

JUDSONS

of

NEW ZEALAND



JOHN JUDSON
 B.
 D. 11.4.1739
 M. Elizabeth
 B. 1685
 Burial Date 12.2.1740

John Judson
 B. 28.3.1714

Thomas Judson
 Bapt. 10.3.1717
 D.
 M. Mary at Plungar
 B.
 D.

George Judson
 B. 24.4.1726

Thomas Judson
 Bapt. 4.12.1761
 D.
 M. 15.12.1799 Ann at Plungar
 B.
 D.

James Judson
 B. 10.12.1799
 Bapt. 15.12.1799 at Plungar
 D. 15.6.1873, aged 73
 M. 5.3.1821, Elizabeth Cox
 at Eastwell, England
 B. 12.7.1800 at Eastwell
 D. 26.12.1881, aged 81

JAMES AND ELIZABETH'S WEDDING:
 Minister Rev. John Faithfull
 Witnesses: John Cook (Church Warden)
 Thomas Cox
 Address of James was given as:
 "of Thorpe, Leicestershire"

PARENTS OF ELIZABETH COX
 John Cox
 B. 13.6.1756
 M. 28.10.1793
 Sarah Pyzer
 B. 23.4.1770

Thomas
 Bapt. 29.5.1821
 D.
 M.
 Elizabeth
 (Betsy)
 B. at Eaton

John
 Bapt. 29.11.1823
 D.
 M.
 Catharine
 B. .1827
 at Sewstern

William
 Bapt. 5.8.1827
 D. 28.7.1885
 at Woodend
 M. .1847
 Sarah George
 B. 21.6.1827
 D. 1.1.1907

Sarah
 B. 1.10.1829
 D.

Isaac
 B. 31.5.1832
 D.

Mark
 B. .1835
 D. 16.12.1915
 M. Ann Whittaker
 Bapt. 11.9.1836
 D. 7.12.1912

Matthew
 B.
 D.

Ann
 B. 5.9.1840
 D.

George
 B.
 D.

PARENTS OF ANN WHITTAKER
 Robert Whittaker
 B. 12.10.1806
 M. 28.10.1833
 Mary Smith
 at Stathern

Judson
 864
 .1944
 388
 aylor
 372
 947

Mary E. Judson
 B.
 D. Aged 5 years

Thomas Judson
 B.
 D. Aged 6 years

James
 Henry

Thor

Gladys
 May

Francis

Myrtle

Arthur

Percy

Ellen
 Rita

Bertha

William married
 Sarah George 1827
 Emigrated 1859-60
 on Clontarf
 Sarah Ann was the
 only child to survive.
 She married Samuel Agres
 in 1875

CHILDREN OF
SARAH ANN JUDSON
AND
SAMUEL AYERS

Ivan Henry Taylor
B. 20.5.1907
D. .1925

Vivienne Emily
Taylor
B. 14.4.1908
M. Robert Henry Ellis
B. 1.12.1905
D. 3.1.1978

Rose Emily Ayers
B. 6.10.1877
D. 12.7.1965
M. 26.10.1905
Henry Robert Taylor
B. 20.8.1879
D. 7.7.1965

Nova Olwynne
Taylor
B. 26.10.1910
D. 7.3.1981
M. 22.5.1940
Alex Ronald Ayers
B. 13.5.1914

Kelvin Gibbs Taylor
B. 6.4.1914
M. 27.8.1949
Marjorie Frances
B. 2.11.1913

Ethel Sarah
May Ayers
B. 1.5.1879
D. .2.1880

Brian Robert Ellis
B. 22.1.1933
M. 23.2.1963
Christine Beth
McConnochie
B. 29.3.1941

Adrienne May Ellis
B. 9.11.1934
M. 25.8.1956
Malcolm Robert Nicholls
B. 4.10.1929

Wendy Vivienne Ellis
B. 5.9.1936
M. 18.12.1966
Ernest Arthur Crane
B.
(Divorced)

