In a few miles, Gregson and his party of 9 shearers had passed a number of halting places, where the spoil had apparently been divided, and a lot of things left behind. About 25 miles away they came on the blacks' camp, but waited a mile or two away till morning. At daybreak on the third morning after the massacre, they left their horses behind and crept stealthily up to their camp. There were about 200 to 300 of them, and an attack was made at once, but the blacks climbed up a precipitous hill where the whites could not follow. They found a lot of plunder in the camp, and a lot of native weapons which they proceeded to burn. The blacks, who had been watching closely, raised loud cries at this and threw stones. The natives then spread out and began to descend, and the whites, fearing they would be cut off, retired towards their horses, the natives following. By this time Mr. Macdonald of Yaamba had got a party together and set off for Cullin-la-ringo to render what help he could. Native police were also on the tracks of the murderers, and a little over a week after the massacre, a large party of police, native police and civilians tracked down the suspected tribe and herded it into the inescapable gorge at



Tombstone inscription on grave of Wills at Cullin-la-ringo, Queensland.

Mt. Wandoo, on the western boundaries of Cullin-la-ringo, a native phrase meaning “sought and found”. Between 60 and 70 natives were killed before the police party ran out of ammunition. Firearms and other stolen property were recovered.

The massacre started a furore and a subscription list was opened in Rockhampton, for the purpose of forming and equipping a party for the protection of the property and the remainder of Wills’s party. The waters of the giant Fairbairn Dam now cover a large part of the original Cullin-la-ringo property, but the mass grave of the victims, near the south eastern boundary, and the tombstone of Horatio Wills, remain.

On 1 November, 1861, my grandfather, Captain R.F.Pockley, sent a telegram “by electric telegraph”, to Mr. Thomas Wills Antill at the Union Bank, telling of the murder, and finishing up: “Tom Wills Safe. Edward Antill returned”. Wills’s widow at first refused to believe the news, but the making of mourning clothes for herself, her sister and the 8 children kept them all busy. There were frequent visits from sympathetic friends and relatives. The little baby developed a nasty cold and had to have applications of mustard poultices, as well as brown paper dipped in turpentine laid on her chest.

Elizabeth Wills, the “Mother of Ararat”, died in Geelong in 1907, in her 97th year. Now for a brief look at the 9 children of Horatio and Elizabeth Wills.

THOMAS WENTWORTH - the second name being after Horatio’s friend, William Charles Wentworth - was born on 19 August, 1835. When aged 15, he reached London after a journey of five months, on his way to Rugby School. Prior to 1823, every one of the 120 boys at the school had taken part in the game of football at the same time. But one day a lad named William Webb

Ellis, “with a fine disregard for the rules of football as played in his time, just took the ball in his arms and ran with it, thus originating the distinctive feature of the Rugby game”. Tom was at Rugby from August, 1851 till 1855; he was in the cricket XI in 1852, 1853 and 1854, and captained it in 1855. He also captained the football team.

Tom arrived back in Melbourne in 1856, having just turned 21, and soon made a name for himself in the Inter-Colonial Cricket matches in 1857. He was “very handsome, and in figure the beau ideal of an athlete”. Lilly-white said of him: “He carries a three-pound bat and hits terrific”; “Excelsior” said of him; “In his day he was the best all-round man in Australia, and was a public favourite of the most pronounced type. His cleverness in knowing when it was safe to take risks was always the cause of much diversion to onlookers. He was wonderfully quick in detecting the weak points of batsmen, and always had absolute command of his field. As a captain he was considered one of the most astute tacticians that ever led a team to victory, being the most fertile in resource, and ever ready for the moves of the enemy”. “Point” said: “He was par excellence ‘The cricketer of Victoria, and we all took a pride in him”.

In one match, when he was captaining the Victorian eleven against New South Wales, despite his fracturing the middle finger of his right hand, he came out with the best batting and bowling figures, and won the match. The Australian said of him: “He was, in fact, the ‘Grace’ of Australia, but Tom Wills was as well known for his good nature and kind heart, as he was famous for his skill as a player”. In 1866 he organised and trained a team of aboriginal cricketers, and was to have taken them to England in 1868, but was unable to get away in time. On the team’s return he captained them in the Colonial tour made before they were disbanded.

Tom Wills also left a big mark on the football scene in Australia. The game had not been played in the country until 1858, when Tom, full of enthusiasm for all kinds of sport, suggested to his cousin, Henry Colden Antill Harrison, that they should make a start with it. He sensibly considered the game as played at Rugby “unsuitable for grown men engaged in making a livelihood”, but gathered a crowd of enthusiasts, principally cricketers together and started to work out some rules. A club was formed in Melbourne, of which Tom Wills was the captain. Other clubs were quickly formed, and so the game of Australian Rules football was born.

After the Cullin-la-ringo massacre, Tom remained there to carry on the property. In 1862 he wrote to his mother saying, “I am very lonely up here, and shall be till I have a bonny little wifey up here to talk to when I come home weary, very weary. I shall send you a printed form for getting out German immigrants, fancy £50 only for two years, what a saving that would be... We have more men on the road from Rockhampton, and then we will get rid of all our £2 a week men... I expect to have nearly 40,000 sheep on this run the third lambing from this, if we have anything like good luck... We have 4 mountains near the old camp, named Horatio, Spencer, Howe and Wills. Also one Mt. Elizabeth, a beauty, and our hut is to be on Mt. Emily... It is a splendid run, and “Nongannon” will carry 120,000 sheep, I am sure, when it is stocked and its capabilities tried”.

Tom Wills, “well known in cricketing circles, committed suicide at Heidelberg on 2 May, 1880, by stabbing himself with a pair of scissors”. The Melbourne Argus of the following day said: “It appears that for some time past deceased had been drinking heavily, but on 28 ultimo he was placed under restraint, and a person was appointed to watch him. This man, shortly after 1 o’clock yesterday, left him to get his dinner and in the interim deceased possessed himself of a pair of scissors and, despite the exertions of his wife who endeavoured to prevent him, stabbed himself three times in the left breast, in the region of the heart. The external haemorrhage was very slight but the wounds were fatal, death taking place in a very short time”. At the inquest his widow, Sarah Theresa, deposed that her husband had been drinking for years. She took him to the Melbourne Hospital the day before he died, and he was admitted because he could not sleep. At 9 o’clock that night she was told that her husband was on the verandah, waving his hands at some imaginary object. She got him into the house, and he went to bed but did not sleep. A constable watched until a man named Dunmoodie came to watch him... Dunmoodie said that Wills tried to choke himself

by holding his mouth and nose... Both deceased and his wife drank to excess. The jury found that deceased committed suicide while of unsound mind from excessive drinking”.

The comment of Rene Wills-Cooke was: “Father said he was the nicest man he had ever met, and that his intense popularity led to his death, as everyone wanted him to have a drink. I know all this only too well, as his ‘de facto’ came to Granny Wills for money after Uncle Tom’s death, and I think all she got was very small sum, and a kick in the pants”.

EMILY SPENCER was born on Christmas Day, 1842; on 10 November, 1864, at Jarvisfield, Picton, the home of her aunt, Mrs Henry Colden Antill, she married Henry Colden Antill Harrison, the son of her father’s half-sister Jane Howe. She died on 6 December, 1925.

CEDRIC SPENCER returned from his school in Bonn after his father’s murder, and became manager of Cullin-la-ringo. In 1868 he overlanded a mob of 10,000 wethers to Swan Hill. He was the first man to open the overland route down the Paroo. In 1891 he acquired the adjoining property “Minerva”, where his grandson, Brian Wills - himself now a grandfather - carries on the family name and tradition. Cedric married Elizabeth Henrietta Macdonald on 20 March, 1872; they had 13 children. He died on 3 January, 1914.

