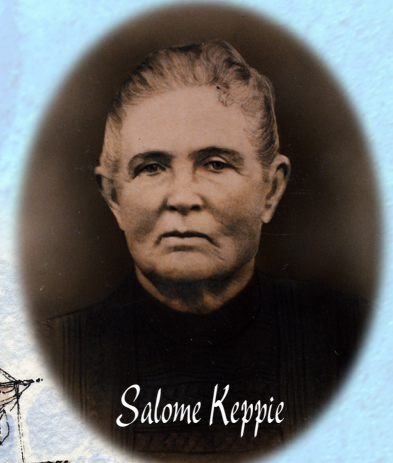
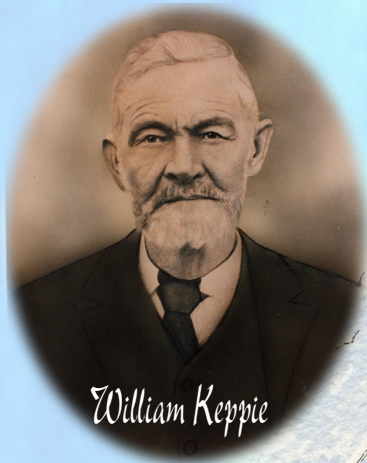


PLOUGHS, PUBS & PADDLE STEAMERS



"Sophia Jane" The First Steamship in Australia



EDWIN L COYLE

Published By Paterson Historical Society Inc. 2004

PLOUGHS, PUBS AND PADDLE-STEAMERS

(A Collection of stories about the Keppie Family – Pioneers of Paterson)

By

Edwin L. Coyle

Paterson Historical Society

2004

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CONTENTS

i	Contents
ii	Acknowledgements
iii	Preface
1	Introduction
3	The Keppie Scottish Ancestry
5	Outline of the Australian History
12	Individual Biographical Notes
	- William ("The Patriach")
16	- James ("The Big Brother")
27	- Peter ("The Younger Brother")
30	- John ("The Remaining Son")
37	- Walter William
38	Later Generations
	- James' 1 st family
41	- James' 2 nd family
44	- Peter's family
	- Elizabeth
46	- James
50	- William
60	- Margaret
61	- John
63	- Andrew
67	- Mary Ann, Samuel
68	- Walter William's family
70	Other Keppies in Australia
72	Appendix 1 – Associated Families
77	Appendix 2 – Other Associations
79	Appendix 3 – "The Sophia Jane"
80	Appendix 4 – The Meroo Goldfields
83	Chart of Descendants of William and Mary

Acknowledgements

Readers will soon realise that although my name appears as the author of this publication, most of the original work has been written by others, in particular the brothers, James and John Keppie; and of course my thanks go to them for having taken the trouble to put so much of their history down on paper in the form of the hundreds of letters they wrote to one another. Next, as John would say, is their brother Peter, his son William, his son Walter and finally his son, the present day Bill Keppie together with his wife Mabs for having cared for them so lovingly and eventually making them available to me to try and interpret. I must add to this list our grandmother, Salome (Garred) Keppie for leaving us a wealth of information about family members and others in the several diaries she wrote both prior to and after her marriage

My thanks also go to another cousin, David Butler, for his help with the transcription of the countless documents of which the extracts quoted here are but a few. These documents have since been placed in the hands of the Newcastle Regional Library for their preservation and for the sake of posterity.

I must also thank the many other Keppie family members who, over the years, have provided me with details of their branches of the family. In particular I wish to thank Mandy McKay, Kay Keppie, Margaret Clerke, Lorna Winch, June Webster and Ray Keppie, for their help and for their friendship.

And I am also indebted to Shirley Threlfo, a very active member of the Society, for her great help in providing information about the Keppie properties and other local matters, as I am to Val and Bill Anderson for their tremendous encouragement and support.

My thanks too to two Scottish cousins from Edinburgh who have provided such a wealth of background information on the Keppie forebears. They are, Simon Keppie, with whom I first made contact on a visit to Scotland in 1974 and sadly is now deceased; and Jim Keppie, who is very much alive and still sufficiently interested in his Australian cousins to have visited us here on several occasions. Lastly, a word of thanks to cousin John McWilliams of Los Angeles, a descendant of the American branch, for the years of research he has carried out through the Salt Lake City records.

Furthermore, I owe a great debt of gratitude to my parents, who made it possible for me as a child to make many visits to “Glenlossie” and especially to my mother, Florence Keppie, for imbuing in me an abiding affection for and interest in her extensive collection of relations.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the works of other historians such as Cameron Archer, Pauline Clemens, Jack Sullivan and Yvonne McBurney whose earlier efforts have added to my knowledge of the district as an outsider, which I have used in an endeavour to place the stories into context.

Edwin L (Ted) Coyle

Preface

I am delighted to have the opportunity to prepare a preface for this book on the Keppie family in Australia. This edition follows an earlier edition, which Ted produced some years ago. Further research has assisted more information to be gathered regarding the Keppie family in Australia. The Society is indeed most grateful to Ted Coyle for undertaking this work.

The history of the Keppie family in Australia mirrors not only the development of Australia itself but also the fortunes and fates of many families who came and established themselves in the country in the early 19th century. Often we hear about a single male coming to Australia and then later beckoning the rest of his family to join him. This happened with the Lang family of Largs as also with the Keppies.

The Keppie family have persisted and thrived in Australia despite many tragedies and difficulties. The death of wives and mothers leaving young children to be cared for and raised, the effects of droughts and Depressions, the lure and disappointments of the goldfields, entrepreneurial spirit for new ventures and businesses and overall a persistence and will to succeed. These are the features of the Keppie family in Australia and also much of 19th and 20th century Australia. It is therefore appropriate that such a record be prepared and preserved by our Society.

Our Society has been indebted to Bill and Mabs Keppie since the Society's establishment in 1974. Their service has been continuous and always with absolute commitment and devotion. They are true stalwarts of the Paterson Historical Society. Fortunately, some years ago the Society published a book on the Women's Land Army and Mabs Keppie's experiences in this. It would be remiss of us not to have a good book on the Keppie family and appropriate displays within the Museum itself. The launch of this 2nd edition of the Keppie family in Australia coincides with the refurbishment of the Keppie room at the Paterson Court House Museum.

I therefore congratulate the Keppie family on all their achievements in Australia and their contributions to Paterson and the Society. I also thank Ted Coyle for his commitment to continue to research and prepare the history of the Keppie family on Australia.

Congratulations to all.

A C ARCHER
President
Paterson Historical Society

September 2004

“The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd winds slowly o’er the lea,
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness, and to me.”

T Gray

Introduction

It ought not to have surprised anybody that William Keppie should win prizes awarded by the Farming Society of Ireland 200 hundred years ago. After all, his father spent his whole life behind the plough, as had many of his forebears.

However, William’s skills at making his own prize-winning ploughs appear to have been acquired by his own endeavours. Those skills he passed on to at least some, if not all, of his sons and grandsons, for both James and Peter also won prizes in Australia for their ploughs and became well-known as manufacturers of other quality implements and farm machinery, as did Peter’s son, William.

Peter, along with his sons, William, John and Andrew, extended these abilities further by becoming wheelwrights and coachbuilders, Peter building the *Rob Roy*, “a smart equipage to join Paterson to Morpeth via the new road through Hinton.”

And while it is known that some others of William’s forebears, including his mother’s parents, were inn-keepers, his son James’ entry into the field was more a matter of chance through his becoming associated with others who, like himself, had been involved in the coastal shipping industry; for it was when Captain David Brown decided to lease the *Bush Inn*, that he had built some years earlier, James had not long left the shipping industry and was ready to make a new life for himself and his new wife.

And when James found other endeavours to claim his attention, his brother, Peter took over the licence. Later on, Peter held the licence of the *Plough Inn* and James had the *Sterling Inn* at the Goldfields township of Windeyer while a third brother, Walter William, had the *City Inn* in Kent Street, Sydney for several years in the late 1850’s.

The first activity of any Keppie in Australia was in James Keppie gaining the role of Engineer on the *Sophia Jane*, first “paddle-steamer” to operate in Australian waters.

As readers will learn, their talents went far beyond these activities as they sought opportunities to make their ways in a new and developing country.

The following is a collection of stories about the Keppies, something about their ancestors and other branches of the extended family, something of their lives before and after coming to Australia, something of their experiences and that of some of their descendants; and something about some of the people they married or with whom they otherwise became associated.

It has not been possible to include in this publication all of the material I have accumulated over the years but I hope these stories may make their descendants more aware of their ancestors’ pioneering endeavours. I will be happy to make further information available to family members on enquiry.

THE KEPPIE'S SCOTTISH ANCESTORS

Francis Caipie (b.1552)

|

Jon Caipie (b.1572)

|

Friancis Caipie (b. 1599) m. Mary Magee

|

Robert Caipie (b.1619) m. Margt. Killon

|

Jon Caipie (c.1645) m. Agnes Clark (1667)

|

John Keppie (c.1671) m. Agnes Ramsey

|

William Keppie (b.1722) m. Janet Penston

|

John Keppie (b.1760) m. Rachael Morrison (1)

|

William Keppie (b.1784) m. Mary Murphy

|

James Keppie (b.1807)

Peter Keppie (b.1809)

John Keppie (b.1811)

Walter Wm Keppie
(b.1819)

THE KEPPIE'S SCOTTISH ANCESTRY

There had been a widespread family legend for many years that the Keppie ancestors were among the Huguenot refugees who fled France after the revocation of the edict of Nantes in 1685, however hard evidence of this has not yet been found.

In any event there are records of many Keppies (or variants of the name) living in the East Lothian districts of Scotland much earlier than the 17th century in places such as Longniddrie, Aberlady, Tranent, Gladsmuir, Pencaitland, Samuelston, Western Adinston, Washingsvill, Ormiston, Sorbie as well as in Edinburgh. Nevertheless it is also quite possible that some did come from France at an earlier time, as it is a matter of recorded history that emigrants from France and the Low countries were coming to Scotland from the 13th century onwards.

The registration of births, deaths and marriages only became compulsory in Scotland in 1855 and, although there are various assortments of earlier documents that have been preserved in the Scottish Records Office such as old parish records, monumental inscriptions, records of wills, property transactions, etc., such records are scarce before about 1600. Extensive research in Edinburgh over many years by Jim Keppie and in America by Jack McWilliams in Los Angeles, has unearthed records of seven generations of our predecessors going back from a John Keppie, who was born in 1760 at Longniddrie, East Lothian, to Francis Caipie, born about 1552. Many are listed as weavers, farm labourers and ploughmen.

John Keppie is especially significant in that he was the father of no less than fourteen Keppie children, six by Rachael Morrison and eight by his second wife, Jean Wilson. Although relatively little else is known about this John, apart from several reports of him working on farms at Dodridge and other places in East Lothian, a great deal has become known about members of his immediate family and many of their descendants.

The first of John and Rachael's children was William Keppie, who was born at Haddington, East Lothian, on 12th September 1784. As a young man William had migrated to Ireland, where he married Mary Murphy, raised four sons and gained a reputation in agricultural pursuits before returning to Scotland in the mid 1820's and pursuing a career in the engineering industry. In 1841 he and his wife Mary, migrated to Australia to join three of their four sons who had done so a few years earlier.

John and Rachael's second son, John, was born at Haddington on 26 September 1786 and became a successful merchant. John and his wife, Mary Quillins, had thirteen children, most of whom were born in Haddington or nearby, and are commemorated on a monument in the grounds of the beautiful St Mary's Church. John, and several of his children, maintained close friendships with their brother and cousins who later migrated to Australia. One of their sons, William, is himself believed to have died in Melbourne in 1868 shortly after his arrival there, having previously visited Australia around 1855, and a grandson, Hugh Paterson Keppie, brought his young family to Australia some years later.

Another son, Peter, lived at Brighton, England but kept in close touch with his Scottish brothers. He was to become the great-grandfather of both Simon Keppie and Jim Keppie, both of whom have been instrumental in the creation of this history. Furthermore, his youngest child, Susan, married her cousin, John's son William, referred to above.

Of the eight children of John Keppie's marriage to Jean Wilson, several produced children whose descendants migrated to North America.

Their first child, James was born in May 1798 in East Saltoun. He was also described as a ploughman on Dodridge Farm, as were several of his forebears and descendants.

Their third son David, born 1805, had a daughter, Helen Hogg Keppie, whose son, Thomas Keppie, took his wife and young family to USA about 1888 and became the grandfather of John McWilliams.

John's and Jean's fourth son, Robert, migrated to Canada in 1874 with the rest of his family to join his eldest son, James Thompson Keppie, who had already migrated there on SS "Theresa" with his young family in 1869, as had several of his siblings.

Scotland in the 1830's

Over the period that William had been living in Ireland and since their return to Scotland there had been tremendous growth in the population of the industrial cities, of which Glasgow was the largest. With the development of a trend away from tenant farmers to large farms and greater emphasis on sheep and cattle than crops, old-fashioned methods of farming were discarded and new more up-to-date methods introduced in their place. As a result, thousands of rural workers drifted into the already overcrowded cities.

At the same time, the mechanization of the spinning and weaving industry threw thousands of people out of work and the population of Glasgow grew from 77,000 in 1800 to over 200,000 by 1830.

The result of this sudden growth was fearful overcrowding and appalling living conditions with disastrous consequences for their health and general well being of the population. These circumstances no doubt were a large influence on the desire to seek opportunities in a new country and it appears that William's eldest son, James was the first member of the family to gain such an opportunity.

AN OUTLINE OF THEIR AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

It was less than fifty years after the new colony of New South Wales was founded that a young engineer named James Keppie left Scotland as a crewmember on a voyage of personal discovery to a new country. After his arrival at Port Jackson he secured the position of Engineer on the “Sophia Jane”, which was the first steam-powered vessel to operate in Australian waters. It was engaged in the rapidly growing coastal trade between Sydney and the Hunter Valley, carrying goods and passengers to Morpeth and eventually as far as Paterson.

Within five years of his arrival James, then 32 years of age, in 1839 married Elizabeth Powell, the 19 year old daughter of an early Paterson settler who himself had also been a coastal mariner, and “left the boats” to settle in Paterson.

Paterson in the 1830's

As early as 1811, a few small farms had been established at Patersons Plains, however the first white settlement was at Old Banks on the river near “Tocal” where convict gangs were employed to cut cedar trees and float the logs down the river. In 1821 the lands of the Hunter Valley were opened up for settlement by way of land grants – usually to wealthy and influential immigrants from Britain. Grants of land in the Paterson area included those made to Captain William Dun (“Duninald”), James Webber (“Tocal”), Captain James Phillips (“Bona Vista”), Susannah Matilda Ward (“Cintra”), George Williams (“Brisbane Grove”), and John Herring Boughton (“Tillimby”).

One exception was a grant of 100 acres on the river adjoining “Duninald” to John Powell, a master mariner who had been working on the coast for ten years up to 1821 when Governor Macquarie allowed him to establish a farm of 60 acres. Powell settled there, cleared and cultivated 25 acres and built a wattle and daub cottage by 1822 and his holding was converted to a grant of 100 acres that he called “Orange Grove”. His wife Charlotte was the daughter of John Tucker, who was also granted land on the Paterson River by Governor Macquarie.

The district was relatively inaccessible until steamers began to travel the Paterson River in the 1830's. They brought goods and passengers from Sydney and Newcastle and took the district's produce to these ports. These consisted of wool, cotton, wine, tobacco, timber, wheat and other farm products. From 1824 a weekly boat service operated between Wallis Plains (Maitland) and Newcastle, but until the advent of steam ships in 1831 it was a slow trip, usually taking two tides or about 12 hours. Larger boats had to tie up or anchor while the tide was against them while smaller boats could be rowed or poled along the shallows.

The first steamship in Australian waters, the *Sophia Jane*, arrived at Morpeth in 1831 and began a regular service between Morpeth and Sydney in 1832, along with the paddle steamer *William the Fourth* that had been built locally at Clarencetown. This steamship service established Morpeth as a major port and Maitland as the gateway to the north, and the largest town in New South Wales outside Sydney. In 1833 the Hunter River Steam Packet Association was formed and in 1834 a third steamer, the *Tamar* was added to the Morpeth/Sydney run.

The 1830's had generally been boom years because the land was freshly cleared and fertile, labour in the form of convicts was plentiful and markets were usually readily available for the district's products.

It was not until 1833 that a Town Plan of Paterson was surveyed following negotiations with Susanna Matilda Ward to surrender 90 acres of her "Cintra" estate and the "Government" township of Paterson was laid out in 1834. In 1840 the northeastern part of "Bona Vista", adjacent to the "government" township was subdivided into village allotments and auctioned. About this time the village could boast 26 houses, 3 stores, 3 inns, a butcher shop, 2 blacksmiths, a wheelwright, 2 shoemakers, a tailor, a Scottish Church building, a Courthouse and an Episcopal church under construction

So, although conditions in the colony were still rather primitive, the prospects must nevertheless have looked a great deal "rosier" than they were in a Britain which was suffering the social distress which was an aftermath of the Industrial Revolution; and since his family had an agricultural background which they might well expect to utilize to advantage in a newly developing country, James apparently encouraged his family to come out and join him so that they too could share the good fortunes that James could foresee.

It is not known when it was decided by the Keppie family to follow James to Australia but it seems that all three of James brothers wished to do so, and so, in February 1840, among the 60 emigrants that arrived in Port Jackson on the 541-ton vessel "Portland", were his eldest brother Peter and wife Elizabeth and their two children, Elizabeth and James, along with James' youngest brother, Walter William. They had come out on assisted passages and were to be followed a little over a year later by their parents, William and Mary, by then in their late fifties, who arrived on the "Wm. Abrams" in early 1841.

Having taken over the license of the "Bush Inn" and acting as "pound-keeper" at some time, James helped to establish his father onto a farm and joined his brothers in business as wheelwrights and blacksmiths.

"The Bush Inn (G J Geggie – Maitland Mercury, 25/8/1949) was built of stone and stands about half a mile north of Paterson on the Gresford Road, on the south bank of Brown's Creek. It was built well out of flood reach.

A well-appointed two-story building with a shingle roof, it had six rooms upstairs, two large rooms below used as dining room and kitchen, three smaller rooms and a large bar room."

Among their early activities Peter Keppie "started a transport system in a very neat 'car' he called the 'Rob Roy'. He ran this smart equipage to Morpeth via the new road through Hinton";

Paterson in the 1840's

Unfortunately, the agricultural growth and boom of the 1830's came to an abrupt end around the time of the Keppies' arrival in Australia. Some drought years occurred in combination with an overall financial slump in the whole colony. The prices of agricultural products fell dramatically and many large landholders were ruined.

A stock sale in Paterson during this period revealed prices for cows of three to four pounds and horses were unsaleable. Sheep were bringing up to sixpence per head and, in order to secure a better return, boiling down works were set up that produced tallow for export to Britain. The tallow was used to make soap and also for lighting in the poorer class houses in England. Whale oil was the premium source of light for domestic purposes, used exclusively by the wealthy.

The boiling down works basically consisted of large cast-iron cauldrons in which the chopped up sheep and cattle were placed. The mixture was boiled and then allowed to cool. The tallow (fat) floated to the top and was taken off and sold, the fluid drained out the bottom and the remaining material fed to pigs and poultry. Boiling down works would have been revolting places. Not only was it where the animals were slaughtered but also where their offal was cooked and cooled. At the time boiling down works were salvation for the farmers and others seeking employment in the Depression.

Tobacco was also an important crop in the Hunter Valley in the 1820's and 1830's through to the early 1900's. The industry was affected by taxes and tariffs on American tobacco and suffered from being seen as inferior to the American product. There were tobacco-manufacturing plants in the Paterson Valley as well as Maitland and early newspaper reports regularly record the prices of tobacco. It is unclear when tobacco production ceased, but it was the mainstay of some farmers during the early phase of agriculture in the area. Grape growing was also an early enterprise in the Hunter Valley, especially on the Paterson River and further up the Hunter River. Some grapes were grown in the immediate Maitland area, including a large vineyard at Dunmore, but the major plantings were away from Maitland.

Despite the drought and depressed economic conditions in the early 1840's some leading agriculturalists established the Hunter River Agricultural Society and in March 1844 held their first ploughing match. Seven horse teams and six bullock teams were entered in the match, which was held near Hanna Street adjacent to the Falls in West Maitland.

The first agricultural show was held in May 1844 in the yard and sheds at the rear of the Albion Inn in Maitland. Horses, cattle and pigs were on show. Agricultural products on display included cheese, butter, wheat, and maize, oranges, and barley and leaf tobacco. Messrs Keppie of Paterson exhibited ploughs and harrows which they had made using an improved system which had neither mortise nor tenon joints in any part of its construction. This suggests that wooden ploughs were still the main implements used on farms at this time.

The Maitland Show was to become one of the oldest and most influential shows in Australia. It is interesting that one of its founders, Charles Reynolds, was linked to the first English agricultural show. His father, Sir Thomas Reynolds, and Prince Albert, promoted and established the first agricultural; and stock show in England.

MAITLAND MERCURY 13 May 1843 PATERSON.

“THE CROPS. —The wheat sowing in this district is progressing rapidly; the farmer, too, is in better spirits, trusting to obtain next year some remuneration for his labour. This hope is not without foundation. The present depressed state of money matters precludes the possibility of any great amount being sent out of the country to purchase grain, add to this the loss which the importers must have sustained latterly, together with the necessary falling off in speculation here, we may justly conclude that, out of our present distress, brighter prospects may be looked for by the agriculturist. In consequence of wheat sowing, very little maize has been got ready for market; the early corn is of good quality, and will yield well; the stubble crop will be deficient, the first having already affected it. All the tobacco is now cut; the plants are deficient in quantity and quality. The crop is not equal by any means to what was anticipated; it is worth 6d to 7d in leaf, and 10d to 1s 2d manufactured.

Considerable care and attention is paid in getting it up, and many growers are making up their own crops.

STOCK.—At a public sale last week; cows brought £3 to £4 per head, and working bullocks £4 4s to £4 10s cash. Horses are not saleable.

A very neat car called the “Rob Roy”, built in Paterson by Mr. Keppie, of this township, is now running to Morpeth; the road to Hinton is undergoing repair, so that it will be both safe and expeditious. Great credit is due to Mr. Keppie for its neat construction, and the convenience it will afford.”

William's farming pursuits were thereupon short-lived and he spent the rest of his days helping his sons in one or other of the several enterprises in which they were to become engaged over the next 20 years.

During the early 1840's James and Elizabeth were blessed with the birth of two sons, and a daughter; but tragedy was to strike in 1846 on the birth of their third child, Elizabeth, which resulted in the death of both mother and child.

Over the period, Peter and Elizabeth also added to their family with the birth of three sons and another daughter, so by the end of the 1840's they had six children under 14.

Meanwhile, younger brother, Walter William after working with his brothers for a few years, had taken himself off to Sydney and in 1846 had married Harriet Howell and started a young family. Walter appears to have carried on his trade as an engineer but for a period in the late 1850's was licensee of the *City Inn* in Kent Street, Sydney and carried out a number of chores in Sydney for his brother James in Windeyer.

Meanwhile, back home in Scotland

William and Mary's third son, John, wrote in May of 1842 giving the following account of conditions there –

Dear friends, I am extremely sorry to inform you of the too widely extended prevalence of distress throughout the country... Beggary and poverty ride roughshod over the Country, and there is at present no, not the smallest appearance of change for the better for the working population. The Tories themselves, whilst admitting the facts as stated, withhold the means by which it may be remedied deny the people bread but rob them of their labour. They throw them into prison if driven by adversity to unlawfully seek the means of keeping soul and body together; and as a further ??? the calamities of the working population, about Finnestone the Glasshouse has ??? up these three months past and no appearance of resuming work again.

And to add more to their distress the mill formerly belonging to Mr Dixon, was completely burnt down on Friday night the 29th of April (a night which I will with sorrow long remember); and the corn and meal mill near the head of Washington Street since then was totally destroyed by fire also, and the whole loss of meal and corn reported to be about £5000. These disasters, along with the whole of the old establishment of Lancefield Mill and warehouse which was burnt down last winter (or a few months prior to the newspaper I sent giving an account of the destruction of Barrowfield Mill by fire) and these mills that are now stopped up Bishop Street and Bothwell Street, has thrown a deep and melancholy gloom over the inhabitants of Anderston. And in suburbs of Hutchisontown, Brighton and Calton other four mills have been burnt down...

those who have some fortune of being employed their wages, these two months past, have been shamefully and unnecessarily cruelly reduced varying from five to ??? p. cent. The following places are amongst the number, Dixon's Coal Works, Neilson's Blackquarry. Biard C. Bason, Dunn's Machine Shop, Craig ??? but very few employed. Todd & Higginbotham 15 p. cent and ¾ time. Rand, ¾ time. Shotts Iron Works reduction and paying off, Vulcan Foundry & Co.??? hands of each are at their last job and all the journeymen moulders of ??? places struck and are still out

now 19 weeks, the whole works about??? and Hyde Park, the Forge nearly closed for the want of work ???time, the Ships Docks??? little doing, and last but not least ??? of the works belonging to H. Houldsworth & Sons with ??? past there have been upwards of 50 journeymen paid off from the machine shop and a report of many more in a few weeks as the orders that are in are now nearly all done and no appearance of any more.

There was only one order this year yet, and it was only one tube frame, and as the reduction has now taken place I will state the amount as has been felt by those who were reduced, journeymen two shillings p. £ and the apprentices having price work a reduction of fifteen p. cent, and there is no use for any man to reject taking almost anything that master or manager may offer. I know some in the shop who only twelve months ago had £1 per week are now glad to take 12 shillings, and the unlimited number of hands who are daily soliciting work at any rate is lamentable to behold.

Thank God, I have been employed since you went away from the country and has still the prospects for about eight or nine months assisting in making self acting srubs or Jennies for Mr Higginbotham's new mill as our Master had the good fortune to procure the job for the whole fitting. If such had not been the case, God knows what I, and a great many more, would have done for you very well know how my circumstances were when you went away.

And to this day I am not much better off, and if there be any difference I am worse for I am very much indebted to cousin James and I am not yet free from my employer. Now, dear parents and brothers, with your wives, I hope in good health and circumstance, will take into consideration the awful state of this country, and I will in the name of wonder (after what follows) ask any or all of you what can induce me, or any other person who can get away to still remain in this country where the appearance of things is as they are here stated in truth. And now having but briefly stated the prospects of the employed I may now take a glance of the unemployed.

There are, I am sorry to say, at present from 18 to 20 thousand persons idle here in Glasgow and in Paisley they are on the decrease but still numbering from 12 to 14 thousand. And as for Greenock, they are as bad, as the ship building the last and this year is very limited. and the engine shops are (I may say shut up). That shop known by Cairds, or Kairds that formerly employed 6 to 7000 workmen, is now reduced to two journeymen and I think 7 or 9 apprentices, and as the same may be remarked with Scott & Sinclair's.

And the married men about Greenock who are not employed at their own employment are at present engaged breaking stones at 1 shilling p. day, and the unmarried must just make the best shift they can and it is indeed but very little for one of the working classes, or in other words the labouring population, cannot help the other when such widespread distress prevails throughout the country.

The many applications for assistance at the doors is truly heart-rending and the many thousands who have no means of subsistence but by begging, stealing, or more horrid to relate in many cases suicide, has been resorted to. Robbery and its attendant maltreatment, and the young females have had to commit prostitution, their last and only resource now left them of being at the pleasure of the more wealthy class of society as the only means of subsistence to save themselves from hunger and death.

God only knows how long such a state of things may continue. No doubt means have been adopted to try and alleviate the distress so generally felt throughout Great Britain and Ireland. In Glasgow the only means yet tried is very limited, the improvement worthy of notice is the extension of the Quay, further down from Mr Napier's Dock to near Finnestone Road. Not employing more than 200 persons, and the New Lunatic Asylum near Jordan Hill. It is very extensive, said to be one of the largest in Great Britain, but one cannot say the number employed. The stone masons are generally reduced two shillings p. week and very few buildings going on.