Murray Judson Ellis
B. 4.1.1943
M. 22.1.1968
Catherine Izabel Ratcliffe
B. 10.6.1947

Howard Kelvin Ellis
B. 27.10.1944
M. 1st
Louise Longdin (divorced)
M. 2nd 28.8.1973
Frances Anne Parkin
B. 22.3.1949

Beverley May Ayers
B. 17.8.1942
M. 4.5.1974
Ian Vernon Newton
B. 17.12.1933

June Margaret Ayers
B. 19.6.1945
M. 9.12.1972
Ian Wilson
B. 1.4.1949

Patricia Ann Taylor
B. 26.5.1951
M. 16.6.1976
John Victor Relf
B. 24.4.1953

Geraldine Clare Taylor
B. 25.1.1953
M. 22.1.1977
Donald John Jellyman
B. 18.5.1947

Allison Frances Taylor
B. 2.5.1957

Lesley Corrine Ellis
B. 6.12.1964
Marc Lindsay Ellis
B. 10.3.1967
Stuart David Ellis
B. 1.9.1970

Trevor Charles Nicholls
B. 22.3.1958
M. 8.3.1980
Margaret Edwina Leith
B. 7.10.1958

Vivienne Ruth Nicholls
B. 9.4.1959
M. 8.8.1982
Graeme Phillip Coppell
B. 22.9.1957

Naomi Susan Nicholls
B. 18.9.1962
D. 20.9.1962

Norman Henry Nicholls
B. 8.8.1964
D. 9.8.1964

Colin Malcolm Nicholls
B. 10.8.1965

Walter Robert Nicholls
B. 12.1.1969

Silvia Ellen Crane
B. 14.6.1968

Natlie Wendy Crane
B. 22.1.1972

Richard Murray Ellis
B. 24.8.1971

Megan Jean Ellis
B. 4.6.1974

Merewyn Jane Ellis
B. 16.1.1980

Kirsten Lisa Ellis
B. 7.8.1965

Robert Michael Ellis
B. 12.2.1978

Matthew Francis Ellis
B. 8.3.1981

David John Wilson
B. 26.2.1974

Andrew James Wilson
B. 5.10.1975

Victor Michael Relf
B. 15.10.1979

Yonatan Relf
B. 6.5.1981

Channah Lee Relf
B. 6.5.1981

Dina Relf
B. 1.6.1984

Phillip Graeme Jellyman
B. 6.6.1983

Jonathan Paul Nicholls
B. 21.5.1983

Peter Raphael Nicholls

B. 26.10.1980

David Graeme Layzell
B. 2.3.1980

Elizabeth Layzell
B. 2.3.1980

Zoe

Ryan

Ben Purdie

Aaron Purdie

Donald Purdie

Sasha Helen Crane

Zoe Rose Crane

WILLIAM and SARAH JUDSON

and their descendants

William Judson, 1827 - 1885

William was the third son of James and Elizabeth Judson of Eastwell, Leicester, England. In 1847 he married Sarah George at Waltham-on-the-Wolds, Leicester. At the time of their departure from England they had five children, and were to have a further five after their arrival in New Zealand.

In the mid-1800s, conditions in England were hard and difficult, and this led to William's younger brother, Mark, aged 22, leaving with his wife to find a new life in New Zealand, arriving at Lyttelton 14th July, 1858. Mark found the conditions to his liking and reported back to his family in England, with the result that William decided to join him and obtained passage as an assisted emigrant. The cost to William for the fare for the family was £12.0.0. and to the Provincial Government of New Zealand £67.10.0. Household effects were sold and the family travelled to London by rail, where they obtained lodgings until the date of departure. The expense of this accommodation was something they could ill afford, and caused some concern. They finally sailed from Gravesend on 29th November, 1859, on the ship *Clontarf* (after sailing from Lyttelton on its return voyage, this ship was not heard of again).

