



Richard Hudson, founder of R.Hudson and Co., which was the beginnings of Cadbury Schweppes Hudson, is buried in Dunedin's Northern cemetery, next to his mother-in-law who predeceased him, and his wife. In life he was a man of some stature in the Dunedin community, but in death he has no memorial, no headstone. The gravesite is fenced around in a beautiful cast iron design, but there is no grave marker. It is rumoured that he wished to have no memorial, but headstones are not for the departed but for the living, by which they remember the deceased and beside which they can grieve.

The Evening Star - Saturday 11 April 1903 – reported on the death of Richard Hudson,

Mr Richard Hudson died suddenly yesterday at his residence Royal Terrace. For years past he had suffered from a weak heart but latterly he seemed to be considerably stronger and yesterday morning in a business interview with his son Richard he felt unusually bright and well. Shortly afterwards he proposed to take the girls of the family for a drive. Whilst waiting for the trap to be got ready he felt a little unwell and said that he would rest for a while. An hour of severe pain was then experienced and when the stress of the attack passed off he laid down and lapsed into the sleep from which there is no waking. Mr Hudson was a West of London man. As a youth he worked in a locomotive and carriage-building shop on the Great Western Railway, then learned the bakery trade, and afterwards went to sea in a trading ship out of Bristol. Coming to New Zealand forty years ago, he had experience of a digger's life at the Pelorous rush, subsequently trudging from Christchurch to Hokitika over what was then a new track through the

Otira Gorge. In June of 1868 he arrived in Dunedin with his wife and young family and started as a pastrycook in the Arcade, and afterwards established a bakery in Princes Street. From that humble beginning grew the large biscuit-making and confectionery works and flour-milling business which of late years has been one of Dunedin's most prosperous commercial enterprises. Bit by bit Mr Hudson built up that business and bestowed upon it the greatest amount of personal care, and its success is the more creditable to the founder and satisfactory to his surviving relatives because of the fact that the whole undertaking was carried out on the best of all business principles. Mr Hudson while keen in the prosecution of his own rights, always admitted the rights of others, and he will be respectfully remembered as a most considerate employer, as well as a man who in his daily life tried to be helpful to his fellows. As his sons grew to manhood they were taken into partnership with the father, and the present premises, in the block between Castle and Cumberland Streets, are the headquarters of a thriving concern, which has branches in all the other leading cities of the colony. Mr Hudson never entered the turmoil of public life, but he took a keen interest in the welfare of Dunedin and the colony at large, and in politics he was a firm supporter of the party which used to look upon Sir Robert Stout as their head. The surviving family consists of Mrs Hudson, six sons and two daughters one of the later being Mrs AC Hanlon. Mr Hudson was 61 years of age.

Richard Hudson, confectioner and baker, was born as Daniel Richard Bullock in 1841, in Chippenham, Wiltshire, England.

Daniel Bullock and Mary Ann Riley were married on 24 May 1868 at the Manse of the Presbyterian Church of St Andrew in Christchurch.

At the time of his marriage Daniel was a baker and storekeeper and resident of Peterborough Street, in Christchurch. He was enrolled as an elector, on 7 May 1866, on the Roll for Coleridge, with the qualification being he owned 50 acres of land in the Rakaia District. He and Thomas Kneeshaw were bakers and storekeepers at Selwyn. From 7 March 1868 the partnership was dissolved.

Daniel and Mary Ann moved to Dunedin shortly after their marriage and Daniel then went into business in Dunedin. After their arrival in Dunedin their first of eight children was born. Richard James Hudson Bullock was born on the 11th March 1869. Mary Ann was born in 1870 followed by Robert in 1872. These first three children were all registered with the surname Hudson-Bullock but when Arthur was born in 1874 his surname was Hudson and the Bullock name appears to have been dropped. Certainly by the time Richard James was enrolled at the Normal School in 1878 the surname was Hudson. Richard, Mary Ann, Robert and Arthur were all enrolled at George Street School in 1880 as Hudson.

There are various family stories about why he changed his Christian name to Richard and his surname to Hudson, but none of them is easily verified.

The business prospered and new factories were built as required. A disastrous fire in 1902 destroyed the new Castle Street factory but Richard Hudson, who was already

unwell, set to immediately with plans for rebuilding and within 5 months the factory was producing again. Richard died in 1903 leaving his sons to carry on the successful business.

Research supplied by Jennifer Hudson.