HORACE SPENCER was educated at Scotch College, Melbourne, and with Cedric at Dr Pilgrim’s School at Bonn, and then at Geelong Grammar. He was an athlete and footballer. On 15 August, 1872 he married Sarah Eliza Beswicke; they had 6 children, the last being Rene Wills-Cooke, referred to above.

EGBERT SPENCER In 1875 he married Mary Beswicke, the elder sister of the wife of his brother Horace. They had 3 children; the eldest Egbert Horatio, was educated at Camberwell Grammar School, was captain of cricket and football, and won the Champion Athlete Medal in 1894.

Early Pioneer Families of the Riverina gives the following details of the Beswicke family of Mordialloc. Charles Beswicke arrived at Port Phillip in 1841 with 2 brothers. One was later drowned, and the other was killed by a fall from a horse. In 1844 Charles took up a property of 10,000 acres between Cheltenham and Brighton; he sold it the following year and returned to the U.K. On his return to Victoria he took up property at Moolah and Geelong. His son John, who was educated at Geelong Grammar, became an architect and surveyor, and erected the first 3-storey building in the City of Melbourne and many other prominent buildings, including several Town Halls.

The same book has an account of the Wills family, “of Lexington, La Rose and Mokepilly”. In this it is stated that Horatio Wills was the first tobacco grower in Victoria; he represented the South Grant in the Legislative Assembly, and was President of the Geelong Agricultural Society. It also says that his father “emigrated with his wife Sarah, nee Harding, to Sydney when quite a young man”!

The next children were ELIZABETH SPENCER, EUGENIE SPENCER, MINNA SPENCER and HORTENSE SARAH SPENCER.

JANE HOWE, the seventh child of Sarah Wills, and the only child of her marriage to George Howe, was born on 9 November, 1816. On 12 February, 1831, at St. Phillips, Sydney, Jane Howe aged 14, (her age was given as 20), married John Harrison, Master Mariner, aged 30. Harrison retired from the British Navy at the age of 20, to take command of a fleet of trading vessels owned by his father. With his father and aunt, Capt. Harrison sailed from the U.K. in 1833 in a 40 ton ship. In the Bay of Biscay his aunt became so frightened that she made them turn back.

“A fatal accident occurred before the completion of the voyage and demonstrated that her fears were not without foundation. One night, during a violent storm, his father was washed overboard and, as it was pitch dark and the waves ‘mountains high’, it was impossible to rescue him, and he was lost”. In Australia John Harrison took to the land, and formed a temporary station on the Molonglo River, probably on the very site on which Canberra now stands. He had the “Quadrant R” brand of cattle, from the well-known Redfern Estate, and the sheep were bought from William Wentworth.

In 1836, 2 years before Tom Wills had decided to overland to Victoria, the Harrisons with their 2 babies decided to join the rush, and set off for Port Phillip. It was true pioneer travelling, in groups, in covered carts as mutual protection against the blacks, who sometimes laid logs across the tracks to impede their way. To cross the Murray the cart was floated across ferry-fashion, by the aid of a rope stretched from bank to bank, on empty barrels made into a sort of raft; cattle and sheep swam across, horsemen forming a barrier just below the crossing to stop them from being swept downstream. The dusty journey took 3 months, accompanied by continual bleating of sheep, bellowing of cattle and the cracking of stockwhips, and past the bewildered native population, looking on for the most part silently and hopelessly, while their hunting grounds were being over-run by a race of hitherto unknown beings, and thousands of absolutely strange animals. Sheep travel slowly, and it was frequently necessary to rest for a day.

Their house, built of strong slabs with a bark roof, forming 3 sides of a quadrangle, was twice surrounded by about 100 blackfellows. In 1842, with their assigned servants, both men and women, they were stuck up by bushrangers. One of them swaggered about in Major Henry Norcott’s brilliant uniform, complete with sword dangling by his side, which he had taken from a neighbouring homestead. Major Norcott had been in the Austrian Hussars and had brought his uniform with him. It was lined with scarlet, and had a great deal of gold about it. The Harrison’s eldest daughter Adela, known as “Addie”, later married Major Henry Norcott, who was a splendid horseman, and was the son of Major-General Sir Amos Norcott, C.B., K.C.H.; his elder brother was Lieut.-Gen. Sir Amos Norcott, K.C.B. Some years later Henry Norcott was thrown from a horse and killed, leaving Adela with a son, Amos.

Captain Harrison accidentally shot himself, tearing away the flesh of his arm from the wrist to the elbow. A doctor was sent for from 70 miles away. He decided that Harrison was too weak to operate on, and charged 70 guineas. Six months later he was operated on in Melbourne, without the aid of any anaesthetic. Late in 1850, broken in health, he went to live in Melbourne, and let his station on a 5-year lease, with an option to purchase. Soon after, the “diggings” broke out, and sheep rose in value from 2/6 a head to 30/-. The tenants quickly exercised their option, and a short time afterwards sold a quarter of the run for four times as much as the station and stock had cost them. Capt. John Harrison died on 21 July, 1867; Jane died on 23 November, 1880.

Their eldest son, Henry Colden Antill Harrison, was born at the Antill’s home, Jarvisfield, Picton, on 16 October, 1836, a year before the family overlanded to Victoria.

Harrison wrote a brief account of his life entitled, The Story of an Athlete. He tells a story of a visit by his uncle, Horatio Wills; “A black fellow will never lose his way, even in a fog! One remarkable instance of this power of orientation was when my uncle drove some 70 miles across country from Lexington to see us. He arrived one morning soon after day-break, accompanied in the trap by a blind old lubra who had undertaken to guide him through the trackless bush. A young lubra, not acquainted with the district, also came to look after her”.

What he calls “Pedestrian Events” were very popular in those days. When he went out to play cricket one day, he found that everybody had gone over to a nearby hostelry, where some foot races were to take place. He was persuaded to take part, and thus became by accident a runner. He was clad in cricketing flannels, and ran in a heat containing Davenport, the professional champion sprinter, dressed in running shorts, and wearing running shoes. He was given 4 yards start in the

200-yard race, and won it. He then won the final heat from scratch. He later won the 150 yards race, also from scratch, and became the champion amateur sprint runner of Victoria. Then he ran a quarter-mile against Alex Ellen, who claimed to be the professional champion. Harrison won by 4 yards. The newspaper account of it said: "The result has proved Mr Harrison quite equal to any pedestrian, professional or amateur".

On 15 June, 1861, he ran at a meeting on the Melbourne Cricket Ground, as a result of a challenge by Lampton Mount, for a trophy worth £60, to the winner of 2 out of 3 races - 100 yards flat, ¼ mile flat, and ¼ mile hurdle. There were several thousand spectators - a big crowd for those days - and the excitement was great. One man had brought £10,000 to put on Mount for his friends. Harrison won all 3 races.

Mount challenged him again, this time in Ballarat. Harrison agreed, on condition that if he was defeated, they would have a third match 6 months later, in Melbourne. The races were to be the same, except for the third race, which was to be increased to ½ mile hurdle. Mount was given 2 months to train; Harrison had only the morning of the match. In the first race, there being no divisions between the tracks, he cannoned into Mount, pushing him on, and Mount won. Harrison won the ¼ mile flat. In the third race, when Mount was leading, "the crowd in their excitement rushed in and fairly surrounded him, thus blocking me from making any further effort". The last meeting, despite the agreement to hold it in Melbourne in 6 months, was finally held in Ballarat a year later. This time Mount got 6 weeks to train. The match was held on 2 December 1862, before 6-7,000 spectators, and the excitement was intense. "The 100 yards was won by me by about 2 yards: time, 10¼ seconds. (My best time was 10 secs.) The 440 yards flat I won by about 10 yards; time, 53¼ secs."

