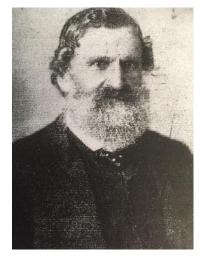
CHARLES HAWKINS DALE AND ELIZA MARY BOLTON STOW

By Dale Hartle 08/03/2021

Charles Hawkins Dale 1825-1898



Charles Hawkins Dale was born on 4 December 1825 in Margate, Kent. His parents were **William Dale** 1789-1859 and **Mary Hawkins** 1787-1842. They married on 19 October 1815 in Margate.

Charles had a sister **Sarah Ann Dale** 1824-1897. Sarah married a **Samuel Vigor** in October 1846 in Maidstone, Kent, and had five children: **Ellen** 1841, **Samuel Walter** 1843, **Jane A H**, 1848, **Mary Sophia** 1849, and **Charles W** 1859. Sarah was baptised on 12 September 1824 at St John's, Margate. Sarah died in July 1897 aged 73 years, in Maidstone, Kent.¹

In the 1841 Census, Charles was aged 15 years, living at Horns Farm with his parents William Dale aged 52, a cow keeper, Mary Dale, aged 54, an Edward Hawkins aged 88 (probably Mary's father), his

sister Sarah Ann Dale aged 16.

1851 Census, Maidstone, Kent, Sarah is listed with Samuel and their children.

178	Mote Road	Samuel	vigor	Head	mar.	35		Jailor	do do
	y real to	Farah et	de	take	de		26	1	do margale
	i jill.	Ellen	d	dan		-	xo	Scholar	do maidstone
	16	Walter	do	don	-	8		Ol.	do do
	200	Jane et. H.	· do	daw			3	do	a do
	ALEMAN VE	many S.	do	clo			8	do	do de
		Charles W.	Ol.	don		-		.47	al do

In the 1871 Census, Maidstone, Kent, Sarah is listed as being a widow, 46 years of age, a servant and a nurse, from Margate. She was living at 60 Boxley Road, Maidstone, with Alexander Chambers, his wife Sarah and daughter Alice.

In the 1881 Census, Maidstone, Kent, Sarah is listed as living at Union Street 139 West Kent Place, a widow, formerly a nurse, aged 56 years, with her son Charles W. Vigor, aged 22 years.

¹ Information from Knowlden Family Tree, Ancestry.com by patriciajm31

Eliza Mary Bolton Stow [Stowe] 1832-1914



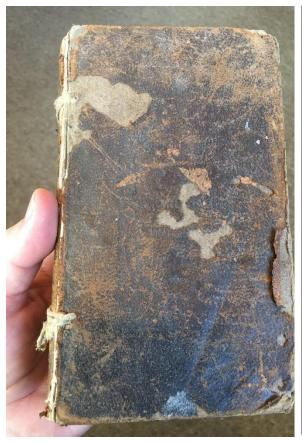
Eliza Mary Bolton Stow was born on 18 December 1832 in Margate, Kent. She was one of 7 children altogether. She was christened on 8 December 1833 in St John Thanet, Margate, Kent. Her parents were **John Stow** 1778-1851 and **Jane Bannister** 1797-1862.

Eliza had 5 older siblings:

- Caroline 1819-
- Margaret 1823-
- •Jane 1825-
- Charles 1828-
- Joseph 1831-

And 1 younger sister:

• Ann Elizabeth 1837-

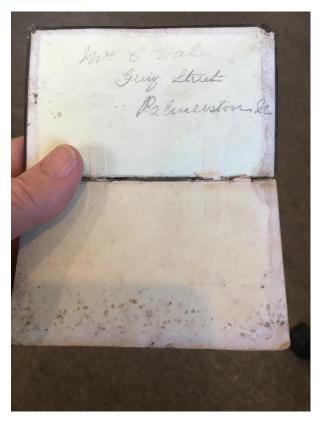


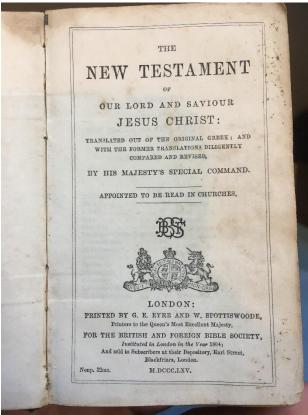


Apparently Eliza was given the Holy Bible pictured above in 1844 aged 11 years by the Sunday School at Margate. Eliza attended Margate National School where she received a book from the committee of Margate School for good conduct on 2nd October 1844. The inscription reads: "Eliza Stow, October 2nd 1844, from the Committee of the Margate National School, as a reward for good conduct".

A smaller New Testament bible pictured, in very fragile condition, has the words "Mrs C Dale, Grey Street, Palmerston North" written inside the cover.







These two Bibles are held by Dale Hartle, who was gifted them by James Whiteman, grandson of Mary Constance Dale (Batchelar). The Bibles are wonderful family heirlooms in very fragile condition.

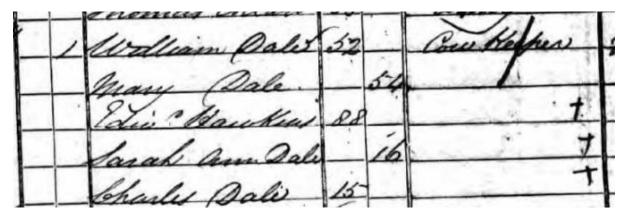
It's amazing to think that I can touch and hold items that my great-great-grandmother Eliza Stow-Dale owned and used probably on a daily basis, and for Sunday church. These bibles would have travelled by sea from England to Australia in 1852, and then to Central Otago, and Palmerston North, New Zealand, and were handed down through the family and are now in my possession.

As I hold and look at them, I wonder what Eliza was thinking and feeling, and whether she ever imagined that something she was given as a child 176 years ago would be so treasured and precious to us living today and that we would

know all about it. I wonder what her favourite passages were? There's no way of knowing as there are no markings or bookmarks.

Eliza's family don't appear on the 1841 census, but she appears on the 1851 census as being in Islington, Middlesex, London where she was working as a servant to John de la Marche Bragge, a 34 year old widower, and his unmarried sister, Mary Frances Bragge. Her employer was a general practitioner, and his sister worked as a governess. She was fortunate in having what would seem to be at that time, such a good job.