And it is seemingly not in the power of the Magistrates to do any more for the unemployed than recommending subscriptions and even soliciting the Ministers to ??? at the Church doors on Sundays. The Theatre Royal, and every other public place of entertainment, are now fast following in the same laudable object. But as the means of assistance is so very small few indeed are benefited by it, and as an instance of its incapability of any long duration about Glasgow I can say without fear of contradiction that the means of assistance is so limited that only one Choppin, or English pint, of very thin soup and one scone could be given to one family for 24 hours.

There are many conjections and proposals but, as they are not of any substance, they are not worthy of remark. Committees have been appointed to call upon the wealthy and take whatever

may be given, either in money, victuals or clothes, and very poor indeed has been the proceeds. There are many employed at breaking stones at 6d.. per day and the Night Asylum for the houseless is crowded every night with people passing through Glasgow to different parts in search of employment.

Such then, dear friends, is but a brief outline of the once prosperous, but now fallow, state of the commerce of Glasgow and the surrounding parts.

Emigration this year has been very spirited for America from this part, and Port Glasgow and Greenock there have been from the Broomilaw alone no fewer than 18 vessels sailed for Canada and the United States. And the number of passengers in each vessel have differed from 80 to 600.

There was one vessel arrested for having too many, so they were obliged to unship to the prescribed number, as there has been an Act passed in Parliament for the better regulation of emigration.

And in Ireland, I am happy to inform you, teetotalism is rapidly and respectably advancing - so much so that the public prints has taken particular notice of, and from the port of Limerick no fewer than 3032 passengers sailed this season and the Government agent admits that not one case of drunkenness was to be seen by any of the passengers, or their friends (sailed for America)

The Chartists are getting more numerous, formidable and respectable, and as the war now in the East Indies require many more men the recruiting parties in Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock Edinburgh, Dundee are much dispirited by the uselessness of their beating up for recruits, and very few taking the shilling to be hired assassins. As a sample, though the trade in Paisley was so very bad and as a means to benefit the unmarried, a Government agent and a recruiting party was sent, and only one solitary weak-minded or bloodthirsty creature was all they could get. And long, long may they be so.

And in Glasgow, and all other extensive manufacturing towns, large placards are posted forbidding the people to enlist, and I am happy to say the intimation is not made in vain. In Ireland it is almost useless for in the town of Belfast the sum of £11 was said to be offered as bounty money and although the bait was large it had no effect there, and is the same said to be throughout the whole of that misgoverned and tyrannically used people, and they deserve credit for such rejection.

Whitsunday, or the flitting day is near at hand and the houses to let are very numerous by reason of their former tenants not having the means to pay the rent. They are to be put out and their little all be sold to pay the greedy landlords, and then they have nowhere to lay their heads and starving family. And as a means for the Laird to recover the former rent that may have been left unpaid or unrecoverable. They, the Lairds, are in too many cases rising the rent to one pound more in the year for new tenants, the taxes more numerous and heavy, and but gloomy prospects of a revival of trade

John Kippie

Further ventures by James

About the time that James lost his wife and new-born daughter he purchased some land near the river which was ideally suited to a commercial venture and in the following years James set about building a steam-mill for grinding locally grown grain. By March 1849, he was able to commence this business as an addition to his other activities.

Then in 1850 James married for a second time and when the gold rush took place in 1851 he decided to try his fortune there taking his new wife and three young children to live at a settlement called Richardson's Point on the Meroo Creek, south of Mudgee, and nearly 200 kilometres west of Paterson.

As well as trying his hand on various claims (without a great deal of success), he became the proprietor of the "Sterling Inn", the largest of the several "hotels" there at the height of the "gold fever", as well as a general store, supplying the various needs of the miners. The settlement, which later became the township of Windeyer, was known as "Keppies' Town" and James continued to be an active and prominent citizen throughout his life.

Meanwhile he held onto his Paterson activities by leasing his flourmill, leaving his brother Peter, with a growing family of sons, to look after his interests in Paterson and carry on the farm for several years.

All went well for a time but he again suffered personal misfortunes, first in 1853 losing his eldest son, Walter William, at the age of just 12 years when run over by a dray wheel and a few years later the death of his daughter Sarah at 13 years after a long illness.

Back in Paterson in 1861 old William, then 77 years of age, passed away without fuss, leaving Mary to live on in the cottage that they occupied on one of James' Paterson properties to survive him for another eleven years.

The death of James' wife Margaret in January 1863 unfortunately coincided with a serious deterioration in James business activities when the effects of drought severely limited mining operations and James was eventually forced into bankruptcy in October 1863 and he was forced to sell up all of his Paterson assets.

James remained at Windeyer, working as a blacksmith and making coffins, and after marrying for the third time he sired a second family of a girl and three boys and went on to establish a dairy and farm which he named "Glengowan" on a free selection of 240 acres a little way out of town; with which he also had a government "run" of a further 2000 acres.

Meanwhile, in Paterson in 1868, Peter lost both his wife and sixteen-year-old daughter. After a short time Peter went to live in Morpeth with his daughter, Margaret; while the old grandmother, Mary moved to Singleton to live out the last few years of her long life with Peter's eldest daughter, Elizabeth Mather.

INDIVIDUAL BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

WILLIAM ("THE PATRIARCH")

William Keppie was born in Haddington, East Lothian, in September 1784 and would appear to have followed in his father's footsteps as a ploughman. It is not known when, or why, William went to Ireland but, in his early twenties, he was head ploughman for a period of seven years, approx 1804 to 1811 for a G Grierson.

During his time with Grierson, in 1806, aged 22, he married Mary Murphy at Tallaght, near Dublin. Little is known of Mary's family apart from some references in a letter written to her by her sister, Betty Groves, who then lived near Littleton, near Holycross, County Tipperary, Ireland. This occurred after William's death in 1861, and in the letter she acknowledges advice of a legacy from William's estate. She also refers to her eldest son having emigrated to Sydney some years earlier, and her youngest daughter, Bridget Groves, having emigrated some six years before that in "The Free Emigration" and was reported to have gone to work for a Mrs. Morgan in Guyong for £35 per year.

In 1807, while William was working with Grierson, Mary gave birth to their first child, James. His birth was followed in 1809 by that of Peter's and in 1811 by John's.

Grierson gave William a glowing reference signed in Dublin in December 1811 stating that during the seven years spent with him –

"he obtained the prize cup, given by the Farming Society of Ireland, for five successive years ... and that the ploughs, with which he won the prize on the last two such years, were made by himself. He also had charge of (Grierson's) entire horses and brood mares and attended to them most carefully."

He left Grierson's employment

"at the request of the Farming Society to instruct others in different parts of the country in making and using farming implements."

He then spent some 14 months as a Land Steward for a Mr H Hunt of Waterford who credited him –

"with an extensive knowledge of agriculture in general ... (and) the buying and selling of livestock. (He) has a perfect knowledge in ditching and draining & reclaiming of land."

From 1814 through April 1820 he was Land Steward for a J McPhelyn, of Craignoe.

Where he –

"had the management of (his) farm stock and property and for a great part of the time I was not at home. ... his abilities as a cultivator of land are too well established to require any comment."

During this time their fourth son, Walter William was born in 1819.

In December 1821 a George Nimmo of Waterford described William as –

"an excellent practical agriculturalist, understanding thoroughly the rearing, buying and care of every kind of farm stock." He noted that *"he had obtained the first premium in the country for his superior knowledge and work as a ploughman;"* and that *"he had the ability to make and repair all sorts of farming implements."* He declared that his *"improved plough, entirely finished by himself, ... a masterpiece, well adapted for the soil of this country."*

Back to the homeland

By about 1826, William and Mary, along with their family, had returned to Scotland and settled in the Glasgow area. William would then have been in his forties, while James would have been about 19, Peter 17, John 15 and Walter William about seven.

Over the period that William had been living in Ireland and since their return to Scotland there had been tremendous growth in the population of the industrial cities, of which Glasgow was the largest. With the development of a trend away from tenant farmers to large farms and greater emphasis on sheep and cattle than crops, old-fashioned methods of farming were discarded and new more up-to-date methods introduced in their place. As a result, thousands of rural workers drifted into the already overcrowded cities.

At the same time, the mechanization of the spinning and weaving industry threw thousands of people out of work and the population of Glasgow grew from 77,000 in 1800 to over 200,000 by 1830.

The result of this sudden growth was fearful overcrowding and appalling living conditions with disastrous consequences for their health and general well being of the populating.

These circumstances no doubt were a large influence on the desire to seek opportunities in a new country and it appears that William's eldest son, James was the first to gain such an opportunity.

The father and the older boys all appear to have found work in the engineering industry and William, at least, over the next fourteen years earned further accolades as witnessed by a Mr H Houldsworthy in November, 1840 –

“William Kippie has been known to me for about fourteen years as a servant and in the service of others in my neighbourhood in various capacities, particularly as engine keeper and superintendent of the gas apparatus. I am not aware of having, at any time, employed a person who possessed more useful practical knowledge as a labourer than William. The consequence was that he uniformly drew higher wages than others of his class. His useful knowledge was only equalled by his activity, honesty and sobriety”.

This period included about five years with the Lancefield Spinning Mills, and a further period with the Phoenix Iron Works when he was described as –

“a man who has had great experience and displayed great ability & judgement in the manufacture of agricultural instruments” – and with the Vulcan Foundry
“above four years in my service as an engine keeper”

William secured these references at the time he and Mary were preparing to migrate to Australia, to join their sons James, Peter and Walter William.

At the same time he received some advice from his younger brother, John, who was a merchant and carrier in the centre of the East Lothian rural district.

Haddington 15th Nov 1840

Dear Brother and Sister

I again take the liberty of writing a few lines to you after a long silence. However, as you are about to leave your native land and more than probably finish your earthly career on a distant land as yet to you unknown, I hope that it may be for your good – and my only wish is this, that the blessing of God may attend you wherever you go, and, if this should be the last letter that I may write to you on this side of the Atlantic, that if ever you should arrive on the other side, that you will not forget that you still have a brother in Haddington who always was happy to hear from you and will still continue to be so although far distant from each other and my only desire at present is, along with my wife's, that you will not fail in writing to us as soon as you arrive at Sydney.

Dear Brother, my son said in his letter that I might hold myself in readiness if I wanted to see you for you did not know how soon you might go away and that I might let my Brothers know. I have sent word to all of them that is within my reach but has got no word from either of them, but I am of opinion that if you have time and for you to come east and you would see us all. For my own part, if you let me know that time of your departure, if possible I can get away I may come and see you but this is our strong time of the year in my line.

Dear Brother, with regard to the samples, they are all of the different sorts that I could obtain and you may rely upon them being genuine as they are all particularly selected. I was to have got a sample of the potatoes out but it has not come to me. The Hopetown oats is the most approved of here now. The Hunter and the Hopetown wheat is the most prolific. They both take the market best and pay the farmer most. The Chevalier barley is the most productive and pay the farmer well but the common answers best for malting.

You can let my son know that I will write him at the end of the month.

I hope that this letter will find you all in good health and spirits as it leaves me, my wife and all the family that is in Haddington, in the enjoyment of good health at present, thank God for it from whom all blessings flow.

No more at present.

From your Brother and Sister

John & Mary Kippy

Off to a new world

James had come to Australia several years earlier, and spent several years as engineer on the *Sophia Jane*, which was used to convey goods and passengers between Sydney and the Hunter River. In 1839 James left the boats, married Elizabeth, and proceeded to settle down there.

Peter, with his wife Elizabeth, their two children and younger brother Walter William followed him, arriving in February, 1840.

William and Mary set sail to join their sons and families on the "Wm. Abrams" arriving in Sydney in September, 1841 just a few days before William's 57th birthday, and in the process gained the respect of the Captain of the "Wm Abrams"

Sydney 8th Sepr 1841

Mr Wm Kippie

Dear Sir

I cannot allow you to leave my ship without first expressing the pleasure I have had in you as a passenger of mine. To yourself, before any of all my passengers, do I feel great pleasure in bearing testimony to your universal good conduct. In fact, for the fine, steady, cleanly, pious, & industrious example you set to those around you, I shall ever consider myself your debtor

*Ja^s Hamlin Com^r
Of ship W^m Abrams
of Greenock*

Armed with the up-to-date advice and samples of the best of the different sorts of grains then being grown around Scotland he purchased a variety of farming equipment, tools and livestock on 12th July, 1842 and commenced farming at Paterson on land which James had managed to secure for him.

The 1840's, however, proved to be anything but propitious, and for a man of William's age undertaking such a venture the drought conditions which prevailed for several years prevented him achieving any real success; and resulted in him retiring from farming within a relatively short time.

William and Mary appear to have lived in a cottage on one of the farms while William spent his time assisting one or other of his sons in their various pursuits. He died on 1st February 1861 at the age of 76, some 20 years after their arrival.

It appears, from letters written to them by their son, John, who remained behind in Glasgow with his wife and family, but wanting desperately to join his family in Australia, that William had some difficulty in raising the funds that he felt he needed to bring with him to Australia. John wrote several letters admonishing his father for neglecting what John saw as his obligations to many and varied family members and friends, but we do know, at the very least, that William left a legacy in his will to his wife's sister in Ireland so like to think that he did, in time, meet whatever other obligations he may have had in that regard.

It seems that while working in the engineering industry in Glasgow, William and Mary had conducted something in the nature of a boarding house, and that they left behind some debts in respect to that establishment that John seems to have inherited.

William died in 1861 aged 77 years. Mary, whose health had been of some concern in earlier years, seems to have taken well to the Australian climate for she survived him for another 12 years, dying at Singleton on 16th November, 1872, where she had gone to live with her widowed granddaughter Elizabeth Mather and family in January, 1871, after having lived on in the old place on her own for some ten years after William's passing.

JAMES ("THE BIG BROTHER")

Arguably the most colorful of the pioneering Keppies, he was self-assured, resourceful and determined, a tireless worker, an eternal optimist and, through his prolific correspondence, which is now in the care of the Newcastle Regional Library, has left a most interesting and valuable record of events of his days.

The eldest of William and Mary Ann's four boys, James was born in Dublin in 1807 where his father was head Land Steward for a Mr. George Grierson. He grew up on the Irish farms that his father worked on, acquiring some of his father's skills and personal attributes, and was a teenager when the family moved to Glasgow. Here he appears to have gained some experience in the engineering industry, which equipped him for some opportunities later in life.

The earliest record of James coming to Australia is a letter that he wrote from the Cape of Good Hope on the 5th July 1834 to his parents in Glasgow—

Dear Father and Mother

I am now happy to embrace the opportunity of a vessel, in this port on her passage home, which I have sent this letter by, letting you know that I am very well, thank God for it. Hoping these few lines will find you in the same.

I am now considered a very useful member in the seafarer line, considering my short time on sea, and as well beloved by all hands. Our Captain is still as you left him, a very worthy man, and says that during the 30 odd years that he has been upon the sea that he never had such a pleasant voyage.

We got into the Cape upon the 24 of June and we intend to start upon the 8 of July and I intend to make myself as useful as possible. Please God, if we get to our journeys end, I shall be as good as my word.

The price of meat in this place is from 1½ d to 2d per lb; wine 1/6 per gallon. Everything else is very dear and I now have the pleasure of informing you that I have not used one half pint of spirits since I had the pleasure of seeing you last June.

My best respects to my Mother, John and Peter and families and my only request at present is that my dear brother Walter would get forward in his education as quick as possible. Give my respects to W^m Sutch and family, James Moss and family, John Henderson and fam, James Murphy, John Broli, Robt. Hamilton and all my enquiring friends.

*No more at present but Remains Ever dutiful and obedient son
James Keppie*

Research has shown that the vessel on which he travelled was almost certainly the *Tamar*, which had been built by McMillan of Greenock the previous year and was en route to Launceston, Tasmania. Although of only 88 tons, she proved too big to be successful with the limited trade offering in the Tamar River and was then brought to NSW and added to the fleet that serviced the Hunter River trade.

When the "Sophia Jane" had come to Sydney in 1831, unusual among her crew was a "top-hatted gentleman with the curious title of "Engineer" named William Bourne, who subsequently went into business on his own account in Sydney. It is my belief that James then secured the position of engineer on the "Sophia Jane" and he spent several years travelling between Port Jackson and the Hunter before marrying Elizabeth Powell, of Paterson Plains.

Among the few settlers that were fortunate enough to obtain small grants of land in the Paterson area was John Powell. He received 60 acres of land. Prior to this time John had been working as a sea-faring man along the settled coast, but now he turned his attention to farming. By the time of the 1828 Census he had increased his holding to 130 acres, cultivated 57 acres of land, employed 11 convicts, and owned 57 head of cattle. He had named his property "Orange Grove". In 1818 John had married Charlotte Tucker, daughter of John Tucker, Snr., of Albion Farm, Woodville and in the following years their family grew to 12 children, several of whom died at an early age.

Several other much larger grants took up all the land in the immediate vicinity of Paterson and in 1833 the government had to resume part of the "Cintra" estate of Mrs. Susannah Matilda Ward to establish the township of Paterson. A further subdivision in 1840 of a part of the "Bona Vista" estate of Captain James Phillips that adjoined it formed the southern part of the village.

In the 1830's a wharf had been built at Paterson in the location of the railway bridge that was built many years later. In 1832 mail was delivered once a week by mounted police from Maitland until, in 1834, a Post Office had been opened and by 1842, due to the increased shipping on the river, a seven-day a week mail service was available.

By 1839 James Keppie was 32 years of age, had left the ships and on 15th March, of that year, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Sydney, James was married by the Rev. Garvie to Elizabeth Powell of Paterson's Plains.

Coincidental with the establishment of the Town of Paterson in 1834, Susannah Matilda Ward sold off further segments of her *Cintra* estate on the northern edge of the town and fronting the river. Another seaman by the name of Captain David Brown purchased over 100 acres of this land and in 1836 built a residence there that he called "Long House Green". He also built a wharf on the river below. This substantial residence was later registered as a hotel to service the needs of the settlers and travellers to the Upper Paterson and Allyn Rivers and was considered a first-class establishment. Brown's wife ran it while he operated his small sailing vessel between Paterson and Sydney.

On 1st October 1840 James leased the "Bush Inn" and three acres surrounding it, together with 3½ acres near the river adjoining this land and 50 acres of paddock west of the inn and along with the use of the wharf. The lease was from David Brown, was for a term of seven years with an initial annual rental of £175. James held the licence from 1841 until 1844 and for a time also acted as pound-keeper.

In April 1841 James and Elizabeth's first child, a boy they named Walter William, was born and on 13th October 1841 James mortgaged the leased land to Edye Manning for £433.7.0 at 12.5% interest to finance other developments that James had planned. Edye Manning was well known in the coastal shipping business and in 1845 was the owner of the "Sophia Jane".

The years of the early forties were the sad, bad years for Paterson - "the hungry 40's".

In 1843 the Paterson River ceased to run, thus bringing about the ruin of so many that the Police Court News in the "Maitland Mercury" of that year had an extra column entitled "New Insolvents", and the list grew longer as the days drew into a long dry winter. The Governor, Sir George Gipps, was forced to introduce the Insolvency Act for giving relief to Insolvent Persons

This general financial slump was widespread over the whole of New South Wales; in fact it was Australia's first taste of depression. The reason did not lie in the drought alone. There had been droughts in previous years, followed by good seasons. It was in these good seasons that an unprecedented land boom took place, accompanied by an abundance of

money and eagerness on the part of the Banks to lend money or discount bills, taking land as security. The drought in the 1840's was worsened by the fact that squatters now had to pay more for labour, as fewer convicts were being transported; in fact the Government was paying for immigration. The price of wool fell. The Government, to meet a rapidly mounting expenditure, drew upon the Bank's land sale credits, with the result that the Banks were forced to raise their interest rates until at last the colony became bankrupt.

The crops, flocks of sheep and cattle were all there, but the squatters could not raise any money on these. Sheep were boiled down for their fat, or at most sold for sixpence per head. The Stock Sale reports were depressing to read. At J.G. Dawson's sale at Paterson, sold by Mr. Wilkinson, the stock agent, good cows were bringing only £3 to £4 each and a working bullock £4 to £4.10.0. Horses were unsaleable, which was a very surprising thing considering that the horse was the only means of transport, other, of course, than the river.

In October 1843 James had filed his schedule with Debts of £550.19.0, Personal property of £13.0.0 and other assets of £95.5.11. He applied for discharge from bankruptcy in August 1844.

In January 1843 James and Elizabeth's second child, another boy that they named James, had been born, followed in July 1844 by a daughter, Sarah.

Their fourth child, another girl that they named Elizabeth Ann, was born in May 1846 and Elizabeth tragically died in childbirth. The child died a month later.

About this time, June 1846, James, then described as a wheelwright, purchased two further blocks of land on the river which were ideally suited to a commercial venture and James later established a steam mill on this land. Having paid only £39 for the land he mortgaged it to William Munnings Arnold for £200 at 10% interest and proceeded to build a flourmill, which opened for business in March, 1849 -

NEW STEAM MILL

The undersigned having COMPLETED HIS NEW STEAM MILL begs to inform his friends and the public that he is now ready to receive GRAIN, and hopes by strict attention, combined with first-rate machinery, that he will render such satisfaction as will ensure a liberal support . Charges for Grinding, Smutting and Dressing, the same as at the neighbouring mills.

JAMES KEPPIE

P.S. —A NEW BOAT will ply on the Hunter, Williams and Paterson Rivers to take grain and Flour to and from the different customers, free of any charge.

J.K.

Keppie's Mill, Paterson,

6th March, 1849

Maitland Mercury 14 March 1849

In July 1850, having been widowed for four years and having three young children then aged 9, 7 and 6, James married Margaret Gordon Sterling, a young woman some twenty years his junior, whose name is honoured by him in several ways in his later life.

When the mid-western goldfields were starting up in 1851 James saw yet another opportunity to make his fortune and despite his substantial farming and milling activities in Paterson took his new wife and young family to Richardson's Point on the Meroo Creek and established a hotel, expecting his younger brother, Peter, to look after his interests and do his bidding back in Paterson.

While his efforts at gold mining proved largely unrewarding, he put his entrepreneurship to practice to the extent that the settlement at Richardson's Point (later incorporated as the township of Windeyer) became known as "Keppie's Town". Here over a period of time James conducted the "Sterling Inn" - "the architectural pride and joy of the town, with a hint of the Ionic, and with some real glass in the window sashes".

He was also the proprietor of a store servicing the needs of the diggers - and in later years carried on blacksmithing and the making of coffins. Active in both local affairs and political matters, he was very proud of his appointment as a Justice of the Peace.

Back in Paterson in 1851 James had leased 100 acres of land, which was part of the Bona Vista estate. When a committee of prominent citizens of the area had been formed a few years earlier to establish a racecourse they leased the required ground from Phillips. In 1851 they transferred the lease to James Keppie on condition that he allow races to be held on several days each year. At the time James entered into the lease it had six years to run at £16 per year.

Being involved with so many activities both in Paterson and on the goldfields James decided early in 1853 to lease the Mill to Adam Mather, a young Scotsman who had experience in milling at Black's Creek and who was later to marry Elizabeth Keppie, the eldest of James brother Peter's daughters.

1853 proved an eventful year. In May Adam reduced his prices and took his future father-in-law, Peter into the business; in June the mill suffered a fire; and by the end of the year James had the great misfortune to lose his son Walter William, just short of 12 years of age —

*Sterling Inn
Meroo.
23 Nov. 1853*

*Dear Parents,
It is with pain I have to announce the decease of Walter William, caused by a
dray wheel going over him on Thursday the 17 inst and which terminated in
instant death. The bearer, Charles Whitfield, will explain the whole particulars
as my invalidity renders me incapable.*

I remain, dear parents

*Your afflicted son
James Keppie*

In 1855 following the death of James Phillips, who had been granted some 2090 acres of land south of the township that became known as Bona Vista, the remainder of his grant was subdivided and offered for sale. James had already leased 100 acres of the land in 1851, and although he was heavily committed in activities both at Paterson and at the Meroo, he decided to buy several allotments, being seven small suburban riverfront allotments south of William street, another five 5 acre ones a little further south and a 40 acre lot 32 adjoining the Bona Vista Homestead block.

In conjunction with his brother, Peter, James established a farm on the 40-acre block where Peter and his family eventually lived.

By mid 1856 Adam Mather, having married Elizabeth Keppie in November 1854, apparently didn't renew the lease of the mill after more than a year or two. So, having purchased yet another block adjoining those on which he had erected the steam mill James leased the Mill and a cottage to James Menzies the elder and James Menzies the younger, trading as J & J Menzies & Co. in July of that year for five years with an annual rental of £170.

Meanwhile, back in Windeyer James and Elizabeth's third child, Sarah, who had been born in Paterson in 1845 had been ailing for several months and finally died of a heart condition on 2nd May, 1858 after an eight months illness, only 13 years old.

James next significant setback was a fire in the cottage on the Paterson farm, which caused the death of their worker, George Allen.

Newspaper article (probably Newcastle)

"AN OLD MAN BURNT TO DEATH NEAR PATERSON -- The Empire of Thursday states :— At about seven o'clock on the morning of the 21st instant Mr. Hinde, chief constable at Paterson, received information that a hut occupied by an old man named George Allen, near Bona Vista, was burned during the previous night. On arrival at the hut the chief constable found the remains of the old man (on an iron bedstead) burned almost to a cinder. The legs and arms were almost completely consumed, and the trunk still burning. The hut and every ignitable article in it were totally destroyed. The deceased was upwards of 70 years, by trade a gardener, but served some years in the army. Having no family he lived alone in the hut, which was a considerable distance from any other house. It appeared that he was in the habit of lying in bed reading by candle light, and it was supposed he was reading on this occasion, fell asleep, and that the bed clothes subsequently took fire by coming in contact with the candle. as his remains were found on the iron bedstead, just in the position in which he would have been sleeping under such circumstances; all the clothes were burned to ashes. An enquiry was held before Mr E G Cory JP and a verdict returned in accordance with the above facts, viz., that the old man was found dead and burned, but how the fire originated there was no evidence to show.

Richardson's Point
Meroo 28th Nov' 59

D' Brother

I duly rec^d yours of the 21 announcing the sad intelligence of Allan's death. If anything is disclosed at the inquest where it might be presumed anything was premeditated, especially when you mention of the crop being chipped up, I presume drink has been the cause, another victim of intemperance.

I am thankful for your attention in seeing to his interment. I will pay all expenses.

I cannot at present afford to erect another house in its stead. You had better include the garden with the farm at present. Should anything transpire that I may require to make a change I will let you know...

Write me again.

I remain your affectionate Brother

James Keppie

James was very active in public affairs of his new hometown of Windeyer. Among other activities he became Patron and President of a committee for the establishment of a school at Windeyer and was successful in having the school built of brick rather than weatherboard as had been proposed by the Board of National Education. The school was opened on 14th November 1859. He retained an interest in the school for many years and was involved in several incidents.

Following his move to Richardson's Point, which had been renamed Windeyer, James seems to have stretched his financial capacity. Years of drought had severely hampered his mining activities from time to time and returns from the steam-mill and the farm had also been very disappointing. By 1860 he lodged the Deeds of his Paterson lands with David Cohen and Co to secure credit for goods supplied to him by that firm and advertised the Mill to Let or For Sale.

Maitland Mercury, August 24, 1861

"STEAM MILL AT PATERSON"

TO BE LET or SOLD, that capacious brick-built

STEAM MILL at Paterson, known as KEPPIE'S MILL, situated near the navigable portion of the Paterson River, with a convenient Wharf, together with an eight-horse power engine, a superior pair of stones, dressing and smutting machines complete, all ready for work at the shortest notice.

Immediate possession can be given. Terms liberal.

For particulars, apply to

MR. A. COLEMAN,
Auctioneer,
Paterson.

Windeyer 8th Nov' 1861

D' Brother

Immediately on my leaving you in the Paterson a thought struck me that it would be much better to divide the farm. I accordingly left instructions with William to give to M^r Coleman for him to let the lucerne and grass paddocks to one person. By doing this, it will enable you and your son William, which I intend to join you in the farm, to be better able to pay the rent which I have fixed to fifty pounds £50.0.0 per year, payable ½ yearly and to commence from 1 January 1862.

