

William Gunn, senior.

Rushworth Chronicle

26 October, 1888

DEATHS.

GUNN.—At his residence, Waranga Park, Rushworth, on the 22nd inst., William Gunn. Aged 84 years.

DEATH OF W. GUNN, ESQ., J.P.

A visit from the fell reaper—Death—the rider of the white horse, "who knocks with equal foot at the door of the rich and poor alike," has again been paid to this district. This time his call has been made upon the well-known and esteemed grazier, Mr William Gunn, senr., of Waranga Park.

Mr Gunn was a native of the North of Scotland, and lived for many years at Wick, the great seat of fishery, in the county of Caithness. He left his home on the outbreak of the diggings for the "Land of the Golden Fleece," and sought his fortunes in Rushworth (then known as the Dry Diggings) in 1853.

Following for 2 or 3 years the avocation of a miner here he determined to devote his attention to pastoral pursuits, and purchased from the executors of Mr McKay, deceased, what is known now as Waranga Park, at the present very much circumscribed in area, but which in days of yore embraced many miles on all sides of the existing town of Rushworth. This station he held through every vicissitude of fortune up to the date of his demise, contending with Scottish stolidity against droughts that to most graziers were unsurmountable, and caused them to go to the wall.

In the early days Mr Gunn earned a most enviable name as being the friend of the miners, never impounding stray horses or cattle, and assisting to the best of his power the poor straggler.

The Government marked their appreciation of his straightforwardness by conferring upon him the honorary position of a justice of the peace. This position, it is needless to say, he filled with the highest credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

Unfortunately, about 16 years ago Mr Gunn was the subject of a sad affliction, being attacked by rheumatism of a most severe type. For the greater part of the aforementioned time he was confined to his room and bedridden.

The deceased was buried in the Rushworth cemetery on Wednesday, in the grave of his daughter, Mrs Collier.

Many of his old and most intimate friends assembled to pay the last tribute and testimony to one who in life and in death well merited that tribute.

He leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.