The voyage out was a hard and difficult one, during which they encountered fires on board and violent storms. The *Lyttelton Times* on 17th March, in reporting the arrival, stated that never before had they published such a long list of deaths, many of these being children who had died of measles. One of the deaths was Martha, the youngest child of William and Sarah. A shortage of supplies and money added to their hardships, and at one stage of the voyage William found it necessary to give a Promissory Note for £9.10.0 to get credit to enable them to carry on. It was not until November 1864 that they were able to repay this.

On arrival at Lyttelton on 16th March, 1860, the family had to carry their possessions over the Bridle Path, and were then met by Mr Pateman, father of Claude Pateman senior, with his horse and dray to bring them to Woodend. For a time, William and his family stayed with his brother Mark, but things were rather overcrowded and so before long William started building their own home, a cob cottage built in front of the present homestead in Judson's Road. This was on ground bought from Captain Fuller, and was initially only a four-acre block.

Shortly after his arrival, William obtained work in Christchurch as a clerk in a lawyer's office. He would leave home about 4 a.m. on a Monday morning and walk to work, board in town for the week, then walk home again for the weekend. While he was away, his wife Sarah would mix and make clay blocks, then when he came home at the weekend, William would carry on building their cottage. They would, no doubt, be helped in this by their children. A receipt is still held, dated 1862, for the fitting of a window and a partition in the cob cottage. This amounted to £3.14.0.

At various later dates, a wooden building was built behind the cob cottage; the cob cottage was demolished when a further section was added; then about 1906-1908 a further rebuilding took place.

Records show that the first 10 years or so were a difficult time for the family, as William endeavoured to purchase or lease land at Woodend and also at Oxford. During the time he was travelling to and from Oxford in working the land, he would also act as a cartage contractor, delivering supplies on the way there and bringing timber out on the return trip.

William, who was a good marksman, was a member of the Woodend Volunteers, and is recorded as receiving the sum of £10 as a prize in rifle-shooting. In October 1875 he was elected to the Woodend School Committee. With his sons, he continued farming until he died at Woodend 28/7/1885.

Notices in the *Lyttelton Times* relating to the death of William Judson were as follows:

July 30, 1885

(page 4)

DEATH

Judson - July 28, at Woodend, William Judson, aged 59 years.

Funeral Notice:

The friends of the late William Judson are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, which will leave his late residence on Friday July 31st at 2pm for the Woodend Wesleyan Cemetery.

