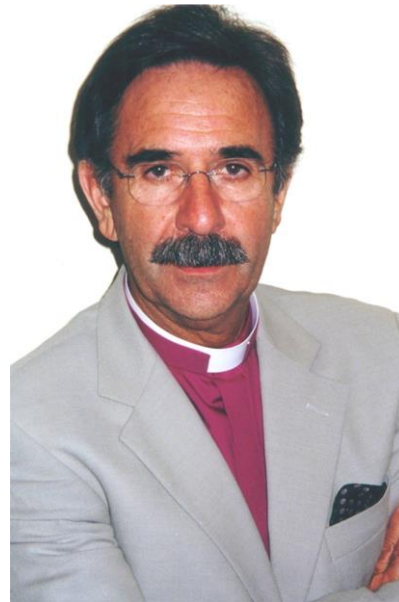


Michael McDouall Eaton



Derek Lionel Eaton



"New Freugh",
Singleton, NSW circa 1880

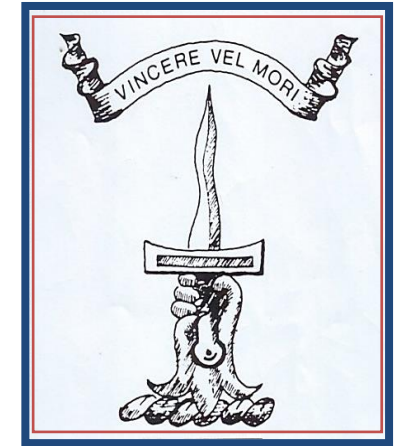
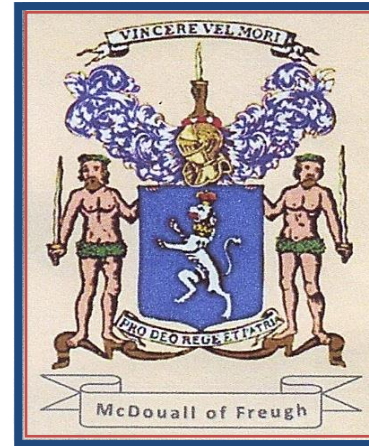
"Grey Freugh" Oamaru ca.
1900. Later became part of
Waitaki Girls' High School
before demolition in 1998.



THE MCDOULLS OF FREUGH

THEIR ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS

Notes compiled in 2017 from various sources by Derek Lionel Eaton
a great, great grandson of John Crichton Stuart McDouall
of "New Freugh", Singleton, NSW, Australia.



CONTENTS

1. Ancestry	p. 2
2. Lineage	p. 5
3. Family Tree: How the Crichtons, the Stuarts of Bute and the McDoualls are connected.	p.14
4. Family Tree: The McDoualls & Clans of Scotland map.	p.17
5. Emigration to the Antipodes	p.18
6. "New Freugh": Life in the Hunter Valley, NSW	p.23
7. Obituary: William A.F. McDouall (first McDouall to reach NZ)	p.34
8. Excerpts from the diary of Willoughby McDouall. (first McDouall to settle in New Zealand).	p.37
9. Pictures	p.41

Ancestry

There is no early written proof that the McDoualls are descended from the Ancient Lords of Galloway, however, from the mid-1600's, the chiefs of the McDouall family branches (Freugh, Logan and Garth) were making such claims based on sometimes thin circumstantial evidence.

These claims were as follows: Fergus (1096 – 1161) married Elizabeth, illegitimate daughter of Henry I of England, and was appointed by King David I of Scotland as Lord of Galloway possibly because of his local origins. A hundred and thirty years later, the McDoualls were the Galloway leaders in opposition to Robert the Bruce (Robert I of Scotland 1274-1329). It is possible that they were the principal Galloway clan in Fergus's day. These claims were not recorded by any branch of the McDoualls until the 1600's.

The earliest documented records of the three branches of the McDoualls are:

Freugh, 1455: the marriage of Gilbert, son of Gilbert of Freugh.

Garthland, 1414: Fergus McDouall of Garthland surrenders his titles (later returned) to the Earl of Douglas.

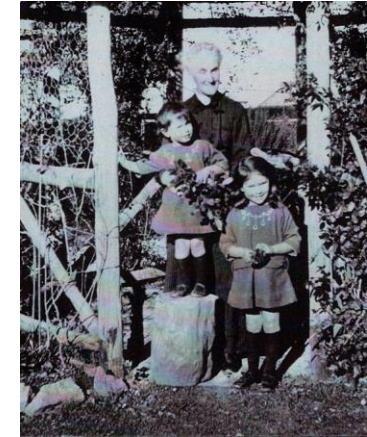
Logan, 1505: Application made to the Crown for a new charter because Logan House and contents were destroyed by Irish invaders.

There is some evidence that the three branches were well established by the end of the 1300's.

During the 17th century, more than 400 years after Alan, the last of the Lords of Galloway, the principal McDouall families started advancing serious claims of descent from Fergus (1096 – 1161). The Freugh McDoualls' claim their descent either from Alan or Duncan (see



Barbara and Kathleen with their mother, Ella, (Eric's widow) circa 1918



Granny McDouall (Minnie) with Barbara and Kathleen circa 1918 Oamaru.



Nan (Ella) with grandchildren Michael and Derek circa 1941, Oamaru.



Barbara with son Derek circa 1943, Oamaru.



Barbara (née McDouall) and Jack Eaton. Married 1937, St. Luke's Church, Oamaru. Summer 1989



Ellen Maria McDouall
nee FitzGerald
1825—1861

(Our great, great, grandmother)



Robert Appleyard FitzGerald
1794—1890

Ellen's father, our 3x great grandfather



Great grandparents Willoughby
and "Minnie" (Granny) McDouall,
Oamaru ca.1900.



Grandfather Eric and grandmother (Nan) Ella
married January 1st, 1913 at St. Stephen's
Church, Lincoln, Canterbury.

Chart 1). There has been much squabbling between the three McDouall branches, but by the end of the 19th century these claims and legends had built up a respectable antiquity of their own.

The descendants of clan McDouall of Freugh and Balgreggan have multiplied through the years and are living, and have lived, in many countries around the world including UK, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Egypt, India, Iran, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Canada, USA, South America, South Africa, Pacific Islands, New Zealand and Australia.

They have served in many occupations: army, navy, air force, merchant navy, medical, judiciary, education, the Church, engineering, science, banking, politics, farmers, graziers and home-makers.

Chart 1

Early Ancestry of the Lords of Galloway, 230 BC – 1234 AD

Douall, "Black Alan" – Prince of Galloway – 230 BC – killed Nothatus The Tyrant, legendary 6th King of Scotland.

Mac Doualls i.e. sons of Douall

Fergus 1096 – 1161 m. Princess Elizabeth of England (illegitimate daughter of Henry I of England and granddaughter of William the Conqueror).

Alan, last Lord of Galloway, 1200 – 1234 (great-grandson of Fergus) m. Margaret, daughter of Earl of Huntingdon (great granddaughter of David I of Scotland).

Duncan, Earl of Carrick d.1250 (grandson of Fergus)

**EITHER ALAN OR DUNCAN ARE CONSIDERED TO BE THE FOREFATHER
OF THE MCDOUALLS OF FREUGH**

The McDouall Name

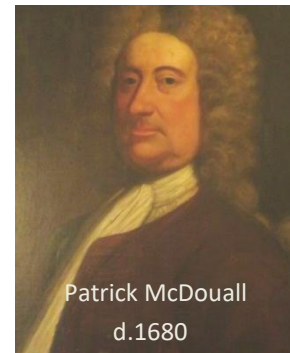
The McDoualls are descended from an ancient Pictish family and the name runs through the principal families of Galloway like a crimson thread.

There are a variety of spellings for the name McDouall: McDowyl, McDowall, McDougall. The original Gaelic name “McDougall” means, son of the black stranger (Mac Dhu Alan). Black Alan or Douall, an early Prince of Galloway, would suggest Norse origins.

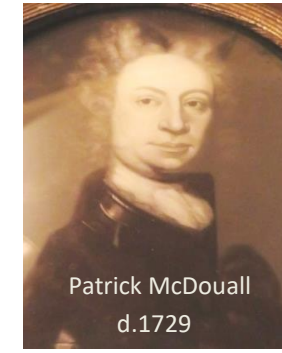
In 1292, on the Ragman Roll, the name MacDougall in Galloway was modified to distinguish it from the Argyll MacDougalls. The letters “ug” became “w” in a Norman transliteration in the days of King Edward I of England (late 13th century).

