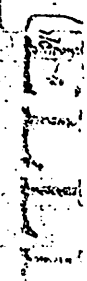


Colour Code
Y - Yellow
R - Red

O - Green
DR - Brown
BL - Blue

P - Purple
O - Orange
H - Hatched
CH - Cross Hatched

Copies of Titles and Grants Vol. 9158 and above
are supplied pursuant to Section 114(3) of the
Transfer of Land Act 1904
DATE: 12 APR 1994



VICTORIA

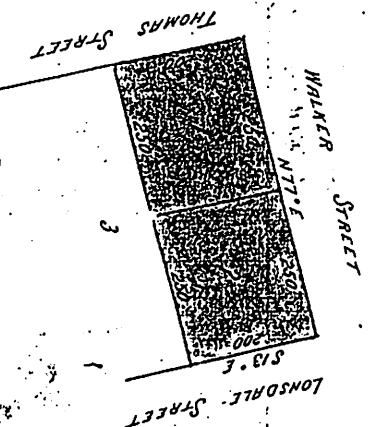
Vol 3117 no 623329

Certificate of Title,

UNDER THE "TRANSFER OF LAND ACT 1890."

Alexander Siding of Landerong
licensed victualler and habella
siding of the same place his wife are
~~near the properties of an estate in~~ ^{as sample}, subject to the Incumbrances
notified hereunder in All that piece of Land, situated and situate
on the Map in the margin, containing One acre or
thereabouts being Crown allotments one and
two section four towns of Landerong Parish
of Landerong county of Bourke

— Dated the twenty-ninth day of March One thousand nine
hundred and six —



H. W. Allen

Assistant Registrar of Titles
ENCUMBRANCES REFERRED TO



As to part of the above land
I cease from Charles Henry
Lawson to Robert Johnson
Trust registered on the 25th
day of March 1904 and 2nd
9252 in the Register Book

The above is

Surveyed and

Witnessed by

Chief Reg. of Titles

2nd October 1906

Vol. 1617 Vol. 963386 Transfer 988416 Application

Nature of Instrument.	Day and Hour of its Production.	Names of the Parties to it.	Number or Symbol thereon.
Leave as to track Accepted 1919	1908 12 18 June	Alexander Fleming and James Fleming Amelia Augustine Dymme	10358
Leave as to track Accepted 1919	1919	Michael Friedman	13507
CAVEAT NO 58586 LODGED 29 June 1928	1928	Assistant Registrar of Titles	
CAVEAT NO 58586 Lapsed 12 June 1928	1928	Assistant Registrar of Titles	

TRANSFER to
Henry Deopala Debet
on 12 May 1928 numbered 1365220
CANCELLED See Certificate of Title
Vol 5393 Fol 1078553
Assistant Registrar of Titles

CANCELLED

Assistant Registrar of Titles

KEN GARTSIDE
105 FALCONER STREET
SOUTHPORT, QLD 4215
PH: (07) 5591 5279 After 12 noon



HIS THE PALM

THE LIFE AND FAMILY
OF

Charles Henry Dawson

Meg Trebilcock





Charles Henry Dawson
of "Westwood", Dandenong.
1838 - 1923

Palmon Qui Meruit Ferrat
(Let him who has won the palm wear it)

2.

CHARLES HENRY DAWSON

This is an unfinished story, written for my Grandchildren, and all descendants of Charles and his wives Jane Esplin and Rachel Nash. As more information comes to hand it will be added.



In loving memory of my husband Arthur, whose encouragement kept me plodding along when it would have been easy to have given up.

Meg Trebilcock
75 Fitzroy Street,
Kerang,
Victoria.
1997.

"Palmon Qui Meruit Ferrat."

(Let him who has won the palm wear it)

Charles Dawson's first exercise of this phrase, that we know of, is seen in the address on vellum which he presented to Foresters' Past Chief Ranger Tartakover (page 25, Deniliquin Pastoral Times report).

Thereafter, apparently, he adopted it as his personal motto, we see it displayed above the "Westwood" entrance door (page 40).

Success having projected him into leading society and permitted a measure of ostentation in his life, the phrase seems remarkably appropriate.

In heraldry the palm frond or branch is emblematic of victory, triumph, pre-eminence, &c.

Hence the phrases "to bear the palm" : be acknowledged victor; or "to yield the palm" : acknowledge oneself vanquished by another.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS made by the following named parties are gratefully acknowledged, as is the work of many others not here named:

GRAHAM ROSS descended from Jane Mowat Esplin's marriage to Tom Patterson. He has done the story of the Vipond and Esplin families, and hours of research for the Dawson story.

ALEX ROSS supplied information regarding the Hungarian uprising of 1848 and of Louis Kossuth.

FIONA ROSS who typed the original copy onto computer disk.

MARTIN & JILL WOLFGANG supplied the Elias Wolfgang story.

RUTH CSONTOS who paid Professor Maria Patkone of Budapest to trace the Wolfgang family in 1838.

GERTRUDE HILL whose letter gives the only clue to the original family name.

BRUCE DAWSON BROWN who traced all members of the first Dawson family, and provided old photographs.

LIONEL HARRY DAWSON son of Charles and Rachel, who supplied me with early stories which were not always reliable.

ETTIE PULLMAN Professional Researcher, who found important papers.

CAROLINE MERRYLEES Hay's local historian, who has been very helpful with early records.

MARGERY ELLIS & JIM DAWSON who supplied information and photographs.

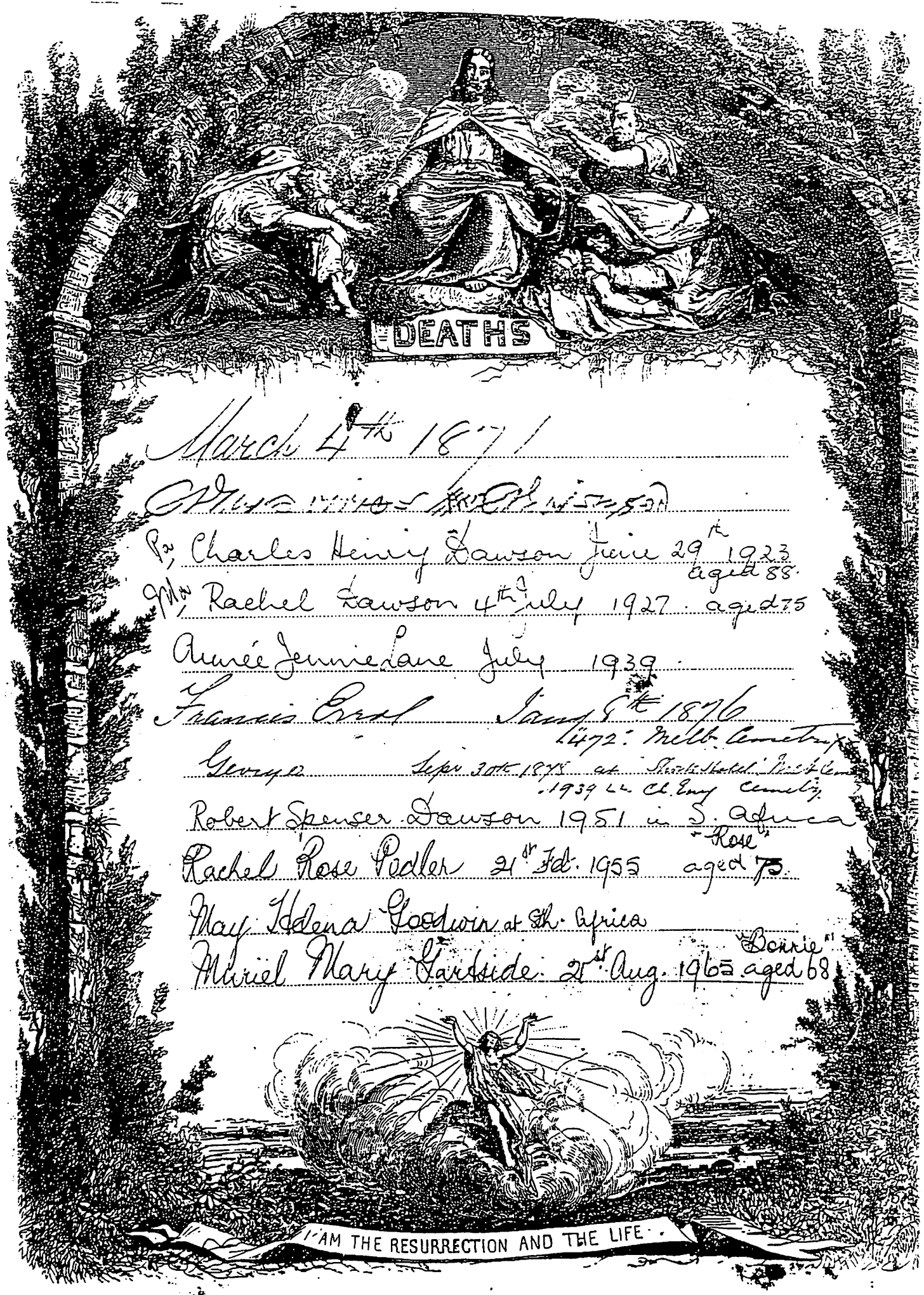
JEAN ORCHARD supplied photographs and information of her mother Jane Mowat Vail.

DEIDRE SHANKS for information on the Wolfgang family in New Zealand.

RITA HULL of Bendigo, who has been helpful with advice as to where to search

JOAN MITCHEL & HARRY RACHKIND of Echuca Historical Society.

IAN BELLINGER of Horsham Historical Society.



March 4th 1871

Mr. & Mrs. Dawson

Mr. Charles Henry Dawson June 29th 1923 aged 88.

Mrs. Rachel Dawson 4th July 1927. aged 75

Annie Jennie Lane July 1939.

Francis Cross Jan 5th 1876

1472: Millb. Cemetery

George Sept. 30th 1878 at "The Hotel" "The Cemetery"

1939 L.L. Ch. Eng. Cemetery

Robert Spenser Dawson 1951 in S. Africa

Rose

Rachel Rose Podler 21st Feb. 1955 aged 75.

May Helena Goodwin at Sth. Africa

Bonnie

Muriel Mary Garbide 25th Aug. 1963 aged 68

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

I cannot remember my Grandfather, but the stories I have been told make his early life seem like a fairytale.

My Great Grandfather, the handsome Hungarian Count having to flee to England with his two young sons, because of a Revolution sounds romantic, with the story that he had been attached to the Court of the Tzar, and had, over the years been presented with Decorations in the form of jewels.

About ten years ago my cousin Jim Dawson visited my brother Ken and asked about our family history. Ken knew very little so rang to ask what I knew, so I decided to search.

I have wondered how to present this story, as the early days are impossible to trace, but I have decided to tell the tales we have been brought up with, and then add how I have proved or disproved them.

Charles has been a difficult man to trace, and very careless about dates, using them to suit himself.

I was lucky to have inherited the family bible from my Mother and expected to find the dates and information helpful. The date of the first marriage was correct, but the date of Jane's death and his marriage to Rachel were not correct, and it took me several years of searching to find he married Rachel in 1878, and I have still not found the date of Jane's death, but know she was still alive in 1876.

To add to the mystery, the first entry under "Deaths" was written on 4th March 1871, and under the date something I believe to be written in code. At first I believed it was the date of Jane's death, but as I now know that is not correct, I suppose the meaning will never be disclosed.

My mother told me my Grandfather's real name was Samuel Wolfgang, that he was Jewish but not a practicing Jew, and according to his family he was a charming, well educated man who spoke three languages. He was a wealthy man and always generous. He adored his wife and family and they all loved him. When I began to search I found so many of the stories could have been true.

Samuel or Karl Henri Wolfgang was born in Pest, Hungary, on 13th November, 1838. His father Gustavus was Hungarian and his Mother Esther an Austrian Jewess. They had another son Elias who was born on 1st February, 1841.

The family story says Gustavus and his two young sons fled to England in 1848 because of a Revolution, and in that year Tzar Nicholas helped quell a famous Hungarian Uprising led by Louis Kossuth. It was a revolt against Austrian domination, and because of the help given by Russia, Kossuth was defeated and families, including a great number of Jews, fled to England to start a new life.

It has been suggested that Gustavus may have been a Count at the Hapsburg Court of Hungary, and sent as a Commissioner of some sort to the Court of the Tzar, Nicholas I, but if that is the case I see no reason for the family to flee.

After they settled in England the jewels were gradually sold after having paste copies made before selling them.

In the 1930's Cara Wolfgang, daughter of Mark Alfred Dashwood Wolfgang, son of Gustavus, sent my Aunt two of the paste copies. They are large and beautifully made, One is of large diamonds and the other a diamond surrounded by emeralds.

In 1992 Martin and Jill Wolfgang, who are descended from Elias and who live in England, paid Ettie Pullman, a Research Consultant in Melbourne, to trace the family of Charles Henry Dawson.

It was an exciting time, as I had no idea there were other members of the family. Martin and Jill have done a lot of research and there is no doubt that we are of the same family.

In the early days Rose kept in touch with Cara Wolfgang, and Bonnie kept in touch with Polly Wolfgang, whom I believe was Mary Anne, born 1855, and a half sister of Charles. Neither was married and after their deaths all contact was lost.

The earliest records show that the father took the name of Mark Schmerl Wolfgang when he went to England. He was first traced in Ireland where he married Mary Quinn and had a daughter, Fanny Caroline, born 14th April, 1853.

Mark's father was called Samuel and was a Commissioner, but that is all that is known of him.

The much loved younger brother
of Charles Henry Dewson:

Elias Wolfgang,
born in Hungary 1.1.1841,
died in England 9.3.1903,
and his wife Jane Amey Sowler,
nee Hera.



Jill Wolfgang and daughter
Nicky Wolfgang beside grave
of Elias Wolfgang,
Woodchurch Cemetery, Wirral.

Photo by Bruce Brown,
23.6.1995.

Bruce Dawson Brown
during his visit
to England 1995, with
Jill, Fred, and
Doreen Wolfgang, at
their home in Wirral,
Cheshire.



A reference to the original family name.

6.1.1957.

Upwey House
West Byfleet
Surrey

Dear Fred,

Please excuse paper - but your letter will take a bit of answering - Thank you for your good wishes and once more I wish you all the best of everything. I looked up the family Bible and see that Elias Wolfgang was born on the 1st February 1841 and died March 9 1883. He married Jane Amey Sowler Herd who was a year younger than he was at Woodchurch August 17th 1865. I remember his father coming to the Funeral - a nasty old man (so I thought being only 9) and I think a horrid purple scarf put me off. Also he was crying bitterly and I never knew men could cry and was rather frightened of him. I have always understood he was born in Hungary and was one or a Pole. I also understood he had twin sons - Father and a brother who when I knew him called himself Charles Dawson. Someone told my mother that Grandfather brought them over when they were very small and used to stand them on the table and make them talk in their own language - they couldn't speak English - Charles Dawson must have gone to Australia as a young man and eventually ran a big hotel at a place called Dandenong. He came over to England when I was about 14 and stayed with us. He was very good to me and took me all over Scotland. Some years after my youngest brother Gordon went out to him but died after a few years there. When I was first engaged I went to stay with the Hill's who lived near Woking and went to London to see the Old Man's fourth wife! at least I was told she was his fourth. She was a nice old thing and lived in a part of London I had never heard of - Upton Park - nor have I ever heard of it since. I never sorted out who was who and was much too shy to ask any questions. I believe Grandfather's name was something like Maleski or Malashi but can't be sure. I am sorry not to be able to give you more information. We were living on the Bidston Road in those days (when father died not far from St Saviour's Church.

I had an Australian nurse for nearly a year last year when I was ill and she knew that hotel - Dandenong was close to Melbourne. I don't know if any of the family still run it - but the daughter (I think her name was Rose) wrote to me several times after Uncle died. It's all so long ago and after you are eighty your memory is not what it was!! I'm afraid all this won't be much help to you. I suppose Willie Herd must have been a good age. He had a brother Phillip who was a nasty piece of work. Let me know sometime how you get on with the History! and with love to you all.

E. G. Hill

Letter written by Emily Gertrude Wolfgang to her nephew
Fred Wolfgang.

- 1 -

LETTER WRITTEN TO RUTH CSONTOS
in search of WOLFGANG family

Ruth Csontos
P.O. Box 20614
Richards Bay
Republic of South Africa

Dear Mrs. Csontos,

Let me apologize for the delay in answering, but I would like to find datas of Your fore-fathers.

I examined all the birth registers (Catholic, Lutheran, Calvinist and Jewish) not only in the given (1838) year, but the before and following 5 years as well, but his name did not appear. I looked for his birth' data by his both name, (Schmerl, Wolfgang) because either of them would have been a surname.

I examined all the census of Pest between 1833-1848, but his name did not appear neither here.

Presumably his father was Jewish (because his wife was Jewish) I looked over - name by name- the Jewish census of the 1833, 1840 years. But his name was not among the registered people.

As You have said, that the family had left Hungary at 1848 or 1849 , I examined these two years of the Ministry of the Interior. (nearly 15 boxes.)

I hoped for, that - before the travel- they had asked for passport or any other identity-paper.

But sorry to say, there was nothing. They hadn't got passport and so we can know nothing of their leaving.

I also examined all the record-books of merchants of Pest, but his fathers name was not found.

In 1838 there were a great floods of the Danube.

Nearly all Pest had been destroyed. After this, a great sum of money were devided among the victims.

Therefore the total Pest - street by street - had been registered by personal. If they had been living in Pest , under the given surname - their name must have been registered.

But the name cannot find on the lists.

Last not least some words about the father' trade.

In Hungary the father original engagement could not have been Gutta Percha manufacturer.

As You know, it is a special kind of tree (similar to the rubber tree) from which a rare raw material can be obtained. Neither this kind of tree, nor its product can be found not only in Hungary, but neither in Europe.

(The only except perhaps is England, where could be transported by ship from the possessions.

Dear Mrs Csontos!

To summary the above mentioned facts , I examined all the possibility place where I could have found something, but I hadn't found any data.

That is mean, that two conclusions can be stated:

1. They were called otherwise in Hungary , so in England they did not say their real name.
2. They did not live in Pest.

With this statement I have to finish the research work.

If You wil find any other new fact, in that case the work can be continued.

I would be very happy, if I could find something. I made my best, but sorry to say, there was no data of Your ancestor. The honorarium of the work is: 250 dollars.

The money can be remitted to the following bank-account:

IBUSZ Bank Rt Főiroda

1075 Budapest

Károly krt. 3/C

name: Patkóné dr. Kéringer Mária

number: 18597486

Thank You for the commission.

All the best.

Yours' faithfully.

Kéringer Mária

Mark was a Gutta Percha Merchant or Manufacturer in England. On Charles Marriage Certificate to Jane Esplin in 1861 he gave his father's name as Gustavus and his occupation as Gutta Percha Manufacturer. "Note"

It was known in the family that Charles had a much loved brother named Elias. Since exchanging photographs with Martin and Deidre Shanks from New Zealand, who is descended from Frank Wolfgang the youngest son of Elias, we have found quite a strong resemblance between different members of the families.

The only clue we have of the original name in Hungary was in a letter written by Gertrude Hill, daughter of Elias, to her nephew Fred, Martin's father. In it she mentions that her Grandfather (Mark) was born in Hungary, that he described himself either as an Hungarian or as a Pole, and that the original name sounded as Maleski or Malaski. Either of those names are Polish, so it would appear that (Gustavus or) Mark was born in Poland and went to Hungary, where he married and his sons were born in Pest.

Dr. Kunz, who wrote the book "Blood and Gold" about Hungarian emigration, twice mentioned C.H. Dawson, but did not know if he was an Hungarian who changed his name when he came to Australia or was born in Pest to English parents. He knew he was in the Hotel business but nothing else about his life in Australia.

Dr. Kunz believed that very few Hungarians felt the need to emigrate, while because the Jews were persecuted, they took any opportunity to leave. The Hungarians who did leave never seemed to settle, often moving and changing their jobs frequently.

Mark Schmerl Wolfgang appears to have been a restless person. He moved to Ireland, Liverpool, Newcastle, Gateshead, and London. He gave a variety of occupations on the birth and marriage certificates of his children, such as Indian Rubber Merchant, Gutta Percha Manufacturer, Toy Manufacturer, and General Merchant. He married four times and as far as I know had eight children.

I wrote to Dr. Kunz to see if he could help sort out the Hungarian years, and he kindly wrote back with his ideas based on his knowledge of the subject.

With hindsight I think it would have been better not to have tried to prove the Tzar connection. There are no documents so it is impossible to prove the story, which has been told throughout the family since 1848 and is part of our history; and I firmly believe it should remain so.

Although I agree with Dr. Kunz's theory that in those days there were no titled Jews, there certainly were Jews with responsible positions as advisers in both Noble and Royal Households, mainly as Financial advisers, and in Arts and Music, so I can see no reason why the family would need to concoct the story.