W. Salkeld
Undertaker

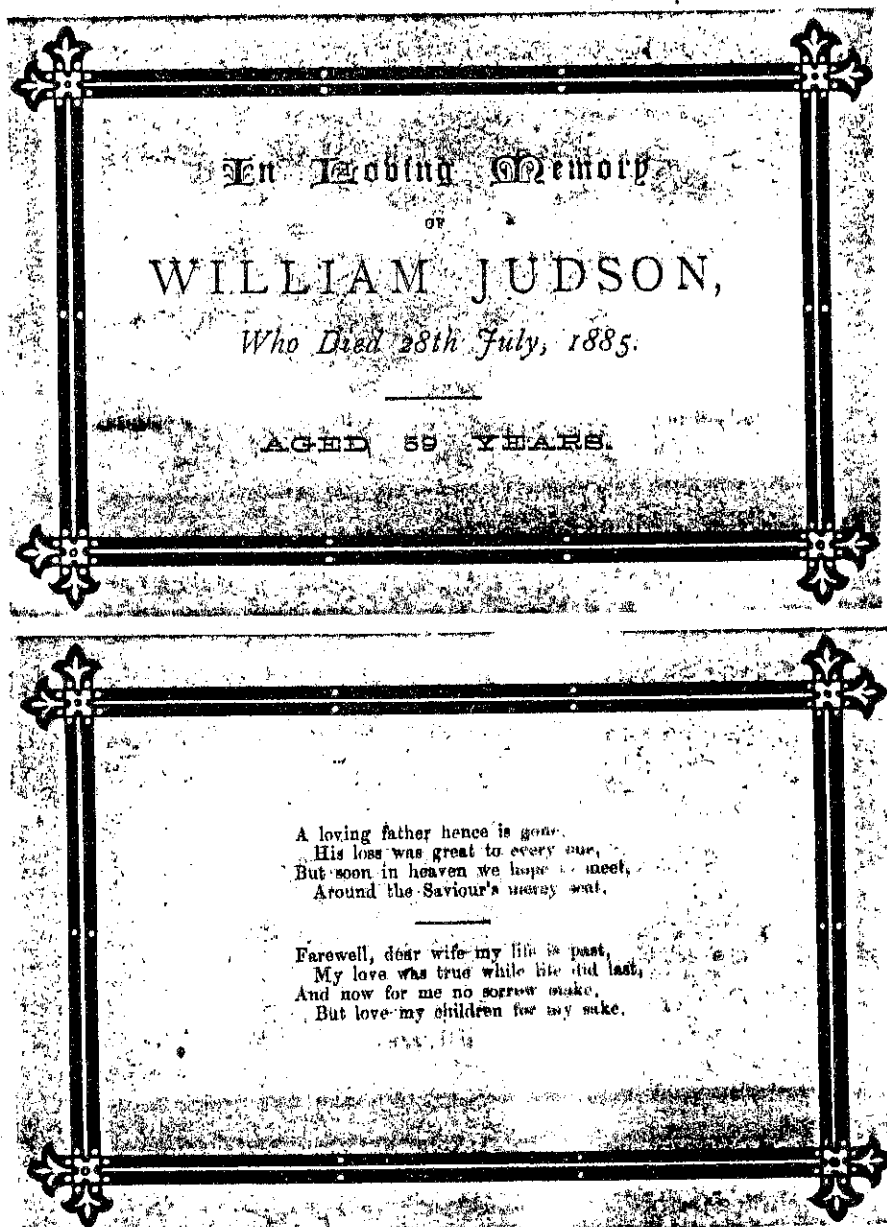
August 3, 1885

(page 4)

FUNERAL AT WOODEND

On Friday afternoon last, the remains of the late Mr. W. Judson, an old and much respected resident at Woodend, were interred in the cemetery belonging to the Wesleyan body, the Rev. L. Hudson officiating at the grave. The funeral was an exceptionally large one, a great number of Maoris, by whom the deceased was highly respected, being present.

NOTE: Although William's age is given as 59, both in the death notice in the paper and on his headstone in the cemetery, he was in fact nine days short of his 58th birthday, being born 5/8/1827 and died 28/7/1885.



Log of voyage from London to New Zealand
Wednesday, 30th November, 1859 to 16th March, 1860
SHIP CLONTARF 1100 TONS. CAPTAIN A.W. BARCLAY ESQ.

On Board 430 Souls

Chief Saloon	14
Deck Saloon	10
2nd. Cabin	8
Steerage	10
Canterbury Provincial Government immigrants	346
Officers and Crew	42
Total	<u>430</u>

Signature Wm. Perkins Junr.

Wednesday Nov. 30th. 1859. Weighed anchor at Gravesend 7 o'clock this morning with passengers and crew numbering 430 and were taken down the river by steamer which left us at 3 o'clock, very wet morning, cleared up about 6 o'clock, had a splendid moonlight night with most of the passengers down with sea sickness.

Thursday Dec. 1st. 1859. Sighted the Isle of Wight about 1 o'clock, the Pilot left us at Portland about 6 o'clock this evening, we had it blow pretty stiff all night, got our Fore Top Sail carried away.

Friday Dec. 2nd. 1859. Very rough all day but the wind favourable for carrying us down channell, entered the Bay of Biscay about 8 o'clock pm. and were tossed about all night with a gale of wind and very rough seas.