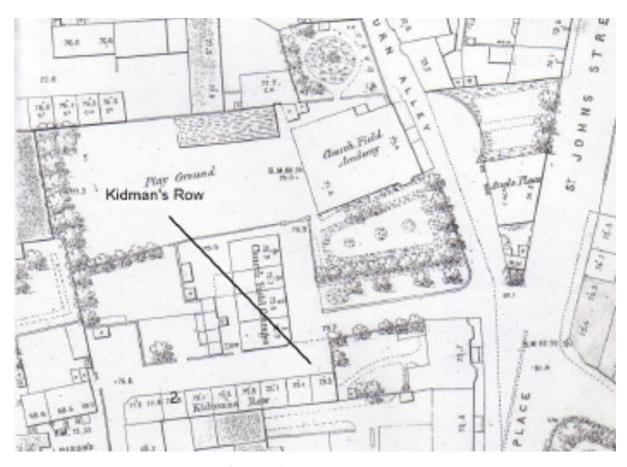
In the 1841 Census², **William Dale** aged 52 is recorded as a cowkeeper living with his wife **Mary Dale** aged 54, her father **Edward Hawkins** aged 88, **Saran Ann Dale** aged 16 and **Charles Dale** aged 15 years. The address is Horns Farm, in the Isle of Thanet, near Margate.



In the 1851 Census, William Dale is recorded as being a lodger aged 62 years with a Mary Ramsby and her daughter Jane at 3 Kidman's Row in the town of Margate. This was a group of 8 really old cottages in Margate which no longer exist. By this time Edward Hawkins and his daughter Mary Hawkins had passed away, and their son Charles had left for Australia.

_

² Class: *HO107*; Piece: *468*; Book: *5*; Civil Parish: *St John The Baptist Margate*; County: *Kent*; Enumeration District: *16*; Folio: *26*; Page: *12*; Line: *11*; GSU roll: *306863*



This 1852 map shows the location of Kidman's Row and the cottages.

Emigration to Australia

Charles Dale travelled to Victoria, Australia between 1848-1849 from Gravesend as a 23-year-old. The exact date and on what ship is not known. Charles must have landed in Melbourne and stayed there for several years, as the goldrush had not yet started in Victoria.

Eliza landed in Port Phillip on 27 December 1852 on board the "*Persian*" from London via Plymouth. It had left on 22 September. The ship had 619 government immigrants on board: 274 Married couples, 124 single men, 94 single women and 95 children. While her age was given as 22 years, she was actually only just 20. (Shipping records list her as "Stone".)

Age 🍦	Fiche	Month	Origin	Page	Port	Ship 🛊	Year A	Name
22	23	DEC	ENG	8	В	PERSIAN	1852	STONE, ELIZA

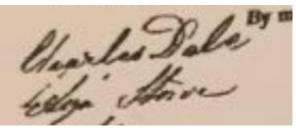
[&]quot;Assisted" immigrants had their voyage from the United Kingdom subsidised by the Victorian government for the purpose of being employed on their arrival.



Figure 1 - Cnr King & Batman Sts, West Melbourne 3003 (Photo Maureen Farrington, March 2021)

Five months after her arrival in Melbourne, Charles Hawkins Dale married Eliza Mary Bolton Stow on Wednesday 8 June 1853 in St James Church, Melbourne^{3 4}. It is likely Charles and Eliza knew each other before they came to Australia because they were from the same parish in England. Also in those days the "wedding banns" had to be announced in the church for three Sundays before the proposed marriage date, so that any objections could be made.

The witnesses to the marriage were Joseph and Elizabeth Batten who both signed the register with their mark. However Charles and Eliza both signed their own names as shown below.



St James Old Cathedral, an Anglican church, is the oldest church in Melbourne, Australia, albeit not on its original site. It is one of the relatively few buildings in the central city which predate the Victorian gold rush of 1851.

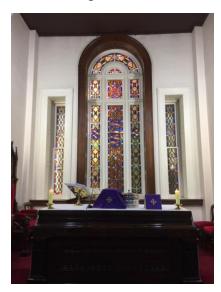


Figure 2 - Photo of Altar, St James Cathedral, Melbourne (by Maureen Farrington, March 2021)

³ https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/St James Old Cathedral

⁴ https://www.sjoc.org.au/history

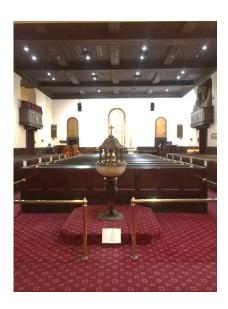


Figure 3 - Photo of view of St James Cathedral, Melbourne (by Maureen Farrington, March 2021)



Figure 4 - Stained glass window of St James, St James Cathedral, Melbourne (by Maureen Farrington, March 2021)

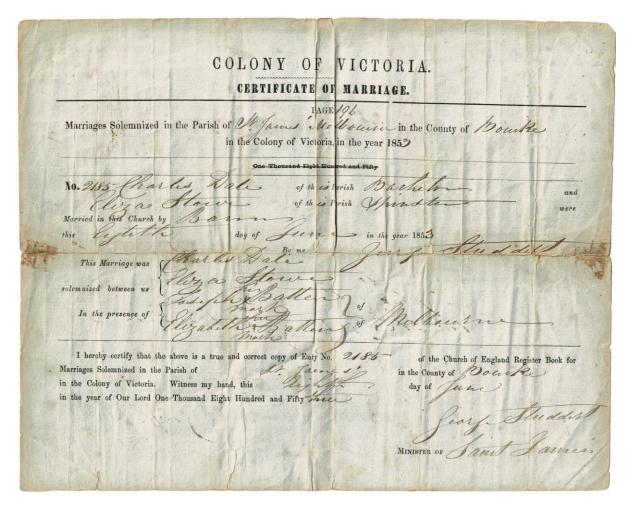


Figure 3 - Copy of original Marriage Certificate - Charles Dale and Eliza Stow.

A Transcript of the Certificate of Marriage reads:

Colony of Victoria

Certificate of Marriage

Page 196

Marriages Solemnized in the Parish of *St James, Melbourne* in the County of *Bourke* in the Colony of Victoria, in the year *1853*

No 2185 Charles Dale of this Parish Bachelor and

Eliza Stowe of this Parish Spinster were

Married in this Church by Banns

This *Eighth* day of *June* in the year 1853

By me Josep Studdart

This Marriage was solemnized between us

Charles Dale

Eliza Stowe

In the presence of Joseph Batten and

Elizabeth Batten of Melbourne

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Entry No 2185 of the Church of England Register Book for Marriages. Solemnized in the Parish of St James in the County of Bourke in the Colony of Victoria. Witness my hand, this 8th day of June in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty three

[signature]

Josep Studdart

Minister of Saint James

After their marriage, Charles and Eliza headed off to the goldfields as it was at Bendigo in 1854, in central Victoria where Charles worked as a miner.

Information and maps provided by the Castlemaine Historical Society indicates that Charles Dale and his brother-in-law Joseph Stow lived next to each other on properties in New Chum Gully in 1857 and 1861, and Charles Dale is listed as an elector in 1856 at Campbell's Creek.