I can understand the change of name, which was common with Jewish families, as when Emperor Joseph II's Decree requiring Hungarian Jews to adopt German names, and when Russia annexed part of Poland around the 1790's the Poles were required to Russianize their names. Also, when the Germans annexed their share of Poland their Poles had to Germanize their names, likewise the Germans in Hungary had to use Hungarian names at one stage. Whatever the changed name was, I feel sure they would have continued to use their original names among themselves, and probably when they left the country.

I jokingly suggested one day that Gustavus may have stolen the jewels, and we decided that considering the enormous upheavals that would have taken place during the Revolution, with the Hungarian Revolutionaries sweeping across the country to near victory, and then being put to flight by the Russian Armies, and only after the heaviest fighting, all sorts of possibilities present themselves.

Perhaps the jewels were put in Gustavus's charge as a trusted servant and he took off with them; perhaps he knew of an abandoned cache in some mansion, and perhaps he took them from a wealthy Revolutionary who was killed and whose property would have been confiscated anyway.

Note: "Gutta Percha", obtained from the latex of certain Malaysia trees, was widely used in the 19th century, somewhat as rubber is used today. Flexible but harder than rubber it was made into sheets for lining and waterproofing boxes and other vessels, as soles on boots and shoes etc. It could be formed into tubing for hoses, waterproof carboys for gunpowder, water jugs and so on. 19th century golf employed exclusively a solid ball of gutta percha - a "guttie". In early 20th century, gutta percha was superseded by the more flexible and also extendable india rubber.

The possibilities are numerous and Graham and I have considered them equally with the possibility that they were a gift or award from the Tzar.

The jewels really did exist, and Margery Ellis still has two of the copies.

They are not the type of jewellery owned by ordinary people, and I would like to think that Mark (Gustavus) or his father Samuel were high in favour with someone of Noble or Royal Lineage before leaving the country, as the original story states.

1853 - 1860

I had always believed that Charles arrived in Australia in 1853, but I had two stories, one told by my Uncle Lionel Dawson, and the other by my Mother.

Lionel believed that Charles was lured by news of the early gold rush, so set out with his family on the steamer-sailing vessel "Carthage" in 1851.

Two days before he was due to arrive in Fremantle, the captain came to him calling him Count Wolfgang, and told him he would be making a grave mistake if he landed under the name of Wolfgang. The skipper told him that there was a big convict element and the odds were that he would not be too well received or treated with a name like that. Swayed by the Captains warning, the Count took the good old English name of Charles Henry Dawson by deed poll in Fremantle in 1852.

I found that the earliest records of deed poll in Fremantle was 1923, and in Victoria 1904, so it is safe to feel that Charles merely assumed the name.

I was lucky to have one of my numerous letters to Fremantle passed on to Steve Howell, the senior Librarian of the Perth Cultural Centre, who told me that the R.M.S. Carthage made many trips to Australia, but not until 1881 - 1890 period. He also checked the Fremantle Passenger Arrivals Index from 1829 - 1890 and there was no Charles Henry Dawson or Samuel Wolfgang listed.

Charles would have been very young, and as his father was still alive, he would not have been Count Wolfgang; as far as I can tell he came alone. There is a connection with the "Carthage" though, as that was the ship Charles sailed on when he went for a holiday to England in 1890.

His naturalisation Papers state that he arrived in Newcastle N.S.W. on 6th March, 1853, but does not mention the name of the ship. Graham Ross has searched all possible records at Newcastle and Sydney around that date and can find no record of his arrival.

The following is a letter contained in the Melbourne "Argus" April 1853.

Dear Sir,

We, the passengers on board the Prince Arthur, have attentively watched your conduct in performing the many arduous duties pertaining to your office of Purser to this ship, feel it is our bounded duty to express our full approval as to the ample and general satisfaction you have given. You were thrown amongst us, a body of men holding both high and low positions, and from your courteous and gentlemanly demeanour, strict business habits, kindness, and general impartiality you have earned the respect, esteem, and goodwill of all.

Your duties will cease on board this ship in a few days, and you will be entering a country where, we feel confident, your upright character will meet a suitable reward.

With best wishes for your success we subscribe ourselves, dear Sir, your sincere and well wishers.

(signed by nearly all the passengers)

To Charles Henry Dawson Esq.

Considering the many obstacles he has had to encounter he has done more than wonders.

Alex Fraser Esq

However, the C.H. Dawson referred to here is not the principal of this story. The passenger list for Prince Arthur, which arrived in Melbourne in April, 1853, includes:

Sophia Dawson, aged 25 years
 C.H. Dawson, aged 35, Agent
 Elizabeth A Dawson, aged 30, Clerk
 Francis Dawson, aged 30
 Elizabeth C. Dawson, aged 3.
 All came from Ireland.

My mothers story is the same as the story Polly Wolfgang wrote to Rose Pedler in the early 1930's.

For Charles to have made two fortunes between 1853 and 1859 sounds rather impossible. To prove the story is also impossible as there are no dates to go by.

Copy of a letter written by Polly Wolfgang to Rose Pedler in the early 1930's:

" We always knew that we had this brother in Australia from our earliest days though we never saw or heard from him. He was only 17 when he left home, and I was a baby, but my Mother (his Step Mother) very often used to talk of him.

Gold digging was all the craze then, and it was supposed that he ran away to sea and then joined the gangs who worked there, and was at different places viz Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong, Yarra Glen, St. Kilda, and others.

After some years he made his fortune, and his thoughts turned homewards, and he very much wished to see a loved brother (Elias in Liverpool) and his father if he was still alive. So he made preparations to leave and shared out with his partner who was named Charles Dawson. They took their passage together, but at the last moment his partner tricked and robbed him and left him behind, taking his name (Samuel Wolfgang).

The vessel sank and all on board drowned. My father read of the shipwreck and saw one of the passengers was drowned of the name Samuel Wolfgang, and as he was coming home by that vessel, he thought it must be him.

My brother, very much disheartened, started again but not in his own name, he took the name of this late partner, Charlie Dawson, and kept it to the day of his death.

He was again fortunate at the diggings and it is a matter of history that he was the last man to have a grant from the Australian Government of a plot of free land. After that the land had to be paid for. He again wrote to England saying he was coming over, when he learned that his Father was still alive, but his brother was dead. By that time he was married and had a large family. Eventually he arrived and after being in Liverpool for some time he came to his Father's and I saw him for the first time on Friday 25th July, 1890. He returned to Australia on September 5th the same year, returning to Melbourne. That was the last time he came to England, he died on 29th June, 1923. While he was in England I spent a good deal of time with him and he told me of his family and home at Melbourne, or rather at Dandenong, a suburb of Melbourne. Most of his children were married then, leaving three daughters at home who were all married before he died. The eldest, Rose, Mrs. Pedler, now a widow, lives at St. Kilda; Amy, Mrs. Van Breda who was soon left a widow, but remarried and lives at New Zealand. The third and last daughter Muriel, usually called Bonnie, is Mrs. William Gartside, living at Dingley, Victoria, is the one I correspond with, but I have never seen her, but I think is an exceedingly nice person and an excellent wife and mother. She has two dear children, Meg and Ken and a husband who adores her. The portrait enclosed was sent to me after his visit to England, and he was then 53. I consider it exactly like him as he was when I last saw him."

Comprehensive reply by Dr. Kunt ("Blood and Gold")
to enquiry about Wolfgang/Malesky family in Hungary.

Dr. E.F. Kunt
10 Tivey Place
HUGHES, ACT, 2605

15.6.1995

Dear Mrs Trebilcock,

Thank you for your letter and the notes about your ancestors. Unfortunately it seems that I cannot help you with any information based on documents; all I can offer you is a few intelligent guesses based on vague or circumstantial evidence.

From all the data supplied by you, I, like the Budapest informant believe, that Charles Dawson i.e. Charles (?) Wolfgang was a Jew. My opinion is based on the following inconclusive circumstances: Firstly, he was married to a Jewess, and I assume that before 1850 exogamous marriages contracted by Jews would have been rare. Secondly, of all the names mentioned (with the one exception of Gustavus, the validity of which is doubtful), all others could have been names used by Jews. Schmerl is clearly Jewish, and so is Elias. I doubt if anyone but Jews would use them - while Samuel, Clara, Mark, and the surname Wolfgang, though by no means exclusively Jewish, were names frequently used by Jews. You are right saying that the name Maleski or Maleski sound Polish, and this would fit in with the picture: Polish and heavily Polish-Jewish populated Galicia under the rule of anti-semitic Russia, from whence Jews frequently fled south of the Carpathians to the much more tolerant Hungary. Thirdly, a somewhat weak point, but added to the others should tilt the scales further: The easy changing of names, e.g. from whatever to Dawson was extremely rare by first generation non-Jewish Hungarians, but frequent among Jews.

Given these facts I doubt the story of aristocratic origin: to my knowledge there were no Austro-Hungarian aristocrats with the family name of Wolfgang, and if Dawson was Jewish, he would have been highly unlikely to have received a title the 1860-es. (After that, during the era of Francis Joseph a number of extremely rich Jewish industrialists and bankers were made barons, but to my knowledge never counts - which is a step higher. On the other hand non-Jewish aristocrats were almost all large landholders and not (with percent exceptions)...

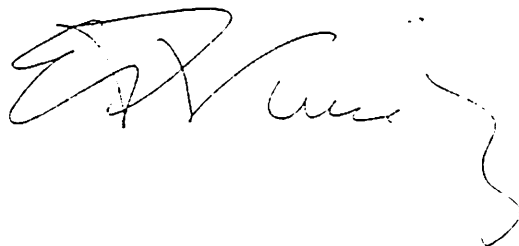
The idea that he might have co-operated with the Tzarist army, which invaded Hungary to help the Austrians and this was the reason for his need to flee is extremely unlikely: if he did co-operate with the Russians he would have received praise and position from the Austrians after the defeat of the Revolt. As you can see from my "Blood and Gold" among the refugees Jews were quite noticeable, (pp. 77-78) because the Revolt among others, offered more freedom to Jews and therefore Jews supported the revolution and very much took part in it.

In sum, although there is no absolute proof or support for theory, I am rather inclined to think that Dawson was Jewish. His father was possibly born in Galicia, and migrated to Hungary. His son may have taken part in the revolution and died in 1919. (the fact that by 1858 he was in Ireland seems to give some support for this possibility), or left Hungary later because of possible heavy handed vengeance meted out by the occupying Austrians.

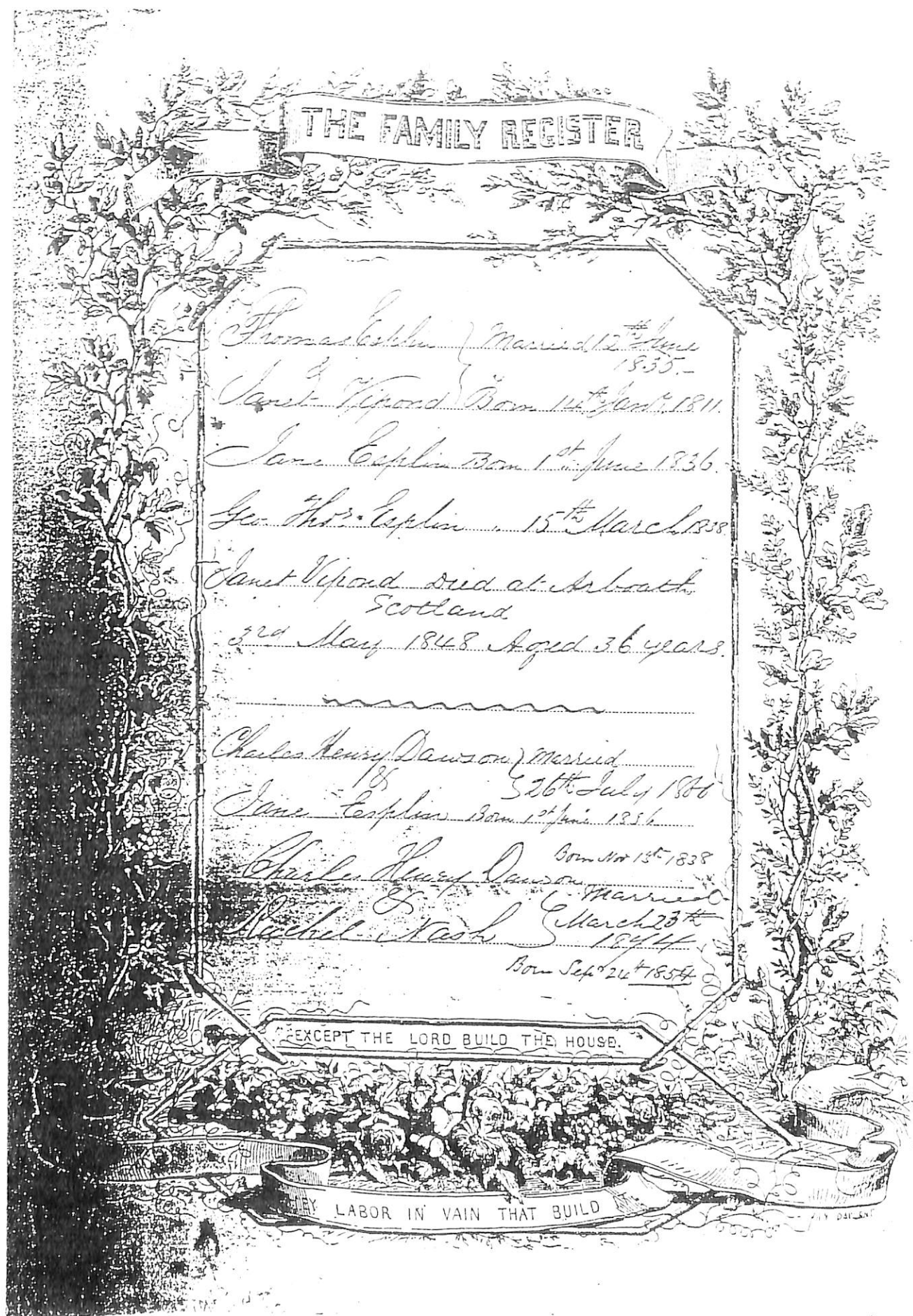
I am sorry if I disappointed you by dismissing the "count" part of the story and I repeat again, I have no documentary proof for anything I said in my letter, only my familiarity with the period and the somewhat vague hints which seem to support each other.

Thank you for your interesting letter. And please, if you have, as you suggested, information on Charles Dawson's Australian career, do write me about it. Naturally, should you be able to tell me that he remained in contact with other refugees, that would be doubly interesting. Though I am not likely to use any information for quite a while, I would like to add the Dawson story to my files - some relevant library will inherit it sometime.

I enclose the photo which you sent me. With greetings



From the Dawson Family Bible.



1860 - 1867

EARLY DAYS IN AUSTRALIA

I can find no record of the years between 1853 and 1860, but Lionel told me that Charles spent some time in Queensland, where he found gold, and at one stage he had gold to the value of 90,000 pounds.

He also discovered a "green mountain" and pegged it out as a copper mine. When he came to Melbourne a Company was formed by Bailleau, L.L. Smith, and Dawson and was named the "Cloncurry Freehold And Gold Mining Company" with a Capital of 4000 pounds in 1 pound shares.

In the boom years in Victoria the Bailleau family made huge fortunes. Lionel told me many years ago that a Bailleau tricked Charles out of his share of a mine when Charles was unable to find some cash in a hurry.

Dr. L.L. Smith was a very well known man - a doctor who specialised in women's complaints, and was a notorious abortionist. He was socially accepted, and a very wealthy man. He and the Dawson family always remained friendly; Rose Dawson was a bridesmaid at his daughter Louise's wedding, and his grand daughter was a youthful bridesmaid at Rose's wedding.

I have searched for a record of the Cloncurry Mine with no luck, but it is listed on Charles's Probate Papers as 500 shares Cloncurry Mines - no value.

Lionel was a charming man, and a wonderful story teller, it was only when I grew up that I realised there was not much truth in his stories. He was a loving Uncle and, in the days when children were supposed to be seen and not heard, he always made a fuss of us and took the time to talk to us, but in doing the family story his 'facts' are not reliable.

Charles claims to have come overland to Victoria in 1860, but in that year he was at Moira Lakes, which is not far from Echuca in N.S.W., and was a fisherman.

At this time there was a large fishing co-operative there. I have been in touch with Mrs. Pat Corry who is descended from Joseph Rice who started the fishing industry at the Moira Lakes, but she has no record of Charles being there. At this time he travelled a lot, and he could have been an agent for the business.

TAKEN FROM "ECHUCA - A CENTENARY HISTORY" by Susan Priestley:

"One of the best Murray fishing grounds was and still is at the Moira Lakes, some miles upstream from the Goulburn junction where the river, lacking a clearly defined channel, spreads indolently during winter over several square miles, and shrinks in summer to a series of lakes, swamps, and lagoons. The still shallow waters make a perfect breeding ground for all varieties of Murray fish, the abundance of which in turn attracts millions of wild fowl who return each year to nest amongst the reeds or high up in the swamp gums. The Aborigines over long generations had become expert in exploiting this hunting ground, and white men were not slow in observing its potential. One of the first to see the possibilities of a regular trade in fish was an ex-miner, Joseph Rice. During 1855 he and several mates set themselves up in huts on an island in the Lakes, planning to make the most of their first-hand knowledge of market conditions in Bendigo. They engaged Aborigines to use their skills and formed the Murray River Fishing Company along well organised co-operative lines. The catch was sent off several times a week by boat at about 9:00p.m. and transferred at a convenient spot on the river bank to a cart which then made a seven or eight hour journey, via Echuca, arriving in time to catch the early morning market.

In 1862 there were six men in the co-operative and three coaches and thirty horses were employed during the season to take two or three tons of fish per week to the Bendigo and Melbourne Markets. Even out of season half a ton was dispatched weekly, and it was then that the company had leisure to develop its sidelines. Leeches, carefully stripped of slime and packed in blue clay, brought 4 pounds 10 shillings or 5 pounds per thousand on the London market, where they were much in demand by the medical profession. Ducks, teal, and other wild fowl were also trapped or shot and sent off to Melbourne with the fish.

The trade was profitable. The top price paid for fish was a shilling a pound, and taking into account the trade in wildfowl and leeches, the company would have been grossing up to 10,000 pounds a year in 1862."

I can find no record of how and when Charles met George Esplin and the Vipond family, but he was definitely in Bendigo while working for the fishing co-op in 1860. He became very friendly with George Esplin, a friendship that remained very close until George's death in 1878.

In the family bible it states that Thomas Esplin married Janet Vipond on 12th June, 1835.

Their daughter Jane (registered as "Jean") was born on 1st June 1836 at Edinburgh, Scotland, and their son George was born on 15th March, 1838, also in Edinburgh. Their mother Janet died at Arbroath, Scotland, on 3rd May, 1848, aged 36 years.

Jane aged 24 years, George aged 22, and their cousin John Vipond, aged 16 years, arrived in Melbourne on the "Greyhound" on the 3rd August 1859 after a voyage lasting 84 days. They were met by, and went to stay with, their Uncle John (Jack) Vipond who lived in Little View Street, Sandhurst (Bendigo), and was listed as a Carriage Builder, and on some forms as a Wheelwright; but whatever his occupation he seems to have been well established in Bendigo.

Jane and Charles were married on 26th July, 1861 at Epsom, Victoria. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mark Butler, who had been the first Congregational Minister in Bendigo. He came to Bendigo in 1853 and left in 1856, but returned in 1857 where he was amongst those who gave an Address of Welcome to His Excellency Sir Henry Barkley when the latter visited Bendigo on 18th September, 1857.

In 1859 the Rev. W.R. Fletcher of the Congregational Church became Pastor at Bendigo, and remained there for nine years. On the Marriage Certificate Charles gives his religious denomination as Lutheran, and Jane as Presbyterian.

The witnesses were Maria Young, and her husband John Young who had been elected a Director of the Caledonian Society when it was formed in Bendigo in 1859.

Charles and Jane's first child, Esther Maria, was born at Epsom on the 9th August, 1861, and shortly after, Charles took the family back to the Moira Lakes to live; he continued his work with the Fishing Co-op.

On the 6th December, 1862, Sarah Jane was born and shortly after this the family took up residence in Echuca, Charles was already well known in the district.

In 1863 he wrote a letter to the Riverine Herald asking why a bridge could not be built across the Murray to Moama, by public subscription, as had been done at Wahgunyah.

Also in 1863 he ran a Depot store with Mr. E. Homan, and then joined with Robert Broughton in building a Brass Foundry.

EXCERPT FROM THE RIVERINE HERALD, ECHUCA, 2ND DECEMBER, 1865:

"It seems that the brick building now in course of erection next to Mr. Taylor's office is for Messrs C.H. Dawson, Broughton and Co., and not for Mr. Weavers, as might be inferred, although it is built under his superintendence. When complete the building will be an ornament to that part of the town. Messrs Dawson, Broughton and Co. are entering upon the business of brass founders, engineering, and general smiths zinc workers &c., a pursuit in which we wish them the success they can scarcely fail to obtain, for by their enterprise a great want will be supplied. Mr. C.H. Dawson is an old resident of Echuca and its vicinity and we have no doubt but that his numerous friends will be glad to hear of his new venture."