"By winning the first two races I was entitled to the trophy, and also again became the champion amateur runner of the Colony. But on account of the number of bets, it was arranged from the first that all 3 events should be run, so we started for the third race, 660 yards over 12 hurdles of 3'6"; this proved the most exciting of all. Mount started off ahead of me, but I collared him at about the second last hurdle from home, and we cleared it together, racing shoulder to shoulder to the last hurdle. We then went the last 50 yards in a tremendous battle, amidst the most deafening applause, and reaching the goal neck and neck, interested backers called out loudly, "Dead heat! Dead heat!" "As fair a dead heat as I ever saw", and so on. The judge gave it as a dead heat. Many wanted the race re-run!

"Mount and I used to dispose of the surplus gate-money to various hospitals, and as a result we were both made Life Governors of the Respective hospitals."

Turning to football, Harrison refers to the growth of clubs round Melbourne, and in fact in all the towns of importance in Victoria, around 1858. He says: "In 1865, the 'Athletic Sports Committee', of which I was a member, gave a great fillip to the game by giving a Challenge Cup to be played for. On 8 May, 1866, a meeting of delegates from the leading clubs was held, at which a set of rules was adopted, which formed the basis of those played at the present time. Before the meeting, some of the delegates asked me to draft a set of rules, as they considered I knew more about the game than any of them, which I willingly did. At the meeting I was voted to the Chair, and read the rules as drafted, which were approved and accepted unanimously, without alteration.

"In the first year of the game I captained Richmond, then succeeded Tom Wills as Captain of Melbourne. I was then moved to Geelong, and became Captain of that club. I returned to Melbourne in '63, and was Captain till my retirement in 1872". Harrison became Vice-President of the Melbourne Cricket Club in 1892, and was later made an Honorary Life Member. At the Australian Football Council, established in 1906, he was made the first Honorary Life Member, and given the designation "Father of the Game".

On 10 November, 1864, at Point Henry, Harrison married his cousin, Emily Spencer Wills, daughter of Horatio, and sister of his great friend Tom Wills. In 1884 he became Registrar-General

in Victoria, and this position he held till his retirement in 1896. In 1898, then aged 62, he rode his push bike from Melbourne to Sydney, calling en route at Jarvisfield, his birthplace. There he was received by John Macquarie Antill, but did not stay long, as he wished to push on to Sydney to see a cricket match.

Harrison died on 2 September, 1929, aged 92. The Harrison Stand at the M.C.C. was named after him, as was also Harrison House, the Headquarters of the Melbourne Cricket Club.

HOW TO READ THE TREES

The old method of drawing trees, familiar to most people, is very clear and easy to follow. The main trouble, however, with a family which goes back a long way, or which includes literally hundreds of names, is that if one wants to keep everyone of the same generation on the same level, one finishes up with a series of sheets of paper stuck together, which would not fit across the average living room floor.

I am sure that, with a little study, the method I have used will be clear to everyone. The following explanation is designed to make the thing very simple.

1. The progenitor is at the top, at the extreme left.
2. Indented from him are his children. All of them are listed exactly under the first child; where gaps occur where one child in turn has offspring - and perhaps grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc., - vertical lines connect later children with earlier ones.
3. When a person marries more than once, the subsequent marriage is treated in the same way as a younger brother or sister would be, i.e. vertical lines connect the later marriage with his or her original appearance in the Tree.

Look at page 64 of the Wills Tree. Sarah Wills (1796 - 1875) married first Dr William Redfern and then James Alexander.

4. When a female marries, her husband's name is underlined. Thus Sarah's children William Lachlan Macquarie and Joseph Foveaux were both Redferns; her child Sarah by her second marriage was an Alexander.

Now look at the CEDRIC SPENCER Branch on page 66. It will be seen, about a quarter way down, that Margaret Mary Carden married Norman Pickering. What was her maiden name? To find this out we must see who her parent was - from whom she is "indented". Jack Egbert Carden - who? Who was his parent - from whom is he "indented?" Elizabeth Spencer (Wills), who married a Collins. So Jack Egbert Carden was a Collins, and thus Margaret Mary Carden was a Collins.

5. Look towards the bottom of page 73 . You will see that Robin Elaine married Douglas Stewart. Who was Robin? Her mother married an O'Brien, so of course Robin was an O'Brien. What was her mother's maiden name? Look to see who her father was; Eric Wilfrid - who? His father was Egbert Spencer - who? As he starts that particular Branch, we must go to the heading at the top. We see Edward, Edward, Horatio, Egbert. As they are all male names, they are obviously all Wills men. So Egbert Spencer was a Wills, so Eric Wilfrid was a Wills, so Meryl Jean was a Wills.

6. How many generations back can Robin trace her ancestry? Her mother Meryl is 1, her grandfather Eric is 2, her great-grandfather Egbert is 3. Now go to the top again; there are 3 more names there before Egbert. So Robin can trace her descent through 6 generations; in other words, she is the 7th generation.

WILLS

Daughter, nursed Lord Hawkesbury.

EDWARD WILLS. Gentleman, of Broadcourt, Long Acre, Middlesex.

b. 1740 Buried at St. Paul's, 9/1/1814.

m. Elizabeth b.1738 Buried at St. Paul's, Covent Garden, 10/3/1822

Anne, m. George Pool. Both died before 1813

| George.
| Sarah.

Edward, b. 13/8/1778 d.14/5/1811 m. 1795 Sarah Harding* b. 1779 d. 8/7/1823

Sarah, b.23/4/1796 d.10/1/1875.

| m. (1) 4/3/1811 Dr William Redfern. (b. 1774/5. d. 17/7/1833) .

William Lachlan Macquarie, b. 27/7/1819

| m. 1842/3 Miss Walker of Glasgow.

William.

James.

Jessie.

Mary.

Sara.

Arthur.

Joseph Foveaux, b. 7/2/1823. Buried 11/4/1830.

| m. (2) 24/6/1834 James Alexander (Tertius). (b. 1797 d. 29/7/1877)

Sarah, b. 9/2/1835 d. 8/10/1905

| m. 1853 Dr Philip Vanderbyl (b.28/4/1827 d.14/5/1892).

| Isa.

| Mary, b. 1861. m. 9/2/1888 Ambrose Cloete

| | Son

William, b.abt.1862 m. 1887 Ada Wyatt

| | Mary

| | Irene, d.1973. Left £260,000stg.

Philip

Charles

Thomas Spencer, b.5/8/1800. THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 48.

Eliza, b. 10/9/1802 d. 30/9/1858

| m.9/10/1818 Capt. (later Major) Henry Colden Antill. (b.1/5/1779 d.14/8/1852).

For details of family, see ANTILL Tree.

Edward Spencer, b. 16/2/1805. Committed suicide in London, 1828.

Elizabeth Selina, b. 30/11/1807 d. 18.1.1811.

Horatio Spencer Howe, b.5/10/1811. THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 48.

* Sarah Harding, b.1/8/177 d. 8/7/1823

m. (1) 13/7/1795 Edward Wills. b.13/8/1778 d.14/5/1811

m. (2) 5/10/1812 George Howe (b.1769. d.11/5/1821)

Jane, b. 9/11/1816 d. 23/11/1880 m. 2/9/1829 Capt. John Harrison. (d. 21/7/1867)

For details of family, see HARRISON Tree.

