

# Chapter 26 - Millie Men

#### (1841 – 1909)

Two children of David Brown and Elizabeth McMahon, notable for being close are James and John. They seamed to have teamed up for much of their first forty years. James (b.3 August 1819) and John (b.13 December 1821) were more successful than their siblings in pursuit of commercial and adventurous endeavours.

#### Millie and Family Matters

The 1841 Census, of September 23<sup>rd</sup>, shows that there are two houses belonging to Browns at Wambo. One occupied by brother, Thomas and his family, and three shepherds. The other is in the charge of James - He is apparently in the company of brothers: John 19, George 10, Alec 7 (almost); and sister, Mary 18; and 2 shepherds. Mary was keeping house for the men of the house. David's location is unknown.

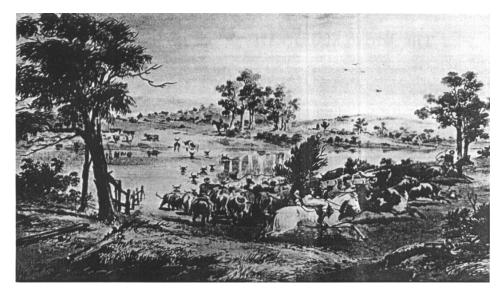
As of 24 September 1842 the Lands Department record James and John as the formal occupiers of 'Millie Run'. Up until 1841, their father continued to pay the obligatory  $\pounds 10$  licence per annum for the rights to Millie (sometimes known as 'Waterloo Creek', and '*Thalaba*'?).<sup>840</sup> The Browns had been in possession of 'Millie' since at least 1834.

The next we hear of John is at the Jerry's Plains Races for 1843, originally advertised to take place in March, took place the following month:

'These races commenced on Wednesday, the 26 ultimo' (April 1843), but were indifferently attended, very few of the neighbouring gentry making their appearance. Owing to some misunderstanding among themselves, neither stewards

nor judge were forthcoming; their places were however soon filled and the races commenced...'

A horse owned by John Brown, called Filo da Pata won the 4<sup>th</sup> Race - 'Hack Race'; one mile heats with a 2<sup>nd</sup>, and two 1<sup>st</sup>s on the last day.<sup>841</sup>



Brown family would drive fattened cattle from Millie Narrabri. Turrawan. Boggabri, Gunnedah. Murrinindi, Scone. and Muswellbrook to Jerry's Plains, thence to the Maitland, /Newcastle Windsor, markets.<sup>842</sup> and Sydney

An advertisement in the Maitland Mercury of October / November 1842 listed those who obtained a licence to depasture stock in New England for the year commencing 1 July 1842. In the same paper, are licences to depasture in the Liverpool Plains.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>840</sup> It has been suggested that David did this as much to accommodate legislation that restricted runs straddling watercourses? The north side of Millie'/ 'Waterloo Creek' was nominally under the management of James , and ultimately became known as 'Millie North'. The south side of 'Millie'/ 'Waterloo Creek' nominally under John's stewardship came to be called 'Millie South'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>841</sup> NLA, mfm NX 27. Reel No1. Correspondent for the Jerry's Plains Races, The Maitland Mercury, Saturday, 6 May 1843.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>842</sup> Droving by S.T. Gill. Dixon Galleries, NSW State Library



There was an advertisement in the Maitland Mercury of 4 November 1843 for those who gained a licence to depasture stock in New England for the year commencing 1 July 1843. Among those among listed are: Brown and Alcorn, Alexander Campbell, Henry Dangar, John & William Dangar, Thomas Hall, William Dumaresq, and Charles Wyndeyer. Also in that paper is the listing of those granted licences to depasture in the Liverpool Plains. John Brown, and Thomas Brown were among many others. Some of the others include: James Arndell, William Blaxland, George Bowman, Henry Dangar, George Dight, Hannah Dight, George Druit, Thomas Eather, George Hall, John Howe, Phillip Thorley, and W C Wentworth.



Millie Creek

Photo JIG April 2010

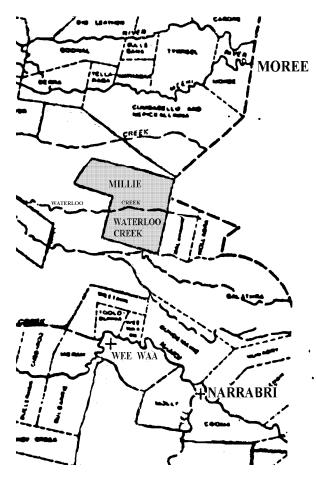
There was also an advertisement in the Maitland Mercury of 26 October 1844 for those who obtained a licence to depasture stock in New England for the year commencing 1 July 1844. Among those listed are: Brown and Alcorn, Alexander Campbell, George Bowman, Henry Danger, and Thomas Hall. In the same paper licences to depasture in the Liverpool Plains were granted to John Brown, Thomas Brown, and '**Brown James and John'**, and various others e.g. George Bowman, G and S Dight, William Dangar, Mrs. Eather, John Howe, Philip Thorley, W C Wentworth etc.

The John Brown listed in the 1843 and 1844 announcements could be one of three known to have taken an active role in grazing livestock on the Liverpool Plains. However, the **'Brown James and John'** entry above is unlikely to be anything other than the two brothers combining their efforts at Waterloo

/Millie. While the Thomas Brown listed may possibly be James and John's older brother, it has been suggested that it is more likely that he and the John Brown listed are related to the 'Wolloomol' Browns.<sup>843</sup>

**S**ometime during the spring of 1847 John's father (David) courted Harriet D'Arcy the widow of Thomas D'Arcy licensed Victualler at Pitt Town who had died on 13 July 1846.<sup>844</sup> John, would have been 24 to 26 years old at the time. He was most probably aware of, and knew Thomas D'Arcy as the provider of supplies to the family over the years at Pitt Town and Jerry's Plains, and of Harriet being his wife and that both of them had been convicts.

John, then not long into his 27<sup>th</sup> year, married Sarah Jane Alcorn, (born 28 January 1826 and daughter of Richard Alcorn) according to the rights the Presbyterian church in the Wambo area on 4 January 1848 by James S. White of Singleton, Minister of St Andrew's.<sup>845</sup> John is stated to be a member of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. Witnesses were Sarah's father, Richard, and younger sister, Mary Ann.<sup>846</sup>



Squatting map showing 1848 boundaries

# <sup>843</sup> Merryll Hope <sup>844</sup> (No. 1753, Series 1).

Author: John Griffith





Soon after the wedding, John left Jerry's Plain with his bride, to take up residence at, and management of, the Cattai property. It is obvious from the births of his children that Pitt Town/Cattai remained John's base of operations for the next 10 years.