This was at your son's request, which, although at a considerable loss, I acceded to. I also promised him for himself and you that if you pay me from the proceeds of the present wheat crop sixty pounds; I will give you a receipt in full of arrears of rent.

This, you are aware, is making a great sacrifice, but I am induced to do so in consequence of the number of young trees you are rearing and planting on the farm.

The bullocks, I am willing you should sell, provided you replace them with horses which I do recommend.

I have taken this decided step without consulting you as I think I am capable of arranging which will be to your interest.

Should you require the two gum trees on the bank, you had better fall them before the ground is let and have them removed.

Pay attention to the mill; all you can do for the repairs will be to my interest.

I remain

Your affectionate

Brother

James Keppie

Windeyer 10th Nov^r 1862

D^r Brother

It is my misfortune again to be visited by that heavy hand of affliction. My wife's case is decided as a bad one. I expect James to call on you, he will inform you of the particulars.

It will be one and the only blessing, should it please God to call her out of this world of troubles. I believe I am to be dogged through life with all the mishaps attending those not of the chosen race.

God only knows how much I deserve it but I suppose it is cut out for me and I must bear it.

I am not aware if M^r Woolf called upon you or not. If so I hope you have acted in the way I pointed out.

I believe this circumstance of my wife's illness and loss to me will be the cause of a general wind up. You may imagine the consequences which is likely to follow.

I remain, D^r Brother, yours in the agony of mind

But affectionate Brother

James Keppie

P.S. You can relate to our Mother what is likely to befall me

To add to his woes Margaret, his wife of twelve years, whose health had been deteriorating for some time, finally passed away at Maitland on 6th January 1863 at just 35 years of age.

MAITLAND MERCURY Thursday 8 January 1863

DEATHS

On the 6th instant, at the residence of Mr James Ferguson, East Maitland, Margaret, the wife of Mr James Keppie, of Windeyer, Meroo, aged thirty-five years.

*Windeyer
8th Jany 1863*

My Dear Father

I duly received your melancholy telegram of the 6 inst and likewise your letter dated 1st inst and according to your wishes I closed the business. I need not say that your telegram was received with the heartfelt feelings of a truly penitent son who is by the will of God deprived of a Mother and one who in need proved true and am now almost a disconsolate creature of the earth.

But it is to be hoped that the Supreme Being who governs all things will give us both health and strength to overcome all misfortunes which we are all subject to.

The business is going on very well but owing to the new year and the present calamity which has just befallen us it has taken me all my time to look after business so that we have not finished taking stock yet. But when it is done I will let you know. I can say no more at present but with love to M^r and M^{rs} Ferguson I remain your much affected son.

James Keppie

By February, 1863 James had decided that the only way out of his problems was to sell up all his Paterson properties including the farms and the mill. In August 1860 he had mortgaged some of his land at both Paterson and at Windeyer to Mr. John Gough Waller as security for a loan of £600. On February 27, 1863 Waller released the land in the Commercial Road area of Paterson, including a brick and stone built steam mill and cottage erected on the land so that it could be sold to William Corner, described as of Paterson, Landowner, for £900.

Early in February 1863 he mortgaged lots 1 to 5, containing 25 acres of the Bona Vista land which he had rented for £32 per year, to John Gough Waller a Sydney Wine and Spirit merchant for a loan of £900; and on 20th February sold the small suburban lots 1 to 5 and part of lot 6 to Joseph Tucker, a Paterson farmer, for £150. He had already sold the remainder of lot 6, which he had leased to Samuel Patfield, to Patfield for £50.

All but a small portion of James' suburban riverside lots were sold to Joseph Tucker for £150 in February 1863 and at the same time he sold for £50 the portion that he had been leasing to Samuel Patfield. The largest block of 40 acres, which was occupied by his brother Peter, was sold to a Mr. John Harris, a Maitland farmer, for £750.

All this was not enough to save him from insolvency and on 5th August 1863 he assigned his estate for the benefit of his creditors.

Although by this time James was 56 years of age, his recovery from the loss of his wife was much swifter than that of his financial affairs; for on 30th May of the same year he again married, this time to Henrietta Elizabeth Tucker of Singleton – 24 years his junior, and a cousin of his first wife, Elizabeth Powell. They set about rearing a family of four children - Alice, Kinross, Douglas and Maxwell - later establishing a farm on a selection he took up nearby, which he called "Glengowan".

Windeyer 7 Dec^r 1863

D^r Brother

You are aware of my insolvency. Everything I possessed was sold off. I am living in the house, which is closed, on sufferance. A friend purchased the blacksmith's tools for me and by such I eke out a sort of living. This ought to satisfy M^{rs} Keppie that my object in selling the farm was not as she said to get rid of the family.

I made arrangements with M^r Saunders not to disturb Mother from her dwelling. This is all I can do at present. Do not see the old woman in want. As soon as I am able I will attend to her aid.

I had a letter from John. He sends his kind love to all.

Your affectionate Brother

James Keppie

He was discharged from bankruptcy in 1866 "after serving the estate to the amount of about £1500".

East Maitland
22 May 1866

D^r Brother

I am so thoroughly disgusted with the treatment I am receiving from those who have it in their power to do otherwise, that I am deprived the opportunity of paying you the intended visit after serving the estate to the in the amount of about £1500. I am now to return as I came – of course you will excuse my not coming up. My mind will scarcely serve me from day to day. Remember me kindly to all the family.

I am

D^r Brother

yours affectionately

James Keppie

Never despairing, he wrote to his nephew, William (on the occasion of Williams' becoming engaged to be married) in the following terms (30/6/1867) –

"follow my example, never give in. Where much is attempted something is done. I have been unfortunate in my family and business. Still I persevere, and I am proud to say that I hope once more to be as comfortable as I have been. I am of (the) opinion (that) my enterprise will prove successful, for the last two years no water. I am now in a fair way of having some return from my outlay. Of course I have much leeway to make up, and at present am denied the pleasure of forwarding you what I cheerfully would do (as a wedding present) were I in a position. My private intention, if I am successful in my claim, I intend establishing a small flourmill to be driven by water, this of course is only in prospect. The gold field is fast failing, the residents are turning their attention to small plots of farming and such a thing as a mill will soon be required...

I keep 17 men employed which consumes a large item of my earnings."

He gave further indications of his impecuniosity a year later when writing to his brother Peter in consolation of the death of Peter's wife, Elizabeth -

Windeyer
10th June 1868

D^r Brother

I am in receipt of yours of the 3rd inst announcing the death of your wife and of William's continued illness.

I am truly sorry for your bereavement, it is indeed a heavy blow. I speak feelingly, knowing as I do, the value of a good wife, which you had in Eliza. Could I lighten your troubles it would afford me much pleasure, more particularly just now when I am convinced you stand in need.

In order that you may know just how I am at present situated, I may mention that I am not in receipt of a single pound or you should have it. On Jany last my apprentice boy died in Mudgee and put me to the expense of £30.0.0 which, up to this time, remains unpaid. Even the house I live in is not mine but will so soon as I can afford to pay £150.0.0. God knows when this will be. James is at home with me and for our present living I am incurring a store debt, depending entirely on the claim, which, I may say, is my only stand by.

*I am sorry to hear of Walter's being so long out of employment. I am aware he has **not** much at command. You may rest assured the moment I can raise a single pound I will send it to you.*

Had William been on his legs, I know it would ease your sufferings under all these trying circumstances. You must command fortitude.

You will hear from me again soon.

*Till then I remain
your affectionate Brother*

James Keppie

PS I had a letter from William Keppie in Melbourne.

And again, another year later in writing to his nephew, Peter's son William, who was about to marry and wanting to go into business.

*Windeyer
8th Jany 1869*

My D^r William

I duly received yours of the 22nd last month, and should have answered it sooner but for one reason, which reason, I am sorry to say, I cannot get rid of - namely that infernal hound poverty.

It is now 14 months since I had a shilling from the claim and had it not been for a little butter and very little in the blacksmith's shop I really don't know how I was to manage. As it is, I am a good deal indebted for store goods until rain falls. It was my desire to send you something, if only a pound, but, I pledge you my word, all the money in the house is one shilling to purchase stamps.

I have often thought of you but not being in a position to assist you I felt delicate to write. Indeed, my friends in Maitland wonder why I don't write, adversity gags my pen, which accounts for my silence.

I am very proud to observe your name respectfully mentioned in the proceedings of the Mechanics Institute and by keeping up such line of conduct you add credit to the name.

You will observe by the papers that I command - a very distinguished position which I trust in God I may be able to maintain for my own credit, and for the benefit of the district where my services are expected to be useful.

I had a letter from cousin James in Glasgow a short time back wherein he mentions that he had a letter from a Miss Long and which he does not intend to notice. If that lady could command a little patience I make no doubt her appeals will be satisfied but, situated as I at present am, I am perfectly helpless. It does appear by such forced communication to my cousin that he will give redress. Such is not the case - you may rely upon hearing from me when I can be of use to you. I have not forgotten you.

Your affectionate uncle

James Keppie

When you write address James Keppie Esq J.P.

On reading the letter to your aunt before closing, she scolded me for not mentioning her name. I am requested to say on her behalf that she is proud to hear of your recovery, and sorry she cannot render some assistance. She hopes for times to mend when she may be of use and to say that her son Kinross is growing a fine boy. She now sends her love hoping your troubles are left with the year 1868, at the same time wishing you a happy new year.

J.K.

By the enclosed you will see where James is. It is my first letter from him since he left.

In a long letter he wrote to his brother Peter in 1880 he described his situation in these terms

"Lately I met with an accident which almost cost me my life, but thanks to Almighty God He has spared me for some time longer to make a provision for my young and rising family. I had a heavy fall off a load of wheat, fell on my back and hip. I was laid up for 6 weeks, had to be carried home. I yet feel the effects and through this and my finances rather slender am unable to encounter the journey down to see you, which under your affliction would be a melancholy pleasure. (Peter was dying of cancer)

The undertaking (of) a Free Selection of 240 acres swallowed up all I could scrape together, and much difficulty I had in obtaining it - Mr. John McIntosh and two other members of parliament were instrumental in my securing it. Beside I had a petition with upwards of 100 signatures in my favour.

I have complied with the residence and improvement clause and now reside on it with my youngest son (Maxwell), my wife and remaining family still residing at Windeyer, and will until such time as I am in a position to build a suitable place for her - And I must tell you, and feel a pleasure in doing so, she is worthy of a good one she being a wife, a real wife, a mother and a slave to work.

Our dependence at present is in a dairy and when in full swing milk about 20 Cows. No servant now times is altered. My oldest son Kinross Gordon, 13, for 4 years done the most of the milking, my next son Douglas Gordon when 8, now 10 past, milked 10 & 11 Cows - the wife assisting. My cattle are now dry and the boys are going to school, my youngest Maxwell Gordon, 8 past, living and working on the farm. You would be surprised to see him and me falling and burning off, a work not suitable to either of our ages. (James by now was 65)

Necessity has no law, it must be done in hopes of securing some day soon a home for my wife and little ones ... at present there are 30 acres cleared and fenced, not stumped, this year 12 acres of wheat. I intend to put in about 8 in corn, the remainder in potatoes and Lucerne. I do most of the work myself such as plowing, sowing and clearing a poor hand at reaping. I do all my own wood and iron work having a forge on the spot.

For many years past I made a fair sum by making nearly all the coffins in this place. Having removed on the farm I am out of the line. It is my intention to grow Wheat largely, and to erect a small portable mill to grind the grain to flour, keep pigs and poultry with the offal - Chinese are great consumers of pork ...

I forgot to mention that with my selection I command about 2,000 acres of Government land as a run, it is my intention, when in a position, to purchase some sheep, they are very prolific and profitable."

James and Henrietta lived on at Glengowan to see their boys grow into manhood. Henrietta died in May 1888 and James in December 1893.

PETER ("THE YOUNGER BROTHER")

Born at Dublin on 1st May, 1809 Peter was the second of four sons born to William and Mary, who grew up in Ireland where their father managed several farms over a period of around 20 years. Peter was in his teens when the family returned to Scotland and settled in Glasgow where he appears to have gained experience as a blacksmith and wheelwright. He married Elizabeth MacFarlane of Ayrshire about 1832 and their first child, a daughter named Margaret, died in infancy.

Along with his youngest brother, Walter William, he, his wife Elizabeth and their two later children, Elizabeth (4 years) and James (16 months) emigrated to N.S.W. on the "Portland", arriving at Port Jackson on 7th February, 1840 and proceeded to Paterson. Here his older brother, James, who for some time had been Engineer on the coastal steamer "Sophia Jane", was established having married a local girl, Elizabeth Powell, and, among other things, had acquired a block of land at the corner of Commercial Road and Market Street, where Peter and Walter set up a Wheelwright's shop.

One of Peter's early employees was Frederick Wilson, whom he apprenticed to the trade of wheelwright, and who was to become a prominent Paterson identity in later years.

Coachbuilding, Paterson

P. KEPPIE begs to acquaint the inhabitants of the Paterson district that he has commenced **COACHBUILDING** in the Town of Paterson, and trusts, by strict attention to orders, good workmanship, and punctuality, to merit a share of their patronage. Spring Carts, Drays, and Ploughs, made to order on the shortest notice.

Blacksmith's Work in General.

Houses and Sign Painting, Glazing, &c.

Maitland Mercury, February 4, 1843

Peter and his family appear to have lived at the "Bush Inn" for some little time for it was there, in February 1841, that Elizabeth gave birth to their first "Australian" child and named him William, after his grandfather.

Notice.

A NEW THRASHING MACHINE to LET OR SELL by Private Contract.

This Machine commands those qualities that are creditable to the owner and beneficial to the person who employs it, inasmuch as it does not break the straw, which, in these days, has been found to be of material use, and does not require as many hands when thrashing as the majority of machines now in use. It is the most portable description of machine in the colony, and is well known on the locality of the Hunter and Paterson Rivers, having travelled in that part the last four years, and has given universal satisfaction. It will be best known when described as one of Keppie's make, and is to be seen at the manufacturer's place, Paterson.

Paterson, 7th Nov., 1848

PATERSON

A very neat car called the "Rob Roy", built by MR. Keppie, of this township, is now running to Morpeth; the road to Hinton is undergoing repair, so that it will be both safe and expeditious. Great credit is due to Mr. Keppie for its neat construction, and the convenience it will afford.

Maitland Mercury, May 13 1843

Following James' bankruptcy in October 1843 Peter took over the licence of the *Bush Inn* for a few years, and later became the proprietor of the *Plough Inn*. And when James went to the Meroo Creek gold diggings (near Mudgee) in 1851, he looked to Peter to keep an eye on the interests he retained in Paterson.

Meanwhile Peter and Elizabeth Keppie had five more children bringing their total to eight. As well as looking after his brother James' interests that included a steam-mill, farm and orchard, Peter and his sons carried on their trades as blacksmiths and wheelwrights.

Peter's eldest son, James, who had emigrated from Scotland with his parents, later married Johanna Campbell from the Williams River and moved onto a farm at Munni on land that Johanna inherited.

William, their second son, was born at the *Bush Inn* in February 1841 and branched out on his own as a builder about the time that he married Salome Garred in 1869. Salome's grandmother, Ellen Puxty, had become the licensee of the "Plough Inn" after Peter.

John, after spending some time droving in Queensland, married the daughter of another prominent Paterson family named Mary Ann Tinkler. They reared two boys and two girls.

Andrew married Fanny Sherwood and after William and Salome moved out to "Glen Lossie" acquired the "Old Red House". They reared a family of two boys and four girls there and the property stayed in the family's hands until it was demolished in 1956. Samuel, who married "Polly" Smith, had three boys and a girl. They lived on the site of the Paterson School of Arts for some years before moving to Singleton in 1905.

By 1856 James believed his brother Peter was in some financial difficulty —
Sterling Inn
Meroo 17th Oct' 1856

Dear Brother

The contents of a letter which I received by today's post informs me of your having sold the most, if not all, belonging to you and that you are about protecting yourself under the Clemency of the Insolvent Court.

Should such be the case and that I am to be one of the victims, I certainly will consider I have not been treated as I deserved. The very circumstance of my obliging you with cash to take up your last Bill for the land you purchased. This I should have been secured in, and not to the injury of any other creditor.

However, if it is merely a report, which I hope it is, I think as a matter of duty you should secure me from any loss. And in all matters of security they require to be registered within 30 days otherwise they are of no avail.

I remain yours truly
James Keppie

Among Peter's other activities was the role of Undertaker, as witnessed by this advertisement -

MAITLAND MERCURY May 25, 1858

NOTICE

THE Friends of the late Mr. JAMES MENZIES are respectfully informed that his FUNERAL will take place on Wednesday, the 26th May, at Twelve a.m. precisely.

Friends at a distance will please accept this intimation.

P. KEPPIE,
Undertaker.

Following James second bankruptcy in 1863 he, presumably, continued to rent the farm from the new owner and continued farming and other activities with the help of his son, William.

In May 1868 Peter's wife, Elizabeth, died from bronchitis at the age of 56, just a month after his sixteen-year-old daughter (Mary Ann) also had died after contracting hepatitis. By this time, only his youngest child, Samuel aged 10, was still at home and his son, William was engaged to be married, and at 28 years of age, was planning to go into business as a builder.

It seems that Samuel went to live with William and his wife Salome, and Peter then went to live at Morpeth with his daughter, Margaret Wilson until, in 1877, he remarried - to a Mary Ann Redding of Singleton. The marriage was short-lived however, as Peter died at Morpeth in 1880 from cancer in the face at the age of 71.

Maitland Mercury "District News" Tuesday,
August 17, 1880

[FROM OUR VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS]

PATERSON.

"DEATH OF MR.PETER KEPPIE.—A very old resident of this district, in the person of Mr. Peter Keppie, passed from our midst and joined the majority on Wednesday last, having attained his seventy-second year. The late Mr. Keppie arrived in the colony some forty-five years ago, and for many years, in conjunction with his brother (Mr. James Keppie, now of the Meroo River) , carried on an extensive business as manufacturers of agricultural machinery in this neighbourhood. Afterwards, Mr. Keppie, for some years, was the landlord of the Bush Inn, and afterwards of the Plough Inn. Of late years Mr. Keppie has resided at Morpeth, where he died on Wednesday last. His funeral took place yesterday, (Friday), when his remains were interred beside those of his first wife, in our Church of England Cemetery. The funeral procession was met on its way from Morpeth by many of our principal residents, who joined in the procession and followed the remains to its last resting place."

JOHN KEPPIE ("THE REMAINING" SON)

Like his brothers John was keen to emigrate to "that part where so many prosperous reports come from " *I mean N.S.W.* ", but despite his passionate desires *"by this time I do most sincerely trust that one is on the way for me containing the necessary means for my removal from this wretched state in which we are placed"*, and his best endeavors *"I may say that for ten years I have connected myself in various schemes for that separation I most ardently long for"*, he was never able to realize his great ambition.

Born in Dublin about 1811, the third of William and Mary's four boys who grew up on farms in Ireland before settling in Glasgow in the mid 20's, John in due course married a lass named Jessie (or Janet) who bore him six children, three of whom died in infancy.

Although hampered by a severely injured right leg, he apparently worked as a machine-maker in one or other of Glasgow's engineering establishments, including that of H. Houldsworth & Sons, and, particularly after the departure to Australia of his parents and brothers, was very close friends with a cousin, James Keppie, a Glasgow tobacconist and son of his Uncle John of Haddington, as well as another cousin, Susan Keppie, daughter of his Uncle Peter of Brighton, England.

John's story can best be told by himself, as will be seen from the following extracts of several letters that he wrote to his family in Australia. The first was written in May 1842 when he was living in premises which appear to have been previously occupied by his parents —

*"No 15 Hill Square,
Anderston
15th May, 1842*

Respected Parents & Brothers

For the first time since your departure from this Country I do take the liberty of communicating to you, what ought and I do hope excites an interest in behalf of those who ardently feel an anxious hope, a deep and lively interest (if in life), of your present and future welfare, individually and collectively, now far distant from Your Fatherland... ..

....Since the day the farewell was given and taken at Greenock, much, many, sudden, severe and cruel have been the changes that has taken place here, some for the better, others for the worse, and time only can prove the remainder.

I hope the pleasure which I at present feel and do communicate to you (now after a sorrowful bereavement of my only daughter Mary Ann) will find a response from you when you learn from this that I, and the remainder of my family, are now all well after the visitation of a frightful periodical disease, Scarlet Fever, thanks to that great and universal power by which the destinies of man are sealed.

The hopes and wishes of those who are, and have been, interested in my welfare have been in a great measure realised, for ??? of time can give more pleasure than the living ??? to the sober and industrious habits of my wife, and also of the good effects of such conduct to me and the children, which are now two, we are as well attended to as any Father can desire. Since you left any person who formerly presented their good or evil wishes by spirits have, and I hope for a lengthened period to come, declined in their requests to her and me as I have also ceased from taking spirits since the farewell day on which I partook of the last glass (except for medical purposes) until I leave Britain, be it long or soon. And I do assure you that I have no reason to regret my then and present determination.

Next is little John. He, I am sorry to say, could not attend school the greater part of the last winter by reason of ill-health, but is now getting on very well.

The next I mention is William, he was born on the morning of the 15th of May/41 and this day is now 12 months old. He was baptised by the Revd. Mr Reid in Brown Street Church and I took the

liberty of calling him after Father. He has been inoculated for the Smallpox and Dr Harvey was so well pleased with the pock that he took eight glasses off. He is now running around the house and has every appearance of being worthy of the name.

Next is cousin James and wife, they are both in good health but no appearance of the adding to the number of Keppies yet.

Cousin Margaret, or Mrs Corns, was in Glasgow at the beginning of April, and our friends in the east at that time were well. I have no word from Brighton since you went away.

Next is Mrs McFarlane (Peter's mother-in-law) who, I am sorry to say, is in a very dejected state of mind by reason of the long (as yet uncertain) employment in which her two sons are and have been these six months past - endeavouring to get a very scanty subsistence. I called upon her and I am very sorry to inform you of the conversation that took place, however, I may as well let you know a little. For these six months past William has not earned more than three shillings a week on an average, and the other son had work and short time owing to the yet unsettled state of their M's failure (?). The works is to be sold in June, and James is not doing anything??? although he has a very good share of business in the spirit line and as for Mrs James, she is at present in a very dangerous state with water in the legs cannot get out of bed.....

.... I am still in premises formerly held by you but knows not how long I may continue, as the difficulty of getting lodgers is great, and many of them that do take lodgers are seriously injured by them, as I have been. And if there is no other assistance, or means to pay the rent, but by my own labour I must and will give up the house very soon, if I can, and would have done so before now but daily anxiously looking for a letter from some of you, and from our Father in particular as he knew how I was left with the former rent.

I had a letter from an acquaintance in England lately and he informs me that upwards of 400 Odd Fellows had left Manchester and gone to America in hopes of bettering their condition. Odd Fellowship in Scotland is also on the increase wonderfully with those who have the means to do so, and you may form an opinion of its useful benefits to many when I say that the last returns were 206,697 members - all good members of society, but there are many now travelling which is rather a heavy levy upon those who are employed. But as we are all members of one universal order we do all that we can to further the interests of its members whether in sickness, distress or otherwise.

I have the pleasure to inform you of the receipt of a handsome silver snuff box that was sent to me from the Shotts Iron Works and accompanied with a well wrote address, the box bearing the following inscription "Presented to Mr John Kippie P.G. by the Heather Bell Lodge of Odd Fellows as a mark of respect 1842", and I can with confidence recommend the notice of the order to any or all of my brothers as being one worthy of their entrance into, as there is one in Sydney which they may inquire at.

There has been a few ships that left this port with emigrants who were members of Societies formed purposely for emigration, and they varied in numbers from 2 to ? and then chartered a vessel for their own accommodation to take them to America. A few of my shop mates belonged to such and two were of the same flat. And now as there are no appearances of Government grants for Sydney, and no word coming from any of you. I greatly fear that I must have recourse to such a plan and endeavour to make a provision for myself and the remainder of my family in some place that God may direct me to, for in this country I never can, and as my right leg is now to all appearances to be a great impediment to any laborious business I must do all that in me lies to get as much saved as will take me from this to some better country.

But is it possible that there can be any objection with any of my brothers for me to endeavour to find my way to that part where so many prosperous reports come from. I mean N.S.W. Where are now the promises made by Peter, Walter William, Father & Mother? Surely, as I did all in my power to assist them, they ought at least to have wrote to me when they found that I had not accompanied Father and Mother. I never did expect such ingratitude from them. Is it possible for them to have rejected, despised or forgotten me? Surely, I must be of very little use indeed if there can be no employment in that country that would suit me, however I will still hope for the best and trust that they will act otherwise....

...I am happy to inform you of the arrival of a letter from Peter about the month of November last, supposed to be wrote about the end of May or beginning of June/41, and was very happy to see by it (I had the pleasure of reading it) of their then good health and prospects. It had no date but bearing the Sydney Post Mark of June it also gave the very pleasing and welcome news of Brother James, Wife and son, and of his retirement from the Boats and commencement of Inn Keeper. And of his, Peter's, own commencement for himself and good apparent prospects and value of his labour, or the profit of such, as being 12 shillings p. day (compare that with 3 shillings p day the scarcity of hands in that line when he is in so much want of to further his orders, And at such good pay, is most certainly a great inducement for a few of that class to emigrate to where their services would be of so much use to themselves and the Country....

... Father, I am often enquired at by the Vulcan hands, and especially Geo. Denham. He is much surprised and sends his best respects to you and Mother. Old John Muir and family are for America next Spring. He is idle just now for want of work.

The only reason that I can assign for not getting word from Father is that your hopes or expectations most assuredly have disappointed beyond measure, or that the letters have been intercepted. However, I am still led to believe that you have wrote, or if not you really have not found the place suited to your expectations as you anticipated, and that you would not write until you could give an authentic account of the present and future prospects of the country. But I trust that you are now comfortably settled with pleasing prospects, good circumstances and in the full enjoyment of good health and worldly happiness, and I hope that I may see by your first letter to me, that brother James has fulfilled his promise to you when you were in this country (and that was) of providing for his aged and worthy parents a peaceful, a comfortable and happy home for your declining years. I trust that as such he has honourably redeemed it.

I am sorry to inform that the engine for the works is not going so well as I could wish it, and, whenever it stops, the whole hands are turned out until the cause is remedied. But it cannot be helped and at the Fair report says that it is to be stopped for three weeks to make some extensive necessary repairs, so it will be a serious drawback upon many who are depending on it for their support.

Also there have now a most material change taken place in the shop. Those who have now the charge are more severe on their hands than when times were better, and any person who happens to be caught doing a job is almost sure to be dismissed from the employment. Now it is almost impossible to escape as they (the foremen) know the custom that they themselves used to try, so under these circumstances I am at present (and has been since their ascendancy to power) wholly unable to get the Italian iron done that I was to make for Mrs James that I promised before your departure. But I will endeavour to do the best in my power yet to get it done. and that as soon as I can.

I have repeatedly called upon Mr & Mrs Neilson, Parliamentary Road, in order to ascertain whether or not any answer from their friends had arrived, and as you took charge of a letter and parcel, I was of opinion that such might have been delivered and that they might have wrote home to that effect, but it seems that at the time they last wrote they (their friends) would have left Sydney some months before your arrival. So, if you have not yet found out the place where they have removed to, you are requested to send a letter addressed to John Telfart care of Mr Ross Coulter, Master Builder, East Maitland, as that is now the place where their last directions were for. Mr Neilson's family, at this time are all well, and were very happy to hear of their friends' welfare.

Dear parents, I would have wrote long before now but as you requested me to be sure and send a candid report of my wife's conduct I here now send it in a few words but conclusive. I am happy, too, in stating that the attention paid to me and the children, and her conduct generally, is now unobjectionable and exemplary since ever you went away....

