

### **Horton, Samuel (1795-1867)**

Sponsored: Maria Atkins (Norfolk, housemaid)  
John Bonner (Kings-Lynn, Norfolk; ploughman)  
Christopher Ingamells (Norfolk, ploughman)  
William Plaskett (Norfolk, ploughman)  
Ann Standaloft (Yorkshire, aged 4)  
Jane Standaloft nee Found (Germany on 'TradeWind' records but from Yorkshire;  
general servant)  
Thomas Standaloft (Shown as Germany on 'Trade Wind' records; died at sea)  
Mary Ann Willey (Norfolk, housemaid)



Captain Samuel Horton (1795-1867) of 'Somercotes' near Ross. He was one of the earliest settlers in Tasmania. Captain Horton went to Ross from Hobart Town in company with Thomas Parramore Esq., the journey taking ten days. Captain Horton took up a grant on 30 June 1823, naming the property 'Somercotes'. Horton was a very liberal and philanthropic man and there were few charitable institutions he did not participate in. He gave the land on which was built the Wesleyan College at Ross. For forty years Horton College was one of the leading schools in Tasmania and was famous as an educational establishment throughout Australia. Only the old archway now remains among the trees by the road between Launceston and Hobart. He was a staunch Wesleyan.

'Somercotes' was troubled by bushrangers. On one occasion they brought all the farm servants into the house, and as they entered a gun was discharged, shooting the cook. Martin Cash, the noted outlaw, visited Captain Horton on another occasion and bailed him up. Captain Horton said "You may shoot me, Cash, but God will protect me." Bullet marks in the cedar walls of one of the rooms caused by shots from the outlaw's pistol were objects of awed interest to many.

Born in Lincolnshire in 1796, Horton came to VDL in 1823 after serving as a Captain in the Merchant Navy. Horton College was built by him. In 1850 he donated 20 acres and £1000 to initiate the school project, to include a chapel for the use of local Wesleyans. Captain Horton died in 1867 after building a vault overlooking the school to take his remains.

Picture of Samuel Horton copied from *ancestry.com* (Marian Hudson).

Samuel Horton, Landowner, Ross applied for Immigrant Bounty Tickets on numerous occasions.