On 3 June 1848, a son, David, was born to John and Sarah at Pitt Town and baptised at the Cattai schoolhouse by J C Ewing 1848.<sup>847</sup> Not long after his son's birth, his father's bride of nine weeks also gave birth in July at Pitt Town, to John's half brother, Alfred.

George Humphries, David's wife's half brother, between 1840 and 1857 described his quality or profession as 'Farmer' and his address 'Pitt Town' - It seems that he was, at the time, still working for the Brown family on their Caddai Creek property, and assisting John.

James and John's eldest brother, Thomas, died 23 June 1848 and was buried at Jerry's Plains.

The Government Gazette of 1848 listed James and John as occupiers of Millie Run – area 64,000 acres or 100 square miles.

#A son, Richard J, was born to John and Sarah on 7 January 1850,848

#A son, John, was born to John and Sarah on 18 August 1851,<sup>849</sup> and

#A daughter, Jane, was born to John and Sarah in 1853.<sup>850</sup> All three were born at Pitt Town and baptised across the river at the Presbyterian 'Ebenezer' church at Portland Head.

#A son, George, was born to John and Sarah at Pitt Town on 15 January 1856.

#### **Marriage of James**

James married 22 year old Elizabeth Thorley (daughter of Philip and Mary Thorley<sup>851</sup>) on 29 May 1850. Elizabeth was born 20 Jul 1827 at Mount Thorley, south of Singleton.<sup>852</sup> Elizabeth was the third child and first daughter of Mary and Philip's to marry.<sup>853</sup>

James and Elizabeth were married by licence in the family home at Mount Thorley. Witnesses were Thomas Hope of Singleton, and Elizabeth's sister, Mary Anne. This date is confirmed by an entry in the Maitland Mercury of 1 June 1850. "James Browne (sic) of Liverpool Plains married to Elizabeth Thorley, eldest daughter of Phillip (sic) Thorley" of Mount Thorley, on 29 May 1850 by Rev. H. O. Irwin.<sup>854</sup> The Thorleys had, as did many a Hunter River settler, associations with the Hawkesbury.

Elizabeth's mother, Mary Thorley, was a daughter of Jonathan Griffiths, shipbuilder. James and Elizabeth lived at 'Mount Thorley' Homestead, near Singleton, for a time.

The Jerry's Plains branch of the Brown family maintained links with the daughters of Thomas Brown in Sydney. It is said that James in particular, and his wife, became good friends of the girls.<sup>855</sup> James was some ten years older than the youngest girl, Rosanne, but was married only a year before her.

<sup>845</sup> BDM Reg No V1848 619 78. Also Elizabeth Baxter P.O. Jerry's Plains, letter of 4 January 1981 to B &B Griffiths.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>846</sup> V1848619 79 PC, surname misspelt as Browne but signature Brown.

<sup>847</sup> BDM V18481292

<sup>848</sup> BDM V1850 109350 refers

<sup>849</sup> BDM V1851 49591 refers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>850</sup> BDM **V1853 59552** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>851</sup>Mary Thorley neeGriffiths was born 30 May 1804 in Richmond, NSW, and died 22 Jan 1874 in Pitnacree Rd, East Maitland. Mary was the daughter of Hakesbury pioneers: Eleanor MCDONALD (1769-1831) and Jonathan GRIFFITHS (1773-1839). She married Philip Thorely 5 Feb 1821 in St Peters C of E, Richmond, son of Samuel THORLEY and Agnes SHALES, born 4 Aug 1799 in Sydney Cove, and died 3 May 1883 in Mount Thorley.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>852</sup> NSWSR Reel 5001 gives the birth of Elizabeth as 20 July 1827 and her baptism at St Peter's at Richmond was on 4 July 1830. Also baptised on that day were three of her siblings. She was 1 year old in the 1828 Census. Family lore gives her birthplace as Mount Thorley..

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>853</sup>A Tribute To The Pioneering Thorleys.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>854</sup> "Philip Thorley 1799-1883" by John T. Thorley, and SR Reel 5001 ????.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>855</sup> The History of a Homestead, Chapter 1.



#On Sunday, 23 February 1851, a son, their first born, Wallace, was born to James and Elizabeth at the "Mount Thorley Homestead" and baptised at Warkworth on April 27, 1851.

The 1852 Will of Francis Dorrington of Cockfighters Creek disclosed that he had cattle and horses 'depasturing on the run of Messrs James and John Brown named Melly (sic) Namoi River'.<sup>856</sup>

The Maitland Mercury included the following advertisement in the Saturday 27 March, 1852 edition:

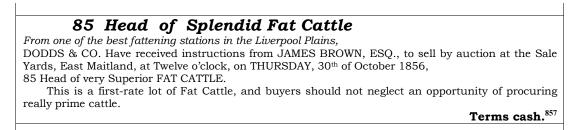
" Ten Pounds Reward" Stolen or strayed, from "Mount Thorley" on or about Feb. 26; a BLACK HORSE about fifteen and a half hands high, branded on the off shoulder BJ reversed and co-joined, triangle on the off side. If strayed 10 shillings will be paid for his recovery: and if stolen 10 pound reward on conviction of the thief. James Brown. Mount Thorley March 23, 1852.

#In 1852, on Tuesday, 11 May, a son, their second child, Solomon, was born to James and Elizabeth.

#In 1854, on Monday, 31 July, a son, James Charles, was born to James and Elizabeth at Warkworth.

**B**y 1855 James and Elizabeth are said to be residing at "Ada Cottage", Tyrrell Street, Newcastle, which was situated across the road from the convent. However, their fourth son, Gideon, is recorded as being born at the Mount Thorley Homestead on Tuesday February 26, 1856, baptised at Warkworth on Sunday 23 March 1856. The latter suggests Elizabeth had gone home to mother for the event.

The Maitland Mercury included the following advertisement in the Tuesday, 28th and 30th October 1856 editions:



Sometime during the 1850s and 1860s, John and James arranged for their brother, David, to manage 'Millie', a run totalling some 64,000 acres.

Their father, David, died on 11 January 1857. James was 37 years old, and John was just over 35 years old.

#### Ellerslie

On 12 December 1857, John bought the mortgage on Ellerslie, a farming and grazing property on the Hunter, from a Richard King. The property of 734 acres was immediately to the west of Jerry's Plains village, and not far from his father's original holdings at Jerry's Plains. Ellerslie had been purchased by Thomas Capp from Richard King, on 30-31 July 1855. Capp in the process, entered into a mortgage arrangement with Richard King. (King is believed to have named the property).<sup>858</sup>

<sup>856</sup> Information provided in 2001 by Marie Tattam, 'Tuncooey'.

