

Henry BRASSETT Sen. (1829-1908)

Henry (1829-1908) was aged 30, married, literate, a steam sawyer from Oxfordshire when he migrated to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind'. He was sponsored by William Stammers Button of Launceston and discharged from the Quarantine Station, Impression Bay per night coach to Launceston on 23 March 1858. He was accompanied by his wife, Mary Anne nee Cook (1825-1864), and son William Harry aka Henry (1852-1941), aged 4.

Button, who was born in Suffolk, first came to Tasmania in 1833 in the ship 'Forth', bound to Circular Head and Launceston. He was accompanied by his brother Thomas Button and half-brother JS Waddell and other members of his family. Thomas Button and JS Waddell also sponsored 'Trade Wind' immigrants. After arriving in Tasmania William firstly set up his residence at Norfolk Plains and later moved to Launceston for business purposes. He was highly respected and became well known as a chief member of the Anti-Transportation League. When Launceston was declared a municipality, he was elected a member of the first Council and its first Mayor on 1 January 1853.

Henry and Mary Ann married on 25 July 1850 at St Mary, Whitechapel, Middlesex, London. In 1851 they were living at 4 Mountford Street, St Mary, Whitechapel, Middlesex. Henry was a sawyer. Henry's brother, Richard, who was single and aged 20, also a sawyer from Oxfordshire, was living in the home.

| 1850. Marriage solemnized at <u>the Parish Church</u> in the <u>Parish of St. Mary Whitechapel</u> in the County of <u>Middlesex</u> | | | | | | | | |
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| No. | When Married. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the Time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Surname. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
| 353 | July 25 th 1850 | Henry Brasnett | of full age | Bachelor | Sawyer | Mountford Street | John Brasnett | Boot & Shoe Maker |
| | | Mary Ann Cook | of full age | Spinster | | Mountford Street | Michael Cook | Boot & Shoe Maker |
| Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <u>Robert Palmer</u> Minister of the said Church, in the presence of <u>William Cooke</u> and <u>Mary Anne Button</u> witnesses. | | | | | | | | |
| This Marriage was solemnized by <u>Henry Brasnett</u> | | | in the Presence of <u>William Cooke</u> | | | and <u>Mary Anne Button</u> | | |

Prior to his marriage Henry, in the 1841 England Census for Fringford Village, Oxfordshire was still living at home with his parents, John aged 55 (1786-1856), a shoemaker and Frances nee Bennett (1791-1856), aged 50. In addition to Henry, who was then aged 11, were his siblings: William, 20; Ann, 18 and James, 13.

Henry and Mary Ann spent only about two years in Tasmania. By the 1861 England Census Henry and his family had returned to England. They were living at Shoreditch St Leonard, Middlesex. Henry was still occupied as a steam sawyer. Henry Jun. (William Henry) was now aged eight. Another son, Herbert, who had been born in Launceston on 25 June 1859, was aged one. In the same home was Henry's sister, Susannah, aged 48, and her husband James Perkins, aged 47. He was a coachman. It is possible that the family returned to England because of an illness with Mary Anne. She died in March 1864 in London, at the age of 35. Henry remarried a few months later to Maria Drummond on 21 September 1864 in Surrey, England. Henry and Maria had seven children. Henry died, aged 79, in 1908 in Middlesex, England.

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