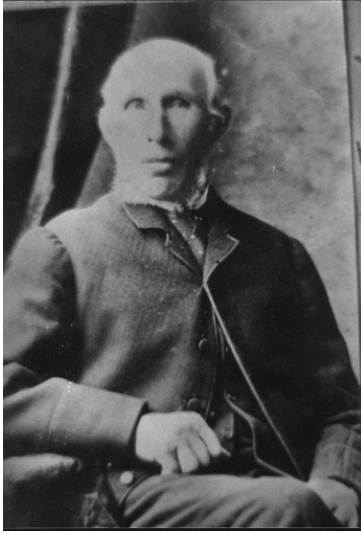


James Hull 1812 – 1896



James Hull was born at the Hillfoot Farm in Ballymakeever, Dungiven, Ireland in about 1812. His closest brother was John who was just a couple of years older than him. James married Elizabeth (Mary Anne) Smyth on October 8th, 1851 in the Dungiven Presbyterian Church. Elizabeth was the sister of Samuel, James younger brother's wife Agnes. James and Elizabeth had five children that were registered at the Dungiven Presbyterian Church born between 1852/Mary and 1861/Samuel.

James and John were quite adventurous at a young age. They left Ireland and headed for the goldfields in Bendigo, Victoria. They didn't go to do mining but to sell barrels and other equipment to gold miners and in a few short years became quite wealthy.

Dysentery was a very difficult problem in the goldfields and both John and James got sick with this dysentery with James seeking good professional help while John his brother went to a physician that was drunk most of the time and he passed away in 1856. James oversaw John's estate and when at last he left Australia he took John's share of their wealth to Scotland, where he settled in Glasgow. He must have returned once a year or so to Dungiven from Australia because they had three or more children while they were running their business in Australia.

Elizabeth and James had 10 children with about half of them living in Scotland. James had three children who moved together to Western Australia including one niece Elizabeth Miller Hull.

One of his daughters, Margaret, married James Curlett in Ardrossan, Scotland. Some of their descendents still live in Ardrossan and have the last name of Strain. Rea, Margaret's granddaughter still has a grandfather's clock that belonged to Margaret and her husband James when they lived in Ardrossan.



Rea with her grandmother's clock-
Margaret Hull Curlett

This family traveled to Ireland to the Hillfoot farm for summer vacations and we have pictures of them visiting Maggie and Tom all as they were the last inhabitants of the Hull farm in Ballymakeever, Dungiven, Ireland.



Curlett's and a neighbor at the top of Mount Benbradagh just above the Hull Hillfoot farm.

The children used to run from the farm to the top of Benbradagh on Sunday afternoons to see who could do it the fastest. It would take 15 to 20 minutes to get to the top.



Rea (the young women on the right) with a friend and with Rachael and James Hull Curlett sitting on the hill above the farm.



Tom Hull and his sister Maggie at the Hull Hillfoot farm. They raised chickens and sold the eggs to the markets in Dungiven.



James Hull Curlett family visiting Maggie Hull at the Hillfoot farm. They were from Ardrossan, Scotland.



Curlett's and Margaret Hull, James daughter-lived and died in Scotland

One of the Curlett's, a William Curlett, was the last person who lived at the Hill foot farm after Maggie and Tom passed away and his family sold the farm to the Semple family. Maggie and Tom Hull and William Curlett are all buried in the Dungiven Church of Ireland Cemetery at the church at the top of the hill.



Headstone of Margaret Hull (Maggie) Thomas (Tom) and cousin William in Dungiven Cemetery



Curlett' and Hull's standing on the edge of the Hillfoot farm with the valley visible behind them.

Maggie and Tom never married and lived at the Hillfoot farm all of their lives. William Curlett was handy with construction and he is the one who put stucco on the farm house. He also re-did the ceiling of the Church of Ireland called the Church at the Top of the Hill where they are buried. A Mr. Dean was their neighbor and helped in the stucco project at the church as a young man and he said that William had cancer and was sick most of the project and would give him his lunch because he was too sick to eat it. William died just a day or so after finishing the ceiling at the church.

Another descendent by the name of Ronald Hutchison, who still lives in Glasgow area descends

from James Hull and is acquainted with the Strain family in Ardrossan. The Strain boys moved to Australia where they live with their families now. James picture is included in this history and was sent by Elizabeth from Australia to AC Hull in America or one of the Hull genealogists in America along with the picture of Samuel Hull, who was James' and John's brother.