<sup>857</sup> Add No 6109.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>858</sup> 'Ellerslie' is the name of a village in Ayrshire, Scotland, noted as the birth place of the hero figure, Sir William Wallace. Author: John Griffiths





John took possession of Ellerslie on 27 January 1858, at the age of 36. He soon moved his family there. But, not before 18 March 1858 when a son, Henry, was born to him and Sarah at Pitt Town on and his birth registered at Windsor.<sup>859</sup> Ultimately, his children joined him in the task of managing his numerous holdings from Ellerslie. Apparently, at this stage, he still spent considerable time commuting to Millie - Though the journey home to his family was now considerably reduced, by the time and distance between Ellerslie and Pitt Town.

#A son, Rowland Leslie, was born to John and Sarah at Jerry's Plains, on 28 July 1860. His birth was registered at Muswellbrook the same year.<sup>860</sup>

About the time John was getting established on the Hunter, James had begun to become a man of property in Newcastle. He and Elizabeth ultimately came to hold extensive parcels of land. They reputedly owned 'Prospect Cottage' which is still standing in Tyrrell Street.

On 19 May 1859, James became mortgagee to his brother, Alick, for his 100 acre, Portion 39 property at Cattai,<sup>861</sup> lending £500 to Alick @ 8% per annum. There is little doubt that this arrangement with Alick was intended to facilitate the expansion of his (Alick's) management activities in relation to his agisted livestock at Millie.

#In 1858, on Monday, 31 May a daughter, Mary Ada Elizabeth, was born to James and Elizabeth at 'Ada Cottage', Newcastle.

#Emily Valentine born on Saint Valentine Day in Newcastle on Tuesday, 14 February, 1860 to James and Elizabeth at 'Ada Cottage', Necastle.

**D**avid Humphries moved to live and work in Jerry's Plains from about 1860-1, as evident from the birth of two of his children: Sarah and Thomas. Possibly a third child, Clara, was born at Jerry's Plains in 1867? It is evident that both David Humphries and his son, George, were working for John Brown, given their long association at Cattai, at his Ellerslie property, immediately to the west of Jerry's Plains village. George's stint at Jerry's Plains was brief. He went to work for the Brown's as a storekeeper at Millie in the early 1860s.

#### **Dividing of the Ways**

Between 1860 and 1864, it seems the address that David Humphries prefers to be associated with is Millie.862



Another Creek 700m north of Millie Creek (within the Brown's Millie Run) Photo J Griffiths April 2010

The first reference to a licence for a hotel at Millie occurs in 1860. It was issued to a William Kerrigan, who held it until 1863. The hotel was known as the Sportsman's Arms and is likely to have been one of several structures built there by the Browns.

James' and John's nephew, David (IV) (Thomas's son), was working at the family Millie property about this time, had had probably been there over several years.

On 25 February 1861, young David died because an infection caused by a stick penetrating his leg.<sup>863</sup>

<sup>863</sup> Per telcon Marie Tattam October 2000.

<sup>859</sup> BDM 1958 Reg No 13092

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>860</sup>BDM 1860 Mussellbrook Reg No 9610

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>861</sup> Lands Titles Office Ref:91M102(235) of 11 November 1993. Re: Portion 39, Parish of Maroota 'Crown grant dated 5/8/1806 of 100 acres to James Brown'. Mortgage in Fee Book 61, No 257 dated 5 May 1859.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>862</sup> Lands Titles Office Ref:91M102(235) of 11 November 1993. Re: Portion 39, Parish of Maroota 'Crown grant dated 5/8/1806 of 100 acres to James Brown'. Mortgage in Fee Book 61, No 257 dated 5 May 1859 refers.



5.33

Typical of the Brown family, David had been doing work for himself as well for his uncles. This fact is indicated in his will, which he wrote when he realised he was dying revealing had an estate of cattle and horses.

John and James' brother, David, was responsible for managing at the time, and was the person who reported the Millie property the nephew's death. Will Kerrigan, licensee of the Sportsman's Arms at Millie was named by David as his executor.

#On 22 July 1861, a son, Walter James, was born to James and Elizabeth at their home in Newcastle, "Ada Cottage".

Sometime between 1 July 1861 and 30 June 1862, James and John divided 'Millie'. John took over South Millie, which included what was originally his Waterloo Creek run, and James got North Millie. The dividing of 'Millie' also reflects a major point of separation of the ways for the two men. It may be a coincidence however, the event followed on from the death of their nephew.

The surveyor's description of the Gwydir runs taken over a period from 1843 to 1869 explains this division. Under the heading 'Millie South' it says "Description of half of the 'Waterloo Creek' run or



'Millie 'Station to be transferred to John Brown. All the parcel of land being half portion of the run called 'Waterloo Creek' or 'Millie' situated in the Liverpool Plains district.' It then describes the South

and North runs and also has a map showing Waterloo Creek with 10

miles along the creek and 5 miles south being John Brown's 'Millie South', and the same on the north being side but on the north side blazes include IE, MLE, JB and JJB. The IE blaze borders Malaraway, the James Brown's 'Millie North'. There are no blazes recorded on trees on the south. I E was probably meant to be 'JE' for John Eckford, MLE for Millie, JB for James Brown, and JJB for John James Brown.

The division allowed James to sell his half of 'Millie' immediately.<sup>864</sup>

The first recorded sporting fixture in the Moree district was a cricket match between a Millie eleven and a Moree eleven on Tuesday, 12 August 1862. They played for dinner, for which the Millie eleven ended having to pay.<sup>865</sup>

John, on the other hand, expanded his interests in the region and purchased Bunna Bunna Back Blocks 1 and 2, Yarranbar and Brigalow in 1862 from F.N. Bucknell. These blocks were to the south of South Millie.

**STOLEN** from Milley, on the 21st of June, 1862, Two DRAFT HORSES of the follow description : ONE BAY HORSE, collar marked, black points, branded TM on near shoulder, and having a large old Bear on the off rump near the back bone. ONE BROWN HORSE, colour marked, branded PL on off shoulder, and bund in the near eye. A reward of £2 each will be paid to any person giving such information as will lead to the recovery of the said liorsos, and 20 upon conviction of the thief; or, £1 each for such information by letter as will lead to their recovery.

Bunna Buna, Narrabri, 26th July, 1862.