The three branches of the family used the McDowall spelling, or variations of it, up until the mid-1700’s. The use of the ‘e’ as in McDowell appears to be an Irish innovation.

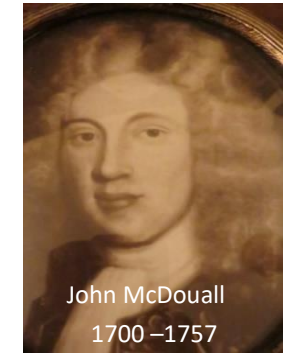
The Logan branch was the first to adopt the McDouall spelling. The Freugh branch has many examples where the McDowall spelling was used up until the early 19th century; e.g. the official records of the Church of England show that the Rev William at his ordination in 1798 as “MacDowall”, but from 1804, when he became the Vicar of Smisby, he is “MacDouall” and in 1812, as Vicar of Luton, he is written as “McDouall” and remained so for the rest of his career. His father, John McDouall of Glasgow, uses “McDouall” in his correspondence, so there appears to be an overlap.



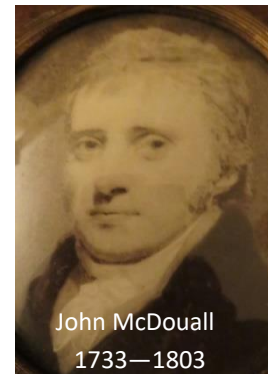
Patrick McDouall
d.1680



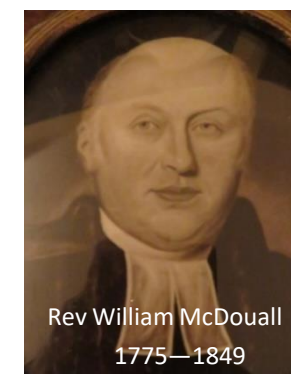
Patrick McDouall
d.1729



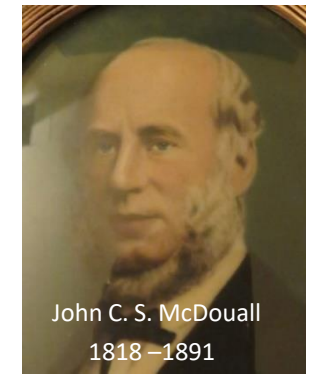
John McDouall
1700–1757



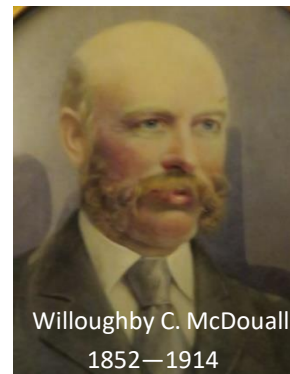
John McDouall
1733–1803



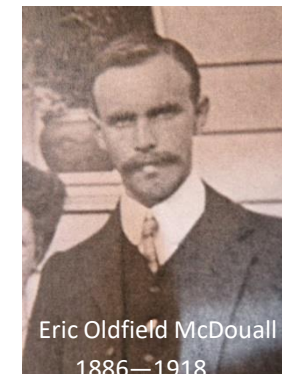
Rev William McDouall
1775–1849



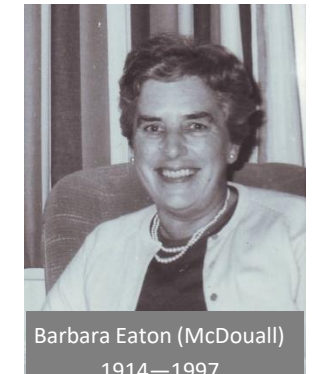
John C. S. McDouall
1818–1891



Willoughby C. McDouall
1852–1914



Eric Oldfield McDouall
1886–1918



Barbara Eaton (McDouall)
1914–1997

Remained at Milton until December 1881 when I was appointed Manager to Oamaru Branch, with the exception of an interregnum of 18 months, May 1891 – Nov 1892, during that time being in General Manager's Office (Head Office) Dunedin, and Tauranga 5 months – Auckland 6 months on special duty – have held the position of Manager in Oamaru since then”.

Compiled at 'Grey Freugh' Oamaru, NZ, 10th May 1914

He died 28th May 1914 - Willoughby had 2 daughters and 6 sons including Michael's and Derek's grandfather, Eric Oldfield McDouall.

Sources

Family letters in the possession of Mrs M. Leslie, Wahroonga, NSW.

The Singleton Historical Society.

The Newcastle Herald.

The North Otago Times.

Some photos taken from portraits in the keeping of Gerald McDouall, Whanganui.

Various articles by McDouall family members (past and present).

Lineage **Scotland**

Sir Fergus (Fergusius) – 1292

?

Sir Dougal (Dualgus) - “was troublesome” to David Bruce (David II, King of Scotland). Older step-brother to Sir Fergus.
?
Signed the Ragman Roll (the collection of instruments by which nobility and gentry of Scotland subscribed allegiance to King Edward I in 1293).

Sir Fergus, 1390 Garthland, Logan and Freugh (Freuch).

?

1. **Gilbert McDouall** of Ravenstone and Freugh.



2. **Gilbert McDouall** of Freugh, d.1496, m. Catherine McGilligh 1445.
(*Earliest contemporary record of the McDoualls of Freugh*)



3. **Fergus McDouall** of Freugh (predeceased his father),
m. Agnes, daughter of Sir Alexander McCulloch of Myrtoun.
(Agnes' sister, Katherine married Patrick McDouall of Logan)



4. **Gilbert McDouall** of Freugh, succeeded his grandfather,
m. Isobel, daughter of Sir Robert Gordon of Lochinvar
(ancestor of Viscounts of Kenmure). Gilbert was killed at the
Battle of Flodden in 1513 between England and Scotland.



5. Fergus McDouall succeeded his father in 1513, m. Lady Janet Kennedy, daughter of David, 1st Earl of Cassilis, (great granddaughter of Princess Annabella, daughter of King James I of Scotland). He was killed at the battle of Pinkie Cleugh in 1547.



6. James McDouall m. Florence, daughter of John McDouall of Garthland. Florence's sister, Helen was married to Patrick McDouall, Lord of Logan. James and Florence had a son, John (died – no issue) and a daughter, Mary who became heiress of Freugh (our direct ancestor).



7. Mary McDouall married her kinsman (3rd cousin), John McDouall of Dowalton, 1583.



8. John McDouall of Freugh m. Barbara, daughter of Sir Patrick Vans of Barnbarroch (Lord of Session) and Lady Catherine Kennedy. They had two sons, Uchtred and Fergus. (Fergus went to Ireland and his heir was John McDouall of Ballytrough, County Cavan).



9. Uchtred McDouall of Freugh and Balgreggan, d. 1670. m. Agnes, daughter of Sir Patrick Agnew of Lochnaw. Uchtred was M.P. for Wigtoun, 1661. He bought "Balgreggan" in 1660. A firm royalist like his father John, he had military commands in Scotland and Ireland. He was chosen as an M.P. in the first parliament in 1661 by Charles II. Castle Freugh / McDouall or Freugh House was burned in 1664 by Cromwell's men just as Balgreggan House had been in 1654.



which consisted of digging trenches, assisting ... the block house, for the protection of the town.

After the final defeat of the Hauhaus at Ngatapa first week in January 1869 precautions no longer necessary for defence, I recommenced in Capt. Reid's employ until July 1870. Wages at first 15/- and lastly 25/-. On leaving, I had saved £50, travelled to Napier by Capt. Reid's schooner Tawera – where I waited a week for the 'Lord Ashley' to call, by which I travelled to Dunedin, reaching there about the end of July 1870 - joining the Bank of Otago on 1st August 1870.

Sent from there to Queenstown Branch in November of the same year, staff consisting of the Manager and myself. Remained there until November 1872, when I was sent to Cardrona to open a Branch at the age of 20!! Each month I had to take the month's purchase of gold (riding 5 days with it), sometimes £3000. The only policeman acting as escort to the foot of the Crown Range on the Cardrona side, a policeman from Queenstown on the other side – the range being negotiated on foot leading my horse, the weight of gold being too much otherwise. On one of my visits to Queenstown, November 1873, in jumping off a buggy I broke my left leg, a simple fracture of both bones which necessitated my remaining at a friend's house in Queenstown for about 2 months. Shortly afterwards in January 1874, was transferred to the Dunedin Branch of the National Bank (which had absorbed the Bank of Otago in July 1873).