...Dear parents & fondly cherished relations, I am sorry that the task of mournful bereavement now devolves upon me to inform you of the death of many of your former and most intimate acquaintances & friends, also of my only daughter Mary Ann, the tender plant of your most especial care, has, alas, fallen a victim, so has many more of her tender years and frame, to the withering blast of disease (Peace be to their end and may they be crowned with glory). I will insert a few of the names of the deceased by the date of their deaths.

Margaret Kippie, of Carlisle, Mrs Melrose, died on the 8th of August/41 after six weeks confinement to bed. Originating through childbirth which caused inflammation, and ended in consumption. The child is still alive (a girl). Her Sister Jean was down from Carlisle for a short time but had to go away a few days before Mrs Melrose died.

James Murphy, an old and most intimate acquaintance with the whole of our family, on the 28th of Oct/41; after a long and lingering disease, consumption.

The death of Mr William Naismith, Manager in Lancefield Works, is much and justly regretted. A handsome monument has now been erected over his grave in Cheapside St. churchyard, and the monument was got up by voluntary subscription in the works, and to show how much he was respected. The sum of 25 guineas was handed over by the committee to his widow and family after deducting the cost of the monument, and its erection, to his departed worth. Died on the 4th of Jany/42.

And the rest is my only daughter Mary Ann. Dear Father, the last request of you and my Mother, before your taking leave of us, was to be careful and attentive to her tender form and mind. How little did any of us think that then was to be the last time on earth that you were to see each other, and the farewell kiss of my Mother, that was planted on her young and innocent lips, was long and often spoken of by her afterwards. Dear parent, I have no cause (neither need you) to reflect on the care and attention that was given to her since your leaving this. And in August/41 she had an intermitting fever for five weeks that her life was despaired of, but, by the goodness of God, her life was prolonged for a little time more, during which her health and body received a severe shock, but, as she recovered from that attack, her little frame rapidly improved, and her manners endeared her to the whole of the neighbours as her whole deportment was indicative of her for whom she was named. And had the Almighty been pleased to have numbered her days to the general age of man, her young actions were such as if matured, recommend her to esteem and respect. But how uncertain are the days of Man, alas, all our fond hopes for her were soon overclouded by sorrow, for upon the 22nd of April/42 the first symptom of the disease appeared, and then Dr Harvey was called and declared it to be Scarlet Fever. And every attendance he could give was unremittingly acceded to, and upon the night of the 29th being a Friday at a quarter past 10 o'clock her little and innocent Spirit, I trust in God, took its flight from this toil and trouble to the regions of Celestial bliss (after eight days of sever illness). The Scarlet Fever this year has been very fatal to many young persons in the neighbourhood. There are instances of two and even three, of one family being carried off by it, so I have no reason to reflect on her death being caused by or through negligence of those who were, I may say, sole attendants. The Doctor, and her Mother, I am happy to say, showed, then and before, the true affection of a parent, the attendance and contrition of an enlightened convert, and, at her death, the sorrow of a bereaved Mother. She was buried on Sunday, the 1st of May, in a grave beside her little brother Walter William in Cheapside Street church yard and her mortal remains were followed to the grave by few but sorrowing friends.

I must now conclude this mournful intelligence and trust in God that we who are journeying through this chequered life may yet meet and enjoy the sweets of each others company. And when death calls may we be ready to obey the summons and join in the company of the little innocents who are now gone from an earthly to, I trust, a Heavenly Home.

My task is done, I may no longer dwell, My heart dear friends goes, with the word, farewell.

Dear parents and brothers, be pleased to accept of our united love to you all, individually and collectively, with each your family.

John & Jess Keppie

Adieu, 16th June/42

Although John never made it to Australia himself, the “handsome silver snuff-box” was (after his death) sent out to his brother James. Unfortunately its ultimate location is unknown.

After his parents' departure, John, along with his wife Jessie and their two small children, John and Mary Ann (their first child, Walter William, having previously died and been buried in Cheapside Street churchyard), conducted a lodging house in premises in Hill Square, Anderston formerly held by his parents. The census taken in June, 1841 showed 8 females (3 flax spinners, 2 flax dressers, 2 servants and a cotton factory worker) and a 2-month-old baby boy living at the address in addition to

the Keppie family.

It seems John claims to have undertaken to pay up arrears of former rent in order to enable his parents to get away and was thereby unable to carry out his own intention of emigrating with them. He was therefore sorely aggrieved thereafter that his relations, whom he assumed, through lack of any communication from them, to be in comfortable enough circumstances, would not combine their resources to send him the necessary funds to enable him to bring his family out to join them.

It seems, however, that there was an even more significant reason for their reluctance to assist him, that being their attitude to his wife, Jess, who apparently had acquired a justified reputation for her intemperance. Although she appears to have reformed for a few years after the departure of the other Keppies to Australia, she resumed her former habits to the point where John became prepared to leave her, as his family had wanted him to do from the beginning of his "alliance" with her. Whether he ever did is doubtful, she had died some time prior to 1858.

Having at least enjoyed the pleasure of assisting his eldest surviving son, John, to migrate to N.S.W. in 1854, John died and was buried "in his own enclosed ground" in the Cheapside Street church yard in 1868, after a life of trials and tribulations.

By September, 1843 he had moved to 214 Holm Street, and wrote -

"I am sorry to inform you that circumstances (over) which I had no control caused me to leave Hill Square in a manner that I did not think that I would have ever done and much of it was due to my own kindness to those who now scorn to write me a letter, or perhaps will not give place to a single thought to those remaining here yet. There has been expenses heaped upon Hill Square that I am not prepared to satisfy, nor do I know how to act. As you did not act according to promise the whole weight now lies upon my shoulders and I must bear with placid patience the whole difficulties now before me. I sincerely depend upon you to try and get that business reconciliation brought about as I am weary of this place.

The death of his little girl, Mary Ann, from scarlet fever in April, 1842 after a long illness in the previous year was followed by the death of his baby son, William, a few months later. His financial situation was yet further strained by his own illness, along with that of his wife and other son, John, as he wrote -

"The day after I returned (from 5 weeks at Rothsay infirmary) I witnessed the death of my son. Then shortly after (August, 1842) the trade turned dull and we had to go on half time and so remained for six months during which time Jess took unwell for 6 or 7 weeks, and then Johnny took to bed and was also very bad. In 4 days afterwards I was an inmate (of the Rothsay Infirmary) and in 14 days after, I was removed to the Recovery Ward and most unfortunately I relapsed and felt the severity of the disease more horribly.

During the time of short work I very unfortunately let myself out of benefits with the Druids and all the support I had for 12 weeks was what was got from the Odd-fellows. After I had returned home I was presented with a token of sympathy from the Druids."

He never managed to surmount his financial problems, or get the assistance he sought from his family, so for the next ten years or more he *"connected myself in various schemes for that separation I most ardently long for, and ... for those who are not the cause of their miserable conditions."*

By the time, in 1854, when he was able to arrange for his eldest son, John, to emigrate on the "Anna", he had two more young children, James and Jessie. However, his wife's conduct debarred him from qualifying for "free emigration" himself, and his relatives could not or would not send him

the money. He wrote in 1854 -

... shortly after my unfortunate alliance her habits have been always on the increase for drink. Now they are almost unbounded, at least as far as the humble means now in her power. I am most sorry that after so many years trial and hopes disappointed I must necessarily for the safety and respect of my children seek refuge by flight for there seems no other course left me."

By February, 1855 he was desperately disappointed in his relatives when he wrote -

"Since no answer has come with the promised assistance to me that was mentioned in mother's letter, the words are - 'You can inform him we are very anxious for him to come here if he feels inclined (should he have separated from his unfortunate wife) as that all has been the cause of his brother not writing for him before, lest he would bring her with him, his passage money will be paid out.'

It is cruel thus to tamper with me - better far I had not got such a promise than not to get it realised. I have waited with her solely to get my children up a little so that they might bear the hardships they must necessarily come to without that Mother."

As mentioned earlier, his eldest son John migrated to Australia on the "Anna". He was about 19 years of age and had to secure a release from his apprenticeship with his father's employers, H. Houldsworth & Sons.

Little further is known of his life but that, after making his way to Paterson, he spent some time in Melbourne and was living at 162 Clarence Street, Sydney in April, 1858. He had some infrequent contact with his uncle, Walter William and "went about a long time idle." The only other known reference to him is the following entry in Salome Keppie's diary -

"John Keppie, cousin to our Keppies, left Paterson 1856, returned for a day 3 Mar. 1904."

162 Clarence Street
Sydney
April 20th 1858

Dear Uncle and Aunt

I am happy to inform you that I received your letter to day at dinner time & was very sorry of the information you gave me in your letter but as circumstances causes me not to go to Walter's, & it's through no dispute I do not know how it is, but I have not been in his house I may say but once since I came from Melbourne & I have not seen my aunt for the last 18 months; but when I am away from his house for a while I do not like to go back again.

Dear Uncle, I am sorry that it's in your power to explain your feelings plain to me for its not in my power to do anything towards you for the route I took on the Melbourne side shook me completely for after I paid my passage to Sydney I had only £2/15/0 left and at my arrival I went about a long time idle which I am paying up the arrears & with what little over, & that from 6^d to 9^d, I am putting it for the intention of a black suit for the memory of my Mother & uncle.

*I am sorry that I can not give you any particulars of my uncle Walter but as far as I see, I do not think he is doing a great deal in the spirit trade as work is very slack in Sydney just now & that will cause him to be slack in house trade *** but you should write to him. Perhaps he is better off than I am aware of.*

Uncle, you speak of the letter I had from my Father. I can not give you such a plain explanation as he does but with what's in it I should not like to let you know, but as it is a family affair I will send it on condition that you send it back as I have not answered it & my uncle Walter has not seen it yet & send the one that's at the Patterson with the return of the mail as I have not read it yet.

Excuse this as its wrote in confusion.

Give my kind love to my grandfather & Mother & all the family.

I remain your

Affectionate Nephew

WALTER WILLIAM (1819-1890)

Born in Craignoe, Ireland, the fourth child of William and Mary, where his father was working as a Land Steward and manager of the farm, stock and property of a Mr. J McPhelyn.

About 1826, when Walter William would have been around seven years of age, the family moved to Scotland, from which his father had emigrated some 20 years earlier, and settled in Glasgow. Here, his father and older brothers, James (19), Peter (17) and John (15), took jobs in the engineering industry, as did Walter William when he was older.

Based on a comment expressed by his oldest brother James in 1834, it appears that he may have lacked some education in his early years, for in a letter that James had written to his parents while en route to Australia he said –

“...and my only request at present is that my dear brother Walter would get forward in his education as quick as possible”

One wonders if James had in mind the possibility of Walter, or indeed the whole family, following him to Australia already at that time, as all except brother John did over the course of the next 6 years.

In the event Walter William, then aged 20, accompanied his brother, Peter (30), with his wife Elizabeth and their two young children, Elizabeth (3) and James (1) on the *Portland* arriving in Sydney on 7th February 1840 and proceeded to Paterson to join his brother James, who had settled there following his marriage.

The three brothers commenced business as blacksmiths and wheelwrights, extending their activities into coach building, while his uncle James also became proprietor of the “Bush Inn” having taken a seven year lease of the hotel, which was located on the main road to the Upper Paterson and Allyn rivers.

By December 1846 Walter Wm had left Paterson and married Harriet Howell at St Andrews Scots Church in Sydney. Harriet was the daughter of Henry Howell and his wife Mary Hill. Henry’s father, Samuel, had come to Australia in the second fleet on the *Scarborough*.

Walter William appears to have continued his engineering activities for some time, but in 1849 he was a member of a group of half a dozen young men from the Hunter that travelled to USA on “Marie” to the California gold rush. One of the six is understood to have been hanged, but obviously Walter William returned safely and some time earlier than 1858 began working in the “spirit trade”. In May, 1860 he held a Publican’s licence for “The City Inn” in Kent Street, Sydney.

He does not appear to have been as active a correspondent as his brothers, but it seems that James relied on Walter to obtain supplies etc. for him and send them to Mudgee, as well as carrying out other chores on James’ behalf.

Walter William and his wife Harriet, whom he married in 1846, raised ten children -
Walter died in 1890 and Harriet in 1908

LATER GENERATIONS OF KEPPIES

JAMES' FIRST FAMILY

WALTER WILLIAM

Born at Paterson in April 1841, the second Keppie born in Australia, Walter was about ten years old when the family moved to the Meroo. Unfortunately, within a little over two years he died as a result of a dray-wheel running over him in November, 1843

JAMES

Born at Paterson on 17th February, 1843, James Jnr. worked with his father in and around the hotel and goldfields of the Meroo Creek in his early days. In 1865 he married an Irish immigrant, Margaret McNichol, who had arrived in N.S.W. in 1860.

The following letter appears to have been written to his cousin, John, in Paterson

Windeyer
6th August 1866

My Dear Cousin

It is now about three months since I last wrote to you. Since then I have had no answer from you, which must be an oversight on your part. I am as happy as can be and the wife is very busy making a flower garden in front of the house and wants some flower seeds badly. Can you send some of all sorts including snapdragon and the Tiger Lily but send what you can and that will do very well.

Father got home safe a month ago and brought cousin Sarah with him and he seems to be very happy just now. (Sarah appears most likely to be the 17 year old daughter of James' brother, Walter William) Sarah is great company for M^s Keppie and, as a nice young woman should do, makes herself very agreeable. Father bought a harmonium in Mudgee and she is learning to play very well.

I have just been making an orchard and I hope by next year to have an abundance of fruit. I have only 20 trees in but I know they will bear enough for me and my family for some few years to come. Talking about families I must let you know I expect an increase in my little house before long which will be a great prize if it is spared to us.

I have not enjoyed very good health these last two months and consequently am not as far on with my vegetable garden as I should like to be. What a bother - if I had no wife, I would have no garden, but I suppose it is all in a man's lifetime. In your next let me know how you are enjoying yourself with regard to happiness etc etc etc.

I am nearly short of news: Stephen Tucker stands a bad chance at the next Quarter Sessions.

Young Nicholson is up here and as I am writing there is a young woman sitting on the sofa that he is keeping company with and tells the foolish girl he is going to marry her but we have our own opinion of that part of the play.

Let me know where William is and what he is doing. You can tell him his mare and foal is all right and the mare is in foal again and if Towns had come up it was my intention to send her down to him. And Father and I coming home from Mudgee saw the old horse Harry, but so poor we would not bring him home.

May all the blessings that this world can afford is the wish of

Your affectionate Cousin

James Keppie Junr

He does not appear to have been any luckier than his father in his prospecting endeavours -as he told his cousin, William -

"6th Jany 1867

Dear Cousin

On account of bad news delayed writing to you... am very sorry to inform you that your mare got killed in a hole Christmas week, and was discovered by Father through the bad smell from her and her first foal is castrated and all right and she also leaves a little horse foal 6 weeks old behind her.

From your letter I see you have had your share of troubles. Ditto with myself. This last four months I have not earned £10 pounds. Even not as much as I eat and now I have commenced to cut a race one mile long on to a place which I think will pay very well but it will be 10 weeks before we get any gold and to crown all there is no water in the Meroo at present for mining purposes with no rain and parching sun. The country presents a wretched appearance.

Flour is £3 per bag, Beef 3d to 4d lb. Potatoes £1 and everything else equally high.

Since my last, George Wells has got married to a young gal and she works the Devil out of him. Father is at a standstill for water or he could do very well with the wheel.

I received a letter from Maggy and answer it next week.

I am quite short of news just now but will have more in my next. Therefore I must conclude with kind love to all relations and yourself likewise.

James Keppie Jnr

Having no other paper, I use this which will do as well. Write soon and excuse this scrawl.
From

Your afft Cousin

J K"

James' marriage to Margaret was short-lived, however, for she died on 30th April 1868 succumbing, after a three months illness, to Typhus Fever and leaving a seven months old baby, Elizabeth.

His father described his and his son's situations at the time -

"I am now 5 months idle for want of water and only depends on the trifle from blacksmiths work. I had also to assist my son James and up to this moment is doing so by making his wife's coffin and meeting other expenses. She died on the 30th last month after about 2 months illness. She has left a baby of 7 months old, a little girl named Elizabeth."

In February 1872 James married Hannah Lucas, daughter of Charles and Martha Lucas, who were also prominent members of the Windeyer community. By the year 1880 he was described by his father as *"acting carrier having a wagon team of bullocks, he is steady, he is married to the second wife having a family of five children, one boy and four girls, the oldest girl by the first wife. He is very handy in the forge, can shoe horses well ..."*

After farming on the Meroo for a time, they moved to Dubbo and later, Coonamble. He is believed to have later become a railway man in Sydney and lost an arm in a shunting accident in 1889.

In 1915 was living at 118 O'Connor St, Haberfield and in 1916 at 175 Glebe Road, Glebe.

Death Certificate describes him as "retired Station Master NSW Railways"

Their firstborn, **Walter Charles** was born at Meroo Creek in 1873. Walter married Alice Colbain and had one child, Dulcie. Walter died in 1924 and is believed to have served in the forces during World War 2, as he is buried with a soldier's headstone at Liverpool Pioneers' Cemetery and has a plaque in the Wall of Remembrance at Rookwood Cemetery.

Daughter **Amelia** was also born at Meroo Creek. She had the misfortune of breaking a leg from falling off a bus. She had no children.

Daughter **Lillian Eveline** was born at Campbell's Creek in 1876. At that time her father was described on the birth certificate as "Farmer". Lillian married Alberto Smith in Coonamble in 1900 and had three children, Dulcie and Sheila born at Coonamble and Geoffrey born at Leichhardt. In the mid 1930's Lillian worked as bookkeeper in her brother-in-law's Dunn's Garage at Hurlstone Park, later moving to the southern highlands at Yanderra near her sister, Violet Dunn, and finally to the Sydney suburb of Campsie to live with her sister Amelia.

Daughter **Violet Hannah** was born on 15th January 1979. She married Albert George Dunn, who had a motor garage at Hurlstone Park in Sydney. They had no children and, after his death she retired to Yanderra on the Southern highlands.

Daughter **Daisy Alberta** was born on 1st January 1881. She married Gustav Slopovski but had no children.

James' and Hannah's second son was born on 15th December 1883 at Dubbo and named **James Stuart**. He also joined the NSW railways as a conductor in 1913 and later as a porter. He was granted leave from 1915 to 1919 to join the Expeditionary Forces and served in Egypt in the Field Ambulance and in France in the field artillery. On his return he became a loading porter at Newcastle and left the railways in 1920, moving eventually to Queensland. He re-enlisted in World War 2 and served in clerical duties.

Ivy Pearl was born in Dubbo on 23 February 1886. She married Stanley Irvine Hartill-Law at St Barnabas Church, Broadway, Sydney on 24 October 1918 and had two children, Marie and Phillip.

Dulcie Araluen was born at Dubbo on 6th March 1888. She died in 1892.

JAMES' SECOND FAMILY

James appears to have been something of a sentimentalist in a number of respects. He named the hotel that he established at Windeyer the "Sterling Inn", presumably in honour of his wife, Margaret Sterling. Current members of the family are intrigued by the fact that James and Henrietta's children, each have as their second name "Gordon", which was also Margaret Sterling's second name. Some have been under the erroneous impression that he was a member of the Gordon clan.

James was 56 years of age when he married Henrietta Elizabeth in 1863 but wasted no time in starting a new family to help him in his old age.

ALICE FRANCES GORDON was born at Windeyer on 6th April 1864, but died in childhood about 1866.

KINROSS GORDON was born in 1866. By 1880 James had taken up a "selection" of 240 acres at Grattai, several miles from Windeyer and wrote -

"I have complied with the residence and improvement clause and now reside on it with my youngest son, my wife and remaining family still residing at Windeyer and will until such time as I am in a position to build a suitable house for her and I must tell you, and feel pleasure in doing so, she is worthy of a good one, she being a wife, a real wife, a Mother and a slave to work. Our dependence, at present, is in a dairy and when in full swing milk about 20 cows. No servant now. Times are altered. My oldest son, Kinross Gordon, 13 for 4 years done the most of the milking."

Kinross Gordon died of an intestinal obstruction at Mudgee on 14th September 1903 at 36 years of age, leaving a 12-year-old son by his wife Catherine Fittler (she had formerly been married to a Thomas Doherty), whom he had married at Mudgee in 1890.

James Tucker, Kinross' only child, married Harriet Birchall and had a 40-acre farm at Grattai where they lived (which he is assumed to have inherited from his father, and a further 600 acres at Collingwood. Their daughter, Alice Hattie Keppie, grew up on the farm and from about ten years of age frequently stayed with her widowed grandmother at Grattai. From the age of 14 Alice worked in Mudgee with a florist, and later as a housemaid at Tatts Hotel. She played banjo-mandolin for dances etc. After marriage to Cecil Stapleton in 1940 she lived at Painbong, 28 miles from Mudgee.

Hattie stated that the Glengowan property was on McDonalds Creek, about 6 miles from Gattai. The adjoining property, owned by Lawrie Hawkins, was called Glengary. It was near Cannibal Mountain, the highest peak in the area, and a site of water-washed stones.

She also stated that Douglas Keppie (whom she did not realize was her uncle) wrote articles for the Mudgee Guardian under the pen name Rocky Merroo" – which is a township on the Queens Pinch Road, out of Windeyer.

After the death of her husband, she lived at East Gosford, NSW from 1990 – and was totally blind

DOUGLAS GORDON was born at Windeyer on 23 February 1870.

By 1880 James had taken up a "selection" of 240 acres at Grattai, several miles from Windeyer and wrote -

My next son, Douglas Gordon, when 8, now 10 past, milked 10 or 11 cows, the wife assisting. My cattle are now dry and the boys are going to school.

In 1898 Douglas married a cousin, Margaret Annie Keppie, daughter of James Keppie, his father's nephew. When their early children were born they were living near Mudgee but later moved to "Camyr-Allyn" on the Allyn River, near Gresford, and later at Mount George before eventually retiring to live in Sloane Street, Paterson, near the "old red house" of William Keppie.

Details concerning their lives can be found in the section covering Margaret Annie.

MAXWELL GORDON was born 11th May 1872 and described by his father in 1880 –

"My cattle are now dry and the boys are going to school. My youngest, Maxwell Gordon, 8 past, living and working on the farm. You would be surprised to see him and me falling and burning off. A work not suitable for either of our ages. Necessity has no law, it must be done in hopes of securing some day soon a home for my wife and little ones and which I consider to be my duty so long as my health will enable me.

If I am spared to see this place completed as laid out in my mind, it will be no disgrace to the undertaker. At present there are 30 acres cleared and fenced, not stumped. This year 12 acres of wheat. I intend to put in about 8 in corn, the remainder in potatoes and lucerne.

I do the most of the work myself, such as ploughing, sowing & clearing, a poor hand at reaping. I do all my own wood and ironwork having a forge on the spot for many years past I made a fair sum by making nearly all the coffins in this place. Having removed on the farm I am out of the line.

It is my intention to grow wheat largely and to erect a small portable mill to grind the grain into flour, keep pigs and poultry with the offal. Chinese are great consumers of pork."

Maxwell married Emeline Kate Brown in 1895 and had nine children. Little detail is known of most of this branch of the Keppie family. Several of the children were born at McDonald's Creek or Erudgere and one or two of the children died at birth or soon after.

Exceptions include their second child, **Percival James**, who was born in 1897 and married Louisa Lawrence, a member of the Lostock based family, of which several more also married members of the Munni branch of the Keppie family.

Their fifth son, **Maxwell Keppie**, married Emma Spackman, and had a fleet of trucks under contract to the NSW Dept of Main Roads. They lived in the Sydney suburb of Forestville. They had no children of their own but were very close with their nephew Douglas Arthur Keppie, the son of his brother, Arthur Kinross.

Their youngest son, **Arthur Kinross Keppie** was born in 1908 and married Vera Mary Howell. Arthur farmed at Castlereagh, on the Hawkesbury river west of Sydney, and died of heart attack in 1946 at just 38 years of age. They had one child, a son, Douglas Arthur, who was born at the Sydney suburb of Crows Nest on 3rd December 1936. He became close to his uncle Maxwell, who had no children of his own. In 1992 was living at North Narrabeen and working as a bus inspector, but later retired to Robina, on the Queensland Gold Coast.

PETER AND ELIZABETH' S CHILDREN

Of their nine children, three had been born in Scotland prior to their departure for N.S.W. in October 1839. The first, named Margaret, is presumed to have died in infancy as only Elizabeth and James accompanied them on the "Portland".

ELIZABETH had been born in 1836 and was four years old when they arrived in Australia. She was nearly nineteen when Rev. Mr. Adams married her at St Paul's Church, Paterson, on 21st November 1854, to Mr. Adam Mather, formerly of Cambus-keith, near Kilmarnock, in Ayrshire, Scotland.

Mather had also been born in Scotland, on 8th February 1822. Along with his first wife, Charlotte Cameron, he migrated to NSW with his parents who settled in Armidale. He was associated with Black Creek Steam Flour Mills and later Paterson Steam Flour Mills. Charlotte died in 1852.

In 1868 they were living in Morpeth where Adam appears to have been engaged in a business. There were several mills operating in the area at this time and it is thought that he may have been connected with the mills at Morpeth at the time of his death in 1870. When Adam died, Elizabeth was left with nine young children. Adam's tombstone reads -

"SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF ADAM MATHER who departed this life on the 10th July, 1870 Aged 48 years. "In the midst of life we are in Death, Tis God that lifts our comforts high, Or sinks them in the Grave, He gives and Blessed be His name, He takes but what he gave."

Adam died rather suddenly it seems, not long after receiving news of a fairly substantial inheritance (£5000) but before receiving it. Shortly after Adam's death Elizabeth moved to Singleton and carried on a business there for some years with the help and advice of her brothers, William and John.

Elizabeth's children

John Adam Mather married Fanny Walters in Maitland in 1882. Their children were born in Narrabri and Glen Innes.

Elizabeth Sara (Lily) married Colin Cooper at Patrick's Plains in 1879. Their older children were born in Newcastle and Morpeth, later ones in Armidale and Glen Innes and the last two in West Maitland and Newtown.

Adam married Ada Grace Budden at Patrick's Plains in 1885. All of their children were born in Singleton. Several died in childhood in the years through to 1899 and were buried in Singleton. Adam was a Cordial Manufacturer, then Hotel Keeper at Singleton

James Mather was born in 1859 and died in 1882. He is not known to have married.

William Mather was born in 1860 and died in 1889. He, likewise, is not known to have married.

Margaret, born in 1862, married Arthur Gates in 1886 in Morpeth. Their children were born in Ashfield and Windsor.

Ellen, born in 1864, married Charles Cornelius Williams or Leary in 1889. Their children were born in Berry, on the south coast of NSW.

Alfreda, born in 1868, married Alfred Waterford Tinkler (a son of Usher Tinkler, of Paterson) in Singleton in 1897. They had four children, including Harry Pinchin Tinkler who was born in Paterson in 1898, while three later children were born in Singleton.

Alexander, born in 1870, married Catherine Doyle in Newcastle in 1896. All of their children were born in Singleton.

Elizabeth Mather was 41 years of age when she remarried a Mr. Pinchin on 21st August 1877; and 53 when she married Michael Links in 1889.

JAMES

Peter and Elizabeth's eldest son, James, was born in Scotland in 1838 and was not yet two years old when they arrived in Australia in February, 1840. It is thought that James worked with his father and brothers in their farming and other pursuits in and around Paterson and at some stage had sought to rent some land from his Uncle James with a view to go out on his own.

At 24 years of age he married a Johanna Campbell of "Summer Hill", Munni, on the Williams River, near Dungog in 1862 and settled on a farm that Johanna had inherited, where they reared eight children.

Johanna had been born at Lostock, near Gresford, in 1840 and was four years old when her mother, 18-year-old Jessie McLennan and a native of Glenelg, Inverness, Scotland, married William Souter Fisher. Johanna was raised by her grandparents, Duncan and Mary McLennan on their "Summer Hill" property.

