



BOSTOCK James

Parents: Robert Bostock 1784 -1847 and Rachael Rhodes/Walker 1800-1837

Siblings:

1. Elizabeth b 29 October 1816 at Sydney d 12 April 1825 at Hobart, Van Diemen's Land
2. Charles b 8 August 1818 at Bootle, Lancashire England d 1838 at Ross, Van Diemen's Land
3. Robert Walker b 6 February 1820 at Bootle, Lancashire, England d 9 July 1853 at Westbury, Van Diemen's Land
4. Rachael Emeline b 21 May 1822 at Hobart, Van Diemen's Land d 25 April 1856 Port Fairy m 1841 Michael Connolly d 12 May 1855, buried Sandhills Cemetery
5. Margaret b 9 February 1824 at Hobart d 15 January 1853 Forest Creek, Victoria m 10 September 1842 to Francis Crossman Doveton
6. George Bostock (qv)
7. Thomas Edward Bostock (qv)
8. Eliza Anna Bostock b. 20 April 1830 at Vacluse Van Diemen's Land, d. 6 January 1902 at Castlemaine, Victoria, m. 5 September 1850 to Alexander McLean Hunter at Melbourne, Victoria
9. Ernest Bostock (qv)
10. Augustus Bostock (qv)

Birth: 7 February 1837 at Vacluse, Van Diemen's Land. His mother Rachael died shortly after

Marriage: 1 July 1875 Alice Aitkin b 1 June 1843 Glen Esk, Van Diemen's Land

Children: No Issue

Place of Residence: James' first 8 years were spent at his birthplace, Vacluse Van Diemen's Land, before he came to Port Fairy on the *Essington* in early 1845 with brothers George and Augustus. James and his brothers may have stayed initially with their Uncle Michael Connelly and their Aunt Rachel Connelly (nee Bostock). James spent time at Hamilton working for Cowtan and Bland and by the mid-1850s was associated with his brother Augustus at Grasmere and on other rural properties held on lease. He was based again at Hamilton in a partnership with F C Chapman, before moving to Warrnambool for the latter part of his life after 1871, when he took over the business of his deceased brother Ernest. His last years were spent at 52/53 Banyan Street, Warrnambool (see below for more detail).

Education: James was only 8 years old on arrival at Port Fairy in 1845. His father, Robert Bostock of Vacluse Van Diemen's Land, had instructed James' older brother George Bostock (in an original letter) to tutor his younger brothers Augustus and James and had supplied arithmetic and other lesson books for that purpose.

Religious affiliation: Christ Church [Anglican Church], Warrnambool and Presbyterian as were the Aitkins.

Death & Burial: died 24 December 1919 aged 83 years and was buried in Warrnambool Cemetery, Church of England Section, Row 17, Grave 4, with his wife Alice. The memorial stone is inscribed, 'In Memory of Alice, beloved wife of James Bostock died 25th Oct. 1896 aged 53 years'.

Obituary:

The Warrnambool Standard, 29 December 1919

The death of Mr James Bostock, which took place on Wednesday last, removes another representative of one of the oldest pioneering families of the district. The name Bostock has been associated with the pastoral interests of the Western District since the earliest days of the settlement, and members of the family have been closely identified with its development. For very many years the late Mr James Bostock, who was a native of Tasmania, carried on business in Warrnambool as a wool buyer, and in that capacity he handled a large quantity of wool from the farms and stations of the district. His genial disposition and strict business integrity won for him a host of friends, by whom he was held in the highest esteem. Advancing years and infirmity necessitated his retirement from active business pursuits some years ago but he still retained his interest in passing events. He had almost reached the age of 83 years, and a large portion of that time was spent in Warrnambool and district. The remains were privately interred at the Warrnambool Cemetery on Wednesday, in the presence of relatives and intimate friends. The burial service was conducted by the Rev. J Redmond and Messrs Beattie and Phillips had charge of the mortuary arrangements.

Life: James was to enter 'the mercantile business of Cowtan and Bland, Port Fairy, and after spending a while in the business at Hamilton, eventually came to Warrnambool' (Beavis). Cowtan and Bland were commercial purveyors, purchasers, and banks of the farmer, the squatter and the settlers at large. Sometime in the mid -1850s, and up to 11 April 1856, James collaborated in a partnership with his older brother Augustus, (A and J Bostock), while Augustus was resident at Grasmere. Augustus' diary records a high level of interaction between Augustus and James in the development and management of various leased properties, such as Hoy's Farm from 1857; the Junction of the Hopkins and the Black River from 1859; Purnim from 1858; *Coomete* from 1862; and *Kilmorie* from 1864. James seems to have been continually on the move, but many entries in the diary of Augustus Bostock, from April 1866 to September 1871, indicate that James Bostock may have been resident at Hamilton over that period. Earlier, James had been based at Hamilton as an employee of Cowtan and Bland (Beavis). Subsequently, a firm of J Bostock and T C Chapman, merchants, was to operate from a building at Hamilton from 1868, (later to be a Temperance Hall). On 27 April 1871, Warrnambool Examiner reported that, 'James Bostock, recently of Bostock and Chapman at Hamilton, had taken over the business of his deceased brother Ernest as auctioneer and real estate agent.' Ernest had died in Warrnambool on 26 March 1871. The following advertisement indicates the scope of this business: 'James Bostock & Co., General Commission and Land and Estate Agents; Purchasers of Wool, Skins and Tallows; Loans Negotiated; Wool Shipped and Consigned to Melbourne or London; Agents for Cooper's Sheep Dipping Powder; Agents for The Northern Assurance Company; Money to Lend from £100 to £10,000 at lowest rates, on Freehold Security; Wire netting and Barb Wire For Sale.' James then became a resident of Warrnambool where he owned Lot 10 Section 19 in Lava Street. James subsequently bought and lived from 1880 to 1898 at the historic house *Weeripnong* in Warrnambool. After the death of his wife Alice in 1896, he became a boarder in the home of Mr and Mrs Ronald Mack and family at 52/53 Banyan Street. He helped with their family upkeep and the Macks became beneficiaries of his Will. Thelma Birrell on a visit to Warrnambool was able to speak to an elderly lady Miss O'Mahoney decendent who recalled her regular chats with James, as he walked by her home. James was an enthusiastic angler and he was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Fish Protection Society in 1880, continuing in that role up to 1886. James was Secretary/Treasurer in 1858 at the time of the first horse races on the new Racecourse and was a Committee Member in September 1859 when the first Amateur Turf Club was formed. In 1858, James rode Rambler to win the first Warrnambool Steeplechase horse race; he also won a silver cup on Sir James for Richard Rutledge in 1860; and often 'sported the silk' on Inkerman and on Tim. He was Vice President of the Warrnambool Club 1881, President in 1882 and a Committee Member 1883.