The New Chums Gully Reef adjacent to where Charles Dale and his brother-in-law Joseph Stow are shown as living was recorded to:

"indicate a more widely spread system of quartz veins throughout the field, than was ever dreamed of, and suggest well-founded anticipations of a field of gold mining enterprise so immense, and a yield of riches so fabulously extraordinary, that speculation is lost in infinitude, and reason hesitates to believe the marvellous and incredible. This reef has been traced across New Chum Gully, over the hill near Golden Square, and right into Golden Gully. The claims in New Chum Gully are very rich, the quartz in many of them yielding from 20 to 30 ounces to the ton." ⁵

Children born in Australia

- 1. William Charles Dale, 13/09/1854, Bendigo
- 2. Eliza Mary Dale, 19/7/1856, Campbells Creek, Castlemaine
- 3. Lydia Anne Dale, 23 July 1859, Castlemaine
- 4. Rose Dale, 1861, Castlemaine

Charles' and Eliza's first child, William Charles Dale was born in an area known as Californian Gully, Bendigo, Victoria on 13 September 1854.

California Gully is a suburb of Bendigo, 4 km north-west of the city centre. It was formed around the California Gully where it intersects the Eaglehawk Road.

Gold was discovered in California Gully in 1852, and it was rushed by miners from the Californian gold diggings. A large influx of Cornish miners occurred in the 1870s, strengthening a Methodist tradition which had established the first school in 1857.⁶

They had three more children in 1856, 1859 and 1861 before preparing to move to New Zealand when the Victorian goldfields ceased to be as productive as they had once been.

In 1852, following rich alluvial gold finds in its vicinity, **Campbells Creek** became a focal point for many diggers on the Mount Alexander goldfield. In 1857 its official population was 2,459, but this was probably understated by at least 500 male Chinese. The Mount Alexander Mail, reporting on the diggings, noted that 'down the creek, there was a sense of great animation, for the work was being done by a large number of Chinese'. Over its first 50 years, the town also became renowned for its orchards and vineyards, especially after the railway opened in 1872.⁷

In the *Mount Alexander Mail* on Friday 10 November 1854, Charles Dale is listed in the "Castlemaine Unclaimed Letters List", for October 1854.⁸

⁵ Mount Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917) Fri 7 Sep 1855 Page 2 (From the Bendigo Advertiser.)

⁶ https://www.victorianplaces.com.au/california-gully

⁷ http://www.egold.net.au/biogs/EG00263b.htm

 $^{^8}$ Mount Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917) Fri 10 Nov 1854 Page 4 CASTLEMAINE UNCLAIMED LETTER LIST.

Letter from home

There is a letter from Jane Stow, Eliza's mother written in the mid-late 1850s. Parts of the letter were indecipherable or missing, but you can see most of it here.

My dear Children

I was very ... hear from you once ... confess I was very ... writing before but I ... for the post. You ... delighted I was to think that you are all together once more and I sincerely hope to live in peace and unity with each other, tell your dear wife that I am quite delighted with the likeness of my dear Eliza and her beautiful boy, but how altered, if I met her in the street I should not have known her, give my love to my dear child and tell her I am waiting anxious to have a line from her, and tell her to give my love to Charles and tell him I have never yet heard from him.

... my dear Jane ... learn that her dear child ... by this time it is better, my love to her husband ... quite recovered from ... and now able to work. I have been very poorly these last months but not to lay by. We have a very long winter here and the weather here is still very cold. I am now waiting the arrival of the mail to hear that you are all happy and comfortable together once more and looking for a long letter from my long lost Eliza, it is now 4 years since I had one from her. Now I must conclude with my best love to all and all the dear children, kiss them for granny, all your brothers and sisters join in love and believe me even your affectionate mother,

Jane Stow

Send me word if there is anyone the name of Samuel Wakeham at any of the stores at Castlemaine.

The Mount Alexander Mail reported on Friday 15 September 1854 the following court case where a Charles Dale along with two others forfeited five pounds bail for keeping stores without a licence, but it is unknown exactly what this meant:⁹

There is an entry from the Court of Petty Sessions for 8 September 1854 which indicates a Charles Dale was selling food without the appropriate business licence, for which he was found guilty and fined £5 or 7 days imprisonment. The Court Deposition book indicates he was on £5 Bail. The entry

-

⁹ Mount Alexander Mail (Vic.: 1854 - 1917) Fri 15 Sep 1854 Page 3 CASTLEMAINE POLICE COURT.

indicates he forfeited his bail, equivalent to the fine, which suggests he failed to appear in court. ¹⁰ This might have a link to a later letter from Eliza to Joseph from New Zealand

Friday, September 8.

Before C. P. Hackett, Esq., P.M.

Anthony Murphey, Pat. Cullen, and Thomas
Finlay, each forfeited bail of 60s. for digging without license.

William Powell, Charles Dale, and Hugh Long,

William Powell, Charles Dale, and Hugh Long, forfeited L5 bail, for keeping stores without a license.

In 1855, the following letter to the Editor appeared in the Mount Alexander Mail:11

MR. PYKE AND CHEAP LAND.

To the Editor of the Mount Alexander Mail. Sir,-Having been informed that Mr. Pyke, on being accused last Saturday, at the Victoria Hotel, Castlemaine, of running up the price of land sold at the last land sale, said it was not he, but a person named Dale, of Forest Creek. As I consider myself the man alluded to, I feel bound (with all due respect to Mr. Pyke) to say that he made a great mistake, for at the time the land on Forest Creek was sold I did not happen to be present at the sale; and, moreover, I can prove that I did not bid once for any land, and far from its being my wish to run up the land on Forest Creek, or anywhere else, I am directly opposed to it .- I am, &c.,

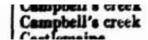
Adelaide Hill, Forest Creek, November 15th, 1855.

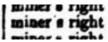
¹⁰ Castlemaine Historical Society records, 12 April 2021: Court of Petty Sessions, record 241, Dale, Charles, 8 Sept 1854, No food sale licence

¹¹ Mount Alexander Mail (Vic.: 1854 - 1917) Fri 16 Nov 1855 Page 3 MR. PYKE AND CHEAP LAND.

An entry in the *Mount Alexander Mail* newspaper on Tuesday 13 May 1856¹² shows Charles Dale of Campbell's Creek as a voter because of his "miner's right". This meant he was entitled to vote in the election of members for the District of the Castlemaine Boroughs.







In the County Court records of 22 June 1859, there is a listing of a complaint by William Johnson against a defendant Charles Dale for £1 5.4, and a note "not filed as served". ¹³ It is not known what this is about.

In the *Mount Alexander Mail* on Wednesday 27 July 1859, in the report of the meeting of the Castlemaine Town Council, there is this item¹⁴:

11. From Charles Dale and Thomas Phips, asking permission to mine on the road side at Campbell's Creek. Mr Chapman moved that the application be granted, subject to the approval of the Town Surveyor. This motion was seconded. Mr Bagshaw moved an amendment that the matter stand over until the report of the committee appointed to consider the matter of mining within the municipality had been brought up. It was not fair to other applicants whose casese were posponed last week. The Chairman seconded the amendment, and urged that 6 applications made last Tuesday had been postponed until the committee had sat. It would not be fair to grant new applications whilst the other six remained undisposed of.