During the time I was in Cardrona, was sent to Port Chalmers as relieving Manager for 6 weeks – then to Palmerston South to fill same position for 3 weeks. Back to Dunedin Branch for a few weeks, then to Outram, West Taieri as acting Manager for a year – but at the end of that time appointed Manager.

Married at Milton 22nd Feb 1875 to M.E.E. McArdeall of Queenstown.

commenced the survey of another large confiscated block.

At this time there was considerable unrest among the Māoris. During William's absence at Turanganui the Māoris surrounded the Survey Camp, cut the tent ropes, stole the theodolite and damaged it – could only be repaired by sending to Auckland, thus preventing the completion of that Survey – the party returned to Tolaga Bay – erected a whare (Māori word for house or building) – previous to doing this, Baxter the cook died from blood poisoning – William became ill in a similar way – recovered – the whare was erected in the Mission Ground where there were the remains of a good orchard planted by the early missionaries – apple, cherry, grapes, cape gooseberries in abundance.

Here we remained the best part of a year, during which time we surveyed the township of Narua and completed the maps of the blocks previously surveyed. During this time we visited Waipiro about 60 miles north, all travelling was done along the beach with pack horses, occasionally following Māori tracks across the headlands. On one occasion I travelled alone – slept in a settler's hut on the north of Tokomaru Bay, on a well-remembered bed of Manuka sticks laid on the ground, covered by my blanket; for food – damper (a kind of flat loaf) of which I partook, made of corn freshly ground in a coffee mill. Later when climbing and leading my horse over the hill, the damper brought on an acute attack of indigestion – the most severely acute I ever had.

After Te Kooti, the rebel Māori Chief had escaped from Chatham Island, the disaffected Māoris became more restless and aggressive, there it was deemed advisable that for safety sake, the Survey party should move down to Taranganui where, no surveying being possible, William joined the Mounted Scouts of the Defence Force, and I obtained employment in Captain Reid's General Store.

The memorable Poverty Bay Massacre took place in early morning on 10th November 1868. Martial law being proclaimed, every male from 16 – 60 years of age had to serve – some going to the front and others on garrison duty at night, which was very tiring for a lad of 16 and a half years of age. I received militia pay 3/6d for 3 months (from the Government). On certain days I had to take my turn at fatigue duty,

10. Patrick McDouall of Freugh and Balgreggan, (*see photo of portrait*) d. 1680, m. Barbara, daughter of James Fullarton, circa 1662. He fought in the Battle of Bothwell Bridge in 1679, (between government troops and Covenanters), on the side of the Covenanters, escaped to England and consequently lost his lands by Royal Decree (1681). Patrick was sentenced to be executed and was murdered by Cromwell's soldiers during the period of "The Killing Times".

Scotland, at this time was in a state of constant civil unrest because many refused to accept King Charles as head of the Church (Kirk). Those who signed the Covenant, which stated that Jesus Christ alone was head of the Church, were effectively signing their own death warrant. It was a time of intense religious persecution and witnessed some of the worst crimes in Scottish history committed by Scot against Scot. The years 1684-1685 became forever known as "The Killing Times".

Patrick was a Covenanter and died defending his faith. All his lands were forfeited to the Crown at this time, but later restored to his son by Royal Decree.



11. Patrick McDouall of Freugh and Balgreggan, d. 1729. (*see photo of portrait*), m. Margaret, daughter of William Haltridge of Dromore, County Down, Ireland. (Family lands confiscated during Cromwell's time were restored to him in 1692, eleven years after they were taken from his father).



12. John McDouall of Freugh and Balgreggan, 1700 - 1757 (*see photo of portrait*), m. 1724 or 1725 Lady Elizabeth Dalrymple

Crichton, daughter of Penelope, Countess of Dumfries and Colonel William Dalrymple, her cousin. (The Dumfries title can pass through the female line). They had five sons and two daughters. The oldest son Patrick inherited the title of the Earl of Dumfries and added “Crichton” after “McDouall”, (Crichton having been his mother’s name). Thus the name Crichton entered the McDouall family.



13. John McDouall 1733 -1803 (*see photo of portrait*), known as “the Merchant of Glasgow”, m. 1767 Mary Isobel McCulloch (1744/45 – 1778). Spent some years in Virginia, America (late 1740’s and early 1750’s) and acquired tobacco estates there. He was almost ruined by the American War of Independence but was eventually compensated for his losses by the British Government.



England

14. Rev Canon William McDouall, MA, 1775 - 1849 (*see photo of portrait*). He graduated from Glasgow University and then from Balliol College, Oxford, after which he took Holy Orders.

m. Euphemia, “Emma”, the half Scottish daughter of Jean Gaudin, a wine merchant of Ashby de-la-Zouch. Gaudin was of Huguenot descent and came to England from Switzerland sometime before 1791.

William’s first curacy was at Smisby, Derbyshire. He later became Vicar of Ashby de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire and later still, Vicar of Luton, Bedfordshire. A Canon of Peterborough Cathedral, he was also appointed Chaplain to HRH the Prince Regent.



***Taken from a diary of WILLOUGHBY C. McDouall
5th son of J C S McDouall of ‘New Freugh’, Singleton,
Derek and Michael Eaton’s great grandfather and
first McDouall to settle in New Zealand.
Born 1852, (N.S.W)—Died 1914 (Oamaru, Otago)***

***(Original was in the possession of his granddaughter
Mrs Patricia Stevenson (deceased) of Christchurch, NZ)***

Left New Freugh Feb. 1867 aged 14 years and 9 months.

*Left Sydney for New Zealand by steamer ‘Auckland’ Feb. 22nd 1867,
arrived at Auckland.*

*Left Auckland for Turanganui (subsequently renamed Gisborne) – the trip
taking 19 days.*

*Easter Day and Easter Monday spent in Tryphena Harbour, Gt Barrier
Island (stress of weather), vessel then beat across Bay of Plenty, reached
Hick’s Bay, N of East Cape – lay there, sheltering for 6 days – reached
Turanganui on Tuesday, met my brother William A FitzGerald McDouall.
Went with him to his survey camp 6 or 7 miles out. This was in May 1867
– remained there for some weeks – there made a pair of trousers of duck,
button holes were transferred from an old pair – necessity the mother of
invention – then moved up coast to the Narua River, surveyed a block of
land which had been confiscated from the rebel Māoris; that completed,
moved on to Anauro Bay – surveyed another confiscated block in July
1867. Having finished that moved on to Tokomaru Bay where we*

circumstances of great difficulty, and some danger, requiring the exercise of prudence on the part of the surveyor, as well as energy and courage.

*Charles H. CE, Late Chief Surveyor to the General Government
Auckland, April 5, 1871"*

After his arrival in his native colony, Mr McDouall was appointed in the Moree district. But having contracted a severe cold, he had to visit Sydney for medical advice and treatment.

It was too late, however. The seeds of death had been sown, and after being ill for some time, he finally succumbed to a disease of the heart and lungs. He died in Sydney on the 22nd ult., and his body was brought up and quite privately interred in the Singleton cemetery by his sorrowing father and brothers.

His fate was that of many another brave soldier, who, after facing the dangers of the battlefield, and going as it were into the very jaws of death, survives these manifest perils to be at length cut off by insidious disease. Such is one of the many puzzling manifestations of the manner in which the Angel of Death wreaks his potent vengeance on our race.

He lived at Copt Hall, Luton and is buried in St. Mary's churchyard, Luton.

Australia



- 3. John Crichton Stuart McDouall, 1818 - 1891** *(see photo of portrait)* of "New Freugh", Singleton, NSW, Australia. Eldest son of Rev. William McDouall and Euphemia Gaudin. Came to Australia with his brother Rawdon on the sailing ship "Alfred", arriving in Sydney January 1841. John married Ellen Maria Fitzgerald whom he met on the outward passage. Ellen and John were married in St. James Church, King Street, Sydney on the 23rd February 1841. He was named John after his paternal grandfather and great grandfather. "Crichton" and "Stuart" came through his godfather, the Marquis of Bute, who shares a common ancestry through the marriage of John McDouall (1700 - 1757) and Lady Elizabeth Dalrymple Crichton, Countess of Dumfries.