Saturday Dec. 3rd. 1859. I got on deck for first time since we got into channell, have been beating about the Bay all day, making no progress, the sea continues running very high, all lights were put out for the first time at 10 o'clock, this evening we had only turned in about ½ an hour when the cry of Fire, Fire, made every one rush out on deck, all the emigrants from below were up on deck like shots, all in their night clothes, it was a long time before anything like order could be restored, the fire was in one of the enclosed cabins between decks belonging to Mrs. Rayner and family, the first Officer and Carpenter rushed down and quickly succeeded in extinguishing the Bed clothes which had caught fire from a lamp they kept burning after hours, by about midnight, all again was quiet.

Sunday Dec. 4th. 1859. Very rough and cold with rain most of the day, too rough to hold Church Service on deck.

Monday Dec. 5th. 1859. Beating about the Bay with head wind all day, majority of the passengers are still down with seasickness.

Tuesday Dec. 6th. 1859. Gale of wind this morning lost our Mizzen Top sail, showery all day, still in Bay of Biscay.

Wednesday Dec. 7th. 1859. Very heavy sea after gale, sighted Cape Ortegal, spoke *Joseph Shepherd* bound for Liverpool.

Thursday Dec. 8th. 1859. Terrific storm last night, I could not get a wink of sleep, one of the Quater Boats got carried away, a seaman nearly killed and one of the midshipman badly hurt, we were just preparing for Breakfast when we shipped 3 seas one after the other, which smashed our Bulwarks, broke into the deck house and filled all our cabins with water, all our bedding and clothes were saturated, went to work with Buckets and Pails to bail out the water, got things pretty square by night, beds could not turn in on a/c of wet Bedding, this was hard work, as we had only been able to get one meal cooked during the day.

Friday 9th Dec. 1859. Dead calm today after the storm until about 5 this evening, we then got a favourable wind and we are fast getting out of the Bay of Biscay.

Saturday, Dec. 10th. 1859. Have had a very fine day with favourable winds, two children were sent to hospital with measles.

Sunday 11th. Dec. 1859. Very wet, no service on board, all our Party met at dinner for the first time, wind favourable.

Monday 12th. Dec. 1859. Very wet all day not able to get on deck, changed cabins with a Mr. Thompson, got a Mr. Arlidon and the 3rd mate, Mr. Aubain, for mates.

INFORMATION AND STORIES RELATING MAINLY TO WILLIAM JUDSON'S FAMILY

(These have been told by old family members who have since passed on.)

After Mark's arrival in Woodend, he wrote back to the family in England and must have given a favourable account of conditions here. It is known that things were very bad in England about this time, and the story goes that some of the family were gathered on a seat around a large tree in the Eastwell village, wondering when they would hear from Mark and Ann, when a letter arrived from New Zealand. It must have made good reading, as it helped William and Sarah to make up their minds to sell up and start a new life in New Zealand.

They, and their family, left from Leicestershire railway station, and travelled to London, where they had to live in what is believed to have been barracks, until the day of embarkation. They finally sailed from Gravesend on board the ship *Clontarf* on 29th November, 1859 for New Zealand.

The remaining children of James and Elizabeth who stayed in England were Thomas, John, Isaac, Matthew, George, and their sisters Sarah and Ann. On 4th August, 1883, two sons of Thomas (George and Thomas jnr) sailed from Plymouth on board the ship *Taranaki* for New Zealand. However, Thomas died of pneumonia on 9 October, 1883 and was buried at sea, 12 days prior to the ship arriving in New Zealand.

At the time of sailing, William and Sarah were both 32 years of age, and their five children were James (12 years), Elizabeth (10 years), Mary Sybil (7 years), Sarah Ann (3 years), and Martha (four months, who died at sea). On the shipping list, William and Sarah were shown as being 30. It is understood that this had something to do with the cost of the fares.

After leaving Lyttelton on its return voyage, the ship *Clontarf* was not heard of again.