WOODLEY C SLYMAN 4840.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>864</sup> R.A.A. Moreshead and M.Young appears in the Gazette as the new owner. They were agent and su- agent for a mortgaging company. They were involved in many a land purchase in that period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>865</sup> 'NLA, mfm NX 27. Roll No?. The Maitland Mercury, 28 August 1862.



Telfer's Wallabadah manuscript, originated about this time, lists the stations and leaseholders of the region. Telfer refers to them as the 'pioneers' or founders' or 'those who occupied the runs in the early days' which included:

'D Browns **Millie South'**; ... W C Wentworth's Edgeroi, Gallathera, Gundemain, and Burburgata; ... Capp's **Millie Ace of Club** company, Bugilbone; Cobcroft's Wategah; and Bowman's **Terry Hie Hie.**.' <sup>866</sup>

The 'D. Browns Millie South' reflects David Brown III's management of 'South Millie' rather than John Brown's ownership. Capp's 'Millie Ace of Club' is believed to refer to Charles Capp, became David's sonin-law in 1842, and John's brother-in-law. Capp was known to be in possession of a 22,000 acre property to the west of Wee Waa from 1869 that was very confusingly known as 'Milly'.

#A daughter, Emma, was born to John and Sarah at Jerry's plains on 1 October 1862 at Ellerslie.<sup>867</sup>

#### Sportsman's Arms

*On* 9 April 1863, the Maitland Mercury advertised that the unexpired lease of the "Sportsman's Arms", 'Millie', was to be let - it also advised:

"The house is situated on the main road to the Barwin (sic) Narran, Culgoa, Warrego and Moree. The house contains eleven rooms, exclusive of Bar and Tap-room, with Detached Kitchen and Skillion, with Stars and six -stall Stable; also Two Large Stockyards. Possession to be given on 1 July, 1863. Stock to be taken at invoice price with carriage added. For particulars, apply to Mr. Wm. Kerrigan, On the premises; or to Mr. John Levien, Merchant, West Maitland."

The lease for the 'Sportsman's Arms' at 'Millie' was taken up in September 1863 by Thomas Mills.<sup>868</sup> Sometime between Mills' possession and April 1865 William Walford took up the lease and held the licence until 1869.

**O**n 7 December 1863 John, *'formerly of Millie', and 'now of Elizabeth Street, Singleton'*, went mortgagee to his brother, Alick (of Jerry's Plains) against Alick's 100 acre, Portion 39 property at Cattai. He loaned £500 to Alick at a rate of 7% per annum - 1% less than Alec had contracted in May 1859 to pay James for the mortgage on the property- This, more that likely, reflects the trend in commercial loans at that time.<sup>869</sup> Very noticeable is the fact that John does not mention 'Ellerslie' as his former or current address.

This loan to brother, Aleck, aside from being a transfer contractual responsibility of the loan from James to John, and probably the transfer of Alec's right to agist his livestock at Millie. It certainly, reflects James' ceasing his involvement in Millie's affairs.

#In 1863, a daughter, Agnes Susan, was born to James and Elizabeth.

John's second youngest child, Rowland Leslie, at age three, died on 3 March 1864, and was buried at Glenridding, south of Singleton.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>866</sup> Wallabadah manuscript consisted of two sets of unsigned notes discovered by the manager of Wallabadah Station in the Station papers. Roger Milliss, author of "Waterloo Creek", realised that they must have been written by William Telfer junior whose father had worked for the Australian Agricultural Company. In listing the stations and leaseholders Telfer refers to them as the 'pioneers' or founders' or 'those who occupied the runs in the early days'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>867</sup> BDM 1862 Patrick Plains, Reg No 12148

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>868</sup> First heart of the Namoi - A History of Wee Waa to 1865

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>869</sup> Lands Titles Office Ref:91M102(235) of 11 November 1993. Re: Portion 39, Parish of Maroota 'Crown grant dated 5/8/1806 of 100 acres to James Brown'. Mortgage Book 86 No 341 dated 7 December 1863.



The Government Gazette of 1865 showed a "List of Leases of Runs may be converted to leases under Crown Lands Occupation Act, 1861, at respective amounts:

Millie South - John Brown - £198.10.0 Millie North - Morehead and Young -  $\pounds 109.0.0^{870}$ 

On 24 April 1865 there was a shoot out at Walford's Inn, 'The Sportsman's Arms', at 'Millie' between bushrangers led by Frederick Ward (alias Captain Thunderbolt born c.1835) and the constabulary:

'It would seem that Mr Walford had heard of the bushrangers being in the neighbourhood, and that he might expect them shortly, and accordingly, everything valuable and portable was concealed." The bushrangers 'reached the inn between twelve and one o'clock. On reaching the inn they bailed up those who were about the place, and obtained a small amount of cash, but nothing else worth mentioning.'

'Thunderbolt fired the first shot, to which the police replied - at the same time endeavours were made to cut off the young lad from the rest of the gang, who seemed to be as well mounted as the others. Firing was continued on both sides with great vigor, when a well directed ball from the revolver of constable Dalton took effect on the young lad, entered the back and came out near the stomach. He fell from his horse and constable Dalton shouted to constable Norris to take charge of him whilst he went after the others. On leaving with that intention, he fortunately turned round, and saw the young vagabond, while on the ground, presenting his revolver at him.

*He threw himself on his horse's neck* and the ball luckily passed over him. Constable Norris came up at that moment, and again fired at the ruffian, the ball taking effect, having

'The police (Constables Dalton, and Lynch) with a black tracker, reached Walford's inn at Millie ' ... after the about an hour bushrangers had arrived there. '

'The situation of this house is on an open plain, without a tree for miles in any direction.' One of the bushrangers was on guard outside at the time, 'and the latter on seeing four men galoping across the plain for the house a whistle was

entered the jaw and escaped at the back of the neck.'

'During the whole time, constable Lynch was keeping the other three bushrangers at bay, and succeeded in doing so, not withstanding that Ward, who was mounted on a fine chestnut horse, several times rode between the police and the youth, constantly discharging his revolver at the same time, in order to give his mate time to escape. He was however, unsuccessful.'

'About forty shots were fired by the police, and their ammunition was nearly expended. After securing the youth they proceeded a short distance after the others, but their horses were completely knocked up, having ridden them fully five hundred miles.

given to those inside, and all four came out to see who might be. On seeing it was the police, they all mounted their horses, and one of them holding up his revolver as a challenge to the police to come on; at the same time retreating from the house to the open plain at the rear. They had all drawn their revolvers, but the police, nothing daunted, gave chase, and came within firing distance a short distance from the house.'