John later purchased a house and farm at Singleton, NSW, and called it "New Freugh" after the Scottish estate. Highly respected in his community he held a number of offices including: Magistrate, Vice President of the Agricultural Association, First Master of the Masonic Lodge, Church Warden, Lay Reader, Chairman of the Pastures Protection Board, Honorary Secretary of the Hospital Board and Returning Officer for the district. He was also one of the first people to be involved in viticulture in the Hunter Valley.

In an address given at his funeral at All Saints' Church, Singleton, the Rev. H.B. Shaw said, *"His public duties were discharged with fidelity, and, though singularly unassuming and unambitious in disposition, his quiet good sense and judgement*

had always a salutary influence, whether on the Bench or in a meeting...he was ever gentle and courteous, and kindly in his conduct towards others, but above all a reverent and humble disciple of Jesus Christ." He is buried in Whittingham Lawn Cemetery, Singleton.

Ellen Maria Fitzgerald, 1825 – 1861. (John's first wife and our ancestor) was born in Trinidad, West Indies where her father Robert Appleyard Fitzgerald (b. 1797 in Limerick, Ireland) was the Colonial Secretary. Robert's first wife, Isabella Johnson and three of the children died of cholera in New Orleans, USA, 1835. He remarried Isabella Caroline Stevenson of Cheltenham.

They emigrated to New Zealand via Australia on the same ship, the S.S. Alfred, where his daughter, Ellen, met John Crichton Stuart McDouall. Robert spent some time in the West Indies, nine years in New Zealand and forty-two years in New South Wales. Ellen died at Singleton, NSW in 1861, aged 36, after the birth of her eleventh child. She is also buried in Singleton.



New Zealand

- 4. Willoughby Crichton McDouall**, 1852 – 1914, sixth child of John Crichton Stuart McDouall and Ellen Maria (née Fitzgerald). Married 'Minnie', Mary Edith Emily McArdell (1852 – 1943) of Queenstown, NZ. Willoughby, as a boy of 14 years and 9 months, went to New Zealand to join his older brother William, a surveyor (who also fought in the Māori Wars - see obituary p.34). After more than a year of hard work, living under canvas and assisting with surveying, Willoughby had to return to civilisation owing to the Māori Wars.

Mr McDouall began a promising career as a surveyor, and in that capacity he emigrated to New Zealand, where he was employed during the Waikato war (mid-1860s) to lay out the allotments granted to the military settlers.

He pursued his call till the exigencies of the colony and the continuation of the war called upon him to relinquish this peaceful occupation and join in the sanguinary strife. He entered into the services of his adopted country with a zeal and courage that his own countrymen might well be proud of. He became an officer in the Mounted Scout Corps, a position involving much danger and hardship. Many were the narrow escapes he had to recount, but he appears to have gone unscathed, whilst many fine fellows were dropping around him. On one occasion the shoulder-strap of his haversack was cut through by a bullet. At the taking of one Pa, a comrade kneeling in the front rank before him received the ball in his forehead.

At the taking of the Ngatapa-Pa, when the Māoris were escaping, one brave savage turned, and had levelled his musket at his conquering foe, when Mr McDouall's last revolver charge found a place in the Maori's heart, and as he fell back dead his musket went off in the air.

When the war was over, Mr McDouall returned home with the following certificate from his superior officer:

"I certify that Mr W A F McDouall was a surveyor employed by the General Government of New Zealand during the Waikato war, and engaged in surveying the allotments for the location on the frontier of the military settlers. He has since been engaged as a surveyor under the Native Lands Act at Poverty Bay, and on the East Coast – in all, about seven years. His work has always been of a satisfactory character, accurate and workmanlike. The work in the Waikato was done under



OBITUARY NOTICE

(taken from a newspaper cutting)

The Late Mr W A F McDouall, L S

(brother of Willoughby, Derek & Michael Eaton's great grandfather of 'Grey Freugh', Oamaru)

First McDouall to arrive in New Zealand

Born 26.6.1842

Died 22.8.1876

“An unpretentious advertisement of a few lines, recently published in our columns, recorded the death of Mr William Alexander FitzGerald McDouall, eldest son of Mr J C S McDouall, JP, of New Freugh, Singleton, NSW. But the memory of the deceased gentleman, who was stricken down in the prime of life – he was only 34 years of age – deserves more than this meagre notice. As a native of this colony, and one who had fought the battles of his Queen in a distant colony, his name should not be allowed to slip into oblivion without a passing recognition of his bravery, and his life.

He was involved, doing garrison duty at night. After the war he remained in New Zealand while his brother William returned to NSW.

In 1870 he joined the Bank of Otago and was sent to Queenstown for two years. Then in 1872, at the age of 20, he was sent to Cardrona as manager to open a new branch of the bank.

These were dangerous days, and one of his tasks each month was to take the gold bullion over the Crown Range Mountains to Queenstown on foot leading a packhorse (*see notes taken from Willoughby's diary p.37*). Later he was transferred to the Dunedin branch of the National Bank and eventually became manager of the National Bank in Oamaru.

Willoughby lived a full and busy life until his death in 1914. He was Chairman of the Hospital Board and a great supporter of St. Luke's Anglican Church, Oamaru, in which there is a beautiful stained-glass window dedicated to his memory. When he died, the newspapers reported: “The largest walking funeral ever witnessed in Oamaru”.



5. **Eric Oldfield McDouall**, 2nd June 1886 – 27th November 1918. (Michael's and Derek's grandfather). Seventh child of Willoughby and “Minnie” McDouall of Grey Freugh, Oamaru. Married “Ella” Elizabeth Carpenter Morrish (1886 - 1954). “Ella” was the youngest child of Richard Morrish (1839 – 1916) and Elizabeth Morrish (née Wright) (1845 – 1916). The Morrish family farm, ‘Prestonville’, was at Lincoln, Canterbury. Eric and Ella weremarried in St. Stephen's Church, Lincoln on the 1st January, 1913.

According to a notice in the North Otago Times, Eric was born at the National Bank in Oamaru where his father was the manager. He studied at the Canterbury Agricultural College (Lincoln College) receiving the gold medal (Dux) in his final year

and diplomas for Agricultural Chemistry, Botany and Veterinary Surgery. He also won the special prize for examination of Horse for Soundness.

Ella's siblings were: Annie Elizabeth, Frederick Ernest, Mary Cecilia and Alice.

Eric died in the great Spanish Flu epidemic in 1918. The following appeared in the newspaper: *"The death is reported from Dunedin of Mr Eric Oldfield McDouall, who formerly resided at Motea (near Dannevirke. The farm was called "Pekanui") and who sold his farm there comparatively recently, preparatory to entering the Expeditionary Force camp. He was aged 32 years, and leaves a wife and two children. The deceased was a son of the late Mr McDouall, manager for many years of the National Bank at Oamaru."*

Also appearing in the same issue. *"The late Mr Eric McDouall, whose death was announced in this issue, was a son of the late Mr W.C. McDouall, of the National Bank, Oamaru. He was a sheep farmer at Dannevirke. He sold his farm preparatory to enlisting, and was passed as fit A to go into camp in March or April. During the interval he went down to assist on a sheep farm in Southland, as the son (of the owners) was away on active service. His wife (Ella) was in Dunedin when the epidemic broke out and became seriously ill, and following upon a summons to her bedside, he contracted influenza and died of pneumonia yesterday. He leaves a widow and two children. (Barbara and Kathleen)*

Educated at Waitaki High School he was well known here some years ago. His three brothers, Gerald, Alan and Philip are all on active service. Another brother is doing great work as a missionary in China".

In an address given in All Saints' Church, Singleton, the Rev H.B. Shaw said, *"...His public duties were discharged with fidelity, and though singularly unassuming and unambitious in disposition, his quiet good sense and judgment had always a salutary influence, whether on the Bench or in a meeting...He was ever gentle and courteous, and kindly in his conduct towards others, but above all a reverent and humble disciple of Jesus Christ"*.

"New Freugh" was eventually sold in 1905.

"NEW FREUGH" ESTATE.
 Extensive Frontage to the Hunter River, and adjoining the well-known Baroona (A. A. Dangar, Esq., Neotsfield (R. H. Dangar, Esq.), and Minimbah (Sylvester Browne, Esq.)
5 miles from Singleton, 25 miles from Maitland, and 41 miles from the Shipping Port of Newcastle. 140 miles from Sydney.