William and Sarah were met at the foot of the Bridle Path by old Mr Pateman with his horse and dray to bring the family and their luggage to Woodend. Among these effects was a dinner set, being a gift to Sarah from an Aunt before they left England, and in later years, what was left of the set was divided among her children, who in turn handed down pieces of it to some of their children.

In 1973, Mary Benjes, who was 92, and Eliza Giles, 90 (both daughters of Sybil and Fred Smith) each had a cup and saucer; Ted Smith had two cups and saucers; Emily Taylor had part of the set; Edna Piner had a large, heavy, china teapot; Dorrie Judson had a cup, saucer and bread and butter plate and a luncheon plate, these having been given to her by Frank Judson, son of Isaac Judson. There could also be other members with various pieces. Now, in 1985, these are over 125 years old. Also in the homestead is the lid of Sarah Judson's butter dish, which is made of "milk-glass" and is in the form of a cow laying down on an oval base. This had been given to Isaac Judson, and a few years before his death, his son Frank had returned it to the homestead.

During the time when William was working in a lawyer's office in Christchurch, he would leave home in Woodend about 4 a.m. and walk to work carrying his gun and shooting any game he saw on the way. This was given to his employer, who in return overlooked the occasional slight lateness. No doubt any game shot on the way home helped with the weekend meals.

In these earliest days, William would carry a four-bushel sack of grain to Archer's flourmill on the Main North Road, north of Woodend, for grinding, then return with it on his back. He would make two stops at the White Crane Hotel for a glass of ale, one on the way to the mill, and another on his return trip.

In the early days, the side of the house nearest the road was referred to as the back, and the north of the house as the front. A wooden building was added to the north of the cob cottage. This was built by Frederick Smith. At a later date, other wooden sections were added and the cob house demolished. The present main bedroom was originally a big kitchen with exposed rafters from which hung hams and bacon rolls; then, when alterations were carried out for Henry Judson around 1906, it became the front room. Over a period of two or three years from 1959 onwards, the home was "modernised" by John Judson, and during this work, when the scrim and wallpaper were removed, underneath was found the filled-in doorway of the back door of the old building. Also, during the removal of the verandah and shingle path, there was revealed the outline of clay walls, fireplace and doorway of the cob cottage.

Aunt Sybil and Fred Smith lived just off the Woodend Beach road, and were regularly visited by Aunt Sarah Ann and Sam Ayers and their family, travelling by horse and trap from Rangiora. The story goes that Uncle Sam had a great weakness for Sybil's fresh-baked bread, so that, on these occasions, Sybil (in addition to her normal meal preparations) would cook half a ham and bake extra bread so Sam could be given some to take home.

Every Christmas for many years, the large family gathered at the homestead for Christmas Day, and used what is known as the "Chaff House" in which to have dinner. This is a shed close to the front of the house, used over the years to store chaff for the horse teams. This shed is still standing. Sacks of chaff were used as seating and any overflow sat on the grass outside. During one of these gatherings six or seven babies had been put to sleep on a double bed, all placed in a row with their heads to the wall. One of these babies was known to be Ted Smith. Four Judson boys, Henry, Isaac, Alex and one other, then got busy. Two boys burnt corks over candles to produce blacking, a third blacked the babies' faces, while the fourth member of the team changed the babies' outer clothing and rearranged their positions on the bed. Later, one of the mothers came in to check on the babies and found a row of black infants. She rushed out to tell the other mothers, these being sisters Sybil Smith, Elizabeth Porter, Sarah Ann Ayers, Martha Clutterbuck, Eliza Pateman, and George's wife Emily Judson. All hurried back to the bedroom and found they had to wash all babies to find out who belonged to whom (it's a wonder how the babies stayed asleep through all this!).

On Christmas afternoon there were always enough men and boys for a family cricket match — sometimes Judsons v Smiths, or Judsons v the rest. These were held for many years. Another Christmas tradition was the making and distribution of frumenty, to be eaten for breakfast on Christmas morning. This was an old English recipe made of wheat with milk which had been soaked over a long period and boiled with dried fruit and spices. Bringing their billies along for their frumenty at Christmas was something the family members looked forward to. One of Florence Judson's Christmas Day specials was wild cherry pie, and although they were delicious it was a major effort to find room around the edge of one's plate for all the small cherry stones. The refreshing summer drink she made was horehound and ginger beer.