For John and other members of the Brown family, bushrangers were just one of the many risks and challenges to be faced, even at this time, in their part of the colony. The risk of bushrangers to the family in the region was illustrated less than eight months later. On Saturday evening, 13 January 1866, John's brothers, Alick and George, stayed at the Turrawan Hotel, 25 kilometres to the south-west of Narrabri, owned by James Ward. They were on their way south with cattle, from the direction Brown's Millie property. That evening the hotel was 'stuck up' by two bushrangers of Thunderbolt's gang: Kelly, and another about 10 o'clock p.m.

David Humphries' son, George, married Ann Emma Pallett at Wee Waa, some 46km to the south of Millie, in November 1865. At the time, George gave his occupation as 'Storekeeper'.

Author: John Griffiths Website http://www.davidbrown1801nsw.info

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>870</sup> Government Gazette 1865 page 2421.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>871</sup>, NLA, mfm NX 27. Reel No11. The Maitland Mercury, Thursday, 2 May 1865.



George and Ann had a number of their children born at South Millie. They had also had children born at Tulladunna and Boo Boo.<sup>872</sup> George remained at Millie until 1871 when John Brown sold his 'Millie South' to D. F. Mackay.

George and family then moved with to Wee Waa where he conducted a carrying business for many years. Ann is known to have provided a service as mid wife. Two of George's and Ann's children drowned at Collin's Bridge, Wee Waa in 1878. Ann died at Wee Waa in 1909.<sup>873</sup>

John Brown became alderman on the first Municipal Council for Singleton in 1865. He was eligible for the Singleton Council, as he had property in the town. At that time the Council only covered the town of Singleton and not the surrounding districts, John gave his address as Elizabeth Street. He also owned other land in Singleton including 220-222 John Street at some juncture.<sup>874</sup>

John was one of ten councillors to Singleton Municipal Council who attended its inaugural meeting on 5 March 1866. They met in the temporary Council Chambers, at the Caledonia Hotel, George Street.

**O**n 17 April 1866 John purchased 32 acres of his father-in-law's (Richard Alcorn) Jerry's Plains property for £420.<sup>875</sup> The same year he also purchased 319 acres of improved Crown Lands, described as Portion 2 on Waterloo Creek, County Jamison - This had been formerly part of his 'Millie South' lease. He paid one pound per acre. 'Millie' head station was situated on this land.



Photograph of Councilor John Brown from the montage of the first council in 1866, in his 45<sup>th</sup> year. Courtesy Philip Booker

The Balliere's Gazetteer of 1866 showed John Brown as leasing 32000 acres for £73.15.0 called 'Millie S Station (Liverpool Plains district)'; 'grazing capability 4000 sheep.'

James and Elizabeth's son, Gideon, died at "Ada Cottage" Newcastle on Sunday, August 13, 1865 at 9 years old and is buried at Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle. In the same year a son, Albert Victor, was born to them.

# In 1867, a daughter, Elizabeth Florence, was born to James and Elizabeth.

# In 1868, a daughter, Vida Jane, was born to James and Elizabeth.

The Gwydir District Postal Directory of 1870 showed their brother, David, and a 'W. Gordon' at 'Millie'. William Gordon had taken up the lease for the 'Sportsman's Arms'.<sup>876</sup>

Rains in the first half of 1870 made for a good season on the Hunter. However, this was followed by severe flooding that caused much damage, and rendered people homeless.

**O**n 1 July 1870, John purchased 640 acres Parish Wambo, County Hunter, for £400 from his brother, George.<sup>877</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>872</sup> A History of Wee Waa to 1865. p60

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>873</sup> A History of Wee Waa to 1865. p60

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>874</sup> Per Dot Clayworth, Singleton Historical Society. She also advised that the other John Browne of 'Maison Dieu' lived just outside the municipal boundaries, and though invited to stand for the first election for councillors, declined as he was only living in Singleton part-time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>875</sup> Hunter Valley News, 30 September 1992, 'History of Jerry's Plains Saga Finishes', by Ian Ellis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>876</sup> First heart of the Namoi - A History of Wee Waa to 1865

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>877</sup> Book 120 No 218 and 221.



5.5

**O**n 3 December 1870, John purchased land from his nephew, John James Brown, for £38 that had been bequeathed to him by David Brown junior. Likewise, 5 December 1870, John purchased land for £45 from his nephew, Thomas Edward, that had been bequeathed to him.

#### 'Millie's' End

A list of adjusted rentals on runs gazetted on 1 November 1870 showed John still in occupancy of 'Millie South' for ninety pounds.

However, in 1871 John sold his freehold 319 acres to William Henry Moseley, and his 'Millie South', 'Bunna Bunna' Back Blocks 1 and 2, 'Yarranbar', and 'Brigalow' to D. F. Mackay. D. F. Mackay then sold the runs, he had acquired from John, to William Moseley in the same year. John's brother, David, had remained manager of the Millie South property up to this time.

Millie had become a substantial village that at one stage boasted of having a post office, coach stop, store, several hotels, a resident policeman, and roughly a 100 residents. James Duff became part of that prosperity. He started a new hotel called the 'Millie Inn' in 1876 that continued until 1881. In that year he is said to have transferred to the Royal Mail Hotel.<sup>878</sup>

However, Millie as a village barely made it into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. For many years, it was a staging post for coaches, but by-passed by the railway to Moree, it faded away. Millie is now only marked by a Memorial to Trooper James William Duff, age 25, of the Australian Bushmen's Contingent, killed in action in the Boer War in 1900. Millie

Memorial to Trooper James William Duff 500m north of Millie Creek



Photo J. Griffiths 2010

The Maitland Mercury Thursday, 8 June 1871:

**To butchers: 50 Head of Prime Fat Cattle from "Ellerslie"**. Brunker & Sparke have received instructions from J. Brown Esq. To sell by auction at the Sale Yards, Campbell Hill, on Thurs. 8<sup>th</sup> June, 1871 at 2 o'clock, 50 head of prime fat cattle from the above famous fattening estate near Jerry's Plains. Terms Cash.

This event coincides with this report nine days later in the Maitland Mercury, Saturday, 17 June 1871 concerning his brother, David, being refused a slaughtering licence.

Aside from his half share in the 'Millie' of 64000 and other properties in the area that he disposed of in 1871, John's properties included:

- "Menedebri" of 2402 acres at Somerton, 35km north-west of Tamworth, on the way to Gunnedah;
- 2166 acres at Wybong Creek, west of Muswellbrook, and 40 km north-west of Jerry's Plains; and
- 2026 acres at Jerry's Plains.