ALSO IN THE RIVERINE HERALD IN 1863:

"Messrs Dawson and Broughton, of Echuca, have just completed a pump for Mr. Glass, and erected it at the eight mile hut. By its agency, and one man can keep it going with ease, water is raised from a well eighty six feet deep. Messrs Dawson and Co. have received orders for several others similar in design."

On the 26th May, 1864, Georgina Elizabeth was born at Echuca.

Charles obviously bought land in the early days, as did George Esplin. I have a copy of page 11 of the Echuca Borough Rate Book, an Assessment dated 7th June 1865, disclosing C.H. Dawson as the owner of a parcel of land with Canvas Dwelling which I believe was in Mitchell Street.

On 6th December, 1865, he sold land to Charles Pascoe for 100 pounds, and a little later he sold land to Donald Forbes for 150 pounds. There is a record of these sales in the "Memorials".

I believe that at this time George Esplin lived with the family, as he and Charles were in business together.

On 6th March, 1866, Charles Henry Dawson II, the first son, was born at their home in Mitchell Street, Echuca.

IN THE RIVERINE HERALD 28TH MARCH, 1866:

"The partnership existing between the undersigned, carrying on business as blacksmiths and brass founders, in High Street, Echuca, was this day dissolved by mutual consent. The business of the said firm will in future be carried on by Robert Broughton and George Esplin alone, under the name and title of Broughton and Esplin, by whom all accounts due to or owing by the said firm will be received and paid.

Dated at Echuca this 26th day of March, 1866.

C.H. Dawson
Robert Broughton
George Esplin

Witness-
H. Major
Clerk to J.P. Motteram,
Solicitor,
Echuca."

By this time the marriage appears to have been very unhappy and Charles claims that Jane had become addicted to drink, and had become very drunken in her habits, and so he resigned his situation and left Echuca.

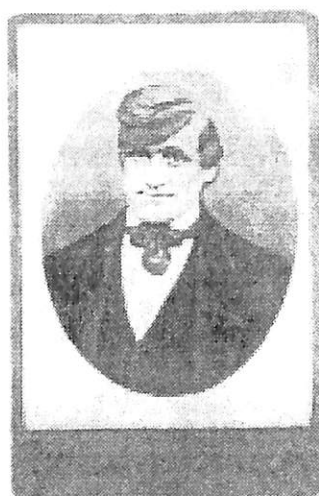
In 1867 the family moved to Hay, N.S.W. where Charles went because he had a relative there, although I can find no record of this.

Jack Vipond, born 2nd
February 1822, in
Edinburgh, son of
Thomas and Jean Vipond
nee Borland.

Mrs Jack Vipond, Annie,
nee Calder.

Uncle and Aunt to Jane
and George Esplin.

Photos: Helen Gumbley,
nee Vipond, of Sydney.



SCHEDULE C.

Marriages solemnized in the District of

Bendigo

Date	Where and when Married	Name and Residence of the Parties	Condition of the Parties		Birth Place
			Single or Widower, or a Widow or a Divorced Person, or a Person who has been married and divorced	Single or Widower, or a Widow or a Divorced Person, or a Person who has been married and divorced	
1	<i>Feb 26 1861</i> <i>Epsom</i>	<i>Charles Henry Lawson</i> <i>Jane English</i>	<i>Bachelor</i> <i>Spinster</i>		<i>Perth, King's</i> <i>Edinburgh</i>
<i>W2</i> do hereby declare that <i>Charles Henry Lawson</i> Member of <i>the Lutheran Church</i> <i>(Insert Church, Religious Society, or Denomination, as the case may be)</i> <i>was</i> Married in the <i>District of Bendigo</i> to <i>Jane English</i> a member of the <i>Presbyterian Church</i>					

Marriage Certificate
of
Charles and Jane

SCHEDULE C.

Registered by

Mark Butler
Congregational Minister.

Rank or Profession	Age	Residence		Parents	
		Present	Usual	Name (Mother's Maiden Name)	Father's Rank or Profession
<i>Widow</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>Maria Lake</i>	<i>Maria Lake</i>	<i>Erasmus Lawson</i>	<i>John Pearson</i>
	<i>24</i>	<i>Epsom</i>	<i>Epsom</i>	<i>John * Thomas English Janet Vipond</i>	<i>John Pearson (Superintendent) Hotel Victoria</i>

This Marriage was solemnized between *Charles Henry Lawson* and *Jane English*

According to the Rules of Congregationalists

In the presence of us *John Pearson* and *Maria Pearson*

By (or before) me *Mark Butler* Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar.

** Charles Henry Lawson does not know his mother's Maiden name*
Mark Butler

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ARE WE TO HAVE A BRIDGE?

(To the Editor of the Riverine Herald.)

The Riverine Herald,
Echuca,
23rd December, 1865.

Sir,—The question as to whether we are ever to have a bridge across the Murray at either Moama or Echuca, is one which now forces itself prominently upon the attention of all thinking men in both colonies. The desirability of taking active steps to accomplish by private enterprise that which Government is so surine about, becomes every day more apparent. This idea struck me when last I paid a visit to Wihgunyah. There I found that the people, instead of calling upon Jupiter, had put their own shoulders to the wheel, and consequently were successful. That is to say, after being disappointed several times by Government, they entered into a company, subscribed the necessary capital, built an excellent bridge over the river; and although the trade there is not near so great as here, yet the returns show a dividend of 12½ per cent. on the outlay, after all working expenses are defrayed. Why should not so good an example be followed here? I throw out the hint in order that those most interested may move in the matter, if it were only that the subject may be better ventilated. I may, however, remark that the desirability of forming such a company here has been mentioned to several influential persons in the neighborhood, by all of whom the project has been highly approved.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
C. H. DAWSON.

From: M.T. Collection.

The Riverine Herald,
Echuca,
Wed. January 3, 1866.

Notice! Notice! Notice!

C. H. DAWSON.

(Late with Mr H. Homan, Riverine Depot).

Does to announce to his friends and the public of Echuca and the Riverine District that he has entered into partnership with Messrs

BROUGHTON & EARLEN.

Brass Founders, Engineering and General Smiths, Zincworkers, Tinmiths, &c.

They hope, by keeping none but good material and first-class mechanics, to merit a share of the public support.

Pumps and beer-engines fitted up on the shortest notice to any depth.

Galvanized and corrugated iron tanks and troughs made to order, at Melbourne prices.

Tinware of all descriptions.

Ridging and spouting, &c., fixed on.

Turning done to brass or iron.

Lamps of all descriptions made and repaired.

Horses shod by an experienced shoer.

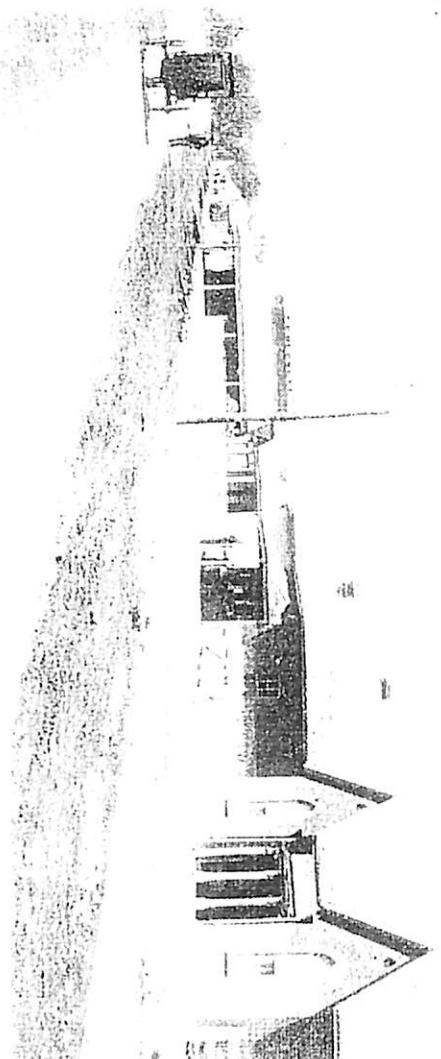
All orders promptly attended to.

C. H. DAWSON, BROUGHTON & CO,
High-street, Echuca.

N.B.—The undersigned would call the attention of the squatters sinking wells to their deep well pumps, capable of throwing 20 to 30 gallons of water per minute; they can be erected at about half the price of whin firs.

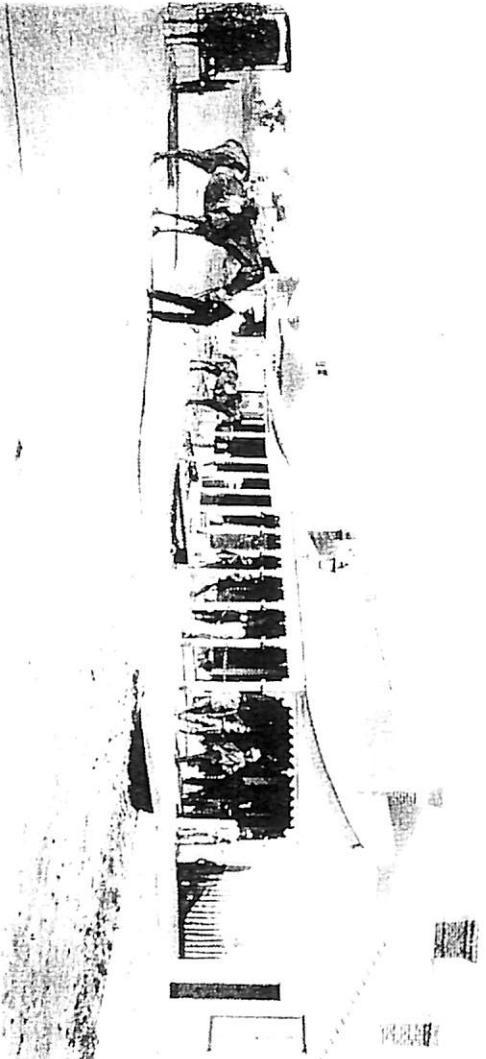
Estimates sent to any station on sending depth of well, and a competent person sent up to fix them.

C. H. DAWSON, BROUGHTON & CO.



Lachlan Street, main street of Hay, circa the early 1870s
 Above, facing south. Post and Telegraph Office nearest, then Court House, Bank, and Blewett's store.

Below, facing north. Nearest is Tattersall's Hotel while still single storey, Smith's store, butcher's shop, chemist, fruiterer, tailor's, then Dawson's Crown Hotel, opposite the Bank. Photos from "Looking Back", Caroline Merrylees, Hay Historical Society Proceedings No. 7.



The New Crown hotel, built on the site of the original Crown Hotel in 1937, the design giving the pleasing appearance of a large country home rather than a business place. The Crown Bakery is alongside.

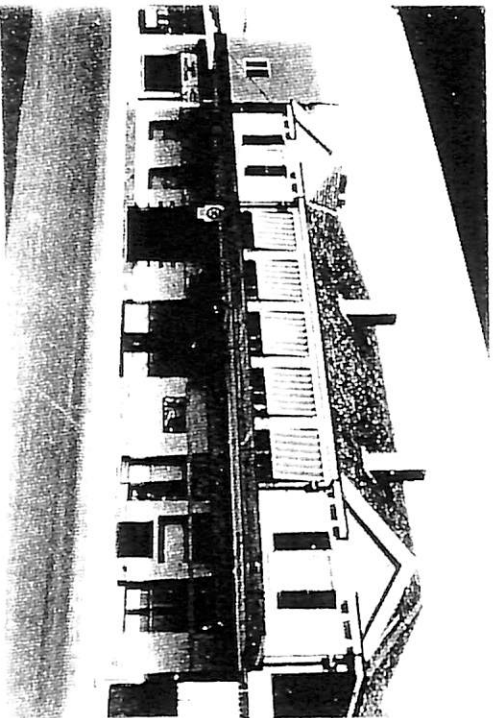


photo: Derek Woolcott, 1977. From: The Witcombe Heritage Hay Historical Society, Proceedings No. 8
 Courtesy Caroline Merrylees.

1867 - 1871

In the four years Charles was in Hay, he was obviously happy and very busy.

He joined many clubs and seems to have been a popular person and highly respected.

The first record I have of him in Hay is in 1867 when the Hay Cricket Club was formed, of which he was made Honorary Secretary.

When he first arrived he conducted a bookshop in the main street, Lachlan Street. Around this time he became very worried about Jane, and with her permission, and on the advice of friends, he sent her to Melbourne to Dr. Crooks, who ran a Sanatorium where she stayed for twelve months at great expense!

Jane claims she was not addicted to drink but was ill, and in fairness to her, she had born four children in about five years, and Charles was a young man and probably not very caring at this stage. He seemed busy both socially and at work.

All the details of Charles' life in Hay were taken from articles in the Deniliquin Pastoral Times which printed the Hay news, and were sent to me by Caroline Merrylees.

On 27th November, 1867, Charles organised a meeting to help the local school master, who was receiving an inadequate remuneration and not coping. Later this teacher, Mr le Clerk, publicly thanked Mr. Dawson for his kindness.

In 1867 he was made Secretary of the Hay Jockey Club. On 16th May at the Police Office Mr. Carter's Licence for the Crown Hotel was transferred to Mr C.H. Dawson.

In November of that year he, with others, attended a meeting at the Punt Hotel to discuss a smear campaign being waged against the local Police Magistrate Captain Brown. Mr Dawson was one of those who called the meeting, and was on the Committee chosen to correspond with the Government on the matter. Soon after, Captain Brown's appointment was confirmed and his conduct of the court endorsed.

PASTORAL TIMES, DENILIQUN; 12TH DECEMBER, 1868:

"On the 9th December, 1868, the Crown Hotel had a narrow escape from being burnt down. It appears that soon after the lamps were lit there came a puff of wind which caused one of the lamps in the concert room to burst. The place would soon have been a mass of flame had it not been that the accident was perceived and prompt measures taken to put out the fire; the bystanders rendered every assistance, and it was soon put out. As it happened the damage done was only trifling."

This happened shortly after Charles had opened his new Concert room. It, with the new bar, was a great improvement to the town. On the 20th January, 1869, he gave a party for the young people of the township. The concert room was beautifully decorated, about sixty or seventy children were present... "and the light of their merry faces and the sound of their joyous voices is something to be remembered by those who were present".

An important occasion for the family was the marriage of George Esplin to Jane Mowat, which took place at the Crown Hotel. Jane Dawson was home from her time at Dr. Crooks' Sanatorium, and both Charles and Jane signed as witnesses on the Marriage Certificate.

MARRIAGE.
 Miss Mowat. On the evening of the 10th
 March, at the R. S. A. Hall, Hay, the
 marriage of Miss Mowat, daughter of
 Mr. Dawson, to Mr. John Clonson, son of
 Mr. Clonson, was solemnized by the Rev.
 Mr. Mowat, the officiating clergyman.

The ceremony was performed in the presence of
 many friends, and was attended by the
 usual number of witnesses. The bride and
 groom were accompanied by their parents and
 friends, and the ceremony was a most
 successful one.

The Pastoral Times.

Published, Saturday, May 14, 1869.

Several months later Jane was sent to stay with friends of the family, Mr. and Mrs. John Clonson, who had a farm at Ballyshanassy (now known as Nunawading). Jane was pregnant and stayed there until she returned to Hay for the birth of the baby.

FROM D.P.T. 9TH JANUARY 1869:

"In reference to a paragraph which appeared in a Deniliquin Journal, from the Hay Correspondent, referring to the match between Mr. Sabine's horse, Mr. Bogie, and Mr. Dawson's mare, Native Cat, everyone seems highly indignant at the insulting and uncalled for tone. He says everyone anticipated Mr. Bogie to be the winner, when it is well known from the excellent style the Native Cat was brought out, and the expense the owner went to in getting a light-weight from Melbourne that, if anything, she was inclined to be the favourite. No backer of Mr. Bogie would give odds, which speaks volumes for the mare. It seems a pity when such spirited men as Messrs. Sabine and Dawson go in for a quiet match, to test the merits of their respective nags, and try and afford the public a days sport, that some anonymous writer should make it appear what it really was not, but as if the whole affair was got up by a parcel of cardsharps and swindlers. I hope if the correspondent alluded to is a resident of this town that for the future he will be more careful to confine himself to the truth."

On 8th February, 1869, a meeting of members of the Riverine Jockey Club took place at Mr. Dawson's Crown Hotel. A great deal of important business was gone through, and the date of the Annual Races was fixed for the 28th and 29th of April.

Mr. Dawson, the Hon. Secretary, tendered his resignation, and James Forsyth Esq. was duly appointed in his place.

In December 1869 a Lodge of Foresters was opened in Hay, and Charles was elected the first Chief Ranger.

On 15th January Jane Dawson gave birth to a daughter, Jane Mowat Dawson, and after the birth Jane returned to the Clonsons where she remained for two years. Charles paid one pound and ten shillings a week for her to board.

THE PASTORAL

BIRTH.

DAWSON.—On the 15th instant, at the Crown Hotel, May, Mrs. C. H. Dawson, of a daughter. Both doing well.

DEATH.

HURST.—At Ballarat, on 9th May, Mr. Thomas Hurst, of consumption.

INTERCOLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.—The chief items of importance will be found under this head, being the condensed information given by telegrams.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Small payments can be made in any postage stamps, but not in duty stamps.

TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements forwarded should have the number of insertions endorsed thereon, or they will be inserted and charged till countermanded in writing.

The Pastoral Times.

DENILQUEIN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1870.

In 1870 Charles built a large winch over a well at the Crown Hotel for the purpose of pumping up water for the supply of the house.

George and Jane Esplin took over the "Bush Inn" in 1870. Apparently they leased it for five years but were there for only one year, as in 1871 George leased Daniel Shurr's "Tattersalls Hotel" said to have been the smallest hotel in the town. He lived only seven years after this. He and Jane bought the first freehold in 1875, although probably got an option to purchase long before this, as by then they had already built considerable extensions and improvements. They then built the second story which made it the largest and best appointed hotel in the town. After Georges death in 1878 Jane carried on the business alone. She was a remarkable woman; despite a considerable debt and four small children she continued to conduct the large business, make additions to the building, and to improve it's appointments until it was said to be the best hotel outside the metropolitan area.

Her last purchase of land for the hotel, seems to have been in 1885.

In 1887 she married Tom Patterson of "Ulonga", and they all went to live on the station between Hay and Booligal. It is interesting to note that Charles' daughter Georgina Elizabeth was one of the witnesses at the marriage.

I believe that Charles had money in the Bush Inn, and I know that George had 100 pounds in the Crown Hotel.

In April, 1870, Charles was declared insolvent. He was examined, and attributed his insolvency to bad seasons, losses in business and the refusal on the part of two creditors to give time for the payments of their debts. The main person who would not give him time was J.G. Menon, proprietor of the local brewery, who left the colony as soon as all was settled.

For the next few months the paper was full of the insolvency.

There is no doubt that Charles had a lot of outside business dealings, and that he made frequent trips to Melbourne and Sydney, and appears to have bought and sold goods including Plate, Rings, Saddles, and I would think anything that was demanded.

Graham and I think the insolvency was rather a farce as after the second meeting the deficiency was only 365 pounds. George Esplin could have lent him that, and Charles probably had money in the Bush Inn although he denied it at the time. He had said originally that he offered his creditors 20 shillings in the pound with bank interest, if they would give him three, six, nine, or twelve months. So obviously the

business was not going bad although he may have been unable to meet some of the bills on time. At the third meeting it is suggested he was a hopeless book keeper, and we certainly don't believe that.

In those days many men made large fortunes, and lost them, only to start again and within a few years make another fortune.



George Thomas Esplin
of "George Esplin's Tattersall's Hotel"
Hay, NSW
and his wife Jane, nee Mowat

Photos courtesy Margaret Middleton

I had imagined that after the insolvency Charles would have quietly crept away from Hay, but he and the children moved in with the Esplins and appear to have continued with his interests.

The following two articles from the D.P.T. show he was still in Hay in February 1871.

In the Ancient Order of Foresters Charles was elected the first Chief Ranger, but because of the insolvency he resigned, and Brother Tartkover was elected for the remaining nine months.

D.P.T. JANUARY 7TH, 1871:

"On 29th December, the first anniversary of the Court was celebrated by a ball at the Foresters Hall, Leonard Street. The attendance was numerous and select. The room was very handsomely decorated with the insignia of the order - battle axes, spears, bows and arrows, being grouped in a picturesque manner around the room, interwoven with festoons of varied colours. At midnight the company retired to supper; the table was splendidly laid out, doing credit to the taste of Host Brother G. Esplin.