TREBECK, SON & CO.,
 IN CONJUNCTION WITH **H. YORK & SONS,** SINGLETON,
 2 O'CONNELL ST., SYDNEY.

Have received instructions from the Executors of the late J. C. S. McDouall to Sell by Auction, at The Percy Hotel, Singleton, on

TUESDAY, 30th MAY, 1905, at 2 p.m.
 that well-known

"NEW FREUGH" ESTATE,
 which has been in the possession of the present owner since 1843.

"NEW FREUGH" comprises
 6384 acres Freehold, all under Torrens Title, and has the Sydney to Brisbane Railway

Extensive Frontage to the Hunter River.
 2.—One Platform on the property and two Railway Stations almost adjoining, also good main roads everywhere.
 3.—Weekly Produce Markets at Singleton, where there are also a Bacon Factory and two Butter Factories, where farmers get prompt cash for all produce.
 4.—Splendid rainfall, viz 4—31 inches annually.
 5.—On the Eastern side of the property, a Condensed Milk Factory and Creamery

A Description of the various Blocks is as follows:—

Lot 1.—552 acres, 4½ miles from Singleton. This block is known as Castle Forbes, and is, without doubt, the best bit of land of its size in the District for Lucerne growing, water being easily got at a shallow depth. This is fenced and divided into three grass paddocks and four lucerne paddocks, more or less netted. Nice six roomed cottage and outbuildings. Mudies' Creek runs through centre.

Lot 2.—428 acres, good grazing country, Hunter River Frontage as well as to Railway, open ridgy country and all fallen timber picked up and burnt. Divided into two paddocks.

Lot 3.—446 acres, well watered by creek, 30 acres under cultivation, fenced and divided into two paddocks, weatherboard cottage, milking yards, &c.

Lot 4.—149 acres. This is the portion containing "New Freugh" House, all built of stone, ten rooms, &c., and necessary outbuildings. Orchard, 30 acres under cultivation, large sheds, and frontage to Hunter River.

Lot 5.—72 acres, 20 acres of which are Lucerne, dwelling, yards and dairy, &c. Hunter River Frontage.

Lot 6.—99 acres, 80 acres cultivated and divided into several paddocks, dwelling and other buildings, yards and dairy, one mile from Factory. Hunter River Frontage.

Lot 7.—635 acres, fenced and divided into two paddocks, creek passing through portion, adjoins Main Road, open grass land and good fattening, some good wheat land.

Lot 8.—629 acres, fenced, all good pastoral land, suitable for Dairying. Water.—Two small creeks and a large dam. Main Singleton to Maitland Road bounds this on northern side, and Minimbah Railway Station is on the southern boundary.

Lot 9.—123 acres, fenced and adjoining Great Northern Railway, ringbarked and good grazing country. Watered by dam.

Lot 10.—2187 acres, fenced and well watered by Emigrant Creek and two Dams, three paddocks, first-class grazing and fattening country, sheep yards to hold 3000 sheep.

Lot 11.—1058 acres, grazing and dairying country, watered by two dams. This block is about a mile from Kurindia Condensed Milk Factory, and same distance from Belford Railway Station.

Buyers will be met at Singleton and shown over the property.

TERMS:—10% cash on fall of hammer, 15% on possession, and the balance in equal amounts at 2, 3, 4 and 5 years at 5% secure interest on property.

FOR PLAN SEE OTHER SIDE.
 Fuller Particulars obtained from
TREBECK, SON & CO., Sydney, and H. YORK & SONS, Singleton.

(the longest serving magistrate in the Colony). Records show that he was a constant attender at the courts and punctilious in the discharge of his duties. Other public positions he held were: Vice-President of the Agricultural Association, First Master of the Masonic Lodge, Church Warden and Lay Reader of All Saints' Church, Singleton, Chairman of the Pastures Protection Board, and also the Returning Officer for Singleton from 1866 until the last election in 1889.

In 1863 the Commission for Railways purchased land from the "New Freugh" estate for part of a new railway to Singleton. (The correspondence relating to this matter is in the railway archives at Singleton).

From 1851—1883 JCS McDouall was Honorary Secretary to the Hospital Board, and in 1861 laid the foundation stone of the Singleton Hospital, then known as the Benevolent Asylum.

The second Mrs McDouall (Susan) laid the foundation stone for the little stone church at Lower Belford in 1885. The land was given by John, and he and his wife gave money for its construction. The stone was from an old convict-built barn and it was consecrated in 1886 by the bishop and was called "The Church of the Good Shepherd".

The McDoualls of "New Freugh" always kept "open house" and it was the headquarters for the whole family. It offered generous hospitality to all who crossed its threshold.

John Crichton died on January 30th 1891. He was 72 years of age and had achieved much in his lifetime. Many tributes were paid to his character and his service to the community. *"He was a warm-hearted, benevolent man, doing good where he could in a quiet unostentatious manner. He was widely respected and esteemed, and had all the characteristics of an English Gentleman."*

Eric and Ella had two daughters: Ella Barbara (1914 – 1997) and Kathleen Oldfield (1916 – 1995). Our mother, Barbara's birth notice in the Dannevirke Evening News was as follows: *"McDouall - Lincoln, on the 25th March 1914, to Mr and Mrs E. O. McDouall, Pekanui, Mangatoro, a daughter."*

The Oldfield name comes from Eric's mother's side, Mary Edith (Minnie) McArdell. Philip Harris McArdell, Minnie's father, was first cousin to Elizabeth Oldfield who was the mother of Douglas Hyde, the first president of Ireland.

