

Woodberry, John (1817-1903)

Sponsored: Elizabeth Woodberry (Somerset, aged 18 months)
Henry Woodberry (Somerset, general farm labourer)
Sarah (Emma?) Woodberry Jnr (Somerset, aged 3)
Sarah Woodberry Snr nee Bodgar (Somerset, general servant)



John Woodberry was Henry's brother who was transported for fifteen years to Tasmania in 1844 per 'Equestrian'. He was convicted for maliciously wounding and cutting. He stated he was at a party and went home with a female. Three men tried to take her away from him and he stabbed one of them with a knife. He said he was struck first. After working for 21 months probation at the Cascades Station on Tasman's Peninsular he worked for Robert Vincent Legge at Cullenswood for 12 months. He then worked for others in the Campbell Town and Fingal district. He became a very highly respected person and owned large properties, settling in the Deloraine district.

John Woodberry was born on 8 October 1817 near Taunton, Somerset, England. He died on 29 July 1903, aged 86 years, at Deloraine.

According to John's Obituary in *The North Western Advocate and the Emu Bay Times* (Mon 3 Aug 1903, p2) Woodberry was born in Somersetshire, England, in the year 1817 and came out to Tasmania in the early forties. It was not long before he settled on the East Coast, on the Glencoe Estate, where he followed dairying and farming pursuits successfully for many years. About the year '64 he purchased the well-known estate of Dairy Plains from the executors of the late Mr Robert Gibson, when he was again very successful. In 1875 he purchased part of the Retreat Estate, near Deloraine, now known as Pleasant Vale, also 700 acres at Dalebrook, and for some years worked these estates, milking as many as 325 cows, besides fattening stock.

For many years the name Woodberry was a household word in connection with first-class butter, cheese and fat stock. John married Harriett Alice Augusta Bonner (1832-1906) at Christ Church, Cullenswood on 29 April 1852. He had 12 sons and 3 daughters. Two of the sons were named Septimus and Octavius, perhaps following the pattern of their mother who had Augusta as part of her Christian names.

Picture of John Woodberry copied from *ancestry.com* (leonbriggs70).

John Woodberry was a small farmer of Cullenswood and applied for a Family ticket of Bounty Tickets on 24 February 1857. He had earlier applied for tickets on 7 April 1854.