The two first toasts of the evening, the "Queen" and "Order" were proposed by Brother Percy Milne, Chief Ranger. Brother Dawson P.C.R., responding to the latter. That of the "Ladies" was proposed by Brother Threlkeld, Junior Woodward, and responded to by Mr. George Loughnan. An interesting ceremony then took place, viz, that of presenting P.C.R. Tartakover with an address handsomely engrossed on vellum (by Brother Dawson) accompanied with a very neat silver medal with gold coat of arms and wreath, and the motto *Palman qui meruit feret*. The address was as follows;- To Brother M. Tartakover P.C.R. Court Waradgery, No. 4852 A.O.F. - 'We the undersigned Officers and Brothers of the above court, in order to testify our appreciation of your past services as Chief Ranger for the period of nine months, your indefatigable efforts to promote the interests of the court and order in general, your endeavours to establish a court in this town, which endeavours were crowned

with complete success, beg your acceptance of the medal accompanying this address, as a token of our regard, and we heartily wish that you may live long to wear the same' (Here follows the signatures of the officers of the court).

Upon the medal and the address being presented by Brother Dawson, P.C.R. Tartakover rose amid vociferous applause, and replied as follows:-

'Worthy Chief Officers and Brothers, - It must be highly gratifying to any individual when he finds that his exertions on behalf of any good cause have given satisfaction. I consider that an expression of approval is ample recompense for such efforts, but when such approbation is accompanied with such a substantial souvenir, any effort on my part would fall far short of adequately expressing my grateful thanks for this acknowledgment of my humble services I may have rendered in my capacity as Chief Ranger to the Court. We have now been established twelve months, this being our first annual commemoration of the founding of Forestry in Hay, and, I think, taking into consideration the limited population and other circumstances attendant upon the place being so isolated, highly satisfactory progress has been made, both as regards finances, and the admission of members. I sincerely hope that this occasion may be the forerunner of many others, and that in all gatherings of this kind our numbers will have considerably increase; and I have not the slightest doubt you will not fail in achieving this success, if you will keep constantly before your mind the motto of our order - UNITAS. BENEVOLENTIA et CONCORDIA. Officers and brothers I beg again to thank you most heartily, and to assure you that the honour you have conferred upon me this evening will never be forgotten by me.'

The supper over, the dancing was resumed, and continued 'till a late hour, when the company dispersed, everyone being pleased with the success of the Foresters Ball."

HAY RACES

"To the Editor D.P.T.

Sir,

In reference to a paragraph in your issue of the 25th inst. I beg leave to make a few remarks, or rather correct some misrepresentations.

You say that it is rumoured that the postponement of the Hay Races was due to the influence of the publicans thereby leading the outside public to infer that the publicans wished to detain owners of horses in the town, with a view to making money by such detention. I, as secretary of the Hay Jockey Club can give that rumour a flat denial, as I am sure the Committee who postponed the races did not study the publicans interest, but acted for the best according to their judgement, and as it turned out, it has been proved to be so for the owners, but not for the publicans, who will be losers instead of gainers, as numbers of people who came in last week for the races returned home immediately in consequence of the postponement, and will not come back. Ask the owners of Colonel Maniac and Taminick whether the course was fit to run on or not. Colonel taking his canter on Thursday, fell on his side, and the others slipped and were liable to have seriously injured themselves. The fact is, the Committee has been filling up different parts of the course with loose earth, in some places eight inches deep, and when the rain came on these places it made regular clay holes, so I leave you to judge yourself whether or not it was fit to run on.

You also state that the postponement was decidedly illegal. For your future guidance, will you kindly look to Rule 7 of the Australian Jockey Club, which rules we run under. It clearly says, after stating the powers of the committee 'And they shall also have full power, in case the necessity may appear to them sufficiently urgent, to put off the races for such time as they may think proper; and, in fact take upon themselves the entire management of the races, and all other affairs of the Club, except the admission and expulsion of members, and the altering or making of new rules etc etc.'

Also please see Rule 11. The powers and duties of the Committee shall devolve upon the Stewards during the days of racing, and for seven days following, their authority being supreme, and their decision final.

So much for the legality of the proceedings of the Hay Jockey Club Committee.

You are also in error in stating that Mr. Waller was appointed Judge, and one glance at the programme of the H.J.C. Races in the Australasian will convince on that point.

It is a great pity that some of the mumuring public do not take a little more interest in the Hay Races, as all the onus of gathering the funds, something over 400 pounds, is left to two enterprising publicans, who deserve the thanks rather than the censure of the community.

Being sorry to have to trespass so long on your space
I am, etc, C.H. Dawson Secy H.J.C.

HAY 28TH FEBRUARY, 1871:

The rumour alluded to, viz, that the publicans at Hay for their own ends had got the race postponed, was very general at Deniliquin. We did not believe the rumour, and we said so in our last.



"George Esplin's Tattersall's Hotel"
Hay, NSW

After extensions completed December 1877

Photo courtesy Margaret Middleton, Sydney

1871 - 1873

For the last few months Jane had been boarding with Mrs. Taboon at Carlton, and when Charles left Hay with their children in 1871, he took a house at St. Kilda, and resumed co-habitation with his wife.

After about a month he went to Gippsland where he owned a hotel - just where in Gippsland I have not been able to discover - however he left Jane with a servant, and according to his story enough money and every comfort.

Jane says he gave her no cash, but she was able to book necessities at certain stores.

Shortly after, Charles received notice that Jane was neglecting the children, so he immediately made plans to return to Melbourne. When he arrived he found she had left, as she did not want to face him.

He claims he did not know her whereabouts and refused to search for her, so he left the house, and taking the children he went to stay at Mrs. Gallways home at 25 Vale Street, St. Kilda, and arranged for the childrens' maintenance and schooling.

Shortly after, Jane came to see him, and he offered to pay her fare to England which she agreed. He booked her on the ship "Calcutta" which was due to sail in May 1872. He also bought her a new outfit, but when the ship got to Queenscliff she disembarked, and later the fare was refunded to Charles. Jane said the Captain and the ship's doctor put her off the ship because of her ill health.

Ettie Pullman has searched the Passengers List, and there is no mention of Jane, nor of any woman travelling alone about her age.

It is strange that both Charles and Jane tell the same story at different times. I have also tried to check with Lloyd's of London, but so far no luck.

After this Charles arranged for her to go to the Colsons again. She was only there for three months when she left of her own accord, claiming that although Charles was paying her board and lodging, the Clonsons expected her to work for them.

Charles returned to Gippsland where his Hotel had burnt down, and he was having it rebuilt. When he returned he began making enquires about Jane's whereabouts, and employed a private detective, Arthur Nunn, for this purpose. He found that Jane was in the Melbourne Gaol having been charged with Vagrancy and gaoled for three months.

Jane claimed she went to the police to save herself from starving but she was admitted to gaol on 21st July, 1873, and discharged on 4th October, 1873, then admitted again on 10th October 1873 and discharged again on 3rd October 1874. Back again on 29th November, 1875, and discharged 28th February, 1876, after which there is silence, and I can find no record of a re-marriage or death.

Her behaviour was very strange, almost as though she felt secure in gaol. At one time she was charged under the name of Jane Watson, but the Watson file has the Jane Dawson number and is with the Jane Dawson file.

On 11th August Charles started divorce proceedings on the grounds of desertion.

I was shocked to find the divorce, and I am sure my Mother and other members of the family knew nothing about it - it was a very well kept secret.

The original divorce papers were at Laverton, so I asked Ettie Pullman to search for me. It is the first divorce she has found written on parchment, and rolled up. As it was in a very fragile condition it was feared that it may be impossible to unroll and photocopy, but she managed it with great care.

I can find no record of the divorce being finalised, as the last detail is an account from Jane's Proctor Edward Kane for the expenses which Charles had been ordered to pay. This was dated in 1877.

Had the divorce been finalised surely Charles and Rachel would have married immediately instead of waiting until 1878.

Even though Jane was in gaol her brother and sister-in-law appear to have done nothing to help her. Jane Mowat Esplin was a woman of fine character, who went out of her way to help people in need, so I find it surprising that nothing was done before 1876, especially as Charles and George had the money to help.

I am still searching for information, as I believe one or the other may have provided a house and money for Jane until her death.

It is almost certain that Jane may have changed her name, which would explain why I can find no record of her death.

Although I feel very sorry for her, I wonder if she had a personality disorder which would have not been diagnosed in those days.

I have no photograph of Jane but have a description from the Central Register of female prisoners from 1855 to 1948:

- Height - 5ft. 3 inches
- Weight - stout
- Complexion - fresh
- Hair - light brown
- Eyes - hazel
- Could read and write



The family of Charles Henry Dawson and Jane Dawson, nee Esplin.

Photo at left, from left to right:

Sarah Jane Dawson, born 6th December 1862 at Lake Moira, NSW

Georgina Elizabeth Dawson, born 26th May 1864 at Echuca, Vic

The toddler in front: Jane Mowat Dawson, born 15th January 1870 at Hay, NSW

Behind her: Ester Maria Dawson, born 9th August 1861 at Epsom, near Bendigo

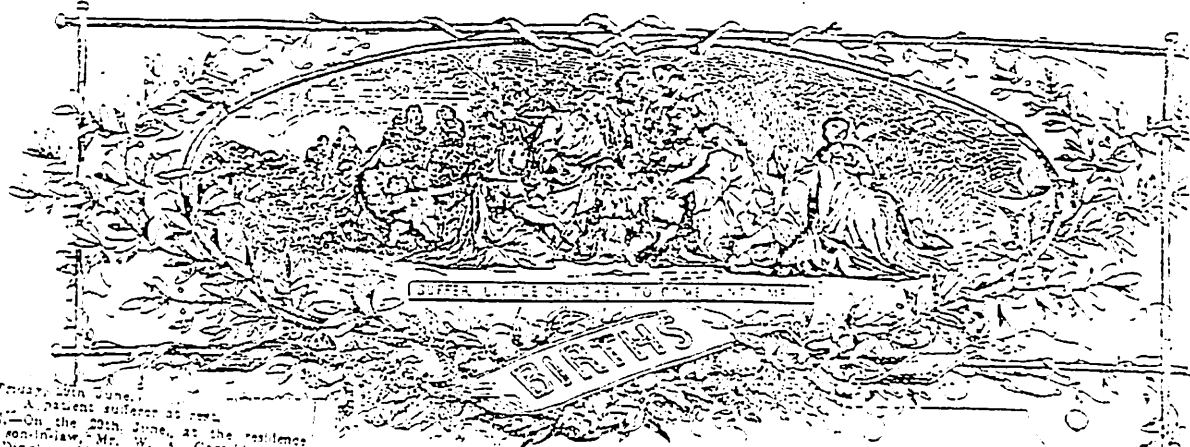
Charles Henry Dawson II, born 6th March 1866 at Echuca Vic.

Photo at right:

Charles Henry Dawson II, as son and heir he is (properly) portrayed alone.

Photos courtesy Bruce Dawson Brown, from the family collection

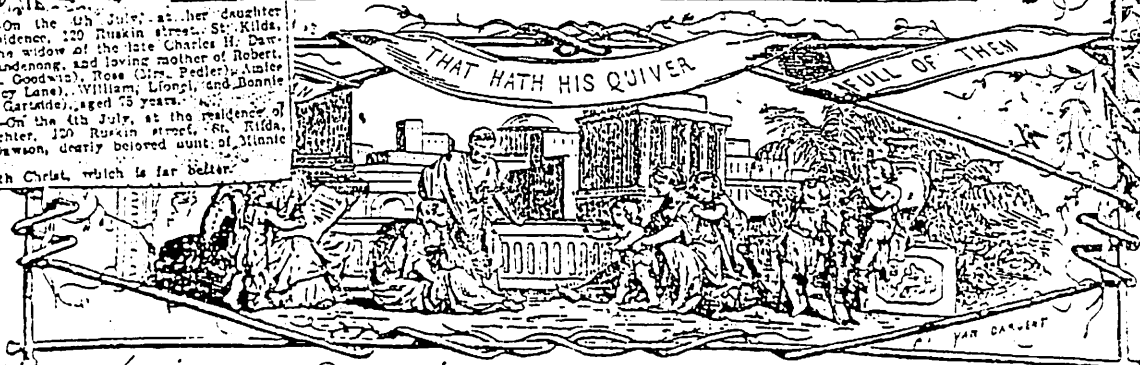
From the Dawson Family Bible.
The Charles Henry Dawson children.
V.7. Collection.



1864. Friday, 20th June.
A patient sufferer at rest.
DAWSON.—On the 20th June, at the residence
of his son-in-law, Mr. W. A. Gardiner, 120
Wood, Dingley, Charles Henry, the
beloved husband of Rachel, aged 57
years, late of Westwood, Dandenong.

Cather Maria born at Exmouth, Banded
Cathin 9th August 1864
Sarah Jane 6th Decr 1862
At Lake Maira. N.S.W.
Georgina Elizabeth 26th May 1864
At Echuca. Victoria
Charles Henry 6th March 1866
At Echuca Victoria
Lane Mowat 15th January 1870
At Hay N.S.W.
Francis Cook 3rd January 1875
2nd Earl St. Northam
Robert Spencer 5th June 1877 Banded
At Cook Hotel. Spencer St. Melbourne
George 20th Apr 1878 2nd Earl St. Northam
May Hermann 19th Oct 1880 Dandenong
Rachel Rose 22 Oct 1882 186. 5. 20th
Amey Emmie 31st July 1884 186. 5. 20th

DAWSON.—On the 25th July, at her daughter
Rose's residence, 120 Ruskin street, St. Kilda,
Rachel, the widow of the late Charles H. Daw-
son, of Dandenong, and loving mother of Robert,
May (Mrs. Goodwin), Rose (Mrs. Pedler), Amey
(Mrs. Tracy Lane), William, Lionel, and Bonnie
(Mrs. St. Gardiner), aged 75 years.
DAWSON.—On the 25th July, at the residence of
her daughter, 120 Ruskin street, St. Kilda,
Rachel Dawson, dearly beloved aunt of Minnie
Dawson.
With Christ, which is far better.



William Le May (Jr) Dick June 20th 3 PM 1888
Refuel Harry - - - - - 1889 1.52 PM
Maribel Mary - - - - - July 12th 1898 4.30 PM

In the Supreme Court
of the Colony of Victoria

245
Divorce and Matrimonial
Cause Jurisdiction.

Dawson Petition

Action in Divorce.

The Petition of
Charles Henry Dawson

Filed with
The Master in Equity
2nd December, 1873.

Charles Henry
Dawson Dawson



Accepted this

Dawson
Nov 27 1873
9.45 P.M.
14/15

Hurdman Charles Gifford

53 Little Collins St. East

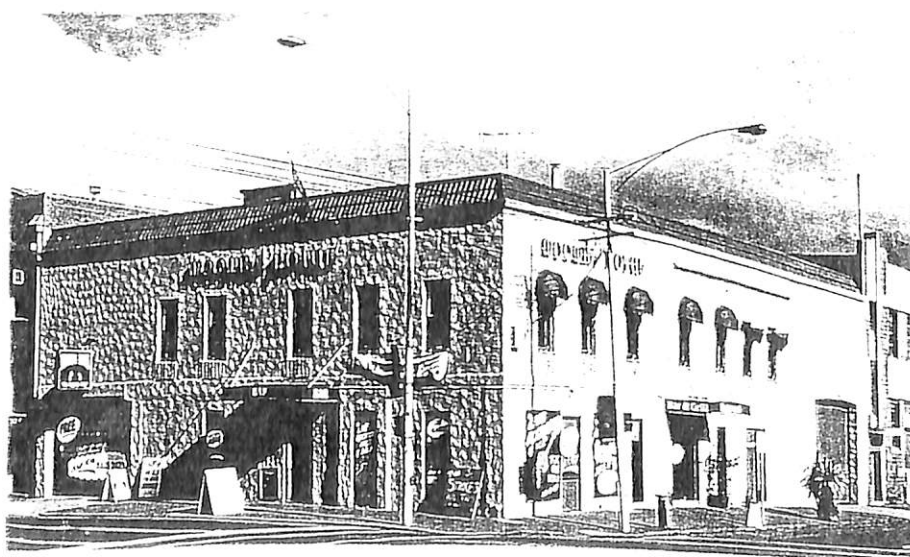
Proctor for the said

Petitioner

Below:

The "Moomba Hotel"
corner Spencer and Hawke Streets,
West Melbourne,
originally "Shorts Hotel",
held by C.H. Dawson 1876 to 1880.

Photo: Bruce Brown, 1996.



1873 - 1880

CHILDREN OF CHARLES AND JANE

Charles wrote the births of all his children in the family bible, and also the deaths of the two infants. The only marriages he entered were Sarah and Ettie.

I have had difficulty in tracing the children, and have wondered what reaction their unusual early life had on them as they were growing up.

They were all very young when their mother was ill, and her disappearance must have upset them, especially the older ones. It is very hard to judge, as it could have been more upsetting to have her around.

There is no doubt that Charles always cared for them and loved them, but it is obvious that with his busy life they would have had to be in the hands of a nurse, as well as other people.

There is very little mention of them in the details I have found of Charles' life. In the divorce case he mentions he had always maintained and cared for his children, and always would. It also mentioned his concern that they would receive a good education.

It is obvious that they lived with their father, and continued to do so when he married Rachel.

Over the years I have advertised for descendants of the family of Charles and Jane to contact me, but with no luck. However this year (1995) to my delight I received a letter from Bruce Dawson Brown whose grandfather was Charles Henry II. He had only recently discovered that his Great Grandfather, Charles, had lived in Dandenong, so on his next trip to Victoria he visited Dandenong where he met David Mickle, who is a keen member of the Dandenong Historical Society, and with whom I have been corresponding for several years. (At this time David was ninety one years old, and an amazing man.)

Bruce knew nothing about the family, and was quite surprised to learn of the second marriage and large family.

He has some wonderful old photographs but sadly not named or dated. One, however, was very easy to identify and that is of the five children, which I believe was taken about 1872, and also one of Charles II, aged about 6 years.

Charles II married Susanna Welch at Hay in 1895. The fact that they named their first daughter Jean Esplin Dawson, and their son Charles Henry, after his parents, showed he loved both parents. It would seem that Charles and Rachel had done nothing to destroy the memory of Jane. Interestingly too, it seems that Charles II inherited some of his father's concern with local affairs. The Honour Roll of Past Grand Masters of the Manchester Independent Order of Oddfellows, Lodge Waradgery, preserved nowadays in the Hay Gaol Museum, includes the name Charles Henry Dawson for the year 1894.

It is only since the death of Charles and Rachel, and Rose and my Mother Bonnie, that the younger generations have drifted apart. The children always kept in touch, and Margery remembers Ettie and Georgina often visited her Mother at Elwood.

My Aunt Rose was a wonderful woman and the centre of the family. Family members turned to her for help and support when needed. She was left a widow with two young children, Margery and Keith who was only twelve months, and then for five years she cared for Rachel. She always had open house, and until we were young teenagers our family spent most Sundays with Rose; there were always other family or friends present.

Being very young I never really knew who they were - most of them seemed very old. Apart from saying "hallo" very politely we were always banished to the garden, and Keith, Ken, and I had our meals in the breakfast room. We never ate with the family on these occasions. This was quite normal for those days, as children were never present when the adults were talking or discussing family matters.

I wonder if it is merely a coincidence that my Mother was about twenty months older than her niece Jean Esplin Dawson, and yet both were called "Bonnie".

I believe that some of the difficulty I have had in tracing the first family is due to the age difference. The eldest, Ettie, being thirty six years when Bonnie, the youngest, was born.

However, thanks to the research done by Bruce Dawson Brown in tracing the members of the family of Charles and Jane, we are now able to present their Tree.

On finding the married name of Georgina Elizabeth, (viz. Leake) Bruce recalled her daughters visiting his parents in 1942. Recently he has been in touch with Georgina's great grandson, Kevin, who has provided the excellent photos of his grandparents and parents, included elsewhere here.

On the death certificate of Jane Mowat Vail, who died in Horsham, it states she had no issue. I wrote to the Historical Society in Horsham, seeking advice about the family, and Ian Ballenger sent me information including the name and address of Jane's adopted daughter Jean Orchard.

I rang Jean and she has been very helpful with old photographs as well as stories of her Mother and Aunts.

Jane Vail kept in touch with all her sisters and half sisters, including my Mother. Jane sent me a snap my Mother had sent Jane of my two sons, and yet I have no memory of Jane ever being mentioned. What a shame that when one is young one is not interested in family.

During 1873, Charles and the children were living at 24 Errol Street, Hotham, now called North Melbourne, and Charles was living with Rachel Nash.

I do not know when he met the Nash family, but there were several well established and wealthy Nash families living in the Hotham area at this time.

Rachel's parents were John and Rachel (McConnell) who were married on 9th August, 1846, at Lanark Shire, Barony Parish, Scotland, and their daughter, Rachel, was born on 24th April 1854 in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The first mention of Rachel is in the "Marriages" in the family bible; then under "Births" Francis Errol is entered. Born on the 3/1/1875 at Errol Street, Hotham, he died on 8/1/1876 and is buried in the Melbourne Cemetery, plot 472.