McLennan had purchased a 410-acre property at Munni in 1859 and gave a 10-acre portion to Johanna, as well as leaving her a one-third interest in the balance of the property to be inherited on his death, which occurred in 1875. It seems that James and Johanna lived at "Summer Hill" for several years before moving onto Johanna's 10-acre portion and maybe farmed a good deal more of the adjoining land until it was formally partitioned in 1889.

After James death in 1906, Johanna lived on at the property until her death in 1928.

Their eldest child, **Mary Elizabeth**, was born at Munni in 1863. She never married but had three sons and a daughter. It is believed that she was prevented by her parents from marrying Albert Jennings, the father of the first child, because of a difference of religion, and she raised the child in a separate cottage they built for her on the property. She kept herself by doing housework etc for local families. **Gordon** was born in 1885, never married and died in 1955. Her other children were -

Mabel Frances Harriet (Elsie), who was born in 1890. She married a local farmer named Archibald Ford Simmons and in 1917 gave birth to a daughter, Kathleen. Kathleen married a Mr. Young and has a daughter, Mary Elizabeth Young. In 1919 Mabel lost her life in the birth of her second child, Gloria. Following her death Simmons and daughter Kathleen lived with Elsie's brother, Maxwell and his wife, Pearl.

Maxwell Duncan Campbell was born in 1892, married Pearl May Hancock in Paterson in 1917 and had two children. Winifred Brida Keppie, born 1918, married Thomas Garland and had three daughters. Their son, Wallace James Keppie, born in 1920, married Vera Winstanley. He left Munni before the war and worked in the building industry in Sydney living at Castle Hill.

Lyndsay Mervyn Keppie was born in 1899, never married and was found dead on the property in 1949.

James and Johanna's next child, a son, was born on 7 May, 1865 and was named **William Souter Keppie**. In September, 1908, at the age of 43, he married Lillian Lawrence, a member of the prominent Lostock family who was twenty years his junior. They were separated for many years and William lived

with his brother, Archibald and his wife Mary Ann, at Thornton. Lillian lived at Singleton with their eldest son, Stancer.

William and Lillian's first child, **Stancer Gordon Keppie** was born in February 1909. The brothers were beekeepers for some years. Stancer never married and died of bowel cancer in 1964.

Halgon Leslie (known as Jack), born in December 1910 (Jack) Keppie was born on the family farm at Munni and grew up in the area. He married Jessie Burgmann in 1934 and they lived for a while with his uncle, Alick Lawrence, in Pitt Street and later moved to 27 Pitt St. In 1942 they moved to Beresfield, about 50 miles away near Maitland. They lived in two tents with their four children until he was able to build a small 2-room house with a side verandah.

In December, 1949 Jack and Maud took their now larger family of four girls and two boys to South Tamworth in the New England district, where they lived until the late 1970's. Jack worked as a carpenter and painter at times and, together with Maud, carried on a catering business in Tamworth and surrounding areas, catering for balls, parties and weddings. They also operated a kiosk at the Tamworth racecourse. Their first job in this catering field was providing meals for children attending a pony club camp for a week. They carried on with this particular job for several years. Some time later Jack and Maud separated and the house at Tamworth was sold.

Jack had a lasting love of gardening and always had lovely gardens where he grew all kinds of vegetables and fruit trees. He won many prizes at local shows for his preserved fruits and vegetables using his trusty "Vacola" home preserving kit.

Jack's long time passion was for fishing! His was a well-known face around the fishing spots of Port Macquarie and he also loved trout fishing up in the New England Highlands and beyond.

When he died, in 1988, his ashes were scattered at his favourite fishing spot.

John McKinnon was born at Munni in 1868 and died two years later.

James McFarlane was born in 1870. He married Minnie Woodhouse and had two children, Jean and Eric. They are thought to have lived in the Munn area.

Margaret Ann

James and Johanna's third child, Margaret Ann, was born in 1872. In 1898 she married her cousin, Douglas Gordon Keppie, who was the third child of her uncle James second marriage to Elizabeth Henrietta Tucker.

When their early children were born they were living near Mudgee but later moved to live at "Camyr-Allyn" on the Allyn River, near Gresford and later at Mount George before eventually retiring to live in Sloane Street, Paterson, near the "old red house" of William Keppie.

They had ten children -

The eldest, **Claude St. Clair**, was born in November 1898 at Mudgee, and became a garage proprietor at East Gresford. He died in Maitland Hospital in 1933 following a tragic accident with some machinery. Claude married Ivy Bertha Lawrence, another of the well-known Lostock family, and had three daughters - Doreen, Jean and Dulcie - and a son, Geoff. St. Clair.

Ruby (May) was born at Cullenbone, near Mudgee on 23rd December 1901. She married Bert Inall and died in 1972. They had three children, Betty, John and Barry.

Verlie born in 1903 at Spring Flat, near Mudgee. She trained as a nurse and eventually secured a position as a private nurse to the wife of a visiting American business executive. When they returned to America, Verlie went with them and eventually married Stanley Kimber. She lived in Montreal, Canada, was a keen golfer and Bridge player and after Stanley's death in 1978 paid regular visits back to Australia to visit her family. She lived to the ripe age of 97 years.

Arthur Douglas was born on 18th September 1905 and died at Newcastle in 1967. The family had moved to Mt George when he married Edna Murdoch on 27th August 1947 and he worked on the Murdoch family farm at Oxley Island in the Manning River, near Taree. They had three daughters – Jan, Kay, and Ann, and a son, Graeme.

Roland Walter, was born in 1908 at Spring Flat, and died at Cessnock about 1972. Roland married Winifred Lill in February 1936 at Wingham. Roland worked and lived on the Tocal property and had a daughter, Wendy.

Roland's twin, **Sylvia Maude** married a farmer, Ian McPherson, in 1938 and lived at Wingham, NSW, where she died in 1998. They had four children - Margaret, John, Gordon and Alister Weir.

Kathleen, born 30th July 1910, married Clive Walkeden-Brown and had two sons, Phillip and Timothy.

Jessie, born 15th August 1912, married James McGoldrick and lived at Bulli, N.S.W. before moving to Queensland following the death of her husband. Their two children are Deidre and Peter.

Clifton, born 13th July 1914, married Lily Woodhouse and lived in his parents home in Sloane Street Paterson. They had two children, Pam and Shane,

Edith, born 13th November 1916, married Robert Stewart and has a daughter, Jeanette.

Archibald Alexander was born in 1872. He married Mary Ann Frazer and lived at Thornton, near Maitland.

Peter Samuel was born in 1877 and married Annie Brooker, a member of the prominent Paterson district family. They lived at Morpeth where the children were born, and later at Thornton. Peter is thought to have been a carpenter. Their children were –

Dorothy Edna, born 1915, who married Ronald Baus and had son, Kevin. Died in Stockton Nursing Home in 1999.

Richard Lance, born 1917, Gunner in 3rd Anti-tank Regt. died at Tobruk in the Middle East in October, 1942 during World War II

Harold Peter, born 1921. Served in VDC during War while working at BHP, Newcastle. Was first grade fullback for Maitland. Went to Grenfell in 1947 where he married Margaret Harveyson and raised 6 girls and 2 boys.

John Usher was born at Munni in 1880 and married Alice Fairhall Their children were –

Mavis Rose, who married Basil Cardow in West Maitland.

Iris Esme, born Stroud 1914, who married Elliott Hawkins in Wingham

John (Jack) Beresford, born 1917 at Dunedoo. He married Enid Titcombe and lived at Wingham. Their children were -

Lester George was born in 1919 and died in Wingham in 1943

Darnley Garth was born in 1926, married Katherine Hure and lived at Wingham

Selena Johanna, born 1884, married Joseph Lawrence and share-farmed on “Gostwyck” at Martins Creek for George Priestley. Later, they lived at Swan Street, Morpeth before share farming on Section Farm on the Minmi Road and ultimately lived at Telarah. Their children were

Darcy Lawrence, born 1908, married Edna King lived at Horseshoe Bend, Maitland

Beulah Lawrence, born 1911, married Jack McDonald

Raymond Lawrence, born 1914, married Leonora Elder

Winston “Winty” Lawrence, born 1917, drove buses, lived at times with sister, Claudia.

Lauder Lawrence, born 1921, married Stella Cogswell, lived at North Ryde, Sydney

Claudia Lawrence, born 1922. She worked at Tocal before marriage to Eric Cook and lives at Telarah.

Wendy Lawrence

WILLIAM

The first of Peter and Elizabeth's Australian-born children, and the fourth of their nine children, was born at the "Bush Inn" Paterson, on 9th February, 1841, (one year after his parents' arrival from Scotland). William had a lifetime involvement with Paterson, where he died in December, 1928 at the age of 87.

In his early days he worked with his father in the farming and other activities that Peter carried on in conjunction with his Uncle James and learnt the trades of wheelwright and blacksmithing.

He was married in St. Ann's Presbyterian Church (by the Rev. Mr. Stinton) to Salome Garred on 16th June 1869. Born at Raymond Terrace on 1st May 1849, Salome was the daughter of Daniel Garred and Ann (Puxty). The Puxtys were a Paterson family and Salome lived much of her early life with her grandmother, Ellen Puxty, who took over the *Plough Inn* from Peter Keppie (about 1860) and later, in 1864 or 65, ran the *Royal Oak*. She spent a lot of time in the company of the Keppie family before marrying William on 16th June 1869 at the age of 20.

William was always keenly interested in politics, and took a very active part in all public matters. He could always be found on the various committees working for the progress of the district and was one of the first office bearers of the School of Arts, of which he was made a life member.

Maitland Mercury – 20 August 1868

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY – PUBLIC MEETING

On Wednesday evening last a public meeting was held at the Oddfellows' Hall, pursuant to the advertisement, to consider the propriety of forming another Mutual Improvement Society in this town. The meeting was pretty well attended, principally by the young men of the town. Mr. W Keppie presided. It was unanimously decided to form another Mutual Improvement Society at once. A committee was appointed to ascertain on what terms the Odd Fellows Hall could be obtained for holding the meetings in, and to make the preliminary arrangements for opening the institution. Upwards of twenty persons present signified their intention of becoming members, and the institution is to be opened this (Wednesday) evening. We would suggest that the new institution should be opened as a school of arts, when they will obtain the assistance of the Government to the extent of one-half of the amount that will be subscribed amongst themselves, and in every way carry out the objects which our young men desire, as much so as if they establish a Mutual Improvement Society. If the former Mutual Improvement Society had started as a School of Arts, we have no doubt the society would have been in existence for many years to come, for the thirty pounds which was obtained during the first year of existence of that Society would have entitled it to a Government grant of fifteen pounds—a nice little sum and that would have formed the nucleus of a nice little library, which in itself would have kept the Society together. For the greatest want felt amongst the members of the late Mutual Improvement Society was some good books for the perusal and instruction of its members. We trust therefore those persons who propose to become members of the new institution will see the propriety of forming such institution into a School of Arts.

(At the next meeting W Keppie moved the motion to build a School of Arts)

About the time of his marriage, he went into business on his own account as a builder and blacksmith and later became engaged in butchering for a time, was an Auctioneer and a brewer of Ginger Beer.

TO BLACKSMITHS.

WANTED, a BLACKSMITH; must be a good Horse Shoer. Apply to WILLIAM KEPPIE, Paterson.

Maitland Mercury, July 1, 1871

MAITLAND MERCURY

11 August 1874

“CUPS AND MEDALS.—There is now on view in the shop of Messrs. Griffiths and Son, jewellers, of High street, a number of silver cups and medals, won at the last Agricultural and Horticultural Association’s Show at West Maitland. There are seven cups and five medals. The largest and handsomest of the cups belongs to Messrs. Christian and Co., for the best collection of preserved meats, and besides being made of silver, and highly ornamented, as are all the others, it is also additionally beautified by vines of gold climbing around the pillar on which the cup rests; another of the cups is for H. C. White, Esq., for the best seven head of cattle, any breed; and nearly all the others go to Alex Munroe, Esq., for different varieties and vintages of wine. The owners of the medals are James Price, for best Durham bull, two years old; H. C. White, Esq., best Devon cow, 5 years 6 months old, “Buttercup 2nd.”, which animal also takes another presented by F. Reynolds; Lasseter and Co., for reaping machine; and W. Keppie, best plough, any maker. The medals are of silver, surrounded by a vine of the same metal frosted, and ending at the top in a group of leaves. Both cups and medals contain on one side the names of the owners, and the reason for which they were awarded, and on the other the words—“Hunter River A. and H. Association, West Maitland, 1874.”

By 1878, when six of their ten children had arrived, William purchased a de-licensed hotel to accommodate their growing family. This historic old red brick two-story building, known affectionately to later generations as the "Old Red House", stood in a prominent position overlooking the river flats at the entrance to the town. Captain James Phillips had built it in the 1830's by convict labour, using locally procured materials on part of his *Bona Vista* estate. The bricks were made and baked in a nearby paddock, the sandstone flags quarried on the spot, locally cut cedar was secured with handmade nails and the roof shingled with local wood.

It was later to become Paterson's first hotel, "The Paterson Arms", and was the scene of many newsworthy incidents. By the time William bought it for his family residence and renamed it "Brooklyn House", the licence had lapsed and in the long-room where the beer had been brewed

William brewed ginger beer, which he sold in white stone bottles. The business flourished until lemonade took the public fancy.

WM. KEPPIE
A U C T I O N E E R

And Commission Agent

PATERSON.

Maitland Mercury, October 13, 1877

NOTICE.

W. KEPPIE & CO.,
WISH TO INFORM THE INHABITANTS

OF

PATERSON AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS

THAT THEY HAVE COMMENCED BUSINESS

AS

W H O L E S A L E

AND

R E T A I L B U T C H E R S .

And trust by keeping a Good Article, combined with Civility and Attention, to merit a fair share of Public Patronage.

Paterson, Oct. 26, 1878.

Maitland Mercury, October 26, 1878

In February 1880 it was stated in the Gazette of February 16 that William Keppie and four other residents had been appointed as trustees of the Paterson Common

“PATERSON.

FAREWELL DINNER TO Dr. FADDY

On Wednesday evening last a public meeting of the friends of Dr. Faddy was held at the Paterson School of arts, to consider the proposal of entertaining Dr. Faddy at a farewell dinner previous to his leaving the district for the Manning River. There was a numerous attendance. Mr. E Doust was called upon to take the chair, and in opening the proceedings expressed his regret that circumstances had arisen which necessitated them having to bid farewell to their respected townsman, Dr. Faddy, but as Dr. Faddy had decided to leave them they must therefore bow to his decision, and he considered that, previous to his departure they should in some way publicly express their highest approval of the manner in

which Dr. Faddy had performed his part as a citizen since he became a resident among them, and to bid him a cordial farewell, ere he left them.—Mr. Stephen Stanbridge proposed, and Mr. William Keppie seconded, “That Dr. Faddy be invited to a farewell dinner previous to his departure from the district.” The motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. William Stein, seconded by Mr. John Keppie, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements, viz. : — Messrs. E Doust, W Keppie, J Keppie, John Tucker, W Tucker, J G Smith, W Reynolds, Stephen Stanbridge, Thomas Pearse, W Stein, W C Rogerson, and J C Phillips.

A vote of thanks was duly tendered to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

After the close of the public meeting a committee meeting was held at which Mr. William Keppie was appointed Chairman, and Mr. Stanbridge secretary. A deputation was appointed to wait upon Dr Faddy to ascertain the most suitable time to him to hold the dinner.

It was decided to advertise the dinner once in the *Mercury*.

It was also decided to invite G J Frankland, Esq., J.P., to preside at the dinner.

A sub-committee was appointed to make all necessary minor arrangements for the dinner.

The meeting of the committee was then adjourned until Saturday evening the 31st instant.

We have since ascertained that Dr. Faddy has accepted the invitation to the dinner, and the venue selected for the entertainment is Friday evening the 6th August.

Paterson. 30th July, 1880.

Maitland Mercury, Saturday, 31 July 1880

In 1899 William took up a "selection" of 150 acres on nearby Tucker's Creek and by 1903 had established an orchard and dairy farm there with the help of his son, Walter. Members of the family have continued to live on at "Glen Lossie" ever since.

The "Old Red House" subsequently became occupied (in 1905) by Andrew Keppie, and members of his family continued to reside there until it was demolished in 1956.

Salome was a great support to William and, over a period of nearly twenty years, after rearing their own ten children, became foster-mother to a number of State Wards up to the time of her death in 1915 at the age of 66.

Maitland Mercury DISTRICT NEWS LETTERS July 10, 1915
(From our correspondents)

PATERSON

It was with feelings of deepest regret that the news was received of the passing away at her daughter's residence, Mrs. D. Braithwaite, Hamilton, of Salome, beloved wife of Mr. W. Keppie Sen., "Glen Lossie", Paterson, on Tuesday night last, and much sympathy goes out to the bereaved husband and family in their irreparable loss. The deceased had only been ill a short while, and it was owing to that fact that her death came as a shock. She was a member of the well known Garred family, of Raymond Terrace, and was in her 66th year. Her mother, Mrs. Sandeman, is still living at present in Raymond Terrace. The deceased lived practically all her life in Paterson, residing in the early days with her grand-mother, Mrs. John (Elhanan) Puxty, whom it will probably remembered kept the Royal Oak, which, although now a private residence, still stands opposite Messrs. Wilson and Keppie's auction rooms. The deceased's death was the first in her family, and she was widely known as being a good friend, especially with children, besides being a devoted wife and mother. Her surviving children are — Mrs. Farnham, of Perth; Mrs. Gooch, Perth; Mrs. W J Tinkler, Tuckerimba, Coraki; Miss F Keppie, Perth; Mrs. D. Braithwaite, Hamilton; Mrs. G A Call, Paterson; Messrs Percy, William, Walter, Paterson; and Arthur, Dardanelles; and about thirty grandchildren. Her son, Arthur, is at present wounded somewhere at the front, having taken part in the gallant landing at the Dardanelles quite recently. The remains of the deceased were conveyed to Paterson on Friday last by the Taree mail, and were laid to rest in the Church of England cemetery. The Rev Canon Hirst officiated at the church and graveside. The attendance at the funeral was large and very representative. There were beautiful wreaths forwarded by sympathetic friends viz., Mr. And Mrs. Massie, Newcastle; Mrs. Grainger, Singleton; Mrs. A Swan, Newcastle; Mrs. John Adam, Newcastle; Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Cann, Paterson; and from the committee of the Paterson School of Arts, besides numerous telegrams, cards etc.

William and Salome's eldest child, **Henrietta Ellen**, was born on 19th March 1870. In 1894 she travelled to Western Australia on board "S.S. Innaminka" and married Joseph Farnham, a Railways officer, in 1895.

They reared five children in Western Australia, - and moved back to N.S.W. in the 1920 's, settling in Sydney, where she died in 1957.

The children were - —

Meredin, born in 1896, married Fred Higginbotham, and had two sons, Brian and Kevin.

Walter, born in 1898, died in 1919 unmarried.

Sydney, born in 1900, married twice, but had no issue, died 1977.

Colin, born in 1902, married but died, of Black water fever contracted in New Guinea, without issue

Zillah, born in 1904, married twice, died in 1977.

Their second child, **Elizabeth Salome**, born 28th April 1871 married William John Tinkler, a member of another prominent Paterson family, on 20th July 1892. After a short period in a Paterson butchery, they spent several years farming at *Windermere*, Lochinvar before moving to the Clarence River at Coraki.

Their ten children were

Usher, born 1893, an Army officer, married Georgina, their son Barry.

Clarice, born 1894, died tragically of peritonitis at the age of 20.

Arthur, born 1897, known as **Jack**, died at Casino 1937.

Harold, born 1899, who died of T.B. at Waterfall Sanatorium.

Marjorie, born 1905, married Bob Rogers, had five children – Marge, Ross, Joy, Colleen and Warren

Norman, born 1906, married Audrey, had two sons – Ron and Leslie

Ruby, born 1908, had a daughter Dorothy

Wallace, born 1910, married Isobel while on service in UK during War, had two children – Gregory and Carolyn.

Audrey, born 1912, married Dick Chute, children were Barry, Keith, Sylvia, Dawn and Deidre..

Grace, born 1914, married Clem Crawley, had 3 children – Kathleen, Patrick and Maureen.

William and Salome's third child was a son, **Percival**, born 1st November 1872, who married a Singleton girl, Harriett Holmwood on 21st August 1901. After living for some years in Newcastle, Percy and Harriett moved onto their selection, "The Chase", which adjoined that of his parents. Here they reared seven children. These were -

Cyril, worked with his father on "The Chase". Married Acy O'Connor .

Herbert, married Essie McGill and had a son, John. After serving in World War II returned to his taxi service in Brisbane.

Lloyd (a Railways officer), married Frances Holder and had two sons, Peter and Ray. After serving in various parts of NSW settled in Sydney suburb of Auburn.

George (a postal official) and his wife Frances, had two sons, Clem and Lyall. Postmaster at Broken Hill and Cootamundra before returning to Rockdale PO and bought house at Randwick. After retirement lived at Blakehurst and was tragically run over by a passing motorist when leaving home to go to bowls.

Norman, was tragically killed by a fall from his horse at the age of 8.

Beryl Elizabeth, married William "Dave" Parker was connected with the quarry at Martins Creek. He later moved to Sydney in the quarrying industry where they raised sons Henry, an engineer and William (Jnr) who became a leading orthopaedic specialist in Brisbane.

Jean Carbide, married Ray Murgatroyd and have a daughter, Lynne. Spent much of their lives in country and city hotels including, at one time, the "City Inn" in Kent Street, Sydney.

Born on 1st June 1874, **Mary Ann** followed her older sister, Henrietta, to Western Australia in 1904 and there married Robert Gooch.

They had two daughters,

Elsa (married a scientist, Harry Carrol) and

Sylvia (who married Fred Dawson, an executive of a hospital fund).

They remained in WA. and Mary Ann died there on 8th July, 1952.

Walter Keppie was born on 29th April, 1876 and lived his whole life in Paterson. He was in his early twenties when his father took up the selection at "Glen Lossie" and, in view of his father's advancing years, bore the brunt of the work involved in carving a farm out of the bush and building the family home.

By 1906, when most of the establishment work had been completed, he commenced a "coach run" to Maitland but this enterprise was soon superseded with the opening of the rail line in 1910.

He married Margaret Seumenicht on 6th November, 1915 and they reared their five children on "Glen Lossie" before he died on 5th November, 1944 at the age of 68.

Dorothy (married Len Flannery and lived at Clarencetown),

Clarice (Keith Bevan, after many years at Gresford retired to Maitland),

Irene (Harry Crouch, Sandgate),

Arthur (a Railways officer, now deceased, married Phyllis Merchant.

Their eldest son, Jonathan joined the Navy, trained at Leeuwin and Cerberus. served on Sydney and Hobart left navy in 1982 works as a storeman, lives at North Rocks.)

William (still resides at "Glen Lossie" and, with his wife Mabel, is actively involved with the Paterson Historical Society).

Gertrude was born on 20th May, 1878, the first of William and Salome's children to be born at the "Old Red House". Not long after moving out to "Glen Lossie", Gertie married Jack Call on 23rd November, 1904. The following year they went to live at Wee Waa and there had five children –

Ruth (Harold Hammond), children – Peg, Gwen, Max, Warren and Lynette

Phyllis, married Fred Fender, children – Philip, Edna, Roland, and Alan

Clifford, married Amy Bale, children – Nelma, John and Warren

Marjorie married 1. Thiele, children – Patricia, James, and Ronald
m. 2. John Hirt, children John and Judith.

Ronald – children – Noel, Peter, Robert and Terry.

The eldest of Gertrude's children was only eight years old when their father died and the family moved back to Paterson to live in Brown's house, early in 1914. Some time later they went to live at Lismore on the Richmond River.

On 19th January, 1881, **William Alfred** was born. He married Ethel Cooper but they had no children. Most of his adult life was spent as an auctioneer and Agent in partnership with his friend, "Son" (Ernie) Wilson. They conducted a weekly market auction of local produce in the "Union" shed at Paterson for many years, as well as holding regular stock sales at Maitland Saleyards.

Their youngest son, **Arthur**, was born on 2nd March, 1883, and went to work at Tillimby at the age of fifteen. On leaving there in 1905, he went to Western Australia to join his older sisters, Henrietta and Mary Ann, who had both married and settled there earlier. He returned to Paterson at the end of 1911 and was again working on Tillimby at the outbreak of War. He immediately travelled to Sydney and enlisted on 13th August, 1914. Having previously served in the Militia, he was one of the first to join the A.I.F.

MAITLAND MERCURY –
March 29, 1916
PATERSON.

Of the immense number of our brave boys who left their native shores at the commencement of hostilities, and who took part in the world-famed landing on the shores of Gallipoli, there were many who mysteriously disappeared in the wild tumult and no trace can at present be found of them. The doubt as to whether they be dead, or whether they are prisoners of war, is owing to lack of reliable information, an uncertainty that is most distracting to the loved ones left behind. Their alternative is patiently to wait developments that may clear the present mystery that overshadows the realisation of what may be a sad though honourable and glorious death, or the probable reunion with the beloved one when the terms of peace are signed. There are many cases where such conditions have placed homes in utter despair, and the faint hope that has previously existed gradually vanishes as reports, whether reliable or not, come to hand stating that the solemn burial of such persons has been witnessed. Owing to the absence of many distinguishing marks that would lead to identification, it is hard to surmise correctly whether such statements are true and it is through these that parents and relatives are buoyed up in the hope that their loved ones are still in the land of the living, or in the safe-keeping of an enemy that is at least human, if not civilised. From our own community we have an instance of where a young man went from the land of his birth, to do duty to his King and country in a foreign place, and where, according to reports, having done it faithfully and well, he passed, as it were, into oblivion, and with all the searching enquiries it has been found impossible to hear any official word of his death or capture. There have been letters

received which undoubtedly lead one to believe that the worst has happened in this case, but as stated previously, nothing definite. We allude to Private A. E. Keppie, who enlisted in the 14th of August, 1914. We believe that he was the first to enlist from this district. He left for the seat of war with many of his comrades on the 19th October by the Euripides. He then belonged to G Company, 4th Battalion, 1st Australian Expeditionary Forces. He arrived in Egypt on the 6th December, and whilst there his company was changed to the 14th Platoon, D Company, 1st Infantry Brigade, A.I.F. His number was 205. He wrote his last letter home while at sea on the twenty-first of April, 1915. A telegram was received from the Secretary of Defence on the 16th June which stated that Private A. E. Keppie was reported wounded and missing from the 26th of April, apparently 5 days after he wrote his letter home. The latest communication received is that from the Aus- (the next segment of the article is missing) a statement made by Private Price, who was of the same company, and who was returning as a wounded soldier. He states that on Monday, 26th April, 1915, Keppie was wounded during a charge about a mile and a half inland from the Anzac beach. While making his way to the rear he was hit by machine gun bullets and died instantly. Informant also states that he saw him buried between Shrapnel Gully and Tasmanian Post. This statement, although bearing very sad news, must be treated with a certain amount of caution, and we trust for the sake of the well known and highly respected family that such is not true and their boy may still have been spared to return to them shortly. Nevertheless, if it should be proved that these statements are correct, we will ask them to accept the sincere sympathy of the community in the loss of one who

paid the supreme sacrifice when duty called.