Figure 1

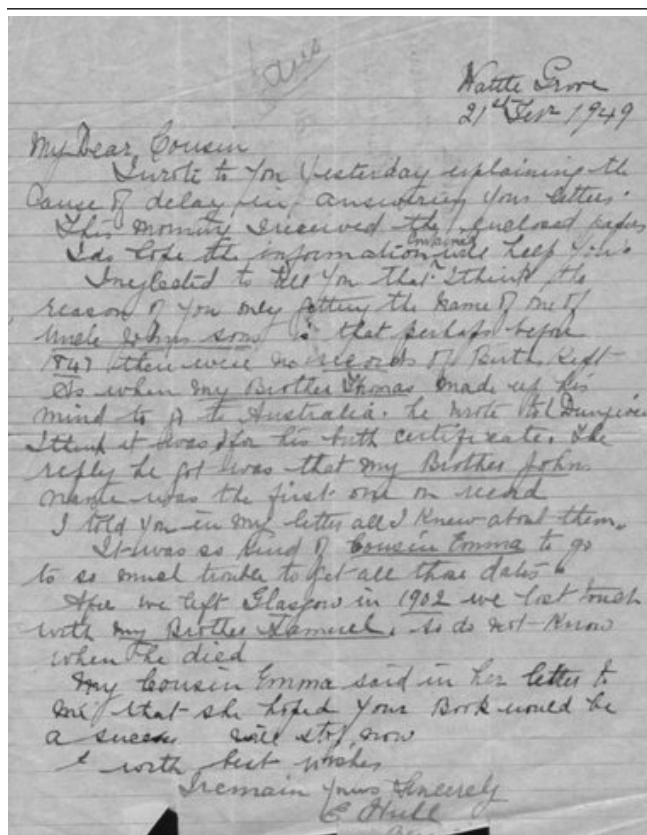
Elizabeth Hull and her niece Bessie Baird and her grandchild. Elizabeth is the daughter of James Hull, the brother of Thomas Hull II. She lived in Western Australia at a place called Wattle Grove.



Figure 2

Elizabeth Hull sitting, Bessie on far left and Bessie's family

The following letters were sent from Elizabeth, the daughter of James, to the Hulls in America.



Wattle Grove
21 Sep 1949

My Dear Cousin,

I wrote to you yesterday explaining the cause of delay in answering your letters. This morning I received the enclosed papers. I do hope the information enclosed will help you. I neglected to tell you that I think the reason of you only getting the name of one of Uncle John's sons is that perhaps before 1841 there were so records of births kept so when my Brother Thomas made up his mind to go to Australia he wrote to Dungiven I think it was for his birth certificate. The reply he got was that my Brother John's name was the first one on record. I told you in my letter all I knew about them. It was so kind of Cousin Emma to go to so much trouble to get all those dates. After we left Glasgow in 1902 we lost touch with my Brother Samuel so we do not know when he died. My Cousin Emma said in her letter to me that she hoped your book would be a success. Will stop now & with best wishes.

I remain yours sincerely
E Hull

Compilation of pages from a letter from E Hull of Australia, the daughter of James Hull.

I am the last of our family, the smallest and have lived the longest - I was 84 years last May. I have not been well for some time - got fibrositis in my arms and shoulders & legs. It was terrible painful at first. I tried all cures. I am still able to get about - am not near so stiff as I was in the winter. I have been under a doctor's care for the last 9 months. He called today and told me I was standing the heat better than he expected - but I was to go slow and not to rush about. I expect you will be tired reading all this. My eyesight is not too good either. Still I have a lot to be thankful for. Happy to hear from you again if you can make out our relationship.
Yours sincerely,
E Hull

Their names were John, Richard, Thomas, William, Samuel, Robert:
Richard left home when he was 16 years of age none of them heard from him for 50 years. Then he wrote and said he was living with his youngest daughter. That is as far as I can remember my uncle Robert telling my father I was very young at the time. The Emma you mentioned was a daughter of my uncle Samuel. She died last Easter aged 85 years - the last of her family of 13. She was a real dear old lady suffered from Rheumatism for 20 years she was crippled with it and she could write such a nice letter. Her father was a very stern

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 dear old Dad was left with 9 children
 the eldest 20 years. Mary was her name
 it is her daughter that I live with
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Mother had eleven children. She died with the eleventh baby – something went wrong. One brother died at 13 years old and baby almost at birth so my Dear old Dad was left with 9 children, the eldest 20 years. Mary was her name. It is her Daughter that I live with who was only 3 years old when her mother, my sister died so my brother Robert and I brought her up. Neither of us married. She later married a Mr. Baird. It was he who was electrocuted at his home.

It was a terrible shock to us all. He was one of the best and we still miss him.

Who replied that she had never heard about that but her mother always said that we came of a Distinguished family. All she had was some beautiful writing that her Father had framed. I never saw either of my Grandparents on my Father's side I saw Uncle William Uncle Robert and Uncle Sam. On Mothers side I saw her only brother, I think William Smyth was his name. The failure of the Glasgow City Plan ruined him and he left Glasgow. We never heard off him lives he had if I remember a right 5 children and a lovely home in the west end of Glasgow his wife was a lovely woman. I saw my Uncle Samuel's wife Agnes my mother's sister. Maggie & Tom Father was a dear old man he had been in Australia & New Zealand my Father went to Australia in the early 50's long before I was born, somewhere about Ballarat my Uncle John was with him my Father did not go digging for Gold he made the barrows and puddling machines.

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4. For my Fathers family Mary the eldest was like a mother to us all after mother died. Robert was a certified contractor. William the same, Margaret home duties, Samuel a saw sharponer in a big firm and Tom was a carpenter by trade, John a soldier died in Idia(?) of internal fever 20 years of age, I a shirt cutter for years, Anna home duties. Tom went to Australia when he was 20 years old, got on well, was very clever at figures and started water condensing and made a lot by that. When he retired, he put his money into property and made good. Robert, Anna & I and little Bessie came out to Tom in 1909. Robert took up farming. I kept house for him until he passed on 1934. Then I lived with my sister Anna who had a lovely home for 10 years. After her husband died till she had dearly passed on then I stayed with her daughter, Nancy for 4 years. Then have been with Bessie.

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