On the Birth Certificate, Charles claims he and Rachel were married at Carlton in 1874, that being the date he had in the bible, and the date he always used even though they were not married until 1878.

It would appear he was determined to have no record of any of his children being illegitimate, and after all this it seems remarkable that he always remained on very good terms with both the Esplin and Nash families.

At this time he claims to have been a fishmonger, and a little later a Mining Agent. He certainly was a man of many talents! He appears to have been a pleasant man, and he had a great personality. He made friends easily and seemed to keep his friends. There did not seem to be any lack of money, and he always lived well.

In 1876 he bought Shorts Hotel, which is on the corner of Spencer and Hawke Streets, West Melbourne. It is a large building, built by Alexander Short in 1869. It is still an hotel, only now called the "Moomba" which has been modernised inside, and is a popular hotel with the wharfies.

On 5th June, 1877, Robert Spencer was born at Shorts, and with all the children it must have been a very busy place.

TAKEN FROM THE "DEATHS" COLUMN OF THE MELBOURNE ARGUS, 5TH MARCH, 1877:

DAWSON.—On the 4th inst., at the residence of his brother-in-law, Short's Hotel, Spencer-street north, Melbourne, Matthew B. Dawson, of Malop street, Geelong, aged 43 years, deeply regretted.

Matthew Dawson had married Elizabeth Nash, a sister of Rachel.

On 8th April George Esplin died at Shorts, and is buried in the Melbourne Cemetery.

On 12th April, 1878, only four days after George Esplin's death, Charles married Rachel at the (Presbyterian) Manse, West Melbourne. They were married by Special License, and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. Stobbs. The witnesses were George Esplin's recent widow Jane, and her friend of long standing, Jessie Reid. Graham checked about the Special Licence but found that the Rev. Stobbs was inclined to put that on all his marriages.

On 20th September, 1878, their son George was born at Shorts but died on 30th September. He is buried in the Melbourne Cemetery, Cof E section.

In 1880 Charles sold Shorts and moved to Dandenong where he became Licensee of Dunbar's Royal Hotel.

THE RIVERINE GRAZIER 10TH APRIL 1878:

DEATH OF GEORGE ESPLIN.—The startling and sorrowful news arrived at Hay yesterday morning, that the late George Esplin, for many years the much esteemed host at Tattersall's Hotel, in this town, had departed this life on the previous night. It appears that this sad occurrence took place at Short's Hotel, Melbourne, where his last moments were soothed by the presence of Mrs. Esplin. Deceased was deservedly admired as a citizen, hotelkeeper, &c., and the absence of his good qualities will be felt by the many who knew him.

MELBOURNE "ARGUS", TUESDAY, 9TH APRIL, 1878

Deaths.

BAKER.—On the 6th inst., at Brunswick-road, Brunswick, Wilhelmina Frances, second dearly beloved daughter of Daniel and Caroline Augusta Baker, aged nine months.

ESPLIN.—On the 8th inst., at Short's Hotel, Spencer-street, George Esplin, of Tattersall's Hotel, Hay, New South Wales.

FELLOWS.—On the 8th inst., at his residence, Hoddle-street, South Yarra, His Honour Thomas Howard Fellows, aged 55 years.

"RIVERINA RECORDER". BALRANALD. 13TH APRIL. 1878

and other sources unknown.

"A Scots Engineer."

THE LATE

GEORGE THOMAS ESPLIN

With feelings of profound regret we have to record the death of Mr. George Esplin, of Hay. The sad event occurred at Mr. Dawson's Hotel, West Melbourne, on Monday evening, 8th of April, 1878. The deceased gentleman had not enjoyed robust health for some time past, but during a short stay in Melbourne his health so much improved that the highest hopes of his ultimate restoration to vigorous health were entertained. It falls to the lot of few men to be so generally beloved as Mr. Esplin; he was essentially one of Nature's gentlemen; and many hearts will long cherish his memory with devotion. Into every relationship of life he carried a cheerful kindness, and although thoroughly unostentatious in his private and public life, he was true, considerate and noble in character;—a true friend, and a worthy citizen. For some years past the deceased was landlord and proprietor of Tattersall's Hotel, Hay.—an establishment which he conducted in such a way as to ensure general approval. Mr. Esplin was in the prime of life, and his death cannot be other than a sore trial to his widow and four children, who are left to mourn the loss of a fond husband and devoted parent.—"Riverina Recorder," 13th April, 1878.

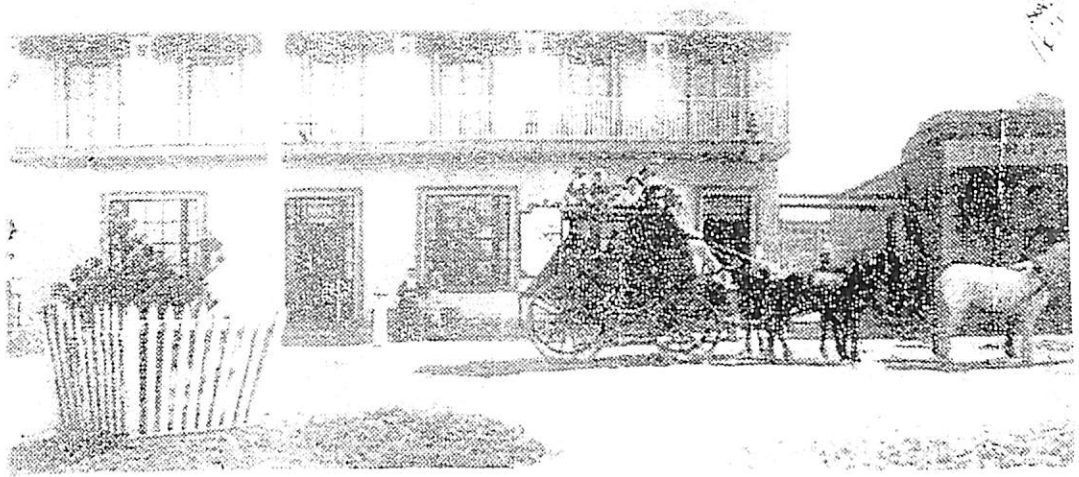
George Esplin enlisted in the Land Transport Corps (Driver) 4th. March at Glasgow, age 20 years. Born in the Parish of Westchurch in or near the Town of Edinburgh in the County of Midlothian.

His sister, Jean Esplin, Westchurch Edinburgh, Bristol, Year 1855.

Buried in Melbourne General Cemetery; denomination Presbyterian, Compartment J.M., No. 1136—1137. died 8th. April 1878. Headstone engraved:—

In Loving Memory
of
GEORGE THOMAS ESPLIN
Of Hay, N.S.W.,
Died 8th. April, 1878.
Aged 40 Years.
Native of Scotland.

THE "ROYAL" IN COACHING DAYS



— Beaver Photographs, Dandenong

ROYAL H. HALL, Dandenong,
before being demolished, 1936.

Charles Henry Tanser.

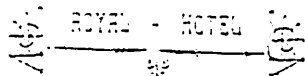
"The portrait of Charles was sent to me after his death to England (1890), and he was then in London. I consider it a very fine portrait and was then in London when it was sent to me."

Charles was the son of (step-sister) Charles and Mary of the Lawson family.



25.5.1885.

C. H. DAWSON'S



Wine List.

OUR OWN SELECTION.

	Pints.	Qts.	Vintage
"Castleberg" Port	...	2s	1890
Claret	1s	2s	
Yackandandah	1s 6d	3s	1893
Wagga Claret, very choice	...	3s	1893
HOOK.			
"Castleberg" Hook	1s	2s 6d	1890
Ngarvono, very fine	2s 6d	5s	1893
"Castleberg" Chablis	1s	2s	1890
N.S.W. Chablis	2s 6d	5s	1893
Vardalino	...	5s	
Constantia	...	5s	
Muscot	...	5s	
"Castleberg" Madania	...	2s 6d	1890
Burgundy	...	2s 6d	
Tawny Port	...	2s 6d	
Constantia	...	2s	
Very Old Hermitage	...	5s	1893
Various Brands Champagne	7s 6d	15s	

LIQUORS.

La Jaimaicaïne, Curacao, Marischino.

Whiskey, 13 years old, and 1854 Brandy a Specialty.

The above Wines are guaranteed Vintages, and specially selected by Mr C. H. Dawson.

Over 2,000 Bottles in Stock, well matured.

ROYAL HOTEL
DANDENONG.

VISITORS WILL FIND THIS HOTEL THE MOST COMFORTABLE IN THE DISTRICT AND THEIR COMFORT STUDIED.

THE Proprietor has spared no expense in re-furnishing in every department. WINES and SPIRITS of the very Best Brands only.

The Stabling under a cool and attractive Groom.

SADDLE and BUGGY HORSES, Four in Hand or Pairs for Hire.

PLUNGE & SHOWER BATHS.

For Nicot Wedding Parties catered for in a style hitherto unknown in this district, on moderate terms. Marquee Accommodation for 2000 Banquets.

BILLIARDS.

In a word, the Proprietor is determined to spare no expense to maintain the reputation of the ROYAL as the Leading Hotel in the District. Telegrams attended to.

C. H. DAWSON,

PROPRIETOR.

Items from:
The South Bourke and
Morrington Journal.

6.7.1881.

A rather serious accident occurred at Dandenong on Friday evening, involving considerable suffering and loss to those concerned. As Mr C. H. Dawson, of the Royal Hotel, was driving home from the Railway Station at half-past six, with a pair of horses in a buggy, he saw a vehicle approaching in the opposite direction. It was afterwards discovered that Messrs. George Usher and John Dunbar were the occupants of the other vehicle, a small buggy, drawn by two ponies. The two buggies came into collision opposite the Commercial Bank, with the result that all parties were thrown violently to the ground. The pole of Mr Dawson's buggy pierced the flank of one of Mr Dunbar's horses and the animal died shortly afterwards it being discovered, on opening the carriage that the lungs had been cut into. Mr Usher's buggy was smashed to a wreck, the ponies breaking away at a mad pace in their fright. They ran into a picket fence adjoining Mr Ruddock's store, one of them jumping over, and breaking several of the pickets off. On the other side of the fence the pony disentangled itself from the harness, leaving it in Mr Ruddock's paddock; the other pony being directed of its trappings at the same time. Both animals rushed wildly away up the hill towards the Stud road, and one of them has not been seen since: it being supposed it has died of probable wounds in getting over the fence. Mr Dawson sustained no injury beyond a slight shock and a fright, and his vehicle was not broken in any way. The occupants of the other trap, however, fared worse. Mr Dunbar sustained a very nasty cut on the upper part of his left ear, the top part of it being severed by an ugly

gash. From this blood flowed copiously, and the injury was thought to be worse at first sight than it really was. Mr Usher sustained very considerable injury, having fallen on his head. He was quite senseless, and appeared to be seriously injured. He was carried home and Dr Moore's services called in. No bones were broken, although the shock seemed to have caused considerable injury both internally and externally, and Mr Usher's condition since indicates that he received a most severe shock. Mr Dunbar's wound was stitched up and he set by Dr Moore, and, as he had sustained a considerable shock about the head and shoulders, he had to retire to bed, where he remained until yesterday. Mr Usher attempted to get about the following morning, but his physical condition demanded his retirement to bed again, where he has since been confined. Dr Moore pronounced him to be slightly improved yesterday, but the shock which has disabled such an unusually strong man must have been a very severe one. Mr Dawson's explanation of the accident is, that as he was approaching his hotel, he noticed a vehicle approaching, with lighted lamps, he was having lamps. As it got closer he pulled on to his near side, leaving the road to the other vehicle, which at the same moment took a similar course, in turning up the track to the Bridge Hotel, the result being an instant collision. Of course neither party knew who the other was, or the accident would have been averted; but, unfortunately, the identity was not known to each other until too late to prevent the catastrophe.

25.5.1887.

Mr. C. H. Dawson, of the Royal Hotel, Dandenong, took his family and several invited friends to Moorallibee, on Thursday, on a pleasing excursion, and all enjoyed themselves thoroughly. It is a change for one of our local inferiors to be entered for an such an occasion. There is, however, hard work to do in conducting a country hotel, and recreation is necessary to brace up the nerves of people who have to do a continuous round of work. We do not therefore imagine that anybody will grudge them a real day's enjoyment. We hope it will do them good.

7.11.1883.

The proprietor of the Royal hotel, Dandenong, is not confining his energies entirely to that business. Yesterday we were shown a map indicating an immense tract of land in Western Australia, which he and two or three others have taken up. To show the manner in which public business is done by the authorities in the sister colony, we are informed that it was only on the 16th of last month application was made by telegram for the land, and on Monday last plans, &c., were forwarded to Mr. Dawson.

12.12.1883.

Master Bobbie Dawson, a very juvenile fisherman, son of Mr. Dawson, of the Royal Hotel, made himself famous on Monday last, by hooking a small specimen of English perch out of the Dandenong Creek. It is a remarkable fact that this is the only specimen that has yet been caught, although it is many years since Mr. B. Howe placed English perch in the creek near his property with the view of promoting the growth of perch. We understand that some time since a large fish, evidently one of the original, was caught, and nothing more was heard of English perch till now. Mr. Neekes, chemist, has taken the necessary steps to preserve Master Bob's specimen, and it will be exhibited in his shop window.

25.3.1885.

FOR SALE or TO LET--DAWSON'S FARM, on the Bingham road; 84 acres, well fenced. Apply Mr. Dawson, Royal hotel, Dandenong.

Items from:
The South Bourke and
Mornington Journal.

5.11.1884.

An accident occurred near Dandenong on Sunday last to Dr. Moore, which, to some extent, brought about another accident to Mr. C. H. Dawson, of the Royal Hotel. The doctor was coming across the township on the main road, near Mr. Cunningham's, when the pole at the end of one of the shafts broke, causing the horse to become frightened and increase his pace quicker than agreeable. Eventually the other shaft became detached, and the animal decamped homeward with the pair of shafts behind him. Whilst attached to the buggy with one shaft the horse dashed about and the doctor was thrown out, but we understand is not much the worse. He found a messenger to send for Mr. Dawson to fetch him home, but on Mr. Dawson arriving on the ground, the horse he was driving, probably frightened at something, also bolted, and Mr. Dawson was thrown out of his buggy and had a severe fall. Both buggies were left on the ground, being considerably injured, and were brought into the township on Monday, probably on their way to the doctor who doctors injured buggies. Great praise is due to a lad in Mr. Cunningham's employment, who showed great courage and management in stopping Mr. Dawson's horse, and his pluck was at once rewarded by the gentleman who accompanied Mr. Dawson, who gave the lad a sovereign.

3.4.1896.

On Tuesday evening Master W. H. Dawson met with a severe accident whilst riding along the Melbourne road. Some boys are said to have scared the animal to take fright, and the child was violently thrown on the road, sustaining a fracture of the arm. Mrs. C. H. Ross observed the occurrence, and hastened to the child's assistance, as also Drs. Thompson and Huchston, who happened to be passing at the time. Under medical advice the sufferer is progressing favorably.

1880 - 1906

TAKEN FROM "REMINISCENCES OF EARLY DANDENONG" by
George Roulston:

"Mr. Dunbar built the first Dandenong Hotel about 1840 and in 1853 he built a new hotel next to the original, and on its completion he pulled down the old building and built a fine billiard room and a shop, and converted the end brick position into a banking premises for the Provincial and Suburban Bank, which in time gave way to Dawson's Royal Hotel. When Mr. Dawson built the "Royal" he turned the old hotel building into shops."

In the South Bourke and Mornington Journal on 1st April, 1880, it discloses that the licence of Dunbar's Hotel was transferred to Charles Henry Dawson, the first change of that licence.

In 1881 the Old Royal was conducted by Dawson and Friedman, and by 1882 he also owned the Royal Hotel at Ferntree Gully. I can find no proof at the Licensing Board as their records only start about 1909. The State Library has no record either, but there is a Dawson Street at the side of the hotel and a Rose Street at the back.

IN THE SOUTH BOURKE AND MORNINGTON JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY 20TH
JUNE, 1883:

"We understand that during the past week a change has taken place in property in the township of Dandenong which will somewhat astonish the residents - especially the 'old 'uns'. The property so long held by the Dunbar family has changed hands, and has become the property of Mr. C.H. Dawson, who has for a few years occupied the position of tenant of the premises known for so many years as Dunbars Hotel. Lately it has been known as Dawson's Hotel, and has now in reality become so."

On 16th July, 1884, Sarah married Frederick Heywood of Orleigh Park

SOUTH BOURKE AND MORNINGTON JOURNAL:

"On Wednesday last the interesting ceremony of marriage was performed in St. James Church, Dandenong, by the Rev. Mr. Crawford, the youthful, happy couple being Miss Sarah Dawson, daughter of Mr. C.H. Dawson of Dandenong, and Mr. Frederick Heywood, son of J.G. Heywood, of Malvern. A number of young friends of both were present to witness the ceremony. A large party afterwards assembled at breakfast at the residence of the bride's father. The number of handsome, yet useful presents which both the bride and groom have received to mark the occasion will go a great way in furnishing their new home. We join heartily with most of those who know them in wishing them happiness in their new life."

In 1884 Ettie, the eldest daughter, married F. Bennett, but I have no account of their wedding.

In 1886 Charles sold land at Eumemmerring (county of Mornington) to Margaret Gedye for 1000 pounds.

In 1887 the Contract for building the new Royal and shops was let, but the building was held up by a dispute which led to a Court Case in August 1887, and the building was not completed until later that year.

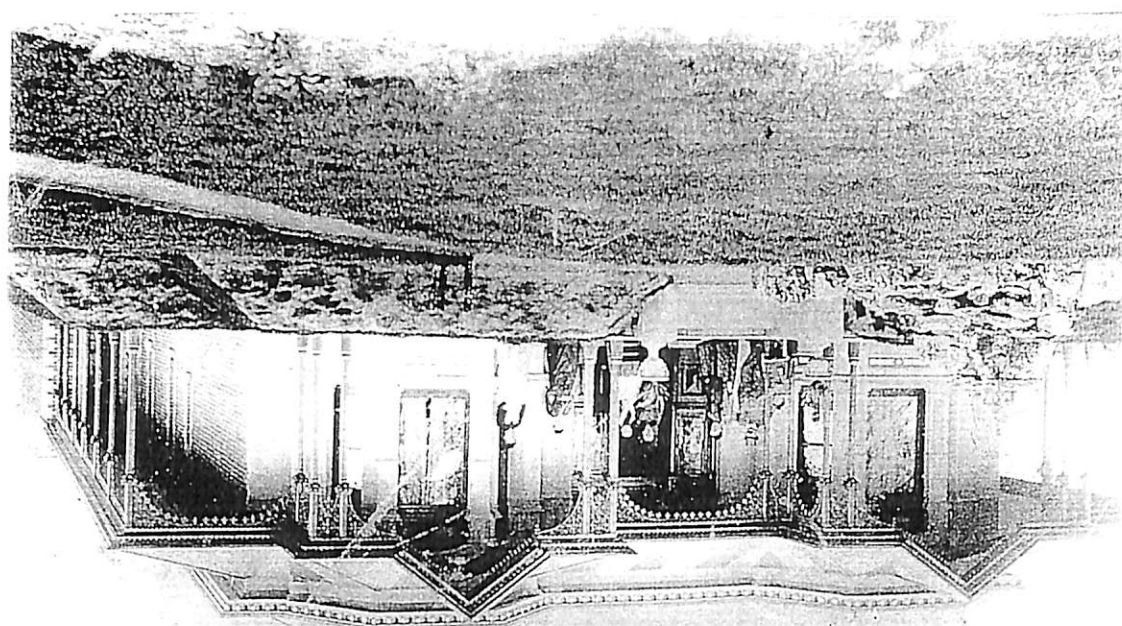
The same year he began to build "Westwood" the family home in Walker Street, Dandenong, and it was finished in 1889. The architect was William Pitt, the well known Melbourne architect who designed the Princess Theatre in Spring Street, and the St. Kilda Town Hall, as well as many other well known buildings in Melbourne.