WILLS - Edward - Edward - THOMAS SPENCER Branch.**THOMAS SPENCER, J.P, b. 5/8/1800 d. 29/7/1872.****m. (1) 18/6/1822 Celia Reibey b.1802 d.28/9/1823**

1. Alice b. 6/5/1823 d. 14/4/1824

m. (2) 1827, in Mauritius, Marie Anne Barry (b. 21/9/1801 d. 19/5/1870)

William Henry, b. 1/12/1827 died in infancy

Catherine Spencer, b. 24/11/1831 d.22/12/1864

m. 12/2/1850 Capt. (later Col.) Lewis Charles Conran, 11th Foot,A.D.C. to Governor La Trobe. For details of family, see CONRAN Tree.

Born out of wedlock to Mary Ann Mellard, in England; took name of Wills:

Arthur, b. 18/2/1857 d. 14/10/1932. m. Marie Fairbairn

Dorothy, m. Robert Buckwell.

Arthur

Jean

Selwyn

Geoffrey

Dorothy

Harry, b. 13/9/1858 m. Alice Butters

Cedric.

(Sir) John Spencer

Colin.

Nicholas Kenneth Spencer

Daughter

Son

Yulie

Joan.

Frederick, b. 19/7/1860 died in infancy

Charles, b. 15/11/1861 died in infancy.

WILLS - Edward - Edward - HORATIO SPENCER HOWE Branch.**HORATIO SPENCER HOWE, b. 5/10/1811 Murdered by aboriginals, 17/10/1861****m. 2.12.1833 Elizabeth McGuire b. 1817 d. 28/12/1907**

Thomas Wentworth Spencer, b. 19/8/1835 Committed suicide, 2/5/1880

Emily Spencer, b. 25/12/1842 d. 6/12/1925

m. 10/11,1864 Henry Colden Antill Harrison b. 16/10/1836 d. 2/9/1929For details of family, see HARRISON Tree.Cedric Spencer, b. 1/12/1844 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 49 & 54Horace Spencer, b. 16/6/1847 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 55Egbert Spencer, b. 11/11/1849 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 56Elizabeth Spencer, b. 7/1/1852 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 57Eugenie Spencer, b. 28/1/1854 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 52Minna Spencer, b. 1/3/1856 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 55

Hortense Sarah Spencer, b. 16/8/1861 d. 2/7/1907

m. 18.2.1879 Dr George Clarence Harding

Katherine.

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - CEDRIC SPENCER Branch.**CEDRIC SPENCER, b. 1/12/1844 d. 23/1/1914****m. 20/3/1872 Elizabeth Henrietta Macdonald b. 26/12/1850 d. 25/1/1944**

Elizabeth Spencer, b. 12/3/1873 d. 24/10/1956

m. 5/2/1897 Arthur John Carden Collins d. 2/1956

Ada Berry Helen Carden, b. 22/2/1900 d. 6.8.1945.

m. 28.2.1924 Arthur Stanley McNaught b.1888

Campbell Carden, b. 14/5/1929 d. 21/10/1935

Edna Jean Carden, b. 3/2/1931

m. 12/4/1966 Giacoma Bortolo Temponi b. 3/3/1936

James Cedric Carden, b. 11/6/1902. m. 1930 Challis McNally

Jack Egbert Carden, b. 3/6/1903 d. 3/8/1942 m. 1935 Mary Jean Ball

Margaret Mary Carden, b. 16/8/1937 m. 1959 Norman Pickering

Christopher John, b. 1960

Jeanene Maree, b. 1966

Beverley Jean Carden, b. 2/8/1942

m. 5/4/1968 William Francis Murphy b.1936

Cora Zuill Carden, b. 30/5/1905 d. 8/8/1933

m. 18/12/1926 Stanley Polglas 1935

Stanley Mark, b. 27/9/1927

David John, b. 19/3/1929

Mary Francis Carden, b. 19/2/1913 m. 28.4.1937 William H. Wade

William Henry Carden, b. 13/1/1938

Mary Helen Carden, b. 20/4/1940

Kenneth John Carden, b. 20/4/1946

Edith Spencer, b. 6/6/1874 d. 15/9/1956 m. 1893 George L. Graham MacDonald.

Donald Stuart Graham, b. 1894 d. 1940 m. Ethel Cullen

Myra Jean, d. 1974 m. Max Jeffries.

Emily Spencer, b. 16/8/1875 d. 5/2/1960

m. 1897/8 Alex. Angus McLean b. 2/8/1861 d. 29/9/1944

Elizabeth Margaret, d. 27/9/1912

Alexander Robert, b. 28/2/1908 m. 16/4/1966 his cousin Ida Wills b. 10/1/1915

Gordon Cedric, b. 10/9/1910 Unmarried

Horatio Spencer Howe, b. 28/8/1876 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 50Cedric Spencer, b. 29/11.1877 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 51

George Spencer, died in infancy.

Minnie Spencer, b. 27/4/1880 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

Egbert Spencer, b. 26/7/1881 Accidentally shot, 4/8/1888

Rose Spencer, b. 16/9/1882 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 51Ruby Spencer, b. 23/11/1883 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 54Ivy Spencer, b. 30/7/1885 THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 53

Thomas Wentworth Spencer, b. 25/7.1886 d. 22/5/1963. Unmarried

Colden Spencer, b. 15/10/1888. THIS BRANCH CONTINUED ON PAGE 53

***WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - Cedric - HORATIO SPENCER HOWE
Branch***

HORATIO SPENCER HOWE, b. 28/8/1876 d. 30/8/1960

m. (1) 8/10/1901 Margaret Alice Cooper b. 24/2/1882 d. 4/11/1918

Cedric Henry Spencer, b. 28/7/1902 d. 17/9/1954

m. 28/7/1926 Sheelah Claire McAuliffe b. 12/4/1903

Norma Claire Alice, b. 29/6/1927

m. 6/4/1953 Thomas Herbert James Rostrum b. 12/3/1926

Shane Cedric, b. 12/1/1954

Wayne Thomas Cedric, b. 21/11/1955

Sheelah Ellen, b. 29/3/1957

Russell Henry, b. 18/6/1958

John Thomas, b. 1/8/1959

Peter Brian, b. 2/12/1960

Allan Henry, b. 31/1/1929

m. 29/10/1952 Fay Alison Coward, b. 22/8/1931

Anthony Gerard, b. 23/8/1953

Damian Henry, b. 12/2/1955

Madonna Maria, b. 15/5/1956

Timothy Patrick, b. 10/4/1958

Michael Vincent Majella, b. 19/9/1966

Egbert Spencer, b. 14/11/1903 died from typhoid, 9/11/1922

Marjorie Alice, b.23/1/1910

m. 31/3/1937 John Angus MacDonald Angel b. 7/12/1911

Barbara, b. 21/2/1940

m. 8/6/1965 John Butler b. 26/6/1939

Craig John, b. 7/2/1968

Richard Ronald, b. 11/12/1969

Geoffrey John, b. 2/2/1946

m. 10/8/1968 Gladys Eveline Snell b. 14/11/1946

Scott John, b. 25/8/1970

Ida, b. 10/1.1915 d. 21/2/1976

| m. 16/4/1966 her cousin Alexander Robert McLean b. 28/2/1908

Stuart Spencer, b. 9/4/1917

m. 4/5/1945 Mavis Ena Farrell b. 24/2/1921

Rodney Spencer, b. 17/2/1947

| m. 7/9/1968 Kathleen Mary Statham b. 17/4/1949

Kelly Ann

Trevor Spencer, b. 28/9/1948

Daughter, died at birth

m. (2) 10/11/1921 Sybil Hassal b. 17/12/1896 d. 8/4.1945

Jessie Muriel, b. 23/3/1923

m. 18/11/1944 Francis Conrad Shailer b. 13/2/1922

Susan Joy, b. 21/12/1949

Robert Francis, b. 6/2/1953

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - Cedric - CEDRIC SPENCER Branch.**CEDRIC SPENCER, b. 29/11/1877 d. 27/9/1957****m. 1912 Luzyja Margurette Eade, b. 26/1/1888 d. 21/7/1974, a great, great-niece of Paul Kruger**

Thelma Marguerite Spencer, b. 3/7/1914

- m. 3/1/1947 Percy James Smith
- Robert George, b. 19/2/1948
- Alison Mary, b. 19/2/1951
- m. Michael Casey
- Brendan

Cedric Spencer, b. 7/8/1916 m. 17/12/1955 Valerie Dower

- Robert Cedric, b. 29/10/1956
- Diane Margaret, b. 17/5/1959
- Helen Jean, b. 27/8/1961

Luzyja Spencer, m. 1937 Howard Keith Ball.