¹² Mount Alexander Mail (Vic.: 1854 - 1917) Tue 13 May 1856 Page 1 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

¹³ Castlemaine Historical Society, 12 April 2021: County Court 22 June 1859, record # 572.

¹⁴ Mount Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917) View title info Wed 27 Jul 1859 Page 2 CASTLEMAINE TOWN COUNCIL.

Mr CHAPMAN sad that if mining on the roads were injurious to the public interest, why did not the Council take steps upon the matter. If it were not, why delay persons having these privileges granted them? The Chairman said that after the regular business of the Council were over he would propose that the Council go into Committee upon the subject. Mr Chapman stated that according to the bye-laws, committee meetings should be held every Thursday at 3 o'clock not been the case. He did not understand why he should be called down at 7 o'clock, when three was the time. By irregularities he would not be induced to resign his seat as Mr Christophers had done. He would not resign until called upon to do so by the proper authority. The amendment was carried. was then carried that the Council should go into committee upon the mining question.

An extract from the Council records of the time actually state¹⁵:

From Charles Dale and Thos Phips for permission to mine on the Campbells Creek Road.

Received and referred to the Special Committee. Cr Chapman moved that the Special Committee appointed to consider the question of mining the road and streets. Meet immediately after the business of the day. Cr Wallace Seconded. Carried.

In the County Court records of 29 August 1861^{16} , there is a record showing a Charles Dale of Winters Flat owing Plaintiff W Johnson of Castlemaine the sum of £1.0.4., and a note saying "Paid on 21 August 17s.4d."

There is also a piece of correspondence that has a Charles Dale letter tendering for the job of Lamp Lighter in 1859, but he did not get the job. ¹⁷ Lamp lighter roles were tendered for regularly and the job was contracted out, sometimes on a rolling basis, and sometimes given to different people each time.

¹⁵ Castlemaine Historical Society, 12 April 2021: handwritten Council minutes. Original correspondence is held at the Public Record Office in Melbourne, access permitted for fee.

¹⁶ Castlemaine Historical Society, 12 April 2021: County Court, 29 August 1861, record # 509.

¹⁷ Castlemaine Historical Society, 12 April 2021: Council Correspondence

Letter from Joseph to Eliza

In a letter from Joseph Stow in Maldon to his sister Eliza Dale in New Zealand on 24 July 1866, he states the following, in part (typos included)

Springs Brewery, Maldon July 24

My dear Sister

I received your letter in June with a one pound note inclosed in the same and I forwarded the same to the Court and I asked them to send me a statement how Charles stood on the Books so that I could send it to you and they sent me the one inclosed so that you will be able to see how you stand with the Court.

My dear Sister I am sorry to hear that poor Charles is not able to do anything for the support of you and the dear children. I am sure it must be very hard for you to be able to do for them all but I think that if you was to get a doctors certificate to the fact that Charles is not able to work to support his family and send it to the Court and to declare on the funds of the court, I say that I think you will get ten shillings per week allowed you by keeping good on the Books, and if so that would be something, if I was you I should try and get it at once.

This shows that there was a debt to the Court by Charles which they were paying off, (possibly the 1859 item) and the fact that Charles was not working because of ill health, suggesting she get a doctor's certificate for the court to possibly alleviate the debt. It's interesting as we don't know what the debt was for, but the previous newspaper snippets provide some clues, along with court documents from Castlemaine previously mentioned.

Campbell's Creek is a township 4 km south of the centre of Castlemaine, connected to Castlemaine by the Midland Highway and the railway which runs to Maryborough.

Campbells Creek was named after William Campbell, pastoralist and politician.

Campbell took up a small pastoral run, Tourello, near Clunes. In 1850 Campbell discovered gold on his brother-in-law's neighbouring property, entitling him to a reward as Victoria's first gold discoverer. Gold was discovered at Campbell's Creek in 1851, being part of the Castlemaine-Mount Alexander goldfield. The creek itself is fed by the Barkers and Forest Creeks in Castlemaine, and joins the Loddon River at Guildford. By March 1852 there were an estimated 25,000 persons on the Forest Creek diggings.

A school was opened in 1854. Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist churches were opened in 1856 and the latter, along with the Presbyterians, ran schools until the 1870s. Several hotels were opened in Campbell's Creek, the best known being Five Flags. By the end of the 1850s much of the alluvial gold was worked by Chinese miners, and companies were formed to exploit the auriferous quartz reefs. In 1865 Bailliere's Victorian gazetteer recorded five quartz-crushing mills, eight hotels and a brewery.

After the 1870s mining became less rewarding and the district became well known for fruit growing. The railway line from Castlemaine to Maryborough, via Campbell's Creek, was opened in 1874.¹⁸

¹⁸ https://www.victorianplaces.com.au/campbells-creek

Of interest is the fact that mentioned on the birth certificate of their daughter Lydia Annie is the fact that Charles and Eliza previously had two living children and one deceased. There is no birth or death registration for any other previous children born to Charles and Eliza in Australia, so it is presumed that the deceased child died soon after its birth, within the allowable time frame to register a birth. Or it is a mistake!

Charles heads to Otago

On 11 July 1862, when Rose was just a baby, Charles boarded the "Aldinga" bound for Port Chalmers. He was 42 years of age and travelled "steerage". It is believed they were following the trail of gold to the new goldrush area in Central Otago. Charles is listed as being a Labourer and variously a Miner.

The Victoria (Aus) to New Zealand passenger records has the following entries:

DALE, C.H. No 8878 – A Male (S) aged 42 – travelling steerage on the "Aldinga" departed from Melbourne on 11 July 1862 for Port Chalmers.

DALE, Mrs – No 6815 – F aged 32 from England – travelling fore on the "*Princess Royal*" which departed from Melbourne on 21 February 1863 for Part Chalmers. Travelling with her, with consecutive numbers are her children, William aged 8, Lily (Eliza) aged 6, Lydia aged 3, and an infant aged 1.¹⁹

The Black Ball Liner Princess Royal, which sailed from Melbourne on the 21st ult, arrived at the Heads late on Tucsday night. Up to four o'clock to day she was still outside with her passengers on board, the Sampson happening to be laid up at present for inspection, while the Lady Barkly. Favourite, and Lady of the Lake were otherwise fully employed. They will probably be all landed to-morrow (Thursday) forenoon.

After he had found suitable lodgings for his family, Charles had obviously sent for his family. They arrived on 5 March and laid up overnight for inspection before landing the next day. There were 414 passengers on this trip. The joyous reunion after 6 months separation must have been quite exciting for the family. Eliza had travelled with four young children on her own across the Tasman.

Gold!

