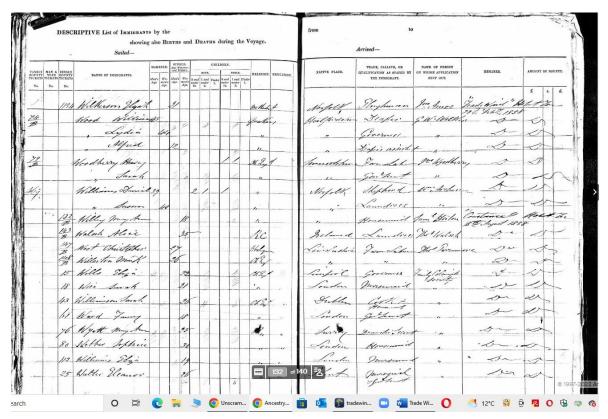
Mary Ann WILLEY (1840-1906)

Mary Ann was aged 18, single and a housemaid from Norfolk when listed as a passenger on the 'Trade Wind'. She was sponsored by Samuel Horton (1796-1867) of Launceston. It is uncertain whether Mary Ann sailed on the 'Trade Wind' as there is no record of her being in the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay. In addition, a Mary Ann Willey, aged 18, supposedly arrived in Hobart on 18 August 1858 per 'Constance'. She too was sponsored by Samuel Horton. It is possible Mary Ann did not go ahead with the 'Trade Wind' voyage but instead migrated to Tasmania on the 'Constance'. Another possibility is that the descriptive list of immigrants incorrectly recorded Mary Ann as being on the 'Constance' and she should have been included on the 'Trade Wind' passenger list.



A Mary Ann Willey, aged 20, servant, married on 9 July 1860 at the residence of Samuel Horton, Esq., Somercotes to Thomas Lowe, 20, servant, bachelor. This would match Mary Ann as she was sponsored by Samuel Horton and was working for him in the capacity as a housemaid. Thomas Davy Lowe was born on 4 September 1839 at Glandford Brigg, Lincolnshire. His parents were John (1809-1864) and Sarah nee Crawford (1816-1881). His parents, a sister Sarah (18) and himself were immigrants arriving under the Indenture System. His father was a carpenter and joiner and sponsored by Samuel Horton. They arrived in Hobart on the 'Wanderer' on 19 February 1855.



Captain Samuel Horton was one of the earliest settlers in the Ross district. He came to VDL in 1823 after serving as a Captain in the Merchant Navy. He was granted 1000 acres of land near the Ross Bridge in consideration of the £1640 in goods and cash he brought with him. In 1828 Horton received an additional grant of 800 acres and he added to this further land purchases. Horton called

his property 'Somercotes' after the area he had come from in Lincolnshire. In 1850 Horton donated money and land for the establishment of a boys' school. Horton College was built by 1855.



A researcher on ancestry.com (lintucker05) has Mary Ann being born on 5 January 1841 in Tetney, Grimsby, Lincolnshire with parents being named as Samuel Willey (1799-1879) and Alice nee Riggall (1809-1879). They were both from North Somercotes in Lincolnshire. Samuel Horton was also from North Somercotes.

Mary Ann and Thomas relocated to New Zealand by 1861 where the first of their eleven children were born. Ten of the children remained in New Zealand with one settling in Australia. One daughter drowned at the age of two.

Mary Ann died on 10 October 1906 at Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand, aged 65. Her husband, Thomas, died on 24 July 1918 at Hawarden, Hurunui, Canterbury, New Zealand, aged 78.