

James Waterson

Waranga Chronicle

16 January, 1873

Although the year has only just commenced we are already called upon to chronicle the death of another old identity. We refer to Mr J. Waterson, who departed this life on Monday last.

Mr Waterson was a native of Tasmania, and at the first excitement of the gold discovery he came to this colony, and went to Fryer's Creek, then just opened, and being very successful in mining he made several trips home.

On his last return from Tasmania he went to reside at Talbot, where he stayed for some time, but on the rush setting in here, at the opening of the Old Lead, he came with others, and pitched his tent at the lower end of it, till the opening of Coy's Diggings, to which place he removed.

After being there some little time he purchased the London Tavern from W. H. Mallock, and continued to reside till the time of his death.

During his stay in this district Mr Waterson made friends of all who had occasion to come in contact with him, but of enemies none. He was one of those men not always to be met with; nature having endowed him with many good qualities, without bestowing on him those bad ones which, in a large number of instances, counteract the good.

He was one of the foremost in developing the mineral wealth of the district in which he resided, and held an interest in most of the claims.

He also interested himself in farming, and took up a large piece of land on the Goulburn, which was just getting into good working order.

The respect in which the deceased was held was shown yesterday by the large number of his friends from all the surrounding townships, including Rushworth, Murchison, Graytown, Whroo, &tc., who followed him to the grave.

Mr Waterson has been suffering for some time from disease of the heart, which ultimately caused death. Although looking much older his age was stated to be only thirty-seven.

His loss will be felt by many, and these in the habit of visiting Coy's will, for many a day, miss with regret the burly form and good honest face of James Waterson.

Footnote: Rushworth cemetery records include a listing for James Waterson.