Mr. Pitt was given a free hand, and imported most of the materials from Europe, including Venetian tiles, used for the main entrance and for the verandahs. Charles imported two large black marble statues which stood in the entrance hall. One was of Daniel, and the other "The Hunter Returning With The Boar", which after Charles'

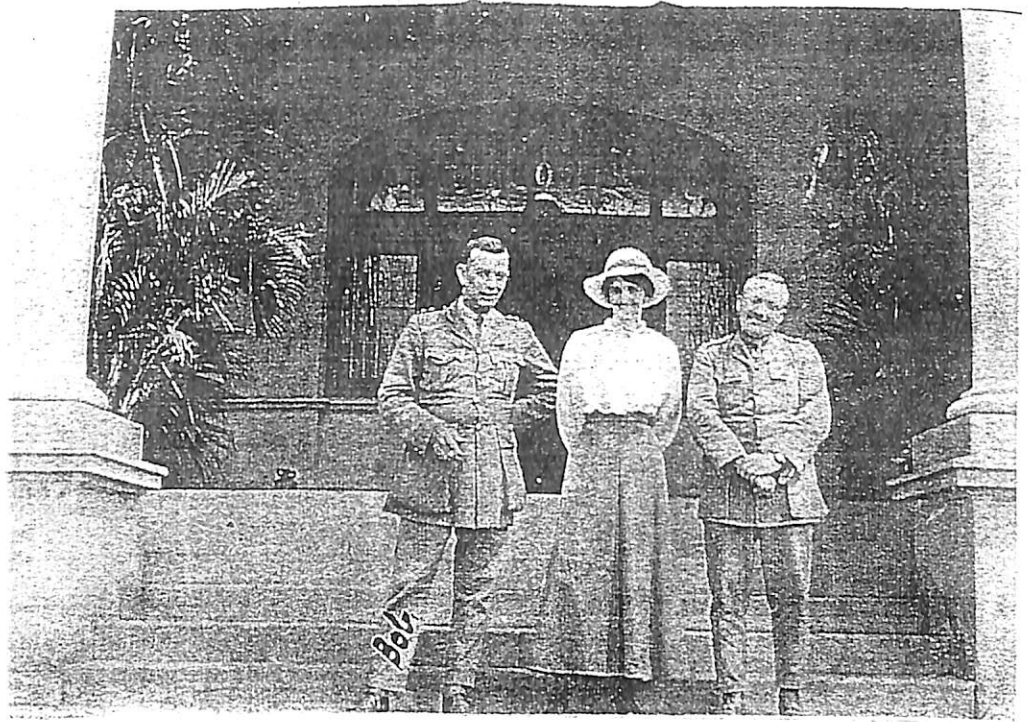
Trinity crest above front door
Photo Bruce Brown.



M.T. Collection.



At "Westwood",
during First World War.



Robert Dawson
South Africa
born 1877.



Frederick and Sarah Heywood
Sarah born 6.12.1862.

death stood in the hall at Rose's home, and after her death were sold and are now at Lazars Restaurant in Melbourne. There were also two most imposing vases which stood seven foot tall, and were in the entrance foyer, on the black and white tiled floor. They are now at the Grand Hotel in Yarra Glen. On the glass window above the entrance to the foyer the family crest was engraved. A stag head surrounded by a laurel wreath, and the motto "Palmam - Qui - Meruit - Ferrat". This is the same motto Charles put on the Illuminated Address he made to present to Mr. Tartakover at the Order of Foresters in Hay in 1871. The house was built of brick with a tile roof, and the ballroom was most ornate, and from the spiral staircase provided access to a lookout. The cellar was (according to Lionel) something special, and always well stocked, and the stables were of polished wood with marble troughs. A groom was employed full time to take charge of the horses. Charles and Rachel entertained lavishly, and on several occasions entertained State Governors.

In 1888, according to the "Memorials", Charles, in partnership with the Freehold Investment and Banking Company of Australia Limited, bought land from George Fairbairn of Lara. They each paid 69,768 pounds, 16 shillings, and 10 pence. On this document Charles classes himself as a Grazier! I have not yet found when or to whom he sold the land, but it was certainly a large amount of money in those days.

Michael Cannon, in his book "The Land Boomers", throws a lot of light on the 80's and 90's land boom, and mentions several of the people Charles had dealings with. The Memorials come in for a lot of comment, as does Sir Matthew Davies and the many dud Companies he formed, including the Freehold Investment Company Limited, which was formed in 1887, and transacted much business over the succeeding years until the 31st October, 1891, when it declared an 8% dividend and went into liquidation three months later. All his companies went broke, and although he rose to be speaker of the Legislative Assembly, he finished up ruined and charged with criminal offences leaving many people penniless.

George Fairbairn is also mentioned as is the Insolvency Sale of his home "Quisisana", a mansion on the corner of Grange Road and Robertson Street, Toorak. The land deals of the Baillieu family also receive considerable mention, and although some of their transactions may have appeared questionable they, like Charles Dawson, emerged from the era with enhanced prosperity. One would wonder though how Charles survived the period so well.

The marriage of Charles and Rachel was a happy one. He continued to travel around with all his business affairs, but Rachel seemed content to stay put. She probably realised he needed the freedom to come and go as he pleased. He was certainly a loving husband and father and cared deeply for his family.

In 1890 Charles went for a holiday to England. I can understand how he would have wanted to see his father, and it would have been rather like the return of the prodigal son. He was only about sixteen when he left home, probably in defiance of his father's wishes, and also through a love of adventure. It was shortly after his father married Mary Ann Quin, so he may have felt some resentment about that also.

He had made such a success of his life in Australia that it would have given him a feeling of pride to return to his family under these conditions. He also had six half brothers and sisters whom he had not met before.

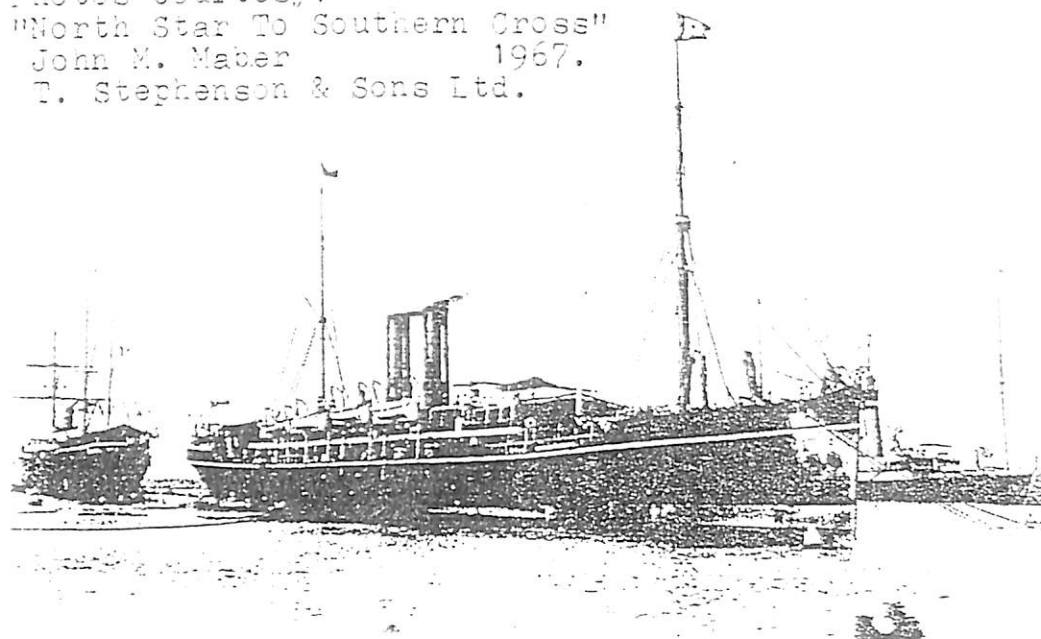
He obviously had a wonderful holiday, visiting all of his relatives, and they all spoke kindly of his visit. It was the first time he had met his half sister Polly, and they both got on marvellously, and kept in close contact until his death when my Mother continued the correspondence.

Graham and I feel sure that Polly kept a diary. In a letter to Rose about forty years later she mentioned the date he arrived and also the date of his departure, which enabled Graham to search the Shipping Records, and to find that Charles sailed on the "Cathage", which was a modern ship, and although in the photo it looks terribly small, it was a luxury liner.

In those days travellers in the first class found life very social and as it was a long trip the passengers must have had a large amount of luggage. It was nothing to change ones clothes three times a day, for any sporting activities, for afternoons, and especially for evenings when full evening dress was worn, including all the jewellery. The men also dressed in full evening dress for the evenings.

Photos courtesy:
 "North Star To Southern Cross"
 John M. Maber 1967.
 T. Stephenson & Sons Ltd.

43.

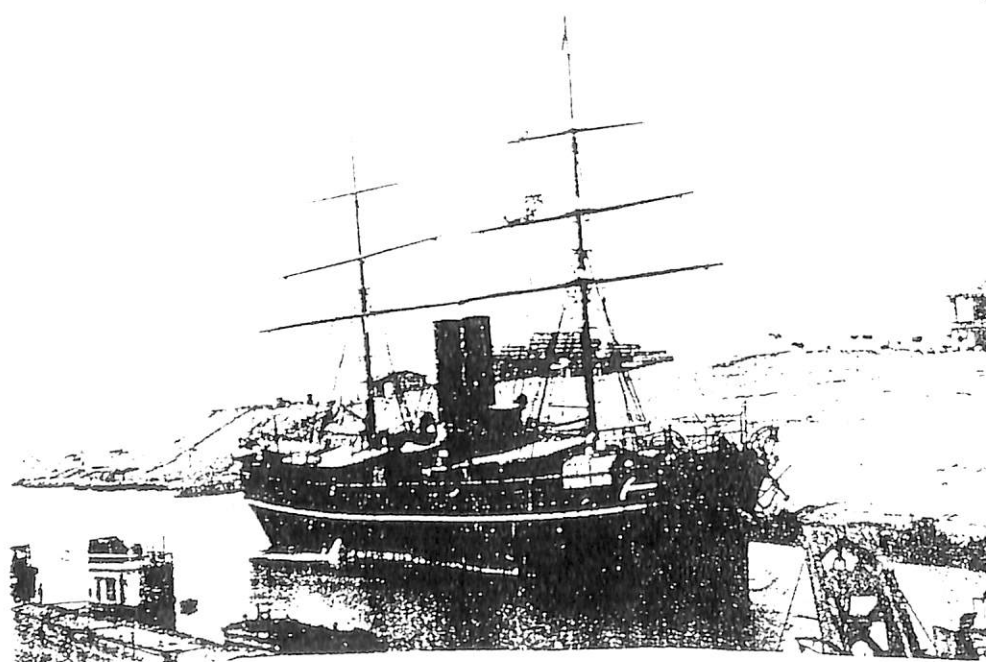


5

Carthage
 Built 1881

In 1890 C.H. Dawson travelled to England to visit his family. Voyage there was by the luxury P. & O.S.N. Company's Royal Mail Ship "Carthage", 5,013 tons, Captain W.A. Wheeler, with passage among the 200 odd accommodated in First Saloon; the Second Saloon took a similar number. The small cargo included 520 bales of wool, 300 bales of leather, 2,500 bags of bark, and 1,585 ingots of tin, besides the considerable mail. A coal fired Royal Mail steamship demanded regular berthing for coaling, and for discharging and receiving mail bags. Ports of stop included Adelaide, Albany, Calcutta, Bombay, Colombo, Brindisi, Malta, Gibraltar, and Plymouth.

The return was made in the P. & O. Co's 4,748 ton P.M.S. "Ballaarat", Captain E. Ashdown, another luxury though smaller vessel. She berthed at Melbourne on October 17th, but records indicate that C.H. Dawson continued to New Zealand aboard her.



Ballaarat
 Built 1882

In the Suez Canal

NAUTICAL PHOTO AGENCY

7

11/10

11/10

I have the honor to submit a Memorial for Letters of Naturalization to
beg to request that it may be laid before His Excellency and Governor as early as
convenient.

P.A.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Honorable
The Chief Secretary.

C. H. Dawson

MEMORIAL FOR LETTERS OF NATURALIZATION.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable John Aikman Esq. Earl of Haddington
Viscount Aikman and Baron Hays, in the Parage of Scotland; Baron
Espeoun of Haddington, and Baron Widdie of Widdie Castle, in the
Parage of the United Kingdom; Knight Grand Cross of the Most
Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Governor
and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria and its
Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

Name in full and
residence.

The Memorial of *Charles Henry Dawson*
of *Dandenong* in the Colony of Victoria.

Respectfully sheweth—

- 1. Name.
- 2. Age.
- 3. Place where born—
town, village, or
hamlet, & country.
- 4. Occupation.
- 5. Time of arrival in
colony.
- 6. Ship's name, port
of origin, and country.
- 7. Time of residence
in colony.

- 1. That your Memorialist's name is' *Charles Henry Dawson*
- 2. That he is' *Fifty five* years of age.
- 3. That he was born at' *Leith in Haddington*
- 4. That he is by occupation a' *clerk in Haddington*
- 5. That on the' *3rd* day of' *March* in the year' *1883*
- 6. That he arrived in the Colony of Victoria by the ship' *St. Helena* a' *master*
- 7. That he came from the Port of' *London* in' *1880*
- 8. That he has ever since his arrival, being a period of' *three*—
four years, been a resident in said Colony of Victoria.

- 9. That he is desirous of permanently settling in the said Colony, and of
being naturalized therein.

Your Memorialist, therefore, prays that Your Excellency may be pleased to
grant to your Memorialist Letters of Naturalization, under the Act of the Parliament
of Victoria numbered 1062, subject to the provisions therein contained, and subject
also to such conditions as Your Excellency may consider necessary or advisable.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Charles Henry Dawson

Signature in full of
Memorialist.

Dated the *7th* day of *February* A.D. 189*5*.

W. BATH.

Application for Naturalization.

I found the passenger lists interesting, as many of the passengers were accompanied by their maids, or the nurse for the children, and some men also travelled with their valet. One can imagine the touching farewells as the ship sailed off with the band playing "Home Sweet Home" and "Auld Lang Syne", and other airs.

The P&O "Ballarat" was the only ship to leave Liverpool on the date given by Polly, and there is a C. Dawson listed as a passenger, although he is listed under those sailing to New Zealand. I think this is a mistake, as I feel sure he would have been happy to get home as soon as possible. To my knowledge there was no member of the family in New Zealand, although in 1900 his nephew Frank Wolfgang, the youngest of Elias's sons, went to Christchurch, and his descendants are still in New Zealand.

In 1895 he took out Naturalisation Papers, although why he did so after forty years in the country is a mystery, and I now wonder if it had anything to do with the marriage of his eldest son Charles to Susanna Welch which took place at Hay in 1895.

Lionel's daughter Lolo believed that Rachel ran the hotels and was a business woman, but that differs from my Mother's description. She and Rose told me that when Charles died Rachel had never signed a cheque or handled money, and so Rose and my father Will Gartside looked after her affairs.

Between 1875 and 1896 Rachel had nine children, losing two in infancy, as well as caring for the five children from Charles' first marriage. Even with the help she obviously had with the home and the children, and keeping up with the social life she and Charles had, she would have had a very hectic and busy life without running the hotels.

The children born in Dandenong were:

- May Helene - born 19th October 1880
- Rachel Rose - born 22nd October 1882
- Aimee Jennie (registered Amy Eileen) - born 31st July 1884
- William Le Mascotte (registered William Gustavus) - born 20th June 1888
- Lionel Harry - born 30th December 1889
- Muriel Mary (always called Bonnie) - born 12th May 1896.

Rachel was always strict with her daughters, but spoilt her sons. Although there was a housekeeper and staff, the girls were taught how to run a house, had to help with the housework, and all learnt how to cook.

This certainly paid off in their married lives, as they were all excellent housekeepers, entertained a lot, and were charming hostesses.

As was usual in those days, the girls stayed home until they were married. They were all musical, playing quite a few instruments - my daughter still has Rose's mandolin, a beautiful looking instrument with inlaid wood design.

My Mother sang well, and during the First World War was invited to sing at concerts to raise funds for the War Effort.

They were all artistic, and did beautiful embroidery. Rose also painted well; Keith has several of her paintings, and I have one of a bowl of white daisies of which I am very fond.

MARRIAGE OF JAMES GOODWIN TO MAY DAWSON

On Wednesday 20th October, 1897, May Dawson married James Goodwin. There was a large account of the wedding in the South Bourke and Mornington Journal, which is slightly damaged so I will copy it, as it is a fascinating account, and very flowery.

I was very interested as it mentioned all the family from the first marriage excepting Charles II, but I now know his wife was expecting their first baby at about this time, so they would not have travelled.

A great surprise was my Mother's christening at the Reception, especially as I believed she was not born until 1898, as stated in the family bible. It would seem that at some time Bonnie may have changed the date!

J. H. Dawson II
and his family.



J. H. Dawson II



Susanna May Dawson, nee Welch
born 4.9.1869 at Geelong
died 12.10.1944 at Harden

she is nursing

Charles Henry Dawson III
born 10.8.1905 at Rutherglen
and standing left and right
Jean Esplin (Bonnie) Dawson
born 24.2.1897 at Jerilderie

and

Ivy Eileen Haydon Dawson
born 4.4.1899.

Above and below:
Charles Henry Dawson II
born 6.3.1866 at Echunga.
died 24.5.1936
at Harden N.S.W.
Married at Hay
on 30.12.1895
Susanna May Welch.



photos courtesy
Bruce Dawson Brown,
from
the family collection

SOUTH BOURKE AND MORNINGTON JOURNAL:

"The marriage of Mr. James Goodwin and Miss May Dawson which was celebrated at Dandenong, on Wednesday 20th created a lot of interest, and during the ceremony at the Presbyterian Church there was a great crowding to view the pageant. Shortly after half past three the contracting parties, with their friends arrived at the Church, which had been previously decorated for the occasion, and the service was conducted by the Rev. J. Gibson, of the West Melbourne Presbyterian Church, assisted by the Rev. Wm Macdermid of Dandenong. Mr. Dawson gave away the bride. Many handsome costumes were worn by the numerous guests, whilst the bride looked very chic, and in fact it was the most brilliant affair of the kind ever held in Dandenong.

The bride wore a handsome gown of ivory white merveilloux, point lace with the orthodox orange blossom and veil, and carried a lovely shower bouquet, the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids Misses Goodwin (sisters of the bridegroom), Salmon, Rose and Amy Dawson (sisters of the bride) and Nash (cousin of the bride) were dressed in cream silk lustre, and carried baskets of blue cornflowers, with ribbons, the gift of the bridegroom, and wore their presents from him.

Mrs. C.H. Dawson wore handsome black silk, jet trimming and old gold point laces; Mrs. Goodwin black silk and lace; Mrs. L.L. Smith, biscuit grass cloth, amber and black silk trimming, hat to match; Mrs. Buckhurst black silk crepon jet and chiffon trimming; Mrs. Lee Brown (Dandenong) handsome black merveilleux, vest of pale blue brilliant, Zouave epaulettes, white satin and Guipure lace, bodice richly trimmed with fancy checked glace silk, large hat of brown fancy straw with blue chiffon and coloured roses; Mrs. H. Ross black silk skirt, pink silk blouse, and diamond ornaments; Mrs. Brown (Berwick) heliotrope silk and black and ribbon trimming; Mrs. Bain (Berwick) black silk, amber silk front and trimmings; Mrs. McBean heliotrope silk lustre, violet velvet trimmings and gold lace; Mrs. Bailee, black silk crepon and lace; Mrs. Salmon, heliotrope cashmere and satin trimming, diamond ornaments; Mrs. F. Heywood, black silk crepon skirt, rose pink silk blouse; Mrs. Bennet, black skirt and sea-foam silk blouse and lace; Mrs. J. Orgill (Dandenong) black silk skirt and blue shot silk bodice, black lace and velvet trimming; Mrs. Kroger myrtle green cloth and gold passementerie; Mrs. Nickells gray silk, white chiffon trimming, hat to match; Mrs. A. Nash, black crepon silk grenadine and gold trimming; Miss Stuart, cream nun's veiling, sea-foam satin trimming; Miss Ethel Craik, myrtlegreen cashmere, buttercup insertion, hat to match; Miss Gibson, gray cloth and silk trimming; Miss Susie Leggett, gray coat and skirt, rose pink blouse; Miss Nessie Pickells, pale blue silk frock.

The majority of the guests were from the city. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents whereat Mrs. Dawson's youngest child (Muriel) was baptised, Mr. Chas J. Clarke standing as godfather and Miss Goodwin as godmother.

The wedding breakfast held at the Royal Hotel was a *recherche* affair about sixty five guests being present. The following toasts were Honoured 'The bride and bridegroom' by the Rev. J. Gibson responded to by Mr. James Goodwin. 'Bridesmaids' proposed by Mr. G. Kroger and responded to by Mr. Bechervaise. The Host and Hostess, proposed by Mr. Bailee, and replied to by Mr. C.H. Dawson. 'The Ladies' proposed by Mr. Swords and responded to by Mr. Geo Burston. The concluding toast was the health of the Rev. Mr. Gibson, proposed by the Hon. L.L. Smith, and duly honoured by the Rev. gentleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin departed for Melbourne amidst hearty congratulations and good wishes for the future. The honeymoon will include visits to Sydney, Tasmania, and Warnambool.

The presents were both numerous and handsome, and included the following list:

Mrs. Dawson (brides Mother) house linen; Mr. Dawson (Father) cheque of four figures; bride to bridegroom, amethyst studs and sleeve links; bridegroom to bride, bracelet, bangle, and ring with the name May in diamonds; bridegroom to bridesmaids (Miss Agnes Goodwin) amethyst bracelet, (Miss Sarah Goodwin) ruby and diamond brooch, (Miss Salmon) opal brooch, (Miss Nash) opal brooch, (Miss Rosie Dawson) large pearl lyre brooch, (Miss Amy Dawson) sapphire and diamond lyre brooch."