- Lorraine Jean, b. 9/8/1938
- Ellen Elizabeth, b. 17/2/1940
- David Howard, b. 13/1/1942
- Diane Fay, b. 31/7/1947
- Michelle Heather Kathleen, b .18/12/1950

Egbert Spencer, b. 2/2/1922

Silas Spencer, b. 25/4/1925

WILLS - Edward - Horatio - Cedric -ROSE SPENCER (GEDDES) Branch.**ROSE SPENCER, b .16/9/1882 d. 21/2/1969 m. William C. Geddes**

Cleminson Wills, b. 26/9/1904

- m. 6/5/1939 Esther Merle Day b. 18/4/1916
- Maurice Merle, b. 13/8/1941
- Wylie Rosemarie, b. 18/2/1943 m. 4/6/1966 William Newcombe Atkinson.
- Leanne Marie, b. 26/9/1967
- Cameron Newcombe, b. 6/4/1970

Beverley Frances, b. 10/1/1945 m. 26/5/1965 Phillip John Mayne

- Julie Roslyn, b .29/5/1967
- Barry John, b. 26/1/1969

Cleminson Spencer, b. 9/1/1947 m. 12/4/1969 Roslyn Joan Beak.

- Jaclyn Louise, b. 12/3/1971
- Benjamin Stuart Spencer, b. 4/12/1974
- Jordan Wills, 27/2/1979

Gordon Charles, b. 14/11/1949 m. 7/12/1974 Narelle Joy Hartwig

- Lindsay Gordon, b. 6/1/1976.

Ann Christine, b. 24/6/1953 m. 1/8/1976 David Kirk

- Kevin Gilbert, b. 5/5/1956
- Trevor Reginald, b. 24/10/1957
- Louise Gwynne, b. 16/3/1959
- Noel Norman, b. 10/11/1961

Wilsey Rose, b. 2/4/1907

m. 20/7/1940 Frederick Crawford Harris b. 12/8/1909 d. 11/10/1966

**WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - Cedric -MINNIE SPENCER (CREED)
Branch.**

MINNIE SPENCER, b .27/4/1880 d/23/12.1962

m. 27/1/1902 George Albert Creed d. 4/5/1933

Edith Elizabeth (Bessie), b. 30/10/1902 m. 16/8/1933 Peter Stuart Murray

Ethel Ruby, b. 22/11/1903 m. 1/4/1935 John Edward McDonald.

Margaret Creed, B.Sc., b. 10/3/1936 m. 21/2/1959 Alan MacDougall

Malcolm, b. 24/3/1960

Catherine Heather, b. 2/3/1962

Donald Adair, b. 18/10/1964

Margaret Alison, b. 8/3/1966

John William, b. 7/1/1938 m. 27/2/1965 Sandra Elinor Scott

Angus John, b. 26/7/1968 and twin sister

Suzanna Louise, b. 26/7/1968

Sheila Catherine, B.Sc., b.23/4/1939, m. 13/6/1964 Dr Alan Blake Gazzaniga.

Catherine Alice Marie, b. 13/6/1964

David Stuart, b. 15/6/1967

Michael Scott, b. 23/8/1969

Andrea Michelle, b. 3/1.1973

Minnie Rhoda, b. 8/10/1906 m. 16/10/1939 Haines Mylrea

Florence Isabel, b. 12/8/1908 m. 17/1/1949 Vivian Campbell

Cedric Spencer Wills, b. 17/5/1910 m. 31/7/1937 Frances Day

Wendy Frances b. 7/8/1938 m. 4/5/1964 Alfred Roy Bowkett

Laurel Marie, b. 22/5/1965

John Andrew, b. 8/12/1966

Neil, b. 6/8/1973

George Albert, b. 9/2/1940 m. 5/9/1964 Leonie Helene Dunning

Elizabeth Ann, b. 10/10/1965

Andrew John, b. 11/1/1969

Ronald George, b. 7/12/1970

John Cedric, b.1.12.1941. Unmarried

Donald Roy, b. 8/1/1944 m. 23/8/1969 Ailsa Catherine Campbell

Cedric Anthony, b. 15/11/1972

Kathryn Rachel, b. 20/1/1974

Catherine Una, b. 24/3/1913 Unmarried

Hazel Honor, b. 30/9/1918 m. 28/3/1955 Vivian Alexander George Hiron

David Alexander, b. 28/3/1955

Peter George, b. 26/6/1956 and twin brother

Barry Haines, b. 28/6.1956

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - EUGENIE SPENCER (CUE) Branch.

EUGENIE SPENCER, b. 28/1/1854 d. 8/7/1937

m. (1) 16/11/1877 Peter Tyson

m. (2) T. G. Cue

Eva. Unmarried d. 26/7/1972

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - Cedric - IVY SPENCER (TYRELL) Branch.

IVY SPENCER, b. 30/7/1885 d. 9/2/1968

m. 1/7/1914 Frederick William Tyre11 d. 7/4/1945

Molly Dolland, b. 29/4/1917 m. 7/4/1944 John Joseph Home b. 9/10/1912

Jean Dolland, b. 5/9/1948 m. 3/5/1969 Geoffrey Scott Holbeck b. 31/1/1949

William Joseph, b. 25/9/1950 m. 22/8/1970 Karen Louise Murray b. 7/3/1953

Glen William James, b. 16/11/1970

Lesley Macdonald, b. 27/6/1919

m (1) 9/1939 William James Sproule d. 1946

Patricia Lesley, b. 17/1/1940

Topsy Ann, b. 25/5/1942

m (2) 2/3/1952 Edward Walsh

Ruth, b. 1922. died in infancy

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - Cedric - COLDEN SPENCER Branch.

1. COLDEN SPENCER, b. 15/10/1888 d. 20/5/1972

m. 2/8/1915 Constance Anne Wilson b. 17/8/1886. d. 14/4/1952

James Cedric Spencer, b. 9/9/1916 d. 30/1/1969

m. 17/1/1952 Elsie Margaret Ploger

Charles Neils Christian Spencer, b. 6/1956

Catherine

Margaret

David James Cedric Spencer, b. 3/1963

Doreen Spencer, b. 20/5/1918 d. 12/2/1956 m. 9/12/1944 Colin Henry Besch

Constance Ruth, b. 22/3/1955 m. 17/8/1974 Philip Bambrick

Colden Antill Spencer, b. 4/11/1920 m. 20/12/1966 Thelma Bettridge

Michael John Spencer, b. 25/10/1968

Robyn Grace Spencer, b. 2/8/1970

Constance Berry Spencer, b. 4/11/1920 - Twin sister of Colden Antill Spencer,

m. 2/2/1946 Allen Lees

Thomas Brian Spencer, b. 13/4/1922 m. 15/10/1946 Zita Agnes Bursle

Jennifer Joye Spencer, b. 1/8/1948 m. 20/12/1975 Kevin Ryan

Constance Celene Spencer, b. 28/1/1950 m. 18/4/1970 Christopher Muller

Jodie Christine, b. 7/6/1971

Shirley Diane, b. 24/9/1973

Roderick Ronald Colden Spencer, b. 21/5/1954

Bronwyn Berry Spencer, b. 22/12/1957

Thomas Horatio Spencer, b. 18/10/1961

Doris Agnes Edith Spencer, b. 13/1/1924 m. 27/1/1945 Claude Lawrence Ireland

Andre, b. 20/11/1956.

**WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - Cedric -RUBY SPENCER (CREED)
Branch.**

RUBY SPENCER, b. 23/11/1883 d. 16/3/1978

m. 26/4/1905 Stephen James Allen Creed b. 23/2/1874 d. 2/1961

Thomas Horatio, b. 2/4/1906. d. 20/5/1975 m. 4/4/1934 Fanny Mary Geddes b. 6/12/1908

Carlie Jean, b. 17/12/1937

Stephen John Allen, b. 13/11/1941 Drowned 30/12/1945

Judith Lynette, b. 27/8/1943 m. 7/8/1965 Oscar Gunther Stünzner

Phillipa Jean, b. 21/7/1967

Gordon Peter, b. 8/5/1969

Inga Penina, b. 16/4/1971

Jennifer June, b. 8/7/1947 m. 4/10/1969 Robert Charles Lawrie b. 28/12/1946

Tania Louise, b. 5/10/1971

Stephen James, b. 10/6/1973

Ruby Audrey, b. 21/2/1908 d. 11/6/1975

m. (1) Randal Towner

Susan Rosemary b. 3/8/1953 (Adopted) m. 11/6/1977 Raymond Leo Mayne

m. (2) Frank Winter, d. 13/3/1975

Stephen Allen, b. 26/2/1911 d. 9/1/1975 m. 7/8/1943 Ethel Silcock

Winifred Joan, b. 26/6/1917

m. 26/1/1945 William Frederick Major James b. 19/2/1909 d. 9/11/1969

Margaret Audrey, b. 9/6/1947

m. 1/4/1972 Ian Alexander Christiansen b. 2/6/1943

Adrian William b. 22/8/1977

Jacqueline Joan, b. 21/2/1950 m. 25/11/1972 Graham Wilson b. 19/7/1949

Sharon Leanne b. 4/3/1976

Benjamin Alexander b. 30/11/1977

Charles William Allen, b. 2/9/1952 m. 28/1/1978 Debra Davidson b. 29/12/1952

Anne Elizabeth, b. 3/5/1954 Accidentally killed, 23/6/1973

Spencer Wentworth, b. 18/3/1919

m. (1) Marjorie Gibson

Ian James, b. 20/1/1949 m. 2/9/1972 Janice Robyn Campbell

Stephen Wentworth, b. 28/5/1973

Helena b. 7/4/1975

James b. 8.2.1879

Helena Louise, b. 7/4/1975

James Douglas b. 8/2/1979

Dianne Marjorie, b. 1950. m. 11/1971 Roderick McKenzie

Sara Dianne b. 13/1/1974

Cameron b. 20/6/1976

Julie b. 11/10/1978

Betty Ruby Florence, b. 11/9/1951 m.6/6/1976 Alister Henry Besch

David, b. 15/12/1952 m. 27/12/1985 Greta Dines

m. (2) Mirabel Marsent.

Spencer Radford, b. 1959 m. 28/8/1981 Kathryn Ann Cooper

Stephanie Lorrain, b. 24/5/1961

Marjorie Lorrain, b. 11/5/1922 d. 1967 m. 1962 James Henry d. 1966

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - HORACE SPENCER Branch.**HORACE SPENCER, b. 16/6/1847 d.8/10/1928**

m. 15/8/1872 Sarah Eliza Beswicke b. 4/5/1857 d. 16/12/1916

Ethel, b. 1872. d. 1872

Ethel Mary, b. 26/8/1873 m. Alan Roseby Fordyce d. 22/6/1919

| Lorna Spencer Wills, b. 10/12/1912

| Horatio Spencer Wills, b. 31/3/1914. m. 7/12/1946 June Alison Fordyce

| | Christopher John Wills, b. 13/2/1948

| | Jane Alison, b. 19/10/1949

| Beryl, b. 15/11/1915 d. 15/12/1971 m. T. M. DuraiseramiIda Claire, m. Tyson Asbridge Pearson

| (nephew of Sir Henry Hodges, late Chief Justice of Victoria)

Hebe Eugenie, b.1885 d. 10/11/1948 m. Henry Fowler Rainsford

Maud, died in infancy

Eva Irene (Rene), b. 1889 m. 1906 Bertram George Cooke b. 1872

| Sidney Bertram Wills, b. 21/1/1907

| m. (1) 1/7/1930 Dorothy Watkins

| | Judith Anne

| | Terence Sidney

| | David

| m. (2) 14/2/1944 Frances Edith Scott b. 2/11/1916

| Peter Wills, b. 14/3/1946 m. 8/8/1967 Jofia Kot b. 29/5/1946

| | Sandra Anne, b. 5/10/1968

| | Sharon Louise, b. 20/5/1970

| Susan Wills, b. 23/3/1948

| Michael Wills, b. 20/10/1952

Lawton Coleman Spencer Wills, b. 15/11/1921 m. 1966 Lynette Barber

| Christina, b. 1967

| Anthony Lawton, b. 1969

***WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - MINNA SPENCER
(BLOOMFIELD-BROWN) Branch*****MINNA SPENCER, b. 1/3/1856 d. 14/2/1943 m. 14/6/1883 Harold Blomfield-Brown b. 1857**Claudia, b. 12/3/1884 d. 27/6/1934 m. 30/5/1916 William A. Beasley

Harold, b. 22/4/1885 d. 18/4/1964 m. 15/4/1914 Bertha E. Dickey

| Bertha, b. 16/4/1915

Reginald, b. 24/1/1890 m. 11/12/1926 Virginia Dunn, b. 9/5/1903

| Patricia, b. 4/8/1928 m. 1/9/1951 Richard W. Billings

| | Pamela Spencer, b. 9/11/1952

| | Hope, b. 11/3/1955

Michael Henry, b. 4/1/1933 m. 4/1960 Nancy Stroebel

| Claudia, b. 18/3/1961

| Michael Spencer, b. 21/6/1963

| Christopher, b. 4/12/1966

| Reginald, b. 5/6/1969

Deirdre Spencer, b. 14/7/1936 m. 27/6/1957 Edward Myron Bull II.

| Arlyn Patten, b. 24/9/1958

| Edward Myron III, b. 19/4/1961

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - EGBERT SPENCER Branch.**EGBERT SPENCER, b. 11/11/1849 d. 11/9/1931****m. 15/9/1875 Mary Beswicke b. 27/6/1853 d. 10/12/1930**

Egbert Horatio, b. 7/12/1878 m. 15/5/1907 Florence Caroline Browne

| Muriel Spencer, b. 20/2/1909 d. 20/3/1944 Unmarried

| Egbert Spencer, b. 25/2/1913 m. 15/8/1936 Phyllis Ward

| Arthur Spencer, b. 20/11/1938

Stanley

Eric Wilfrid, b. 20/9/1891 m. 27/3/1916 Madge Fowler b. 17/3/1891 d. 9/6/1941

Nancy Brodrib, b. 5/1/1917 m. 5/2/1942 Thomas Grant Paterson b. 5/7/1908

| Heather Anne, b. 24/7/1946

| m. 7/1/1969 Graeme Hughes Harper b. 31/7/1944

| Ewan Grant, b. 1/11/1948

| m. 10/8/1971 Helen Patricia Rawlinson b. 10/12/1951

| Katherine Fowler, b. 13/3/1950

| Elizabeth Wills, b. 20/7/1953

Meryl Jean, b. 26/9/1918 m. 10/5/1941 Ernest John O'Brien b. 6/12/1914Robin Elaine, b. 29/8/1943 m. 11/2/1967 Douglas Stewart b. 21/5/1944