Eric is buried in the Anderson's Bay Cemetery, Dunedin, N.Z

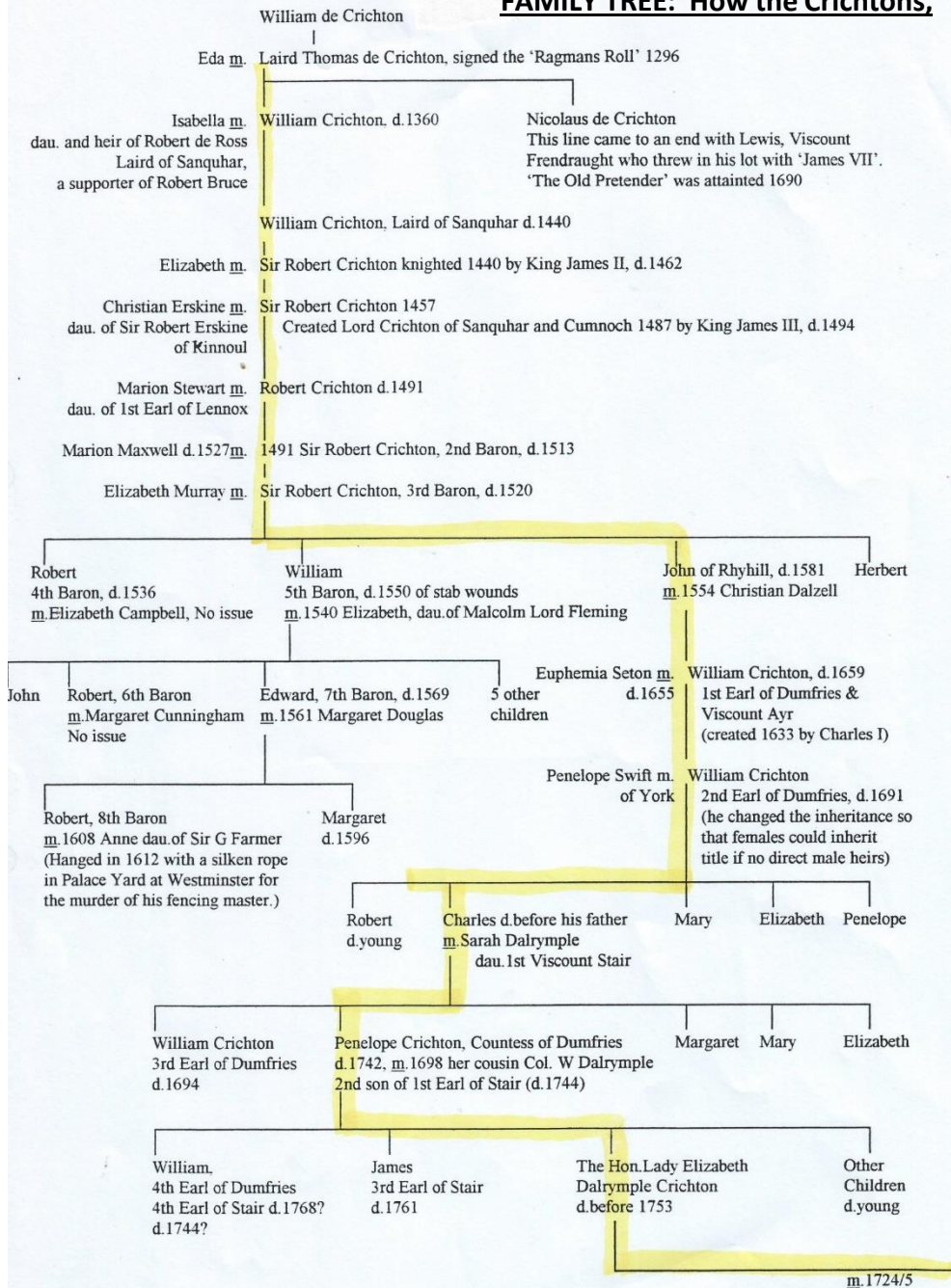


6. Ella "Barbara" McDouall, (1914—1997) elder daughter of Eric and Ella, m. Henry Jackson Eaton (1911—1991) of Timaru, in 1937 at St. Luke's Church, Oamaru. Barbara was educated at Waitaki Girls' High School and excelled in her studies and in sport. She qualified as a Registered Nurse from Dunedin Public Hospital. A committed Christian, she was New Zealand president of the Anglican Young Wives organisation (later the Association of Anglican Women) for many years travelling extensively throughout N.Z. and the Pacific Islands. She was a talented speaker, diarist and painter.

After her husband, Jack was ordained, she assisted in his ministry as curate of the Riccarton and Sumner parishes and as Vicar of Waihao Downs and Rakaia parishes in the Christchurch Diocese. They later retired to Sumner.

Immensely proud of her family and intensely interested in others, she was the "matriarch" of the family and greatly loved by her children and grandchildren.

FAMILY TREE: How the Crichtons,



what both you and my wife wish me to, as soon as ever I can settle my affairs down here, I will lose no time in going up.

It will recall to my mind many days gone by when I am with the two young gentlemen, your sons, it will make me remember when you and your dear brothers were young gentlemen like them.

I remain my ever dear Sir, Yours respectfully, William Barber”.

This kindness would have been very helpful to the family, especially the oldest girl Nellie, as at 14 she was very capable and had been a wonderful companion to her mother, having already taken over many of the housekeeping duties. She was now, more or less, the mistress of the house. Her brothers and sisters were devoted to her.

After three years of struggle, John married again in 1864. His second wife was Susan Hartigan, daughter of the Rev. Edward Hartigan, Rector of Castletown, County Tipperary, Ireland. It was a difficult situation into which Susan, John’s new wife, found herself—a step-mother joining a family of 11 children whose ages ranged from 22 down to 3 years of age. The younger children responded well and in time came to regard Susan as their own mother. Nellie, understandably, resented being superseded and losing her place in running the household, and went to live with her grandparents, the FitzGeralds, in Maitland.

John continued to be deeply involved in the community. Patrick, his third son, left school early to help his father at “New Freugh” and later took over the management of the property.

In those days there were no magistrates to preside over District Courts, instead there were a number of honorary justices in each district. The Chief Justice was styled as “The Warden”. In Singleton this office was held by JCS McDouall from the 1850’s until the time of his death in 1891

In 1857, Robert FitzGerald spent three weeks at “New Freugh” and was a great hit with the children. Ellen wrote of her father, *“He was the life of the house...and in such good spirits...he took my share of the teaching...and all his grandchildren are so fond of him”*.

After a dry spell in 1858, Ellen writes to her half sister, Connie, in England, *“10 days ago we had glorious rain, grass now deliciously green and the poor cattle are luxuriating: garden growing well and good promise of fruit. Our dairy is large, now I have engaged a woman on the farm to attend to it for the summer months—last summer it was the work of cook, and because of that I was constantly in the kitchen”*.

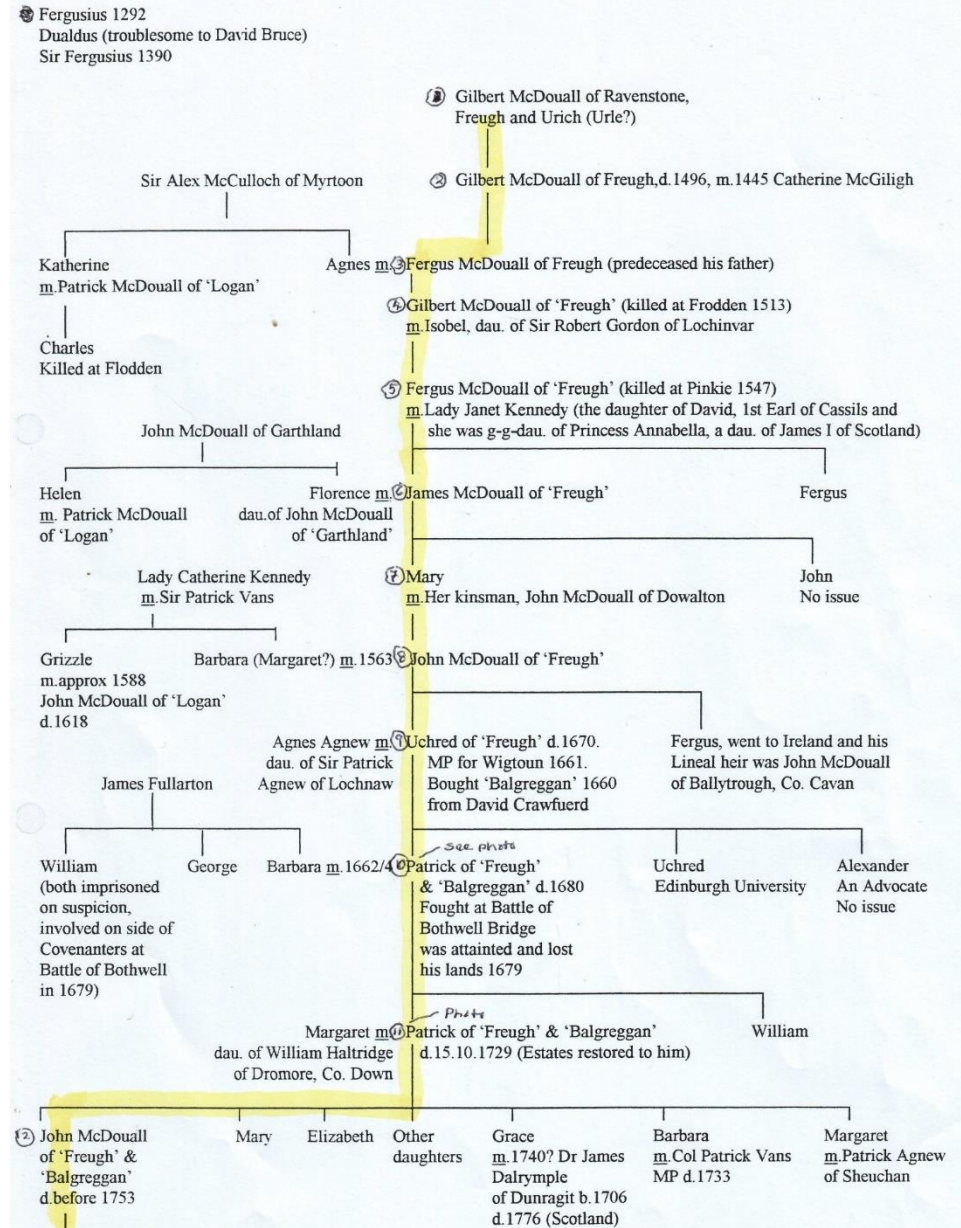
Ellen’s parents, the FitzGerald, (our 3x great grandparents) in 1861 planned to buy a house in Maitland. This pleased Ellen as *“...you will seem so near to me...half a day will bring you to us, and there is a great deal in the feeling of nearness”*.

During the winter of 1861, Ellen, pregnant with her 11th child, was feeling unwell. She had a nasty cough but had *“all things ready and in apple pie order”*. The tragic blow fell on the 18th September. Ellen died giving birth to Maria Caroline. She was only 36 years old, and had been such a devoted, loving mother. The loss was keenly felt by the family.