DUNGOG CHRONICLE –
August 22, 1922

Lest We Forget

On Sunday week last a soldier's memorial costing £320 was unveiled at Paterson free of debt. The ceremony was performed by Mr. William Keppie, sen., father of the first soldier in Paterson to enlist who was also the first to fall (April 26th, 1915). Addresses were given by the chairman, Mr. Henry Corner, Hon. W. Bennett and Mr. W. F. O'Hearn, Ms.L.A., Archdeacon Luscombe, Mr. H. W. Fry (Mayor of West Maitland), Mr. A McGregor (President Bolwarra Shire), and Cr. Ferry. The monument was inscribed with the following names:- Private A. E. Keppie, k. in a. Gallipoli 26/4/14; Private S. J. Kidd k. in a. Lone Pine 7/8/15; Gnr. E. Taylor, k. in a. Armentieres, 12/10/16; L.Cpl. B. Doyle, k. in a. Pozieres, 26/7/16; Pte. C. W. Brooker, k. in a. Zonnebake 1/10/17; Cpl. D. E. Etches, d. of w. , (place unknown), 16/11/17; L. Cpl. A. T. Kimber, d. of w. Hiness, Turkey, 30/11/17; Pte H. E. Auckett, k. in a. Polygon Wood, 2/3/18; Over the top of the dais over the names is the motto, "For God, King, and Empire, 1914-1918" and at the bottom immediately under the military emblem is the dedication as follows:- "Erected in honour of those from the district who served in the Great War 1914-1918". The honour roll is placed on the northern and southern faces, this being headed with the name of Sister Cann, followed by the returned men in alphabetical order as follows :- A. Bearn, J. Brown, A. Brown, S. V. Butler, B. Danks, F. Doyle, R. Duggan, V. Geary, P. Hartup, A. Hartup, R. Hicks, R. Kidd, A. Kidd, V. Martin, Q. R. Renolds, A. Reynolds, H. A. Yates.

Pearl, who was born on 18th November 1884, spent several years both prior to and after her marriage in January 1914 to Dougald Braithwaite, in and around Newcastle. They had no children and, after he died in 1927, she ran some small shops in Sydney suburbs and, later, a boarding house in the Newcastle suburb of Islington. She eventually retired and lived in the newly developing suburb of Birmingham Gardens until her death in 1972 at the age of 88 years.

Florence was the youngest of William and Salome's ten children. She was born on 16th July 1887 and was 16 years of age when the family moved out to Glen Lossie. In the course of a few years, like her older sisters and brother Arthur, she went off to work in Sydney and the Blue Mountains and in June, 1913 followed those who had already "gone West" to Western Australia. There, in July, 1915, she married Stanley Coyle, whom she had met previously at Paterson where he had come to holiday with the Keppie family at the time the Goochs and her brother Arthur were making one of their infrequent visits home from WA. After their marriage they returned to live in N.S.W. and spent some years in Newcastle and other Hunter River towns before finally settling in Sydney about 1920.

They reared five children –

Evelyn Coyle, born 1916, married George Burgess, their two sons are Keith, a medical specialist and Associate Professor, and Jeffrey an I.T. specialist.

Gwen Coyle, born 1919, married Bill Benson, their son Richard, a banker

Lola Coyle, born 1920, married Walter Pease, a British sub-mariner, their son Denis died aged 19 as result of an accident while serving in the Australian navy, their daughters, Noelene and Robyn, a sales supervisor.

Warren Coyle, born 1925, married Joy Guyder. After War service, worked in Repatriation Dept, in Brisbane. Their son, Warren Jnr. is a Gold Coast Architect, daughters Meredith and Stephanie, nurses.

Edwin Coyle, born 1928, married Audrey Locke. Their daughters are Linda, a lawyer and Anne, a teacher.

Florence died in March 1960, aged 72.

MARGARET

Peter and Elizabeth named their fifth child Margaret, as they had done with their very first who is presumed to have died before they came to Australia. She was born on 24th March 1843. In 1862, aged 19, she married a chap named Samuel Wilson who was 20 years her senior and did not seem to be at all popular with any of her family. They lived for some years in Singleton and/or Morpeth, where Wilson had business interests, and had several children –

Elizabeth Margaret, born 1866

John Henry, born 1866

Ada, born 1869; d 1901

James McFarlane, born 1871

Anne, born 1872

James, born 1875

Although Margaret corresponded for some years with her sister, Elizabeth and brothers, William and John, little else is known of their activities, but Margaret appears to have become something of a religious crank, falling out with her brother William.

After the death of her mother in 1868, her father lived with her and her family at Morpeth for some years before marrying Mary (Pett) Redding in 1877.

Sam Wilson died in 1908 and Margaret died in 1919.

JOHN

Peter and Elizabeth's next child was born on Christmas Eve, 1846 and as a young man worked with his father and brothers, William and Andrew, and was very friendly with members of the Tinkler family.

In 1868 he went off droving cattle to Queensland and spent some time gold prospecting at Herbert's Creek and working around Rockhampton.

On his return in 1870 he went to live at Singleton with his recently widowed sister, Elizabeth Mather, for some time. He later returned to Paterson and, among other activities as a wheelwright and carpenter John, and his brother, Andrew, ran a sawmill on the riverbank adjacent to the town wharf.

In 1878, John married Mary Ann Tinkler of Paterson (sister of his niece, Salome's, husband William Tinkler) and reared the following children –

Peter, born 1879, died in infancy.

Laurel, born 1880, married Bill Cann of Paterson in 1902 but had no issue.

Ida, who was born in 1881, never married. She ended her days at Lewisham, a Sydney suburb, where she lived with her brother, Waterford.

Waterford, died unmarried in 1953 at Lewisham

George, born in 1884 married Ruby Bembrick in 1915. He carried on a hardware business at the Sydney suburb of Canterbury for many years. They, too, had no children.\

Edna (Bessie) was born in 1887 and died tragically in 1899.

Maitland Mercury District News Thurs, October 26 1899

PATERSON

A very sad loss occurred to Mr. and Mrs. John Keppie, of Paterson, this week, in the death of their youngest daughter, Bessie, about 12½ years of age. This little girl was a bright affectionate and apparently strong child until about twelve months ago, when a serious special disease manifested itself. Since that time the symptoms have been growing ever more grave and distressful. For the last few months of her life Bessie had been totally blind. This affliction, and all her sufferings were borne with the most wonderful patience. The child was never querulous or fretful. On last Sunday afternoon she was seized with a fit and at 6.30 on Monday morning passed quietly away to the unseen world. All that the love of devoted parents, brothers and sisters and skilful physicians could do to alleviate or arrest the dread disease had been done, but the healing was not to be, and this fair young life has been transplanted to God's beautiful beyond, "where pain can never be". The sympathy of all is with the bereaved home. The interment took place in St Paul's cemetery on Tuesday afternoon. The funeral cortege was large, and the grave was piled high with the beautiful floral tributes of many loving friends.

Oct. 25

John and Ann lived in a cottage on the Maitland Road, on the corner of William Street, with a frontage to the Paterson River and bounded on the south by William Street. John Keppie had purchased this land from his sister, Elizabeth Pinchin, formerly Elizabeth Mather. She had bought the land in 1872 prior to her marriage to Harry Pinchin.

Among his many interests was horseracing. He was Hon. Secretary of the Paterson Jockey Club in the 1880's.

The Maitland Mercury of Tuesday, November 8, 1898 carried an announcement of the appointment of **New Magistrates** that named several gentlemen including that of
...John Keppie, Paterson

Maitland Mercury, Saturday January 21, 1888 carried an advertisement in the form of an open letter addressed to Robert Park, Esq., JP, Warden, Gresford –

Sir, We, the undersigned residents of the Paterson District respectfully request that you, as Warden of the District, CALL A PUBLIC MEETING to consider what steps should be taken to Celebrate the OFFICIAL OPENING of the PATERSON BRIDGE Signatories included Wm Keppie, John Keppie. The meeting was called for the school of Arts on Monday 23rd inst at 8pm

John died on the 5th December, 1921

MAITLAND MERCURY

PATERSON - The funeral of the late John Keppie, who passed away at his residence on Monday night last after a lengthy and painful illness, took place yesterday and was largely attended. After the service in St Paul's Church, at which the choir sang two of the departed's favourite hymns, "Abide with Me" and "Lead Kindly Light", the remains were conveyed to the cemetery adjoining the sacred edifice, and laid to rest. Whilst the coffin was being conveyed from the church the Dead March was played by the organist, Mrs W Tucker. The services, both at the church and graveside were conducted by Rev Canon Hirst. Among those gathered around the graveside were Messrs Waterford and George, sons; Messrs. William, Sam and Andrew, brothers; Messrs Roy, Cedric, Arch, Walter, Percy, William A Keppie; Usher Tinkler and A Mather, Singleton, nephews; Mr W Cann, son-in-law; and Messrs A Tinkler and C L Bridger, brothers-in-law. The handsome casket, which was covered by many beautiful wreaths, included one from the rector, churchwardens and parochial council of St Paul's, fellow trustees of the Paterson Park, Mr & Mrs Stewart Corner; Mr and Mrs J W Taylor; C L E and H Bridger; Mrs. Frank Reynolds and family; Mr S Reynolds and

family; Mrs R Tucker; Mr and Mrs P Keppie; Mr and Mrs D Keppie. The late Mr Keppie, who was in his 75th year, was born in Paterson and, with perhaps the exception of a brief while in which he spent out in the backcountry, he lived the whole of his life in this town, following his occupation as a coachbuilder etc. The late Mr Keppie was of a quiet, unassuming disposition, yet, being a reader of classical works, was conversant in many matters and delighted in discourse. For many years he was a member of St Paul's Parochial Council and auditor, and prior to the Paterson Park being transferred to the control; of the Shire he acted as one of the trustees. A familiar sight in the town prior to his illness, his presence will be missed. He leaves a widow, two sons, Messrs Waterford and George, and two daughters, Mrs W Cann and Miss Ida Keppie,

ANDREW

Andrew Keppie, like his brother William, lived in Paterson all of his life. Born there on 10th June 1849, he became one of its best-known identities.

In the early days he was well known among the followers of horseracing. In those days Paterson held meetings spreading over two or three days. His occupations included those of blacksmith and wheelwright, mostly in business with his brothers. He conducted his blacksmiths shop from the property at the back of Brooklyn House.

He married Fanny Sherwood on 13th December 1876 and they reared six children –

Alice **May**, born 1877, married Albert Bridger, had a son, Ken
Florence **Lillian**, born 1880, married Ern Haskins. Their children were
Richard, Bonnie and Jean.

Andrew **Leslie**, born 1881, married Ethel (Madge) Dummer and had a
daughter, Hilary.

Eliza **Daisy**, born 1884, married Charles (Leslie) Quinton). Their children were
Jean Etta, and Charles.

Kenneth, born 1887, married Gladys Edwards. Their children were Audrey
Mavis, and Vacy

Violet Flora Graham, born 1890, married George Boyce. Their children were
George Norman, Stanley, Ronald Arthur, Daphne Eva, Una Mary, and Frances
Gwen.

Andrew lived in the "Old Red House" from 1905 until his death at 80 years of age in 1929.

MR. ANDREW KEPPIE,
PATERSON.

One of the oldest residents, Mr. Andrew Keppie, has passed away at his residence at the age of 80 years. Being a native of Paterson, and having resided there all his life, he was one of the best-known identities. In the early days he was well known among the followers of horse-racing when Paterson held meetings spreading over two or three days. His occupation was blacksmith and wheelwright, having been employed most of his time with his brother, the late John Keppie. Strange to say, he died in the same room, and almost on the same spot as where he was married over fifty-three years ago. His wife was a member of the Sherwood family, and the officiating minister, the Rev Mr. Boag, who came from Hinton. This is the first death in his family, the surviving members being, the widow, two sons and four daughters. Messrs A.L. Keppie (Muswellbrook), Ken Keppie (Newcastle), Mrs. R Bridger (East Maitland), Mrs. Haskins (Sydney), Mrs. Quinton (West Maitland) and Mrs. G Boyce (Paterson). One brother survives him, Mr. Samuel Keppie of Singleton. The remains were interred in the Presbyterian Cemetery at Paterson, the Rev Mr. Prenter officiating at the house and also the graveside. There was a very large attendance at the funeral, and among the relatives were Messrs A.L. and Ken Keppie (sons), Samuel Keppie (brother). The pallbearers were Messrs. P. Keppie, A. Jordan, S Fry and A.W.

Tinkler. Wreaths were received from the following: Mother, May, Albert and family; Lily, Ernie and family; Leslie, Madge and Hilary; Gladys and Family; Vi, George and family; Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Keppie; Mr. and Mrs. Wal. Keppie and family; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Keppie and family; Bob, Mrs. Lawrie and family; W.J. Crouch; Frank Auckett; Mrs. Patterson and Miss Cohen; R Dixon; H.A. Fry; Len Graham; W.E. Couper; Mrs. S.A. Osmond; Mrs. G. Duggan; J.S. Brown; directors of R. Hall and Son (Newcastle); employees of R. Hall and Son ; F. Mudd; R. Maples; Mrs. and Miss Quinton; Mr. and Mrs. Ribee; T Wilks; Mr. and Mrs. D Osmond.

Fanny lived on there with her daughter Violet and family until she died on 3rd August, 1939. Violet stayed on there with her husband, George Boyce, and family until the Red House was pulled down about 1956.

“LANDMARK TO GO AT PATERSON

By Rona Clark

(Maitland Mercury)

Another historic landmark will be lost when, in the near future, the wrecker's hammer falls on one of the oldest buildings in Paterson. The old home, once the first hotel in the town, is now taking a last look over the river flats at a scene it has dominated for a century and a quarter.

It is sad to record the demolition of a building whose every beam and brick is a reminder of the early history of the colony. But the heavy rains weakened the mortar between the bricks and the complete collapse of a wall made the house unsafe.

The owners, Mr and Mrs George Boyce, therefore decided that the only course left was to have the building pulled down and sold for the value of its cedar, bricks, doors and shutters, together with the fine block of land on which the house stands.

The decision was made regretfully, since the house has been occupied by members of Mrs Boyce's family for over 80 years. Even now, in its decline, the house carries itself with the noble dignity which colonial architecture seems to confer on buildings.

The two-storied home is of red brick, with cedar shutters on its doors and windows. Curving gracefully over the wide cedar front door is the typical colonial sunray moulding. Beyond this door and in the hall is the most outstanding feature of the house – the spiral staircase; the stone steps of which are let into the wall on one side in such a way that each stone supports the other. The banisters are of plain iron.

None of the old hands in Paterson can agree on the exact date the hotel was erected, but it certainly was begun before 1830, by one James Phillips. Interesting old documents, reeking of flood mud, but still legible, tell how in June 1823, a grant of 2000 acres was made to James Phillips and his heirs forever by Sir Thomas Brisbane, Governor of the Territory of New South Wales. The land was not to be alienated, sold, or assigned for five years and 20 convicts were to be housed and clothed by Phillips. These convicts,

with R M Clark as overseer, began the building on Phillips' Bona Vista estate, using locally procured materials. The bricks were made and baked in a nearby paddock, the sandstone flags were quarried on the spot, the locally cut cedar was secured with handmade nails, while the roof was shingled with local wood.

And so was built Paterson's first hotel, with four commodious rooms upstairs and four rooms downstairs, with separate kitchen, long-room, bakehouse, outhouses, stables and coach house. Beneath the main building was a huge stone-flagged cellar, with heavily barred windows.

In 1835, Phillips sold the hotel and a large parcel of land to Felix Wilson and, in 1851, the pioneering Phillips was laid to rest in the Paterson churchyard.

Built in stirring times, the old hotel has sheltered the famous and infamous. It has known violence and bloodshed. It is interesting to note that the largest blot on the escutcheon of the inn was connected with the election of William Charles Wentworth, whom we are honouring this year as the father of responsible government.

In 1843, when Wentworth and Dr Bland were standing for Parliament for the first time, ripe tomatoes over-ripe eggs, decayed cats and free fights were the order of things on polling day. When it became clear that Wentworth and Bland had been victorious over their opponents, O'Connell and Cooper, supporters of the losers began to show fight. In the ensuing brawls in various centres two deaths were reported, one in Sydney and one in Paterson. An argument took place in the bar of the Paterson Hotel and before the police could disperse the rioters, Duncan McGilvray was hit on the head with a stick and killed. Michael Kelly was committed for trial for murder. Mr Cook, the landlord, was also severely injured in the brawl.

On the bright side of the ledger is the record of a visit the following year by Sir George Gipps and his lady. These distinguished guests breakfasted at the inn before inspecting the Presbyterian Kirk (now 116 years old) and the almost completed Church of St Paul, as well as the local quarry.

About 1880, William Keppie bought the hotel as a family residence. The licence had lapsed and in the long room where the beer had been brewed, Mr Keppie brewed ginger beer, which he sold in white stone bottles. The business flourished till lemonade took the public fancy.

The original shingles on the roof were replaced by slates and these, in their turn, gave way to corrugated iron. But many of the large slates may still be seen on the long-room roof.

A mighty Illawarra Flame tree has guarded the southern wall for half a century. Next spring, pointing skyward with its scarlet fingers, it will serve to mark a spot where history passed by."

MARY ANN

Named after her Irish grandmother, Mary Ann was born on 8th March, 1852 and died of hepatitis at just 16 years of age on 29th April, 1868, predeceasing her mother by only a month.

SAMUEL

The youngest of Peter and Elizabeth's children, Samuel was born on 26th January 1858. He was only ten years old when his mother died unexpectedly in 1868.

Shortly afterwards, his father went to live at Morpeth with Samuel's aunt Margaret and his older brother, William, took him under his wing. When William married Salome Garred the following year, Sam lived on with them for several years as a surrogate older brother to their early children.

On 20th May, 1891 he married Mary Ann (Polly) Smith and went to live in George Cann's house.

In February, 1905 they moved to Singleton and reared a family of four children – Roy, Stewart, Margaret and Cedric.

Polly had been born on 29th July 1859, and was the third child of Green Smith and his wife Anna Maria to be born in Australia. Her parents, along with three earlier children, one of whom had died on the voyage, came to the colony in August 1852 aboard the *Hydaspes*, together with Green's widowed father, Richard Smith, and his uncle, Joseph Green Smith.

Green was a farmer and worked on the *Tillimby* estate for many years during which seven more children were born.

Poll's next older brother, born on 2nd February 1858 was Moses Smith, who became a prominent dairy Farmer on part of the *Bona Vista* estate about 1907.

Green Smith's uncle, Joseph Green Smith, was listed in the Post Office Directory of 1867 as a blacksmith and in the 1872 edition as an Innkeeper. In the 1892 edition he was listed as the licensee of the "Commercial" Hotel at Paterson and held the licence until his death in January 1893. His wife continued to manage the hotel until she died eight years later when it passed to her son, John Allen Smith.

WALTER WILLIAM'S CHILDREN

Walter William and his wife Harriet, whom he married in 1846, raised ten children -

Mary Ann, born in 1847. She married Samuel Wright in 1868 and died in 1877

Sarah, born in January, 1849. In April, 1869 she married William Collins, and lived for a short time in Sydney where he worked as a barber, then moved to the northern rivers where he became the proprietor of the "Club House" Hotel in Murwillumbah. Sarah died in Murwillumbah in July 1902 at the age of 53. They had nine children -

Ada Collins
Henry Collins
William Walter Collins
Alfred Collins
Henrietta Collins
Evan Collins
Stella Collins
Elizabeth Collins
Percy Collins

Henrietta was born in 1851. She married John Duffin in Sydney in 1871 and had one child, a daughter named Henrietta.

William was born in February 1854. He had a hairdressing business in Erskine Street, Sydney and lived at Pyrmont. He married Eliza Holmes in 1881 and had six children. In the 1890's they also moved to Murwillumbah, but returned to Sydney at some later time, where William died in January 1925. William and Eliza had six children -

Claude Gordon, born 1881, died 1939,
Florence, born and died 1883
William, born 1884
Henrietta, born 1886, died 1887
Coral, born 1888,
George, born 1890.

Harriet, was born in November 1855. In October, 1881 she married Alfred Blundell, who had a plumbing business trading under the name of Blundell and Brown. They had six children -

Walter Blundell
Alfred Blundell
George Blundell
Florence Blundell
Leslie Blundell
Ada Blundell

Harriet died in 1921.

George, born in 1857, married Matilda Daniels. They are not known to have had any children and died after 1908.

Walter, born in 1859, died in 1874

Elizabeth, born in 1862. She was married in 1886 to George Skinner in Tumbulgum where her sister and brother-in-law had a hotel.

Elizabeth and George had seven children -

- Henry Skinner
- George Skinner
- Arthur W Skinner
- Frank Skinner
- Charlotte Skinner
- Victor Skinner

Henry, born in 1863 died in 1867

Ann was born in 1865. She married William Brydon at Pymont in 1886 and had four children –

- Robert Brydon
- Walter K Brydon
- Harriet E Brydon
- Jane F Brydon

OTHER KEPPIES KNOWN TO HAVE COME TO AUSTRALIA

WILLIAM KEPPIE (1821 - 1868)

Born at Haddington, the sixth of John (brother to William - Patriarch of the Australian Keppies) and Mary's twelve children, he was a brother to James, the tobacconist of Glasgow.

He spent a brief time in the army until, about 1841, his "father purchased his discharge and he is at home learning the house carpenter trade." He is known to have come to Melbourne around 1854, and to have corresponded at that time with the Paterson Keppies. He was also contacted by the young John Keppie after his arrival from the UK on the *Anna* in 1855.

He apparently returned to Scotland shortly afterwards as he married his cousin Susan (daughter of Uncle Peter of Brighton, England) there in October, 1856. They had five children - Annie Mary (1858 - 1936, died unmarried), John (1859 - 1899, married Euphramia Cochrane, had one son who died in infancy), Peter Anthony (1860 - 1935, died unmarried) and two other boys who died in infancy, William and William Stuart.

After Susan's death in 1863, he married a Martha Williams. She bore him two more daughters - Wilhelmina (1866) and Georgina (1868) of Dumfries. Both girls died unmarried.

William again journeyed to Melbourne, this time on the "Lincolnshire", which arrived in May, 1868 (described on the manifest as a Merchant). A monument to his parents and their children in the grounds of the Church at Haddington, Scotland bears an inscription recording his death in Melbourne on 30th June 1868 - only weeks after his arrival. No such event appears to be recorded in the Victorian Records Office.

HUGH PATERSON KEPPIE (1861 – 1936)

Born in Edinburgh on 11th March, 1861, the seventh son of Peter Keppie (a brother of both James the tobacconist and the abovementioned William) and his wife, Helen Wilson. Hugh Paterson Keppie is thought to have been named after a relative of his mother's, Lieutenant William Paterson, after whom Paterson's Plains and the Paterson River both took their name.

Hugh married a Janet Dryden in September, 1883 and, with their three young sons - Peter, William Dryden and John – they left Scotland on the *SS Ionice* travelling to Wellington, New Zealand and arriving in late 1888, young John having celebrated his first birthday on the journey.

In May 1889 the family moved to Newcastle where, in May 1890, a daughter, Mary, was born, but they settled in Sydney the following year where they had a further three children - Hugh Paterson II, Helen and Elizabeth. Hugh became foreman plumber with the Clyde Engineering Company, and was a Councillor of the Auburn Municipal Council, which was then known as Liberty Plains. He also became a close associate of Jack Lang, who at that time had a Real Estate Agency in Auburn and later became a very controversial Premier of New South Wales. During the depression years, Hugh and Janet are believed to have taken in State Wards

In view of the close association that his father and uncles had with those who had come to Australia some forty years earlier, it has to be assumed that Hugh Paterson Keppie would have been aware of their existence. Maybe the move to Newcastle was influenced by a knowledge of their presence just thirty or so miles away, but there does not appear to be any record of any close association having developed.

The Descendants of Hugh Paterson Keppie

Little is known of the eldest child, **Peter**, but that he had children, named Janet and John and died about 1950.

William Dryden Keppie was born in Edinburgh. In Australia he became a Fitter and Turner and married Daisy Walker at St Paul's Church, Redfern in 1909. He joined the NSW Railways in 1911, becoming a mechanical engineer at their Eveleigh workshops.

William and Daisy raised two sons, Hugh Paterson Keppie, born at Mascot in 1909, and William Dryden, jnr., born in 1920, as well as daughters, Thelma Dorothy, born in 1911 and Marjorie, born in 1912.

After suffering a strain that is thought to have aggravated an existing malady, he died in Auburn District Hospital in 1922 at the age of just 36 years.

Their eldest son, **Hugh Paterson Keppie**, left school following the death of his father when he was just 13 years of age, sold rabbits door-to-door, then got a job as a delivery boy for the local grocer. He eventually became a fitter and turner at AGE (Australian General Electric) and started his own engineering business in the backyard of his mother's home. During the War, he had a workshop on the waterfront at Pyrmont and later at Silverwater. About 1954 he started a carrying business at Auburn. He died in 1994.

Their children were Ray Paterson, June, Margaret Ann and Denise.

William Dryden II married, but his wife's name is unknown. He had two daughters, Janice Lorraine (Boyce), and Elizabeth (Dunne). William died in 1989.

John married Emily, surname unknown, and it is believed they had three children named Eric, John and Emily. John died in 1959.

Mary Gillespie Mitchell Keppie was the first of Hugh Paterson's and Janet's children to be born outside Scotland, being born in Newcastle in 1900. She married Harry Cox, and after his death in 1973, went to live with their only child, Rex Cox, and his wife, in Adelaide. She died in 1988.

Hugh Paterson Keppie II was born in Sydney in 1893. He married a Minnie Nixon and had two children, Hugh Paterson Keppie III, born in 1918 and became a manufacturing jeweller with a business in Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Helen Wilson Keppie, born 1896, married Charles Duncan. Their children were Jean Helen Duncan and Charles Robert Duncan.

Elizabeth Janet

APPENDIX 1

(A THUMBNAIL SKETCH OF SOME ASSOCIATED FAMILIES)

THE POWELL FAMILY

John Powell was born in 1799 and had the distinction of being one of a handful to receive a grant of land on the Paterson River when the first land grants were made in 1821. He initially was allowed 60 acres of land. Prior to this time John had been working as a sea-faring man along the settled coast, but now he turned his attention to farming. By the time of the 1828 Census he had increased his holding to 130 acres, cultivated 57 acres of land, employed 11 convicts, and owned 57 head of cattle. He had named his property "Orange Grove".

In 1818 John had married Charlotte Tucker, daughter of John Tucker, Snr., of Albion Farm, Woodville and in the following years their family grew to 12 children, several of whom died at an early age.

Their second child, a daughter named Elizabeth was born in 1820. In 1839 she married James Keppie who had retired from being the engineer on the "Sophia Jane" to settle in Paterson. She died following the birth of her fourth child in 1846, aged 26 years.

Zaccariah Powell, the fourth child, married Sarah Ryan. He died in 1868 aged 39. Sarah survived him 50 years; dying 28 December 1918 aged 82.

Walter Frett Powell was the sixth of their children. He was married in 1853 to Susannah Ball and had two children before Susannah died in 1857. Walter later married Sophia G Harris and they had four children.

Isabella Sophia Powell was the youngest of John and Charlotte's children and remained on the property all her life, as she never married. She died, as the result of an accident in which she was badly burned, on 3rd December 1910, aged 68 years.

The "Orange Grove" property remained in the Powell family for several generations, finally passing to a new owner in the late 1960's.

John Powell died at the age of 85 years in 1866.

THE TUCKER FAMILY

John Tucker, born in England on 6th February 1765 was the second of four children of Stephen Tucker, a coachman, and Frances Hubbuck who had married at Westminster on 17th February 1762. After Frances died in July 1772 Stephen then married Mary Ballikin on 26th July 1778.

The story goes that John was a journeyman for a linen draper, who purloined goods from his employer, which Mary, who kept a cook-shop and eating house in St James, Haymarket, disposed of. On 17 October 1789 John was sentenced to 7 years and Mary to 14. Stephen was acquitted, and vanished. John and Mary were both listed for transportation on the "Neptune", but John arrived on the "Active"

John married Ann Vales on 10th September 1794, and begat two children — John, born on 5th June 1796 and Charlotte, born on 30th November 1797. His wife, Ann Vales, was born in 1768, and was sentenced on 16 August 1791 at Bridgewater, Somerset, to 14 years for receiving stolen goods and arrived in Sydney on 17th October 1793.

As a private on the Roll of Loyal Sydney Association on the 9th of November 1802 he was a member of a party under, Lt. Menzies, which founded the first permanent settlement at Coal River (Newcastle) on 27th March 1804. He was appointed Storekeeper on 23rd March 1807, and on Meehans map of Sydney lot no. 87, on northeast corner of George and Liverpool Streets, is shown leased to John Tucker.

In 1822 he applied for aid and recognition of his long service and was granted a pension and land. His age was shown as 60. He had his own house in Newcastle near the present Railway Station in Watt Street. He died on 23rd June 1834 and is buried on his own land near Woodville.