The land at Jerry's Plains in part included 'Ellerslie' on the west and on the east, the grants given to his father, grandfather and great uncle as well as the grant to Peter Duff.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>878</sup>BDM V1849 2848 34A shows a James W Duff was born to a Peter and Ellen Duff in 1849 at Jerry's Plains parish.
Author: John Griffiths Website http://www.davidbrown1801nsw.info



15-33

**O**n 10 Jul 1872, John added to his holding of lands at Jerry's Plains when he paid his half brother, Robert Bruce Brown, Stockman, of Marthagi Creek, for £100 for the 50 acres of Lot 29 he had inherited from their father.<sup>879</sup>

John's fourth eldest child, Jane, at age 19 years, was married on 16 July 1873 at Jerry's Plains, to William James Duff.

Seven years later, John's sons entered into a 'great rush' of weddings; David, at age 30 years, married in Jerry's Plains on 23 January 1879, Emma Maria York; Richard, at age 30 years, married Olivia Mary Saunders in Jerry's Plains on 3 March 1880; and George, aged 24 years, married Edith Kathleen Ryan at Singleton in 1880.

#### James Brown to Sydney

About 1877, after many years in Newcastle, James and family moved to moved to Summer Hill, Sydney.<sup>880</sup> By 1878 James had re-invested his gains from Millee in town property, owning vacant land in Newcastle fronting Brown and Terrace Streets, 2 weatherboard cottages in Wolf Street, an allotment in Barker Street as well as 'Prospect Cottage' in Tyrrell Street which was now occupied by his younger brother, George.

On consideration of his failing health, James proceeded to make his Will on April 17, 1878, appointing 2 of his sons, Solomon and James, as executors along with his brother, John.<sup>881</sup>

Just one week after making the will, James died on Wednesday, 24 April 1878 at Newtown Road, Sydney,<sup>882</sup> at the age of 58 years.<sup>883</sup>

The Funeral procession left the residence of his brother, George, 'Prospect Cottage', Tyrrell Street, Newcastle, at a quarter to 4 p.m. the following day. This was a considerable effort for those days. Presumably, funeral arrangements had been made in anticipation of his death, and his body sent on the overnight train or boat. No doubt, last minute communication was done by telegram. James was interred with his son Gideon behind the Christchurch Cathedral, Newcastle.

In his will, James expressed his desire for the executors to educate and provide for the remaining minor children. For Elizabeth, she was to be well provided for until her decease, providing she remained single. Son, Walter, was to be clothed and boarded as long as he remained employed with Lassetters. Also, that the family was to remain in the furnished house he had provided for them<sup>884</sup> Elizabeth is said to have later taken up residence at 'Yarran', Petersham.

Elizabeth remained in Sydney and did not marry again. She died on 8 August 1909.

#### James and Elizabeth had the following children:

I.	Wallace (1851 - )	V.	Walter James (1861-1933)
II.	Solomon (1852 - ).	VI.	Agnes Susan (1863-1944)
III.	James Charles (1854-1880)	VII.	Mary Elizabeth Ada (1858 – )
IV.	Gideon (1856 – 13 Aug 1865)	VIII.	Emily Valentine (1859 – 1933)

IX. Albert Victor (1865-1939)

- X. Elizabeth Florence 1867-1922)
- XI. Vida Jane (1868-1907).

#### John Brown the Parliamentarian

John was elected Member of the Legislative Assembly NSW for Patrick Plains in the 10th Parliament from 25 Nov 1880 to 23 Nov 1882. Sir Henry Parkes was the Premier.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>879</sup> Book 131 No 270. Originally granted to David Brown senior.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>880</sup> 'A Tribute To The Pioneering Thorleys' states that in later years James & family moved 'to "Yarren", Petersham, a lovely 2 storied brick home.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>881</sup> A Tribute To The Pioneering Thorleys

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>882</sup> Hawkesbury Pioneer Register Volume I, contributor Merryll Hope.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>883</sup> A Tribute To The Pioneering Thorleys

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>884</sup> A Tribute To The Pioneering Thorleys



In the 2nd session of the 10th Parliament in November and December 1881 John spoke on two occasions in regard to the proposed Northern Junction Railway that was to link Sydney with Newcastle via the coast. John and his constituents wanted the railway to meet the northern railway at Singleton, thus providing considerable employment for the town. The present route was decided on with 57 for it,

and John joining the 13 against it. John also spoke in regard to the proposed site of a road bridge across the Hunter at Jerry's Plains. John wanted it further downstream but this was rejected as being too costly because of the need for land resumption.

In the 3rd session of the 10th Parliament John spoke on 6 September 1882 in regard to the Watering Places and Reserves Bill. (page 297). He said:-

"I have been connected with runs and stations and with the droving of cattle and sheep since I was 15 years old, and I should be surprised to find that any man could drive more than 200 head of cattle satisfactorily ...... There can be no doubt that travelling stock reserves require more protection than they receive at the present time. A reserve is no sooner formed than it is used by persons who have no right to the grass. I believe that both squatters and selectors use the reserves improperly. If the Government acted rightly, they would fence in the whole of the reserves. If cattle he station through which they are about to pass. There are many men who travel with sheep and cattle who can neither read nor write, and they may sometimes have to travel 20 miles to a post office in were made to pay 1d or 1 1/2d per head for their feed, the Government would in 10 years be recouped for their outlay in fencing, even though they might borrow the money. I myself have a paddock of about 1100 acres on the northern line, which I keep especially for the feeding of travelling stock. One clause of the Bill provides that drovers of cattle shall, by registered letter, give notice to the occupier of the station through which they about to pass. There are many men who travel with sheep and cattle who can neither read nor write, and they may have to travel 20 miles to a post office in order to register a letter. What is to be done in such cases? Are they to keep a man for the purpose? In my opinion a verbal notice is all that is necessary, and should be deemed sufficient."



John Brown Member Legislative Assembly NSW for Patrick Plains 25 Nov 1880 to 23 Nov 1882

The Sydney Morning Herald, Saturday, 26 August 1882:

#### **RAILWAY FROM JERRY'S PLAINS**

A deputation, consisting of Mr. John Brown, M.L.A., Mr. A. Bowman, M.L.A., and Messrs. W. Parnell, W. Pearce, and Thomas Ellis, waited upon the Minister for Works to present a petition asking that a light railway might be constructed between Jerry's Plains and Singleton, to connect with the Great Northern Railway at the latter place. The construction of this railway, it was urged, would afford an opportunity to the Government for initiating their policy of cheap railways, benefit a large number of farmers, graziers, and others in an extensive and fertile district, and render available thousands of acres of rich and arable land on the Hunter, Apple Tree Flat, Warkworth, Bulga, and Doyle's Creek. The line would be no more than 20 miles in length, and, as the work presented no engineering difficulties, it would be inexpensive. Etc ......