Gordon John, b. 4/7/1946 m. 23/8/1969 Robynne Taylor b. 24/2/1950

| Jacqueline Robynne, b. 31/7/1971

Alan Wilfrid, b. 21/5/1949

Rowan Arthur, b. 6/6/1952

Colin William, b. 1/7/1955

WILLS - Edward - Edward - Horatio - ELIZABETH SPENCER (SHAW) Branch.**ELIZABETH SPENCER, b. 7/1/1852 d. 21/11/1930****m. 3/4/1877 Edward Lesley Shaw b. 16/1/1849 d. 8/4/1908**

Edward St. Laurence, b. 7/3/1878 m. 25/12/1906 Norah Nicholson

| Edward John St. Laurence, b. 28/10/1908 m. 1/1/1938 Iris Jane Watts

| Betty Ethna, b. 9/2/1911 m. 1944 Edward Porter

Lesley Elizabeth, b. 4/2/1879 d. 26/4/1879

Ellen Marian, b. 4/5/1880 d. 7/11/1949 m. Arthur Clapperton

Doris Minna, b. 10/7/1881 d. 12/7/1933

Elshie Adela, b. 27/4/1883 d. 12/10/1923

Phyllis Joan, b. 18/9/1886 d. 18/6/1887

Horace Forster, b.6.6.1888. d. 30/4/1968 m. Corale Beck

| Margaret Elizabeth, m. 2/4/1956 Douglas Morgan

Lester Boyd, b. 6/11/1890

m. (1) Olive McIntyre

| John, b. 1914 died on the same day

| Elizabeth Lesley, b. 3/4/1915 m. 16/11/1940 Gordon Edward

| | Elizabeth, b. 19/1/1945 died on the next day

| | Timothy Gordon, b. 26/7/1946 m. 6/5/1972 Gloria Oakenfull

| Lester Malcolm Edward (Peter), b. 28/3/1917 m. 20/9/1940

| | Judith Anne, b. 14/11/1941 m. 3/1/1964 William Pinwill

| | | Sarah, b. 7/8/1964

| | | Sophia, b. 28/1/1967

m. (2) 3/9/1950 Leonora Pitman.

| George (Bill) St. Laurence, b. 2/11/1919 d. 8/1969

| | m. 1/2/1947 Elizabeth O'Sullivan

| Patricia Mary, b. 18/3/1922 m. 8/1/1944 Colin Green

| | Anthony Clifford, b. 13/1/1945

| | | m. (1) 3/8/1966 Lynette Richardson

| | | Emma Jane, b. 10/3/1972

| | | m. (2) Helen Maddern

| | | Matthew Lowell

| | Jeremy Hastings, b. 4/9/1946 m. 19/6/19 Jennifer Tuite

| | | Adam Jerome

| | Kirstie Elizabeth, b. 1/9/1950

| | Matthew Lorne, b. 6/7/1960

Max Douglas, b. 17/7/1897 m. 24/4/1935 Gertrude Mary Moore.

CONRAN**WILLIAM CONRAN, m. Maud Wickham**

Christopher, d. 11/12/1630 m. Eleanor Dowdell

John
Walter
William
Alison
Anne
Margaret

Philip, Mayor of Dublin, 1592, d. 4/4/1625 m. Frances Harpeny

Thomas, m. Mabel, daughter of Christopher Fagan, Mayor of Dublin

William of Wyanstown

William, m. 1673, niece of Sir Robert Kennedy, Bart.

John, died about 1690

William

John

Thomas

Philip

Francis

James

James

Henry m. 3/5/1730 Elizabeth Poole

John

James, m. (1)

Robert

William

John

Bridget, m. (Rev.) Henry Bazley

Daughter m. Jacob Poole

Margaret, m. 1712 - 1780 Robert North

m. (2) Jane Partridge.

James

(Major) Henry, b. 1738

SEE NEXT PAGE

Elizabeth

Mary

William

Ignatius

Peter

Constance

Mary

Constance

Mary, died before 5/9/1680

George
William
Walter
Maud
Begnet

**CONRAN - William - Philip - Thomas - William - William - William -
James - Henry - MAJOR HENRY Branch.**

(MAJOR) HENRY, b.1738. m. Jane Mary Marcell, died at Calcutta, 15/5/1810

(Lieut. Gen.) Henry Lewis, d. 17/7/1829 m. Anne Hopkins

| Anne, d. 23/8/1830 m. (Rev.) Wogan Baynes d. 28/9/1830

(Capt.) James Samuel, b. 1770 d. 19/7/1844

m. 16/8/1808 Penelope Baynes b. 25/2/1782 d. 10/9/1849

(Lieut.) James, b. 4/9/1812 d. 25/8/1833

(Major) Henry Marcell, b. 1813 d. 23/2/1902 Unmarried

(Capt.) William Adam, J.P., b. 1815 d. 4/7/1893

| m. 4/4/1850 Robina Augusta Andrew, b. 1820 d. 26/8/1882

Augusta Robina, b.31/1/1851 m. 16/8/1877 (Capt.) W.W.Smythe,R.N.

| Four sons, one daughter

William Adam, J.P, b. 19/10/1852 m. Agnes Stewart

| William Douglas, b. 4/12/1881

| Percy Drysdale Wogan, b. 1885

James Charles Robert, b. 30/4/1854 Unmarried

(Lieut.) Henry Arthur Lewis, J.P, b. 3/9/1856

| m. 18/6/1879 Elizabeth Alice Steer d. 31/12/1900

| Ethel Penelope, b. 11/5/1881

(Major) Gerald Marcell, b. 31/3/1858 m. 15.4.1884 Jane Frances Bastard

| Frances Mary, b. 10/6/1885

| John Marcell, b. 17/9/1886

| William Adam Bastard, b. 28/9/1887

Geraldine, (Twins), b. 31/3/1858 Twin sister of Gerald Marcell

Edward, lived only a few hours

(Col.) Lewis Charles, b. 1818

(Maj.) Marcell, b. 14/9/1830

Jane Penelope, b. 30/4/18 d. 6/4/1894 m. Charles Smith.

Frances. Unmarried

Georgina Martha, d. 10/1/1894 m. (Col.) James Curtis, C.B.

Kate, d. 1891 m. (Rev.) John Irwin.

Daughter, died in infancy.

SEE NEXT PAGE

SEE NEXT PAGE.

**CONRAN - William - Philip - Thomas - William - William - William - James -
Henry - Maj. Henry - COL. LEWIS CHARLES Branch.**

(COL.) LEWIS CHARLES, b. 1818 d. 1/1893

m. (1) Catherine Spencer Wills b. 24/11/1831 d. 22/12/1864

Thomas Wills, b. 6/11/1850 m. 1877 Evelyn Mary Ford

| Six sons, four daughters

Henry Lewis, b. 26/12/1851 m. 30/9/1886 Mary Louisa Mole

| One son, two daughters.

Daughter, died in infancy.

Charles James Curtis, b. 30/4/1854 m. 1897 Helen Brock

| Mona

Marcell, b. 22/11/1855

| m. (1) 14/4/1881 Charlotte Ida McLacklan

| m. (2) 3/1888 Catherine McLeod.