In June 1861 the town of Dunedin had been jolted out of its lethargy by a letter in the "Otago Witness" detailing a prospecting tour embarked upon to the Tuapeka by Tasmanian prospector Gabriel Read who claimed to have discovered a payable goldfield, now known as Gabriel's Gully. Initially people thought Gabriel Read was dreaming and as it was a cold frosty winter, it took a while for things to ramp up. By July 1862, however, before gold was discovered further inland at the Dunstan (Clyde), the population of Dunedin was 5,850, and at Tuapeka 11,472 – only 148 of whom were women. Previously the population could be counted on the fingers of two hands. The area was named the "Tuapeka Goldfield". Thousands of miners from the Australian Goldfields which were petering out left Melbourne bound for Otago and within months, a rip-roaring mining towns had

¹⁹ Shipping Intelligence. OTAGO DAILY TIMES, ISSUE 376, 5 MARCH 1863

been established all over Otago.²⁰ Read described his find as "Gold shining like the stars in Orion on a dark frosty night..." (Gabriel Read, 1861).

When the family was reunited and rested, they travelled up to the gold mining area in Tuapeka – now known as Lawrence, and from there another 8 children were born, with the first being Edward in 1864.

Children born in New Zealand

- 5. Edward 1864, Lawrence
- 6. George 1865, Lawrence
- 7. Frank Beaumont, 1868-1868, Beaumont (died 2 months)*
- 8. Henry 1869, Lawrence
- 9. Frank 1870 (twin), Beaumont
- 10. Stillborn twin, 1870, Beaumont
- 11. Emily 1873, Tapanui
- 12. Mary Constance 1875, Tapanui
- 13. Clara 1877, Tapanui

*Frank Beaumont Dale was listed as being born on 20 January 1868, father Charles Dale, Carter, Mother Elizabeth Dale, formerly Stow. His death was registered as being on 22 March from convulsions and his burial took place on 23 March 1868. The Balclutha Genealogists group has recorded a Frank Dale as being buried in Lawrence at a cost of 10s, but no record can be found online. (See separate file on Frank Beaumont Dale).

Life on the goldfields

A miner's life in the raw surroundings of the Otago goldfields for a young family would have been tough. The Great Snow of 1863 (August-September) in Otago caused huge hardship for the miners in the area and many lives were lost due to the harsh conditions, floods, avalanches, slips and the frozen environment. Even though Tuapeka – Lawrence was a thriving township servicing the goldfields, there were many deaths from accidents, drownings and mishaps. The mail couldn't get through, supplies were delayed, animals and livestock were lost, workings washed away or destroyed.²¹

The *Otago Daily Times* correspondent from Tuapeka reported on 31 July 1863: "the population has increased in this district, causing a little stir amongst the miners. The whole of the Tuapeka Flat is taken up by the unsuccessful miners from the river; they have introduced water-wheels, and set to work in earnest, and I am sure the ground will be well tried this time, and not abandoned as heretofore. Gabriel's still retains a good population; the Blue Spur is fast disappearing, as there are four heads of water continually at work there."²² This would have been about the time Charles and Eliza Dale would possibly have arrived in the area and a few days before the Big Snow began.

²⁰ McCraw, Ernie. "Gabriel Read of Gabriel's Gully". Tuapeka Goldfields Museum Society Inc 2011.

²¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blizzard and flood of 1863

²² OTAGO DAILY TIMES, ISSUE 503, 31 JULY 1863

There is an Application for a Water race from a number of men, including Charles Dale available on Archway held by the Dunedin office (not reviewed):

Application for water race - Jeremiah O'Leary, James Moore, Joseph Baker, Alexander Montgomery, **Charles Hawkins Dale**, Alexander Thomson, Samuel Samuels - Lignite Creek - 1863

However by 1866, the easily won alluvial gold in the Otago goldfields was virtually gone. The hard drinking and hard living alluvial miners were then left with two choices if they wanted to stay: become involved in sluicing, which required capital, or work for wages paid by the sluicing partnerships or companies. Those who chose the latter found there was a strong demand for their labour to work the sluice sites or dig the water races to bring in water to operate the sluice guns. Where sluicing took place villages often sprang up nearby or increased their population or facilities.²³

In "The Immigrants"²⁴ there's description of the kinds of people the goldminers were at the time and how they were treated by the upper class gentry especially in Dunedin and Christchurch. Many of the miners were well-educated and highly skilled men who had joined the international workforce because they chose to, not because necessity had forced them to it. Many could read and write, were younger, predominantly male, but were often disliked and even feared by the respectable middle-class immigrants. They were thought of as having a 'generous spirit of comradeship' with democratic and egalitarian attitudes. They wore a distinctive dress of blue flannel shirt, moleskin trousers, high boots and a tall 'wide awake hat' – one with a broad brim that did not require the wearer to squint his eyes against the sun.

However, any miner possessed of a miners' right, which could be purchased for one pound, could vote and lessons learned from the Californian and Victorian goldfields were not lost on legislators.

A goldfield woman's life

Life for women on the goldfields was harsh and repetitive. Women's work consisted of rising early to stoke the fire, and boil the water, of endless washing, ironing, and cooking. They made bread, butter, jams, soap and clothes for the family. The living conditions were cramped, and there were few comforts at the diggings. Because the alluvial mining muddied the once clear creek water, clean drinkable water was hard to find. Often fresh water was carted into the diggings and sold by the bucketful. Fresh vegetables and fruit were scarce and cost a lot. Sometimes they managed to establish a small garden to provide much needed food. Usually when a woman gave birth to a baby, she was assisted by other women as there weren't many doctors around at the time. Many babies and mothers were lost during and immediately after birth through complications. Epidemics of illnesses such as diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, typhoid and scarlet fever swept through the goldfields, and many men, women and especially children, died. During the day, the women would do mending, darning, knitting, sewing, or crochet or spin wool. In the evenings, the family might have one literate member read to the others, often out of the Bible. Sing-a-longs were popular entertainment and musical instruments were treasured. Many women became teachers, musicians, and child-minders, and provided support for the local church and religious events.

As we have seen Eliza lost two babies herself during these early days in the Tuapeka, which must have been devastating for her.

-

²³ Cunningham, Gerald. *Illustrated History of Central Otago and the Queenstown Lakes District*. Reed, 2005, p.49.

²⁴ Simpson, Tony. *The Immigrants*. Godwit Publishing Ltd, Auckland. 1997

A goldminer's life

Life on the goldfields for a miner was challenging and hazardous. Not only did they have to endure the harsh physical conditions of their environment, from freezing cold winters and snow to searing heat in the summer, many miners suffered from fatigue and illness which made them vulnerable to accidents and death from disease. The webpage "The life of a miner" explains in detail what it was like to be a gold miner in Central Otago in the 1860s and is well worth reading. We can imagine that Charles Dale was one of those miners, and together with his wife Eliza and young family, they strived to set up a home and earn a living to survive. Having come from the relatively easy goldfields of Victoria, life was very different in Otago, where the ruggedness and isolation contributed to the toil it took on lives, bodies and animals. There were constant dangers in every direction, and many miners succumbed to debilitating diseases or horrific injuries.

