

ADAM LINDSAY GORDON

- Born 19/10/1833. In the Azores. Father Army Captain Adam and Mother a first cousin, Harriet.
- Educated at Cheltenham. > Military Academy, Woolwich. "Undisciplined". Sporting but not academic. Boxing and horse riding, contracting debts. Short sighted.
- 1853 sailed for Adelaide leaving his love Jane Bridges.
- Joined South Australian Mounted Police as a trooper.
- 1855 horse racing over hurdles and commenced interest in poetry.
- Received 7,000 pounds when Father died in 1857 and Mother 1859.
- 1862 married Margaret Park. Dingley Dell Cottage at Cape Northumberland.
- 1864 published "The Feud" and in 1865 > S.A. House of Assembly. Poor speaker & resigned 1866.
- 1867 Provided verse to the "Australasian" and "Bells life in Victoria", bought land in W.A. then back to Mt Gambier. Published "Astaroth", "Sea Spray" and "Smoke Drift".
- Jumped a horse over a fence a few feet from the edge of a precipice above the Blue Lake.
- Nov. 1867 rented Craig's Livery Stables at Ballarat, venture failed.
- 1868 head injury when horse hit him against a gatepost. Daughter Annie died aged 11 months.
- 1868. Small legacies and possible claim to Esslemont Estate in England as nearest male heir. Claim abandoned in 1870 as futile.
- > Melbourne. Won three steeplechases races in one afternoon and hailed by Marcus Clarke as leading poetical genius of Australia.
- 1870 – Another head injury, did not fully recover becoming melancholic. Published "Bush Ballads and Galloping rhymes". Unable to pay publishing costs and shot himself.
- Buried in Brighton Cemetery
- Statue in Melbourne Parliament House, bust in Westminster Abbey and replica in national library, Canberra.
- Cottage from Craig's moved to Botanical Gardens by Ballarat Y's Mens Club in 1934.
- **Bust of Gordon in 1941, sculpted by Anderson.**

Addendum. Very poor eyesight.

Friends with Father Tennyson Wood

Friends with Billy ? D small stature.

Shy.

Memory ? photographic

Rambling speeches in Parliament.