Some of the grandchildren of Sarah Judson felt she was a woman who had a strong influence within her family, as was the case with many of the early pioneer women. It is told that, on one hot Sunday morning when the harvest was ripe and a warm north-west wind was blowing, the men decided to start harvesting. When Sarah heard them, she went out to where they were working and told them she would not prepare any meals that day if they carried on working on the Sunday. One gathers she was a rather stern person.

Sarah Ann Judson, 1856 - 1947

Sarah Ann was the fourth child of **William and Sarah Judson**, born at Eastwell, England, 8/2/1857. Her schooling and life within the family at Woodend shaped her character and abilities, which developed in later life. Due to ill health on the voyage to New Zealand, it was necessary for her to leave home and convalesce near Lyttelton, where sea air and care were available. Outwardly unimpaired, she lived the rest of her life with one lung.

On 16th June, 1875 Sarah Ann married, at Woodend, Samuel Ayers, a mason and bricklayer, who, with his parents, had left Turvey, Bedfordshire, England, and settled in Woodend in September 1858. In 1873, Samuel had bought land in North Street (now known as King Street), Rangiora, where he had partly built a neat, two-storeyed, brick house which, with additions and alterations, was where they lived until they died: Samuel on 24th February, 1939, and Sarah Ann on 2nd June, 1947. This house is now occupied by Rachael Tregurtha, a grand-daughter of Sarah Ann.

The home section was a two-and-a-quarter-acre block bounded on the north by the Oxford railway line, a narrow lane on the east (widened in 1928 to become Durham Street) and on the south by Dale's right-of-way.

Sarah Ann was a capable wife, mother and homemaker. Of the 10 children born between 1877 and 1901, nine (four girls and five boys) survived their parents. Ethel, the second child, died at nine months, in 1880. In spite of the many economies which had to be practised, the children were reared in a happy home, growing up healthy and strong. A large orchard was established and a cow, horse and pigs were kept. Samuel served the district both in his trade and in public life. His work at distant homesteads in North Canterbury often meant being away from home for a week at a time.

Sarah Ann (called "Annie" by Samuel) and her family regularly visited her parents at Woodend. When the family's yellow trap was not available, she would often push her pram and latest child over the rough roads to Woodend and back, four miles each way. As the family grew and married, the tradition of Christmas family gatherings was continued at King Street, with the grandparents. Sarah Ann was noted for her sense of humour, and enjoyed games and having young people around her. She and Samuel instructed their children in the Christian faith and were members of the Methodist Church. Samuel had a fine tenor voice and encouraged his children to develop their own talents in piano, organ-playing and singing.

The autumn years of Sarah Ann's life were memorable for the celebration of both her Golden and her Diamond Wedding anniversaries. These were occasions of great family reunions. By the Diamond Wedding, the family numbered 50 and by 1985 numbered over 240.



Golden Wedding 1925

Mr and Mrs S. Ayers (sitting in centre) celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding at Rangiora on Saturday. They are shown here with their family. Back row: Mr H.G. Ayers (Methven), Miss Thelma Ayers (Rangiora), Mr L.J. Ayers (Wellington), Mr H.T. Ayers (Lyndhurst), Mrs P.C. Trebilco (Te Aroha), Mr S.W. Ayers (Christchurch), Mrs W.J. Finlay (Hamilton). Front row: Mrs H.R. Taylor (Rangiora), Mr and Mrs S. Ayers, Mr C.S. Ayers (Rangiora).

This photo is in Methodist Times 17.8.35 - Diamond Wedding



Sarah and Samuel Ayers



Sarah, with her daughters.
Samuel, with his sons.