All the supplies – food, timber, household furniture, equipment - had to be brought in by wagon along hastily built roads and tracks that were treacherous in the winter, and sometimes even impassable through mud or snow. The arrival of a wagon train with much-needed supplies must have been a welcome sight at each camp or town along the goldfields trail.

Sometime before 1873, we presume that Charles Dale decided to move over to Tapanui, just over 50 kilometres away from Tuapeka-Lawrence, where the youngest three of his children were born. It was there he changed from being a miner to a sawmiller, as Tapanui was well-known as a sawmilling centre for the local forest. By then he was 48 years of age. That must have been a more sedate lifestyle than one he and his family were used to on the goldfields.

Tapanui came into being between 1858 and 1860 as a sawmilling centre in an area of fine native forest. After the native timber resources were depleted, extensive tree nurseries were established by the State and progressive afforestation followed. Timber production has remained the main reason for the existence of the town. Tapanui was constituted a borough under Otago Provincial Government legislation in 1876. ²⁶

William Charles (junior) Dale appears in the 1890 Residential Roll as resident in Tapanui, a butcher.

However, it seems that his family back in England had lost track of his whereabouts, and his sister Sarah had put a notice out which appeared in the "Tuapeka Times" on 8 July 1891:

The following are inquired for in Lloyd's Weekly:- **Charles Hawkins Dale,** of Margate, went to Australia in 1848-49, and afterwards proceeded to New Zealand; sister Sarah asks.

Whether they were found or not is unknown.

URL: http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/1966/tapanui (accessed 13 May 2020)

-

²⁵ https://goldminingonline.wordpress.com/the-life-of-a-miner/

²⁶ 'TAPANUI', from An Encyclopaedia of New Zealand, edited by A. H. McLintock, originally published in 1966. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand

When Charles and Eliza decided to move north to Palmerston North, some of the prominent residents of Tapanui wrote a letter bidding them farewell and how much respect they had for them.

We the undersegned have known mr & hrs Charles Dale for ten years gained our esteem for their industry & Social witness. To Mrs Sales efforts efforts the great success of the Deruperance Cause in this district is mainly due & in all other worthy movements she has taken a most prominent & effective part & it is with regret we hear that Me & Mrs Dale intent leaving this district where they have gained the respect of all with whom they have Come in Contact Sapanni bonnier medical tractilioner J. Henned Daylas S.P. Tapanui. , pely Orsan Minister, Toporon Daniel & Murray. Wesleyan Minister. Vapanie.

The Southern Cross Lodge also wrote a letter:

LETTER FROM SOUTHERN CROSS LODGE TO ELIZA DALE 1886

Independent Order of Good Templars

Southern Cross Lodge No 1, Invercargill, May 17th 1886

To sister Dale

Dear Sister, I am instructed by the members of the S.C. Lodge to forward you your clearance card with great regret that you cannot be amongst us again but wherever you go we know you will always lend a useful and helping hand in the cause of Temperance, and wishing you God speed and that you may be long spared as a worker in the cause you have espoused is the wish of the Members of the S.C. Lodge

Jesus in faith hope in Christ

D A Smith

PS I am sorry that you have had to write again for your card but through press of business I neglected to get the Chiefs signature to your card as we had the meeting last Monday night I could not get it until tonight, trusting you will forgive yours, D A Smith

Move to Palmerston North

Around 1889, (according to Eliza's obituary), Charles and Eliza Dale moved north to the Manawatu area which was just being opened up for farming and settlement, and settled in Palmerston North²⁷. By then the goldfields were winding down and everyone was moving on to new fields or other pursuits, including farming.

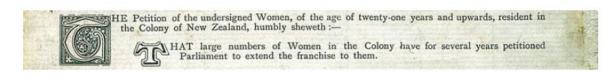
It is presumed daughters Mary Constance aged 14, Emily aged 16, and Clara aged 12 years, and sons George aged 24, a builder, Frank aged 19, and Henry aged 20 years, also went with them as they were unmarried. Apparently, they stopped in Rangiora and lived there for a short time on the way north. We have not found out exactly when and how the family moved north, but the Wellington-Manawatu railway had recently opened, and there were many coastal trading ships that took passengers. So we assume they went from Lyttelton to Wellington by ship and then up to Palmerston North on the train. The letter from the Southern Cross Lodge was in 1886.

It is not known what work Charles did in the new northern town, although his occupation then was listed as Labourer. Some newspapers of the day were destroyed or lost, so part of the history of Palmerston North in the early days is sketchy. By then Charles was in his mid-60s and probably looking at retirement anyway. We know the family lived at 43 and 125 Grey Street, now commercial properties.

Suffrage Petition

Eliza is recorded as having signed the *Suffrage Petition* which was submitted to Parliament in 1893, and was living in Grey Street, Palmerston North.²⁸ ²⁹

Sheet No	Surname	First Names	Given address	Town/Suburb	City/Region
315	Dale	Eliza	Grey St	Palmerston North	Manawatu / Horowhenua





²⁷ 'PALMERSTON NORTH', from An Encyclopaedia of New Zealand, edited by A. H. McLintock, originally published in 1966.

Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand

URL: http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/1966/palmerston-north (accessed 13 May 2020)

²⁸ https://nzhistory.govt.nz/politics/womens-suffrage

²⁹ 'Women's suffrage petition', URL: https://nzhistory.govt.nz/politics/womens-suffrage/petition, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 13-Mar-2018

The following names appear on the Manawatu-Palmerston Electoral Rolls³⁰ for 1893, with Eliza appearing as a first-time voter:

790 Dale, Charles Hawkins, Palmerston North, Labourer, residential

791 Dale, Eliza Mary, Palmerston North, housekeeper, residential

792 Dale, George, Grey Street, Palmerston North, carpenter, residential

In the 1894 Electoral Roll, Frank first appears:

754 Dale, Frank, Palmerston North, labourer, residential

In the 1896 Electoral Rolls, all four members of the family appear.

```
Manawatu

Str. Dale, Charles Hawkins, Palmerston North, labourer, residential

Dale, Charles Hawkins, Palmerston North, housekeeper, residential

Dale, Eliza Mary, Palmerston North, labourer, residential

Dale, Frank, Palmerston North, carpenter, residential

Dale, George, Palmerston North, wife, residential
```

In the 1899 Electoral Rolls however, Emily appears as a first time voter, and Charles disappears as he had passed away.

879 Dale, Eliza Mary, Palmerston North, housekeeper, residential

880 Dale, Emily, Palmerston North, domestic duties, residential

881 Dale, George, Palmerston North, carpenter, residential

By then Frank had left home and was married to Flora McLean.

