



George Howard GAUDIN
1842 — 1930
Per Storm Cloud 1863
Clara GAUDIN nee VINING
1853 — 1878
Annie GAUDIN nee RIGBY
1867 — 1916
Per Bombay 1885
Elizabeth GAUDIN nee FREEMAN
1869 — 1951

George Howard GAUDIN, born 1842, Restigouche, Dalhousie, New Brunswick, Canada, was the eighth and last child of Captain David GAUDIN 1783-1860, a Master Mariner, and his wife Elizabeth de QUETTEVILLE. Both were born in Jersey, Channel Islands and immigrated to Canada in the 1835 with their first six children, Elizabeth born 1815, William born 1816, Francis born 1818, John born 1829, Caroline 1832 and Amelia 1834. The family then settled in New Brunswick where Matilda was born in 1836. David was aged 68 years and his occupation in 1851 was farmer, George was aged 10 years. (Source New Brunswick Census Returns 1851)

George immigrated to Port Chalmers, Otago, New Zealand on the Storm Cloud in 1863 and had three wives, Clara VINING 1853-1878 (her two sons, Henry Howard 1876-1903 and Arthur Hedley 1877-1969 were raised by her family in Melbourne, Australia), Annie BROWN nee RIGBY, 1867-1916 (6 children, Wilkin, Albert, Ada, Sidney, Maud and Eric, plus two from relationships). They lived up the Wilkin River at Makarora, where George owned and operated a saw mill. Annie died in Dunedin in 25 Jun 1916, aged 48, from diabetes. George married again to Elizabeth FREEMAN in 1924 at Gore, who was aged 54. Bessie lived over twenty years longer than George, passing away in 1951 in Dunedin and is buried together with George and Annie, his second wife at Andersons Bay Cemetery.

On 27 November 1876, George advertised an auction at his residence in Eden Street, Oamaru, selling his household furniture, plus fowls and a pair of poodle pups, in consequence of his leaving the district. His freight business had gone bankrupt. His first wife, Clara died in Dunedin in 28 Nov 1878 from phthisis, now known as TB. George then moved inland to Central Otago. In Stone's 1890 Otago & Southland Directory he is listed twice: Gaudin, George, Labourer, Pembroke, now known as Wanaka and Gaudin, George H., Miner Mt Criffel.

In 1890, George GAUDIN, Settler is listed as living at Makarora:

GAUDIN, George, settler, Weekly steamer 40 miles (12/6); Vincent County

MAKARORA Otago 218 miles NW from Dunedin: rail to Lawrence, coach (50/-) Pembroke bi-weekly, thence.

In 1904, George Gaudin was granted a license to cut 1000 black pine posts in Cameron's Bush, 3 miles from Templeton's Creek, Makarora. In 1906 George was granted a license for 8 acres in the Wilkin District for a rent of 5 shillings per annum.

Albert drowned at the age of 14 years on 23 Jul 1906. His father and older brothers were rafting timber from the saw mill down the Wilkin to Makarora and the raft overturned and he drowned. Albert's was the first burial in the Makarora Cemetery, but unfortunately the graves were lost in a later flood

The family then moved nearby to Hawea and the younger children went to school there. George was retired and registered on the Dunedin West Electoral Roll in 1919 living at 111 Moray Place and then in 1922 he was on the roll for Dunedin Central and living at 1 Alexandra Street, Caversham.

George's death certificate states that he died on the 2 July 1930 at the Talboys Home, Benevolent Institution at Caversham, from Tapanui. His occupation was farmer, aged 90 years, he would have been 88. Cause of death was Cardiac Syncope, Cerebral Thrombosis, myocardial weakness and senility. George was buried on the 3 July 1930 at the Andersons Bay Presbyterian Cemetery and the Minister was D. Heggie.

Annie RIGBY, was English, her birth was registered as Hannah RICKABY, born 26 Oct 1867 at Wingate, Durham ENG, to Thomas RICKABY, greengrocer and Elizabeth CURSON.

Ann RIGBY, aged 16 years, a general servant from Durham, emigrated to New Zealand per SS Bombay, which departed Plymouth 28 Nov 1883 for Port Chalmers and arrived 23 Jan 1884, 57 days, under Captain Holloway, with 511 passengers plus 3 stowaways. The cost to the New Zealand Government was 15 pounds. She was not nominated under the Vogel Immigration Scheme which ran from 1871 to 1888. During this time the government of Julius Vogel sought vast amounts of money from overseas lenders to fund public works and immigration projects. The money obtained allowed the central government to provide free & assisted passages to huge numbers of immigrants from the

United Kingdom. The scheme was eventually abandoned when it was realised that trying to spend one's way out of bad economic times wasn't working.

Annie BROWN, formerly RIGBY, aged 24, a widow, married George Gaudin, aged 46, a miner in the dwelling house of James Davis, at Cromwell on the 5 Oct 1889. Six children were born over the next ten years, all at Makarora, where George had a saw mill up the Wilkin River. Edward Wilkin on the 17 Feb 1890, Albert Clarence (drowned on a raft 23 July 1906) on 26 Jan 1892, Ada Frances Annie (married John Thomas COWIE) on the 19 Sep 1893, Sidney Thomas David born 1 Oct 1895, Maud Elizabeth born 3 Nov 1897 and Eric William Martin on the 23 Nov 1899. Annie died in Dunedin on the 25th of June 1916 at 48 years of diabetes and heart failure and was buried at Andersons Bay Cemetery Lot 23, Block 502, purchased by her son William Ernest GAUDIN, from Tarras.

References:

H. Cameron, *The Gaudin Story*, Toronto, Canada, n.p.1969

I. Vercoe, *The Gaudins of Makarora*, Dunedin, n.p. 2008

Department of Internal Affairs, New Zealand, Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates

PapersPast website

Dunedin Cemeteries online

¹ Department of Internal Affairs, New Zealand, Marriage Certificate, Folio 1889/3407.

² Dunedin Cemeteries online, Feb 2009

http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/facilities/cemeteries/cemeteries_search