May Goodwin
b. 1880

The James Goodwin family,
pictured in South Africa.

James, May, Daxsie, Lillian,
Pixie, Jim and Arthur



There followed a very long list of guests and their gifts including: "Miss Amy Dawson tray cloth and doyleys; Master F. Heywood fancy candlestick; Miss Rosie Dawson painting on opal; Miss Clara Orgill handsome landscape painting; Miss Janey Dawson handsome toilet set; Miss Bonnie Dawson sugar basin and cream jug; Mr. and Mrs. F. Bennet pair of oil paintings; Miss. Susie Leggett pair of pillows with cases etc.; Master Bennet hand painted cup and saucer; Masters W. and L. Dawson silver bread fork; Mr. Robert Dawson silver pickle cruet."

In 1903 Charles sold the Royal to Mr. Suding, and leased "Westwood" to a Dr. Thompson, before taking his family for a holiday to South Africa, where his daughter May and her husband James Goodwin were living.

While there both Aimee and Robert fell in love, and Aimee married Servaas van Breda in 1909. After about twelve months they returned to Australia, and sadly Servaas died when their son Foss was about twelve months. Robert never returned to Australia, and had a farm in Rhodesia. Later he married Servaas's sister. In Rachel's will she left a small amount of money to Robert's wife in Rhodesia, but did not mention her given name.

Lionel also stayed on in South Africa for several years after the family left for home.

On the families return to Victoria, Charles bought the Burgoyne Hotel at Yarra Glen. The Hotel was in both their names; Rachel was listed as licensee. He spent a lot of money doing the hotel up, including building the tower, and then changed the name to the Grand. It became a very popular hotel, and men would bring their wives and friends for the weekends and holidays. There was fishing, shooting, races, and hunting, an excellent menu, and entertainment.

The family obviously spent many happy years at Yarra Glen, and as a child I was often taken to visit friends there. The Lithgow family have owned the Grand since the early 1930's and recently John Lithgow spent millions restoring it to its former glory.

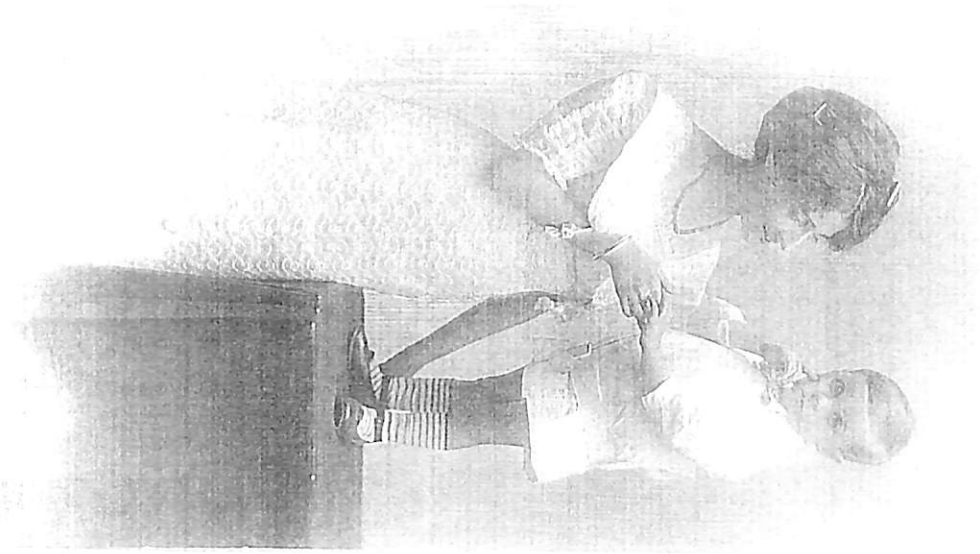
It is interesting to note that the two large vases in the dining room were left at the hotel when Charles sold it in 1913. The vases had been in the entrance hall at "Westwood".

In 1910 Lionel married Marion King at Yarra Glen, and the reception was held at the Grand.

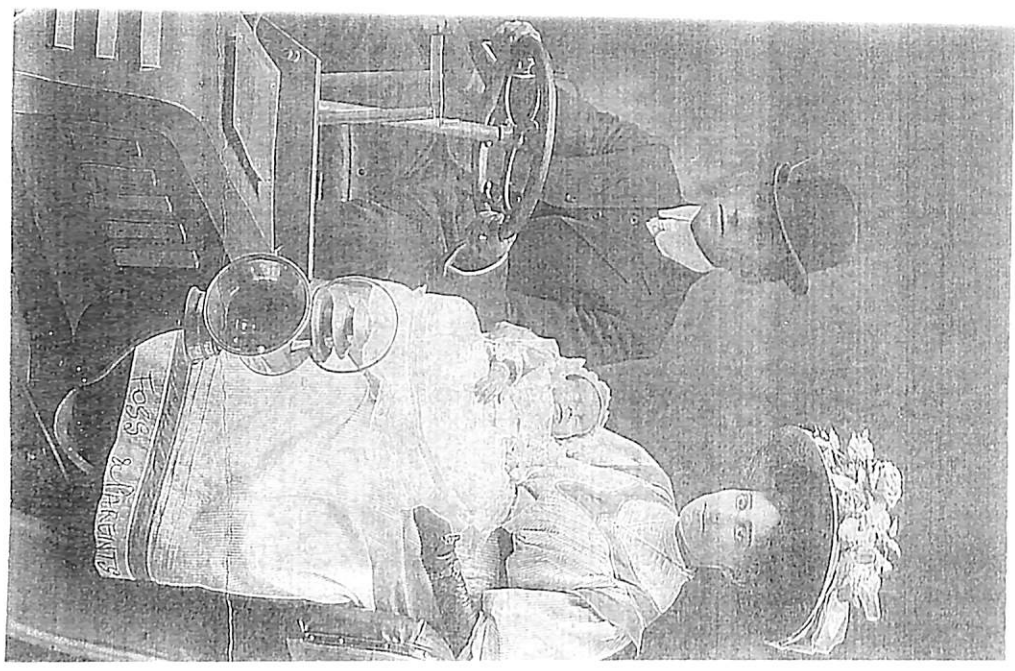
In 1912 Charles put "Westwood" up for sale, but refused to take the highest bid which was 1650 pounds, so in 1913 he sold the Grand to Claud Gedye, and returned to live at "Westwood". The Gedye's were mentioned in land deals throughout Charles life, but did not appear to be friends.

When the Lithgow family bought the Grand the vases were in the entrance hall, and one night a man who was drunk broke one of the handles off one of the vases. The family then carefully removed the other handles and stored them away.

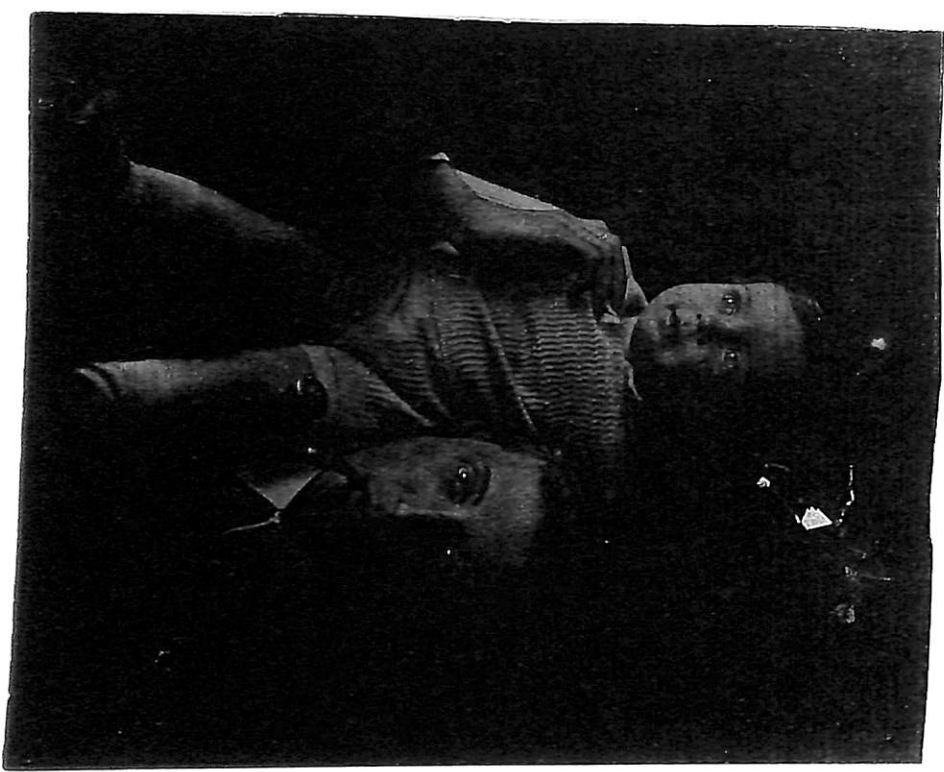
When I wrote and told John Lithgow the story of the vases he was delighted, and said he had planned to have the handles replaced, and was looking for the right person to do the job. When Bruce visited the Grand and took a photo, the restoring job had been done, and they certainly look very impressive.



Almee Jennie,
born 31st July, 1884,
with Foss.



Seppaas van Dorela
and Foss

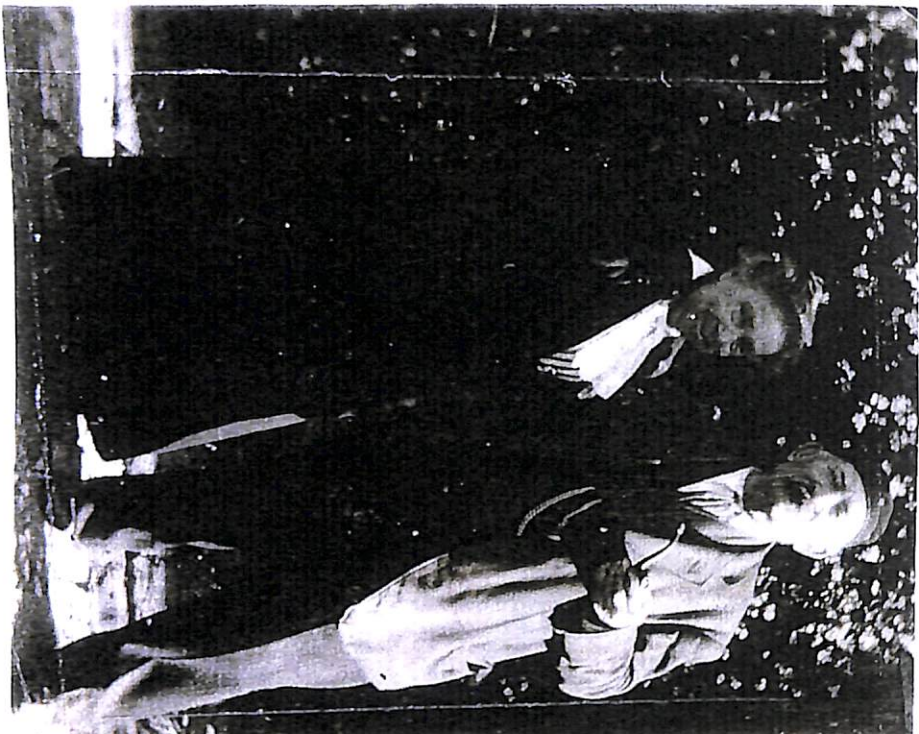


Almee



The Grand Hotel
Yarra Glen

Photos by
Bruce Brown, 1991



Rachel and Charles, 1922.

The vases which graced "Westwood" entrance foyer,
now stand in the Grand Hotel, Yarra Glen. Photo Bruce Brown.



1906 -

In 1914 Rose married Richard (Bert) Pedler, a retired grazier. It was a large and social wedding, with the reception held at the Dandenong Town Hall.

Also in 1914 Charles and Rachel had the worry of two sons enlisted in the Army, as did so many families during the First World War. Robert enlisted in the South African Forces; I know nothing about his Army record, only that after the war he returned to his farm in Rhodesia.

Bill, who had been working on a property in NSW, enlisted in the 1st Light Horse Brigade as No. 3504 in NSW. Later he was transferred to the 1st Field Artillery Brigade serving in Mesopotamia and Gallipoli. He was severely wounded, being buried during a shelling attack. His recovery was very slow and he was hospitalised in Malta before being transferred to Caulfield Repatriation Hospital.

Lionel claimed to have enlisted for the South African War, otherwise termed the Boer War. His age however, would seem to have precluded that possibility. Perhaps there was confusion with the family visit to South Africa in 1903. Undoubtedly then, the scars of that bitter conflict would still have been in clear evidence, to mark a vivid impression on the mind of a fourteen year old boy. After returning to Australia he became both an Electrical and Mechanical Engineer. He joined the Royal Australian Air Force during World War II, where he rose to the rank of Wing Commander. I remember at the time we were all surprised that at his age he was able to join!

In 1919 Bill married Gertrude Hannah at Dandenong.

In 1920 Bonnie married Will Gartside, in the garden at 'Westwood'. The reception was held in the Ballroom, with a dance later at the Dandenong Town Hall.

Charles was always generous to his children, giving all his daughters very lavish weddings and gifts.

He bought land for Robert in Rhodesia, and set Lionel up in business at Korumburra.

Bill never fully recovered from his war injuries, and Charles bought him a small poultry farm at Braeside, and later land at Tooradin, and a boat.

Jane Vail kept in touch with May Goodwin who lived in South Africa, and Jean Orchard sent me a copy of a letter written by May to Georgina in 1939, while May was living with Pixie in England. It is quite obvious that all the girls were very close, and it seems a shame that over the years the younger generations have lost touch.

Margery has been told that Charles gave Rose 'Westwood' for a wedding present, but I have so far been unable to prove this. Rose and Bert Pedler lived at 'Westwood' from late 1920 until 1924, while Charles and Rachel lived in their home in Orrong Rd. Balaclava. Shortly after Keith's birth and the beginning of Bert's illness, they moved from 'Westwood', which was then leased.

At the time of Bert's illness his mother got him to sign all his estate, which also included his wife's estate, over to her. Therefore, after his death Rose was left without any means of support. There was a court case about it, and although Rose won, her mother-in-law did not return all the money. In consequence she was most unpopular with the Dawson family.

Charles gave my mother a Dodge car for a wedding present, and in 1920 it was the only car in the Dingley district.

I believe most members of the family have some articles from 'Westwood'. I have two large monogrammed silver meat covers, quite useless these days but I have sentimental reasons for keeping them; also several silver monogrammed entree dishes. Ken has the family silver coffee service, and Margery has odd bits and pieces including an exquisite wine cooler which she has bequeathed to the National Trust. Aimee got some silver, and also the family emeralds, which she had borrowed for a State occasion just before Rachel's death, and so did not have to return them.

Charles also owned a house in Mary Street, St Kilda, which was the family beach house.

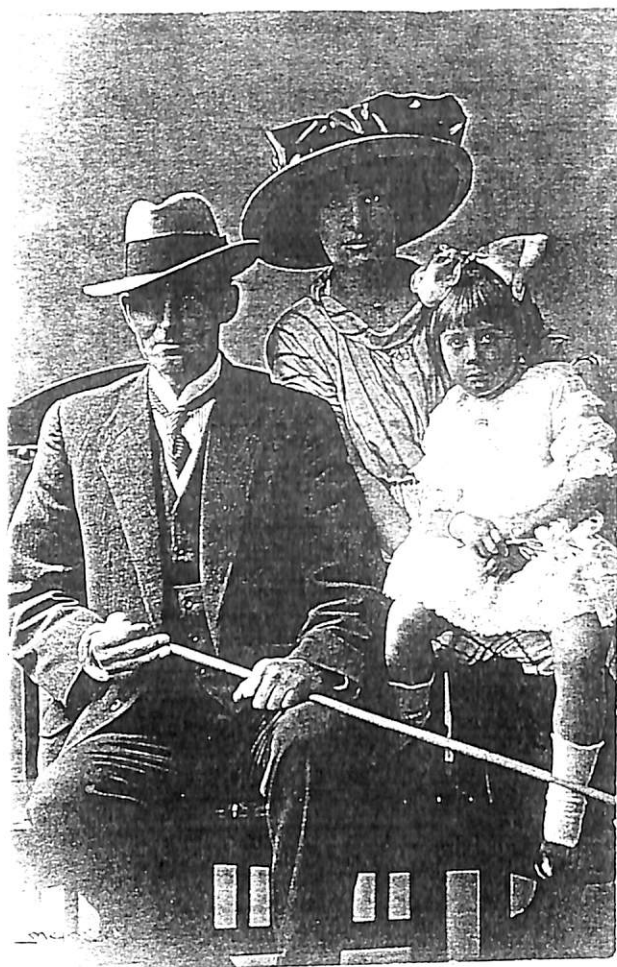
In 1921 May Goodwin with her two younger daughters Lillian and Pixie, came for a six month holiday, spending their time between 'Westwood' and Balaclava. There was much entertainment and parties, before they returned to South Africa.

Wedding of Rose Dawson and Richard Pedler
9th September 1914



Back Miss Lillian Pedler Miss Rose Pedler
Middle Miss May Nash Rose Pedler Miss Bonnie Dawson
Front Miss Alison Bernhard-Smith and Servaas van Breda.

The B.A. (Bert) Pedler Family
about 1922.



Bert and Rose Pedler
Margery

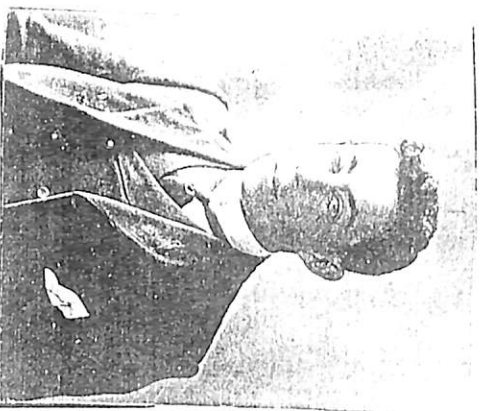


Rose as Debutante



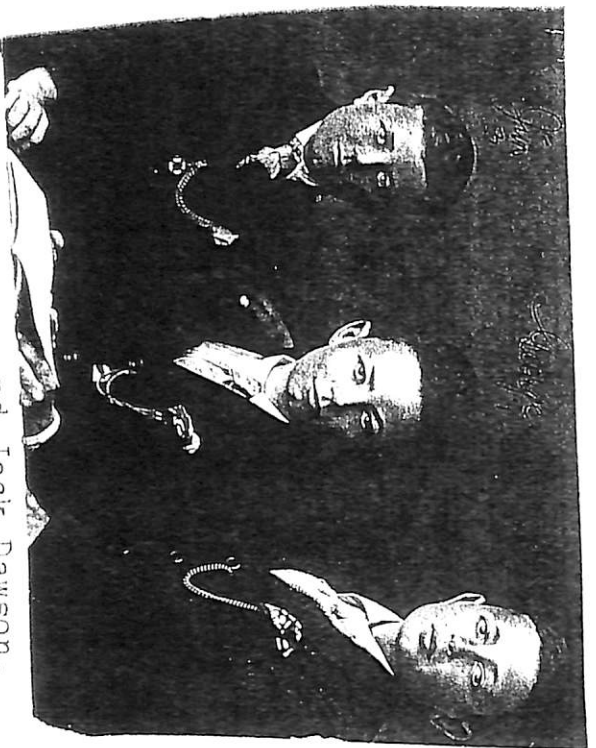
Margery Rose and Keith

Willie Dawson

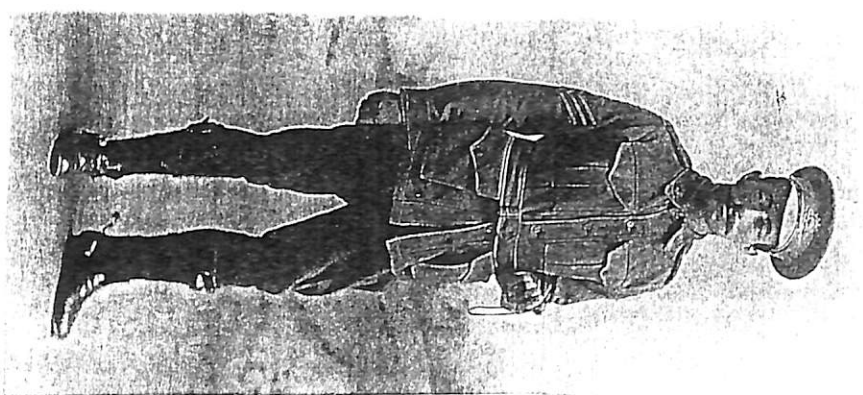


Above and below:
William Le Vascotte Dawson
born 20.5.1888 at Dandenong.
Served overseas during
the First World War.

Gertrude Hannah
married Bill Dawson
in 1919 at Dandenong.