The light rail was never constructed, and John did not stand for re-election to parliament for a second term. It has been claimed that a few years later in 1885, John, was made a magistrate of Jerry's Plains.

John's daughter, Emma, at age 23 years, married Adrian Charles Mountain on 14 November 1885. Their marriage was registered in Singleton.

John suffered from angina for many years and died from a heart attack at Jerry's Plains on 23 April 1896.<sup>885</sup> It is said that his death was brought on by over exertion while showing someone the correct way to plough. He was 74 years of age. John was buried on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1896 at 'Elsinore'<sup>886</sup> east of Jerry's Plains and to the west of the old Jerry's Plains cemetery. Henry York acted as one of the witnesses to the burial.<sup>887</sup>

- <sup>887</sup> BDM 1896 7971
- Author: John Griffiths

<sup>885</sup> Gravestone inscription, also Supreme Court documents per Philip Booker)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>886</sup> The family had moved there from 'Ellerslie'. Per Merryll Hope



In his will; John left half the Somerton property to David, and half to Richard; a little over half the Wybong Creek property to John as well as Peter Duff's original grant at Jerry's Plains; the remainder of Wybong to Henry, as well as "Ellerslie" at Jerry's Plains. George received over 1000 acres at Jerry's Plains including the original Brown grants. He also bequeathed £200 a year for 5 years to Jane's children and the same to Emma and £125 per annum to his wife Sarah.

John had originally appointed all his five sons as executors when he made his Will on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1891. However, a Codicil was added on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1894 removing David, Richard and John. The executors now included his two youngest sons, George and Henry, and James William Duff, the husband of his daughter, Jane, who was still alive when the Will was originally made on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1891 but had died by the time the Codicil was added. He also appointed Thomas Ellis, the son of Sarah Ann Hobden whose first husband, Peter Duff, had owned *Hampton Park* next to the Brown's farm at Jerry's Plains.

At the time that the Codicil was made, Thomas had recently moved from the family's 3150 acre *Oak Range* property at the junction of Doyle's Creek and the Hunter River near Jerry's Plains to manage *Arrowfield*, which the family purchased in 1893. The fifth executor to be appointed was William Ellis Hobden, who farmed part of *Great Lodge*, the property established by his grandfather Richard Hobden, downstream from Jerry's Plains.

John Brown's assets were originally valued at £11,556 but most of this, £9,825, was in over 6500 acres of land, as well as cattle and machinery which were being managed by his sons. Only £1,729 was available as liquid assets and £1,054 was owed to the Crown on Conditional Purchases in the Tamworth and Muswellbrook areas. The executors used local graziers to value the land and the Commissioner of Stamp Duties, believing the values to be too low, sent telegrams to district surveyors to value the properties. Most of the surveyors replied that they did not know the value of the lands and appeared reluctant to proffer an opinion. The Commissioner then contacted licensed auctioneers and valuers for an estimate. Henry York provided valuations for the Wybong Creek and Jerry's Plains properties. No doubt the Commissioner was unaware that Henry's daughter was married to David, son of John Brown and a beneficiary of the estate. However, the revaluation resulted in an increase of nearly £2000 in the value of the estate.<sup>888</sup>

Unfortunately, there was insufficient ready money to pay the bequests. John stated in his will that, if this was the case, then his sons should make up the shortfall. The sons were not forthcoming with the money and the matter went to the Supreme Court of NSW. This caused deep divisions within the family with the three eldest brothers, David, Richard and John ignoring notices served on them by the Court and failing to attend proceedings or appoint representatives. The Equity Court directed the sons to pay the money. <sup>889</sup>

John's wife, Sarah Jane, continued to live at Jerry's Plains. She died in Singleton at the age of 82 on 19 June 1908 from a cerebral haemorrhage. Sarah had made a Will on 1 October 1906 - It had to be read to Sarah because she was blind and she signed with a 'X'. Sarah was buried on 21 June in the Presbyterian section of Glenridding Cemetery, south of Singleton, where her son, Rowland Leslie, had been buried.

#### John and wife Sarah Jane (nee Alcorn) had the following children<sup>890</sup>:

i.	David (3 Jun 1848 - 27 Aug 1930)	iv.	George (15 Jan 1856 - 4 Mar 1924)
ii.	Richard J (7 Jan 1850 - 17 Dec 1922)	V.	Henry. (18 Mar 1858 - 24 Mar 1944)
iii.	John (18 Aug 1851 - 25 Apr 1917)	vi.	Rowland Leslie (28 Jul 1860 - 3 Mar 1864)
Jane (23 Sep 1853 - 30 May 1892)		vii.	Emma. (1 Oct 1862 - 19 Jun 1908)

### **David Brown**

David (III) (b.3 November 1828) is notable as having remained in the shadow of his brothers, James and John.

<sup>890</sup> Per Philip Booker e-mail of 27 January 2001

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>888</sup> Stamp Duties Office: *Deceased Estate File*, Z Series 1880-1923 (SRNSW ref: 20/97, John Brown, Duty Paid 7 Sep 1896)
<sup>889</sup> Per Philip Booker e-mail of 27 January 2001





'He resided some years in Jerry's Plains and again returned to the Hawkesbury where his youth was passed.<sup>891</sup> It was probably 1840 when David was 12 years old. He 'subsequently came to Maitland when about 19 years old'<sup>892</sup> in 1847 - Possibly to run another arm of David's business e.g. butchering, transporting, and selling livestock.<sup>893</sup>

David was in his 21<sup>st</sup> year, and most probably living in Maitland when his father married for a second time, to former convict, Harriet D'Arcy, on 16 May 1848; brother Alfred was born some nine weeks later to the newly wed couple; and his eldest brother, Thomas died on 7 June 1848.

He married Elizabeth McGlynn on 22 January 1852 at West Maitland. Elizabeth had been born on 29 September 1837 at Pitt Town.

David and Elizabeth's first child, Walter Edward, was born in 1852 and like all his brothers and sisters to come, was baptised in the Maitland parish. Sadly, the Maitland Mercury of Wednesday, 6 April 1853 carried the following notification of Walter's death on page 3:

At the residence of Mrs. Elizabeth Turner, West Maitland, on the 30th March, 1853, Walter Edward, only son of Mr. **David Brown**, aged five months.

