

Thomas RICE (1845-1922)



Thomas was aged 13, able to read and sponsored by Henry Hopkins as a bricklayer's lad when migrating with his parents and three siblings on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. Thomas was born on 21 March 1845 at Mildenhall, Suffolk.

Thomas married Margaret Jane TAYLOR (1852-1887) on 8 April 1867 in the home of the Rev. Robert Smith Casely, according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Wesleyan Church, Campbell Town.

1867 MARRIAGES in the District of <i>Campbell Town</i>								
Number.	When married, and where.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Rank.	Signature and Description of Parties.	Name of Clergyman, Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar.	When registered.	Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister.
27	<i>Married on the 8th of April 1867 in the private house of the Rev. R. S. Casely, Campbell Town.</i>	<i>Thomas Rice</i> <i>Margaret Jane Taylor</i>	<i>21</i> <i>18</i>	<i>Bachelor</i> <i>Spinster</i>	<i>Thomas Rice</i> <i>Margaret Jane Taylor</i>	<i>Robert Smith Casely</i>	<i>8th April 1867</i>	<i>Robert Smith Casely</i>
<p><i>Married in the House of the Rev. R. S. Casely, Campbell Town according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Wesleyan Church by authority of 123 by</i></p> <p><i>This Marriage was solemnized between us</i> <i>Thomas Rice</i> <i>Margaret Jane Taylor</i> <i>In the Presence of us</i> <i>Margaret Rhodes</i> <i>Thomas Britton</i> <i>Robert Smith Casely</i> <i>Minister.</i></p>								

Margaret was the daughter of James (1810-1856) and Bridget Louisa nee Donahoe previously Waldren (1806-1897). Her father was previously a convict from Lancaster, transported for 15 years in 1844 on the 'Hyderabad'. James was tried with Robert Taylor for highway robbery with violence. He was married with seven children, could read, a protestant and a miner before being convicted. Margaret's mother was from Ireland.

Thomas and Margaret had seven children. The first-born son, James Thomas (1873-1875), died at the age of two years. All of the surviving children remained in Tasmania.

Thomas was a farmer at Lebrina in Tasmania, residing at Lisle Road.

Thomas died on 23 January 1922 at the Scottsdale Memorial Hospital, at the age of 78 years. His body was transported to Launceston by train where he was buried at Carr Villa Cemetery in Launceston. Margaret died on 5 March 1887 in the Oatlands district, most likely Antill Ponds. She was aged 36. Margaret died on the same day her son Frederick (1887-1955) was born so obviously her death was due to childbirth.