Jim, George and Jack Dawson.

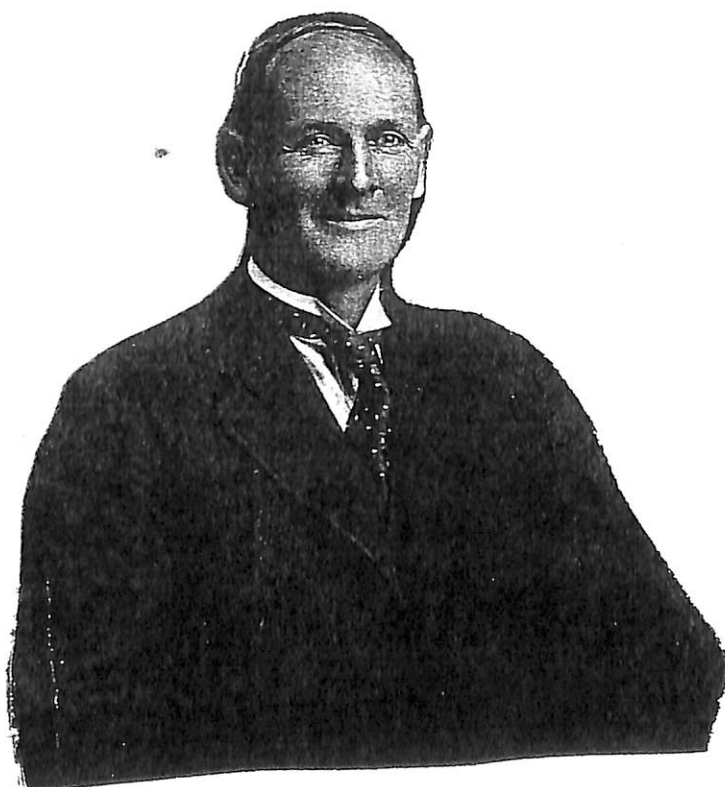




Bonnie Dawson
born 12.7.1896.

The Will Gartside family.

Meg.



Will Gartside.



Ken.

The Marriage of Bonnie Dawson to Will Gartside
Monday, 1925.

Charles with Bonnie and Margery Fedler.



Mr. & Mrs. E. H. Dawson

"AT HOME."

Wednesday, 24 September 1914, at the Dandenong Town Hall on the occasion of the Marriage of their daughter Rose to Mr. R. A. Pedlar.

R.S.V.P. before 25th August.

WESTWOOD
DANDENONG.

DANCING 8 PM.

Invitation for Wedding Reception

A Westwood Wedding

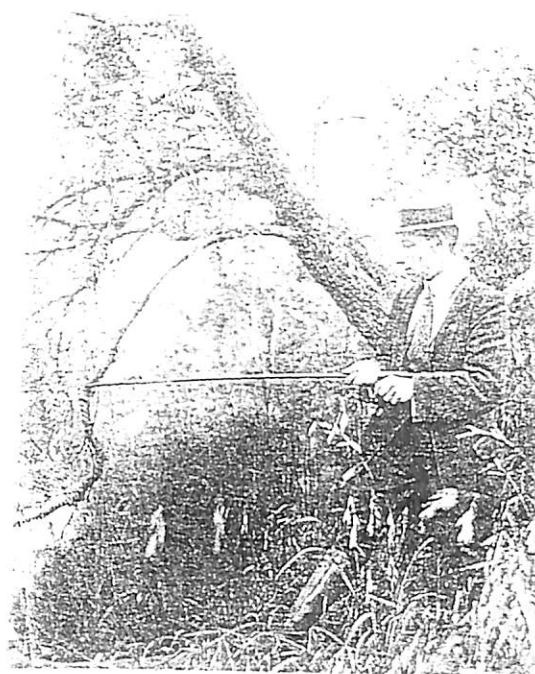
We are fortunate in having an excellent description of the wedding of Bonny Dawson and William Gartside in the *Dandenong Journal* of that week.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a charming bridal gown of ivory crepe de chine with an overlay of tulle and silver shadow lace with finishes of orange blossom. She carried an ivory bound Bible and an orchid with white streamers. Over all was a softly arranged old Limerick veil, which was quite long and the end was carried by her niece Marjory Pedlar, who was prettily frocked in white net with a wreath of blue flowers. Attending her as bridesmaids were Miss Nelly McSherry of Gardenvale and Miss Sylvia McShane of Brighton attired in dainty frocks of crepe-de-chin with overdresses of gold lace and delphinium blue sashes and they wore gold armlets, the gift of the bridegroom and carried bouquets of delphinium and blackberries with blue ribbon streamers.

Mr Jack Gartside was best man and Mr Ed Blain groomsmen. As the bride was leaving the Arch, the Wedding March was played by Mr Thomas Blain. Miss Howse placed a kewpie on the Bride's arm and Miss Leake and Mrs Blain placed horseshoes.

The reception was in the Town Hall, and the wedding breakfast was served to 90 guests in the ballroom at Westwood which was beautifully decorated in autumn tints and festooned with asparagus ferns and electric lights.

At 3 o'clock the happy couple left for Katoomba, Blue Mountains via Sydney where the honeymoon was spent. The guests were entertained pleasantly until 12 o'clock with songs and dancing.



Lionel Harry Dawson.
born 30.12.1889.



Lionel and Violet Dawson
(the second marriage)



Lolo and Nonie Dawson.

In 1923 both Charles and Rachel were living at Dingley with Will and Bonnie, where Charles died on 29th June, aged 88 years. Rachel then lived with Rose at Elwood, until her death on 4th July 1927, aged 75 years. They are both buried in the Old Cheltenham Cemetery.

In 1927 'Westwood' was transferred to Henry Leopold Leber, and for some time after that it was a boarding house until bought by the Dandenong Branch of the RSL for their club. The building was demolished in April 1994 and the club moved into new premises on that site. The club continues to use the Dawson Coat of Arms; the window with the insignia engraved on it is incorporated in the entrance foyer of the new building.

Entry in the Licensing Board Register, shows Rachael and Charles as joint owners, and Rachael as licensee of the Grand Hotel.

HOTEL	LOCATION	LICENSING DISTRICT	GROUP CENTRE	CONSTITUTION
Grand	Danda Glen	EVELEIGH	7.	EVELY
OWNER Rachael Dawson & Charles Henry Dawson. Grand Hotel, Danda Glen. John C. Dawson & Sons, 1836. House built on 1837. License in 1837. Transferred to Rachael Dawson & Charles Henry Dawson. License since 1836. License dated MUNICIPAL VALUE £100 1/8		LICENSEE Rachael Dawson & John C. Dawson & Sons. 20.12.10 John J. Wilken 20.6.13 Elvise Sedye 28.4.19 John C. Connor. 10.10.21 John C. Connor. 5.2.24 Samuel Stanfield Nelson 30.11.25 Mary Jane Whatman 22.8.27 Caliope Maud Spargo 23.7.28 Henry George Thompson 28.4.30 George Ann Benjamin (Agent pending Robert) 10.4.30 Alice Hutchinson 7.7.30 Frederick William Whiteway. 5.12.32 Edward Francis James 3.10.33 Richard Joseph Houghton 31.1.34 John C. Dawson & Sons 21.1.35 Clifford C. Houghton. 21.11.35 Robert Joseph Lithgow. 7.10.46 John Samuel Lithgow DATE FIRST SITTING CLAIM RECEIVED SENT TREAS.		
VAL NOTICE ISSUED 16.7.59 SHOW CAUSE SUMMONS ISSUED COMPENSATION DETERMINATION NOTICE DATE FIRST SITTING CLAIM RECEIVED		RETO. SERVED AWARD SENT TREAS.		



Charles and Georgina Leake,
nee Dawson.

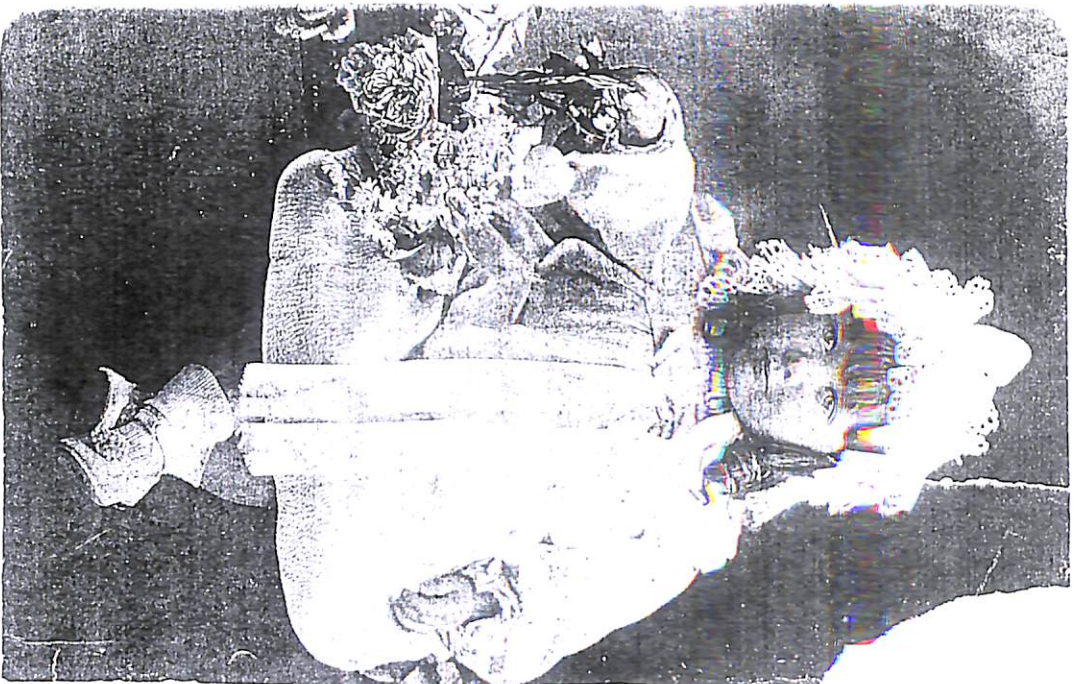


Unknown, believed to be Sarah.

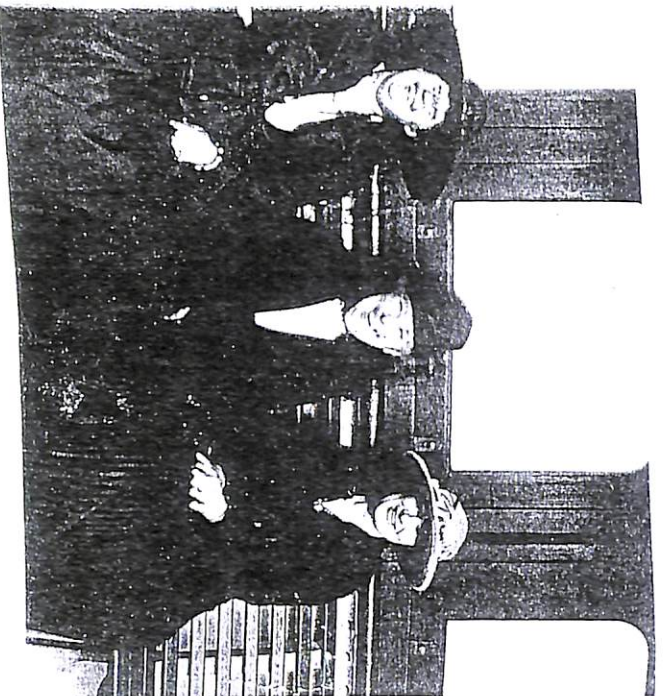


Georgina Elizabeth Dawson
born 26.5.1864.

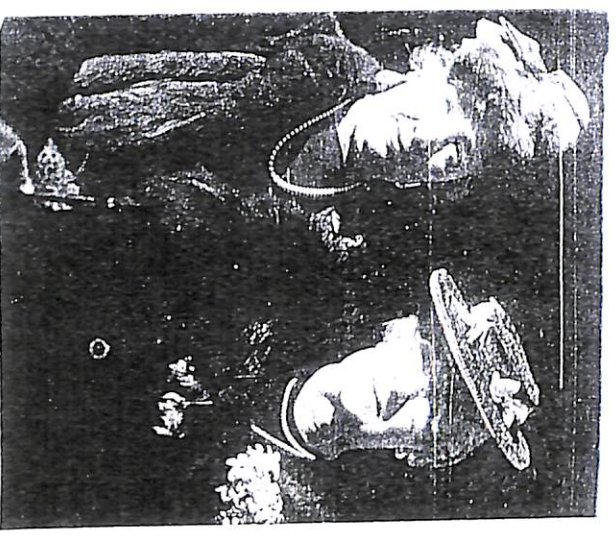
Jane Mowat Dawson,
born 15.1.1870.



Rachel Dawson
on May and June 20th
wedding day,
her own christening day.



May Goodwin, Rachel Dawson,
Pose Pedler, farewelling
May and her daughters on
their return to South Africa.

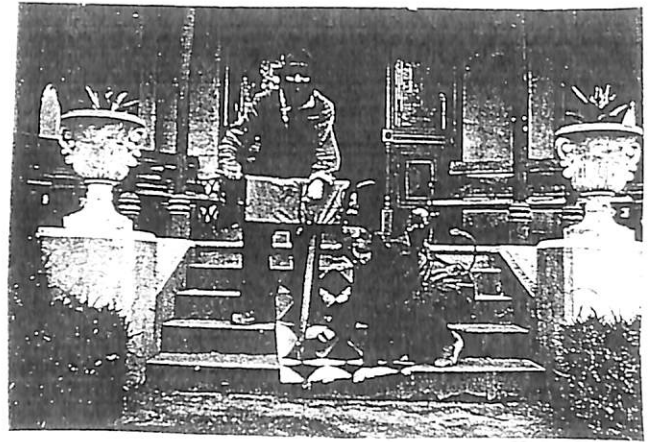


Bonnie Gartside
and Pose Pedler,
always very close.

Fancy Dress Party at "Westwood" 1921.



Pixie Goodwin



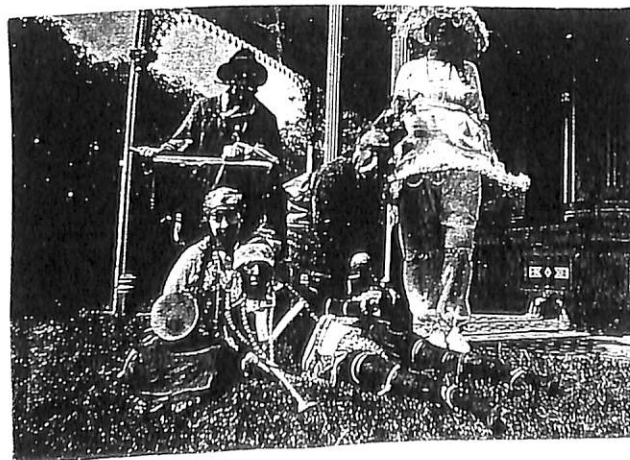
Bill Dawson and friend



Bonnie



Lionel



BIBLIOGRAPHY

"BLOOD AND GOLD", Dr. Kunz, who wrote to me with his ideas of the early family.

"ECHUCA: A CENTENARY HISTORY", Susan Priestly, including reference to the Lake Moira Fishing Co-operative.

"REMINISCENCES OF EARLY DANDENONG", George Roulston.

"THE LAND BOOMERS", Michael Cannon.

And excerpts from early editions of newspapers including:

MELBOURNE ARGUS

PASTORAL TIMES, DENILQUIN

RIVERINE GRAZIER, HAY

RIVERINE HERALD, ECHUCA

SOUTH BOURKE & MORNINGTON JOURNAL (later Dandenong Journal)

Charles Henry Dawson I and Jane Esplin

b. 13/11/1838 Pest, Hungary
d. 29/6/1923 Dingley, Vic.

b. 1/6/1838 Edinburgh, Scotland
d. circa 1871

MARRIED 26/7/1861
Bendigo Vic.

Courtesy: Bruce Brown.

Esther (Ettie) Maria

b. 9/8/1861 White Hills (Bendigo)
d. 5/12/1939 Sydney NSW
(result of accident)

MARRIED 16/3/1887

Sarah Jane

b. 6/12/1862 Lake Mairi
NSW.
d.

MARRIED 16/7/1884

Dandenong, Vic.

Frederick Wm. Bennett

b. 1861
d. 26/11/1926 Sydney NSW.

Frederick Hellyer Heywood

b. 1858 (yr. reg.) Biddarra Vic.
d. 3/7/1934 Melbourne Vic.

Georgina Elizabeth

b. 26/5/1864 Echuca, Vic.
d. 1941 Bankstown NSW.

MARRIED 1890

Dandenong, Vic.

Charles George Leake

b. 1859 (yr. reg.) Ballarat, Vic.
d. 1936 (yr. reg.) Malvern, Vic.

Charles Henry II

b. 6/3/1866 Echuca, Vic.
d. 24/5/1936 Harden, N.S.W.

MARRIED 30/12/1895

Hay, N.S.W.

Susanna May Weeks

b. 4/9/1869 Geelong, Vic.
d. 12/10/1944 Harden, NSW.

Jane Mowat

b. 15/1/1870 Hay, N.S.W.
d. 1952 (yr. reg.) Horsham, Vic.

MARRIED 1908

L. Wallace Vic.

Roland Vail

b. 1868
d. 1949 Horsham, Vic.

Frederick W.

b. 1887

Rupert G.

b. 1892

Noel S.

b. 1895

Frederick Charles

b. 1886 D'ning Vic.

d.
m. 1911 Stella Smith

Clifford Charles

b. 1895 d. 1919

Leonard Thomas Rice

b. 1896

Alice Esther Sadie

b. 1898

Winifred Florence

b. 1904

Jean (Bonnie) Esplin

b. 24/2/1897 Jerilderie NSW.

* Mary

b. 6/2/1898 (died at birth)

Ivy Eileen Hayden

b. 4/4/1899 Jerilderie

Charles Henry III

b. 10/8/1905 Rutherglen NSW.

no issue

Charles Henry Dawson

b. 13.11.1838

d. 29.6.1923

m 1. Jane Esplin 26.7.1861

b. 1.6.1838

d. 4.3.1871

m 2. Rachel Nash 23.3.1874

b. 24.9.1854

d. 4.7.1927

Esther Maria

b. Epsom Bendigo
9.8.1861

m. F. Bennett
16.3.1887

Sarah Jane

b. 6.12.1862
Lake Moira NSW

m F. H. Haywood
Oakleigh Park
16.7.1884

Georgina Elizabeth

b. 26.5.1864
Echuca Vic.

m. ?

Charles Henry

b. 6.3.1866
Echuca Vic

d. 1935

m. Susanna May Welch

b. 1869
Geelong Vic.

d. 1946

Janet Mowat

b. 15.1.1870
Hay NSW

m. ?

Francis Errol b. 3.1.1875 d. 8.1.1876

Robert Spencer b. 5.6.1877 d. 1951

George b. 20.9.1878 d. 30.9.1878

May Helena b. 19.10.1880

Rachel Rose b. 22.10.1882 d. 21.2.1955

Aimee Jennie b. 31.7.1884 d. -7.1939

William LeMascoff b. 20.6.1888 d. 1973

Lionel Harry b. 30.12.1889 d.

Muriel Mary (Bonnie) b. 12.5.1898 d. 21.3.1965

Courtesy Bruce Dawson Brown

1996

CHARLES HENRY DAWSON married SUSANNA MAY WEICH
b. 1864 Echoa b. 1869 Geelong
d. 1936 Harden in Hay d. 1946 Harden

JEAN ESPLIN HAZEL DAWSON

b. 1897 Jarikleria
d. 1970 Young

married

1921

ALBERT GRATTAN BROWN

b. 1889 Garrafall
d. 1986 Young

EILEEN HAYDEN DAWSON

b. 1899

d. 1978

married

1921

ALFRED ROY CODDINGTON

b. 1896

d. 1956

CHARLES HENRY DAWSON

b. 1905 Rotherglen

d. 1974

married

1934

MARCIA ROSCOE PATRICK

b. 1912

d. 1980

ALBERT DAWSON (BOB) BROWN

b. 1923

d. 1955

married 1953

ELIZABETH WALLACE

b.

married 1918

JIM PACE

b. 1925

JEAN ESPLIN BROWN

b. 1925

married 1921

GERALDINE CATER

b. 1939

BOUCE DAWSON BROWN

b. 1926

married

JOHN FERRIS

b.

EILEEN MAY

b. 1924

married

GERARD DENNIS MURPHY

b. 1917

ALICE BRUNILEY

b. 1926

d. 1987

BONNIE ELIZABETH

b. 1929

married 1955

ALISTAIR MUIRHEAD

b. 1927

d. 1985

CAMPBELL DAWSON

b. 1935

married 1964 (1st)

MARIE WORTH

b. 1933

d. 1981

married 1993 (2nd)

MAREE TAYLOR

b. 1935

Courtesy: Bruce Dawson Brown.

1996.