The wife of William Barber, the family steward who had accompanied John and Rawdon on the “SS Alfred” two decades earlier, travelled to Singleton to help the family. The following is a letter to John dated 5th October, 1861—it is a touching expression of sympathy and loyalty.

“My dear Sir, I received your very kind note, but don’t mention thanks for I have only done my duty in sending my wife up and I am thankful to know that she is of service to your family—for particularly the dear little baby. I hope the Lord will spare her to you. I am quite agreeable to do

the Stuarts of Bute and the McDoualls are connected.



In 1846, the Hunter River Vineyards Association was formed. John McDouall was a member and his name appears in various reports of the organisation. He was awarded a small silver cup in 1869 at the Singleton Show for the *“best white wine in any vintage”*.

At the end of the 1840's the three McDouall brothers who had emigrated to Australia, went their separate ways. Hastings returned to Great Britain and Rawdon purchased 24,000 acres in the Horton Valley and called it *“Ulumbarella”*. (In 1983 it was still being farmed by Jim McDouall, a descendant of Rawdon).

Their father, the Rev William McDouall of Copt Hall, Luton, died in December 1849. In a letter to John earlier that year he wrote that the doctor had visited him and said, *“you look very well”*, but Rev William added *“...how long this will continue is hard to say, but unquestionably good accounts of my children and grandchildren have a wonderful effect of beautifying the countenance”*.

John was the heir and now the senior McDouall. William's will could not be executed until John received the Deed and signed and returned it. Mail to and from the Antipodes took months, so the estate was not settled for several years. John inherited the house in Edinburgh and promptly sold it. His brothers, William and Patrick in England sent him their father's watch and seal, some portraits (held by Gerald McDouall of Whanganui) and the Coat of Arms. He was told to assume at once the role of *“Representative of the McDoualls of Freugh”*. All other property was divided among the eight surviving children of the Rev William.

Life at *“New Freugh”* continued through the years to be hectic. Eleven children were born to John and Ellen (4 girls and 7 boys) and



CLAN LANDS OF SCOTLAND

Printed in Scotland by John Hain

History of the McDoualls and Firths

Emigration to the Antipodes

(The McDoualls and FitzGerald)

The barque "SS Alfred" left Plymouth on the 7th September 1840. On board were 284 free settlers in steerage, and in first class (or "Cuddy") were 15 adults and 7 children. They were heading for the colonies in Australia, "*a home of bright and cheering prospects*" according to the journal of Isabella FitzGerald, one of the "Cuddy" passengers.

The two brothers, John Crichton Stuart McDouall (23) and Rawdon (18) were also "Cuddy" passengers. Their futures seemed assured. They had letters of introduction from the Colonial Secretary, Lord John Russell, to the Governor of NSW and other officials. These had been obtained by their father the Rev William McDouall of Copt Hall, Luton, through his cousin the Marquis of Bute and Earl of Dumfries.

They were accompanied by the family steward, William Barber, and 30 workmen, some from the family estate and some from the parish of their father. The workers travelled in steerage for the total cost of £132. The cost for William Barber was £40. John's and Rawdon's passage in the "cuddy" cost £160.

The McDouall boys were hoping to purchase farmland in NSW. They brought with them farming implements purchased by their brother-in-law Captain George Hathorn (later Admiral Hathorn), on behalf of their father, which included:

Boots for workmen	£17.16. 6
Guns	£35. 0. 0
A tent	£ 6. 4. 0
Saddles	£10. 2. 6
Knives	£ 8. 8. 6

native dog or Dingo being such a dire enemy. Ewes after shearing sold for 10/-, wethers for market 6/- to 9/-. Price of cattle still low, a herd of cows only worth £1 per head. Fat bullocks in Sydney, £2 to £4. Refusal of the British Home Government to admit our grain on the same terms as Canadian grain, caused great discussion and a most uncalled hardship". These were hard days of depression in the Colony with many estates going bankrupt.

John Crichton Stuart McDouall led a very busy life. In addition to his work on the estate he undertook civic responsibilities including Chief Magistrate in Singleton, one of the first to be commissioned in the Colony.

John was often away and Ellen wrote of being lonely... "*the long winter evenings, sitting alone and being obliged to lock up myself without another soul stirring, for the servants' apartments and kitchen are detached from the home.*"

Her sister Kate (our great, great, great aunt) had gone to join her father, Robert FitzGerald and his family in Russell, New Zealand. In 1842 she married Lieut. Willoughby Shortland who was Secretary to Governor Hobson. When Hobson died, Shortland was "the Officer Administering Government" until the new Governor, FitzRoy arrived from England.

In the Hunter Valley, grape growing for wine was on the increase. John evidently had acquired some expertise in this area as he wouldn't plant the acreage he had planned because he could not get the varieties he wanted. Evidently some growers had planted up to 20 acres but he thought, "*sufficient care had not yet been taken in suiting the vine to the soil, and by mixing different grapes the wine is indifferent.*"

P.S. Henry Hill will be down shortly, perhaps before I can write again so you will hear all the news. Remember me to Barber."

The sons born to John and Ellen at "Trematon" were William Alexander FitzGerald McDouall (26th September, 1842), who was the first McDouall to reach New Zealand (*see obituary notice taken from newspaper cutting p.34*), and John Crichton Stuart McDouall (23rd October 1843), who was baptised at Singleton a year later in November 1844.

SINGLETON

John and Ellen moved to Singleton during 1844. The owner of "Drayton Estate", J.S. Ferriter, had written to John offering him "Drayton Estate" at Patrick Plains, Singleton for £2000—this included furniture. The stock he was willing to sell for £254. This offer was accepted by John and the estate was renamed "New Freugh" after the estates of "Freugh" and "Balgreggan" in Scotland.

W.H. Hodgson of Etonvale, Darling Downs, son-in-law of Chief Justice, Sir James Dowling, commented in a letter to Captain (later Admiral) Hathorn, "*Your brother-in-law has made a happy purchase. I know Drayton well.. A pretty place on the Hunter River, a good stone house, a good garden and outhouses... I believe McDouall only gave £2000 for it, dirt cheap— but he cannot make money there. There is little room for stock, and I doubt if agriculture pays.*"

Lord Bute, John's godfather and kinsman continued his interest and contributed £1000 towards the purchase of "New Freugh".

In 1845 John gives a few details of agricultural practices e.g. the fencing required by law "*... very expensive, 2/6 to 3/6 per rod. Sheep have to be tended all day and all night, watched by man and dog—the*

Plough	£38.17.11
Ironmongery	£78. 8. 0
Outfit and Cabin furniture	£100.0.0

The Rev. William also sent several large trunks containing additional supplies and books including a large Bible, a Prayer Book and 55 volumes of the "Emigrant's Library".

Accompanying John and Rawdon was a young carpenter, aged 24, named Hawkes. He was recommended by their father as "*a very desirable member of our establishment—a teetotaler for 4 years ... violin player and a Wesleyan Methodist*". There is no record of John or Rawdon having any experience or special training in agriculture. The problems they would face would be quite different from those one might encounter farming in Britain.

John had previously acted in some secretarial capacity to his uncle, the Marquis of Bute, and had travelled with him on a journey by train and horse drawn coach from London to Scotland visiting their ancestral estates. Later, Lord Bute was to assist John financially in his acquisition of property in NSW.

Also travelling on the "SS Alfred" were Robert Appleyard FitzGerald, his second wife, Isabella (née Stevenson) and his family which included their three small daughters and two older girls who had been born to his first wife, Isabella Johnson in Trinidad, where he had been Colonial Secretary. Kate was aged 17, a very quiet girl and Ellen (who was to marry John) was 15. Two surviving pictures show Ellen to have been very pretty. The FitzGerald's came from Limerick, Ireland and were related to the Duke of Leinster.

The outward voyage to Sydney took 19 weeks (134 days). Robert's

wife, Isabella, in her journal tells of long delays caused by strong winds, westerly currents and periods of calm all of which resulted in a shortage of food supplies and some of the stock on board dying. They put into Cape Town for fresh water and supplies. This was their only port of call on the outward journey. *“The health of the passengers remained remarkably good, spending all day on deck except in rainy weather. Their cabins were washed, scraped and fumigated daily.”* Approaching Australia, a change in weather resulted in many of the steerage passengers contracting colds.

