

Notes on Ancestors for Lesley Jane Abrahams (nee Hungerford)
For graves listed on www.ozburials.com/CemSA/MtPleasant

MELROSE FAMILY

MELROSE, Alexander, son of George and Euphemia, born "Rosebank" 1865, died 1944 Youngest son of George and Euphemia. Author of "Slapstick and Song". He inherited much of the family estate. Donated 10,000 pounds to the Adelaide Art Gallery for extensions. He paid for the education of his 2nd cousins, Meredyth Effie Hungerford (nee Thomson) and Helen Elizabeth Farrar (nee Thomson)

MELROSE, Euphemia, wife of George, who died at "Rosebank" October 31, 1887, aged 58 years Euphemia (nee Thomson), elder daughter of John and Janet Thomson, of "Lilybank" Mt Pleasant. They were married when she was 18 years of age, on 24th May 1847. They had 3 daughters and 5 sons.

MELROSE, George, born at Balerno, near Edinburgh, Scotland, 22 December 1806, died at "Rosebank", 8 April 1894, aged 87 years George Melrose's biography is written up in Cockburn, R. Pastoral pioneers of South Australia, Vols I & II, 1927. George arrived in South Australia on the ship "Palmyra" in 1839. He started farming in the Mount Barker district. In 1841 he owned 220 sheep. He then moved to the Marne River, and following various explorations, he built up the "Rosebank" Estate. He married Euphemia Thomson, the elder daughter of John Thomson, and sister of Robert Thomson, his friend and employee. There is a memorial window to George and Euphemia Melrose in the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church (now Uniting) (from notes by Agnes Isabel Thomson (nee Higgs).

MELROSE, Robert Thomson, son of George and Euphemia, and beloved husband of Gwen, born Rosebank 1862, died Rosebank 1945 Hon. Robert Thomson Melrose was the grandson of John Thomson, also buried at Mt Pleasant. He became a Member of the Legislative Council (1927?).

THOMSON FAMILY

THOMSON, Elizabeth, beloved wife of F. Thomson, died May 10, 1927, aged 69 years The death certificate of Elizabeth Thomson (nee Forster) wife of Francis Thomson, farmer, usual residence Mount Pleasant, S. Aus. Born in London, England, and resident of South Australia for 65 years, shows her date of death as May 10th, 1921. She died of Hemorrhage of the brain. A copy of this certificate was obtained by M.E. Hungerford (nee Thomson) her granddaughter. Francis Thomson and Elizabeth Forster were married 29th July 1875 in Adelaide. Elizabeth was 22 years of age, They had 2 sons and 6 daughters

THOMSON, Francis, died June 19, 1927, in his 80th year (with Elizabeth) Francis was born at Woodside, S.A., the son of John of Kirkcaldy Thomson, Scotland, and Janet Smith Logie. He became a farmer near Mt Pleasant. He married Elizabeth Forster on 29th July 1875 (see above)

THOMSON, John, native of Kirkanidy (sic) Scotland, late of Mt Pleasant, departed this life on the 12th day of November 1869, aged 75 years John Thomson was born about 1794 in Dysart, Kirkcaldy, County Fife, Scotland. He and his family arrived at Adelaide, South Australia, on the barque Moffatt, 820 tons, under Captain Gilbert on 19th December 1839. They had a rough voyage and all the family were ill on arrival.

On landing John was not strong enough to work out of doors and "shoemaking being the worst paid trade in Adelaide at the time, he could not get constant employment for the first twelve months". After that John got a position in the Customs as Assisting Landing Waiter and Wharfinger, and the family moved to Port Adelaide. Latter the family moved to a farm at

Woodside, S.A. they finally settled at Mt Pleasant, establishing the farm "Lilybank". There is also a memorial window to John and Janet Thomson in the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church (now Uniting). Information obtained from entry for Robert Thomson, in Cockburn, R. Pastoral pioneers of South Australia, vols. I & II, 1927, and notes made by Agnes Isabel Thomson (nee Higgs). Confirmation of this information can be found at www.shipping.familyhistorysa.info/South Australian Passenger list- Shipping & Immigration.

THOMSON, Robert, of Caurnamont, died 30 September 1912, aged 85 years (with Elizabeth) Robert was the son of John and Janet Thomson, and was aged 12 years when they arrived in Adelaide in 1939. He married Elizabeth Macgregor Thomson, no relation, at 25 years of age in 1949. They made a three day trip in a bullock wagon to be married. In 1861 he purchased "Caurnamount" on the River Murray. M.E. Hungerford's notes record 2 daughters, Mrs. Harry Scott, and Mrs. H.C.H. Denton. (Mrs. Hungerford (nee Thomson) was the granddaughter of Francis Thomson, a younger brother of Robert. Information sourced from Cockburn, R, Pastoral pioneers of South Australia, Vols. I & II, 1927

Above notes prepared by L. Abrahams, 14th January 2008, as part of Family history research project, on THOMSON/Fawcett/Wilson families.