Eliza, Emily and George stay on the Electoral Roll in 1900, 1903, and 1905-6, 1908, 1911, and 1914.

They are listed as:

1521 Dale, Eliza Mary, Grey street, widow 1522 Dale, Emily, Grey street, spinster 1523 Dale, George, Grey street, carpenter

From 1919 only Emily and George are listed, including their address:

```
2030—Dale, Emily, 43 Grey Street, spinster.
2031—Dale, George, 43 Grey Street, carpenter.
```

Early Palmerston North

In the early years, the settlers were mainly engaged in sheep farming, but as the larger blocks were subdivided and more settlers arrived, most turned their attention to dairying. In the meantime, there were rumours of gold and even platinum finds in the rugged and mainly unexplored Fitzherbert hills lying on the flanks of the Tararua Range. The first faint glimmer of the golden lure came in December 1872, when a prospecting party was organised to follow up rumours of traces of

_

³⁰ Ancestry.com. *New Zealand, Electoral Rolls, 1853-1981* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.

mineral wealth. As early as 1869 gold strikes were reported lower down the Tararua Range. For six weeks the gold-seekers scoured the wet Fitzherbert bush before returning unable to report that they had made even the suspicion of a "find". Undaunted, they stated their determination to try the other side of the range but the fever subsided. In February 1876 there was a startling announcement that a strike had been made near Ohau, where quartz was said to yield ten per centum of gold, but again nothing further was heard of the reputed discovery.

In 1880 gold fever again broke out in still more virulent form and a public meeting was called to consider the formation of a company to exploit a rich reef that was reliably reported to exist in the hills behind the Kahuterawa Valley. A company named the Hit or Miss Claim was formed and many locals subscribed for shares. Some even took part in a minor "rush" to stake out claims. A shaft was driven some distance into the hillside but proved a miss. Several other syndicates were formed but the only result was to sink a good deal of the precious metal in the hills without return.

Traces of gold have certainly been found at different places in the ranges both below and above the Manawatu Gorge, but in no payable quantities.³¹

You can read more about the history and development of Palmerston North from a village to a town to a thriving rural city on the Te Ara website.³² And Wikipedia.³³

Here is the text of a letter from home (UK) to Eliza from her sister Ann Elizabeth on 5 December 1880:

England

London Dec 5th /80

My Dear Sister

I hope you will not think that I have quite forgotten you, as I have been so long in answering your letter. I can assure you that you are often in my thoughts, but my time is so much occupied with business and family matters, that I am so weary, it becomes quite a task for one to write and it is put off from time to time. I am sure that you will quite understand this and so will excuse it. I hope this will find your husband and family and yourself quite well and prosperous, the season is approaching when we all think of our absent friends and wish we might be able to meet once more in this world, but if it is God's will that we do not meet here, let us hope that we may meet again, when there will be no parting.

I must tell you that my family are all well with the exception of Alfred, he has been poorly for some time he is better now, and I hope that he will soon be all right again. I think I told you he

³¹ Petersen, George Conrad. Palmerston North, a Centennial History. Reed, 1973, pp 183-5.

³² https://teara.govt.nz/en/manawatu-and-horowhenua-places/page-5

³³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palmerston North

was married, he now has a little son three months old, so I am Granmama at last there is no sign of any of the others marrying at present. I have two sons who live at home and two others come home once a week, and my daughters are both at home, so you see I have a family still.

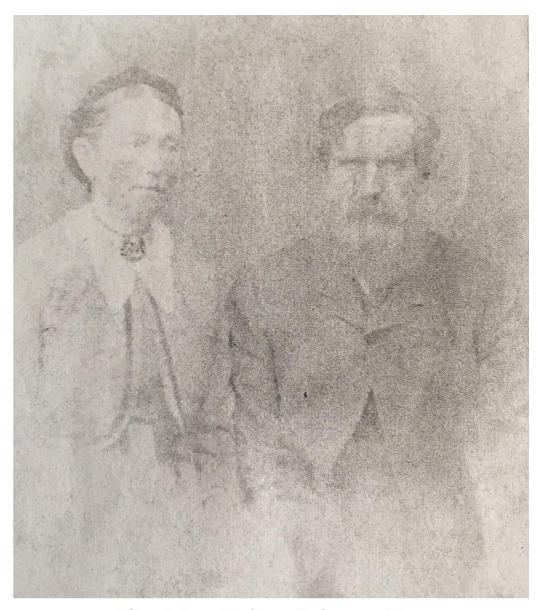
I received a letter from Rose with your portrait enclosed, I can just see a likeness to your former self but you are much altered much stouter that when I saw your last portrait. Margaret sends her love to you and will send you her portrait when she gets it done she has not one left, has not been taken for years. I have not one of her myself. Minnie will send hers next time I write.

Since I last wrote Jane's husband (Mr Marriott) has been to see us he did not spend much time with us, he was staying with his mother at Manchester he spent the last few days in London and left the 15th September. I have not heard from him since. I hear from Joe sometimes, he is doing well but has a large family to support.

Love

Other letters

There are a number of other letters from Margaret Dixie, Emma Cogger, Minnie Dixie, Joseph Stow and Sarah Vigor to Charles and Eliza Dale. (See separate files of each letter).



Eliza Mary Bolton Dale nee Stowe and Charles Hawkins Dale.

Death of daughter Rose Muir

It must have been a severe blow to the family to learn of the death of daughter Rose Muir in Blenheim on 21 June 1891 following an operation. Rose left two young children who were raised by her husband James Muir. (See separate story on Rose).

Death of Charles Hawkins Dale

Charles died on 11 October 1898 aged 73 years at Palmerston North hospital – cause of death: cerebral softening. He was buried in Terrace End Cemetery on 13 October, Block 26, Plot 42³⁴. His religion was Anglican. No death notice or obituary has yet been found, and there's no evidence of a will. His death certificate is shown below, in two pieces:

				CE	RTIFIED COPY O	NEW F ENTRY IN
			DESCRIPTION OF DECEASED.		In the Distr	PARENTS.
	No.	1. When died. 2. Where died.	Name and Surname. Rank, Profession, or Occupation. (3)	1. Sex. 2. Age.	Causes of Death and Durations. Medical Attendant by whom certified. When he last saw Deceased. (5)	Name and Surname of Father. Name and Surname of Mother. Maiden Surname of Mother. Rank or Profession of Father. (6)
		1. 1898 Oxtober	1. Charles	1. M	1. Cerebral	1. William
83		11 th	Dale		2. Not certified	a al
00		Palmerotor	2. Labourer	2.	4. October 10 th 1898	Dale former
		North		73	2.	Hawkins 3. F
1		THE FEE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE IS 2s. 6d.	on this certificate, or	(2) uses	3. o (I) falsifies any of the particulars it as true, knowing it to be false the Crimes Act, 1908.	4. I HEREBY CERTIFY Given under n