Hugh Marcell, b. 10/7/1889 d. 10/10/1957

| m. 10/1/1918 Edith Rubina Cooke b. 12/12/1888

| Robina Ida, b. 7/7/1919

Noel McLeod, b. 24/11/1891

Enid Lewis, b. 9/2/1893

**CONRAN - William - Philip - Thomas - William - William - William James -
Henry - Maj. Henry - MAJ. MARCELL Branch.**

(MAJ.) MARCELL, b. 14/9/1830 d. 2/10/1904

m. 16/12/1862 Alice Augusta Townend,

(Rev.) Marcell William Townend, b. 11/11/1863

Alice Penelope, b. 22/10/1865 d. 1881

Frances, b. 6/5/1867 d. 1904

Lewis Cotman, b. 4/8/1868

Charles Mervyn, b. 1/8/1870 d. 1886

Edwyn Arthur, b. 13/10/1871

Reinfred Arundell, b. 22/3/1873

Guy Ealred, b. 15/11/1874

Marie Gertrude, b. 30/11/1875 m. 1903, Clark of Dundas Castle.

(Lieut.) Owen Mostyn, b. 1/4/1881

Mabel, b. 8/5/1882

Ethel Penelope, b. 18/2/1885

HARRISON

(Capt.) HARRISON, lost at sea in 1830, on voyage to Australia.

(Capt.) John, b. 1800 d. 21/7/1867

m. 2/9/1829 Jane Howe b. 9/11/1816 d. 23/11/1880

Adela, b. 11/9/1834 d. 23/7/1910 m. (Major) Henry Norcott

Amos

Henry Colden Antill (Colie) b. 16/10/1836 d. 2/9/1929, Registrar General of Victoria

m. 10/11/1864 his cousin, Emily Spencer Wills b. 25/12/1842 d. 6/12/1925

Eva Wills, b. 11/8/1865 d. 27/9/1869

Horace, b. 25/12/1866 d. 19/2/1867

Kate Wills, b. 26/2/1868

Emily Rosalie (Rose), b. 23/7/1869 m. James Moore Hickson.

Henry Norman, b. 28/7/1870 d. 9/5/1895

Ida May, b. 20/1/1872 d. 1/8/1872

Eric, b. 1874

Ruby Spencer, b. 25/3/1876

Eileen Spencer, b. 31/3/1882 died in infancy, and her twin sister

Alma Wills, b. 31/3/1882 m. John Macknight killed in France, 1918.

George, married twice

Kate, m. Olfson Bagge

Alice, m. M. Skinner.

Florence Washington, b. 1848. Drowned 9/2/1869

Arthur, m.

Ernest, m. Laura Augusta Armstrong d. 25/7/1921.

HOWE**TOMAS HOWE, Government Printer at Basseterre, St. Christopher's Island.**

George, b.1769 (according to his tombstone) or b.1773 (according to evidence at his trial)
d. 11/5/1721

m. (1) Miss McLeay, died on voyage to Australia, 1800

Robert, b. 30/6/1795 drowned 29/1/1829 while fishing from boat on Sydney harbour

Robert Charles, (illegitimate son of Elizabeth Lee), b. 27/2/1820

m. 3/9/1840 Sarah Bloodworth b. 1827, daughter of James Bloodworth

Robert, b. 1841

Maria Elizabeth, b. 1843

George Alfred, b. 1845

Sarah Jane, b. 1847

Thomas, b. 15/3/1858

m. 17/7/1821 Ann Bird b. 1803, d. 17/11/1842

Robertus Mansfield, b. 12/11/1822 d. 26/2/1824

Annie Wesley, b. 1/4/1824 d. 5/6/1866

m. 6/4/1843 John Readall Morris.

Frances, died in infancy.

Alfred Australia, b. 21/4/1825 d. 20/1/1837

Mary McLeay, b.21.4.1827. d. 1885

Sarah, b. 1797 d. 5/7/1871

Illegitimate children by Elizabeth Easton, or Hasten or Hastings buried 10/5/1811

Thomas Terry, b. 2/4/1803 m. 17/10/1831 Leah Boyne.

Jane, b. 21/10/1834 d. 16/12/1834

Mary Ann Risdon, b. 1/5/1805 m. 30/6/1821 John Cowell b. 1786 d. 19/2/1834

George Terry, b. 18/12/1806 d. 6/4/1863 m. 16/9/1824 Sarah Bird b. 1801 d. 1871

Illegitimate son by a Maori woman of noble birth

Six daughters by his wife,

including Mary Ann Cowell, b. 17/6/1827 d. 15/6/1828

Ann, b. 6/2/1809 buried 10/5/1811

Sarah, b. 27/9/1810 m. 4/3/1828 Edward Lee b. 1807 d. 27/6/1842

Maria Elizabeth, d. 9/11/1891 m. James Bloodworth.

Sarah Howe, d. 9/11/1891

m. (2) 5/10/1812 Sarah Wills, b. 1779 d. 8/7/1823 widow of Edward Wills, (nee Harding)

Jane, b. 9/11/1816 d. 23/11/1880 m. 12/2/1831 (Capt.) John Harrison, d. 21/7/1867

For details of family, see HARRISON Tree.

JOHNSTON**MAJOR GEORGE JOHNSTON, b. 19/3/1794 d. 5/1/1823, Acting Governor of New South Wales, 1808-1810. m. 12/11/1814 Esther Abrahams, or Julian**

(Commander) George, b. circa 1790 d. 19/2/1820.

Julia.

Maria, m. 26/2/1824 Thomas Henry Brookbridge d. 25/10/1827

(Capt.) Robert, R.N., b. circa 1797 d. 8/9/1882 m. 30/7/1831 Fanny Weller d. 24/6/1890

George Horatio, R.N., J.P., b. 6/11/1833 m. 16/3/1870 Elizabeth Ann Gregson

 Mabel Beatrice, b. 15/4/1871 d. 16/9/1927

 George, b. 18/11/1874

Robert Percy, J.P., b. 6/3/1836 d. 28/10/1896

 m. 3/9/1868 his cousin Eliza Christina Johnston

Algernon, b. 16/8/1838

Leslie, b. 1/12/1839

Penelope Brooks, b. 1/5/1842 m. 7/1/1863 Samuel Dickinson

Percival, b. 6/4/1845 d. 25/3/1926

Fanny Gordon, b. 12/12/1846

Bruce David, b. 3/12/1848

David, b. circa 1801 d. 3.6.1866 m. 10/2/1836 Selina Willey

 Esther Emily, b. 3/1/1838

 Selina, b. 8/1/1840 d. 14/2/1869 Unmarried

 David Frederick, b. 6/7/1841 m. 21/8/1867 Jane Rebecca Vyner

 George Robert, b. 24/5/1843

 Eliza Christine, b. 1846 m. 3/9/1868 her cousin Robert Percy Johnston

 Ralph

 Darcy.

 Charles Albert, b. 19/8/1847 d. 17/7/1862

 Julie Margaret, b. 19/6/1849

 Arthur Alfred, b. 2/12/1854

Isabella, b. 1804 d. 1806

Blance, b. 1806 m. 21/5/1829 Lieut. George Edward Nicholas Weston.

HARDING**HARDING m. Elizabeth**

Sarah, b. c 1779 d. 8/7/1823 m. 1795 Edward Wills

Thomas

Samuel.

Nancy, m. Bradley.

Mary, b. c 1689 m. c 1809 John F. Willey

 Emily, b. 4/1810

 Selina, b. 1811 m. 10/2/1836 David Johnston.

 8 children - See JOHNSTON Family Tree above.