

THE LATE MR. GEORGE HULL

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In our issue of yesterday, we recorded the death of Mr. George Hull, of Tolosa, Glenorchy, at the advanced age of 91 years. The deceased gentleman was born at Carshalton, in Surrey, on the 21st August, 1786, on the farm of his father, who was an officer in the County Militia, and at an early age, having received a classical education, he was articled to a solicitor in the west of England. At the age of 23, he obtained Treasury clerkship on the staff of the army, and went to Spain in that capacity in 1810. In January, 1814, Lord Wellington gave him a commission in the Commissariat Department and, after undergoing many hardships, he remained at the seat of war until its termination at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

On his return home he was for three years engaged at Somerset House as auditor of the accounts of the Peninsular War. These duties ceased in 1818, when he was ordered on foreign service; was given the option of going to Canada or New South Wales, he selected the latter station, at which he arrived early in 1819. In 1815 he had married the only daughter of Captain Munro, late of the Coldstreams¹, who was then a wounded officer, and one of the garrison of the Tower of London.

In September 1819, the station at Hobart Town, was placed on a higher footing, and he was sent down to take charge of the Commissariat Department and remained in that position until 1838, when he retired on account of extreme deafness, and received a pension equal to half pay. Whilst resident at Launceston from 1824 to 1838, Mr. Hull was also Assistant Colonial Treasurer and, after retiring to his farm at Tolosa (a grant of 2560 acres of land for military services) he held for a time the appointment of Assistant Director General of Roads. Governor Arthur, with whom Mr. Hull was on terms of intimate friendship, placed his name in the Commission of the Peace in 1839, and his name on the day of his death stood fifth of the Roll of Tasmanian magistrates his seniors being Captain Malcolm Laing Smith, Sir Robert Officer, Captain Dumaresq and Mr. Thomas Mason.

Mr. Hull passed away quietly and painlessly on Tuesday afternoon, at half-past five o'clock, being perfectly sensible and conversing with his daughters, till within an hour of his decease. He leaves ten surviving sons and daughters, seventy-five grandchildren, and twenty-four great grandchildren and has thus had the happiness of seeing his children's children of the fourth generation, and has realised the blessing of the God in whom he ever trusted, that the righteous man should never see his seed begging their bread.

Mrs. Hull died in January, 1877, at the ripe age of 77, and since, her decease her husband resided with his son-in-law at Battery Point.

¹ A painting of Hugh Munro shows the three-button arrangement of his tunic signifying Scots Guards.

“Tribune” – June 26th 1879. George Hull, G-G-Grandfather of Myrtle Martin. (obtained from Tasmanian State Archives, who photographed the paper obituary as copied out above. Charge, 25c – very cheap!) [Unfortunately, the photograph is getting dark and very hard to read. VGM 21.02.1987]