_

³⁴ https://www.pncc.govt.nz/services/cemetery-and-cremation-search/warrant/?id=21335

BURIAL.	WH		DECEASED WAS MARRIED.	Informant.	REGISTRAR.
Where buried. 2. Relig	or Names 1. Whitnesses). 2. Ho tion of Names	ere born. w long in ew Zealand. 2. At w rie 3. To w 4. Age	what Age mard. d. whom married. of Widow, if ing. If Iss living, and Ages e	state 3. Residence. each 4. If Entry a Correction of	1. Signature of the Registrar. 2. Date of Registration.
. 1898 1. House	eholder 1. K	(9) ent 1. y	elbourne H. 4	1. Thas frigs	1. Rolf.
October	En	gland Vi	idaria 30	7 94	N. Keel
2. Ken Wils	neth	2. 3:	vearo 5 lu	olo Undertake	*
P.y.	2. 1	10 3. El	iga F.	3. Palmereta	n
Ilmerston 2. Per	son ye	aro cylar	y Bolton 37	4.	2. Octol
Canth		4	23		14 - 189

Death of son Henry Dale

News would have been received on 27 June 1909 of the accidental death of son Henry Dale at the Wirth's Circus in Queensland. Henry was crushed by an elephant while loading onto railway wagons. He was buried in Queensland. (See separate story on Henry).

Death of daughter Mary Constance Batchelar

The death of daughter Mary Constance who married John Batchelar on 1 February 1914 in Palmerston North would also have been a great blow to the family, as she left a large young family. She is buried in Terrace End Cemetery. (See separate story on Mary Constance).

Death of Eliza Mary Bolton Dale

Eliza passed away on 10 December 1914, from "senile decay" and was buried on 11 December with Charles at Terrace End³⁵.

An obituary appeared in the "Manawatu Standard" on 11 December 1914 lamenting her demise:

The death occurred at an early hour yesterday morning of Mrs Eliza Mary Dale, relict of the late Mr Chas. Dale. The deceased, who had reached the advanced age of 82, was a very old resident of Palmerston North, having come to this town about 25 years ago. She was born in Margate, Kent, England, and as a girl went to Australia where she was married, coming later to New Zealand. Until precluded to failing health she took a keen interest in church and social work. Her husband deceased her 16 years ago. Eight children are left to mourn their loss. They are Messrs Wm. (Tapanui), Edward (Auckland), Frank (Raetihi), and George Dale (Palmerston North), and Mesdames Sinclair (Tapanui), Bridgman (Woodlands) Invercargill,

³⁵ https://www.pncc.govt.nz/services/cemetery-and-cremation-search/warrant/?id=21336

Litchfield (Kumeroa), and Miss Dale (Palmerston North). The funeral will be of a private nature. Her death certificate is shown below, in 2 pieces:

\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\			CH		NEW :
		DESCRIPTION OF DECEASED.	WE AND TO	CAUSE OF DEATH.	PARENTS.
No.	1. When died. 2. Where died.	Name and Surname. Rauk, Profession, or Occupation.	1. Sex. 2. Age.	Causes of Death and Durations. Medical Attendant by whom certified. When he last saw Deceased.	1. Name and Surname of Father. 2. Name and Surname of Mother. 3. Maiden Surname of Mother. 4. Rank or Profession of
155	1. 1914 December 10th	1. Elija Hany Dale	1. F	1. Senile decay	1. John Stowe 2. Stowe
	2 Grey	2. chanied	2.		<i>2</i> .
	Palmerston	, farmed	82	2. H. broly	
	Worth		years	3 December 9th 1914	3. M.N. unknown 4. Bookbinder
The L	THE FEE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE IS 2s. 6d.	CAUTION.—Any per on this certificate, or is liable to prosecution	(Z) uses i	(I) falsifies any of the particulars t as true, knowing it to be false, the Crimes Act, 1908.	I HEREBY CERTIFY th

EALAND THE REGISTER-H	OOK OF	DEATHS		[R.G4. No 17	0008
BURIAL.	Informant.	REGISTRAR.			
When buried. Where buried. (7) 1. Name of Minister (or Names of Witnesses). 2. Religion of Minister. (8)	1. Where born. 2. How long in New Zealand.	1. Where married. 2. At what Age married. 3. To whom married. 4. Age of Widow, if living. (10)	If Issue living, state Ages each Sex.	Signature of the Informant. His or her Description. Residence. If Entry a Correction of a former Entry, Signatures of Witnesses attesting the same. (12)	1. Signature of the Registrar. 2. Date of Registration. (13)
December 1- Rev.	1. Hent England	1. yelbour	Eight H.	1. Thos. Grigge	1. l. E. Short
1914 Rocher	7	2.	4 Semale	2. Undertaker	Registras
	2. unknow	3. Charles	F.	3. Palmenston	
almercton 2 Anglica		Hawkins Dale 4.	unknow	4. North	2. 1914 December
it the above is a true copy of an ei and at Colmensian Kont	otry of death in the	1		g. Stating	Registrar.



Their inscription reads:

In loving memory of Charles Hawkins Dale Died 9 October 1898 aged 73 yrs And his wife Eliza Mary Bolton Dale Died 10 December 1914 aged 82 years

Charles and Eliza had produced 11 (or 13, with 2 not surviving) children and 46 grandchildren.

Their son Henry had died in June 1909, and daughters Rose (Muir) in June 1891 and Mary Constance (Batchelar) earlier in February 1914.

Son George and daughter Emily are also buried here.



Close up of headstone after cleaning, 23 June 2020 (photo by Dale Hartle). Note some lead lettering is missing.



Close up of headstone after cleaning, 23 June 2020 (photo by Dale Hartle).

Children of Charles Hawkins Dale and Eliza Mary Bolton Stow, in generations:

Generation	Name		Married family	Generation 2
1			name	Children
1	William Charles Dale	1854-1924		6
2	Eliza Mary Dale	1856-1922	Box/Sinclair	6
3	Lydia Anne Dale	1859-1941	Bridgman	10
4	Rose Dale	1861-1891	Muir	2
5	Edward Dale	1864-1906		0
6	George Dale	1865-1948		0
7	Frank Beaumont Dale	1868-1868		0
8	Henry Dale	1869-1909		0
9	Frank Dale	1870-1954		8
10	Unnamed twin	1870-1870		0
11	Emily Dale	1873-1950		0
12	Mary Constance Dale	1875-1914	Batchelar	10
13	Clara Dale	1877-1949	Litchfield	4
TOTAL				46

References:

Clutha District Council https://www.cluthadc.govt.nz
BDM online NZ https://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/
BDM Victoria https://online.justice.vic.gov.au
Otago Nominal Index http://marvin.otago.ac.nz
Papers Past https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz
Ancestry Family Trees
Family files, photos and documents