Their son, John, Jnr., had married Catherine Flynn in July 1815 and became a widower a few days later when the boat, in which they were travelling to Albion Farm carrying bricks for their home, capsized.

When Governor Macquarie toured the district on 30th July 1818, he was very impressed with work done and attended a multiple wedding ceremony in which one of the couples was John Tucker and Frances Turner. Frances Turner was the daughter of Nathaniel John Turner and Ann.

On 25th March 1815, aged 18, a servant, she was charged with stealing two watches of the value of four pounds, one gown of the value of five shillings, one shawl of the value of 3/-, fourteen handkerchiefs of the value of £2:15:0, three of the value of 5/- and one cloak of the value of £1:0:0, the goods and chattels of Anne Ball. She was sentenced and transported for seven years, sailing on the Mary Ann on 21st July 1815 and arriving in Sydney on 19th January 1816.

John, stated in his application for a land grant in 1823 that he had become a resident on the banks of the Hunter River some eight years earlier. In the 1828 Census, John Tucker's "Albion Farm" was listed in her name while he was listed as the owner of "Tuckerville" some miles away. This may have been done in the hope of getting more grants, or more convict servants.

When John Tucker, settler, clerk, farmer, landowner, juror and gentleman died on 24th November 1838 it seems that his affairs were in some disorder and it took years to settle them.

At the time of his death their daughter, Elizabeth Henrietta was seven years old. Twenty-five years later, in 1863, she married James Keppie, the widowed husband of her cousin Elizabeth Powell.

Frances went on to marry James Peattie, master mariner, on 30th August 1839 with Presbyterian rites in Sydney. There were no family to the marriage and Peattie died on 8th May 1842. She then married William Doidge, farmer, on 14th September 1843.

John's sister, Charlotte Tucker, married John Powell, a master mariner, on 3rd January 1818. They settled on "Orange Grove", Paterson. Their daughter, Elizabeth Powell in 1839 married James Keppie.

THE GARRED-PUXTY CONNECTION

Elhanan Puxty was born at Sussex, England but it is uncertain when he and his young family arrived in the area. In 1858 he is listed as the licensee of the "Wellington Inn" at Paterson. He also set up a general store in the area known as "The Brecon" and held the licence of the "Royal Oak" hotel from 1872 till 1876. When he died on 3rd November 1883 he was described as a farmer. Maps of the Paterson district show an area near Vacy as "Puxty's Hollow" His wife, Ellen, died on 14th July 1891 aged 68 years.

One of their sons, James Puxty was born in 1835 at which time his parents were employed on the "Elm's Hall" property owned by Mr. William Bucknell. James learned his farming skills from his father and for some years was listed as a settler in various parts of the district. By 1877, however, he had set up a store on the "Elm's Hall" property and was listed as a storekeeper and dealer. James died on 29th May 1920, aged 85 years. His wife was named Mary Jane.

Elhanan's eldest child, daughter Ann, was born in 1831. In 1849, at the age of 18 years, she married Daniel Garred, a resident of Raymond Terrace and 21 years her senior.

The eldest of their eight children was Salome, born in May 1849. From an early age Salome was brought up at Paterson by her grandparents acquiring a great deal of experience in the hotel and hospitality industry. She also spent a great deal of her time in the company of Keppie and Tinkler family members eventually marrying William Keppie in 1869.

The TINKLER FAMILY

Usher Tinkler was born in Queen's County, Ireland in 1827 and arrived in NSW as a young man, aged 24 years. He was single and had come as an assisted migrant on the ship "China" arriving on 7th September 1841.

Having some knowledge, and a great interest, in animals the captain of the *China* gave him a letter of introduction to Charles Reynolds, a horse breeder of very good stock as well as a cattle breeder and the proprietor of the large estate known as *Tocal*, Paterson.

In 1847 Usher was married to Ann McDonald who had come from the Isle of Skye, aged 11 years, with her parents and siblings in 1837 on the *Midlothian*. Ann died in April 1891, aged 64 years.

In 1855 Usher bought a portion of the "Bona Vista" estate at Webber's Creek and named the property "Portnahinch". Over the years Usher acquired several other nearby lots amounting in total to about 500 acres. Here they raised a family of eleven children and the property remained in the family for more than 100 years. It was sold in the 1960's.

Both Usher and Ann Tinkler were well-respected residents of Paterson. Usher was a District Councilor, a cattle judge at the Maitland Show and a judge at the Paterson races. It would appear that Usher and later members of the family had horses at *Portnahinch* and family sources believe that he bred horses on the property and that his son George, a jockey, rode horses for his father. There is also a record in a diary kept by Salome Keppie in 1908 noting that *Lord Cardigan*, presumably a racehorse, fell and broke his neck.

The *Maitland Mercury* of 10th June 1890 reported Usher's death as follows –

"A sad fatal accident happened to Mr. Usher Tinkler, while returning from a District Council meeting at Gresford on Friday, 6th instant. Mr. Tinkler was driving his buggy and when coming down Willard's Hill his foot slipped off the brake, which caused him to fall heavily to the ground. The sufferer was at once removed to Mr. J. Puxty's private residence and Dr Blackwell sent for, but in spite of that skilful gentleman's attention, Mr. Tinkler expired on Saturday night, after suffering great pain. General sympathy is expressed with the bereaved one."

The Tinkler Children

George, born 1847, was a jockey and rode horses for his father and other owners. He left Paterson and went to live at Bathurst where he worked on the railways and at some time lived in Dubbo.

Ann married John Gould and moved to the northern rivers of NSW.

Mary Ann married John Keppie and lived in Paterson. The Tinklers and Keppies had a close association over many years and three of Usher and Ann Tinkler's children married Keppies. John Keppie was a son of Peter and Elizabeth Keppie and was born in Paterson in 1846. As a young man John, and several of his friends, in 1868 drove some cattle from the Hunter Valley to the Queensland border. From there he traveled to the goldfields of Herbert's Creek and Gogandra, west of Rockhampton. In his letters home he frequently sent his best wishes to the Tinkler family "Remember me to all my old friends, not forgetting George Tinkler".

Some time in 1870 he returned home, without having made a fortune, and lived for a time in Singleton with his recently bereaved sister Elizabeth Mather. In 1878 he married Mary Ann Tinkler and together they had two sons and three daughters. Sadly, the eldest, Bessie, died in 1899 aged 12 years and was buried with her grandparents. Neither Ida nor Waterford ever married and eventually moved to Sydney where they lived together at Lewisham. George married Ruby Bembrick and had a hardware store at the Sydney suburb of Canterbury. Laurel married William Cann.

Mary Ann was a very close friend of Salome Garred, who married one of John Keppie's older brothers, William. She and her brother, George were bridesmaid and best man respectively at Salome's wedding to William Keppie. There are many, many entries in Salome's diaries referring to activities they shared jointly, both prior to and after their respective marriages.

Catherine Tinkler married John Hall and moved to Queensland where, after suffering from epileptic

fits for several years died a tragic death leaving a young family.

Margaret married John Muir, who was killed in World War 1, lived in Casino.

Eliza married Charles Bridger, well known as a baker in Paterson. His bake house was on the land Usher Tinkler had purchased on the corner of King, Marquis and Johnstone Streets. He is thought to have taken over the bakery from his brother-in-law Usher James Tinkler about 1894.

Usher James went to Dubbo to live after giving up the bakery. He later moved to Casino on the north coast of NSW.

William J Tinkler married Salome Keppie at Paterson in 1892. Salome was a very close friend of Mary Ann Tinkler, who subsequently married Salome's brother-in-law John Keppie.

DISTRICT NEWS

PATERSON.

On Wednesday our town was quite alive with the excitement of an exceedingly happy event, which was celebrated on that day—the marriage of two life-long residents of Paterson, Mr. William Tinkler and Miss Salome Keppie. At half-past twelve St Paul's Church contained a large number of expectant people awaiting the arrival of the bridal party, which reached the church a few minutes later. The wedding was such a pretty ostentatious one, and the bride in her graceful clinging dress of cream nun's veiling and lace caught up with orange blossoms, and her air of downcast modest maidenliness, was all a bride should be. The five bridesmaids with their attendant grooms were fair to see, and the chief one performed her part of the ceremony without the slightest trepidation or nervousness. The altar contained a number of lovely artistically arranged flowers, and the musical part of the service was well carried out by Miss Nellie Smith, organist and the choir. The officiating clergyman, our esteemed incumbent Rev J Shaw, spoke a few words of fatherly benediction when the young couple had been pronounced man and wife, and after the necessary signing in the vestry, the bridal party, with the now smiling bride and her husband at the head, left the church with the strains of the grand old "Wedding March" sounding in their ears. At the church steps they were fairly enveloped in clouds of rice, which some mischief loving friends showered upon them in the old time-honoured way. Mr. and Mrs. Willie Tinkler, after partaking of a sumptuous wedding breakfast at the bride's home, proceeded to Sydney, whence they return to settle down in our midst in their new residence, which is not yet quite in readiness for them.

William and "Lomey" lived for some time in Paterson as William had a butchery business, which he sold in March 1894 to Jim Burgess, and they went to live at Windermere, Lochinvar. Later still the family moved to Coraki where William farmed a property known as *Tuckerimba*.

Of their children, the oldest, also named Usher, lived in the Cessnock area. In 1920 his first wife, Georgina, died leaving a 2½ year old child. He later remarried and a descendant of this family, also named Usher, later attended Tocal agricultural College as a student.

Their eldest daughter, Clarice, died tragically in 1914 at the age of just 20 years from septicemia following the bursting of an appendix.

William Arthur, known as Jack, served as a gunner in the army during the World war and died in Lismore in 1937.

Julian Tinkler, professional golfer, was a descendant of Wallace Tinkler and his English bride, Isobel, whom Wally had married in England while serving with the Forestry Unit in World War 2, and after marriage settling in Coffs Harbour.

Madge married Bob Rogers and settled in Murwillumbah where Bob worked as a typesetter on the local paper, before moving to Sydney in their later years.

Albert Percival lived in Strathfield and was a railway guard and credited with over 2 million miles travel in his 46 years of service.

His son, Frederick Usher John Tinkler, was decorated for bravery with a Military cross during World

War 2.

Edith married Charles Thursby and lived at Congewai. They had a child named Bessie.

Alfred Waterford married Alfreda Mather and lived at Singleton. Freda was the daughter of Elizabeth (Keppie) and Adam Mather, a sister of John Keppie and aunt of Salome Tinkler.

Eaulaua married Josiah George Read of Albion Farm, Woodville, and had four children. The first-born died at birth; Ronald George and his sisters, Lila and Alice Read had a successful saddlery and harness business in Sydney. Alice never married, but Ron married Ruby and Lila married Keith Maddock.

Melinda was Usher and Ann's adopted daughter. She married Tom Hall, brother of Catherine's husband John, and Lived in Paterson. The Halls had a butcher shop in King Street Paterson. ,

THE LAWRENCE FAMILY

Several descendants of the early Keppie settlers, especially those coming from Peter's eldest son, James, who was born in Scotland and came out to Australia with his parents in 1839 when not yet one year old, married members of the Lawrence family.

John Lawrence, a farm labourer in South Pemberton, Somerset, England was 34 years of age when he and his wife, Ruth, a sailcloth weavers, and their children, Thomas 13, George 11, Henry 8, and Richard an infant, sailed on the *Lady Amherst* in January 1849 with a total of 214 migrants.

On arrival in Sydney they immediately made their way to the Paterson and on to Lostock, where they settled and added three more children to the family, Mary Jane, Sarah Ann and John Robert. (On 4th March, 1905, the Maitland Mercury reported that Mr. J R Lawrence is erecting, per medium of builder Wal Keppie, a fine substantial six-roomed house.)

Lostock, on the upper Paterson River, is said to have received its name when H Brown, Esq., lost a number of stock in the area, so "lost stock" became "Lostock".

When a large landholder, by name George Townshend, became bankrupt in 1847 his huge estate (19,065 acres) was broken up. Two years later, 1849, Lawrences appeared on the scene and, in 1959, John Lawrence appeared on the first Electoral roll as a landowner at King's Flat.

In 1854 the eldest boy, Thomas, married Martha Cantwell, daughter of John and Eliza who had arrived in Australia aged 4 with her parents some ten years earlier and settled in Lostock ahead of the Lawrences.

George Lawrence married Harriet Brooker, daughter of George and Harriet Brooker, who had arrived in Australia as a one year old in 1838. They lived in the Mirannie, Ti-tree area, had nine children. In 1884, at 46 years of age George died of a heart attack while fishing on the bank of the river.

Most of the Lawrences became dairy farmers

Joseph Alfred Lawrence, 1/11/1881, the youngest of Thomas Lawrences 15 children married Selena Johanna Keppie, 14/6/1884, the youngest of James Keppie and Johanna Campbell's nine children on 15/4/1907

Ivy Bertha Lawrence, 28/4/1901, the youngest of Job Lawrence (8th of Thomas Lawrence's 15 children) and Elizabeth Warr's 3 children married Claude St Clair Keppie, 1/11/1908, the eldest of Douglas Keppie's (3rd of James Keppie and Henrietta Tucker's 4) and Margaret Keppie's (5th of James Keppie and Johanna Campbells 9 children) on 5/11/1919.

Lillian Alberta Lawrence 25/8/1887, eldest of Eddy Lawrence (5th of Thomas Lawrence) and Mary Ann Garland's 9 children married William Souter Keppie, 7/5/1865, 2nd of James Keppie and Johanna Campbell's 9 children, on 15/9/1908

Louisa Lawrence, 22/5/1893, 3rd of Henry Lawrence (John Lawrence 3rd child) and Harriet Smith's 6 children married Percival James Keppie, 19/12/1897, youngest of Maxwell Gordon Keppie's (of James Keppie and Henrietta Tucker) and Emily Brown's four children on 26/4/1921.

APPENDIX 2

OTHER PATERSON ASSOCIATIONS

Susannah Matilda Ward born about 1780, Was the widow of Lieut. William Ward, an officer in the British Army. They arrived in the colony on board the “Dromedary” with their six children in January 1820.

Soon after their arrival, Lieut. Ward died and Susannah obtained the position of Matron of the Female Orphan School at Parramatta.

By 1822 Governor Macquarie allowed her to take up the grant which her late husband had been allowed, part of which was at Castle Hill in the Windsor district and part on the Paterson River. This part was divided by the river. She named the eastern side “Clarendon”, where a sandstone brick house was built, and named the western side “Cintra”.

In 1833, in return for land in Prince Street, Sydney, she surrendered some 90 acres of the “Cintra” land to the government to form the Town. Some of her adjacent land became a most important focus of the Paterson district having the road north run through it, Commercial Road. It contained blacksmith’s shops, flourmills and various other enterprises. A major building was erected in the 1830’s backing into the hills above Commercial Road. This was The Bush Inn or Sussex House.

In August 1841, in St Paul’s Church, at the age of 52, (61?), she married Robert Studdert, 24 (described as Clerk of Petty Sessions at Paterson Court House) . She died in June 1862.

Captain David Brown was born in Craile, Fifeshire, Scotland in 1800 and arrived in the colony about 1831. He was among the first to purchase land when the village plan of Paterson was drawn up in 1833. The blocks purchased by him were situated in King Street, but he later sold these blocks to Major Edwin Johnson, who built his riverside home and named it “Annandale” about 1839. The home still stood in 1966.

In 1834 he purchased land on the Cintra Estate owned by Mrs. Matilda Ward and here, he built his residence, which he named “Long House Green”. Within four years Captain Brown had obtained a hotel licence and his home became “The Bush Inn”, which soon developed into a well-respected stopping place for travellers on the north road.

Captain Brown continued with his other commercial activities, operating a small sailing vessel between Paterson and Sydney while his wife managed the Inn. By 1854 the licence was held by a Matthew Healey.

In 1838 Captain Brown was married in Sydney to Mary Hodgson and there was one daughter, Elspa, born to the marriage. Captain Brown died on 19th May 1867, aged 67. No Minister conducted the funeral, but Thomas Stirton and Frederick Bedwell were listed as witnesses. Peter Keppie was named as the undertaker.

Frederick Wilson was born in Fairlight, Sussex, England, the second eldest of the family of seven children born to William and Mary Wilson. The family left their native Sussex and travelled to NSW on board the “Neptune” arriving in Sydney on 27th September 1839. They travelled to Gresford where William had been engaged to work as overseer on the property of Mr. William Boydell.

When Fredrick reached his mid-teens he apprenticed himself to Mr. Peter Keppie to learn the trade of wheelwright. Upon completing his apprenticeship Frederick traveled to the Turon goldfields and later to the Victorian fields.

Returning to Paterson, Frederick established himself in the blacksmith and wheelwright business, which, after four years, his brother took over and Fredrick went into the Hotel trade.

He built his first hotel on Cultivation Road, Paterson, which was the road traveled by all going north. He named the hotel “The Cricketers Arms” and it was considered a first-class establishment and was well patronized, but floods affected being so close to the banks of the Paterson River many times over the years.

After the disastrous floods of 1875, which caused great damage in the district, he acquired land in

the Paterson township and moved the building to the new position naming it "The Court House Hotel" which name it still bears.

In 1856 Frederick had married Emma Prescott, the daughter of James and Ann Prescott, and during the following years they had fifteen children. Sad to relate only five of these children survived to adulthood.

They retired from the Hotel business in 1900 and lived in the home they had built in Prince Street, which they named "Ernestville" which in 2004 still stands practically unchanged from the time of their occupancy. Frederick died on 28th August 1901 aged 73 years and Emma survived him by nineteen years. Frederick's brother, Francis, William and Mary's fourth child, remained a man of the land farming property at Gresford until his death on 26th May, 1902.

Frederick Wilson, Jnr., was the eldest son, born in 1860. He was a stonemason apprenticed at an early age to Thomas Browne of Maitland, who was known far and wide for the excellence of his work with stone and marble. In due course Fredrick set up his own business in Paterson at the rear of the Court House Hotel in Paterson, his father having recently relocated the Hotel he had owned on Commercial Road. In February 1884 he married Harriet I C Lennard. Their first child, a daughter named Emma Ivy Wilson died 9th July 1885, aged 7 months.

Sarah Jane Wilson was their 10th child. When she died on 17th June 1885, aged 14 years they were licensees of the Court House Hotel. Another daughter, Caroline Wilson died 29th May 1887 aged 15 years. Florence May Wilson died 7th November 1889 aged 16 years.

Gertrude Alice Wilson died in Newcastle in July 1892 aged 16. She was badly crippled and had spent much of her life in hospital.

Ernest Leslie Wilson was the second youngest of Frederick and Emma Wilson's children, born around 1880. He was, for many years a partner with William Keppie Jnr. In the Auctioneering firm, Wilson and Keppie, which business was conducted at the Union Shed in King Street, Paterson and was well known throughout the state. Ernest never married, but had many friends and acquaintances from far away places who attended his funeral; making it one of the largest that Paterson had ever seen. He was a keen player and follower of cricket, both local and district. He died on 14th December, 1933.

James Menzies came to the colony from Bristol, England and eventually found his way to Paterson. He leased the flourmill owned by James Keppie when Keppie moved from the area until his death, aged 58, on 25 May 1858.

Samuel Patfield, born 1834, was the sixth child in a family of eight born to George and Sarah Patfield at Kissing Point, Sydney. His mother was formerly Sarah Small, a member of possibly the best known, and most thoroughly researched, First Fleet families.

George, Sarah and children came to the Paterson area about 1835.

Apparently they did not remain long, but young Samuel is listed as a resident in 1867 as a timber splitter, but is best remembered as the Riverboat Captain.

Samuel married Sarah Australia Giles, daughter of a local family.

APPENDIX 3 THE "SOPHIA JANE"

(Taken from "NORTH COAST RUN –Men and Ships of the N.S.W North Coast)

"The story of Steam Navigation in Australian Waters had its beginning in the year 1831, when Sydney folk awoke one morning to find a lovely little steamship anchored in the Harbour. She was the "Sophia Jane", commanded by Lieut. Edward Biddulph, R.N.; she had sailed out from the United Kingdom via the Cape, and the Colony's first newspaper rhapsodised: -

"...she was built in 1826 by Barnes and Miller, pupils of the celebrated James Watt, the only ones to carry on this work for themselves. The whole of her deck is unimpeded (as all vessels of this kind) and its length is 126 feet, her breadth 20 feet, and her burthen 256 tons (150 tons net register); and her power 50 horse. In smooth water she will travel eight miles per hour. She draws only six feet of water, and could easily be made to draw only five."

'She was originally constructed for the almost exclusive accommodation of passengers, and her apartments are of the finest description. Hitherto, her principal employment has been in the carrying of passengers between England and France, and to various parts of the British Islands. She has three separate cabins – one for the gentlemen, one for the ladies, the other for steerage passengers. In the gent's cabin 16 beds can be made up, in the ladies' cabin 11, and in the steerage 20, while extra beds can be made up in emergency making in all 54.

'Originally intended for service to Calcutta, where wood was the cheapest fuel, she was also capable of burning coal. She cost £8,000 to build, and was valued at £7,500 when she arrived in Australian waters. Unusual among her crew was a top-hatted gentleman with the curious title of "Engineer", and she also carried a full set of spares for the machinery. She was, so it is said, one of the fastest steamers built up to that time, and she had often demonstrated her power by being used as a tug.

'After the trip out from the "Old Country" a fairly comprehensive refit was in order. That completed (and her paddle wheels shipped), she gave on the 11th June 1831, a convincing demonstration of the advantages of steam power in the confined waters of the Harbour. The Governor of the Colony, with other distinguished guests, went aboard early for breakfast with the Captain, after which the "Sophia Jane" sailed around Dawes Point, Darling Harbour and Goat Island. Later in the day, she made a public excursion to Middle Harbour, sailing soon after 11 a.m. So fast was she in relation to the lumbering "Tea Waggons", which the locals knew well, that she was abreast of Pinchgut (Fort Denison) almost before the astonished passengers realised that they had sailed.

'They were still marvelling at this wonder when they found themselves at the Heads. Their excitement is difficult to comprehend until we compare the "Sophia Jane" and her performance in 1831 to the world's first hovercraft almost exactly 130 years later and remember the effect this revolutionary vehicle had on the amazed people who first saw it. In actual fact the "Sophia's" 8 m.p.h. was much less than a Manly ferries service speed of around 11 knots. From the Heads, where she picked up the pilot, the little "Sophia Jane" raced up Middle Harbour. Going about 5 or 6 miles inland, in weather which was comparable to the best that Sydney has to offer, until she reached the head of navigation, near where the present Roseville Bridge is situated. At this point she put about, and once more ploughed her way seawards. Lunch, a sumptuous cold collation, was served at 2 p.m. under the direction of Mr. Bax of the Australian Hotel.

No sooner had the guests sat down for the meal than they noticed a "peculiar" motion, the vessel rolling in a most regular and agreeable manner. No particular notice was taken, however, until on returning to deck they found themselves several miles outside the Heads. She returned to Sydney in quick time, although opposed by both wind and tide. She traveled from the Heads to Fort Macquarie in 26 minutes, the previous record of 42 minutes for the passage having been set by a sailing vessel with both wind and tide in her favour. The "Sophy" proceeded to Kissing Point then back to Sydney Cove.

'The following day, she sailed for Newcastle, leaving Sydney at 7.15 in the morning and arriving at the King's wharf at 3.13 the same afternoon. She then proceeded up the Hunter to Morpeth (then called Green Hills) taking 3½ hours for the river passage. The next day she came down the river to Newcastle in just 3 hours, and did the "60-mile" run back to Port Jackson in just 7 hours 40 minutes.

APPENDIX 4 THE MEROO GOLDFIELDS

“THE MEROO GOLDFIELDS DERIVES ITS NAME from the tableland stream which is the centre of a delta of creeks, perennial and dry, which drain the austere pipe-clay country into the Cudgegong, and then to the Valley of the Macquarie. It extends about 70 miles, with its auriferous wealth as scattered as its gullies and creeks. It was on the southern tip of this field, at Louisa creek, just south of Tucker’s Hill, that the aborigine, Daniel, in June 1851 showed his master, Dr. Kerr the hundredweight of gold that stirred the nation and the world....

‘Apart from Louisa Creek (Hargraves) it was Long Creek, a few miles to the northeast that attracted many early diggers. By April 1852 this feeder stream to the Meroo had along its banks between 500 and 600 diggers whose commercial centre was Richardson’s Point.

‘The scattered and uneven deposits of alluvial gold that characterised the Meroo directed the pattern of settlement. Towards the conclusion of 1852 the correspondent for *The Empire* rode across the Meroo goldfields and investigated its scattered outposts. At Maitland Bar, two miles below Avisford, there was a large party of diggers; above the camp he came to Richardson’s Point, commonly called “Keppie’s Town” after the chief publican of that name. There he found three pubs, three stores, a doctor’s “shop”, and a medley of stringy bark huts and tents. ... The architectural pride and joy of the town was the *Stirling Inn*, owned by James Keppie, with a hint of the Ionic and with some real glass in the window sashes.

‘Proceeding up Long Creek he came to another pub at Pure Point. It was the *Digger’s Arms* owned by Mr. Wingrave, a fine specimen of the old English landlord, good-looking, good-tempered, and corpulent, without being obese. A mile further up was the Devil’s Hole...

‘It was a barbarous and astringent existence, the widely scattered pockets of auriferous activity making elementary social organization impossible. There was no church, no community spirit or leadership, no schooling; and after work only the gathering at the ubiquitous shanty.”

“In August 1854, at Richardson’s Point (Windeyer) on the Meroo Goldfield, there was a serious disturbance. It began as a dispute over a waterhole, developed into a stone fight between the factions, with Europeans finally being driven by 120 Chinese into Keppie’s pub. But news of the riot spread like bushfire, and a strong posse of whites from Tambaroora, 20 miles away, arrived and relieved the siege. Shooting broke out at the conclusion of the fight, three Chinese men were missing. Later, William Burnett, a central figure in the riot, declared in court, “*I saw the Chinese settlement the next morning. It was a complete wreck and ruin. The Europeans hunted the Chinese into the gullies wherever they could find them. The Chinese tents and belongings had been consumed in a general conflagration*”, while according to the memoirs of neighbouring squatter, George Cox, “*many a heathen found a last resting place at the bottom of many an abandoned shaft*”.

(from **FRONTIERS OF GOLD** – Brian Hodge)

Windeyer - Tent Town to Village

Extract - Bathurst Free Press

By a Correspondent - 27 April 1853

"... we arrive at Richardson's Point, commonly called Keppie's Town. On this spot there are three public houses, three stores, one Doctor's shop and a medley of stringy bark huts and diggers' tents, placed indiscriminately with more regard for convenience than architectural beauty, with one notable exception - the *Stirling Inn* - kept by Mr James Keppie and from whom the township derives its name. Talk of your Turon houses! You have only to come here to see them all eclipsed. The style of architecture is evidently meant for Ionic. The house has two rooms and real glass windows in the sashes, but the principal attraction is the sign, the margin of which is decorated with miners of every

complexion under the sun - everyone at work at the different sorts of mining known in ancient and modern times. Some are lifting mountains - others poking in crevices, besides an innumerable multitude puddling, cradling and working a compound evidently meant to resemble gold dust. The miners here are, in general, doing very well, the gold is very fine and precisely similar to that at the Turon."

Extract - Bathurst Free Press - 15th June, 1861

"Once more we are looking beyond the cloud; again we have bright prospects before us in mining matters. The week has been a busy one with the miners, several large blocks have been taken up and are being worked by large parties. The doors of the Courthouse are placarded with applications for extended claims and for permission to erect puddling machines; these latter machines are beginning to get very numerous on the Meroo and appear to be the only things, which pay well.

A large block of ground has been pegged out by Messrs Coleman to which they have designated the Cosmopolitan; they intend to employ about 50 chinamen. The proprietors of the Eureka claim, which is situated near Burying-ground Point, are very sanguine of making a handsome return for their labour. Among the large companies established Messrs Goodman, Roberts and Co of the Eureka seem to be the most promising; they have a deal of water to contend with and are compelled to work night and day, but in a week or two about fifteen chinamen are to be employed on the night shift.