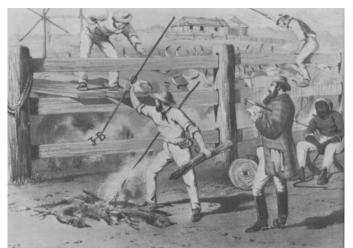
**D**avid '...conducted a butchering business for some years' in Maitland, '...after which he took up his residence on Millie station which he and his brothers carried on for some time, the rest of his life being spent between Millie and Maitland.'<sup>894</sup> He appears to have managed the property on his brothers' behalf.

#Another son, Francis George, was born to David and Elizabeth on 5 June 1854, and baptised in Maitland that year.

#A daughter, Ellen Elizabeth, was born to David and Elizabeth and baptized in Maitland in 1856.

David was 28 years old when his father, David junior, died on 11 January 1857 at Jerry's Plains.

#A daughter, Ada Catherine, was born to David and Elizabeth on 9 January 1860 and baptised at Maitland that year.



Cattle Branding: Adapted from a lithograph by S. T. Gill, c. 1864;

David was at the 'Millie' property on 25 February 1861 when his nephew, David, (Thomas' son) died. Nephew, David, made his will on 20 February 1861, five days before he died, at Millie on 25 February 1861.<sup>895</sup> The cause death was by an infection caused by a stick penetrating his leg?<sup>896</sup>

It seems his nephew, David, was working for or with his Uncle at the property, and that it was David, then nearly 33 years old, who reported his nephew's death.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>891</sup> Obituary in the Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>892</sup> Obituary in the Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>893</sup> David Browns Will of 15 December 1856 refers to his allotments in Bourke Street in the town of Maitland which were to go ultimately to Henry Brown if he had survived to his 21 birthday.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>894</sup> Obituary in The Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.

<sup>895</sup> Executors to his will were Robert Hobden and William Kerrigan.



#A son, Roland David, was born to David and Elizabeth on 12 March 1862.

The Telfer's Wallabadah manuscript of this period lists 'D Brown's Millie South' among the stations and leaseholders of Namoi and Gwydir district. He refers to people such as David as the 'pioneers' or 'founders' or 'those who occupied the runs in the early days'.

David journeyed back and forth between Millie and the Hunter driving cattle and sheep. He would have stayed at the Turrawan Hotel, or the like, as his brothers Alex and George had done - A place where the Browns were well known.

**THE FLOOD AT JERRY'S PLAINS** Above and about Jerry's Plains the flood has been very high, but varied, in comparison with that of 1857. The greatest sufferer I can hear of Is Mr. D. Kitten, of Lucan Park, who lost a stack of beautiful wheat (supposed to contain 300 bushels), and twenty acres of good corn spoiled, besides a great deal of fencing, which he had been gradually getting in good order and just competed but has not at the present moment one single paddock secure.

Mr. Howard, the late postman, lost a

stack of hay and wheat. I believe the fences about the township had a shaking. Mr. Hynes' new hotel was near wet on the floor, but just escaped. A great many took the Ridge for safety.

The Sydney Morning herald - Monday 22 February 1864

The Hunter River overflowed its banks three times during 1864. The most disastrous was that of 14 - 16 June.

# A daughter, Vida Blanche, was born to David and Elizabeth on 26 December 1864 and baptised at Maitland the following year.

#A daughter, Ethel Perie, was born to David and Elizabeth in 1867.

#A daughter, Milba Maud, was born to David and Elizabeth in 1869.



Floods, Devonshire Street, Maitland to in 1864.897

The Gwydir District Postal Directory of 1870 showed 'D. Brown' and 'W. Gordon' at 'Millie', the Manager of 'South Millie' and the hotel licensee for 'Millie'.

# '... was long time a resident of Maitland, where he has reared up a large family, some of whom are now married and settled either in Newcastle or near Maitland.'898

David's involvement in the Millie station ended<sup>899</sup> when his brother, John, sold 'Millie South' interests and other property to D. F. Mackay in 1871. About this time he moved to Maitland on a permanent basis - It is likely this event coincides with this report in the Maitland Mercury, Saturday, 17 June 1871:

**'Slaughtering Licence** – David Brown applied for a slaughtering licence to the bench at West Maitland yesterday; but a petition having been presented against the licence on the representation that a slaughterhouse at the place named would be a nuisance, the application was refused.'

David's application coincides with his brother, John, advertising nine days before in the Maitland Mercury Thursday, 8 June 1871.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>896</sup> Per telcon Marie Tattam October 2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>897</sup> Illustrated Sydney News, July 1864.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>898</sup> Obituary in the Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>899</sup> 'Some years ago he disposed of his interest in the station and resided in Maitland.' Obituary in the Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.





Of David's life in Maitland, it was observed that: 'He was a quiet, unobtrusive man, took no part in public matters.'900

#A son, Milton James Leslie, was born to David and Elizabeth during 1872.

<sup>•</sup>After a very painful illness he died on Saturday evening' at High St West Maitland on Saturday, 13 February 1886<sup>901</sup> 'at the age of 58.

'His latest illness only lasted about a fortnight and commenced with a swelling to the face caused by a gumboil, which it is thought may have been poisoned by his pricking it with his knife. Erysipelas subsequently appeared and inflammation and rupture of the bowels supervened, from an old injury it is believed.'

'His funeral took place on Sunday evening when he was followed to his last resting place by a number of old  $townsmen^{902}$  in West Maitland.

David was buried in Campbell's Hill Cemetery, C. of E. area, section B6, plot 1.

Elizabeth died on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1895 and was also buried in Campbell's Hill Cemetery, C. of E. area section B6 on 30 November 1895.

#### Children to David and Elizabeth were:

i.	Walter Edward (1852 – 1853)	vi.	Vida Blanche (26 Dec 1864 – 1900)
ii.	Francis George (5 Jun 1854-1936)	vii.	Ethel Perie (1867 – 1942)
iii.	Ellen Elizabeth (1856 – 1911)	viii.	Milba Maud (1869-1905)
iv.	Ada Catherine (9 Jan 1860 – 1928)	ix.	Milton James Leslie (1872 – 1932)
v.	Roland David (12 Mar 1862 – 1941)	Х.	male unknown
		xi.	male unknown

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>900</sup> Obituary in the Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>901</sup> NSW registration of death No 20945

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>902</sup> Obituary in the Maitland Mercury, Tuesday, 16 February 1886. NLA, mfm NX27.