On arriving in Sydney, Isabella wrote: *“The shores are very beautiful, being wooded down to the water’s edge and the hills dotted over with beautiful cottages; the heat is excessive...the harbour appears like a large lake enclosed with wooded hills and we have a peep of the town at a little distance.”* After disembarking she records: *“All my darlings have been cruelly bitten by mosquitoes - we hear of spiders an inch square, of lizards, centipedes and scorpions; locusts sing in the woods....provisions and vegetables are very dear.”*

During the voyage, Kate and Ellen had spent most of their time on deck working or reading. Robert evidently believed in strict supervision of his older daughters. He gave them regular lessons in geography, and often read aloud while they were sewing.

Nearing the end of the voyage, *“New Years Day was ushered in by music at midnight.... It being Ellen’s birthday, it was the Captain’s wish to have a sort of fête in compliment to her, but Robert requested that he would not notice it, as it might give opportunities for freedoms which we might wish to avoid”.*

On board John and young Ellen found opportunities to become acquainted and they surprised their families with an unexpected

across they were nearly lost, the other horses kept pulling Jack down the stream and if they had gone 5 yards further down, they would have been drowned as there was no other landing place—Jack swims like a duck. Then Jack lost his near fore shoe and was very lame, the hoof worn quite down...over a nasty rocky stony road, but we managed to make 40 miles a day. I got his shoe put on at Port Macquarie and we came up the next day to the MacLeay about dark, but the stream was so strong we did not like to face it in the dark, so we turned back 6 miles and stopped at MacLeod’s Station and arrived yesterday. We found them busy tailing the cattle, and we are to start the day after tomorrow for New England so that poor Jack will only get 2-days rest. There is hardly a bite of grass, the cattle have cleared the run so much, but there is lots of green barley and oats for the horses and plenty of corn; the cattle are in very low condition.

Today we have been working most awfully, drafting, cutting and branding—we branded 40 calves and there are a good many more on the run, yet we start with better than 300 head. Rowley is in New England and was stayed about halfway by flood. Magnus McLeod has just come in from the Namoi; we have not seen him but I expect the cattle up there are collected, so Rowley will have to start there and I shall mind the cattle in New England. This is the third time the cattle have been collected but the other two times they were obliged to be turned out again on account of the flood. I hope we shall not have any more; if we have I don’t know what we shall do. The work will come very hard on poor Jack, I expect to have given him at least a week’s rest. But I won’t carry much swag with me. If we had had two more days journey it would have given Jack a sore wither ...There have been most tremendous floods here; I got those letters all safe. I think I have said all on this small sheet of paper and will now conclude with best love to all. I remain your affectionate Brother, Rawdon McDouall.

and also from the Bishop of Lincoln. In the same letter from their father, he comments, *“your position appears to be advantageous for selling Beef and Hogs, fat for the victualling of ships, otherwise I agree with you that sheep ought to be more convenient stock on account of the wool to sell and mutton for your people to eat. Having grown Barley, do you malt it for brewing? What do you work your dough with? Does the owner of your land allow you for clearing land?”*

In his reply John mentions that *“the wine merchant’s bill is fairly large and that quite a portion of it is for Rum, and that he may have been too generous in issuing it for extra work in getting cows out of bogs etc.”*

Obviously their father had some practical knowledge of farming and agriculture. He also had John made a life member of the Royal Agricultural Society which would have kept him in touch with farming trends in Great Britain.

In September 1843 John’s twin brothers, Rawdon and Hastings, travelled north through Gloucester with three horses. Rawdon wrote to John from Corrungula describing the journey.

“My dear John, We arrived here yesterday after a very tedious journey. I wrote a note to you from Companies station, Gloucester, but I don’t know if you will receive it. We lost the horses first of all, then the rain came and delayed us nearly a fortnight. When we got to the Manning, it was not fordable, so were delayed a day getting a black fellow to take the horses across. We had to walk about 6 miles up and down high stony ranges and carry all our swag and crossed over in a canoe, then had to walk opposite when we left the horses tied to trees, and the black fellow swam across to them, rode Jack, and led the other two and swam them

announcement as the ship neared Sydney. In a letter written by Isabella to her mother, she relates the outcome of the ship-board romance; *“.....the most important news I have to tell of, news which will astonish you even more than it has us Ellen is going to be married, to a gentleman who came out with us, of very good family and independent means, the son of a clergyman who is... first cousin to the Marquis of Bute; but I am happy to say that his high connexion is not his only recommendation; though very young, only 23, he appears very steady, sensible, and intelligent, his manner quiet but pleasing. Altogether we could not desire a more pleasing connexion. He was a favourite with us all, long before we suspected anything....I believe they have pretty well understood each other from the time we left the Cape”.*

The FitzGerald's rented lodgings in O’Connell Street *“for which we must pay £4 per week and we are considered exceedingly fortunate in getting them even at that price. Robert has seen the Governor and the Colonial Secretary and has been received in a most flattering manner”.*

The Colony at this time was in the throes of a depression and nearly plunged into bankruptcy. This situation altered the plans of the FitzGerald's. Six months before, according to Isabella, Robert could have commanded the best appointment the Colony could offer, even that of Colonial Secretary. Suitable opportunities were now unavailable and New Zealand offered more attractive prospects, so they decided to leave for New Zealand immediately. Robert had letters to the Governor of New Zealand with the strongest recommendation from Sir George Gipps.

Their decision to go on to New Zealand altered the marriage plans

of John and Ellen. John had expected to purchase an estate up country before marrying Ellen. However, when the FitzGerald family decided to leave for New Zealand immediately, *“the Gentleman (John) did not much relish the idea of his intended bride being taken away from him, and Robert proposed our waiting for a fortnight in order that the marriage might take place before we left...He (John) is now gone to Newcastle, about 8 hours sail from here to engage a cottage for three months, to which they will go immediately after the wedding, it is in the neighbourhood of that place that he wishes to settle”*.

John Crichton Stuart McDouall was married to Ellen Maria FitzGerald in St. James' Church, King Street, Sydney, on the 23rd February 1841 at 9.00 a.m.

Rawdon, his younger brother, wrote a light-hearted account of the wedding to their brother William at Copt Hall, Luton. *“...a very nice, good-tempered girl, only 16 years old. The bishop was to have spliced them but he made some fine excuse, so the Rev. Allwood spliced them. There were six carriages and after the wedding we all went to Mr FitzG for a fine breakfast. At 12.00 noon the bride, bridegroom, and Miss FitzGerald (bridesmaid), went to Parramatta, 15 miles from Sydney. John bought a nice mare a fortnight ago and tomorrow I am to ride her up to Parramatta. I sent a Sydney Herald to Papa today, and one to Lord Bute by John's wish.”* The rest of Rawdon's letter is concerned with getting his clothes back from the laundry and the hanging of 6 bushrangers!

Rawdon, John's brother, treated the marriage with some disdain, apparently not overly impressed with the union in the Antipodes of two ancient families, one from Scotland and one from Ireland.

“New Freugh”

Life in the Hunter Valley, NSW

NEWCASTLE

John and Rawdon, the two McDouall brothers, along with John's wife, Ellen, and her sister Kate settled temporarily in Newcastle. In 1841, a small property was rented called “Trematon Park” at Fullerton Cove—*“a large fine sheet of water, very shallow, mostly dry at low tide ... the land swampy but drainable and a first rate cattle-run, 6½ miles from Newcastle and 1½ miles from the sea beach. A small creek runs through the property leading to an extensive swamp until it joins nearby at the head of Tillingery Creek which flows in a broad channel to Port Stephens. This is supposed to be the bed of the old Hunter River before its entrance was broken through Newcastle”*.

Much later (1861), “Trematon Park” was still associated with the McDoualls, it being managed by the family steward, William Barber. The McDoualls also leased an arable farm on Ash Isle from A.W. Scott, who had developed the land much earlier with convict labour.

In January 1842 Ellen's mother wrote from New Zealand to thank her for all the gifts she had sent. These included marmalade made from oranges grown on the Ash Island property. The FitzGerald family ate it with their rice pudding, and it was a great treat as they had been unable to obtain any fruit in New Zealand.

The Rev. William McDouall, their father, wrote to John in June 1842 telling him that Rawdon's twin, Hastings, would be coming out to Australia to join them in their venture. Hastings had letters of introduction to the Governor of NSW from Lord Stanley (the new British Secretary for the Colonies)