Messrs Thompson, McNichols & Co, whose claim is known as the Great Eastern, are making great improvements to their machinery. Pumps are now in course of erection to be worked by horsepower until an engine can be procured from Sydney when the superintendence will be under the able management of Mr McNichols.

Mr Keppie, the enterprising owner and manager of the Telegraph claim, which he purchased from the late Messrs Grundman & Co, is making great headway; I believe it is his intention to have about thirty barrows and drays continually at work. He has now about fifteen men employed and as soon as the works are planned out he will have employment for about thirty more men.

The Great Eastern, Cosmopolitan and Telegraph claims are all situated at Richardson's Point and it is only surprising that the gold should have been allowed to remain in the ground for the last six years. On the upper part of this point there are about twelve chinamen at work who are doing very well. This claim has been changing hands for the last two or three years. A day or two ago the party acknowledged that no less than seventy-one of their countrymen have gone home to China with gold taken off this point; we may conclude from this that the Meroo's good time is only just coming."

Extract - Bathurst Free Press - July 1867

I paid a visit to the pugging mills of Mr James Keppie. Of course the whole stood still during the long drought. I found them in full work. Ten men were in the delft, which must be twenty-five feet deep, and others were about the mills. The new ironwork is a successful change. The time of puddling one mill is two hours and in another two hours the puddled mill is entirely tommed, and the gold obtained. The re-working commenced with the heavy rains and besides paying wages the proprietor has a net gain of ten pounds per week, which ought to satisfy any reasonable man. And when Mr Keppie has worked out his present claim he may find plenty more ground which will pay him to cart it to his mills."

Establishment of a Public School - Windeyer

In keeping with the requirements of the Board of National Education two public meetings were held on 1st July and 7th September 1858 to discuss the need for the school to be established at Richardson's Point. During June and July, 1858 a list of those residents willing to subscribe towards the cost of erecting a school house was sent to the Secretary of the board in Sydney by Mr George Dickinson. The list was acknowledged by the Secretary of the board on 14th July 1858. Following this, a committee

of Local Patrons of Education was formed and a formal application for the establishment of a school was made on 3rd August, 1858, being signed by James Kelpie, George Dickinson, James Murray, John Smith and C.W. Woods. It was at first intended that the school be built of weatherboard but on 23rd September the Local Patrons requested that their new school should be built of brick. That request was granted in a letter dated 13th October, 1859 thus ensuring the survival of our school building right up to the present time, 130 years later. A quick glance at any historical photographs taken during the 1850's and 60's will illustrate just how primitive many other bush schools were at this stage, some still being built from bark or slab construction. The children at Windeyer were indeed very lucky to have a building of such substance erected for their use. And perhaps we should all spare a thought for those community members who thought it important enough to lend their financial support at a time when money could well have been spent on other necessities and comforts.

Following a sharp decline in attendance at the school it closed in April, 1861. Mr Dickinson, Secretary of the Local Patrons, was among those who left the district. His position was filled by Mr James Keppie in July of that year.

After several brief periods of activity the school reopened officially in August, 1872 under Miss Amelia Nicholson, who had been teaching there, unofficially, for a month already. Due to personal disputes the Board members resigned in 1873. In September, 1874 Mr Inspector O'Byrne held a meeting to elect a new School Board. This was formed by Messrs James Keppie, Jnr, John Adams and Thomas Smith, who were farmers, Thomas Price the Pound Keeper and William Mulholland, the publican. During 1873 there was an average attendance of 18.

The Chinese

The Chinese, commonly called "coolies", kept mainly to themselves and lived by their homeland customs. Opium was readily available to them. Ah Tie, one of a party of miners employed by James Keppie - the storekeeper and publican at Richardson's Point, tragically suicided in his tent in 1862.

The depressing weather conditions of that winter, freezing temperatures and flooded creeks played a part in his death, along with opium. James Keppie gave evidence that when he was called to the tent Ah Tie was still alive. They had stopped work because of the rain but were afraid to approach the deceased for fear of attack, he appearing to be insane. Dr Jones was called and later gave evidence that he had sewn up a 3 to 4 inch cut in Ah Tie's throat. He appeared to be under the influence of opium with death occurring the next day. Dr King conducted his enquiry and found that the wound was self-inflicted whilst temporarily insane.



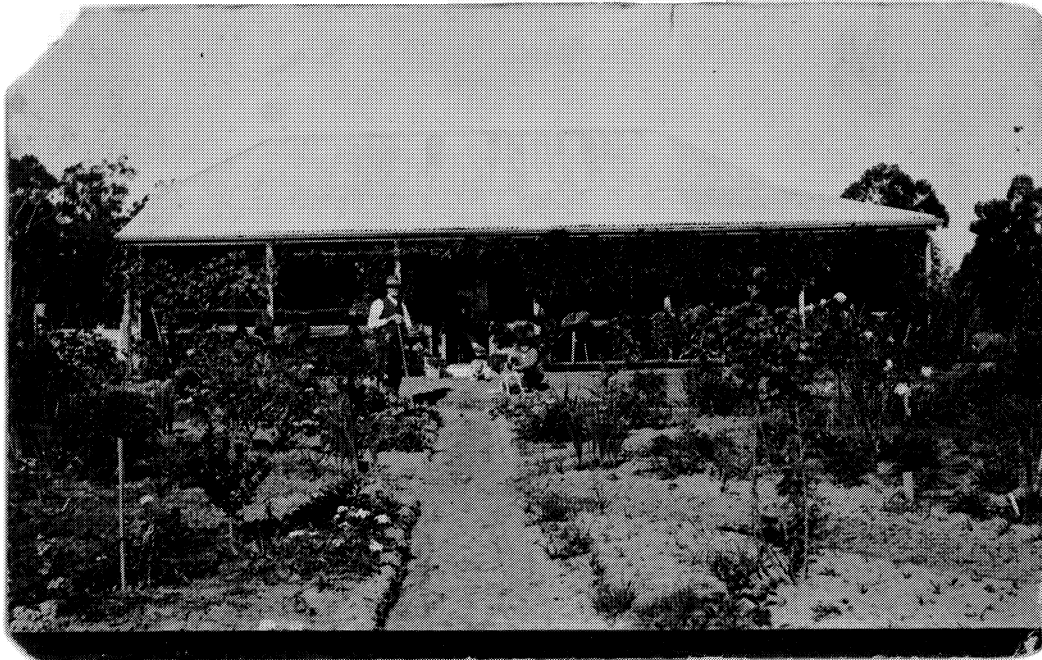
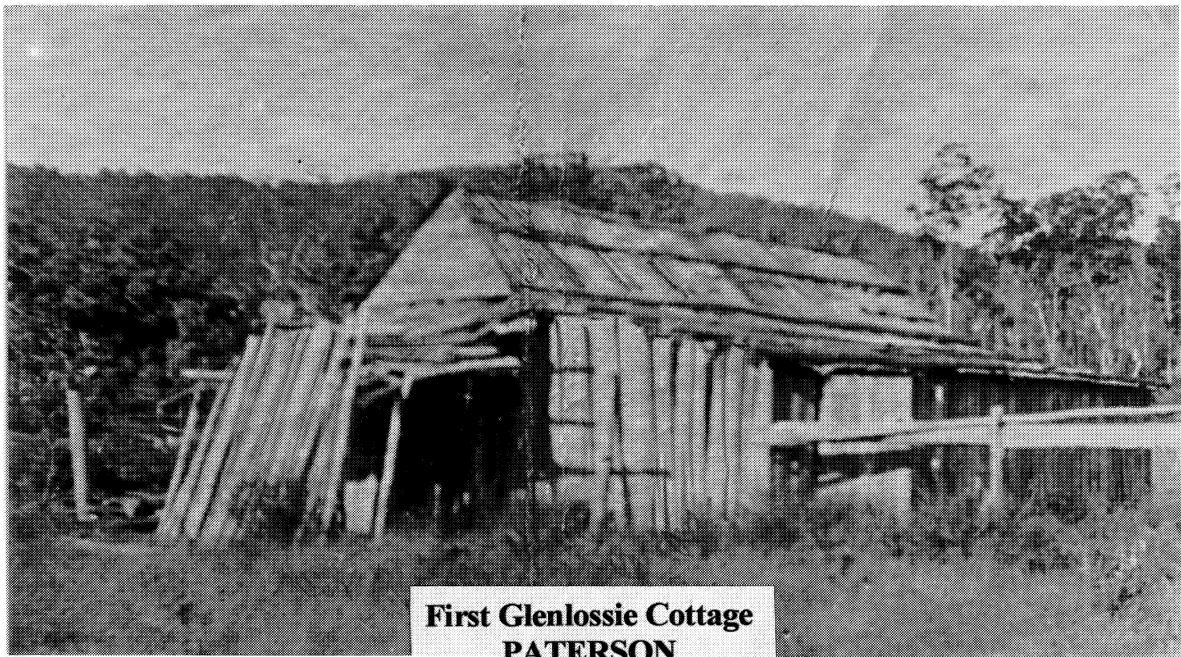
Salome Keppie



**Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Keppie
Brooklyn House
PATERSON.**



**Paterson Arms Hotel c.1895
(Also known as Brooklyn House)
PATERSON**



Descendants of William Keppie

2 Sep 2004

1. William Keppie (b.1784-,Haddington,E.Loathian,Scotland;d.1861-,Paterson,NSW)

sp: Mary Ann Murphy (b.1780-,Dublin,Ireland;m.1806;d.1872-,Singleton,NSW)

2. James Keppie (b.1807-,Ireland,UK;d.1893-Glengowan,Windeyer,NSW)

sp: Elizabeth Powell (b.1820;m.1839;d.1846-Abode,Paterson,NSW)

3. Walter William Keppie (b.1841-,Paterson,NSW;d.1853-Richardson's Pt,Merero Creek,NSW)

3. James (Walter) Keppie (b.1843-,Paterson,NSW;d.1918-Glebe NSW)

sp: Margaret McNichol (b.1843-,Ireland;m.1865;d.1868-,Windeyer,NSW)

4. Elizabeth Keppie (b.1867)

sp: Hannah Lucas (b.1848-Bowring,Yass NSW;m.1872;d.1891-Glenfield NSW)

4. Walter Charles Keppie (b.1873-Merero Creek NSW;d.1924)

sp: Alice Nena Maude Colbain (m.1904)

4. Amelia Keppie (b.1875;d.1956)

sp: Matthews

4. Lillian Eveline Keppie (b.1876-Campbells Creek,Mudgee NSW;d.1951)

sp: Alberto Edward Smith (b.1872-Bungendore NSW;m.1900;d.1944-Kogarah NSW)

4. Violet Hannah Keppie (b.1879;d.1953)

sp: Albert George Dunn (m.1915)

4. Daisy Alberta Keppie (b.1881;d.1957)

sp: Gustaf Slopovski (m.1915)

4. James Stuart Keppie (b.1883-Dubbo NSW;d.1940)

4. Ivy Pearl Keppie (b.1886-Dubbo NSW;d.1946)

sp: Stanley Irvine Hartill-Law (m.1918;d.1971)

4. Dulcie Araluen Keppie (b.1888-Dubbo NSW;d.1892)

3. Sarah Keppie (b.1844-,Paterson,NSW;d.1858-Richardson's Pt,Windeyer,NSW)

3. Elizabeth Ann Keppie (b.1846-,Paterson,NSW;d.1846-,Paterson,NSW)

sp: Margaret Gordon Sterling (b.1828-,Edinburgh,Scotland;m.1850;d.1863-,East Maitland,NSW)

sp: Elizabeth Henrietta Tucker (b.1831-Albion Farm,Woodville,NSW;m.1863;d.1888-,Paterson,NSW)

3. Alice Francis Gordon Keppie (b.1864-,Windeyer,NSW;d.1866)

3. Kinross Gordon Keppie (b.1866-,Windeyer,NSW;d.1903-Mudgee Hospital,Mudgee)

sp: Catherine Fittler (m.1890)

4. James Tucker Keppie (b.1898)

sp: Harriet Mary Birchall (b.1880;m.1912;d.1967)

3. Douglas Gordon Keppie (b.1870-,Windeyer,NSW;d.1949-,Maitland,NSW)

sp: Margaret Annie Keppie (b.1872-Munni,Dungog,NSW;m.1898;d.1961-,Paterson,NSW)

4. Claude St Clair Keppie (b.1898-,Mudgee,NSW;d.1933-Hospital,Maitland,NSW)

sp: Ivy Bertha Lawrence (b.1901;m.1919;d.1964)

4. Ruby May Keppie (b.1901-Cullenbone;d.1972)

sp: Bertie Inall (b.1889;m.1927;d.1969)

4. Verlie Florence Keppie (b.1903;d.2000-Canada)

sp: Stanley Bertram Kimber (b.1894;m.1956;d.1978)

4. Arthur Douglas Keppie (b.1905;d.1967-,Newcastle,NSW)

sp: Edna Lillian Murdoch (b.1912-Oxley Island,Taree;m.1947)

4. Roland Walter Keppie (b.1908;d.1972-,Cessnock,NSW)

sp: Winifred Eileen Lill (b.1912;m.1936;d.1989)

4. Sylvia Maude Keppie (b.1908-Spring Flat,Mudgee,NSW;d.1998-WINGHAM)

sp: Ian Duncan Weir McPherson (b.1901;m.1938;d.1986)

- 4. Kathleen Margaret Keppie (b.1910;d.1995-,Brisbane,Qld)
sp: Clive Walkden-Brown
 - 4. Jessie Alma Keppie (b.1912)
sp: James McGoldrick
 - 4. Clifton Valdamah (Cliffie) Keppie (b.1914)
sp: Lily Woodhouse
 - 4. Edith Gladys Keppie (b.1916;d.1982-,Taree,NSW)
sp: Robert Wilson Stewart (m.1959)
- 3. Maxwell Gordon Keppie (b.1872)
sp: Emeline Kate Brown (m.1895)
 - 4. Gordon Douglas Keppie (b.1896;d.1915-Hospital,Maitland,NSW)
 - 4. Percival James Keppie (b.1897;d.1964)
sp: Louisa Lawrence (b.1893;m.1921;d.1984)
 - 4. Frederick Cedric Keppie (b.1900)
 - 4. George Smith Keppie (b.1902-,MacDonald's Ck,NSW;d.1902-,MacDonald's Ck)
 - 4. Eileen Keppie
sp: William Hanrahan
 - 4. Evelyn Keppie
sp: William Slater
 - 4. unnamed Keppie (b.1905-Erudgere,Mudgee;d.1905-Erudgere,Mudgee)
 - 4. Maxwell Keppie (d.1989-Forestville,Sydney,NSW)
sp: Emma Spackman (m.1950)
 - 4. Arthur Kinross Keppie (b.1908;d.1946)
sp: Vera Mary Howell (d.1997-Forestville)
- 2. Peter Keppie (b.1809-,Dublin,Ireland;d.1880-,Morpeth,NSW)
sp: Elizabeth McFarlane (b.1812-,Ayr,Scotland;m.1832;d.1868-,Paterson,NSW)
 - 3. Margaret Keppie (b.1833-,Scotland;d.1839)
 - 3. Elizabeth Keppie (b.1836-,Paisley,Scotland;d.1907-,Singleton,NSW)
sp: Adam Mather (b.1822-Scotland;m.1854;d.1870-,Morpeth,NSW)
 - 4. John Adam Mather (b.1856;d.1911)
sp: Fanny Ann Walters (m.1882)
 - 4. Elizabeth (Lilly) Mather (b.1857-Black Creek;d.1904)
sp: Colin Cooper (m.1879)
 - 4. Adam Mather (b.1858;d.1917)
sp: Ada Grace Budden (m.1887)
 - 4. James Mather (b.1859;d.1882)
 - 4. William Mather (b.1860;d.1889-Singleton,NSW)
 - 4. Margaret Mather (b.1862)
sp: Arthur Gates (m.1886)
 - 4. Ellen Mather (b.1864)
sp: Charles F Cornelius Williams or Leary (m.1889)
 - 4. Jean Mather (b.1866)
 - 4. Alfreda Mather (b.1868)
sp: Alfred Waterford Tinkler (b.1869;m.1897)
 - 4. Alexander Mather (b.1870;d.1938)
sp: Catherine Doyle (m.1896)
- sp: Harry Pinchin (m.1877)
- sp: Michael Links (m.1889)

- 3. James Keppie (b.1838-,Barony,Lanark,Scotland;d.1906-Bendolba,NSW)
 - sp: Johanna Campbell (b.1840-Lostock,Dungog,NSW;m.1862;d.1928-Munni,Dungog,NSW)
 - 4. Mary Elizabeth Keppie (b.1863)
 - sp: Albert Jennings
 - sp: UNKNOWN
 - sp: UNKNOWN
 - sp: UNKNOWN
 - 4. William Souter Keppie (b.1865-Munni via Dungog;d.1947-Maitland,NSW)
 - sp: Lillian Alberta Martha Lawrence (b.1887-Lostock via Dungog;m.1908;d.1956-DCH,Singleton)]
 - 4. John McK Keppie (b.1868;d.1870)
 - 4. James M Keppie (b.1870)
 - sp: Minnie Woodhouse
 - 4. Margaret Annie Keppie (b.1872-Munni,Dungog,NSW;d.1961-,Paterson,NSW)
 - sp: Douglas Gordon Keppie (b.1870-,Windeyer,NSW;m.1898;d.1949-,Maitland,NSW)
 - 4. Archibald Alexander Keppie (b.1875;d.1948)
 - sp: Mary Ann Frazer
 - 4. Peter Samuel Keppie (b.1877-"Summer Hill";d.1939-West Maitland,NSW)
 - sp: Annie Martha Brooker (b.1879-Paterson,NSW;m.1913;d.1951-East Maitland,NSW)
 - 4. John Usher Keppie (b.1880-Munni via Dungog;d.1957-Base Hospital,Taree,NSW)
 - sp: Alice Fairhall (b.1893;m.1911;d.1976-Cundletown)
 - 4. Selena Johanna Keppie (b.1884;d.1955)
 - sp: Joseph Alfred Lawrence (b.1881;m.1907;d.1952)
- 3. William Keppie (b.1841-"Bush Inn",Paterson,NSW;d.1928-"Glenlossie",Paterson,NSW)
 - sp: Salome Garred (b.1849-,Raymond Terrace,NSW;m.1869;d.1915-Hamilton,Newcastle,NSW)
 - 4. Henrietta Ellen (Ettie) Keppie (b.1870-,Paterson,NSW;d.1957-Dulwich Hill,Sydney,NSW)
 - sp: Joseph Farnham (b.1867;m.1895;d.1956-Dulwich Hill,Sydney,NSW)
 - 4. Elizabeth Salome (Lomie) Keppie (b.1871-,Paterson,NSW)
 - sp: William John Tinkler (b.1860;m.1892;d.1946)
 - 4. Percival Keppie (b.1872-,Paterson,NSW;d.1938-,Sydney,NSW)
 - sp: Harriette Holmwood (b.1876;m.1901;d.1962)
 - 4. Mary Ann Keppie (b.1874-,Paterson,NSW;d.1952-,Perth,WA)
 - sp: Robert Gooch (b.1880-Newcastle on Tyn,UK;d.1964-Hollywood RGH,WA)
 - 4. Walter Keppie (b.1876-,Paterson,NSW;d.1944-,Paterson,NSW)
 - sp: Margaret Johanna (Mag) Soumeneicht (b.1894-,Singleton,NSW;m.1915;d.1952-,M,NSW)
 - 4. Gertrude Amy Keppie (b.1878-,Paterson,NSW;d.1966)
 - sp: Jack Call (b.1877;m.1904;d.1911-,Paterson,NSW)
 - 4. William Alfred Keppie (b.1881-,Paterson,NSW;d.1967)
 - sp: Ethel Joyce Cooper (b.1891;m.1916;d.1969)
 - 4. Arthur Ernest Keppie (b.1883-,Paterson,NSW;d.1915-,Gallipoli,Turkey)
 - 4. Pearl Venilla Keppie (b.1884-,Paterson,NSW;d.1972-,Newcastle,NSW)
 - sp: Dugald Braithwaite (m.1914;d.1927-,Sydney,NSW)
 - 4. Florence Evelyn (Flo) Keppie (b.1887-Paterson,NSW;d.1960-Marrickville,NSW)
 - sp: Edwin Stanley (Stan) Coyle (b.1892-Port Germein,SA;m.1915;d.1943-Marrickville,NSW)
- 3. Margaret Keppie (b.1843-,Paterson,NSW;d.1919-,Singleton,NSW)
 - sp: Samuel Wilson (b.1822;m.1862;d.1908)
 - 4. Wilson (b.1862;d.1862)
 - 4. Elizabeth Margaret Wilson (b.1866)
 - 4. John H Wilson (b.1866)

- 4. Ada Wilson (b.1869;d.1901)
 - 4. James McFarlane Wilson (b.1871)
 - 4. Anne Wilson (b.1872)
 - 4. James Wilson (b.1875)
- 3. John Keppie (b.1846;d.1921-,Singleton)
 - sp: Mary Ann Tinkler (b.1850-Webbers Creek,Paterson;m.1878;d.1929-Strathfield)
 - 4. Peter Keppie (b.1879;d.1880)
 - 4. Laurel Keppie (b.1880;d.1924)
 - sp: William Cann (m.1902)
 - 4. Ida Keppie (b.1881)
 - 4. Waterford (Wartie) Keppie (d.1953-Stanmore,Sydney,NSW)
 - 4. George Keppie (b.1884)
 - sp: Ruby Bembrick (m.1915)
 - 4. Edna (Bessie) Keppie (b.1887;d.1899-,Paterson,NSW)
- 3. Andrew Keppie (b.1849-,Paterson,NSW;d.1929-Paterson)
 - sp: Rebecca Frances Sherwood (b.1851-,Gresford,NSW;m.1876;d.1939-Brooklyn House,Paterson,NSW)
 - 4. Alice May Keppie (b.1877)
 - sp: Albert Bridger (m.1904)
 - 4. Florence Lillian Keppie (b.1880-Paterson,NSW;d.1949)
 - sp: Ernest Haskins (b.1884;d.1949)
 - 4. Andrew Leslie Keppie (b.1881-Paterson,NSW)
 - sp: Ethel Maud Dummer (m.1914)
 - 4. Elizabeth Daisy Keppie (b.1884;d.1948)
 - sp: Charles Leslie Quinton
 - 4. Kenneth Harold Keppie (b.1887-Paterson,NSW;d.1950-,Newcastle,NSW)
 - sp: Gladys Ella Edwards (b.1891;m.1913;d.1992-,Sylvania Waters,NSW)
 - 4. Violet Flora Graham Keppie (b.1890-Maitland,NSW;b.1965-Paterson,NSW)
 - sp: George Albert Boyce (b.1887-Fullerton Cove,NSW;m.1909;d.1968-Paterson,NSW)
 - 4. May Keppie (b.1909;d.1991)
 - sp: Len Hellier
- 3. Mary Ann Keppie (b.1852;d.1868-,Paterson)
- 3. Samuel Peter Keppie (b.1858;d.1945-Singleton,NSW (21110))
 - sp: Mary Ann (Polly) Smith (b.1859-Paterson,NSW;m.1891;d.1941-Singleton,NSW (15496))
 - 4. Cedric Keppie (b.1892;d.1962-Singleton,NSW)
 - 4. Roy Keppie (b.1894-Paterson,NSW;d.1980-Singleton,NSW)
 - 4. Margaret Keppie (b.1896;d.1971-Singleton,NSW)
 - 4. Stewart Keppie (b.1899)
 - sp: Mary Saunders
- sp: Mary Ann Pett (b.1815-,Maidstone,Kent;m.1877;d.1895-,Morpeth)
- 2. John Keppie (b.1811-,Ireland;d.1868-,Glasgow)
 - sp: Janet (Jessie) (d.1858-,Glasgow)
 - 3. John Keppie (b.1835)
 - 3. Walter William Keppie
 - 3. Mary Ann Keppie (b.1840;d.1842-Anderston,Glasgow,Scotland)
 - 3. William Keppie (b.1841-,Glasgow,Scotland;d.1842-,Glasgow,Scotland)
 - 3. Jessie Keppie
 - 3. James Keppie (b.1851-Glasgow,Scotland)
 - sp: Mar A

- 4. John Keppie (b.1879-Lowell,Middlesex,Massachusetts USA)
- 2. Walter William Keppie (b.1819-,Ireland;d.1890-P.A.Hospital,Camperdown)
 - sp: Harriet Howell (b.1824-,Sydney,NSW;m.1846;d.1908-,Glebe)
- 3. Mary Ann Keppie (b.1847;d.1877)
 - sp: Samuel Wright (m.1868)
- 3. Sarah Keppie (b.1849-Sydney;d.1902-,Murwillumbah)
 - sp: William Collins (b.1848-Richmond River area NSW;m.1869;d.1896-Murwillumbah NSW)
 - 4. Ada Collins (b.1870-,Sydney,NSW;d.1953)
 - sp: Frederick Benjamin Skinner (b.1867-Tumbulgum NSW;m.1893)
 - 4. Henry Collins (b.1872-,Sydney,NSW;d.1928-Sydney nsw)
 - sp: Florence Nixon
 - 4. William Walter Collins (b.1874;d.1949-Sydney NSW)
 - sp: Ellen Frances Foley (b.1873-Cardiff,Wales UK;d.1940-Sydney NSW)
 - 4. Alfred Collins (b.1877;d.1928)
 - sp: Amanda Butler (m.1901)
 - 4. Henrietta Collins (b.1879;d.1947)
 - sp: Alfred Settrie
 - 4. Evan Collins (b.1880;d.1974)
 - sp: Pett
 - 4. Stella Collins (b.1882;d.1965-,Melbourne,Vic)
 - 4. Elizabeth Collins (b.1886;d.1979-,Canberra,Act)
 - 4. Percy Collins (b.1888;d.1943)
 - sp: East
- 3. Henrietta Keppie (b.1851)
 - sp: John Duffin (m.1871)
- 3. William Keppie (b.1854;d.1925)
 - sp: Eliza Holmes (b.1859;m.1881;d.1900)
 - 4. Claude Gordon Keppie (b.1881;d.1939)
 - sp: Ester Roxby
 - 4. Florence Keppie (b.1883;d.1883)
 - 4. William Keppie (b.1884)
 - 4. Henrietta Keppie (b.1886;d.1887)
 - 4. Coral Keppie (b.1888)
 - 4. George Keppie (b.1890-55 Erskine St,Sydney,NSW)
- 3. Harriet Keppie (b.1855-Sydney;d.1921-Annandale)
 - sp: Alfred Blundell (b.1855-Sydney,NSW;m.1881;d.1927-Annandale,NSW)
 - 4. Walter Richard Blundell (b.1882-Macdonaldtown,NSW;d.1960)
 - sp: Lily Isobel Smith (b.1885-Petersham;m.1907;d.1944)
 - sp: Esther (Aunt Essie)
 - 4. Alfred E Blundell (b.1884)
 - 4. George M Blundell (b.1886)
 - 4. Florence H Blundell (b.1888)
 - 4. Leslie Blundell (b.1890)
 - 4. Ada S Blundell (b.1893)
- 3. George Keppie (b.1857)
 - sp: Matilda Daniels (m.1898)
- 3. Walter Keppie (b.1859;d.1874)
- 3. Elizabeth Keppie (b.1862)

sp: George Skinner (m.1886)

- 4. Henry Skinner (b.1887)
- 4. George Skinner
- 4. Arthur W Skinner (b.1890)
- 4. Frank Skinner (b.1891)
- 4. Charlotte Skinner (b.1894)
- 4. Victor Skinner (b.1895)

3. Henry Keppie (b.1863;d.1867)

3. Ann Keppie (b.1865)

sp: William Brydon (m.1885)

- 4. Robert Brydon (b.1886)
- 4. Walter K Brydon (b.1887)
- 4. Harriet E Brydon (b.1889)
- 4. Jane F Brydon (b.1890)